This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	Borna disease virus p10 (BDV p10; BDV X; BDVgp1a)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest a peptide derived from BDV X could help treat PD. In cultured neurons, the BDV X protein prevented neurotoxin-induced disruption of mitochondrial electrochemical gradients and oxidative stress. In a mouse model of PD, a peptide derived from the BDV X protein decreased neurotoxin-induced loss of striatal neurons and fibers involved in dopamine synthesis compared with a nonprotective peptide derived from the same protein. Next steps include validating the neuroprotective properties of the protein and peptide in additional PD models and elucidating the protein's mechanism of action.</p> <p>SciBX 7(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1298 Published online Nov. 13, 2014</p>	Patented; available for licensing from INSERM Transfert S.A.	<p>Szelechowski, M. <i>et al. Nat. Commun.</i>; published online Oct. 21, 2014; doi:10.1038/ncomms6181 Contact: Daniel Gonzalez-Dunia, Pathophysiology Center of Toulouse Purpan, Toulouse, France e-mail: daniel.dunia@inserm.fr</p>