This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Seizures	Protein phosphatase 1 regulatory inhibitor subunit 9A (PPP1R9A; neurabin-1); regulator of G-protein signaling 4 (RGS4)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting PPP1R9A or RGS4 could help treat seizures. In mice, <i>Ppp1r9a</i> deficiency decreased kainate-induced seizure severity and neuronal death and increased survival compared with wild-type expression. In wild-type mice, anti-RGS4 small interfering RNA or a small molecule RGS4 inhibitor both lowered kainate-induced seizure activity and death compared with scrambled siRNA or vehicle control, respectively. Next steps include screening for compounds that target components of the PPP1R9A-RGS4 complex. SciBX 5(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.263 Published online March 8, 2012	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Chen, Y. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Feb. 22, 2012; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4125-11.2011 Contact: Qin Wang, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala. e-mail: qinwang@uab.edu