This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Prokineticin 2 (PROK2; Bv8); prokineticin receptor 2 (PROKR2; PKR2)	Rat studies suggest inhibiting PROK2 signaling could help treat stroke. In a rat model of stroke, Prok2 was upregulated in the ischemic and infarct regions of the brain as early as one hour after stroke onset. Mice receiving a PROKR2 antagonist 30 minutes after stroke onset had lower infarct volume and better behavioral outcomes at day four than mice given vehicle. Ongoing work in the mouse models includes determining the optimal time period after stroke onset for administration of the PROKR2 antagonist. SciBX 5(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.346 Published online March 29, 2012	Patented by Stanford University and University of California, Irvine; available for licensing or partnering	Cheng, M.Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 19, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1113363109 Contact: Qun-Yong Zhou, University of California, Irvine, Calif. e-mail: qzhou@uci.edu Contact: Michelle Y. Cheng, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: mycheng@stanford.edu