

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Neurology</b>				
Huntington's disease (HD)	Heat shock transcription factor 1 (HSF1)	An <i>in vitro</i> screen identified small molecule compounds that activated the heat shock response and could help treat HD and other protein misfolding diseases. Two cell-based high throughput screens of about 900,000 compounds identified 233 small molecules that activated HSF1 and the heat shock response. In cell culture and worm models of HD, three of the compounds suppressed toxic protein aggregation compared with vehicle. Next steps by Proteostasis Therapeutics Inc. include optimizing some of the compounds.	Compounds patented by Northwestern University; licensed to Proteostasis Therapeutics	Calamini, B. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Dec. 25, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchembio.763 <b>Contact:</b> Richard I. Morimoto, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.; e-mail: <a href="mailto:r-morimoto@northwestern.edu">r-morimoto@northwestern.edu</a>
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