This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	α -Melanocyte stimulating hormone (α -MSH); β -amyloid ($A\beta$)	<p>Mouse studies suggest α-MSH could help treat AD. In mice with established $A\beta$ pathology and behavioral deficits, i.p. injection of α-MSH prevented the development of spatial memory deficits, whereas vehicle did not. Next steps could include testing α-MSH in additional models of AD and at different stages of the disease. Clinuvel Pharmaceuticals Ltd.'s CUV9900, an α-MSH analog, is in preclinical development for dermatology indications.</p> <p>SciBX 7(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.716 Published online June 19, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ma, K. & McLaurin, J. <i>J. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 14, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5075-13.2014 Contact: JoAnne McLaurin, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: j.mclaurin@utoronto.ca</p>