This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	Protocadherin 17 (PCDH17)	<p>Mouse and nonhuman primate studies suggest inhibiting PCDH17 could help treat depression. In those animals, Pcdh17 was expressed in corticobasal ganglia circuits that carry signals between neurons of the cerebral cortex and the thalamus. In mice, knocking out <i>Pcdh17</i> increased synaptic transmission efficacy in corticobasal ganglia circuits and decreased depressive behaviors compared with no knockout. Next steps include solving the crystal structure of the PCDH17 extracellular domain to understand its behavior across synapses.</p> <p>SciBX 6(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.551 Published online June 6, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Hoshina, N. <i>et al. Neuron</i>; published online May 16, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2013.03.031 Contact: Tadashi Yamamoto, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, Onna-son, Japan e-mail: tadashi.yamamoto@oist.jp</p>