This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	γ -Secretase; presenilin 2 (PSEN2; PS2)	<p>A human genetic study suggests that γ-secretase modulators for AD could elicit undesirable dermatological side effects. Linkage mapping studies in six Chinese families afflicted with acne inversa, a chronic inflammatory disorder of the hair follicles, identified loss-of-function mutations in the <i>PSEN2</i> gene in affected individuals but not healthy controls. PSEN2 is a component of the γ-secretase complex. Next steps could include monitoring patients receiving γ-secretase modulators for signs of acne inversa.</p> <p>Six companies have γ-secretase modulators in preclinical development through Phase II testing for AD.</p> <p>SciBX 3(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1241 Published online Oct. 21, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Wang, B. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Oct. 7, 2010; doi:10.1126/science.1196284</p> <p>Contact: Xue Zhang, Peking Union Medical College, Beijing, China e-mail: xuezhang@pumc.edu.cn</p>