

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Myopia	BH3-like motif containing cell death inducer (BLID)	<p>Genomewide association studies identified a SNP near the <i>BLID</i> gene that could help predict susceptibility to myopia. Analysis of 2,741 Japanese individuals showed that the SNP rs577948 was significantly associated with increased risk for pathological myopia ($p=2.22 \times 10^{-7}$). The SNP is located downstream of <i>BLID</i>, a gene expressed in the human retina. Future studies could include examining the association in non-Japanese populations and identifying the functional relevance of <i>BLID</i> in myopia.</p> <p>SciBX 2(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1482 Published online Oct. 8, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Nakanishi, H. <i>et al. PLoS Genet.</i>; published online Sept. 25, 2009; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1000660</p> <p>Contact: Fumihiko Matsuda, Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan e-mail: fumi@genome.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp</p> <p>Contact: Nagahisa Yoshimura, same affiliation as above e-mail: nagaeye@kuhp.kyoto-u.ac.jp</p>