This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	Lipoxin A_4 (LXA$_4$); peroxisome proliferator–activated receptor-γ (PPARG; PPARγ)	A study in rats suggests that PPARγ agonists could help protect against stroke-induced brain damage. In a rat model of ischemic brain damage, the Pparγ agonist Avandia rosiglitazone significantly decreased infarct volume and neurological deficits compared with what was seen using saline control ($p<0.05$). Lxa$_4$ mediated the neuroprotective effects of the agonist. Next steps could include studying the role of lipoxins as prognostic and/or diagnostic biomarkers in diseases associated with inflammation. Avandia from GlaxoSmithKline plc is marketed to treat diabetes and is in Phase III testing for Alzheimer's disease (AD). *SciBX* 2(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.549 Published online April 2, 2009	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Sobrado, M. *et al. J. Neurosci.*; published online March 25, 2009; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5529-08.2009 **Contact:** Maria A. Moro, Complutense University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain e-mail: neurona@med.ucm.es