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THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Pain	Acid-sensing ion channel-3 (ACCN3; ASIC3)	Studies in rats suggest that inhibiting ASIC3 could help treat postoperative pain. In a rat model of postoperative pain, Asic3 inhibition with a sea anemone toxin or small interfering RNA–mediated knockdown of Asic3 lowered pain sensitivity compared with that seen using vehicle or scrambled siRNA ($p<0.01$ and $p<0.05$, respectively). Next steps could include identifying and evaluating small molecule ASIC3 inhibitors in animal pain models. *SciBX* 4(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.517 Published online May 5, 2011	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Deval, E. *et al. J. Neurosci.*; published online April 20, 2011; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5266-10.2011 **Contact:** Emmanuel Deval, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis, Valbonne, France e-mail: deval@ipmc.cnrs.fr