This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	Serotonin (5-HT ₇) receptor	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest selectively blocking the 5-HT ₇ receptor could enable rapid treatment of depression. Serotonin reuptake inhibitors are used to treat depression, but the clinical onset of efficacy is delayed by several weeks. Structure-guided design yielded a small molecule that selectively inhibited serotonin (5-HT ₇) receptor <i>in vitro</i> over other serotonin receptors with a K_i of ~0.7 nM. In two mouse models of depression, i.p. injection of the compound decreased immobility compared with vehicle injection. Next steps could include further optimizing the small molecule compound and testing it in additional models of depression.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Medina, R.A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online July 29, 2014; doi:10.1021/jm500880c Contact: María L. López-Rodríguez, Complutense University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain e-mail: mluzlr@quim.ucm.es Contact: Leonardo Pardo, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain e-mail: leonardo.pardo@uab.es
SciBX 7(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1018				
Published online Sept. 4, 2014				