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)	Studies in postmortem patient tissue suggest increasing VMAT2 activity could be useful for treating PD. Dopaminergic brain tissue from patients with PD had lower levels of VMAT2 activity when normalized for VMAT2 protein levels and had decreased vesicular uptake of dopamine compared with brain tissue from healthy controls. Next steps include identifying pharmacological activators or positive modulators of VMAT2. <i>SciBX</i> 7(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.776 Published online July 10, 2014	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Pifl, C. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; Published online July 11, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5456-13.2014 Contact: Christian Pifl, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria e-mail: christian.pifl@meduniwien.ac.at