

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Neurology</b>				
Rett syndrome	Sodium channels	<p>Patient and mouse studies suggest inhibiting sodium channels could help prevent lethal cardiac arrhythmias in patients with Rett syndrome. In 379 female patients with Rett syndrome, 70 had prolonged QT intervals, which increased the risk of developing lethal cardiac arrhythmias. In a mouse model of Rett syndrome, the sodium channel blocker phenytoin decreased QT intervals to lengths comparable to those in healthy wild-type controls. Next steps include determining which sodium channel blockers would be most effective at correcting QT intervals in patients with Rett syndrome.</p> <p>Phenytoin is a generic antiepileptic.</p> <p><b>SciBX 5(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.107</b>  <b>Published online Jan. 26, 2012</b></p>	<p>Findings covered by patent application; licensing information available from the Baylor Licensing Group at Baylor College of Medicine</p>	<p>McCauley, M.D. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Dec. 14, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3002982</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Jeffrey L. Neul, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas  e-mail: <a href="mailto:jneul@bcm.edu">jneul@bcm.edu</a></p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Xander H.T. Wehrens, same affiliation as above  e-mail: <a href="mailto:wehrens@bcm.edu">wehrens@bcm.edu</a></p>