This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD); frontal temporal dementia (FTD)	Microtubule-associated protein- τ (MAPT; tau; FTDP-17)	Mouse studies suggest inhibiting the oligomeric extracellular form of tau could help treat tauopathies associated with AD and FTD. In a mouse model of FTD, an intracerebroventricular or i.v. injection of a polyclonal antibody targeting oligomeric tau decreased brain levels of oligomeric tau and increased locomotion and memory performance compared with injection of control IgG or antibodies that target monomeric tau or tau in neurofibrillary tangles. Next steps include further characterizing sequences and humanization potential of the oligomeric tau-targeting antibodies and testing them in additional mouse models.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Castillo-Carranza, D.L. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online March 19, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3192-13.2014 Contact: Rakez Kaye, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas e-mail: rakayed@utmb.edu
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