This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	ATPase type 13A2 (ATP13A2)	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest upregulating ATP13A2 could help treat PD. In PD patient fibroblasts with mutant <i>ATP13A2</i> or in cortical neurons with small hairpin RNA-mediated ATP13A2 knockdown, degradation of long-lived proteins was lower than that in fibroblasts from healthy controls or neurons with wild-type ATP13A2 expression. In neurons, small interfering RNA against ATP13A2 increased α -synuclein (SNCA)-associated neurotoxicity compared with nontargeting shRNA controls. Next steps include identifying drugs that stabilize mutant ATP13A2 to improve its function in lysosomes.	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Usenovic, M. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online March 21, 2012; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5575-11.2012 Contact: Dimitri Krainc, MassGeneral Institute for Neurodegenerative Disease, Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, Mass. e-mail: krainc@helix.mgh.harvard.edu
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