This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Transcription factor EB (TFEB); β-amyloid (Aβ)	<p>Mouse studies suggest increasing astrocyte levels of TFEB could help treat AD. In a mouse model of AD, hippocampal delivery of an astrocyte-specific adeno-associated viral (AAV) vector encoding <i>Tfeb</i> decreased interstitial fluid Aβ half-life and increased lysosomal biogenesis compared with delivery of a control AAV vector. In an aged mouse model of AD, an AAV vector encoding <i>Tfeb</i> decreased total Aβ levels and amyloid plaque load compared with control AAV. Next steps include determining the effect of TFEB activation on other cell types in the brain.</p> <p>SciBX 7(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.928 Published online Aug. 14, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Xiao, Q. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online July 16, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3788-13.2014 Contact: Jin-Moo Lee, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: leejm@wustl.edu Contact: Abhinav Diwan, same affiliation as above e-mail: adiwan@dom.wustl.edu</p>