

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Huntingtin (HTT); HD); Rhes (RASD2)	Cell-culture studies suggest that blocking the interaction between Rhes and mutant HTT could help treat HD. HD neuropathology occurs primarily in the corpus striatum, where Rhes is enriched. In cell culture, Rhes bound mutant HTT and decreased cell survival by about 50% compared to that seen with mutant HTT alone. Rhes induced cell death through sumoylation of mutant HTT. Next steps include confirming the result in HD animal models (<i>see Tim's story, page X</i>).	The Johns Hopkins University owns patents covering Rhes-targeting strategies to treat	Subramaniam, S. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online June 4, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1172871 Contact: Solomon H. Snyder, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: ssnyder@jhmi.edu
<p><i>SciBX</i> 2(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1019 Published online June 25, 2009</p>				