This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology; stroke	Protease-activated receptor 1 (PAR1); PAR3	<p>Cell culture studies suggest PAR1 and PAR3 agonists could be useful for stimulating neural regeneration in ischemic stroke and neurodegenerative disease. In cultured human neural precursor cells, an engineered form of activated protein C (APC) that agonizes PAR1 and PAR3 increased proliferation, migration and neuronal differentiation compared with vehicle. Next steps include preclinical studies evaluating chronic treatment with engineered APC variants in mouse models for neurodegenerative disease and ischemic stroke.</p> <p>ZZ Biotech LLC's 3K3A-APC, the engineered APC used in the study, has completed Phase I studies as a neuroprotective therapy in acute ischemic stroke.</p> <p>SciBX 6(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.370 Published online April 18, 2013</p>	Patents pending; licensed to ZZ Biotech	<p>Guo, H. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online April 3, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4491-12.2013 Contact: Berislav V. Zlokovic, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: zlokovic@usc.edu</p>