

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Musculoskeletal disease</b>				
Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)	NMDA receptor (NMDAR)	Studies in mice suggest that NMDAR agonists could help treat SMA. In a mouse model of SMA, intrathecal injection of NMDA reduced apoptosis of spinal cord motor neurons, improved motor behavior and increased survival compared with injection of vehicle control. Next steps could include determining effective dosing of NMDA for use in SMA patients.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Biondi, O. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Aug. 25, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1764-10.2010 <b>Contact:</b> Frédéric Charbonnier, University Paris Descartes, Paris, France e-mail: <a href="mailto:frederic.charbonnier@parisdescartes.fr">frederic.charbonnier@parisdescartes.fr</a>
<p><i>SciBX</i> 3(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1071 Published online Sept. 9, 2010</p>				