This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Neurology	c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK)	<p>Studies in cell culture and in rodents identified biaryl-substituted aminopyrimidine JNK inhibitors that could help treat neurodegenerative diseases. Biochemical and cell-based assays identified aminopyrimidine analogs that inhibited JNK1, JNK3 and c-jun phosphorylation with nanomolar IC₅₀ values. In rats and mice, several of the inhibitors had good oral bioavailability and were able to penetrate the blood brain barrier. Next steps include evaluating the inhibitors in animals. At least three companies have JNK inhibitors in Phase II or earlier to treat inflammatory diseases and neurological conditions.</p> <p>SciBX 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1769 Published online Dec. 17, 2009</p>	Patent application filed covering use in all neurodegenerative diseases, inflammation, cancer, diabetes, myocardial infarction, stroke and head injury; available for licensing from the Office of Business Development at Scripps Florida	<p>Kamenecka, T. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Nov. 30, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm901351f</p> <p>Contact: Philip V. LoGrasso, Scripps Florida, Jupiter, Fla. e-mail: lograsso@scripps.edu</p>