This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hepatic disease				
Liver disease	Serotonin (5-HT _{2B}) receptor	<p>Studies in mice suggest 5-HT_{2B} antagonists could help treat liver fibrosis. In two mouse models of the disease, a 5-HT_{2B} antagonist increased hepatocyte proliferation and decreased fibrosis compared with vehicle. Next steps include evaluating 5-HT_{2B} antagonists in animal models of additional types of fibrosis.</p> <p>Forest Laboratories Inc.'s 5-HT_{2B} antagonist, PRX-08066, is in Phase II testing for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH).</p> <p>Biofrontera AG, RaQualia Pharma Inc. and Sinoxa Pharma UG have 5-HT_{2B} antagonists in preclinical development for various indications.</p> <p>SciBX 5(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.43 Published online Jan. 12, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Ebrahimkhani, M.R. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 27, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2490</p> <p>Contact: Derek A. Mann, Newcastle University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, U.K. e-mail: derek.mann@ncl.ac.uk</p>