

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Neurology</b>				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Liver X receptor (LXR)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that agonizing LXR could help treat high-fat diet-associated AD symptoms. In a mouse model of AD, a high-fat diet exacerbated cognitive defects compared with a normal diet. An LXR agonist reduced amyloid plaque load, <math>\beta</math>-amyloid (<math>A\beta</math>) oligomer accumulation and cognitive deficits caused by the diet compared with vehicle control. Next steps include studying the long-term effects of LXR agonists in AD and designing an AD trial of LXR agonists that are in development for other indications.</p> <p>XL652, an LXR agonist from Exelixis Inc. and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., is in Phase I testing to treat metabolic disorders.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.654</b>  <b>Published online May 27, 2010</b></p>	Findings unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Fitz, N.F. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 19, 2010;            doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1051-10.2010  <b>Contact:</b> Iliya Lefterov, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.            e-mail:  <a href="mailto:iliyal@pitt.edu">iliyal@pitt.edu</a>  <b>Contact:</b> Radosveta Koldamova, same affiliation as above            e-mail:  <a href="mailto:radak@pitt.edu">radak@pitt.edu</a></p>