This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	Transient receptor potential cation channel subfamily M member 4 (TRPM4)	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibiting TRPM4 could help treat MS. In mice with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), <i>Trpm4</i> knockout or <i>Trpm4</i> inhibition with glibenclamide decreased overall disease severity but led to similar immune cell activation and infiltration compared with normal <i>Trpm4</i> expression or no inhibition. In brain samples from EAE mice and patients with MS, TRPM4 expression was greater within active demyelinating brain lesions than inactive lesions or tissue adjacent to active lesions. Next steps include further developing inhibitors of TRPM4. Glibenclamide is a generic sulfonylurea approved to treat type 2 diabetes.</p> <p>SciBX 5(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1228 Published online Dec. 6, 2012</p>	Patent application filed; unlicensed	<p>Schattling, B. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 18, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.3015 Contact: Manuel A. Friese, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany e-mail: manuel.friese@zmnh.uni-hamburg.de</p>