This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	AMPA glutamate receptor (GRIA; GLUR)	<p>Rat studies suggest GLUR potentiators could help treat depression associated with chronic pain. In a rat model of chronic pain induced by spinal nerve injury, compared with sham-operated controls, depression-like behaviors and the expression of calcium-permeable GLURs in the nucleus accumbens increased. Also in the rat model, delivery of GLUR inhibitors into the nucleus accumbens increased depression-like behaviors, whereas receptor potentiation with 2-pyrrolidinone decreased the behaviors. Next steps include testing systemic administration of GLUR potentiators.</p> <p>At least three companies have GLUR agonists in Phase II or earlier testing.</p> <p>SciBX 7(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.26 Published online Jan. 9, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Goffer, Y. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Nov. 27, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.2454-13.2013 Contact: Jing Wang, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: jing.wang2@nyumc.org</p>