This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Lipocalin (LCN2; NGAL)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest inhibiting LCN2 could help treat neuropathic pain. In mouse cortical neurons, Lcn2 increased expression of pain-associated chemokines compared with denatured Lcn2. In normal mice, Lcn2 increased sensitivity to mechanical pain compared with vehicle. In a mouse model of peripheral nerve injury, <i>Lcn2</i>-deficient animals had lower expression of pain-associated chemokines in the spinal cord and less sensitivity to mechanical pain than wild-type controls. Ongoing work includes investigating the role of Lcn2 in models of chronic inflammatory pain.</p> <p>SciBX 6(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.869 Published online Aug. 22, 2013</p>	Patented by Kyungpook National University; unlicensed	<p>Jeon, S. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online July 8, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.454140 Contact: Kyoungcho Suk, Kyungpook National University School of Medicine, Daegu, South Korea e-mail: ksuk@knu.ac.kr</p>