This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	Unknown	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified neurotrophic, secoyohimbane-derived compounds that could help treat neurological diseases. A library of compounds based on the natural compound rhynchophylline was synthesized. In rat hippocampal neurons and in mouse motor neurons derived from embryonic stem cells, the lead compounds increased neurite outgrowth compared with vehicle. Next steps include optimizing the lead compounds to enable testing in animal models.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Antonchick, A.P. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online April 18, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2013.03.011 Contact: Herbert Waldmann, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany e-mail: herbert.waldmann@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de
SciBX 6(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.442 Published online May 9, 2013				