

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	GABA _A receptor; apolipoprotein E (APOE)	<p>A study in mice suggests that increasing signaling through the GABA_A receptor could help treat APOE variant 4 (APOE4)-associated AD. In APOE4 AD mice, a GABA_A receptor agonist rescued learning and memory deficiencies compared with vehicle control. Next steps include identifying compounds that selectively modulate GABA_A signaling in the dentate gyrus, a brain region implicated in AD.</p> <p>RG1662, a GABA_A agonist from Roche, is in Phase I for AD.</p> <p>At least 20 other companies have GABA_A agonists or modulators in stages from preclinical to marketed for various neurology indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1240 Published online Oct. 21, 2010</p>	Patent filed; available for licensing	<p>Andrews-Zwilling, Y. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Oct. 13, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4040-10.2010</p> <p>Contact: Yadong Huang, Gladstone Institute of Neurological Disease, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: yhuang@gladstone.ucsf.edu</p>