This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Encephalopathy	Potassium channel subfamily T member 1 (KCNT1)	Genetic studies suggest activating mutations in <i>KCNT1</i> could help diagnose malignant migrating partial seizures of infancy (MMPSI). Exome sequencing studies of 12 patients with MMPSI, identified mutations in <i>KCNT1</i> in 6 patients but not in their unaffected parents or in 200 unaffected controls. In <i>Xenopus laevis</i> oocytes, rat <i>Kcnt1</i> with the disease-associated mutations was a constitutively active ion channel, whereas wild-type rat <i>Kcnt1</i> was not. Next steps could include studies in additional patients. <i>SciBX</i> 5(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1143 Published online Nov. 1, 2012	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Barcia, G. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i> ; published online Oct. 21, 2012; doi:10.1038/ng.2441 Contact: Rima Nabbout, Necker Hospital–Hospital for Sick Children, Paris, France e-mail: rimanabbout@yahoo.com