This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD); cognitive dysfunction	Not applicable	<p>Studies in humans suggest targeted, noninvasive electromagnetic stimulation to modulate cortical-hippocampal networks could help improve associative memory. In 16 healthy adult subjects, multiple sessions of noninvasive, high-frequency transcranial magnetic stimulation were applied to the lateral parietal cortex over 5 consecutive days. This treatment specifically enhanced connectivity within associated cortical-hippocampal brain networks as measured by functional MRI and led to improved performance on associative memory tasks versus sham stimulation. Next steps include determining the extent to which the noninvasive transcranial magnetic stimulation approach could be used to target distinct hippocampal memory networks and showing that such stimulation is safe and effective in older subjects and in patients with early stage AD.</p> <p>SciBX 7(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1105 Published online Sept. 25, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Wang, J.X. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Aug. 28, 2014; doi:10.1126/science.1252900 Contact: Joel Voss, Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: joel-voss@northwestern.edu</p>