

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Activity-regulated cytoskeleton associated protein (ARC)	<p>Studies in mice suggest antagonizing ARC could help treat AD. In mouse brain slices, Arc interacted with components of γ-secretase, a proteolytic complex involved in the production of neurotoxic β-amyloid ($A\beta$). In a mouse model of AD, Arc knockouts had lower levels of $A\beta$ production and plaque formation than wild-type controls. Next steps include identifying therapeutics that target ARC. At least nine companies have AD compounds targeting various components of γ-secretase in preclinical through Phase II development for AD.</p> <p>SciBX 4(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1241 Published online Nov. 10, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Wu, J. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Oct. 28, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2011.09.036 Contact: Paul F. Worley, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: pworley@jhmi.edu</p>