This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Stroke	NADPH oxidase 4 (NOX4)	<p>Studies in mice and human samples suggest that inhibiting NOX4 could help treat stroke. In a mouse model of stroke, <i>Nox4</i> deletion or intrathecal injection of the NOX inhibitor VAS2870 decreased the chance of brain infarct and improved neurological function compared with what was seen in wild-type mice or using vehicle control. Next steps include optimizing the pharmacokinetics and selectivity of NOX4-targeting compounds.</p> <p>vasopharm GmbH's VAS2870 is in preclinical development to treat peripheral arterial occlusive diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 3(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1190 Published online Oct. 7, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Kleinschnitz, C. <i>et al. PLoS Biol.</i>; published online Sept. 21, 2010; doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000479</p> <p>Contact: Harald H.H.W. Schmidt, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, Germany e-mail: h.schmidt@farmaco.unimaas.nl</p> <p>Contact: Christoph Kleinschnitz, University of Wurzburg, Wurzburg, Germany e-mail: christoph.kleinschnitz@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de</p>