This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	Nitric oxide (NO); PTEN induced putative kinase 1 (PINK1)	Cell culture studies suggest restoring NO signaling could help correct mitochondrial dysfunction in neurodegenerative diseases such as mutant PINK1-associated PD. In <i>Pink1</i> knockout mouse dopaminergic neurons, a bioactive component of ginseng called Re increased NO signaling compared with no treatment and rescued the dysfunction in mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase activity. Next steps include evaluating the compound in <i>in vivo</i> models of PD and Alzheimer's disease that include a mitochondrial impairment component.	Patent application filed; available for licensing from Ewha Womans University	Kim, K.-H. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 9, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.408146 Contact: Jin H. Son, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: hjson@ewha.ac.kr
SciBX 5(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1213				
Published online Nov. 29, 2012				