

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Ataxia	Histone deacetylase 4 (HDAC4)	<p>A study in mice suggests blocking the nuclear localization of HDAC4 may help treat ataxia telangiectasia, a neurodegenerative disease caused by mutation of <i>ataxia telangiectasia mutated (ATM)</i>. In <i>Atm</i>-deficient mice, Hdac4 localized to the nucleus. Also in <i>Atm</i>-deficient mice, overexpression of Hdac4 in the cytoplasm led to decreased apoptosis in cerebellar neurons and increased motor performance compared with normal Hdac4 expression. Next steps could include strategies for blocking nuclear accumulation of HDAC4.</p> <p>SciBX 5(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.446 Published online April 26, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Li, J. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online April 1, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2709 Contact: Karl Herrup, Rutgers University, Piscataway, N.J. e-mail: herrup@biology.rutgers.edu</p>