

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP)	<p>Genetic analysis suggests that inhibiting CETP could help treat or prevent AD. In a cohort of 608 elderly patients followed over time, carriers of a partial loss-of-function allele of <i>CETP</i> had lower rates of memory decline, dementia and progression to AD than carriers of a functional <i>CETP</i> allele. Next steps include replicating the finding in a larger patient population and testing whether CETP inhibitors affect AD pathology in animal models.</p> <p>Anacetrapib (MK-0859) from Merck & Co. Inc. and dalcetrapib (JTT-705) from Japan Tobacco Inc. and Roche are CETP inhibitors in Phase III trials for both dyslipidemia and atherosclerosis.</p> <p>Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corp., Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. and Japan Tobacco have CETP inhibitors in Phase I for various cardiovascular indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.159 Published online Feb. 4, 2010</p>	Patented; available for licensing	<p>Sanders, A.E. <i>et al. JAMA</i>; published online Jan. 13, 2010; doi:10.1001/jama.2009.1988</p> <p>Contact: Richard B. Lipton, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx, N.Y. e-mail: richard.lipton@einstein.yu.edu</p>