This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	Fragile X mental retardation 1 (FMR1); histone acetyltransferase (HAT)	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>Drosophila</i> studies suggest that inhibiting HATs could help treat fragile X tremor ataxia syndrome (FXTAS). FXTAS is caused by a mutation near the <i>FMR1</i> gene, which leads to higher levels of FMR1 mRNA. In patient lymphoblasts and fibroblasts, a HAT inhibitor decreased FMR1 mRNA levels compared with vehicle. In a transgenic <i>Drosophila</i> model of FXTAS, a HAT inhibitor increased survival compared with vehicle. Next steps could include identifying more selective HAT inhibitors with reduced toxicity and testing their effects in preclinical models of FXTAS.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Todd, P.K. <i>et al. PLoS Genet.</i> ; published online Dec. 20, 2010; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1001240 Contact: Peter K. Todd, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: peter.tod@umich.edu
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