This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	Vesicular monoamine transporter 2 (VMAT2; SLC18A2)	<p>Mouse studies suggest agonizing VMAT2 could be useful for treating PD. In a mouse model of chemically induced PD, overexpression of VMAT2 in dopaminergic neurons increased vesicular capacity for dopamine and synaptic dopamine release and decreased neurotoxicity compared with wild-type VMAT2 expression. Next steps include identifying small molecule activators of VMAT2 and testing them in PD models.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 7(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.775 Published online July 10, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensed status not applicable	<p>Lohr, K.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; Published online July 16, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1402134111 Contact: Gary W. Miller, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: gary.miller@emory.edu</p>