This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	β -Amyloid (A β)	<p>Mouse studies suggest mAbs against Aβ could be useful for treating AMD. In a mouse model of AMD, peripheral injection of mAbs against the C terminus of Aβ lowered ocular Aβ deposits and retinal pathology and increased visual acuity compared with injection of vehicle control. Next steps include preclinical development of engineered Aβ mAbs that have minimized activation of complement and immune cells as AMD therapeutics.</p> <p>At least seven companies, including study coauthors Pfizer Inc., have Aβ mAbs in preclinical through Phase III testing for Alzheimer's disease.</p> <p>SciBX 4(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.745 Published online June 30, 2011</p>	mAbs used in study patented by Pfizer; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ding, J.-D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 20, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1100901108</p> <p>Contact: Catherine Bowes Rickman, Duke University, Durham, N.C. e-mail: bowes007@duke.edu</p> <p>Contact: John C. Lin, Pfizer Inc., South San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: john.lin@pfizer.com</p>