This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Thrombin (Factor IIa; F2)	<p>Rat studies suggest detecting thrombin activity in the brain could help diagnose stroke and inhibiting thrombin during stroke could help reduce neurovascular damage. In a rat middle cerebral artery occlusion stroke model, an antithrombin antibody detected thrombin in regions of severe vascular disruption, whereas thrombin was not detected in less damaged areas. In the same model, intra-arterial infusion of thrombin increased vascular permeability and damage and impaired memory and learning, whereas a thrombin inhibitor decreased vascular disruption. Next steps include developing a probe to diagnose thrombin-associated conditions.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 5(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.662 Published online June 21, 2012</p>	Probes patented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Chen, B. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 30, 2012; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0369-12.2012 Contact: Bo Chen, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: bochen.neuro@gmail.com</p>