

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Ophthalmic disease	Not applicable	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that cortistatin A analogs could help block angiogenesis to treat wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD). <i>In vitro</i> , the analogs inhibited motility and growth of VEGF-stimulated human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) and blocked tubular network formation. Administration of the compounds to the eyes of newborn mice inhibited angiogenesis. Next steps could include testing the compounds in additional angiogenesis-dependent disease models.	Patent application filed by Harvard University; Roche's Genentech Inc. unit has a material transfer agreement to use a lead compound from the university; available for licensing	Czajim, B. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online June 1, 2009; doi:10.1021/ja902601e Contact: E.J. Corey, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: corey@chemistry.harvard.edu
SciBX 2(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.952 Published online June 11, 2009				