

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Nerve damage	Not applicable	<p>Studies in mice and in cell culture suggest that cyclosporin A could help treat nerve damage. Mouse neural precursor cells that received cyclosporin A showed greater cellular proliferation and survival than cells not given the drug. In adult mice, cyclosporin A increased neural precursor cell survival compared with vehicle control. Next steps include using small molecules to block or increase the activity of specific binding proteins that mediate cyclosporin A signaling to determine the intracellular mechanisms that affect neural precursor cell populations.</p> <p>Cyclosporin A is a generic immunosuppressant used to prevent organ transplant rejection.</p> <p>SciBX 3(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.285 Published online March 4, 2010</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Hunt, J. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Feb. 24, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5991-09.2010</p> <p>Contact: Cindi M. Morshead, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada</p> <p>e-mail: cindi.morshead@utoronto.ca</p>