

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	Dopamine D3 receptor	<p>An SAR study characterized a series of heterocyclic analogs of 7-[2-(4-phenyl-piperazin-1-yl)ethyl]propylamino}-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ol as dopamine D3 receptor agonists that could help treat PD. The most potent compound had a K_i value of 0.92 nM and exhibited higher selectivity for the D3 receptor than for the D2 receptor. In a rat model of PD, the compound inhibited parkinsonian-like movements for up to 10 hours. Ongoing <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies are investigating the neuroprotective activity of the most potent compound.</p> <p>Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH and Pfizer Inc. comarket Mirapex pramipexole, a dopamine D2 and D3 receptor agonist, to treat PD.</p> <p>GlaxoSmithKline plc markets Requip ropinirole, also a dopamine D2 and D3 receptor agonist, for PD.</p>	Patented by Wayne State University; available for licensing	<p>Biswas, S. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online April 12, 2008; doi:10.1021/jm701524h</p> <p>Contact: Alope K. Dutta, Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, Detroit, Mich. e-mail: adutta@wayne.edu</p>