This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Choroidal neovascularization (CNV); retinopathy of prematurity	Platelet-derived growth factor CC (PDGFCC)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that inhibiting PDGFCC could help treat CNV and retinopathy of prematurity. In mouse models of the two diseases, Pdgfcc was upregulated in the choroid and retina. In the CNV model, intraocular injection of PDGFCC inhibitors produced reductions in neovascularization that were comparable to those seen using VEGF inhibitors. In the retinopathy of prematurity model, intraocular injection of PDGFCC inhibitors reduced neovascularization compared with no treatment or vehicle injection. Planned work includes testing PDGFCC inhibition in other animal models of neovascularization.</p> <p>Lucentis ranibizumab (RG3645), a humanized mAb fragment against VEGF-A, is marketed in the U.S. by Roche's Genentech Inc. unit to treat wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Novartis AG markets the drug elsewhere.</p> <p>SciBX 3(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.799 Published online July 1, 2010</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Hou, X. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 21, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1004143107</p> <p>Contact: Xuri Li, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: lixur@nei.nih.gov</p>