This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Parathyroid hormone 2 (PTH2; TIP39); PTH2 receptor (PTH2R)	<p>Mouse studies suggest antagonizing PTH2R could help treat chronic pain. In mouse models of chronic neuropathic and inflammatory pain, knockout of the neuropeptide <i>Pth2</i> or its receptor, <i>Pth2r</i>, decreased hypersensitivity reactions compared with no knockout. In mice, lentivirus-mediated expression of a Pth2r antagonist in the locus coeruleus of the brain decreased neuropathic pain compared with what was seen using a control vector. Next steps could include testing viral vectors that express the PTH2R antagonist in preclinical models of chronic pain.</p> <p>SciBX 6(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.933 Published online Sept. 5, 2013</p>	Unpatented; a small molecule antagonist of PTH2R is available for licensing	<p>Dimitrov, E.L. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 22, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1306342110</p> <p>Contact: Ted B. Usdin, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: usdint@mail.nih.gov</p>