This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Migraine; pain	Caspase-1 (CASP1); high mobility group box 1 (HMGB1); NF-κB; pannexin 1 (PNX1)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting PNX1 in neurons could help treat migraine aura and headache. In the mouse brain, a migraine-linked electrophysiological phenomenon called cortical spreading depression (CSD) opened neuronal Pnx1 channels and activated Casp1, which led to Hmgb1 release in neurons and Nf-κb activation in astrocytes. In the mouse brain, PNX1 channel blockers and small interfering RNA–mediated knockdown of *Pnx1* inhibited the CSD-induced signaling cascade, whereas vehicle and control siRNA did not. Next steps could include evaluating the behavioral effects of inhibiting PNX1 in animal models for migraine. *SciBX* 6(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.243 Published online March 14, 2013	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Karatas, H. *et al. Science*; published online March 1, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1231897 **Contact:** Turgay Dalkara, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey e-mail: tdalkara@hacettepe.edu.tr