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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	MicroRNA-206 (miR-206)	Studies in mice suggest that increasing miR-206 expression could help delay ALS progression. In a mouse model of ALS, a deficiency in miR-206 resulted in shorter survival compared with that for nondeficient littermates ($p<0.05$). After motor neuron injury, miR-206 activated intracellular pathways that promoted the regeneration of neuromuscular synapses. Next steps include developing miR-206 mimics to enhance motor neuron regeneration.	Findings patented; licensed to miRagen Therapeutics Inc.	Williams, A.H. *et al. Science*; published online Dec. 10, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1181046 **Contact:** Eric Olsen, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas e-mail: eric.olson@utsouthwestern.edu

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