

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	IL-18	<p>Mouse studies suggest local delivery of IL-18 to the retina could help treat wet AMD. In a mouse model of wet AMD, knockout of the NLR family pyrin domain containing 3 (Nlrp3; Nalp3) inflammasome, an IL-18 activator, increased retinal damage compared with wild-type inflammasome expression. Also in the mouse models, knockout of IL-18 or an anti-IL-18 mAb increased retinal lesions compared with normal IL-18 expression or vehicle control, respectively. Next steps include developing a method for local delivery of pro-IL-18 to the retina using adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors.</p> <p>SciBX 5(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.529 Published online May 17, 2012</p>	<p>Patented; available for licensing from the Trinity College Dublin research and innovation office Contact: Emily Vereker, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland e-mail: verekee@tcd.ie</p>	<p>Doyle, S.L. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online April 8, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2717 Contact: Matthew Campbell, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland e-mail: matthew.campbell@tcd.ie</p>