This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Autoimmune disease				
Multiple sclerosis (MS)	Notch	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest the tocopherol derivative TFA-12 could help promote remyelination in MS. In primary cell culture, TFA-12 suppressed astroglial and microglial activation and promoted the differentiation of precursor cells into oligodendrocytes with myelin-like sheaths. In mice with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis or lysolecithin-induced demyelination, TFA-12 reduced demyelination and enhanced remyelination. Next steps include further evaluation of TFA-12 in models of MS and in human oligodendrocytes.	Patent application filed covering the use of TFA derivatives as inhibitors of Notch signaling; licensing status unavailable	Blanchard, B. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published July 10, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0774-13.2013 Contact: Brahim Nait Oumesmar, Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris, France e-mail: brahim.nait_oumesmar@upmc.fr
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