SciBX
Science-Business eXchange

THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Ophthalmic disease				
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	Fibromodulin (FMOD)	*In vitro* and mouse studies suggest inhibiting FMOD could help treat AMD and other angiogenesis-dependent diseases. Comparative microarray analysis showed that FMOD was more highly expressed in nonpigmented than pigmented melanocytes. In a coculture system, human dermal microvascular endothelial cells (HMVECs) migrated in conditioned media from nonpigmented cells but did not migrate in media from pigmented melanocytes. In cultured mouse choroidal melanocytes, a neutralizing FMOD antibody or *Fmod*-targeting siRNA decreased proliferation and HMVEC migration compared with no treatment. Next steps could include identifying therapeutic targets in the FMOD angiogenic pathway. *SciBX* 7(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.97 Published online Jan. 23, 2014	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Adini, I. *et al. J. Clin. Invest.*; published online Dec. 20, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI69404 **Contact:** Irit Adini, Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: irit.adini@childrens.harvard.edu

Copyright © 2014 Nature Publishing Group