This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	RE1-silencing transcription factor (REST; NRSF)	<p>Studies in human samples and mice suggest activating REST could help protect against age-related neurodegeneration. In postmortem samples from patients with AD, REST expression was lower than that in samples from aged subjects without AD. In mice, CNS-specific <i>Rest</i> knockout led to progressive age-related neurodegeneration compared with no alteration. In cultured human neuronal cells, moderate REST overexpression decreased oxidative stress-induced death compared with no overexpression. Next steps could include developing pharmacological REST activators.</p> <p>SciBX 7(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.433 Published online April 17, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lu, T. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online March 19, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13163 Contact: Bruce A. Yankner, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: bruce_yankner@hms.harvard.edu</p>