This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	ATP-binding cassette sub-family A member 1 (<i>ABCA1</i>); cholesteryl ester transfer protein (<i>CETP</i>); lipase hepatic (<i>LIPC</i>); lipoprotein lipase (<i>LPL</i>); tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases 3 (<i>TIMP3</i>)	<p>A genomewide association study identified five SNPs that could help predict susceptibility to AMD. Comparative analysis of subjects with AMD and healthy controls showed that the SNPs rs9621532, near <i>TIMP3</i>; rs493258, near <i>LIPC</i>; rs3764261, near <i>CETP</i>; rs12678919, near <i>LPL</i>; and rs1883025, near <i>ABCA1</i>, were all significantly associated with disease ($p=1.1\times 10^{-11}$, 1.3×10^{-7}, 7.4×10^{-7}, 3×10^{-3} and 5.6×10^{-4}, respectively). Next steps include studying how the SNPs contribute to the development of AMD and confirming the associations in another cohort.</p> <p>SciBX 3(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.505 Published online April 22, 2010</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering genetic markers for diagnosing AMD; available for licensing from the University of Michigan Office of Technology Transfer</p> <p>Contact: Rakhi Juneja, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. phone: 734-763-3558 e-mail: rjuneja@umich.edu</p>	<p>Chen, W. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 12, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0912702107</p> <p>Contact: Anand Swaroop, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: swaroopa@nei.nih.gov</p>