

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Ophthalmic disease</b>				
Diabetic retinopathy; retinopathy of prematurity	Semaphorin 3E (SEMA3E); plexin D1 (PLXND1)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that agonizing SEMA3E-PLXND1 signaling could help treat ischemic retinopathy. In developing mice, <i>Sema3e</i> deficiency or disruption of Plxnd1 signaling led to disorganized retinal vasculature compared with that in control mice. In a mouse model of ischemic retinopathy, intravitreal injection of Sema3e normalized vascular growth compared with injection of control protein. Planned work includes investigating agonists of Sema3e-Plxnd1 signaling in animal models of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and tumor angiogenesis.</p> <p><b>SciBX 4(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.493</b>  <b>Published online April 28, 2011</b></p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Fukushima, Y. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online April 18, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI44900</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Akiyoshi Uemura, RIKEN Center for Developmental Biology, Kobe, Japan            e-mail: <a href="mailto:auemura@cdb.riken.jp">auemura@cdb.riken.jp</a></p>