This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Heat shock transcription factor 1 (HSF1)	<i>In vitro</i> and fly studies suggest that small molecule agonists of HSF1 could be useful for treating HD. In mammalian cell culture and a fly model of HD, small molecule HSF1 agonists reduced HD-associated polyglutamine protein aggregation and cytotoxicity compared with vehicle. Next steps include developing better derivatives of HSF1 and testing them in mouse models of neurodegenerative disease.	Patent pending; licensed to Chaperone Therapeutics Inc.	Neef, D.W. <i>et al. PLoS Biol.</i> ; published online Jan. 19, 2010; doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000291 Contact: Dennis J. Thiele, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C. e-mail: dennis.thiele@duke.edu
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