

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Ophthalmic disease	v-abl Abelson murine leukemia viral oncogene homolog 1 (ABL1); neuropilin 1 (NRP1)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest ABL1 inhibitors could help treat ophthalmic disorders by inhibiting NRP1-mediated angiogenesis. In human endothelial cells, siRNA against NRP1 decreased cell motility, cell spreading and actin remodeling compared with a control siRNA. In a mouse model of oxygen-induced retinopathy, Gleevec imatinib inhibition of Abl1, which forms a complex with Nrp1, decreased pathogenic angiogenesis and vessel formation compared with vehicle treatment. Next steps include testing the effects of Gleevec in additional models of ocular neovascularization.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Gleevec imatinib to treat various cancers.</p> <p>Roche's Genentech Inc. unit has R7347, an antibody targeting NRP1, in Phase II trials to treat solid tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 7(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.803 Published online July 17, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Raimondi, C. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online May 26, 2014; doi:10.1084/jem.20132330</p> <p>Contact: Christiana Ruhrberg, University College London, London, U.K. e-mail: c.ruhrberg@ucl.ac.uk</p> <p>Contact: Claudio Raimondi, same affiliation as above e-mail: c.raimondi@ucl.ac.uk</p>