

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Spinal cord injury (SCI)	Not applicable	<p>A study in mice suggests that induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells could help treat SCI. Clusters of cells called neurospheres were generated from nontumorigenic mouse embryonic fibroblasts and transplanted into the injured spinal cords of mice. Those mice had greater hind-limb functional recovery than animals given saline buffer control. The neurospheres differentiated into mature oligodendrocytes, promoted remyelination and were nontumorigenic. Next steps include identifying nontumorigenic human iPS cell clones and testing them in mice with SCI.</p> <p>SciBX 3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.872 Published online July 22, 2010</p>	<p>Patents filed; available for licensing from the intellectual property centers of Keio University and Kyoto University</p>	<p>Tsuji, O. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 7, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0910106107 Contact: Hideyuki Okano, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: hidokano@sc.itc.keio.ac.jp Contact: Masaya Nakamura, same affiliation as above e-mail: masa@sc.itc.keio.ac.jp</p>