

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Neurology</b>				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Amyloid precursor protein (APP); $\beta$ -amyloid ( $A\beta$ )	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextran could help treat AD. In cultured cells overexpressing mutant human APP, hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextran decreased membrane cholesterol and $A\beta$ levels compared with vehicle. In a mouse model of AD, the compound decreased $A\beta$ plaque load and increased learning and memory compared with vehicle. Next steps include modifying the structure of hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextran to enable tracking of the molecule in the brain and to increase its penetration across the blood brain barrier.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Yao, J. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i> ; published online Dec. 3, 2012; doi:10.1084/jem.20121239 <b>Contact:</b> M. Flint Beal, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, N.Y. e-mail: <a href="mailto:fbeal@med.cornell.edu">fbeal@med.cornell.edu</a> <b>Contact:</b> Jiaqi Yao, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:jy2006@med.cornell.edu">jy2006@med.cornell.edu</a>
		<b>SciBX 5(49); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1289</b> Published online Dec. 20, 2012		