This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF1; IGF-1); IGF-1 receptor (IGF1R; CD221)	Studies in mice suggest that reducing IGF-1 signaling could help treat AD. In <i>Igf1r^{-/-}</i> mice expressing AD-associated amyloid precursor protein (APP), behavioral impairments, neuroinflammation and neuronal loss were lower than in <i>Igf1r^{+/+}</i> mice that had full IGF-1 signaling. In mice with reduced IGF-1 signaling, amyloid plaques contained more tightly packed β -amyloid (A β) aggregates that were less toxic than A β aggregates in amyloid plaques from mice with normal IGF-1 signaling. Next steps include testing the effects of interfering with targets in the IGF-1 pathway.	Patent application filed; licensed by Proteostasis Therapeutics Inc.	Cohen, E. <i>et al. Cell</i> ; published online Dec. 10, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2009.11.014 Contact: Andrew Dillin, The Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: dillin@salk.edu
SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.19 Published online Jan. 7, 2010				