This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	Endonuclease G (ENDOG)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest inhibiting ENDOG could help treat PD. In human neuroblastoma cells overexpressing α-synuclein (SNCA), ENDOG translocated from the mitochondria to the nucleus and caused DNA degradation and cell death, which could be blocked by small hairpin RNA knockdown of ENDOG. In nematodes, endog knockout decreased SNCA-induced dopaminergic neuron cell death compared with no knockout. In fruit flies, RNAi targeting EndoG decreased SNCA-induced mortality and motor function impairments compared with RNAi controls. Next steps include identifying a specific ENDOG inhibitor.</p> <p>SciBX 6(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1197 Published online Oct. 31, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Büttner, S. <i>et al. EMBO J.</i>; published online Oct. 15, 2013; doi:10.1038/emboj.2013.228 Contact: Frank Madeo, University of Graz, Graz, Austria e-mail: frank.madeo@uni-graz.at Contact: Stephan J. Sigrist, Free University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany e-mail: stephan.sigrist@fu-berlin.de</p>