This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Prostaglandin E ₂ receptor EP4 subtype (prostanoid EP4 receptor; PTGER4)	Studies in mice and human samples suggest agonizing PTGER4 could help treat AD. In mouse microglia cultured with β -amyloid 42, a Ptger4 agonist suppressed expression of inflammatory genes. In a mouse model of AD, monocyte-specific <i>Ptger4</i> knockout increased expression of inflammatory genes and β -amyloid deposition in the brain compared with no alteration. Cortical section samples from patients with AD or mild cognitive impairment (MCI) had lower PTGER4 expression than samples from healthy individuals. Next steps could include testing Ptger4 activation in animal models of AD.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Woodling, N.S. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online April 23, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0410-14.2014 Contact: Katrin I. Andreasson, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: kandreas@stanford.edu
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