This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Glaucoma	Purinergic receptor P2Y G-protein coupled 1 (P2RY1; P2Y1)	<i>In vitro</i> and rabbit studies identified a methylene and ATP-based agonist of P2Y1 that could help treat glaucoma. In two assays, the P2Y1 agonist was resistant to degradation by nucleases and resistant to hydrolysis in human blood serum. In rabbits, ocular delivery of the compound reduced intraocular pressure by about 32% compared with delivery of saline treatment, and the compound had an EC ₅₀ value of 95.5 nM. The reduction in intraocular pressure and duration of hypotensive effect were comparable to those for existing glaucoma treatments. Next steps include evaluating the compound in rabbit and primate glaucoma models.	Provisional patent application filed; available for licensing from Bar-Ilan Research and Development Co. Ltd. Contact: Frances Shalit, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel phone: +972-3-5318402 e-mail: shalitf1@mail.biu.ac.il	Eliahu, S. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online March 25, 2010; doi:10.1021/jm100030u Contact: Bilha Fischer, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel e-mail: bfischer@mail.biu.ac.il
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