

Therapy for retinal degeneration in ciliopathies

Pharmacological therapy to slow significantly retinal degeneration linked to protein trafficking defect inducing a Unfolded Protein Response

KEYWORDS

Photoreceptor cell, Retinitis pigmentosa, Cellular protein overload, Endoplasmic reticulum stress, Apoptosis, rare diseases

PATENTS

WO2013124484

INVENTORS

H. Dollfus
V. Marion
A. Mockel

Laboratory
of Medical Genetics

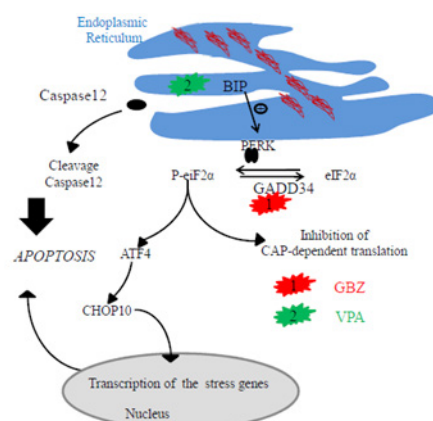
Unistra / INSERM



TECHNOLOGY

Impaired intraciliary transport observed in Bbs12^{-/-} murine model

- results in protein retention in the endoplasmic reticulum
- this leads to a proapoptotic unfolded protein response (UPR) triggering death of the photoreceptors
- BiP, and PERK-mediated phosphorylation of eIF2 α have been identified as 2 key UPR actors (Mockel et al., 2012)
- GV-ReT is a combination of clinically validated molecules (Valproic Acid and Guanabenz) for the treatment of cilia-related retinal degeneration



APPLICATION

- Pharmacological therapy for ciliopathy related retinal degeneration

INNOVATION ADVANTAGES

- A combination of two approved drugs, with a well defined MoA
- Effective in protecting retinal cells from dying and significantly increasing light detection capacity
- Aims at preserving the vision loss and slowing the retinal defects to cure secondarily with a more targeted therapy
- Positions on early onset of the retinal degeneration
- Applicable to different paradigms of retinal degeneration : UPR-inducing ciliopathies, retinal degeneration linked to protein trafficking defect inducing a UPR

DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- Compelling ex vivo and in vivo data establishing the efficacy of this drug combination
- Efficacy assessed on different cilia-related retinal degeneration (Bardet Biedl syndrome, Leber Congenital Amaurosis)

Partnership : program available for out-licensing

CONTACT

Vincent Bischoff
Business Developer

(+ 33) 3 68 41 12 66 - vincent.bischoff@satt.conectus.fr