This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Not applicable	Studies in mice suggest compounds from <i>Withania somnifera</i> could help treat AD. In a mouse model of AD, orally administered <i>W. somnifera</i> extract increased liver clearance of β -amyloid ($A\beta$), decreased levels of $A\beta$ in the brain and improved cognitive function compared with vehicle. Next steps include isolating specific compounds responsible for the observed effects and performing preclinical toxicology studies.	Patent pending; available for licensing	Sehgal, N. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 30, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1112209109 Contact: Vijayalakshmi Ravindranath, National Brain Research Centre, Haryana, India e-mail: viji@cns.iisc.ernet.in
<i>SciBX</i> 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.284 Published online March 15, 2012				