

This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Neurology | | | | |
| Nerve damage | Suppressor of cytokine signaling 3 (SOCS3); ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF) | <p>Studies in mice suggest that SOCS3 inhibition in combination with CNTF could help treat CNS damage. In a mouse model of optic nerve injury, selective <i>Socs3</i> knockout in retinal ganglion cells led to greater neuronal survival and axon regeneration than occurred in wild-type controls. In the knockout mice, CNTF led to additional improvements in axon regeneration compared with no treatment. Ongoing studies include investigating the effects of <i>Socs3</i> knockdown in animal models of spinal cord injury (SCI).</p> <p>SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.21 Published online Jan. 7, 2010</p> | Patented by Children's Hospital Boston; available for licensing | <p>Smith, P. <i>et al. Neuron</i>; published online Dec. 9, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2009.11.021</p> <p>Contact: Zhigang He, Children's Hospital Boston, Boston, Mass. e-mail: zhigang.he@childrens.harvard.edu</p> |