

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Eukaryotic translation factor 2 α kinase 3 (EIF2AK3; PERK); EIF2AK4 (GCN2)	Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibition of PERK or GCN2 could help treat AD. In brain samples from patients or mouse models of AD, phosphorylation of eukaryotic initiation factor 2 α was greater than that in healthy controls. In mouse models of AD, hippocampal-specific depletion of either kinase improved learning and memory performance. Next steps include determining whether inhibition of PERK or GCN2 can reverse defects in synaptic plasticity or memory in mouse models of AD.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Ma, T. <i>et al. Nat. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Aug. 11, 2013; doi:10.1038/nn.3486 Contact: Eric Klann, New York University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: eklann@cns.nyu.edu
		SciBX 6(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.966 Published online Sept. 12, 2013		