This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Ophthalmic disease	Opsin 1 (cone pigments), long-wave-sensitive (OPN1LW); opsin 1 (cone pigments), medium-wave-sensitive (OPN1MW)	<p>Studies in nonhuman primates suggest that <i>OPN1LW</i> gene therapy could treat red-green color blindness. In adult, color-blind squirrel monkeys lacking photosensitive pigments produced by the <i>OPN1LW</i> and <i>OPN1MW</i> genes, subretinal gene therapy with recombinant human <i>OPN1LW</i> led to <i>OPN1LW</i> expression in the retina and an increase in red-green color perception that was comparable to that in control monkeys. Ongoing studies include testing the safety of the therapy and extending the approach to treat achromatopsia, a color-blinding disorder caused by defective red and green light-sensitive photoreceptors.</p> <p>SciBX 2(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1422 Published online Sept. 24, 2009</p>	Patented; available for licensing	<p>Mancuso, K. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Sept. 17, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08401</p> <p>Contact: Jay Neitz, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: jneitz@uw.edu</p>