This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	β -Amyloid 42; prion protein (PRNP; PrP; CD230)	Cell culture studies suggest soluble PrP could help treat AD. In a human neuronal cell line, soluble PrP and its N-terminal fragment inhibited the formation of cytotoxic β -amyloid 42 assemblies and blocked associated toxicity. Next steps include developing peptides or peptidomimetics that mimic the activity of soluble PrP and evaluating them in models of AD.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable; available for partnering and collaboration	Nieznanski, K. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online Aug. 22, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.C112.400614 Contact: Witold K. Surewicz, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: witold.surewicz@case.edu
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