This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Schizophrenia	Dopamine D2 receptor; dopamine D3 receptor	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest antagonizing heterodimers of D2 and D3 receptors could help treat schizophrenia. In cell culture, fluorescently labeled D2 and D3 receptors physically interacted at the cell surface. In cells expressing both D2 and D3 receptors, dopamine treatment led to more potent activation of downstream signaling pathways than that seen in cells expressing only the D2 receptor. Next steps include identifying selective antagonists of D2/D3 receptor heterodimers and testing them in mouse models of schizophrenia.</p> <p>At least 12 companies have D2 receptor antagonists in development and on the market for schizophrenia and other neurological indications. GlaxoSmithKline plc has the D3 receptor antagonist GSK618334 in Phase I testing for addiction.</p> <p>SciBX 5(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.209 Published online Feb. 23, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Pou, C. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online Jan. 30, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M111.326678</p> <p>Contact: Graeme Milligan, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, U.K. e-mail: graeme.milligan@glasgow.ac.uk</p>