

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Parkinson's disease (PD)	PTEN induced putative kinase 1 (PINK1)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies suggest activating PINK1 could help treat PD. A <i>PINK1</i> loss-of-function mutation leads to early onset PD. <i>In vitro</i> , a modified ATP called N6 furfuryl ATP (KTP) activated PINK1. In cultured human cells, the cell-permeable KTP precursor kinetin increased phosphorylation of PINK1 substrates compared with adenine, which protected cells from stress-induced apoptosis. Next steps include testing kinetin in rat and fly models of PD.	Method of use for kinetin patented; licensed to Mitokinin LLC	Hertz, N.T. <i>et al. Cell</i> ; published online Aug. 15, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2013.07.030 Contact: Kevan M. Shokat, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: kevan.shokat@ucsf.edu
<p><i>SciBX</i> 6(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.970 Published online Sept. 12, 2013</p>				