This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Microtubule-associated protein- τ (MAPT; tau; FTDP-17)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest depleting tau deposits could help treat HD. In a transgenic mouse model of HD, homozygous or heterozygous knockout of <i>Mapt</i> prevented or decreased formation of inclusions and decreased motor impairment compared with no alteration. Next steps could include testing the effects of tau-targeted therapeutics in animal models of HD.</p> <p>TauRx Pharmaceuticals Ltd. has the tau aggregation inhibitor TRx0237 in Phase III testing for Alzheimer's disease (AD) and cognitive dysfunction.</p> <p>At least seven other companies have tau-targeted therapeutics in Phase I or earlier testing.</p> <p>SciBX 7(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.958 Published online Aug. 21, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Fernández-Nogales, M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online July 20, 2014; doi:10.1038/nm.3617</p> <p>Contact: José J. Lucas, Spanish National Research Council and the Autonomous University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain e-mail: jjlucas@cbm.csic.es</p>