This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	β -Site APP-cleaving enzyme 1 (BACE1)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest spiropyrrolidine-based compounds could help treat AD. <i>In vitro</i>, optimized spiropyrrolidine derivatives inhibited the AD target BACE1 with micromolar IC₅₀ values and showed properties associated with good brain penetration. Researchers did not disclose next steps, which could include testing the lead BACE1 inhibitors in animal models of AD.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. did not disclose the status of its lead BACE1 inhibitor.</p> <p>At least five other companies have BACE1 inhibitors in preclinical or Phase I testing for AD.</p> <p>SciBX 5(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.422 Published online April 19, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Efremov, I.V. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online April 2, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm201715d</p> <p>Contact: Felix F. Vajdos, Pfizer Worldwide Research, Groton, Conn. e-mail: felix.vajdos@pfizer.com</p> <p>Contact: Ivan V. Efremov, same affiliation as above e-mail: ivan.efremov@pfizer.com</p>