This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	GABA _A receptor	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest compounds mimicking both nitric oxide (NO) and γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) could help treat AD. In an assay of excitation-induced cell death, GABA _A receptor agonists with an NO-mimicking moiety increased cell survival compared with conventional GABA _A receptor agonists. In a mouse model of drug-induced memory loss, the compounds increased memory recovery compared with vehicle. Next steps include development of a related compound in the same series.	Patents pending and issued; licensed to sGC Pharma Inc.	Qin, Z. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online July 10, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm300353r Contact: Gregory R.J. Thatcher, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: thatcher@uic.edu
<i>SciBX</i> 5(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.903 Published online Aug. 30, 2012				