This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Transglutaminase 1 (TGM1; TG1); TGM2 (TG2)	<p>Studies in mice and in cultured neurons suggest inhibiting TGM1 and TGM2 could be neuroprotective after stroke. In mouse models of brain ischemia and oxidatively stressed cortical neurons, <i>Tgm1</i> and <i>Tgm2</i> expression was induced. In the cultured rat neurons, a nonspecific transglutaminase peptide inhibitor or cystamine decreased levels of <i>Tgm1</i> and <i>Tgm2</i> expression and neuronal death compared with no treatment. Ongoing work includes developing a neuron-specific conditional knockout for Tgm1 in mice to be tested in stroke and HD models.</p> <p>Raptor Pharmaceutical Corp.'s RP103 (DR Cystamine) is in Phase II testing to treat Huntington's disease (HD).</p> <p>SciBX 5(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.559 Published online May 24, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Basso, M. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 9, 2012; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3353-11.2012</p> <p>Contact: Rajiv R. Ratan, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, White Plains, N.Y.</p> <p>e-mail: rratan@burke.org</p> <p>Contact: Manuela Basso, same affiliation as above</p> <p>e-mail: mbasso@burke.org</p>