This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD); retinitis	PC4 and SFRS1-interacting protein (PSIP1; LEDGF; p75; LEDGF/p75)	Cell culture and rat studies suggest the lens epithelium-derived growth factor fragment LEDGF ₁₋₃₂₆ could help treat dry AMD and retinitis pigmentosa (RP). In retinal cell culture, the fragment decreased protein aggregation-mediated stress and cell death compared with no protein fragment. In a rat model for dry AMD and RP, intravitreal injection of LEDGF ₁₋₃₂₆ decreased photoreceptor loss compared with vehicle injection. Next steps include evaluating the safety of LEDGF ₁₋₃₂₆ compositions in animal models and assessing the effectiveness of using the protein fragment to treat protein aggregation diseases of the brain.	Patent application filed covering compositions and methods of treatment; available for licensing from the University of Colorado Denver Technology Transfer Office Contact: David Poticha, University of Colorado Denver, Aurora, Colo. e-mail: david.poticha@cu.edu	Baid, R. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online May 2, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.441618 Contact: Uday B. Kompella, University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Aurora, Colo. e-mail: uday.kompella@ucdenver.edu
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