

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Depression	Serotonin (5-HT _{1A}) receptor (HTR _{1A})	<p>Studies in mice suggest that selectively antagonizing HTR_{1A} on serotonin-producing neurons, the so-called 5-HT_{1A} autoreceptors, could improve patient response to antidepressants. Mice with low 5-HT_{1A} autoreceptor levels had better responses to the antidepressant Prozac fluoxetine than mice expressing high 5-HT_{1A} receptor levels. Next steps were undisclosed but could include designing small molecules that selectively inhibit the 5-HT_{1A} autoreceptor.</p> <p>Prozac, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI), is marketed by Eli Lilly and Co. to treat depression.</p> <p>SciBX 3(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.160 Published online Feb. 4, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Richardson-Jones, J.W. <i>et al. Neuron</i>; published online Jan. 13, 2010; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2009.12.003 Contact: René Hen, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: rh95@columbia.edu</p>