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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Gastrointestinal disease				
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)	Serotonin (5-HT_{1A}) receptor; serotonin (5-HT_3) receptor	Studies in rodents suggest that antagonizing the 5-HT_3 receptor and agonizing the 5-HT_{1A} receptor could help treat IBS. In a rat model of IBS, TZB-30878, a small molecule quinazolinone derivative from ASKA Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. that antagonizes the 5-HT_3 receptor and agonizes the 5-HT_{1A} receptor, decreased stress-induced defecation compared with vehicle control. Next steps could include evaluating TZB-30878 in additional animal models of IBS.	Patent application filed; licensing status unavailable	Asagarasu, A. *et al. J. Med. Chem.*; published online Oct. 8, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm1002292 **Contact:** Akira Asagarasu, ASKA Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., Kawasaki, Japan e-mail: asagarasu-a@aska-pharma.co.jp

SciBX 3(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1290
Published online Nov. 4, 2010