

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	Dopamine D1 receptor; dopamine D2 receptor	<p>Patient tissue and rat studies suggest that disrupting the interaction between the D1 and D2 dopamine receptors could help treat major depression. In postmortem human brain tissue, patients with major depression had greater formation of a D1-D2 receptor complex than healthy controls. In two rat models of depression, injection of a peptide inhibitor of the D1-D2 receptor interaction into the brain produced decreases in depressive behavior that were similar to those produced by injection of a generic antidepressant and better than those created by injection of an inactive peptide control. Next steps include optimizing the peptide to increase its bioavailability and delivery into the brain.</p> <p>SciBX 3(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1452 Published online Dec. 16, 2010</p>	<p>Findings covered by patent applications; available for licensing Contact: MaRS Innovation Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada phone: 647-260-7869</p>	<p>Pei, L. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 28, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2263 Contact: Fang Liu, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: fang_liu@camh.net or f.liu.a@utoronto.ca</p>