This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	DNA-damage-inducible transcript 3 (DDIT3; CHOP10; CHOP; GADD153); x-box binding protein 1 (XBP1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting CHOP or activating XBP1 could help treat neurodegenerative diseases. In mice, an optic nerve crush model that causes root ganglion cell (RGC) destruction led to sustained upregulation of Chop and transient upregulation of Xbp1 compared with what was seen in uninjured controls. In this model, <i>Chop</i> knockout or adenoviral-mediated <i>Xbp1</i> overexpression promoted RGC survival compared with normal expression of both. Next steps could include identifying CHOP inhibitors or XBP1 activators.</p> <p>SciBX 5(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.208 Published online Feb. 23, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Hu, Y. <i>et al. Neuron</i>; published online Feb. 9, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2011.11.026 Contact: Zhigang He, Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: zhigang.he@childrens.harvard.edu</p>