This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Epilepsy	Not applicable	<p>Studies in mice suggest that transplantation of interneuron precursor cells could help treat epilepsy. In the brains of postnatal mice, bilateral transplantation of interneuron precursor cells led to γ-aminobutyric acid-mediated cortical inhibition, suggesting the transplants could help reduce overexcitation associated with epilepsy. In a mouse model of epilepsy, the transplantation procedure reduced spontaneous seizure frequency and duration compared with vehicle treatment or transplantation of control cells. Next steps include studying the transplantation strategy in animal models of temporal lobe epilepsy.</p> <p>SciBX 2(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1324 Published online Sept. 3, 2009</p>	<p>Patent filed covering use of transplanted interneuron precursor cells to treat epilepsy and other neurodegenerative diseases; available for licensing from the University of California Technology Transfer Office</p>	<p>Baraban, S. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 24, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0900141106 Contact: Scott C. Baraban, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: scott.baraban@ucsf.edu</p>