This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	c-Jun N-terminal kinase 3 (JNK3; MAPK10); β -amyloid 42	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest JNK3 inhibition could help treat AD. In mouse AD models and patients, JNK3 activity in the frontal cortex was greater than that in healthy controls. In the mouse AD models, a <i>Jnk3</i> deficiency led to lower β -amyloid 42 levels in the brain and fewer and smaller plaques than normal <i>Jnk3</i> expression. The <i>Jnk3</i> deficiency also led to increased survival of frontal cortex neurons compared with normal <i>Jnk3</i> expression and long-term retention of fear memories. Planned work includes testing small molecule JNK3 inhibitors in animal models of AD.	Unpatented; available for licensing or partnering	Yoon, S.O. <i>et al. Neuron</i> ; published online Sept. 6, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.neuron.2012.06.024 Contact: Sung Ok Yoon, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio e-mail: sung.yoon@osumc.edu
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