This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	β -Amyloid (A β)	<p>Imaging studies identified [^{18}F]aminophenylbenzothiazoles that label Aβ and could help diagnose early stages of AD. In healthy mice, both the uptake and washout of the imaging agents in the brain were favorable. In positron emission tomography (PET) scans of rats and a monkey, the brain kinetics were confirmed and the most promising compound was 6-amino-2-(4'-[^{18}F]fluorophenyl)-1,3-benzothiazole. Next steps could include confirming the utility of the lead imaging compound for AD detection in animal models of the disease.</p> <p>Amorfix Life Sciences Ltd. has an AD diagnostic test, which detects Aβ, in pilot studies to diagnose AD.</p> <p>Avid Radiopharmaceuticals Inc. has Florpiramine and F-AV-1 in Phase II and Phase I testing, respectively, to detect Aβ levels and diagnose AD.</p> <p>Bayer AG has Florbetaben, a PET tracer labeled with ^{18}F to bind Aβ, in Phase II testing to diagnose AD.</p> <p>SciBX 2(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1702 Published online Dec. 3, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Serdons, K. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 30, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm900871v</p> <p>Contact: Kim Serdons, Catholic University Leuven, Leuven, Belgium e-mail: kim.serdons@pharm.kuleuven.be</p>