This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Huntingtin (HTT); translocase of inner mitochondrial membrane 23 homolog (TIMM23; TIM23)	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest increasing TIM23 activity or mitochondrial protein import could help treat HD. In cell culture, mutant Htt interacted with Tim23 and inhibited mitochondrial protein import, resulting in neuronal cell death. In mutant Htt-expressing primary mouse neurons, lentivirus-mediated overexpression of the Tim23 complex rescued the mitochondrial protein import defect and decreased cell death compared with overexpression of a control gene. Next steps could include screening for pharmacological compounds that increase TIM23 activity and mitochondrial protein transport.</p> <p>SciBX 7(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.718 Published online June 19, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Yano, H. <i>et al. Nat. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 18, 2014; doi:10.1038/nn.3721</p> <p>Contact: Robert M. Friedlander, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa. e-mail: friedlanderr@upmc.edu</p>