This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Spinal cord injury (SCI)	Chondroitin sulphate proteoglycan (CSPG)	<p>Rat studies suggest a peripheral nerve autograft plus treatment to dissolve CSPGs could improve recovery following SCI. In a rat SCI model, peripheral nerve autograft plus chondroitinase ABC, an enzyme that dissolves CSPGs, led to regeneration of serotonin-containing axons and greater recovery of diaphragm function and normal breathing than either treatment alone. Next steps include optimizing the strategy and testing it in larger animal models to see whether the combination corrects not only respiratory consequences of SCI but also bladder and bowel control consequences.</p> <p>Acorda Therapeutics Inc. declined to comment on its next steps.</p> <p>SciBX 4(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.831 Published online July 28, 2011</p>	Use of chondroitinase after CNS injury patented by University College London; licensed to Acorda Therapeutics	<p>Alilain, W.J. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online July 13, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature10199</p> <p>Contact: Jerry Silver, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: jxs10@case.edu</p>