This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Ophthalmic disease	ADAM9	<p>Genetic association analysis and studies in mice suggest that targeting ADAM9 could help treat cone-rod dystrophy. In mapping studies, a null mutant of ADAM9 was identified in four families with early onset cone-rod dystrophy. <i>Adam9</i> knockout mice showed progressive retinal degeneration and the presence of proinflammatory macrophages at 20 months of age. Next steps could include developing gene therapy approaches to restore Adam9 activity in animals.</p> <p>MacroGenics Inc.'s RAV18, an anti-ADAM9 antibody, is in the discovery stages to treat cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.843 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Parry, D. <i>et al. Am. J. Hum. Genet.</i>; published online April 30, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.ajhg.2009.04.005</p> <p>Contact: Chris F. Inglehearn, Leeds Institute of Molecular Medicine, Leeds, U.K. e-mail: c.inglehearn@leeds.ac.uk</p>