

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Neurology				
Alzheimer's disease (AD)	Inhibitor of κ -light polypeptide gene enhancer in B cells kinase- β (IKK β ; IKK2); β -amyloid (A β)	<p>Mouse studies suggest inhibiting IKK2 in myeloid cells could help treat AD. In a mouse model of AD, <i>Ikk2</i> knockout in myeloid cells decreased inflammation and Aβ levels in the brain and increased cognitive function compared with unaltered <i>Ikk2</i> expression. Also in the mouse model, <i>Ikk2</i> knockout increased microglia recruitment to plaque deposits and consequent Aβ clearance without affecting Aβ production. Next steps could include testing an IKK2 inhibitor in the model.</p> <p>At least two companies have IKK2 inhibitors in Phase II or earlier testing for various indications.</p> <p>SciBX 7(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1186 Published online Oct. 16, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Liu, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Sept. 24, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1348-14.2014 Contact: Yang Liu, Saarland University, Homburg, Germany e-mail: a.liu@mx.uni-saarland.de</p>