This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Sterol regulatory element binding transcription factor 1 (SREBF1; SREBP1); insulin induced gene 1 (INSIG1)	Studies in cell culture and in rats suggest that antagonizing SREBP1 or INSIG1 could help treat acute ischemic stroke. In a cell culture model of stroke-associated neuronal overactivation, small hairpin RNA knockdown of *SREBP1* reduced apoptosis compared what was seen using mock control shRNA. In a rat model of ischemic stroke, a peptide antagonist of the SREBP1 activator INSIG1 led to lower infarct volume and better post-stroke behavior than control peptide. Next steps include testing the INSIG1 antagonist in animal models of other forms of stroke. *SciBX* 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1772 Published online Dec. 17, 2009	Patent pending; available for licensing	Taghibiglou, C. *et al. Nat. Med.*; published online Nov. 22, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.2064 **Contact:** Yu Tian Wang, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: ytwang@interchange.ubc.ca