

Tentative Outline

Special Thematic Issue for Current Drug Targets (CDT)

Anti-Vegf Therapy for Ocular Diseases: Present and Future

Guest Editor: Dr. Claudio Campa

Aims & Scope:

In 1994, The American Journal of Pathology published a key article reporting that hypoxic retina produces vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), suggesting a role for VEGF in ocular neovascularization.

Subsequent developments in anti-VEGF treatment for neovascular eye disease have improved visual outcomes and changed the standard of care in retinal medicine and ophthalmology in the last 15 years.

The first treatment developed using a VEGF-neutralizing strategy was pegaptanib (Macugen), in 2004. Afterwards ranibizumab (Lucentis) in 2006 and aflibercept (Eyelea) in 2011 came. Also the indications for this treatment have grown with time, and include now not only age related macular degeneration but also pathologic myopia, diabetic retinopathy and retinal vein occlusion.

The aim of this thematic issue is to retrace the story of anti-VEGF therapy for ocular diseases, showing the results obtained both in clinical trials and real life.

We will also discuss the case of bevacizumab (Avastin), an anti-VEGF compound developed for treating different types of cancers which has been used off-label in ophthalmology worldwide.

Lastly we will describe a new entry into the category of ophthalmic VEGF inhibitors, brolucizumab, which has now been submitted for FDA approval.

Schedule:

✧ Manuscript submission deadline: December 2019

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