This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Seizures	Solute carrier family 7 member 11 cystine glutamate transporter (SLC7A11; xCT)	<p>Mouse studies suggest the xCT blocker Azulfidine sulfasalazine could help reduce seizures associated with glioma. In mice implanted with human gliomas, glutamate release from tumor cells triggered epileptic events. Animals receiving Azulfidine at concentrations similar to those used in the clinic for other indications had decreased epileptic events compared with untreated controls. Next steps could include testing Azulfidine in additional mouse models.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. markets Azulfidine to treat inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA).</p> <p>SciBX 4(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1050 Published online Sept. 22, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Buckingham, S.C. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Sept. 11, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2453</p> <p>Contact: Harald Sontheimer, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala. e-mail: sontheimer@uab.edu</p>