

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Ryanodine receptor 1 (RyR1); RyR2	<p>Studies in mice suggest ryanodine receptor agonists could be useful for treating AD. In a mouse model of hereditary AD, ryanodine receptor-mediated calcium release and hippocampal Ryr1 and Ryr2 levels were lower than those in normal mice. In mouse brain slices, knockdown of Ryr1 and Ryr2 decreased activity-dependent calcium release and neuronal activity compared with no knockdown. Next steps could include testing the effects of moderate ryanodine receptor agonists on cognitive function in mouse models of AD.</p> <p>SciBX 6(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1032 Published online Sept. 26, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Wu, B. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 5, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1304171110 Contact: Jie Shen, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: jshen@rics.bwh.harvard.edu</p>