

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Ataxia	VEGF	<p>Mouse studies suggest that VEGF could help treat spinocerebellar ataxia type 1 (SCA1). In a mouse model of SCA1, neurons affected by the disease had lower VEGF expression than healthy neurons. In SCA1 mice, intracerebroventricular infusion of recombinant VEGF improved motor function compared with infusion of vehicle. Next steps include pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies of intracerebroventricular VEGF infusion in mouse models of SCA1.</p> <p>SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1216 Published online Nov. 3, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Cvetanovic, M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 16, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2494 Contact: Puneet Opal, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: p-opal@northwestern.edu</p>