This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Blindness; retinitis	Unknown	<p>Mouse studies suggest a photosensitive compound could help treat retinitis pigmentosa (RP). In retinas from mouse models of RP, the compound induced differing levels of retinal ganglion cell (RGC) firing in response to near-UV and blue-green light, whereas no wavelength of light induced RGC firing in untreated controls. In the mouse models, intraocular injection of the compound increased both the response of pupils to light and light avoidance behaviors compared with no treatment. Future studies could include investigating the compound's effect on visual acuity in mouse models of RP.</p> <p>SciBX 5(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.822 Published online Aug. 9, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Polosukhina, A. <i>et al. Neuron</i>; published online July 26, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2012.05.022</p> <p>Contact: Richard H. Kramer, University of California, Berkeley, Calif. e-mail: rhkramer@berkeley.edu</p>