This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Potassium channel K2p10.1 (KCNK10; TREK-2)	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest increasing TREK-2 activity could help treat neuropathic pain. In rats, Trek-2 was expressed in dorsal root ganglion C-fiber nociceptors. In cultured rat dorsal root ganglion neurons, <i>Trek-2</i> siRNA increased C-fiber membrane depolarization, which is associated with spontaneous nerve firing and pain, compared with scrambled siRNA. In a rat model of neuropathic pain, <i>Trek-2</i> siRNA decreased the pain response compared with scrambled siRNA. Next steps include screening for TREK-2 activators.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Acosta, C. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Jan. 22, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4528-13.2014 Contact: Sally N. Lawson, University of Bristol, Bristol, U.K. e-mail: sally.lawson@bristol.ac.uk
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