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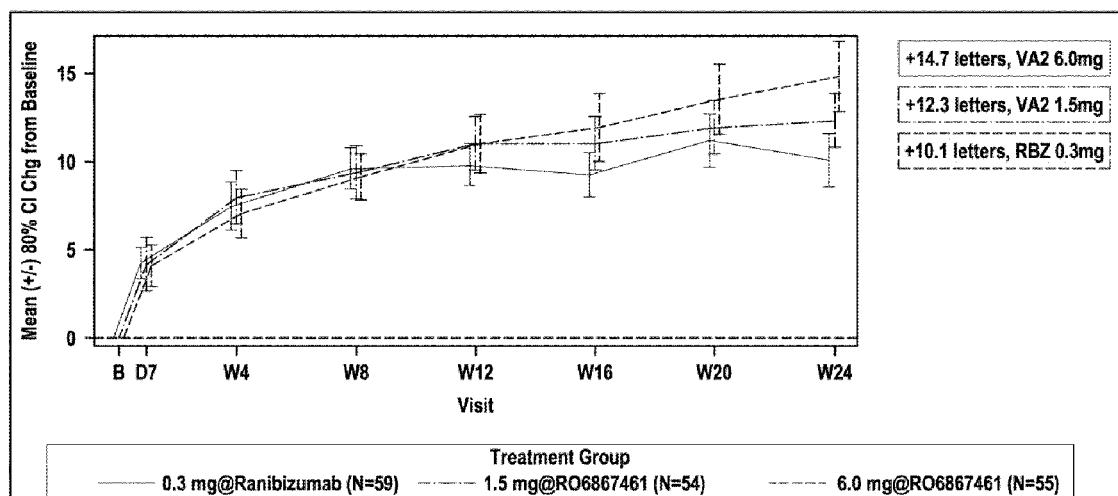
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(54) Title: TREATMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGIC DISEASES

Fig. 1

BCAV Change from Baseline Over Time to Week 24 (Study Eye)
Primary endpoint in Treatment-naïve Patients



(57) Abstract: The current invention relates to the use of antibodies which bind to VEGF and ANG2 for the treatment of ophthalmologic diseases.



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Treatment of ophthalmologic diseases

The current invention relates to the use of antibodies which bind to VEGF and ANG2 for the treatment of ophthalmologic diseases.

5 **Background of the Invention**

Angiogenesis is implicated in the pathogenesis of a variety of disorders which include solid tumors, intraocular neovascular syndromes such as proliferative retinopathies or age-related macular degeneration (AMD), rheumatoid arthritis, and psoriasis (Folkman, J., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 267 (1992) 10931-10934; Klagsbrun, 10 M., et al., *Annu. Rev. Physiol.* 53 (1991) 217-239; and Garner, A., *Vascular diseases, in: Pathobiology of ocular disease, A dynamic approach*, Garner, A., and Klintworth, G. K. (eds.), 2nd edition, Marcel Dekker, New York (1994), pp. 1625-1710).

15 Ranibizumab (trade name Lucentis®) is a monoclonal antibody fragment derived from the same parent murine antibody as bevacizumab (Avastin®). However, it has been affinity matured to provide stronger binding to VEGF-A (WO 98/45331). It is known that systemic blockade of VEGF-A is associated with an increased risk of certain adverse events, therefore ranibizumab is missing an Fc part in order to 20 reduce systemic exposure and the risk of systemic toxicities. It is an anti-angiogenic agent that has been approved to treat the "wet" type of age-related macular degeneration (neovascular AMD), a common form of age-related vision loss.

25 Corneal angiogenesis assays have shown that both ANG-1 and ANG-2 had similar effects, acting synergistically with VEGF to promote growth of new blood vessels. Asahara, T., et al., *Circ. Res.* 83 (1998) 233-40. The possibility that there was a dose-dependent endothelial response was raised by the observation that in vitro at high concentration, ANG-2 can also be pro-angiogenic (Kim, I., et al., *Oncogene* 19 (2000) 4549-52). At high concentration, ANG-2 acts as an apoptosis survival 30 factor for endothelial cells during serum deprivation apoptosis through activation of Tie2 via PI-3 Kinase and Akt pathway (Kim, I., et al., *Oncogene* 19 (2000) 4549-52).

Ocular vascular diseases such as "wet" age related macular degeneration (AMD) and proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), are due to abnormal choroidal or retinal neovascularization respectively. Bleeding and leakage from these vessels

can cause retinal dysfunction and loss of vision. Other retinal vascular disease, such as diabetic macular edema (DME) and macular edema secondary to retinal vein occlusion (RVO) are due to abnormal retinal leakage leading to retinal swelling and impairing visual function. These conditions are leading causes of visual loss in 5 industrialized nations. Since the retina consists of well-defined layers of neuronal, glial, and vascular elements, relatively small disturbances such as those seen in vascular proliferation or edema can lead to significant loss of visual function. Inherited retinal degenerations, such as Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP), are also 10 associated with vascular abnormalities, such as arteriolar narrowing and vascular atrophy. They affect as many as 1 in 3500 individuals and are characterized by progressive night blindness, visual field loss, optic nerve atrophy, arteriolar attenuation, and central loss of vision often progressing to complete blindness.

Ischemic retinopathies are characterized by loss or dysfunction of the retinal vasculature which results in a reduction of blood flow and hypoxia. The retina 15 responds to hypoxia by generating signals to grow new blood vessels, but these new vessels are usually fragile and disorganized. It is the growth of these abnormal new vessels that creates most of the threat to vision since they can leak, hemorrhage or lead to scarring that may end in retinal detachment. Current treatments for ischemic retinopathies seek to halt the growth of the pathological 20 vessels but do not address the underlying ischemia that drives their growth. Furthermore, standard treatment for diabetic retinopathy, an ischemic retinopathy that affects millions, involves destruction of a portion of the retina with a laser in an attempt to destroy ischemic tissue in order to stop new vessel growth and preserve 25 central vision. Strategies have been employed to block the function of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), a major promoter of abnormal vessel growth and leakage. In the short term, anti-VEGF therapy can improve vision, but it does not address the underlying ischemia and in fact may exacerbate this condition as it inhibits all vessel growth, including beneficial collaterals. There is also the serious 30 concern of systemic exposure of these drugs in elderly and/or diabetic patients where new vessel growth may be required in ischemic brains, hearts or limbs.

Summary of the Invention

In a first aspect, the present invention provides a method of treating a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease comprising administering a bispecific

antibody which binds to vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2),

wherein the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME) or age-related macular degeneration (AMD),

5 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally to the patient every 12 weeks, every 14 to 16 weeks or every 16 weeks,

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of 6mg, and

wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprises the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ

10 ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20.

In a second aspect, the present invention provides use of bispecific antibody which binds to VEGF and to ANG-2 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME or AMD,

15 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally to the patient every 12 weeks, every 14 to 16 weeks or every 16 weeks,

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of 6mg, and

wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprises the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ

20 ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20.

According to another aspect of the present invention, methods, uses, bispecific antibodies (for use), medicaments or pharmaceutical formulations are provided for the treatment of patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease the method

comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2),

5 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently in one embodiment every 16 weeks or less frequently).

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bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently.

5 In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

10 In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 24 weeks, and/or at 25 weeks, and/or at 26 weeks, and/or at 27 weeks, and/or at 28 weeks, and/or at 29 weeks, and/or at 30 weeks, and/or at 31 weeks, and/or at 32 weeks, and/or at 33 weeks, and/or at 34 weeks, and/or at 35 weeks, and/or at 36 weeks, and/or at 37 weeks, and/or at 38 weeks, and/or at 39 weeks, and/or at 40 weeks, and/or at 41 weeks, and/or at 42 weeks, and/or at 43 weeks, and/or at 44 weeks, and/or at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

15 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is selected from the group of: wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), neovascular AMD, diabetic macular edema (DME), cystoid macular edema (CME), non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy (NPDR), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), macular edema secondary to central retinal vein occlusion, secondary to hemiretinal vein occlusion or secondary to branch vein occlusion, retinitis, conjunctivitis, uveitis, choroiditis, choroidal neovascularization (CNV) secondary to ocular inflammation including secondary to ocular histoplasmosis or presumed histoplasmosis or choroiditis; myopic choroidal neovascularization (mCNV). And choroidal neovascularization secondary to trauma, retinopathy of prematurity and rubeosis iridis/ rubeotic glaucoma.

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30 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME).

In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME) and the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is

measured at about 9 to 15 month (in one embodiment at 9 to 14 month, in one embodiment at 9 to 12 month) after treatment start.

5 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME) and the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 36 weeks, and/or at 37 weeks, and/or at 38 weeks, and/or at 39 weeks, and/or at 40 weeks, and/or at 41 weeks, and/or at 42 weeks, and/or at 43 weeks, and/or at 44 weeks, and/or at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

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These time points are quite early, typically maximum gains are not reached until about month 6-9 in nAMD and m 9-12 in DME

15 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD) (,or neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).

20 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD) (,or neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) and the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at about 9 to 15 month (in one embodiment at 6 to 9 month, in one embodiment at 6 to 12 month) after treatment start.

25 In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD) (,or neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) and the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 24 weeks, and/or at 25 weeks, and/or at 26 weeks, and/or at 27 weeks, and/or at 28 weeks, and/or at 29 weeks, and/or at 30 weeks, and/or at 31 weeks, and/or at 32 weeks, and/or at 33 weeks, and/or at 34 weeks, and/or at 35 weeks, and/or at 36 weeks, and/or at 37 weeks, and/or at 38 weeks, and/or at 39 weeks, and/or at 40 weeks, and/or at 41 weeks, and/or at 42 weeks, and/or at 43 weeks, and/or at 44 weeks, and/or at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, after treatment start, respectively.

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In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and to human ANG2 is a bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein

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- i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14, and wherein
- iii) the bispecific antibody comprises a constant heavy chain region of human IgG1 subclass comprising the mutations I253A, H310A, and H435A and the mutations L234A, L235A and P329G (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat).

In one embodiment of the invention the patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g. monotherapy)(are treatment naïve).

In one embodiment of the invention the patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g. monotherapy).

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In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed every 8th week (Q8W) dosing schedule following treatment initiation.

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In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed Q12W dosing schedule following treatment initiation. In one embodiment of the invention following the treatment initiation, first one dose cycle of Q8W follows before the fixed Q12W dosing schedule.

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In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. In one embodiment of the invention such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state. In one embodiment of the invention the stable absence of disease is determined as

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- Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or
- Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters

and the disease activity is determined as

- Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or
- Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

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In one embodiment of the invention the ocular vascular disease is AMD and the treatment of patients suffering from AMD includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. In one embodiment of the invention such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state. In one embodiment of the invention the stable absence of disease is determined as

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- Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or
- Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters

and the disease activity is determined as

- Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or
- Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

Description of the Figures

Figure 1: BCVA change of DME patients treated from Baseline over Time to Week 24 (treatment naive patients). VA2 refers to the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), RBZ refers to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) ((administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose))

Figure 2: CST, central subfield thickness measured by SD OCT. CST change of DME patients treated from Baseline over Time to Week 24 (treatment naive patients). The bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), was compared to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) ((administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose)).

Figure 3: Time to necessary retreatment based on disease activity assessed by both: BCVA decreased by \geq 5 letters and CST increased by \geq 50 μ m (after dosing has discontinued (after 20 weeks or 6 monthly doses = Time post last intravitreal (IVT) administration). The bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), was compared to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) ((administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose)).

Figure 4: Schematic comparison to other treatment options of DME based on published results (Compared agents Lucentis® (ranibizumab),

Eylea® (aflibercept), brolucizumab and VA2 (RO6867461/RG7716).

5 **Figure 5:** Overview of the study design for the evaluation of the bispecific antibody RO6867461 administered at 12- and 16-week intervals in patients with neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).

10 **Figure 6:** BCVA gains from baseline of patients with neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) comparing the bispecific antibody RO6867461 (comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg) at 12- and 16-week intervals and ranibizumab (Lucentis®) ((administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose)) at 4-week intervals.

15 **Figure 7:** Change from baseline CST (mesaured via OCT) of patients with neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) comparing the bispecific antibody RO6867461 (comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg) at 12- and 16-week intervals and ranibizumab (Lucentis®) ((administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose)) at 4-week intervals.

20 **Detailed Description of the Invention**
According to one aspect of the present invention, methods are provided for the treatment of patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2),

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9

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weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

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One embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a patient suffering from a ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

One embodiment of the invention is a method of treating a patient suffering from a ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10

5 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

10 In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 24 weeks, and/or at 25 weeks, and/or at 26 weeks, and/or at 27 weeks, and/or at 28 weeks, and/or at 29 weeks, and/or at 30 weeks, and/or at 31 weeks, and/or at 32 weeks, and/or at 33 weeks, and/or at 34 weeks, and/or at 35 weeks, and/or at 36 weeks, and/or at 37 weeks, and/or at 38 weeks, and/or at 39 weeks, and/or at 40 weeks, and/or at 41 weeks, and/or at 42 weeks, and/or at 43 weeks, and/or at 44 weeks, and/or at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively. In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

15 20 25 30 In one embodiment of the invention the method is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity and, wherein the retreatment with the bispecific antibody is administered in case of a disease activity which is determined as

Central Subfield Thickness (CST)increase by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or

Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decrease by ≥ 5 letters.

One embodiment of the invention is a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

5 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

10 One embodiment of the invention is a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease , wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

15 One embodiment of the invention is a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease , wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the (intravitreal) administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or

more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

In one embodiment of the invention such bispecific antibody (for use) is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity and, wherein the retreatment with the bispecific antibody is administered in case of a disease activity which is determined as

Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increase by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or

Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decrease by ≥ 5 letters.

One embodiment of the invention is a medicament or pharmaceutical formulation comprising a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

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wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

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One embodiment of the invention is a medicament or pharmaceutical formulation comprising a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

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One embodiment of the invention is a medicament or pharmaceutical formulation comprising a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the (intravitreal) administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be

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administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

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In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

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In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

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In one embodiment of the invention such medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity and, wherein the retreatment with the bispecific antibody is administered in case of a disease activity which is determined as

Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increase by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or

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Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decrease by ≥ 5 letters.

One embodiment of the invention is the use of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

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wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less

frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

5 One embodiment of the invention is the use of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

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One embodiment of the invention is the use of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the (intravitreal) administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody. In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less

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frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

5 In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

10 In one embodiment of the invention the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

15 In one embodiment of the invention medicament is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity and, wherein the retreatment with the bispecific antibody is administered in case of a disease activity which is determined as

Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increase by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or

20 Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decrease by ≥ 5 letters.

In one embodiment BCVA determination in such method, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is based on the Early Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) Protocol adapted visual acuity charts and is assessed at a starting distance of 4 meters.

25 Such method, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation may comprise sequentially administering initial doses ("treatment initiation") (e.g. 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 4 monthly administrations, in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 5 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes at least 4 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations, in one

embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations) followed by one or more secondary doses of a therapeutically effective amount of the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation.

5 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 10 to 12 weeks (following treatment initiation).

In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 11 to 13 weeks (following treatment initiation).

10 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 12 to 14 weeks (following treatment initiation).

15 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 13 to 15 weeks (following treatment initiation).

In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 14 to 16 weeks (following treatment initiation).

20 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 10 to 11 weeks, or every 11 to 12 weeks, or every 12 to 13 weeks, or every 13 to 14 weeks, or every 14 to 15 weeks, or every 15 to 16 weeks (following treatment initiation, respectively).

25 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered every 10 weeks, or every 11 weeks, or every 12 weeks, or every 13 weeks, or every 14 weeks, or every 16 weeks (following treatment initiation, respectively).

30 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered in a dose of about 5 to 7 mg (at each treatment). In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of 6 mg +/- 10 % (at each treatment). In one embodiment the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of about 6 mg (at each treatment). (in one embodiment in a dose of 6 mg (at each treatment))

5 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered in a concentration of about 30 mg/ml of the bispecific antibody. In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is administered in a concentration of about 120 mg/ml of the bispecific antibody.

10 The terms “ocular vascular disease” and “vascular eye disease” are used interchangeable herein and include, but are not limited to intraocular neovascular syndromes such as diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, retinopathy of prematurity, neovascular glaucoma, (branch) retinal vein occlusions, central retinal vein occlusions, macular degeneration, age-related macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, retinal angiomatic proliferation, macular telangiectasia, ischemic retinopathy, iris neovascularization, intraocular neovascularization, corneal neovascularization, retinal neovascularization, choroidal neovascularization, and retinal degeneration. (Garner, A., Vascular diseases, In: Pathobiology of ocular disease, A dynamic approach, Garner, A., and Klintworth, G.K., (eds.), 2nd edition, Marcel Dekker, New York (1994), pp. 1625-1710). As used herein, ocular vascular disorder refers to any pathological conditions characterized by altered or unregulated proliferation and invasion of new blood vessels into the structures of ocular tissues such as the retina or cornea. In one embodiment the ocular vascular disease is selected from the group consisting of: wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), neovascular AMD (nAMD), diabetic macular edema (DME), cystoid macular edema (CME), non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy (NPDR), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), macular edema secondary to central retinal vein occlusion, secondary to hemiretinal vein occlusion or secondary to branch vein occlusion, retinitis, conjunctivitis, uveitis, choroiditis, choroidal neovascularization (CNV) secondary to ocular inflammation including secondary to ocular histoplasmosis or presumed histoplasmosis or choroiditis; myopic choroidal neovascularization (mCNV). And choroidal neovascularization secondary to trauma, retinopathy of prematurity and rubeosis iridis/ rubeotic glaucoma, and other ophthalmic diseases wherein the eye disease or disorder is associated with ocular neovascularization, vascular leakage, and/or retinal edema. So the anti-VEGF/ANG2 bispecific antibodies for use and the methods described herein are useful in the prevention and treatment of wet AMD, nAMD CME, DME, NPDR, PDR, and uveitis, also preferably wet AMD, nAMD, , also preferably DME, CME, NPDR and PDR, and also particularly wet AMD. In some embodiments, the ocular vascular disease is selected from the group consisting of

wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD), (diabetic) macular edema, retinal vein occlusions, retinopathy of prematurity, and diabetic retinopathy.

Other diseases/conditions associated with corneal neovascularization (or which 5 may be the cause of corneal neovascularization) include, but are not limited to, epidemic keratoconjunctivitis, Vitamin A deficiency, contact lens overwear, atopic keratitis, superior limbic keratitis, pterygium keratitis sicca, sjogrens syndrome, acne rosacea, phlyctenulosis, syphilis, Mycobacteria infections, lipid degeneration, chemical burns, bacterial ulcers, fungal ulcers, Herpes simplex 10 infections, Herpes zoster infections, protozoan infections, Kaposi sarcoma, Mooren ulcer, Terrien's marginal degeneration, marginal keratolysis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus, polyarteritis, trauma, Wegeners sarcoidosis, Scleritis, Steven's 15 Johnson disease, periphigoid radial keratotomy, and corneal graft rejection.

Diseases/conditions associated with retinal/choroidal neovascularization (or which 15 may be the cause of retinal/choroidal neovascularization) include, but are not limited to, diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, sickle cell anemia, sarcoid, syphilis, pseudoxanthoma elasticum, Pagets disease, vein occlusion, artery 20 occlusion, carotid obstructive disease, chronic uveitis/vitritis, mycobacterial infections, Lyme's disease, systemic lupus erythematosis, retinopathy of prematurity, retinitis pigmentosa, retina edema (including macular edema), Eales disease, Bechets disease, infections causing a retinitis or choroiditis, presumed 25 ocular histoplasmosis, Bests disease, myopia, optic (disc) pits, Stargardts disease, pars planitis, chronic retinal detachment, hyperviscosity syndromes, toxoplasmosis, trauma and post-laser complications. Other diseases include, but are not limited to, diseases associated with rubeosis (neovascularization of the angle) and diseases caused by the abnormal proliferation of fibrovascular or fibrous tissue including all 30 forms of proliferative vitreoretinopathy.

Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) is a disease of the eye that affects prematurely 30 born babies. It is thought to be caused by disorganized growth of retinal blood vessels which may result in scarring and retinal detachment. ROP can be mild and may resolve spontaneously, but may lead to (total) blindness in serious cases. As such, all preterm babies are at risk for ROP, and very low birth weight is an additional risk factor. Both oxygen toxicity and relative hypoxia can contribute to the development of ROP.

Macular degeneration is a medical condition predominantly found in elderly adults in which the center of the inner lining of the eye, known as the macula area of the retina, suffers thinning, atrophy, and in some cases, bleeding. This can result in loss of central vision, which entails inability to see fine details, to read, or to recognize faces. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, it is the leading cause of central vision loss (blindness) in the United States today for those over the age of fifty years. Although some macular dystrophies that affect younger individuals are sometimes referred to as macular degeneration, the term generally refers to age-related macular degeneration (AMD or ARMD).

“Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)”, as used herein, refers to a serious eye condition when the small central portion of the retina, known as the macula, deteriorates. AMD includes wet AMD and neovascular AMD. The wet form of AMD (wet AMD, wAMD or also called neovascular AMD, nAMD) is characterized by the growth of abnormal blood vessels from the choroid underneath the macula. This is called choroidal neovascularization. These blood vessels leak blood and fluid (below and) into the retina, causing (elevation of the retina and) distortion of vision that makes straight lines look wavy, as well as blind spots and loss of central vision. These abnormal blood vessels eventually scar, leading to permanent loss of central vision. The symptoms of AMD include dark, blurry areas in the center of vision; and diminished or changed color perception. AMD can be detected in a routine eye exam. One of the most common early signs of macular degeneration is the presence of drusen which are tiny yellow deposits under the retina and pigment clumping.

Advanced AMD, which is responsible for profound vision loss, has two forms: dry and wet. Central geographic atrophy, the dry form of advanced AMD, results from atrophy to the retinal pigment epithelial layer below the retina, which causes vision loss through loss of photoreceptors (rods and cones) in the central part of the eye. While no treatment is available for this condition, vitamin supplements with high doses of antioxidants, lutein and zeaxanthin, have been demonstrated by the National Eye Institute and others to slow the progression of dry macular degeneration and in some patients, improve visual acuity.

Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is a group of genetic eye conditions. In the progression of symptoms for RP, night blindness generally precedes tunnel vision by years or even decades. Many people with RP do not become legally blind until their 40s or 50s and retain some sight all their life. Others go completely blind from RP, in

some cases as early as childhood. Progression of RP is different in each case. RP is a type of hereditary retinal dystrophy, a group of inherited disorders in which abnormalities of the photoreceptors (rods and cones) or the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) of the retina lead to progressive visual loss. Affected individuals 5 first experience defective dark adaptation or nyctalopia (night blindness), followed by reduction of the peripheral visual field (known as tunnel vision) and, sometimes, loss of central vision late in the course of the disease.

Macular edema occurs when fluid and protein deposits collect on or under the macula of the eye, the central area of the retina responsible for fine vision, causing 10 it to thicken and swell. The swelling may distort a person's central vision, as the macula is near the center of the retina at the back of the eyeball. This area holds tightly packed cones that provide sharp, clear central vision to enable a person to see form, color, and detail that is directly in the line of sight. Cystoid macular edema is a type of macular edema that includes cyst formation.

15 "Diabetic Macular Edema" (DME), as used herein, refers to a serious eye condition that affects people with diabetes (type 1 or 2). Macular edema occurs when blood vessels in the retina leak into the macula and fluid and protein deposits collect on or under the macula of the eye and causes it to thicken and swell (edema). The 20 swelling may distort a person's central vision, as the macula is near the center of the retina at the back of the eyeball. The primary symptoms of DME include, but are not limited to, blurry vision, floaters, loss of contrast, double vision, and eventual loss of vision. The pathology of DME is characterized by breakdown of inner the blood-retinal barrier, normally preventing fluid movement in the retina, 25 thus allowing fluid to accumulate in the retinal tissue, and presence of retinal thickening. DME is presently diagnosed during an eye examination consisting of a visual acuity test, which determines the smallest letters a person can read on a standardized chart, a dilated eye exam to check for signs of the disease, imaging tests such as optical coherence tomography (OCT) or fluorescein angiography (FA) 30 and tonometry, an instrument that measures pressure inside the eye. The following studies are also performed to determine treatment: optical coherence tomography (OCT), fluorescein angiography, and color stereo fundus photography. DME can be broadly characterized into two main categories - Focal and Diffuse. Focal DME is characterized by specific areas of separate and distinct leakage in the macula 35 with sufficient macular blood flow. Diffuse DME results from leakage of the entire capillary bed surrounding the macula, resulting from a breakdown of the inner

5 blood-retina barrier of the eye. In addition to Focal and Diffuse, DME is also categorized based on clinical exam findings into clinically significant macular edema (CSME), non-CSME and CSME with central involvement (CSME-CI), which involves the fovea. The present invention includes methods to treat the above-mentioned categories of DME.

Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) is determined using methodology adapted from the 4-meter Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study [ETDRS] protocol (using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts) and resulting in the respective letter score.

10 Disease activity is determined e.g. via reduction of the BCVA/ETDRS letter score and/or e.g. via the macular thickening by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) involving the center of the macula as central subfield thickness (CST) (also known as center subfoveal thickness). In one preferred embodiment Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is determined using spectral 15 domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT): In one preferred embodiment CST is measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one preferred embodiment CST is measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment CST is measured by spectral domain optical coherence 20 tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment CST is measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device). As used herein, the term "a patient suffering from" refers to a human that exhibits one or more symptoms or indications of, and/or who has been 25 diagnosed with an ocular vascular disease as described herein. The term "a patient suffering from" may also include, e.g., subjects who, prior to treatment, exhibit (or have exhibited) one or more indications of a vascular eye disease such as, e.g., retinal angiogenesis, neovascularization, vascular leak, retinal thickening of the center of the fovea, hard, yellow exudates of the center of the fovea with adjacent retinal thickening, and at least 1 disc area of retinal thickening, any part of which is 30 within 1 disc diameter of the center of the fovea, blurry vision, floaters, loss of contrast, double vision, and eventual loss of vision.

35 As used herein, the term "a patient suffering from" may include a subset of population which is more susceptible to DME or AMD or may show an elevated level of a DME- associated or an AMD-associated biomarker. For example, "a subject in need thereof" may include a subject suffering from diabetes for more

than 10 years, have frequent high blood sugar levels or high fasting blood glucose levels. In certain embodiments, the term "a patient suffering from" includes a subject who, prior to or at the time of administration of the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody, has or is diagnosed with diabetes. In certain embodiments, 5 the term "a patient suffering from" includes a subject who, prior to or at the time of administration of the anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody, is more than 50 years old. In some embodiments, the term "a patient suffering from" includes subjects who are smokers, or subjects with high blood pressure or high cholesterol.

10 The present invention includes methods or bispecific antibodies (for use), medicaments or pharmaceutical formulations for treating, preventing or reducing the severity of an ocular vascular disease comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody (or a medicament or pharmaceutical formulation comprising the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody) to a subject in need thereof, wherein the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation comprising such bispecific 15 anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is administered (intravitreally) to the subject in multiple doses, e.g., as part of a specific therapeutic dosing regimen.

20 One embodiment of the invention is the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy) (are treatment naïve).

25 One embodiment of the invention is the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy).

30 One embodiment of the invention is the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed every 8th week (Q8W) dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).

One embodiment of the invention is the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed Q12W dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations). In one embodiment following the treatment initiation, first one dose cycle of Q8W follows before the fixed Q12W dosing schedule.

One embodiment of the invention is the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 5 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes at least 4 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations). In one embodiment such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state. In one embodiment the stable absence of disease is determined as

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $< 50 \mu\text{m}$

-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters

and the disease activity is determined as

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$

-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

In one embodiment the stable absence of disease is determined as

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one

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embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device),

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and the disease activity is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).

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One embodiment of the invention the method of treatment, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein wherein the ocular vascular disease is AMD (in one embodiment wet AMD) and the treatment of patients suffering from AMD (in one embodiment wet AMD) includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 5 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes at least 4 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations). In one embodiment such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state. In one embodiment the stable absence of disease is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or

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-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters

and the disease activity is determined as

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or

-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

In one embodiment the stable absence of disease is determined as

5 -Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device),

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and the disease activity is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).

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In one embodiment the vascular ocular disease in such method, use, bispecific antibody (for use), medicament or pharmaceutical formulation is wetAMD (nAMD).

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As used herein, "antibody" refers to a binding protein that comprises antigen-binding sites. The terms "binding site" or "antigen-binding site" as used herein denotes the region(s) of an antibody molecule to which a ligand actually binds. The

term “antigen-binding site” comprises an antibody heavy chain variable domains (VH) and an antibody light chain variable domains (VL) (pair of VH/VL).).

Antibody specificity refers to selective recognition of the antibody for a particular epitope of an antigen. Natural antibodies, for example, are monospecific.

5 “Bispecific antibodies” according to the invention are antibodies which have two different antigen-binding specificities. Antibodies of the present invention are specific for two different antigens, VEGF as first antigen and ANG-2 as second antigen.

10 The term “monospecific” antibody as used herein denotes an antibody that has one or more binding sites each of which bind to the same epitope of the same antigen.

15 The term “valent” as used within the current application denotes the presence of a specified number of binding sites in an antibody molecule. As such, the terms “bivalent”, “tetravalent”, and “hexavalent” denote the presence of two binding site, four binding sites, and six binding sites, respectively, in an antibody molecule. The bispecific antibodies according to the invention are preferably “bivalent”.

20 The terms “bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2)”, “bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody” and bispecific <VEGF/ANG2> antibody” as used herein are interchangeable and refer to an antibody which has at least two different antigen-binding sites, a first one which binds to VEGF and a second one which binds to ANG2.

25 Bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies are e.g. described in WO2010040508, WO2011/117329, WO2012/131078, WO2015/083978, WO2017/197199, and WO2014/009465. WO2014/009465 describes bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies especially designed for treatment of ocular vascular diseases. The bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies of WO2014/009465 (which is incorporated herein in its entirety) are especially useful in the treatment and treatment schedules of ocular vascular diseases as described herein.

30 In one embodiment the bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2) is a bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that

specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein

5 i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and

10 ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14, and wherein

15 iii) the bispecific antibody comprises a constant heavy chain region of human IgG1 subclass comprising the mutations I253A, H310A, and H435A and the mutations L234A, L235A and P329G (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat).

20 In one embodiment such bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is bivalent.

In one embodiment such bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is characterized in that

In one aspect of the invention such bispecific, bivalent antibody according to the invention is characterized in comprising

5

- a) the heavy chain and the light chain of a first full length antibody that specifically binds to VEGF;
- b) the modified heavy chain and modified light chain of a second full length antibody that specifically binds to ANG-2, wherein the constant domains CL and CH1 are replaced by each other.

This bispecific, bivalent antibody format for the bispecific antibody specifically binding to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2) is described in WO 2009/080253 (including Knobs-into-Holes modified CH3 domains). The antibodies based on this bispecific, bivalent antibody format are named CrossMAbs.

10 In one embodiment such bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is characterized in comprising

15

- a) as heavy chain of the first full length antibody the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17, and as light chain of the first full length antibody the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, and
- b) as modified heavy chain of the second full length antibody the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 19, and as modified light chain of the second full length antibody the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20.

20 In one embodiment such bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is characterized in comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20. In one preferred embodiment the bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is faricimab.

25 Accordingly, one embodiment of the invention is a bispecific, bivalent antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, characterized in comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20. In one preferred embodiment the bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is faricimab.

30 In one embodiment the CH3 domains of the bispecific, bivalent antibody according to the invention is altered by the “knob-into-holes” technology which is described in detail with several examples in e.g. WO 96/027011, Ridgway J.B., et al., Protein Eng 9 (1996) 617–621; and Merchant, A.M., et al., Nat Biotechnol 16 (1998) 677–681. In this method the interaction surfaces of the two CH3 domains are altered to

increase the heterodimerisation of both heavy chains containing these two CH3 domains. Each of the two CH3 domains (of the two heavy chains) can be the “knob”, while the other is the “hole”. The introduction of a disulfide bridge stabilizes the heterodimers (Merchant, A.M, et al., *Nature Biotech* 16 (1998) 677-681; Atwell, S., et al. *J. Mol. Biol.* 270 (1997) 26-35) and increases the yield.

In a preferred aspect of the invention the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies according to the invention are characterized in that

the CH3 domain of one heavy chain and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain each meet at an interface which comprises an original interface between the antibody CH3 domains;

wherein said interface is altered to promote the formation of the bispecific antibody, wherein the alteration is characterized in that:

a) the CH3 domain of one heavy chain is altered,

so that within the original interface the CH3 domain of one heavy chain that meets the original interface of the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain within the bispecific antibody,

an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a larger side chain volume, thereby generating a protuberance within the interface of the CH3 domain of one heavy chain which is positionable in a cavity within the interface of the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain

and

b) the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain is altered,

so that within the original interface of the second CH3 domain that meets the original interface of the first CH3 domain within the bispecific antibody

an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a smaller side chain volume, thereby generating a cavity within the interface of the second CH3 domain within which a protuberance within the interface of the first CH3 domain is positionable.

Thus the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies for use described herein are preferably characterized in that

the CH3 domain of the heavy chain of the full length antibody of a) and the CH3 domain of the heavy chain of the full length antibody of b) each meet at an interface which comprises an alteration in the original interface between the antibody CH3 domains;

5 wherein i) in the CH3 domain of one heavy chain

an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a larger side chain volume, thereby generating a protuberance within the interface of the CH3 domain of one heavy chain which is positionable in a cavity within the interface of the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain

10 and wherein

ii) in the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain

an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a smaller side chain volume, thereby generating a cavity within the interface of the second CH3 domain within which a protuberance within the interface 15 of the first CH3 domain is positionable.

Preferably said amino acid residue having a larger side chain volume is selected from the group consisting of arginine (R), phenylalanine (F), tyrosine (Y), tryptophan (W).

20 Preferably said amino acid residue having a smaller side chain volume is selected from the group consisting of alanine (A), serine (S), threonine (T), valine (V).

In one aspect of the invention both CH3 domains are further altered by the introduction of cysteine (C) as amino acid in the corresponding positions of each CH3 domain such that a disulfide bridge between both CH3 domains can be formed.

25 In one embodiment, the bispecific antibody comprises a T366W mutation in the CH3 domain of the “knobs chain” and T366S, L368A, Y407V mutations in the CH3 domain of the “hole chain”. An additional interchain disulfide bridge between the CH3 domains can also be used (Merchant, A.M, et al., Nature Biotech 16 (1998) 677-681) e.g. by introducing a S354C mutation into one CH3 domain and a 30 Y349C mutation into the other CH3 domain.

In a another preferred embodiment the bispecific antibody comprises S354C and T366W mutations in one of the two CH3 domains and Y349C, T366S, L368A, Y407V mutations in the other of the two CH3 domains In a another preferred embodiment the bispecific antibody comprises Y349C, T366W mutations in one of the two CH3 domains and S354C, T366S, L368A, Y407V mutations in the other of the two CH3 domains (the additional Y349C or S354C mutation in one CH3 domain and the additional S354C or Y349C mutation in the other CH3 domain forming a interchain disulfide bridge) (numbering always according to EU index of Kabat (Kabat, E.A., et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD (1991)).

Other techniques for CH3-modifications to enforce the heterodimerization are contemplated as alternatives of the invention and described e.g. in WO 96/27011, WO 98/050431, EP 1870459, WO 2007/110205, WO 2007/147901, WO 2009/089004, WO 2010/129304, WO 2011/90754, WO 2011/143545, WO 2012/058768, WO 2013/157954 and WO 2013/096291.

In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in EP 1 870 459A1 is used alternatively. This approach is based on the introduction of substitutions/mutations of charged amino acids with the opposite charge at specific amino acid positions of the in the CH3/CH3 domain interface between both heavy chains. One preferred embodiment for said multispecific antibodies are amino acid R409D and K370E mutations in the CH3 domain of one heavy chain and amino acid D399K and E357K mutations in the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain of the multispecific antibody (numberings according to Kabat EU index).

In another embodiment said multispecific antibody comprises an amino acid T366W mutation in the CH3 domain of the “knobs chain” and amino acid T366S, L368A and Y407V mutations in the CH3 domain of the “hole chain”; and additionally comprises amino acid R409D and K370E mutations in the CH3 domain of the “knobs chain” and amino acid D399K and E357K mutations in the CH3 domain of the “hole chain”.

In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2013/157953 is used alternatively. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises an amino acid T366K mutation and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises an amino acid L351D mutation. In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the one heavy chain further comprises an amino acid L351K mutation.

In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain further comprises an amino acid mutation selected from Y349E, Y349D and L368E (in one embodiment L368E).

5 In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2012/058768 is used alternatively. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises amino acid L351Y and Y407A mutations and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises amino acid T366A and K409F mutations. In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain further comprises an amino acid mutation at position T411, D399, S400, F405, N390 or K392. In one 10 embodiment said amino acid mutation is selected from the group consisting of

- a) T411N, T411R, T411Q, T411K, T411D, T411E and T411W,
- b) D399R, D399W, D399Y and D399K,
- c) S400E, S400D, S400R and S400K,
- d) F405I, F405M, F405T, F405S, F405V and F405W,
- 15 e) N390R, N390K and N390D,
- f) K392V, K392M, K392R, K392L, K392F and K392E.

20 In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises amino acid L351Y and Y407A mutations and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises amino acid T366V and K409F mutations. In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises an amino acid Y407A mutation and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises amino acid T366A and K409F mutations. In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain further comprises amino acid K392E, T411E, D399R and S400R mutations.

25 In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2011/143545 is used alternatively. In one embodiment the amino acid modification according to WO2011/143545 is introduced in the CH3 domain of the heavy chain at a position selected from the group consisting of 368 and 409.

30 In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2011/090762 which also uses the knob-into-hole technology described above is used alternatively. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises an

amino acid T366W mutation and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises an amino acid Y407A mutation. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises an amino acid T366Y mutation and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises an amino acid Y407T mutation.

5 In one embodiment the multispecific antibody is of IgG2 isotype and the heterodimerization approach described in WO2010/129304 is used alternatively.

In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2009/089004 is used alternatively. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain comprises an amino acid substitution of K392 or N392 with a negatively-charged 10 amino acid (in one embodiment glutamic acid (E) or aspartic acid (D); in a further embodiment a K392D or N392D mutation) and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises an amino acid substitution of D399, E356, D356, or E357 with a positively-charged amino acid (in one embodiment Lysine (K) or arginine (R), in a further embodiment a D399K, E356K, D356K or E357K substitution; and in an 15 even further embodiment a D399K or E356K mutation). In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the one heavy chain further comprises an amino acid substitution of K409 or R409 with a negatively-charged amino acid (in one embodiment glutamic acid (E) or aspartic acid (D); in a further embodiment a K409D or R409D mutation). In a further embodiment the CH3 domain of the one 20 heavy chain further or alternatively comprises an amino acid substitution of K439 and/or K370 with a negatively-charged amino acid (in one embodiment glutamic acid (E) or aspartic acid (D)).

In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2007/147901 is used alternatively. In one embodiment the CH3 domain of one heavy chain 25 comprises amino acid K253E, D282K and K322D mutations and the CH3 domain of the other heavy chain comprises amino acid D239K, E240K and K292D mutations.

In one embodiment the heterodimerization approach described in WO2007/110205 is used alternatively.

30 In one embodiment the bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2) is a bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein

5 i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and

10 ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14, and wherein

15 iii) the bispecific antibody comprises a constant heavy chain region of human IgG1 subclass comprising the mutations I253A, H310A, and H435A and the mutations L234A, L235A and P329G (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat); and wherein

20 iv) in the constant heavy chain region a T366W mutation is comprised in one CH3 domain and T366S, L368A, Y407V mutations are comprised the other CH3 domain (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat).

In one embodiment the bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2) is a bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein

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- i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ

5 ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14, and wherein

10 iii) the bispecific antibody comprises a constant heavy chain region of human IgG1 subclass comprising the mutations I253A, H310A, and H435A and the mutations L234A, L235A and P329G (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat); and wherein

iv) in the constant heavy chain region a S354C and T366W mutations are comprised in one CH3 domain and Y349C, T366S, L368A and Y407V mutations are comprised the other CH3 domain (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat).

In one embodiment such bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is bivalent.

15 In one embodiment such bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody is characterized in that

20 i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises as heavy chain variable domain VH an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7, and as light chain variable domain VL an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, and

ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises as heavy chain variable domain VH an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15, and as light chain variable domain VL an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16.

25 In one aspect of the invention such bispecific, bivalent antibody according to the invention is characterized in comprising

30 a) the heavy chain and the light chain of a first full length antibody that specifically binds to VEGF;

b) the modified heavy chain and modified light chain of a second full length antibody that specifically binds to ANG-2, wherein the constant domains CL and CH1 are replaced by each other.

The term “VEGF” as used herein refers to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF/VEGF-A,) the 165-amino acid human vascular endothelial cell growth factor (amino acid 27-191 of precursor sequence of human VEGF165: SEQ ID NO: 24; amino acids 1-26 represent the signal peptide), and related 121, 189, 5 and 206 vascular endothelial cell growth factor isoforms, as described by Leung, D.W., et al., *Science* 246 (1989) 1306-9; Houck et al., *Mol. Endocrin.* 5 (1991) 1806 -1814; Keck, P.J., et al., *Science* 246 (1989) 1309-12 and Connolly, D.T., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 264 (1989) 20017-24; together with the naturally occurring 10 allelic and processed forms of those growth factors. VEGF is involved in the regulation of normal and abnormal angiogenesis and neovascularization associated with tumors and intraocular disorders (Ferrara, N., et al., *Endocr. Rev.* 18 (1997) 4-25; Berkman, R.A.,et al., *J. Clin. Invest.* 91 (1993) 153-159; Brown, L.F., et al., *Human Pathol.* 26 (1995) 86-91; Brown, L.F., et al., *Cancer Res.* 53 (1993) 4727-4735; Mattern, J., et al., *Brit. J. Cancer.* 73 (1996) 931-934; and Dvorak, H.F., et 15 al., *Am. J. Pathol.* 146 (1995) 1029-1039). VEGF is a homodimeric glycoprotein that has been isolated from several sources and includes several isoforms. VEGF shows highly specific mitogenic activity for endothelial cells. A VEGF antagonist/inhibitor inhibits binding of VEGF to its receptor VEGFR. Known VEGF antagonist/inhibitors include bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies as 20 described in WO2014/009465.

The term “ANG-2” as used herein refers to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2) (alternatively abbreviated with ANGPT2 or ANG2) (SEQ ID NO: 25) which is described e.g. in Maisonpierre, P.C., et al, *Science* 277 (1997) 55-60 and Cheung, A.H., et al., *Genomics* 48 (1998) 389-91. The angiopoietins-1 (SEQ ID NO: 26) 25 and -2 were discovered as ligands for the Ties, a family of tyrosine kinases that is selectively expressed within the vascular endothelium (Yancopoulos, G.D., et al., *Nature* 407 (2000) 242-48). There are now four definitive members of the angiopoietin family. Angiopoietin-3 and -4 (Ang-3 and Ang-4) may represent widely diverged counterparts of the same gene locus in mouse and man (Kim, I., et al., *FEBS Let.* 443 (1999) 353-56; Kim, I., et al., *J Biol Chem* 274 (1999) 26523-30. ANG-1 and ANG-2 were originally identified in tissue culture experiments as 28 agonist and antagonist, respectively (see for ANG-1: Davis, S., et al., *Cell* 87 (1996) 1161-69; and for ANG-2: Maisonpierre, P.C., et al., *Science* 277 (1997) 55-60). All of the known angiopoietins bind primarily to its receptor TIE2 (SEQ ID 35 NO: 27), and both Ang-1 and -2 bind to TIE2 with an affinity of 3 nM (Kd) (Maisonpierre, P.C., et al., *Science* 277 (1997) 55-60). An ANG2

antagonist/inhibitor inhibits binding of ANG2 to its receptor TIE2. Known ANG2 antagonist/inhibitors include bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibodies as described in WO2014/009465.

5 An antigen-binding sites of the bispecific antibody of the invention contain six complementarity determining regions (CDRs) which contribute in varying degrees to the affinity of the binding site for antigen. There are three heavy chain variable domain CDRs (CDRH1, CDRH2 and CDRH3) and three light chain variable domain CDRs (CDRL1, CDRL2 and CDRL3). The extent of CDR and framework regions (FRs) is determined by comparison to a compiled database of amino acid 10 sequences in which those regions have been defined according to variability among the sequences.

15 The antibodies of the invention comprise immunoglobulin constant regions derived from human origin of one or more immunoglobulin classes, wherein such immunoglobulin classes include IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD, and IgE classes and, in the case of IgG and IgA, their subclasses, especially IgG1 and IgG4..

The terms "monoclonal antibody" or "monoclonal antibody composition" as used herein refer to a preparation of antibody molecules of a single amino acid composition.

20 The term "chimeric antibody" refers to an antibody comprising a variable region, i.e., binding region, from one source or species and at least a portion of a constant region derived from a different source or species, usually prepared by recombinant DNA techniques. Chimeric antibodies comprising a murine variable region and a human constant region are preferred. Other preferred forms of "chimeric antibodies" encompassed by the present invention are those in which the constant 25 region has been modified or changed from that of the original antibody to generate the properties according to the invention, especially in regard to C1q binding and/or Fc receptor (FcR) binding. Such chimeric antibodies are also referred to as "class-switched antibodies.". Chimeric antibodies are the product of expressed immunoglobulin genes comprising DNA segments encoding immunoglobulin variable regions and DNA segments encoding immunoglobulin constant regions. 30 Methods for producing chimeric antibodies involve conventional recombinant DNA and gene transfection techniques are well known in the art. See, e.g., Morrison, S.L., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81 (1984) 6851-6855; US 5,202,238 and US 5,204,244.

The term "humanized antibody" refers to antibodies in which the framework or "complementarity determining regions" (CDR) have been modified to comprise the CDR of an immunoglobulin of different specificity as compared to that of the parent immunoglobulin. In a preferred embodiment, a murine CDR is grafted into the framework region of a human antibody to prepare the "humanized antibody." See, e.g., Riechmann, L., et al., *Nature* 332 (1988) 323-327; and Neuberger, M.S., et al., *Nature* 314 (1985) 268-270. Particularly preferred CDRs correspond to those representing sequences recognizing the antigens noted above for chimeric antibodies. Other forms of "humanized antibodies" encompassed by the present invention are those in which the constant region has been additionally modified or changed from that of the original antibody to generate the properties according to the invention, especially in regard to C1q binding and/or Fc receptor (FcR) binding.

The term "human antibody", as used herein, is intended to include antibodies having variable and constant regions derived from human germ line immunoglobulin sequences. Human antibodies are well-known in the state of the art (van Dijk, M.A., and van de Winkel, J.G., *Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol.* 5 (2001) 368-374). Human antibodies can also be produced in transgenic animals (e.g., mice) that are capable, upon immunization, of producing a full repertoire or a selection of human antibodies in the absence of endogenous immunoglobulin production. Transfer of the human germ-line immunoglobulin gene array in such germ-line mutant mice will result in the production of human antibodies upon antigen challenge (see, e.g., Jakobovits, A., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 90 (1993) 2551-2555; Jakobovits, A., et al., *Nature* 362 (1993) 255-258; Brueggemann, M., et al., *Year Immunol.* 7 (1993) 33-40). Human antibodies can also be produced in phage display libraries (Hoogenboom, H.R., and Winter, G., *J. Mol. Biol.* 227 (1992) 381-388; Marks, J.D., et al., *J. Mol. Biol.* 222 (1991) 581-597). The techniques of Cole, A., et al. and Boerner, P., et al. are also available for the preparation of human monoclonal antibodies (Cole, A., et al., *Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy*, Liss, A.L., p. 77 (1985); and Boerner, P., et al., *J. Immunol.* 147 (1991) 86-95). As already mentioned for chimeric and humanized antibodies according to the invention the term "human antibody" as used herein also comprises such antibodies which are modified in the constant region to generate the properties according to the invention, especially in regard to C1q binding and/or FcR binding, e.g. by "class switching" i.e. change or mutation of Fc parts (e.g. from IgG1 to IgG4 and/or IgG1/IgG4 mutation).

The term "recombinant antibody", as used herein, is intended to include all human antibodies that are prepared, expressed, created or isolated by recombinant means, such as antibodies isolated from a host cell such as a NS0 or CHO cell or from an animal (e.g. a mouse) that is transgenic for human immunoglobulin genes or antibodies expressed using a recombinant expression vector transfected into a host cell. Such recombinant antibodies have variable and constant regions in a rearranged form. The recombinant antibodies according to the invention have been subjected to in vivo somatic hypermutation. Thus, the amino acid sequences of the VH and VL regions of the recombinant antibodies are sequences that, while derived from and related to human germ line VH and VL sequences, may not naturally exist within the human antibody germ line repertoire in vivo.

The "variable domain" (variable domain of a light chain (VL), variable domain of a heavy chain (VH) as used herein denotes each of the pair of light and heavy chains which is involved directly in binding the antibody to the antigen. The domains of variable human light and heavy chains have the same general structure and each domain comprises four framework (FR) regions whose sequences are widely conserved, connected by three "hypervariable regions" (or complementarity determining regions, CDRs). The framework regions adopt a β -sheet conformation and the CDRs may form loops connecting the β -sheet structure. The CDRs in each chain are held in their three-dimensional structure by the framework regions and form together with the CDRs from the other chain the antigen binding site. The antibody heavy and light chain CDR3 regions play a particularly important role in the binding specificity/affinity of the antibodies according to the invention and therefore provide a further object of the invention.

The terms "hypervariable region" or "antigen-binding portion of an antibody" when used herein refer to the amino acid residues of an antibody which are responsible for antigen-binding. The hypervariable region comprises amino acid residues from the "complementarity determining regions" or "CDRs". "Framework" or "FR" regions are those variable domain regions other than the hypervariable region residues as herein defined. Therefore, the light and heavy chains of an antibody comprise from N- to C-terminus the domains FR1, CDR1, FR2, CDR2, FR3, CDR3, and FR4. CDRs on each chain are separated by such framework amino acids. Especially, CDR3 of the heavy chain is the region which contributes most to antigen binding. CDR and FR regions are determined according to the standard definition of Kabat, E.A., et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD (1991).

The term “full length antibody” denotes an antibody consisting of two “full length antibody heavy chains” and two “full length antibody light chains”. A “full length antibody heavy chain” is a polypeptide consisting in N-terminal to C-terminal direction of an antibody heavy chain variable domain (VH), an antibody constant heavy chain domain 1 (CH1), an antibody hinge region (HR), an antibody heavy chain constant domain 2 (CH2), and an antibody heavy chain constant domain 3 (CH3), abbreviated as VH-CH1-HR-CH2-CH3; and optionally an antibody heavy chain constant domain 4 (CH4) in case of an antibody of the subclass IgE. Preferably the “full length antibody heavy chain” is a polypeptide consisting in N-terminal to C-terminal direction of VH, CH1, HR, CH2 and CH3. A “full length antibody light chain” is a polypeptide consisting in N-terminal to C-terminal direction of an antibody light chain variable domain (VL), and an antibody light chain constant domain (CL), abbreviated as VL-CL. The antibody light chain constant domain (CL) can be κ (kappa) or λ (lambda). The two full length antibody chains are linked together via inter-polypeptide disulfide bonds between the CL domain and the CH1 domain and between the hinge regions of the full length antibody heavy chains. Examples of typical full length antibodies are natural antibodies like IgG (e.g. IgG 1 and IgG2), IgM, IgA, IgD, and IgE. The full length antibodies according to the invention can be from a single species e.g. human, or they can be chimerized or humanized antibodies. The full length antibodies according to the invention comprise two antigen binding sites each formed by a pair of VH and VL, which both specifically bind to the same antigen. The C-terminus of the heavy or light chain of said full length antibody denotes the last amino acid at the C-terminus of said heavy or light chain. The N-terminus of the heavy or light chain of said full length antibody denotes the last amino acid at the N- terminus of said heavy or light chain.

The term “constant region” as used within the current applications denotes the sum of the domains of an antibody other than the variable region. The constant region is not involved directly in binding of an antigen, but exhibits various effector functions. Depending on the amino acid sequence of the constant region of their heavy chains, antibodies are divided in the classes: IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG and IgM, and several of these may be further divided into subclasses, such as IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, and IgG4, IgA1 and IgA2. The heavy chain constant regions that correspond to the different classes of antibodies are called α , δ , ϵ , γ , and μ , respectively. The light chain constant regions which can be found in all five antibody classes are called κ (kappa) and λ (lambda).

The terms “constant region derived from human origin” or “human constant region” as used in the current application denotes a constant heavy chain region of a human antibody of the subclass IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4 and/or a constant light chain kappa or lambda region. Such constant regions are well known in the state of the art and e.g. described by Kabat, E.A., et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD (1991) (see also e.g. Johnson, G., and Wu, T.T., Nucleic Acids Res. 28 (2000) 214-218; Kabat, E.A., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 72 (1975) 2785-2788). Within the application for the numbering of positions and mutations the EU numbering system (EU Index) according to Kabat, E.A., et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD (1991) is used and referred to as “numbering according to EU Index of Kabat”.

In one embodiment the bispecific antibodies according to the invention have a constant region of human IgG1 subclass (derived from human IgG1 subclass). However, the C-terminal lysine (Lys447), or the C-terminal glycine (Gly446) and the C-terminal lysine (Lys447), of the Fc region may or may not be present.

In one embodiment the bispecific antibody as described herein is of IgG1 isotype/subclass and comprises a constant heavy chain domain of SEQ ID NO: 23 or the constant parts of the heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17 and of the heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18. In one embodiment additionally the C-terminal glycine (Gly446) is present. In one embodiment additionally the C-terminal glycine (Gly446) and the C-terminal lysine (Lys447) is present.

Unless otherwise specified herein, numbering of amino acid residues in the constant region is according to the EU numbering system, also called the EU index of Kabat, as described in Kabat, E.A. et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD (1991), NIH Publication 91-3242.

In one embodiment the bispecific antibody according to the invention is of human IgG1 subclass with mutations L234A (Leu235Ala), L235A (Leu234Ala) and

P329G (Pro329Gly). Such antibody has a reduced FcR binding (especially they show no more binding to FcRgammaI, FcRgammaII and FcRgammaIII). This especially useful to reduce potential side effects like e.g. thrombosis (Meyer, T., et al., *J. Thromb. Haemost.* 7 (2009) 171-81).

5 While Pro329Ala mutation which was described already removes only two third of the FcgammaRIIIa sandwich interaction, the Pro329Gly in the antibodies according to the invention fully imparts binding of the Fc part to FcgammaRIII. This is especially useful as the binding to FcgammaRIII is involved in ADCC (antibody – dependent cellular toxicity) which leads to cell death, which may be helpful in the 10 treatment of cancer diseases, but which can cause serious side effect in the antibody based treatment of other vascular or immunological diseases. So the antibodies according to the invention of IgG1 subclass with mutations L234A, L235A and P329G and IgG4 subclass with mutations S228P, L235E and P329G are especially useful, as they both show no more binding to FcRgammaI, FcRgammaII and 15 FcRgammaIII.

An "effective amount" of an agent, e.g., a pharmaceutical formulation or bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody, refers to an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary, to achieve the desired therapeutic or prophylactic result.

20 In one embodiment of the invention the bispecific antibody, medicament or pharmaceutical formulation as described herein is administered via intravitreal application, e.g. via intravitreal injection (is administered "intravitreally"). This can be performed in accordance with standard procedures known in the art. See, e.g., Ritter et al., *J. Clin. Invest.* 116 (2006) 3266-76; Russelakis-Carneiro et al., *Neuropathol. Appl. Neurobiol.* 25 (1999) 196-206; and Wray et al., *Arch. Neurol.* 25 (1976) 183-5.

30 In some embodiments, therapeutic kits of the invention can contain one or more doses of the bispecific antibody described present in a medicament or pharmaceutical formulation, a suitable device for intravitreal injection of the medicament or pharmaceutical formulation, and an instruction detailing suitable subjects and protocols for carrying out the injection. In these embodiments, the medicament or pharmaceutical formulation are typically administered to the subject in need of treatment via intravitreal injection. This can be performed in accordance with standard procedures known in the art. See, e.g., Ritter et al., *J. Clin. Invest.*

116 (2006) 3266-76; Russelakis-Carneiro et al., *Neuropathol. Appl. Neurobiol.* 25 (1999) 196-206; and Wray et al., *Arch. Neurol.* 33 (1976) 183-5.

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Regardless of the route of administration selected, the bispecific antibody as described herein is formulated into pharmaceutically acceptable dosage forms by conventional methods known to those of skill in the art.

Description of the amino acid sequences

SEQ ID NO:	1	heavy chain CDR3H, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	2	heavy chain CDR2H, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	3	heavy chain CDR1H, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	4	light chain CDR3L, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	5	light chain CDR2L, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	6	light chain CDR1L, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	7	heavy chain variable domain VH, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	8	light chain variable domain VL, <VEGF>ranibizumab
SEQ ID NO:	9	heavy chain CDR3H, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	10	heavy chain CDR2H, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	11	heavy chain CDR1H, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	12	light chain CDR3L, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	13	light chain CDR2L, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	14	light chain CDR1L, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	15	heavy chain variable domain VH, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
SEQ ID NO:	16	light chain variable domain VL, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant

SEQ ID NO:	17	Heavy chain 1 of <VEGF-ANG-2> CrossMAb IgG1 with AAA mutations and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)
SEQ ID NO:	18	Heavy chain 2 of <VEGF-ANG-2> CrossMAb IgG1 with AAA mutations and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)
SEQ ID NO:	19	Light chain 1 of <VEGF-ANG-2> CrossMAb IgG1 with AAA mutations and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)
SEQ ID NO:	20	Light chain 2 of <VEGF-ANG-2> CrossMAb IgG1 with AAA mutations and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)
SEQ ID NO:	21	kappa light chain constant region
SEQ ID NO:	22	lambda light chain constant region
SEQ ID NO:	23	heavy chain constant region derived from human IgG1
SEQ ID NO:	24	Human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF); precursor sequence of human VEGF165
SEQ ID NO:	25	Human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2)
SEQ ID NO:	26	Human angiopoietin-1 (ANG-1)
SEQ ID NO:	27	Human Tie-2 receptor

In the following, embodiments of the invention are listed:

1. A bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

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wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

5 2A. A bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody.

10 2B. A bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), for use in the treatment of a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease, wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody.

15 3. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 2A to 2B,

20 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

25 4. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 3, wherein the gain of letters in the BCVA BCVA/ETDRS is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 24 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

30 5. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 3, wherein the gain of letters in the BCVA BCVA/ETDRS is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at

49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks, and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

5 6. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 5, wherein the bispecific antibody is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity (e.g. Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) BCVA/ETDRS) and, wherein the retreatment is deemed necessary in case of disease activity which is determined as

10 Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or
Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

15 7. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 6 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 3 to 7 monthly administrations (in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 5 monthly administrations, in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations, in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).

20 8. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7, wherein the ocular vascular disease is selected from the group of: wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), neovascular AMD, diabetic macular edema (DME), cystoid macular edema (CME), non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy (NPDR), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), macular edema secondary to central retinal vein occlusion, secondary to hemiretinal vein occlusion or secondary to branch vein occlusion, retinitis, conjunctivitis, uveitis, choroiditis, choroidal neovascularization (CNV) secondary to ocular inflammation including secondary to ocular histoplasmosis or presumed histoplasmosis or choroiditis; myopic choroidal neovascularization (mCNV). And choroidal neovascularization secondary to trauma, retinopathy of prematurity and rubeosis iridis/ rubeotic glaucoma.

25 9. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7 wherein the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME).

10. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7, wherein the ocular vascular disease is wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), or neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).
- 5 11. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 10, wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to VEGF and to human ANG-2 is a VEGF antagonist/inhibitor and an ANG2 antagonist/inhibitor or inhibits binding of VEGF to its receptor VEGFR and inhibits binding of ANG2 to its receptor TIE2.
- 10 12. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 10 to 12 weeks.
13. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 11 to 13 weeks.
14. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 15 11 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 12 to 14 weeks.
15. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 13 to 15 weeks.
16. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 14 to 16 weeks.
- 20 17. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 1 to 16, wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and to human ANG2 is a bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein
- 25 i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and

5 ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14,

10 and wherein

15 iii) the bispecific antibody comprises a constant heavy chain region of human IgG1 subclass comprising the mutations I253A, H310A, and H435A and the mutations L234A, L235A and P329G (numberings according to EU Index of Kabat).

20 18. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 17, wherein

25 i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises as heavy chain variable domain VH an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7, and as light chain variable domain VL an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, and

30 ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises as heavy chain variable domain VH an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15, and as light chain variable domain VL an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16.

35 19. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 18, wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprises the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20.

40 20. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 17 to 19, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of about 5 to 7 mg (at each treatment).

45 21. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 17 to 19, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of about 6 mg

(at each treatment) (in one embodiment in a dose of 6 mg +/- 10% (at each treatment); (in one embodiment in a dose of 6 mg (at each treatment)))

22. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 20 to 21, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered at a concentration of about 30 mg/ml.
23. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of embodiments 20 to 21, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered at a concentration of about 120 mg/ml.
24. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of the preceding embodiments wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy) (are treatment naïve).
25. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to any one of the preceding embodiments wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy).
26. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed every 8th week (Q8W) dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).
27. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed Q12W dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).
28. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 27 wherein, following the treatment initiation, first one dose cycle of Q8W follows before the fixed Q12W dosing schedule.

29. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, 5 or shortens the interval if there is disease activity (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations).

30. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 29 wherein such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q8W or Q12W or Q16W 10 dosing, dependent on their disease state (in one embodiment Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state)

31. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 29 or 30, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as

15 -Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or
-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters
and the disease activity is determined as
-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or
-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

32. The method according to embodiment 29 or 30, wherein the stable absence of 20 disease is determined as
-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device), 25
30 and the disease activity is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).

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33. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is AMD (in one embodiment wet AMD) and the treatment of patients suffering from AMD (in one embodiment wet AMD) includes following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations) a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity.

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34. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 33 wherein such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state (in one embodiment Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state).

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35. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 33 or 34, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or

-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters

and the disease activity is determined as

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or

-Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.

36. The bispecific antibody (for use) according to embodiment 33 or 34, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device),

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and the disease activity is determined as

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-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).

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In the following, embodiments of the invention are listed:

1. A method of treating a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2),

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wherein the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

30

- 2A. A method of treating a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a

5 bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), wherein the patient gains 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody.

10 2B. A method of treating a patient suffering from a ocular vascular disease the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a bispecific antibody which binds to human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2), wherein the patient experiences an improvement in vision subsequent to the administration of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody as measured by gaining 12 or more letters (in one embodiment 13 or more letters, in one embodiment 14 or more letters, in one embodiment 15 or more letters) of Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) measured using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) like charts, compared to the patient's BCVA letter score prior to the dosing of the bispecific VEGF/ANG2 antibody.

15 3. The method according to any one of embodiments 2A to 2B,

20 wherein the bispecific antibody is administered (is to be administered) intravitreally every 8 weeks or less frequently (in one embodiment every 9 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 10 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 11 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 12 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 13 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 14 weeks or less frequently; in one embodiment every 15 weeks or less frequently).

25 4. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 3, wherein the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 4 weeks, and/or at 8 weeks, and/or at 12 weeks, and/or at 16 weeks, and/or at 20 weeks, and/or at 30 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

30 5. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 3, wherein the gain of letters in the BCVA/ETDRS letter score is measured at 45 weeks, and/or at 46 weeks, and/or at 47 weeks, and/or at 48 weeks, and/or at 49 weeks, and/or at 50 weeks, and/or at 51 weeks, and/or at 52 weeks, and/or at 53 weeks,

and/or at 54 weeks, and/or at 55 weeks, and/or at 56 weeks, and/or at 57 weeks, and/or at 58 weeks, and/or at 59 weeks, and/or at 60 weeks after treatment start, respectively.

5 6. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 5, wherein the bispecific antibody is used to prolong the time to retreatment and /or to prolong the time to loss of visual acuity and, wherein the retreatment with the bispecific antibody is administered in case of a disease activity which is determined as

10 Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increase by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$ (in one embodiment using spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT)); and/or

Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decrease by ≥ 5 letters.

15 7. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 6, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 3 to 7 monthly administrations (in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 5 monthly administrations, in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 monthly administrations in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations, in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).

20 8. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7, wherein the ocular vascular disease is selected from the group of: wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), neovascular AMD, diabetic macular edema (DME), cystoid macular edema (CME), non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy (NPDR), proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR), macular edema secondary to central retinal vein occlusion, secondary to hemiretinal vein occlusion or secondary to branch vein occlusion, retinitis, conjunctivitis, uveitis, choroiditis, choroidal neovascularization (CNV) secondary to ocular inflammation including secondary to ocular histoplasmosis or presumed histoplasmosis or choroiditis; myopic choroidal neovascularization (mCNV). And choroidal neovascularization secondary to trauma, retinopathy of prematurity and rubeosis iridis/ rubeotic glaucoma.

25 30 9. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7, wherein the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME).

10. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 7, wherein the ocular vascular disease is wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), or neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).
11. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 10, wherein the a bispecific antibody which binds to VEGF and to human ANG-2 is a VEGF antagonist/inhibitor and an ANG2 antagonist/inhibitor or inhibits binding of VEGF to its receptor VEGFR and inhibits binding of ANG2 to its receptor TIE2.
12. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 10 to 12 weeks.
13. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 11 to 13 weeks
14. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 12 to 14 weeks.
15. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 13 to 15 weeks.
16. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 11, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered every 14 to 16 weeks.
17. The method according to any one of embodiments 1 to 16, wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and to human ANG2 is a bispecific, bivalent anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody comprising a first antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human VEGF and a second antigen-binding site that specifically binds to human ANG-2, wherein
 - i) said first antigen-binding site specifically binding to VEGF comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ ID NO: 1, a CDR2H region of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO:3, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 4, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO:6; and
 - ii) said second antigen-binding site specifically binding to ANG-2 comprises in the heavy chain variable domain a CDR3H region of SEQ

ID NO: 9, a CDR2H region of, SEQ ID NO: 10, and a CDR1H region of SEQ ID NO: 11, and in the light chain variable domain a CDR3L region of SEQ ID NO: 12, a CDR2L region of SEQ ID NO: 13, and a CDR1L region of SEQ ID NO: 14, and wherein

23. The method according to any one of embodiments 20 to 21, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered at a concentration of about 120 mg/ml.
24. The method according to any one of the preceding embodiments wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy) (are treatment naïve).
25. The method according to any one of the preceding embodiments wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment (e.g monotherapy).
26. The method according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed every 8th week (Q8W) dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).
27. The method according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes a fixed Q12W dosing schedule following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 5 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 6 monthly administrations).
28. The method according to embodiment 27 wherein, following the treatment initiation, first one dose cycle of Q8W follows before the fixed Q12W dosing schedule.
29. The method according to the preceding embodiments wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME and the treatment of patients suffering from DME includes following treatment initiation a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations).
30. The method according to embodiment 29 wherein such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent

on their disease state (in one embodiment Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state).

31. The method according to embodiment 28 or 29, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as
 - 5 -Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or -Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters and the disease activity is determined as -Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or -Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.
- 10 32. The method according to embodiment 28 or 29, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as
 - Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one 15 embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device),
20 and the disease activity is determined as -Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one 25 embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).
30

33. The method according to the preceding embodiments wherein the treatment of patients suffering from AMD (in one embodiment wet AMD) includes following treatment initiation (In one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 3 to 7 monthly administrations; in one embodiment the treatment initiation includes 4 to 6 monthly administrations) a dosing schedule that extends the administration interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity
- 5
34. The method according to embodiment 33 wherein such dosing schedule includes that the patient receives Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state (in one embodiment Q4W or Q8W or Q12W or Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state).
- 10
35. The method according to embodiment 33 or 34, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as
 - Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by < 50 μm ; and/or
- 15
- Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by < 5 letters and the disease activity is determined as
 - Central Subfield Thickness (CST) increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$; and/or
 - Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA/ETDRS) decreased by ≥ 5 letters.
36. The method according to embodiment 33 or 34, wherein the stable absence of disease is determined as
 - Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is below about 300 μm (In one embodiment below 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment below 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment below 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device),
- 20
- and the disease activity is determined as
- 25
- 30

5

-Central Subfield Thickness (CST) is above about 300 μm (In one embodiment above 325 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a SpectralisTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a CirrusTM device; in one embodiment above 315 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a TopconTM device; in one embodiment above 295 μm measured by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) with a OptovueTM device).

10

Examples

Treatment of patient suffering from vascular eye diseases with a bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2

15

Example 1A: Efficacy and Durability of treatment of patients suffering from diabetic macular edema (DME)

OBJECTIVES

Primary Objective

20

The primary objective of this study were:

25

To evaluate the efficacy of the bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (this antibody VEGFang2-0016 and its production is also described in detail in WO2014/009465 which is incorporated by reference) compared with an active comparator in treatment naïve patients with center-involving diabetic macular edema (CI-DME). Designations of this bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody herein are RO6867461 or RG7716 or VEGFang2-0016, or faricimab. Vials of sterile, colorless to brownish, preservative-free solution of RO6867461 for IVT administration of

either 1.5 mg or 6 mg dose every 4 weeks were used. The concentration of the bispecific antibody was about 120 mg/ml.

Secondary Objectives

5 The secondary objectives for this study were as follows:

To investigate pharmacodynamics and anatomical outcomes informing on the mechanism of action of RO6867461

To investigate the formation of plasma anti RO6867461 antibodies

To explore the duration of effect of RO6867461

Exploratory Objectives

The exploratory objectives for this study were as follows:

To explore the predictive effect of previous IVT anti-VEGF treatment on efficacy of RO6867461

15 To evaluate the efficacy and safety of RO6867461 compared with the active comparator in patients with CI DME with previous IVT anti-VEGF treatment.

To evaluate RO6867461 effects on plasma levels of markers of angiogenesis and inflammation

20 To investigate RO6867461 concentration and, if sample volume allows, biomarkers of angiogenesis and inflammation in aqueous humor samples (optional) and vitreous (optional)

To evaluate improvement in diabetic retinopathy (DR) severity score

STUDY DESIGN

25 This was a multiple-center, multiple-dose, randomized, active comparator-controlled, double masked, three parallel group, 36-week study in patients with CI-DME.

The three groups of this study were as follows:

Arm A: 0.3 mg ranibizumab IVT

Arm B: 1.5 mg RO6867461 IVT

Arm C: 6 mg RO6867461 IVT

Only one eye was selected as the study eye. Where both eyes met all eligibility 5 criteria, the eye with the worse BCVA was defined as the study eye. Where both eyes met all eligibility criteria and have the same BCVA letter score at Day 1, study eye selection was at the investigator's discretion.

NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Up to 210 patients were randomized.

10 Approximately 150 treatment-naïve patients and approximately 60 patients who have been previously treated with IVT anti-VEGF were enrolled in the study.

Approximately 50 treatment-naïve patients were randomized on each arm (1:1:1 randomization scheme) and approximately 30 patients previously treated with IVT anti-VEGF were randomized into arms A and C.

15 TARGET POPULATION

Male and female patients of ≥ 18 years of age with CI-DME.

INCLUSION/EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Inclusion Criteria

Patients must have met the following criteria for study entry:

20 Ocular criteria for study eye:

Macular edema associated with DR defined as macular thickening by spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) involving the center of the macula: central subfield thickness (CST) of ≥ 325 μm with SpectralisTM (Heidelberg) at screening (where SpectralisTM is not available, the following 25 devices and CST thresholds were acceptable: CST ≥ 315 μm for CirrusTM, CST ≥ 315 μm for Topcon, CST ≥ 295 μm for OptovueTM).

Decreased visual acuity attributable primarily to DME, with best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) letter score of 73-24 letters (inclusive) on Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS)-like charts (20/40-20/320 Snellen equivalent) on Day 1.

5 Clear ocular media and adequate pupillary dilatation to allow acquisition of good quality retinal images to confirm diagnosis

General criteria:

Diagnosis of diabetes mellitus (DM; Type 1 or Type 2), as defined by the World Health Organization and/or American Diabetes Association

10 Able and willing to provide written informed consent and to comply with the study protocol according to International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) and local regulations. Alternatively, a legally authorized representative must be able to consent for the patient according to ICH and local regulations.

Age \geq 18 years

15 For women who were not postmenopausal (i.e. \geq 12 months of non-therapy-induced amenorrhea, confirmed by FSH, if not on hormone replacement) or surgically sterile (absence of ovaries and/or uterus) agreement to remain abstinent or use combined contraceptive methods that result in a failure rate of $< 1\%$ per year during the treatment period and at least through 4 weeks after last dose.

20 Abstinence is only acceptable if it is in line with the preferred and usual lifestyle of the patient. Periodic abstinence (e.g., calendar, ovulation, symptothermal, or postovulation methods) and withdrawal were not acceptable methods of contraception;

25 Examples of contraceptive methods with an expected failure rate of $< 1\%$ per year include male sterilization, hormonal implants, proper use of combined oral or injected hormonal contraceptives, and certain intrauterine devices. Alternatively, two methods (e.g., two barrier methods such as a condom and a cervical cap) may be combined to achieve a failure rate of $< 1\%$ per year, barrier methods must always be supplemented with the use of a spermicide.

30 For men: agreement to use a barrier method of contraception during the treatment period for at least 4 weeks after the last dose of study drug

Patients must be willing not to participate in any other clinical trial including an investigational medical product (IMP) or device up to completion of the current study.

Exclusion Criteria

5 Patients who meet any of the following criteria were excluded from study entry:

Ocular criteria for study eye:

Any signs of high-risk PDR defined as:

any vitreous or pre-retinal hemorrhage

NVE \geq 1/2 disc area within an area equivalent to the standard mydriatic ETDRS

10 7- field on clinical examination

NVD \geq 1/3 disc area on clinical examination

Any IVT anti-VEGF treatment within 3 months prior to Day 1

Any panretinal photocoagulation (PRP) treatment prior to Day 1

Any macular laser photocoagulation within 3 months prior to Day 1

15 History of vitreoretinal surgery

Any IVT or periocular corticosteroid treatment within 3 months prior to Day 1.

Any history of Iluvien® or Ozurdex® implants prior to Day 1 will not be permitted

Any cataract surgery or treatment for complications of cataract surgery with steroids within 3 months prior to Day 1

20 History of incisional glaucoma surgery

Uncontrolled glaucoma (e.g., progressive loss of visual fields or defined as intraocular pressure [IOP] \geq 25 mmHg despite treatment with anti-glaucoma medication)

Concurrent ocular conditions in the study eye:

25 History of rubeosis

Any current or history of ocular disease other than DME that may confound assessment of the macula or affect central vision (e.g., age-related macular degeneration, retinal vein occlusion, uveitis, angioid streaks, histoplasmosis, active or inactive cytomegalovirus, pathological myopia, retinal detachment, macular traction, macular hole, significant cataract)

5 Any current ocular condition for which, in the opinion of the investigator, visual acuity loss would not improve from resolution of macular edema (e.g., foveal atrophy, pigment abnormalities, dense sub-foveal hard exudates, non-retinal condition)

10 Any active ocular infection on Day 1

Any active intraocular inflammation (grade trace or above) on Day 1

Characteristics for fellow eye:

Any anti-VEGF treatment within 7 days prior to Day 1

15 Any retinal condition that, in the opinion of the investigator, might require anti-VEGF treatment within 7 days from Day 1

General criteria:

Any systemic anti-VEGF within 6 months prior to Day 1

Any major illness or major surgical procedure within 1 month prior to Day 1

Any febrile illness within 1 week prior to Day 1

20 Any stroke or myocardial infarction within 12 months prior to Day 1

Uncontrolled blood pressure (BP; defined as systolic > 180 mmHg and/or diastolic > 100 mmHg while patient at rest). If a patient's initial reading exceeds these values, a second reading may be taken either 30 or more minutes later on the same day or on another day during the screening period. If the patient's BP needs 25 to be controlled by antihypertensive medication, the patient should be taking the same medication continuously for at least 1 month prior to Day 1.

Patients with glycosylated hemoglobin HbA1c > 12% at screening

Untreated diabetes mellitus or initiation of oral anti-diabetic medication or insulin within 4 months prior to Day 1 or anticipated change of anti-diabetic medications within the duration of the study

5 Renal failure requiring renal transplant, hemodialysis, or peritoneal dialysis within 6 months prior to Day 1 or anticipated to require hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis at any time during the study

10 History of other disease, metabolic dysfunction, physical examination finding, or clinical laboratory finding giving reasonable suspicion of a condition that contraindicated the use of the IMP or that might affect interpretation of the results of the study or renders the patient at high risk for treatment complications in the opinion of the investigator

For females of childbearing potential, a positive blood pregnancy test

Lactating female

Use of systemic corticosteroids within 1 month prior to Day 1

15 Any known hypersensitivity to active comparator, fluorescein, any ingredient of the formulation used, dilating eye drops, or any anesthetics and microbial drops used

Any other restriction accorded to the use of the active comparator

Any treatment with an IMP in the 3 months prior to Day 1

20 LENGTH OF STUDY

The total duration of the study was up to 40 weeks (from screening through study completion) for each enrolled patient as follows:

Screening: up to 4 weeks

Baseline: Day 1

25 Study treatment administration period: from Day 1 to Week 20

Observational period: From Week 20 up to Week 36

Safety follow up call: During the observational period and 7 days after ranibizumab administration

END OF STUDY

5 The end of the study was defined as the date when the last patient last observation (LPLO) occurs. LPLO was expected to occur 36 weeks after the last patient is enrolled.

EFFICACY AND PHARMACODYNAMIC OUTCOME MEASURES

10 The primary analysis population was treatment naïve patients. Additional analyses may be performed in the overall population and in patients previously treated with IVT anti-VEGF.

The primary efficacy outcome measure for this study was the mean change in BCVA (ETDRS letters) from baseline at Week 24 in treatment-naïve patients.

Anatomic outcome measures by SD-OCT:

15 Mean change from baseline in foveal center point thickness at Week 24

Mean change from baseline in mean CST (1 mm diameter) at Week 24

Proportion of patients with resolution of subretinal and intraretinal fluid at Week 24

Anatomic outcome measures by fundus fluorescein angiography (FFA)

20 Proportion of patients with resolution of leakage at the macula at Week 24

Change from baseline in the size of the foveal avascular zone at Week 24

EXPLORATORY OUTCOME MEASURES

The exploratory outcome measures for this study included but were not limited to the following:

25

BCVA:

Difference in mean BCVA change from baseline between the treatment-naïve patients and patients with previous IVT anti-VEGF (differential effect of RO6867461)

5

Durability-related exploratory outcome measures:

Time to increase of CST by $\geq 50\mu\text{m}$ and/or loss of ≥ 5 letters of BCVA due to DME compared to values at Week 20

Time to retreatment with 0.3 mg ranibizumab after Week 20

10

Results

The primary efficacy analyses included all randomized patients, with patients grouped according to the treatment assigned at randomization.

The primary efficacy variable was the BCVA change from baseline to Week 24.

The primary efficacy analysis was performed using a Mixed Model for Repeated 15 Measurement (MMRM) model.

Best Corrected Visual Acuity

BCVA at a starting test distance of 4 meters was measured prior to dilating eyes by a trained and certified VA examiner masked to study drug arm assignment.

20

BCVA was measured by using the set of three Precision Vision™ or Lighthouse distance acuity charts (modified ETDRS Charts 1, 2, and R). A VA Manual was provided to the investigators. VA examiner and VA examination room certifications were obtained before any VA examinations were performed.

25

The BCVA examiner was masked to study eye and treatment assignment and will only perform the refraction and BCVA assessment (e.g. Visual Acuity Specification Manual). The BCVA examiner has also been masked to the BCVA letter scores of a patient's previous visits and only knew the patient's refraction data from previous visits. The BCVA examiner was not allowed to perform any other tasks involving direct patient care.

Table: Baseline Ocular Characteristics in the Study Eye, All Patients, Treatment Naïve Patients

Summary of Baseline Ocular Characteristics of Interest in the Study Eye, All Patients, Treatment Naïve Patients Protocol: BP30099		0.3 mg Ranibizumab (N=59)	1.5 mg RO6867461 (N=54)	6 mg RO6867461 (N=55)	All Patients (N=168)
Best Corrected Visual Acuity result		58	54	53	165
n	61.24 (9.67)	60.94 (11.11)	60.15 (10.80)	60.79 (10.53)	
Mean (SD)	64.00	63.50	63.00	63.00	
Median					
Min - Max	33.0 - 73.0	35.0 - 85.0	25.0 - 73.0	25.0 - 85.0	
Best Corrected Visual Acuity Category		58	54	53	165
n	13 (22.4%)	15 (27.8%)	11 (20.8%)	11 (23.6%)	
20/40 or better	4 (6.9%)	3 (5.6%)	3 (5.7%)	1 (6.1%)	
20/200 or worse	41 (70.7%)	36 (66.7%)	39 (73.6%)	116 (70.3%)	
Baseline BCVA 20/40 or better / worse than 20/40		58	54	53	165
n	45 (77.6%)	39 (72.2%)	42 (79.2%)	126 (76.4%)	
Worse than 20/40	13 (22.4%)	15 (27.8%)	11 (20.8%)	39 (23.6%)	
20/40 or better					
Baseline BCVA 20/200 or worse / better than 20/200		58	54	53	165
n	54 (93.1%)	51 (94.4%)	50 (94.3%)	155 (93.9%)	
Better than 20/200	4 (6.9%)	3 (5.6%)	3 (5.7%)	10 (6.1%)	
20/200 or worse					
Central Subfield Thickness		58	54	53	165
n	490.88 (139.01)	535.44 (163.13)	495.57 (132.70)	506.97 (145.95)	
Mean (SD)	476.00	489.00	486.00	478.00	
Median					
Min - Max	316.0 - 999.0	302.0 - 1000.0	234.0 - 825.0	234.0 - 1000.0	

Primary Efficacy Outcome Measure is shown in Figure 1. The Figure 1 displays the primary efficacy endpoint: BCVA change from Baseline over Time to Week 24 for so far treatment naive patients. VA2 refers to the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), RBZ refers to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) (administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose).

Central Subfield Thickness (CST) Change from Baseline (Study Eye)

10 A key secondary endpoint was the change from baseline in CST, central subfield thickness. Results are shown in Figure 2. The bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), was compared to 15 ranibizumab (Lucentis®) (administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose). This secondary anatomical endpoint directionally supports BCVA primary outcome

Durability / Time to retreatment

Criteria for Treatment with ranibizumab during Observational Period

At each visit following the last dose of study treatment (week 20 visit), BCVA was assessed and SD-OCT imaging was performed (except for week 5 26 visit).

BCVA and CST values obtained at week 24 were compared to those obtained at visit week 20. BCVA and CST values obtained at weeks 28, 32 and 36 were compared to those of week 24.

If the patient met both of the following criteria the patient received a single 10 dose of 0.3 mg ranibizumab and exited the study:-:

- CST increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$,
- BCVA decreased by ≥ 5 letters due to DME

Results are shown in Figure 3: Figure 3 shows the time to retreatment after dosing has discontinued (after 20 weeks or 6 monthly doses = Time post 15 last intravitreal (IVT) administration) based on disease activity assessed by both: BCVA decreased by ≥ 5 letters and CST increased by $\geq 50 \mu\text{m}$. The bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ 20 ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg or 1.5 mg dose), was compared to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) (administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose).

For overview Figure 4 represents a schematic comparison to other treatment 25 options of DME based on published results (The following agents are compared Lucentis® (ranibizumab), Eylea® (aflibercept), brolucizumab and VA2 (RO6867461/RG7716) .

Example 1B: Efficacy and Durability of treatment of patients suffering from diabetic macular edema (DME)

In a further study analogous to the above described study under Example 1A, patients suffering from DME (e.g center-involving diabetic macular edema (CI-DME)). are treated with the bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20. As active comparator in treatment e.g. afibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/or brolicuzimab will be used. Patients include anti-VEGF treatment-naïve patients (have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy with e.g. e.g. afibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/or brolicuzimab)) and also a group of patients which have been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy. Designations of the respective bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 are RO6867461 or RG7716. Vials of sterile, colorless to brownish, preservative-free solution of RO6867461 for IVT administration of either 1.5 mg or 6 mg dose are used.

One or more of the following dosing schedules are used:

- a) patients suffering from DME will be treated with a fixed Q8W dosing schedule following treatment initiation (e.g. 6 initial monthly injections)
- b) patients suffering from DME will be treated with a fixed Q12W dosing (in one schedule with one cycle of Q8W dosing first), following treatment initiation (e.g. 6 initial monthly injections)
- c) patients suffering from DME will be treated following treatment initiation (e.g. with 3-7 initial monthly injections) with a dosing regimen that extends the injection interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. Such regimen includes e.g. that patient receive Q4W/Q8W/Q12W/ Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state

The disease stability assessment would be based on best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA) and on CST as well as retinal thickness based on Optical coherence

tomography (OCT). Outcome measure and results will be evaluated as described e.g. in Example 1A. Primary endpoints will be between 45 and 60 weeks.

5 In one embodiment patients suffering from DME are treatment naïve (have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy with e.g. afibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/or brolicuzimab)

In one embodiment patients suffering from DME have been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy with e.g. afibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/or brolicuzimab.

10 In one embodiment patients suffering from DME will be treated with a fixed Q8W dosing schedule following treatment initiation (e.g. 6 initial monthly injections).

In one embodiment patients suffering from DME will be treated with a fixed Q12W dosing (in one embodiment with one cycle of Q8W dosing first), following treatment initiation (e.g. 6 initial monthly injections).

15 In one embodiment patients suffering from DME will be treated following treatment initiation (e.g. with 3-7 initial monthly injections) with a dosing regimen that extends the injection interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. In one embodiment such regimen includes that patient receive Q4w/Q8w/Q12w/ Q16w dosing, dependent on their disease state.

20 In one embodiment patients suffering from AMD will be treated following treatment initiation (e.g. with 3-4 initial monthly injections) with a dosing regimen that extends the injection interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. In one embodiment such regimen includes that patient receive Q4W/Q8W/Q12W/ Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state.

25 **Example 2A: Efficacy and Durability of treatment of patients suffering from age-related macular degeneration (AMD)**

Objectives and Endpoints

This study has evaluated the efficacy, safety, and pharmacokinetics of RO6867461 administered at 12- and 16-week intervals in patients with neovascular age-related 30 macular degeneration (nAMD). RO6867461 is a bispecific antibody that binds to

5 human VEGF and human ANG2 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (this antibody VEGFang2-0016 and its production is also described in detail in WO2014/009465 which is incorporated by reference). Designations of this bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody herein are RO6867461 or RG7716 or VEGFang2-0016 or faricimab.

Specific objectives and corresponding endpoints for the study are outlined below.

Objectives and Corresponding Endpoints

Primary Efficacy Objective

10 • To evaluate the efficacy of RO6867461 on visual acuity when administered at 12- and 16-week intervals

Corresponding Endpoint

- Mean change from baseline BCVA at Week 40 using the ETDRS-like charts

Secondary Efficacy Objectives:

15 1) To evaluate the efficacy of RO6867461 on additional visual acuity outcomes

Corresponding Endpoints

- Mean change from baseline BCVA over time using the ETDRS-like charts
- Proportion of patients gaining ≥ 15 , ≥ 10 , ≥ 5 , or ≥ 0 letters from baseline BCVA over time

20 • Proportion of patients avoiding loss of ≥ 15 , ≥ 10 , ≥ 5 , or ≥ 0 letters from baseline BCVA over time

- Proportion of patients with BCVA of 20/40 or better over time

- Proportion of patients with BCVA of 20/200 or worse over time

25 2) To evaluate the efficacy of RO6867461 on anatomic outcome measures using SD-OCT

Corresponding Endpoints

- Mean change from baseline in CFT over time
- Mean change from baseline in mean CST (1 mm diameter) over time
- Proportion of patients with intraretinal fluid, subretinal fluid, cysts, or pigment epithelial detachment over time

5 3) To evaluate the efficacy of RO6867461 on anatomic outcome measures using FFA

Corresponding Endpoints

- Mean change from baseline in total area of CNV at Week 40 and Week 52
- Mean change from baseline in total area of CNV component at Week 40 and 10 Week 52
- Mean change from baseline in total area of leakage at Week 40 and Week 52

Exploratory Efficacy Objective

- To investigate the incidence of disease activity at Week 24

Corresponding Endpoints

15 • Proportion of patients with disease activity at Week 24

Safety Objective

- To evaluate the safety of multiple IVT doses of RO6867461 at 12- and 16-week intervals

Corresponding Endpoints

20 • Incidence and severity of ocular adverse events

- Incidence and severity of non-ocular adverse events

• Other safety data, including but not limited to, reasons for withdrawal from study, laboratory data, concomitant medications, vital signs, and physical examination results will be listed and summarized descriptively

25 **Exploratory Pharmacokinetic/ Pharmacodynamic Objectives**

1) To assess the systemic PK profile of RO6867461

Corresponding Endpoints

- Plasma concentration of RO6867461 at specified timepoints

2) To evaluate the RO6867461, ranibizumab, free VEGF-A, and Ang-2 profile in

5 aqueous humor

- Relationship between aqueous humor RO6867461 concentrations or PK parameters and free VEGF-A and Ang-2 concentrations

Corresponding Endpoints

- Relationship between aqueous humor ranibizumab concentrations or PK parameters and free VEGF-A and Ang-2 concentrations

- Time course of free VEGF-A and Ang-2 concentrations in aqueous humor

Immunogenicity Objective

- To investigate the formation of plasma anti-RO6867461 antibodies

Corresponding Endpoints

- Incidence of ADAs during the study

Exploratory Biomarker Objective

- To explore levels of potential biomarkers of angiogenesis and inflammation in aqueous humor at baseline and at additional timepoints to assess their response to RO6867461

20 Corresponding Endpoints

- Relationship between aqueous humor concentration of potential biomarkers with primary and secondary endpoints

Abbreviations used above:

ADA = anti-drug antibody; Ang-2 = angiopoietin-2; BCVA = best corrected visual

25 acuity; CFT = central foveal thickness; CNV = choroidal neovascularization; CST

= central subfield thickness; ETDRS = Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy

Study; FFA = fundus fluorescein angiography; IVT = intravitreal; PK = pharmacokinetic; SD-OCT = spectral domain optical coherence tomography; VEGF-A = vascular endothelial growth factor A.

Study Design (Figure 5 presents an overview of the study design)

5 **Description of Study**

This was a Phase II, multicenter, randomized, active comparator-controlled, subject and outcome assessor masked, parallel group, 52-week study to investigate the efficacy, safety, and pharmacokinetics of RO6867461 administered at 12- and 16-week intervals in treatment-naïve patients with nAMD.

10 Approximately 75 patients were enrolled and randomized in a 2:2:1 ratio to one of three treatment arms:

- Arm A (Q12W): 6 mg RO6867461 intravitreally (IVT) every 4 weeks up to Week 12 (4 injections), followed by 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 12 weeks up to Week 48 (injections at Weeks 24, 36, and 48; 3 injections)

15 • Arm B (Q16W): 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 4 weeks up to Week 12 (4 injections), followed by 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 16 weeks up to Week 48 (injections at Weeks 28 and 44; 2 injections) A protocol-defined assessment of disease activity at Week 24 requires Arm B patients with active disease (see criteria below) to switch to a 12-weekly dosing regimen of 6 mg RO6867461 for the remainder of the study, with injections commencing at Week 24 and repeated at Weeks 36 and 48.

- Arm C (comparator arm): 0.5 mg ranibizumab IVT every 4 weeks for 48 weeks (13 injections) Only one eye will be chosen as the study eye. The total duration of the study for each patient will be up to 56 weeks, divided as follows:

25 • Screening: up to 4 weeks prior to or on the same day as randomization

- Randomization: Day 1

- Study Treatment Administration: from Day 1 to Week 48

- Final Visit: Week 52

Patients have undergone a screening examination within 4 weeks of study treatment administration. The screening and Week 1/Day 1 (randomization) visit may have occurred as a combined visit if all assessments (with the exception of informed consent) were completed within 48 hours.. During screening (or the 5 combined screening/Day 1 visit), the patient's eligibility was assessed, including a central review of fundus photography (FP), spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT), and fundus fluorescein angiography (FFA) to ensure that CNV secondary to AMD meets the predefined ocular criteria in the study. Patients who were deemed ineligible based on screening results for any of the following 10 reasons were allowed to be re-screened:

- Uncontrolled blood pressure
- Administrative reason (e.g., unable to schedule Day 1 within 28 days from the screening visit)
- Not meeting eligibility criteria for the study eye (in the event the patient might be 15 eligible to participate for the second eye after the initial screening period)

At re-screening, all screening visit assessments were performed (except for FFA imaging collection), provided the Central Reading Center-eligible FFA images were taken within 4 weeks before the new Day 1 visit (randomization).

On Day 1, eligible patients received their first IVT administration of either 20 RO6867461 or ranibizumab according to the randomization schedule described above and following established standard administration procedures. Patients returned to the eye clinic 7 days after their first IVT administration and then every 4 weeks for study treatment administration and assessments as outlined in the schedule of activities in the protocol. Sham IVT administration was delivered to 25 patients randomized to Arms A and B to maintain masking throughout the study period.

All patients were assessed for disease activity at Week 24. Patients randomized to 30 Arm B who had active disease at Week 24 (see criteria below) switched to the Q12W dosing regimen of 6 mg RO6867461 for the remainder of the study, with injections commencing at Week 24 and repeated at Weeks 36 and 48.

Determination of active disease was made if any of the following criteria were met:

- Increase in central subfield thickness (CST of $> 50 \mu\text{m}$ on Spectralis® OCT compared to average CST over last 2 visits (Weeks 16 and 20)

Or

- Increase in CST of $\geq 75 \mu\text{m}$ compared to lowest CST recorded at either Week 16 or Week 20

Or

- Decrease of at least 5 letters of best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) compared with average BCVA over last 2 visits (Weeks 16 and 20) due to nAMD disease activity

10 Or

- Decrease of ≥ 10 letters of BCVA compared to highest BCVA recorded at either Week 16 or Week 20 due to nAMD disease activity Or

- Presence of new macular hemorrhage due to nAMD activity

15 Patients will return for a final visit at Week 52. After the final visit, adverse events should be followed up as outlined in the protocol. Assessments performed in case of an unscheduled visit(s) are at the discretion of the investigator

Number of Patients: Approximately 75 treatment-naive patients with nAMD were expected to be enrolled and randomized in this study in the United States.

Target Population

20 Inclusion Criteria

Patients met the following criteria for study entry: Ocular Criteria for Study Eye

- Treatment-naive CNV secondary to AMD (nAMD)
- Subfoveal CNV or juxtapfoveal CNV with a subfoveal component related to the CNV activity by FFA or SD-OCT (as evidenced by subretinal fluid, subretinal hyper-reflective material, evidence of leakage, or hemorrhage)
- CNV lesion of all types (predominantly classic, minimally classic, or occult) with: Total lesion size (including blood, atrophy, fibrosis, and neovascularization)

of ≤ 6 disc areas by FFA And CNV component area of $\geq 50\%$ of total lesion size by FFA And Active CNV confirmed by FFA (evidence of leakage) And CNV exudation confirmed by SD-OCT (presence of fluid)

- 5 • Clear ocular media and adequate pupillary dilatation to allow acquisition of good quality retinal images to confirm diagnosis General Criteria
- Signed Informed Consent Form
- Age ≥ 50 years on Day 1
- Ability to comply with the study protocol, in the investigator's judgment
- 10 • For women of childbearing potential: agreement to remain abstinent (refrain from heterosexual intercourse) or use a contraceptive method with a failure rate of $< 1\%$ per year during the treatment period and for at least 28 days after the last dose of study treatment
- Patients must be willing not to participate in any other clinical trial including an investigational medicinal product (IMP) or device up to completion of the current study
- 15

Exclusion Criteria

Patients who met any of the following criteria were excluded from study entry:

Ocular Criteria for Study Eye

- 20 • CNV due to causes other than AMD, such as ocular histoplasmosis, trauma, pathological myopia, angioid streaks, choroidal rupture, or uveitis
- Central serous chorioretinopathy at screening
- Retinal pigment epithelial tear involving the macula
- 25 • On FFA Subretinal hemorrhage of $> 50\%$ of the total lesion area and/or that involves the fovea Fibrosis or atrophy of $> 50\%$ of the total lesion area and/or that involves the fovea
- Any prior or concomitant treatment for CNV including (but not restricted to) IVT treatment (steroids, anti-vascular endothelial growth factor [VEGF], tissue plasminogen activator, ocriplasmin, C3F8 gas, air), periocular pharmacological

intervention, argon LASER photocoagulation, verteporfin photodynamic therapy, diode laser, transpupillary thermotherapy, or surgical intervention • Cataract surgery within 3 months of baseline assessments (Day 1)

- 5 • Any other intraocular surgery (pars plana vitrectomy, glaucoma surgery, corneal transplant, radiotherapy)
- Prior IVT treatment (including anti-VEGF medication) except for management of cataract complication with steroid IVT treatment • Prior periocular pharmacological intervention for other retinal diseases Concurrent Ocular Conditions
- 10 • Any concurrent intraocular condition in the study eye (e.g., amblyopia, aphakia, retinal detachment, cataract, diabetic retinopathy or maculopathy, or epiretinal membrane with traction) that, in the opinion of the investigator, could either reduce the potential for visual improvement or require medical or surgical intervention during the course of the study
- 15 • Active intraocular inflammation (grade trace or above) in the study eye on Day 1 (prior to randomization)• BCVA letter score of 73 to 24 letters (inclusive) on Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS)-like charts (20/40 to 20/320 Snellen equivalent) on Day 1
 - Current vitreous hemorrhage in the study eye
- 20 • Uncontrolled glaucoma (e.g., progressive loss of visual fields or defined as intraocular pressure [IOP] \geq 25 mmHg despite treatment with anti-glaucoma medication) in the study eye
 - Spherical equivalent of refractive error demonstrating more than 8 diopters of myopia in the study eye
- 25 • History of idiopathic or autoimmune-associated uveitis in either eye
 - Active infectious conjunctivitis, keratitis, scleritis, or endophthalmitis in either eye on Day 1 (prior to randomization) General Criteria
 - Any major illness or major surgical procedure within 1 month before screening
 - Uncontrolled blood pressure ([BP] defined as systolic $>$ 180 mmHg and/or diastolic $>$ 100 mmHg while patient at rest). If a patient's initial reading exceeds

these values, a second reading may be taken later on the same day, or on another day during the screening period. If the patient's BP is controlled by antihypertensive medication, the patient should be taking the same medication continuously for at least 30 days prior to Day 1.

5 • Stroke or myocardial infarction within 3 months prior to Day 1

10 • History of other disease, metabolic dysfunction, physical examination finding, or clinical laboratory findings giving reasonable suspicion of a condition that contraindicated the use of the investigational drug or that might affect interpretation of the results of the study or renders the patient at high risk for treatment complications in the opinion of the investigator

15 • Pregnant or breastfeeding, or intending to become pregnant during the study. Women of childbearing potential must have a negative urine pregnancy test result within 28 days prior to initiation of study treatment. If the urine pregnancy test is positive, it must be confirmed by a serum pregnancy test.

20 • Known hypersensitivity to ranibizumab, fluorescein, any ingredients of the formulation used, dilating eye drops, or any of the anesthetic and antimicrobial drops used

 • Treatment with investigational therapy within 3 months prior to initiation of study treatment

20

End of Study

The end of the study was defined as the date when the last patient last visit (LPLV) occurs. LPLV was expected to occur 52 weeks after the last patient is enrolled.

Length of Study

25 The total length of the study, from screening of the first patient to the end of the study, was expected to be approximately 18–19 months.

Investigational Medicinal Products Test Product

RO6867461 Drug Product (120 mg/mL) was provided as a sterile, colorless to brownish liquid and contains no preservatives. Vials of sterile, colorless to

brownish, preservative-free solution of RO6867461 for IVT administration of 6 mg dose every were used. The concentration of the bispecific antibody was about 120 mg/ml.

Dosage and Administration,

5 RO6867461, Ranibizumab, and Sham

Patients were given a 50- μ L IVT injection of RO6867461 or ranibizumab into the study eye, or a sham administration, according to the randomization schedule as described below

- 10 • Arm A (Q12W): 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 4 weeks up to Week 12 (4 injections), followed by 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 12 weeks up to Week 48 (injections at Weeks 24, 36, and 48; 3 injections)
- Arm B (Q16W): 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 4 weeks up to Week 12 (4 injections), followed by 6 mg RO6867461 IVT every 16 weeks up to Week 48 (injections at Weeks 28 and 44; 2 injections)
- 15 • Arm C (comparator arm): 0.5 mg ranibizumab IVT every 4 weeks for 48 weeks (13 injections)

Only one eye was chosen as the study eye.

STUDY ASSESSMENTS

At timepoints when several assessments coincide, the following sequence was suggested, at the discretion of the investigator. The order could be adjusted to optimize site personnel and patient's time management, except where explicitly stated as mandatory (i.e., text in italics):

- Vital signs
- 25 • Blood sampling: At visits where FFA is performed, blood sampling and angiography can be performed from the same venous cannula. Blood samples must be collected before angiography.
- Ocular assessments and imaging

BCVA: BCVA must have been conducted before pupil dilation. At screening and Day 1 visits, BCVA could be performed before vital signs and blood sampling to avoid unnecessary investigations in those patients who may be a screen failure as a result of BCVA letter score.

5 Slitlamp examination

Pupil dilation

SD-OCT

FP (+ infrared reflectance)

FFA

10 Dilated binocular indirect high-magnification ophthalmoscopy

IOP: mandatory to be performed after all imaging assessments, and the same method should be used throughout the study period

- Aqueous humor sampling (optional)

Disease-Specific Assessments

15 Unless otherwise noted in schedule of activities (Appendix 1), all ocular assessments were performed for both eyes.

Best Corrected Visual Acuity

BCVA at a starting test distance of 4 meters was measured prior to dilating eyes by a trained and certified visual acuity (VA) examiner masked to study eye treatment 20 assignment.

BCVA was measured using the set of three Precision VisionTM or Lighthouse distance acuity charts (modified ETDRS Charts 1, 2, and R). A VA Procedure Manual was provided to the investigators. VA examiner and VA examination room certifications were obtained before any VA examinations were performed.

25 The BCVA examiner was masked to the study eye and treatment assignment and will perform the refraction and BCVA assessments (e.g., VA Specification Manual). The BCVA examiner was also masked to the BCVA letter scores of a

patient's previous visits and may only know patient refraction data from previous visits.

Additional Ocular Assessments

Additional ocular assessments which were performed during the study include the 5 following:

- Slitlamp examination (scales for grading flare/cells and vitreous hemorrhage density are detailed in Appendix 2)
- Dilated binocular indirect high-magnification ophthalmoscopy
- IOP

10 The method of IOP measurement used for a patient remained consistent throughout the study. IOP measurement of both eyes were performed after all imaging.

At study treatment visits, IOP pressure was conducted prior to study treatment administration and 30 (\pm 15) minutes post-treatment administration in the study eye, and if $IOP \geq 30$ mmHg, IOP should be re-assessed 30 (\pm 15) minutes later. If 15 IOP continued to be elevated, treatment was undertaken at the discretion of the investigator.

- Finger count vision assessment

20 In the study eye, a post-treatment optic nerve head perfusion was assessed for each patient immediately after study treatment administration (maximum within 15 minutes after treatment administration) by testing finger count vision, hand motion, or light perception as appropriate.

Ocular Imaging

The Central Reading Center provided sites with the Central Reading Center Manual and training materials for study-mandated ocular imaging. Before study 25 images were obtained, site personnel and imaging systems (where applicable) was certified by the reading center as specified in the Central Reading Center Manual. All study subject ocular images were obtained only by trained and Central Reading Center certified personnel on certified/registered equipment at the study sites. A copy of all study subject ocular images were transferred to the central reading

center for storage and for independent analysis, including for confirmation of eligibility of defined image-related criteria.

Week 24 Assessment of Disease Activity

5 All patients were assessed for disease activity at Week 24. Patients randomized to Arm B who had active disease at Week 24 (see criteria below) switched to the Q12W dosing regimen of 6 mg RO6867461 for the remainder of the study, with injections commencing at Week 24 and repeated at Weeks 36 and 48.

Determination of active disease was made if any of the following criteria are met:

10 • Increase in CST of $>50 \mu\text{m}$ on Spectralis OCT compared to average CST over last 2 visits (Weeks 16 and 20)

Or

• Increase in CST of $\geq 75 \mu\text{m}$ compared to lowest CST recorded at either Week 16 or Week 20

Or

15 Decrease of at least 5 letters of BCVA compared with average BCVA over last 2 visits (Weeks 16 and 20), due to nAMD disease activity

Or

• Decrease of ≥ 10 letters of BCVA compared to highest BCVA recorded at either Week 16 or Week 20 due to nAMD disease activity

20 Or

• Presence of new macular hemorrhage due to nAMD activity

Results

Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) and Durability of BCVA gains (time to retreatment to maintain BCVA gain)

25 Primary Efficacy Outcome Measure is shown in Figure 6. The Figure 6 displays the primary efficacy endpoint: BCVA change from Baseline over Time to Week 40. RO6867461 refers to the bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461

comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg dose either Q12W or Q16W), ranibizumab (Lucentis®) was administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose Q4W. The initial BCVA gains were fully 5 maintained for the RO6867461 Q12W or Q16W groups and in a similar range as the ranibizumab (Lucentis®) Q4W group.

Central Subfield Thickness (CST) Change from Baseline (Study Eye)

A key secondary endpoint was the change from baseline in CST, central subfield thickness. Results are shown in Figure 7. The bispecific anti-10 VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20 (administered intravitreally with a 6.0 mg dose either Q12W or Q16W), was compared to ranibizumab (Lucentis®) (administered intravitreally with a 0.3 mg dose Q4W). This secondary anatomical endpoint directionally supports BCVA 15 primary outcome. There were greater reductions in CST with bispecific anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody RO6867461 during treatment initiation than with ranibizumab.

Example 2B: Efficacy and Durability of treatment of patients suffering from age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

20 In a further study analogous to the above described study under Example 2A, patients suffering from AMD (e.g. wet age-related macular degeneration (wAMD), especially neovascular AMD) are treated with the bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprising the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20. As active 25 comparator in treatment e.g. aflibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/ or brolicuzimab will be used. Patients include anti-VEGF treatment-naïve patients (have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy with e.g. aflibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/ or brolicuzimab) and also a group of patients which have been previously treated with anti-VEGF monotherapy with e.g.

aflibercept and/ or ranibizumab and/or brolicuzimab. Designations of the respective bispecific antibody that binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 are RO6867461 or RG7716. Vials of sterile, colorless to brownish, preservative-free solution of RO6867461 for IVT administration of either 1.5 mg or 6 mg dose are used.

5 E.g. the following dosing schedules is used:

Patients suffering from AMD will be treated following treatment initiation (e.g. with 3-7 initial monthly injections) with a dosing regimen that extends the injection interval in stable absence of disease, or shortens the interval if there is disease activity. Such regimen includes e.g. that patient receive
10 Q4W/Q8W/Q12W/ Q16W dosing, dependent on their disease state

The disease stability assessment would be based on best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA) and on CST as well as retinal thickness based on Optical coherence tomography (OCT). Outcome measure and results will be evaluated as described e.g. in Example 1A. Primary endpoints will be between 45 and 60 weeks.

15 **Example 3**

Binding to of the anti-VEGF/ANG2 antibody to VEGF, Ang2, FcgammaR and FcRn

VEGF isoforms kinetic affinity including assessment of species-crossreactivity

Around 12000 resonance units (RU) of the capturing system (10 µg/ml goat anti 20 human F(ab)'₂; Order Code: 28958325; GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences AB, Sweden) were coupled on a CM5 chip (GE Healthcare BR-1005-30) at pH 5.0 by using an amine coupling kit supplied by the GE Healthcare. The sample and system buffer was PBS-T (10 mM phosphate buffered saline including 0.05% Tween® 20) pH 7.4. The flow cell was set to 25 °C - and the sample block set to 12 °C - and primed 25 with running buffer twice. The bispecific antibody was captured by injecting a 50 nM solution for 30 sec at a flow of 5 µl/min. Association was measured by injection of human hVEGF121, mouse mVEGF120 or rat rVEGF164 in various concentrations in solution for 300 sec at a flow of 30 µl/min starting with 300 nM in 1:3 dilutions. The dissociation phase was monitored for up to 1200 sec and

triggered by switching from the sample solution to running buffer. The surface was regenerated by 60 sec washing with a Glycine pH 2.1 solution at a flow rate of 30 μ l/min. Bulk refractive index differences were corrected by subtracting the response obtained from a goat anti human F(ab')₂ surface. Blank injections are also 5 subtracted (= double referencing). For calculation of apparent K_D and other kinetic parameters the Langmuir 1:1 model was used. Results are shown in Table 5.

Ang2 solution affinity including assessment of species-crossreactivity

Solution affinity measures the affinity of an interaction by determining the concentration of free interaction partners in an equilibrium mixture. The solution 10 affinity assay involves the mixing of an <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibody, kept at a constant concentration, with a ligand (= Ang2) at varying concentrations. Maximum possible resonance units (e.g. 17000 resonance units (RU)) of an antibody was immobilized on the CM5 chip (GE Healthcare BR-1005-30) surface at pH 5.0 using an amine coupling kit supplied by the GE Healthcare. The sample 15 and system buffer was HBS-P pH 7.4. Flow cell was set to 25 °C and sample block to 12 °C and primed with running buffer twice. To generate a calibration curve increasing concentrations of Ang2 were injected into a BIAcore™ flowcell containing the immobilized VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibody. The amount of bound Ang2 was determined as resonance units (RU) and plotted against the 20 concentration. Solutions of each ligand (11 concentrations from 0 to 200 nM for the VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibody) were incubated with 10 nM Ang2 and allowed to reach equilibrium at room temperature. Free Ang2 concentrations were determined from calibration curve generated before and after measuring the 25 response of solutions with known amounts of Ang2. A 4-parameter fit was set with XLfit4 (IDBS Software) using Model 201 using free Ang2 concentration as y-axis and used concentration of antibody for inhibition as x-axis. The affinity was calculated by determining the inflection point of this curve. The surface was regenerated by one time 30 sec washing with a 0.85% H₃PO₄ solution at a flow rate of 30 μ l/min. Bulk refractive index differences were corrected by subtracting the response obtained from a blank-coupled surface. Results are shown in Table 6.

FcRn steady state affinity

For FcRn measurement a steady state affinity was used to compare bispecific antibodies against each other. Human FcRn was diluted into coupling buffer (10 μ g/ml, Na-Acetate pH5.0) and immobilized on a C1-Chip (GE Healthcare BR-

1005-35) by targeted immobilization procedure using a BIACore™ wizard to a final response of 200 RU. Flow cell was set to 25 °C and sample block to 12 °C and primed with running buffer twice. The sample and system buffer was PBS-T (10 mM phosphate buffered saline including 0.05% Tween® 20) pH 6.0. To assess 5 different IgG concentrations for each antibody, a concentration of 62.5 nM, 125 nM and 250 nM, 500 nM was prepared. Flow rate was set to 30 µl/min and the different samples were injected consecutively onto the chip surface choosing 180 sec association time. The surface was regenerated by injected PBS-T pH 8 for 60 sec at a flow rate of 30 µl/min. Bulk refractive index differences were corrected by 10 subtracting the response obtained from a blank surface. Buffer injections are also subtracted (= double referencing). For calculation of steady state affinity the method from the Bia-Evaluation software was used. Briefly, the RU values (RU max) were plotted against the analysed concentrations, yielding a dose-response curve. Based on a 2-parametric fit, the upper asymptote is calculated, allowing the 15 determination of the half-maximal RU value and hence the affinity. Results are shown in Figure 5 and Table 7. Analogously the affinity to cyno, mouse and rabbit FcRn can be determined.

FcgammaRIIIa measurement

For FcgammaRIIIa measurement a direct binding assay was used. Around 3000 20 resonance units (RU) of the capturing system (1 µg/ml Penta-His; Qiagen) were coupled on a CM5 chip (GE Healthcare BR-1005-30) at pH 5.0 by using an amine coupling kit supplied by the GE Healthcare. The sample and system buffer was HBS-P+ pH 7.4. The flow cell was set to 25 °C - and sample block to 12 °C - and primed with running buffer twice. The FcgammaRIIIa -His-receptor was captured 25 by injecting a 100 nM solution for 60 sec at a flow of 5 µl/min. Binding was measured by injection of 100 nM of bispecific antibody or monospecific control antibodies (anti-Dig for IgG1 subclass and an IgG4 subclass antibody) for 180 sec at a flow of 30 µl/. The surface was regenerated by 120 sec washing with Glycine 30 pH 2.5 solution at a flow rate of 30 µl/min. Because FcgammaRIIIa binding differs from the Langmuir 1:1 model, only binding/no binding was determined with this assay. In a similar manner FcgammaRIa, and FcgammaRIIa binding can be determined. Results are shown in Figure 6, where it follows that by introduction of the mutations P329G LALA no more binding to FcgammaRIIIa could be detected.

Assessment of independent VEGF- and Ang2-binding to the <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibodies

Around 3500 resonance units (RU) of the capturing system (10 µg/ml goat anti human IgG; GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences AB, Sweden) were coupled on a CM4 chip (GE Healthcare BR-1005-34) at pH 5.0 by using an amine coupling kit supplied by the GE Healthcare. The sample and system buffer was PBS-T (10 mM phosphate buffered saline including 0.05% Tween® 20) pH 7.4. The temperature of the flow cell was set to 25 °C and of the sample block to 12 °C. Before capturing, the flow cell was primed with running buffer twice.

The bispecific antibody was captured by injecting a 10 nM solution for 60 sec at a flow of 5 µl/min. Independent binding of each ligand to the bispecific antibody was analysed by determining the active binding capacity for each ligand, either added sequentially or simultaneously (flow of 30 µl/min):

1. Injection of human VEGF with a concentration of 200 nM for 180 sec (identifies the single binding of the antigen).
2. Injection of human Ang2 with a concentration of 100 nM for 180 sec (identifies single binding of the antigen).
3. Injection of human VEGF with a concentration of 200 nM for 180 sec followed by an additional injection of human Ang2 with a concentration of 100 nM for 180 sec (identifies binding of Ang2 in the presence of VEGF).
4. Injection of human Ang2 with a concentration of 100 nM for 180 sec followed by an additional injection of human VEGF with a concentration of 200 nM (identifies binding of VEGF in the presence of Ang2).
5. Co-Injection of human VEGF with a concentration of 200 nM and of human Ang2 with a concentration of 100 nM for 180 sec (identifies the binding of VEGF and of Ang2 at the same time).

The surface was regenerated by 60 sec washing with a 3mM MgCl₂ solution at a flow rate of 30 µl/min. Bulk refractive index differences were corrected by subtracting the response obtained from a goat anti human IgG surface.

The bispecific antibody is able to bind both antigens mutual independently if the resulting final signal of the approaches 3, 4 & 5 equals or is similar to the sum of the individual final signals of the approaches 1 and 2. Results are shown in the

Table below, where VEGFang2-0016 (= RO6867461), is shown to be able to bind mutual independently to VEGF and ANG2

Assessment of simultaneous VEGF- and Ang2-binding to the <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibodies

5 First, around 1600 resonance units (RU) of VEGF (20 μ g/ml) were coupled on a CM4 chip (GE Healthcare BR-1005-34) at pH 5.0 by using an amine coupling kit supplied by the GE Healthcare. The sample and system buffer was PBS-T (10 mM phosphate buffered saline including 0.05% Tween® 20) pH 7.4. Flow cell was set to 25 °C and sample block to 12 °C and primed with running buffer twice. Second,
10 50nM solution of the bispecific antibody was injected for 180 sec at a flow of 30 μ l/min. Third, hAng-2 was injected for 180 sec at a flow of 30 μ l/min. The binding response of hAng-2 depends from the amount of the bispecific antibody bound to VEGF and shows simultaneous binding. The surface was regenerated by 60 sec washing with a 0.85% H3PO4 solution at a flow rate of 30 μ l/min. Simultaneous
15 binding is shown by an additional specific binding signal of hAng2 to the previous VEGF bound <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibodies.

Table: Results: Kinetic affinities to VEGF isoforms from different species

	VEGFang2-0016 -apparent affinity
Human VEGF 121	\leq 1 pM (out of Biacore specification)
mouseVEGF 120	no binding
Rat VEGF 164	14 nM

Table: Results: Solution affinities to Ang2

	VEGFang2-0016 KD [nM]
humanAng2	20
cynoAng2	13
mouseAng2	13
rabbitAng2	11

20

Table: Results: Affinity to FcRn of <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibodies

	VEGFang2-0016 [affinity]
Human FcRn	no binding
Cyno FcRn	no binding
Mouse FcRn	no binding

Table: Results Binding to FcgammaRI – IIIa

	VEGFang2-0016
Fc γ RIa	No binding
Fc γ RIIa	No binding
Fc γ RIIIa	No binding

Table: Results: Independent binding of VEGF- and Ang2 to <VEGF-ANG-2> bispecific antibodies

	1) Ang2 [RUmax]	2) VEGF [RUmax]	3) first VEGF then Ang2 [RUmax]	4) first Ang2 then VEGF [RUmax]	5) Coinjection Ang2+VEGF [RUmax]
VEGFang2-0016	174	50	211	211	211

Patent Claims

1. A method of treating a patient suffering from an ocular vascular disease comprising administering a bispecific antibody which binds to vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and to human angiopoietin-2 (ANG-2),

wherein the ocular vascular disease is diabetic macular edema (DME) or age-related macular degeneration (AMD),

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally to the patient every 12 weeks, every 14 to 16 weeks or every 16 weeks,

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of 6mg, and

wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprises the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 3 to 7 monthly administrations.
3. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 4 monthly administrations.
4. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered at a concentration of about 120 mg/ml.
5. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment.
6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment.

7. Use of bispecific antibody which binds to VEGF and to ANG-2 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of an ocular vascular disease,

wherein the ocular vascular disease is DME or AMD,

wherein the bispecific antibody is administered intravitreally to the patient every 12 weeks, every 14 to 16 weeks or every 16 weeks,

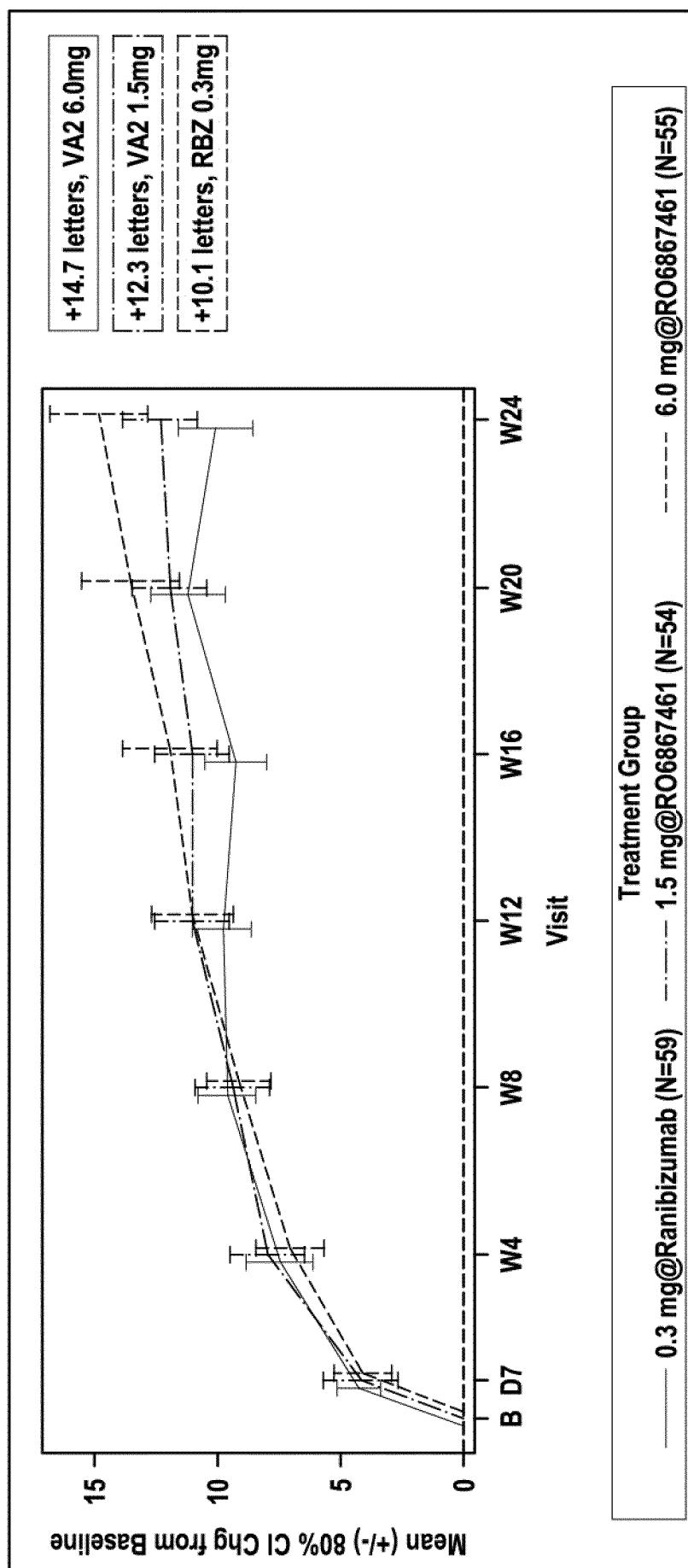
wherein the bispecific antibody is administered in a dose of 6mg, and

wherein the bispecific antibody which binds to human VEGF and human ANG2 comprises the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:17, of SEQ ID NO: 18, of SEQ ID NO: 19, and of SEQ ID NO: 20.
8. The use according to claim 7, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 3 to 7 monthly administrations.
9. The use according to claim 7 or claim 8, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered following a treatment initiation of 4 monthly administrations.
10. The use according to any one of claims 7 to 9, wherein the bispecific antibody is administered at a concentration of about 120 mg/ml.
11. The use according to any one of claims 7 to 10, wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have not been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment.
12. The use according to any one of claims 7 to 10, wherein patients suffering from an ocular vascular disease have been previously treated with anti-VEGF treatment.

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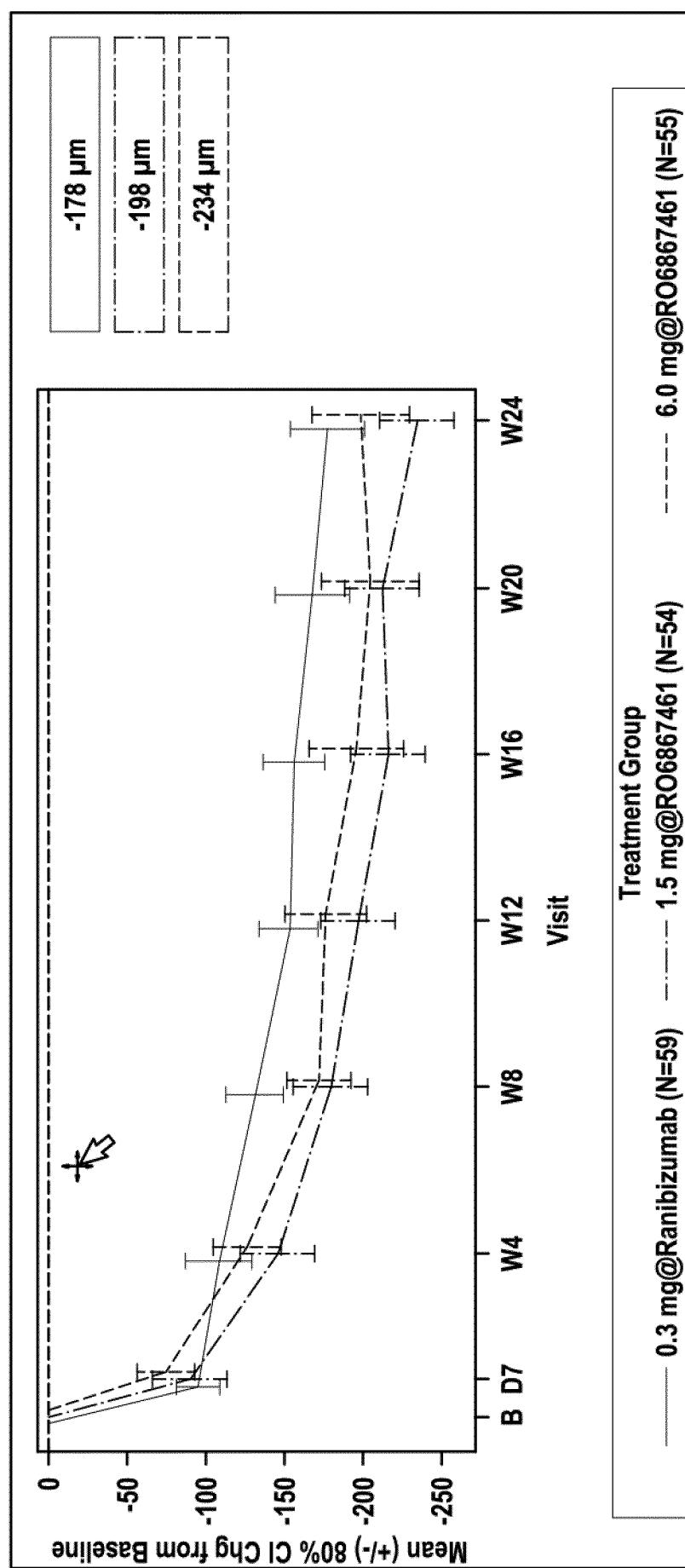
Fig. 1

BCAV Change from Baseline Over Time to Week 24 (Study Eye)
Primary endpoint in Treatment-naïve Patients



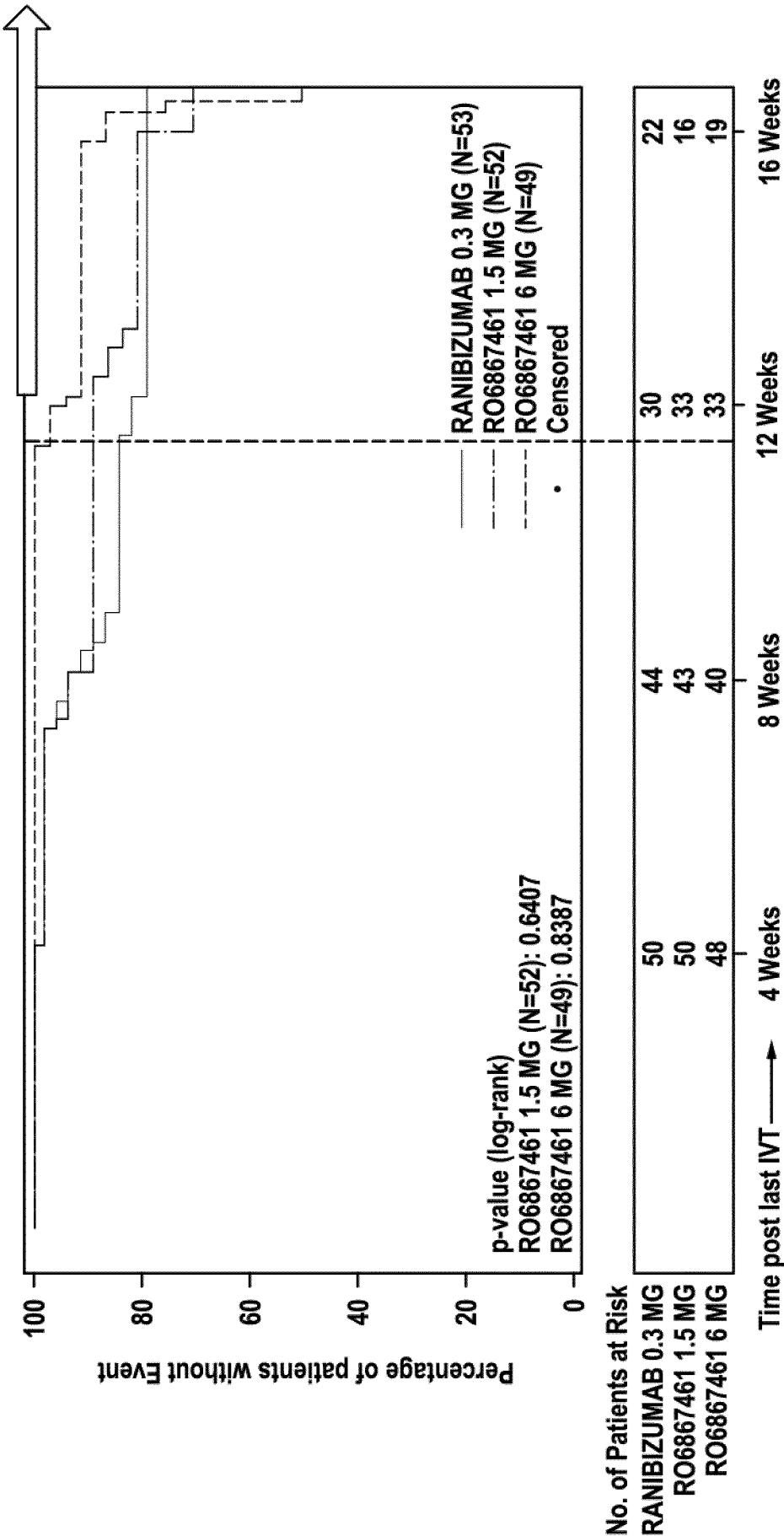
2 / 7

Fig. 2



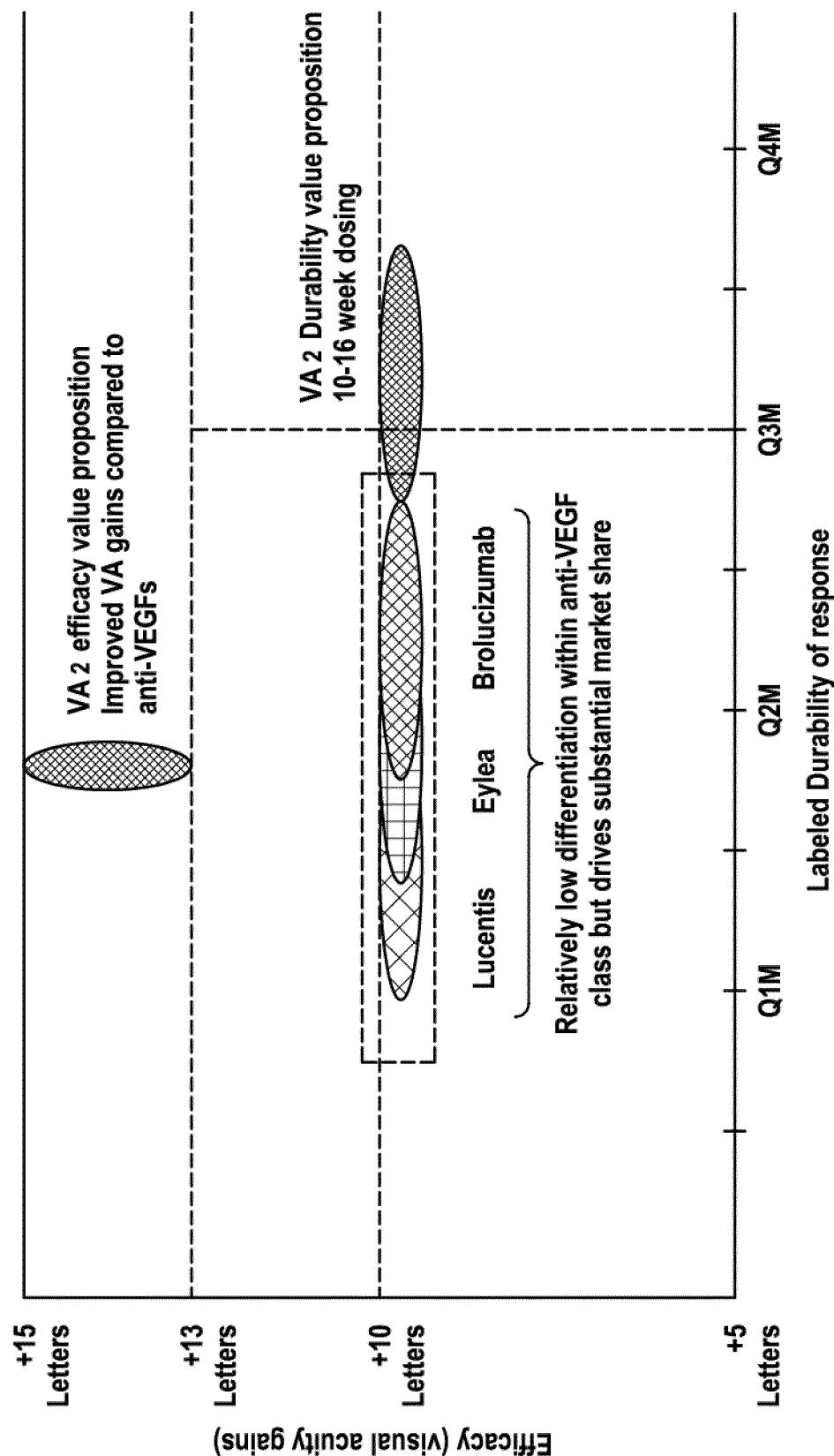
3 / 7

Kaplan-Meier Plot for Time to Treatment after Week 20 (with 0.3 mg RBZ)
Time to retreatment in observation phase longer with VA2 treatment vs RBZ

**Fig. 3**

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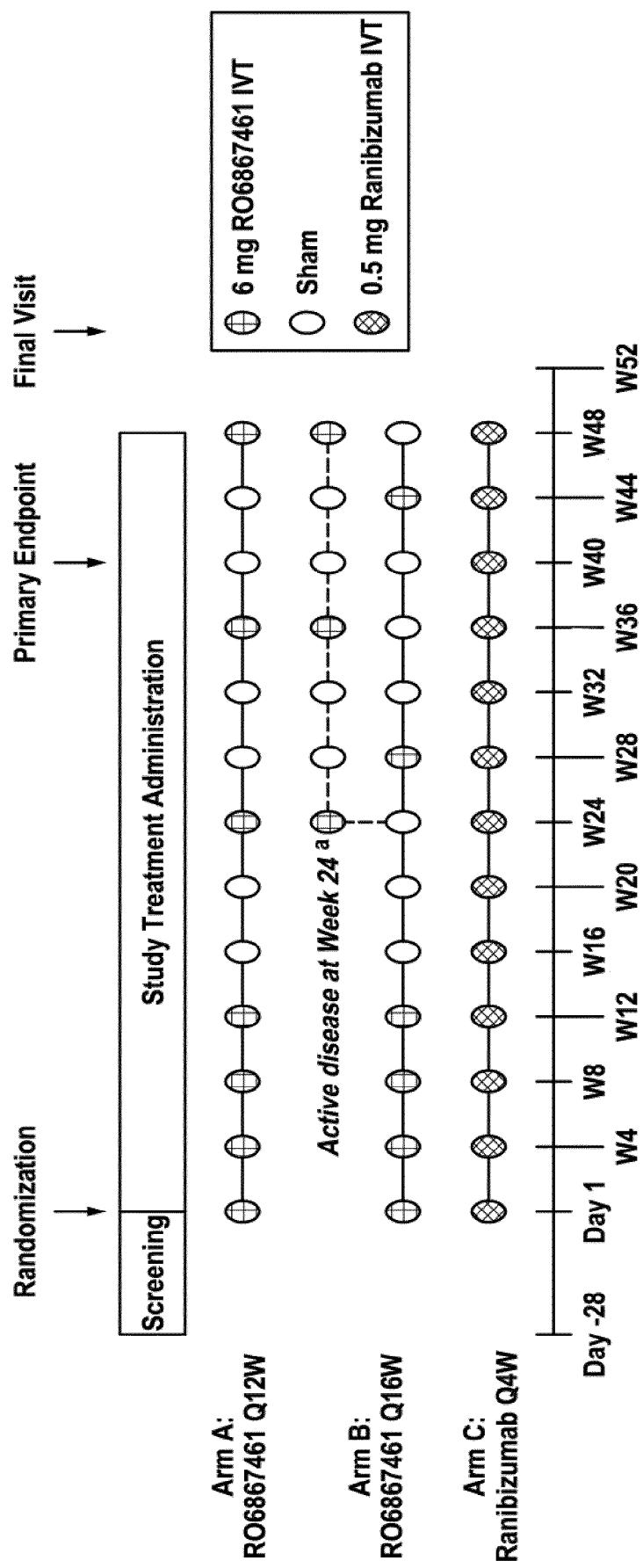
Fig. 4



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Fig. 5

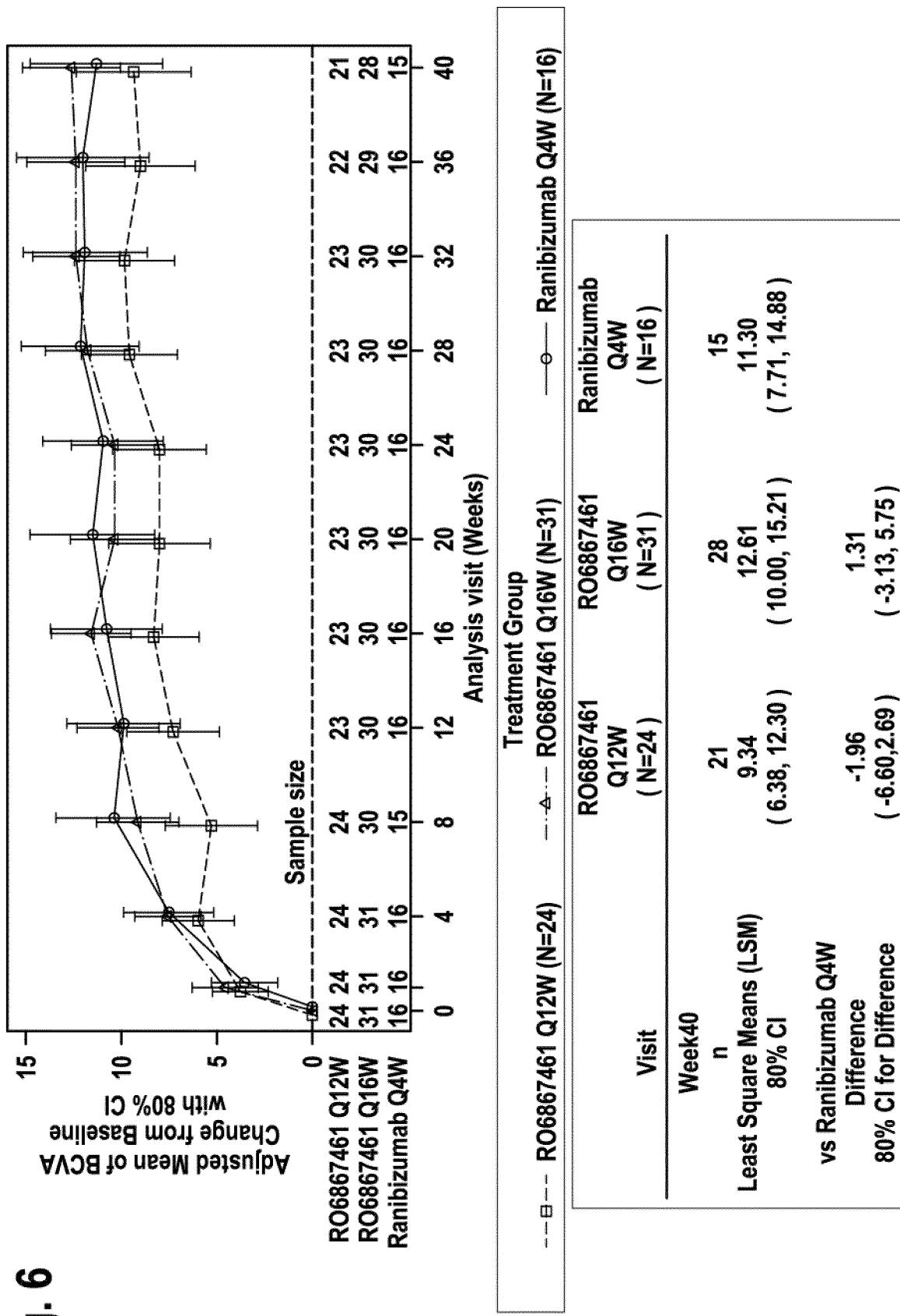
12 or 16 weekly dosing intervals of VA2 vs 4 weekly ranibizumab



IVT = intravitreal; Q4W = every 4 Weeks; Q12W = every 12 weeks; Q16W = every 16 weeks; W = week

^a All patients will be assessed for disease activity at Week 24. Patients in Arm B who are assessed with active disease at Week 24 will switch to RO6867461 Q12W dosing regimen for the remainder of the study.

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BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; MMRM = mixed model for repeated measurement. Visits are time windowed. Model includes categorical covariates of treatment group, visit, visit by treatment group interaction and the continuous covariate of baseline BCVA. Unstructured covariance was used.

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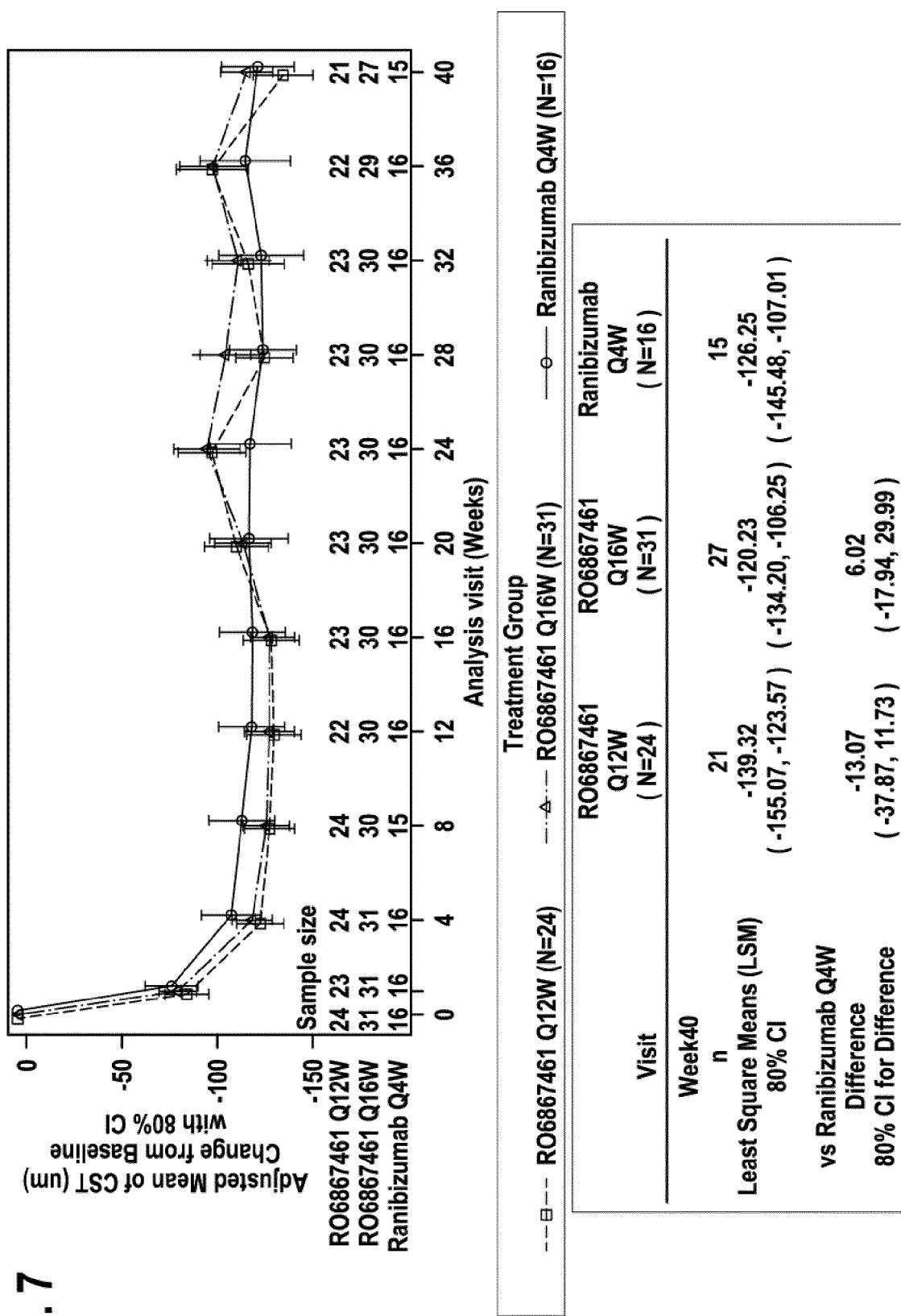


Fig. 7

CFT = central foveal thickness; MMRM = mixed model for repeated measurement. Visits are time windowed. Model includes categorical covariates of treatment group, visit, visit by treatment group interaction and the continuous covariate of baseline CST. Unstructured covariance was used.

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG
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Genentech Inc.

<120> Treatment of ophthalmologic diseases

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<151> 2018-02-06

<150> US62/729,333
<151> 2018-09-10

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His Tyr Gly Met Asn
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<223> heavy chain variable domain VH, <VEGF>ranibizumab

<400> 7

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1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Tyr Asp Phe Thr His Tyr

20 25 30

Gly Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val

35 40 45

Gly Trp Ile Asn Thr Tyr Thr Gly Glu Pro Thr Tyr Ala Ala Asp Phe

50 55 60

Lys Arg Arg Phe Thr Phe Ser Leu Asp Thr Ser Lys Ser Thr Ala Tyr

65

70

75

80

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys
85 90 95

Ala Lys Tyr Pro Tyr Tyr Gly Thr Ser His Trp Tyr Phe Asp Val
100 105 110

Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val Ser Ser
115 120

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<223> light chain variable domain VL, <VEGF>ranibizumab

<400> 8

Asp Ile Gln Leu Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ser Val Gly
1 5 10 15

Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Ser Ala Ser Gln Asp Ile Ser Asn Tyr
20 25 30

Leu Asn Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Ala Pro Lys Val Leu Ile
35 40 45

Tyr Phe Thr Ser Ser Leu His Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
50 55 60

Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu Gln Pro
65 70 75 80

Glu Asp Phe Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Gln Tyr Ser Thr Val Pro Trp
85 90 95

Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Val Glu Ile Lys
100 105

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<220>
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1 5 10 15

Ala Phe Asp Ile
20

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<400> 10

Trp Ile Asn Pro Asn Ser Gly Gly Thr Asn Tyr Ala Gln Lys Phe Gln
1 5 10 15

Gly

<210> 11

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<400> 11

Gly Tyr Tyr Met His
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<212> PRT
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<223> light chain CDR3L, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant

<400> 12

Gln Val Trp Asp Ser Ser Ser Asp His Trp Val
1 5 10

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<212> PRT
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<400> 13

Asp Asp Ser Asp Arg Pro Ser
1 5

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<223> light chain CDR1L, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant

<400> 14

Gly Gly Asn Asn Ile Gly Ser Lys Ser Val His
1 5 10

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<400> 15

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1 5 10 15

Ser Val Lys Val Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Gly Tyr
20 25 30

Tyr Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Met
35 40 45

Gly Trp Ile Asn Pro Asn Ser Gly Gly Thr Asn Tyr Ala Gln Lys Phe
50 55 60

Gln Gly Arg Val Thr Met Thr Arg Asp Thr Ser Ile Ser Thr Ala Tyr
65 70 75 80

Met Glu Leu Ser Arg Leu Arg Ser Asp Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys
85 90 95

Ala Arg Ser Pro Asn Pro Tyr Tyr Tyr Asp Ser Ser Gly Tyr Tyr Tyr

100

105

110

Pro Gly Ala Phe Asp Ile Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr Val Ser
115 120 125

Ser

<210> 16
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<220>
<223> light chain variable domain VL, <ANG-2> Ang2i_LC10 variant
<400> 16

Ser Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Val Ala Pro Gly Gln
1 5 10 15

Thr Ala Arg Ile Thr Cys Gly Gly Asn Asn Ile Gly Ser Lys Ser Val
20 25 30

His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Gln Ala Pro Val Leu Val Val Tyr
35 40 45

Asp Asp Ser Asp Arg Pro Ser Gly Ile Pro Glu Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser
50 55 60

Asn Ser Gly Asn Thr Ala Thr Leu Thr Ile Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Gly
65 70 75 80

Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Val Trp Asp Ser Ser Ser Asp His
85 90 95

Trp Val Phe Gly Gly Thr Lys Leu Thr Val Leu Ser Ser
100 105 110

<210> 17
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<212> PRT
<213> Artificial

<220>
<223> Heavy chain 1 of <VEGF-ANG-2> CrossMAb IgG1 with AAA
mutations
and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)

<400> 17

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly
1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Tyr Asp Phe Thr His Tyr
20 25 30

Gly Met Asn Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Val
35 40 45

Gly Trp Ile Asn Thr Tyr Thr Gly Glu Pro Thr Tyr Ala Ala Asp Phe
50 55 60

Lys Arg Arg Phe Thr Phe Ser Leu Asp Thr Ser Lys Ser Thr Ala Tyr
65 70 75 80

Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys
85 90 95

Ala Lys Tyr Pro Tyr Tyr Gly Thr Ser His Trp Tyr Phe Asp Val
100 105 110

Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val Ser Ser Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly

115

120

125

Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly
130 135 140

Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr Phe Pro Glu Pro Val
145 150 155 160

Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Gly Val His Thr Phe
165 170 175

Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Val Val
180 185 190

Thr Val Pro Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr Tyr Ile Cys Asn Val
195 200 205

Asn His Lys Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys Lys Val Glu Pro Lys
210 215 220

Ser Cys Asp Lys Thr His Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys Pro Ala Pro Glu Ala
225 230 235 240

Ala Gly Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr
245 250 255

Leu Met Ala Ser Arg Thr Pro Glu Val Thr Cys Val Val Val Asp Val
260 265 270

Ser His Glu Asp Pro Glu Val Lys Phe Asn Trp Tyr Val Asp Gly Val
275 280 285

Glu Val His Asn Ala Lys Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser
290 295 300

Thr Tyr Arg Val Val Ser Val Leu Thr Val Leu Ala Gln Asp Trp Leu
305 310 315 320

Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys Cys Lys Val Ser Asn Lys Ala Leu Gly Ala
325 330 335

Pro Ile Glu Lys Thr Ile Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro
340 345 350

Gln Val Tyr Thr Leu Pro Pro Cys Arg Asp Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Gln
355 360 365

Val Ser Leu Trp Cys Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala
370 375 380

Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr
385 390 395 400

Pro Pro Val Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu
405 410 415

Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn Val Phe Ser Cys Ser
420 425 430

Val Met His Glu Ala Leu His Asn Ala Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser
435 440 445

Leu Ser Pro
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<210> 18
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<213> Artificial

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1 5 10 15

Ser Val Lys Val Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Gly Tyr
20 25 30

Tyr Met His Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Met
35 40 45

Gly Trp Ile Asn Pro Asn Ser Gly Gly Thr Asn Tyr Ala Gln Lys Phe
50 55 60

Gln Gly Arg Val Thr Met Thr Arg Asp Thr Ser Ile Ser Thr Ala Tyr
65 70 75 80

Met Glu Leu Ser Arg Leu Arg Ser Asp Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys
85 90 95

Ala Arg Ser Pro Asn Pro Tyr Tyr Asp Ser Ser Gly Tyr Tyr Tyr
100 105 110

Pro Gly Ala Phe Asp Ile Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Met Val Thr Val Ser
115 120 125

Ser Ala Ser Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp
130 135 140

Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn
145 150 155 160

Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu
165 170 175

Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp
180 185 190

Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr
195 200 205

Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser
210 215 220

Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys Asp Lys Thr His
225 230 235 240

Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys Pro Ala Pro Glu Ala Ala Gly Gly Pro Ser Val
245 250 255

Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr Leu Met Ala Ser Arg Thr
260 265 270

Pro Glu Val Thr Cys Val Val Val Asp Val Ser His Glu Asp Pro Glu
275 280 285

Val Lys Phe Asn Trp Tyr Val Asp Gly Val Glu Val His Asn Ala Lys
290 295 300

Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser Thr Tyr Arg Val Val Ser
305 310 315 320

Val Leu Thr Val Leu Ala Gln Asp Trp Leu Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys

325

330

335

Cys Lys Val Ser Asn Lys Ala Leu Gly Ala Pro Ile Glu Lys Thr Ile
340 345 350

Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro Gln Val Cys Thr Leu Pro
355 360 365

Pro Ser Arg Asp Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Gln Val Ser Leu Ser Cys Ala
370 375 380

Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn
385 390 395 400

Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Asp Ser
405 410 415

Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe Leu Val Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Arg
420 425 430

Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His Glu Ala Leu
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His Asn Ala Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro
450 455 460

<210> 19

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mutations
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1 5 10 15

Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Ser Ala Ser Gln Asp Ile Ser Asn Tyr
20 25 30

Leu Asn Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Ala Pro Lys Val Leu Ile
35 40 45

Tyr Phe Thr Ser Ser Leu His Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
50 55 60

Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu Gln Pro
65 70 75 80

Glu Asp Phe Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Gln Tyr Ser Thr Val Pro Trp
85 90 95

Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Val Glu Ile Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala
100 105 110

Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly
115 120 125

Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala
130 135 140

Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln
145 150 155 160

Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser
165 170 175

Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr
180 185 190

Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser
195 200 205

Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
210

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mutations
and P329G LALA mutations (VEGFang2-0016)

<400> 20

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1 5 10 15

Thr Ala Arg Ile Thr Cys Gly Gly Asn Asn Ile Gly Ser Lys Ser Val
20 25 30

His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Gln Ala Pro Val Leu Val Val Tyr
35 40 45

Asp Asp Ser Asp Arg Pro Ser Gly Ile Pro Glu Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser
50 55 60

Asn Ser Gly Asn Thr Ala Thr Leu Thr Ile Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Gly
65 70 75 80

Asp Glu Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Val Trp Asp Ser Ser Ser Asp His
85 90 95

Trp Val Phe Gly Gly Thr Lys Leu Thr Val Leu Ser Ser Ala Ser
100 105 110

Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys Ser Thr
115 120 125

Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr Phe Pro
130 135 140

Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Gly Val
145 150 155 160

His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser Leu Ser
165 170 175

Ser Val Val Thr Val Pro Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr Tyr Ile
180 185 190

Cys Asn Val Asn His Lys Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys Lys Val
195 200 205

Glu Pro Lys Ser Cys
210

<210> 21
<211> 107
<212> PRT
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 21

Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu
1 5 10 15

Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe
20 25 30

Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln
35 40 45

Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser
50 55 60

Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu
65 70 75 80

Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser
85 90 95

Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
100 105

<210> 22
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<212> PRT
<213> homo sapiens

<400> 22

Gln Pro Lys Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Thr Leu Phe Pro Pro Ser Ser Glu
1 5 10 15

Glu Leu Gln Ala Asn Lys Ala Thr Leu Val Cys Leu Ile Ser Asp Phe
20 25 30

Tyr Pro Gly Ala Val Thr Val Ala Trp Lys Ala Asp Ser Ser Pro Val
35 40 45

Lys Ala Gly Val Glu Thr Thr Thr Pro Ser Lys Gln Ser Asn Asn Lys
50 55 60

Tyr Ala Ala Ser Ser Tyr Leu Ser Leu Thr Pro Glu Gln Trp Lys Ser
65 70 75 80

His Arg Ser Tyr Ser Cys Gln Val Thr His Glu Gly Ser Thr Val Glu
85 90 95

Lys Thr Val Ala Pro Thr Glu Cys Ser
100 105

<210> 23
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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 23

Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys
1 5 10 15

Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr
20 25 30

Phe Pro Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser
35 40 45

Gly Val His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser
50 55 60

Leu Ser Ser Val Val Thr Val Pro Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr
65 70 75 80

Tyr Ile Cys Asn Val Asn His Lys Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys
85 90 95

Lys Val Glu Pro Lys Ser Cys Asp Lys Thr His Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys
100 105 110

Pro Ala Pro Glu Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro
115 120 125

Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr Leu Met Ile Ser Arg Thr Pro Glu Val Thr Cys
130 135 140

Val Val Val Asp Val Ser His Glu Asp Pro Glu Val Lys Phe Asn Trp
145 150 155 160

Tyr Val Asp Gly Val Glu Val His Asn Ala Lys Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu
165 170 175

Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser Thr Tyr Arg Val Val Ser Val Leu Thr Val Leu
180 185 190

His Gln Asp Trp Leu Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys Cys Lys Val Ser Asn
195 200 205

Lys Ala Leu Pro Ala Pro Ile Glu Lys Thr Ile Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly
210 215 220

Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro Gln Val Tyr Thr Leu Pro Pro Ser Arg Asp Glu
225 230 235 240

Leu Thr Lys Asn Gln Val Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr
245 250 255

Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn
260 265 270

Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe
275 280 285

Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn
290 295 300

Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His Glu Ala Leu His Asn His Tyr Thr
305 310 315 320

Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro
325

<210> 24

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Met Asn Phe Leu Leu Ser Trp Val His Trp Ser Leu Ala Leu Leu Leu
1 5 10 15

Tyr Leu His His Ala Lys Trp Ser Gln Ala Ala Pro Met Ala Glu Gly
20 25 30

Gly Gly Gln Asn His His Glu Val Val Lys Phe Met Asp Val Tyr Gln
35 40 45

Arg Ser Tyr Cys His Pro Ile Glu Thr Leu Val Asp Ile Phe Gln Glu
50 55 60

Tyr Pro Asp Glu Ile Glu Tyr Ile Phe Lys Pro Ser Cys Val Pro Leu
65 70 75 80

Met Arg Cys Gly Gly Cys Cys Asn Asp Glu Gly Leu Glu Cys Val Pro

85

90

95

Thr Glu Glu Ser Asn Ile Thr Met Gln Ile Met Arg Ile Lys Pro His
100 105 110

Gln Gly Gln His Ile Gly Glu Met Ser Phe Leu Gln His Asn Lys Cys
115 120 125

Glu Cys Arg Pro Lys Lys Asp Arg Ala Arg Gln Glu Asn Pro Cys Gly
130 135 140

Pro Cys Ser Glu Arg Arg Lys His Leu Phe Val Gln Asp Pro Gln Thr
145 150 155 160

Cys Lys Cys Ser Cys Lys Asn Thr Asp Ser Arg Cys Lys Ala Arg Gln
165 170 175

Leu Glu Leu Asn Glu Arg Thr Cys Arg Cys Asp Lys Pro Arg Arg
180 185 190

<210> 25

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<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 25

Met Trp Gln Ile Val Phe Phe Thr Leu Ser Cys Asp Leu Val Leu Ala
1 5 10 15

Ala Ala Tyr Asn Asn Phe Arg Lys Ser Met Asp Ser Ile Gly Lys Lys
20 25 30

Gln Tyr Gln Val Gln His Gly Ser Cys Ser Tyr Thr Phe Leu Leu Pro
35 40 45

Glu Met Asp Asn Cys Arg Ser Ser Ser Ser Pro Tyr Val Ser Asn Ala
50 55 60

Val Gln Arg Asp Ala Pro Leu Glu Tyr Asp Asp Ser Val Gln Arg Leu
65 70 75 80

Gln Val Leu Glu Asn Ile Met Glu Asn Asn Thr Gln Trp Leu Met Lys
85 90 95

Leu Glu Asn Tyr Ile Gln Asp Asn Met Lys Lys Glu Met Val Glu Ile
100 105 110

Gln Gln Asn Ala Val Gln Asn Gln Thr Ala Val Met Ile Glu Ile Gly
115 120 125

Thr Asn Leu Leu Asn Gln Thr Ala Glu Gln Thr Arg Lys Leu Thr Asp
130 135 140

Val Glu Ala Gln Val Leu Asn Gln Thr Thr Arg Leu Glu Leu Gln Leu
145 150 155 160

Leu Glu His Ser Leu Ser Thr Asn Lys Leu Glu Lys Gln Ile Leu Asp
165 170 175

Gln Thr Ser Glu Ile Asn Lys Leu Gln Asp Lys Asn Ser Phe Leu Glu
180 185 190

Lys Lys Val Leu Ala Met Glu Asp Lys His Ile Ile Gln Leu Gln Ser
195 200 205

Ile Lys Glu Glu Lys Asp Gln Leu Gln Val Leu Val Ser Lys Gln Asn
210 215 220

Ser Ile Ile Glu Glu Leu Glu Lys Lys Ile Val Thr Ala Thr Val Asn
225 230 235 240

Asn Ser Val Leu Gln Lys Gln Gln His Asp Leu Met Glu Thr Val Asn
245 250 255

Asn Leu Leu Thr Met Met Ser Thr Ser Asn Ser Ala Lys Asp Pro Thr
260 265 270

Val Ala Lys Glu Glu Gln Ile Ser Phe Arg Asp Cys Ala Glu Val Phe
275 280 285

Lys Ser Gly His Thr Thr Asn Gly Ile Tyr Thr Leu Thr Phe Pro Asn
290 295 300

Ser Thr Glu Glu Ile Lys Ala Tyr Cys Asp Met Glu Ala Gly Gly Gly
305 310 315 320

Gly Trp Thr Ile Ile Gln Arg Arg Glu Asp Gly Ser Val Asp Phe Gln
325 330 335

Arg Thr Trp Lys Glu Tyr Lys Val Gly Phe Gly Asn Pro Ser Gly Glu
340 345 350

Tyr Trp Leu Gly Asn Glu Phe Val Ser Gln Leu Thr Asn Gln Gln Arg
355 360 365

Tyr Val Leu Lys Ile His Leu Lys Asp Trp Glu Gly Asn Glu Ala Tyr
370 375 380

Ser Leu Tyr Glu His Phe Tyr Leu Ser Ser Glu Glu Leu Asn Tyr Arg
385 390 395 400

Ile His Leu Lys Gly Leu Thr Gly Thr Ala Gly Lys Ile Ser Ser Ile

405

410

415

Ser Gln Pro Gly Asn Asp Phe Ser Thr Lys Asp Gly Asp Asn Asp Lys
420 425 430

Cys Ile Cys Lys Cys Ser Gln Met Leu Thr Gly Gly Trp Trp Phe Asp
435 440 445

Ala Cys Gly Pro Ser Asn Leu Asn Gly Met Tyr Tyr Pro Gln Arg Gln
450 455 460

Asn Thr Asn Lys Phe Asn Gly Ile Lys Trp Tyr Tyr Trp Lys Gly Ser
465 470 475 480

Gly Tyr Ser Leu Lys Ala Thr Thr Met Met Ile Arg Pro Ala Asp Phe
485 490 495

<210> 26

<211> 498

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 26

Met Thr Val Phe Leu Ser Phe Ala Phe Leu Ala Ala Ile Leu Thr His
1 5 10 15

Ile Gly Cys Ser Asn Gln Arg Arg Ser Pro Glu Asn Ser Gly Arg Arg
20 25 30

Tyr Asn Arg Ile Gln His Gly Gln Cys Ala Tyr Thr Phe Ile Leu Pro
35 40 45

Glu His Asp Gly Asn Cys Arg Glu Ser Thr Thr Asp Gln Tyr Asn Thr
50 55 60

Asn Ala Leu Gln Arg Asp Ala Pro His Val Glu Pro Asp Phe Ser Ser
65 70 75 80

Gln Lys Leu Gln His Leu Glu His Val Met Glu Asn Tyr Thr Gln Trp
85 90 95

Leu Gln Lys Leu Glu Asn Tyr Ile Val Glu Asn Met Lys Ser Glu Met
100 105 110

Ala Gln Ile Gln Gln Asn Ala Val Gln Asn His Thr Ala Thr Met Leu
115 120 125

Glu Ile Gly Thr Ser Leu Leu Ser Gln Thr Ala Glu Gln Thr Arg Lys
130 135 140

Leu Thr Asp Val Glu Thr Gln Val Leu Asn Gln Thr Ser Arg Leu Glu
145 150 155 160

Ile Gln Leu Leu Glu Asn Ser Leu Ser Thr Tyr Lys Leu Glu Lys Gln
165 170 175

Leu Leu Gln Gln Thr Asn Glu Ile Leu Lys Ile His Glu Lys Asn Ser
180 185 190

Leu Leu Glu His Lys Ile Leu Glu Met Glu Gly Lys His Lys Glu Glu
195 200 205

Leu Asp Thr Leu Lys Glu Glu Lys Glu Asn Leu Gln Gly Leu Val Thr
210 215 220

Arg Gln Thr Tyr Ile Ile Gln Glu Leu Glu Lys Gln Leu Asn Arg Ala
225 230 235 240

Thr Thr Asn Asn Ser Val Leu Gln Lys Gln Gln Leu Glu Leu Met Asp
245 250 255

Thr Val His Asn Leu Val Asn Leu Cys Thr Lys Glu Gly Val Leu Leu
260 265 270

Lys Gly Gly Lys Arg Glu Glu Glu Lys Pro Phe Arg Asp Cys Ala Asp
275 280 285

Val Tyr Gln Ala Gly Phe Asn Lys Ser Gly Ile Tyr Thr Ile Tyr Ile
290 295 300

Asn Asn Met Pro Glu Pro Lys Lys Val Phe Cys Asn Met Asp Val Asn
305 310 315 320

Gly Gly Gly Trp Thr Val Ile Gln His Arg Glu Asp Gly Ser Leu Asp
325 330 335

Phe Gln Arg Gly Trp Lys Glu Tyr Lys Met Gly Phe Gly Asn Pro Ser
340 345 350

Gly Glu Tyr Trp Leu Gly Asn Glu Phe Ile Phe Ala Ile Thr Ser Gln
355 360 365

Arg Gln Tyr Met Leu Arg Ile Glu Leu Met Asp Trp Glu Gly Asn Arg
370 375 380

Ala Tyr Ser Gln Tyr Asp Arg Phe His Ile Gly Asn Glu Lys Gln Asn
385 390 395 400

Tyr Arg Leu Tyr Leu Lys Gly His Thr Gly Thr Ala Gly Lys Gln Ser
405 410 415

Ser Leu Ile Leu His Gly Ala Asp Phe Ser Thr Lys Asp Ala Asp Asn

420

425

430

Asp Asn Cys Met Cys Lys Cys Ala Leu Met Leu Thr Gly Gly Trp Trp
435 440 445

Phe Asp Ala Cys Gly Pro Ser Asn Leu Asn Gly Met Phe Tyr Thr Ala
450 455 460

Gly Gln Asn His Gly Lys Leu Asn Gly Ile Lys Trp His Tyr Phe Lys
465 470 475 480

Gly Pro Ser Tyr Ser Leu Arg Ser Thr Thr Met Met Ile Arg Pro Leu
485 490 495

Asp Phe

<210> 27
<211> 1124
<212> PRT
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 27

Met Asp Ser Leu Ala Ser Leu Val Leu Cys Gly Val Ser Leu Leu Leu
1 5 10 15

Ser Gly Thr Val Glu Gly Ala Met Asp Leu Ile Leu Ile Asn Ser Leu
20 25 30

Pro Leu Val Ser Asp Ala Glu Thr Ser Leu Thr Cys Ile Ala Ser Gly
35 40 45

Trp Arg Pro His Glu Pro Ile Thr Ile Gly Arg Asp Phe Glu Ala Leu
50 55 60

Met Asn Gln His Gln Asp Pro Leu Glu Val Thr Gln Asp Val Thr Arg
65 70 75 80

Glu Trp Ala Lys Lys Val Val Trp Lys Arg Glu Lys Ala Ser Lys Ile
85 90 95

Asn Gly Ala Tyr Phe Cys Glu Gly Arg Val Arg Gly Glu Ala Ile Arg
100 105 110

Ile Arg Thr Met Lys Met Arg Gln Gln Ala Ser Phe Leu Pro Ala Thr
115 120 125

Leu Thr Met Thr Val Asp Lys Gly Asp Asn Val Asn Ile Ser Phe Lys
130 135 140

Lys Val Leu Ile Lys Glu Glu Asp Ala Val Ile Tyr Lys Asn Gly Ser
145 150 155 160

Phe Ile His Ser Val Pro Arg His Glu Val Pro Asp Ile Leu Glu Val
165 170 175

His Leu Pro His Ala Gln Pro Gln Asp Ala Gly Val Tyr Ser Ala Arg
180 185 190

Tyr Ile Gly Gly Asn Leu Phe Thr Ser Ala Phe Thr Arg Leu Ile Val
195 200 205

Arg Arg Cys Glu Ala Gln Lys Trp Gly Pro Glu Cys Asn His Leu Cys
210 215 220

Thr Ala Cys Met Asn Asn Gly Val Cys His Glu Asp Thr Gly Glu Cys
225 230 235 240

Ile Cys Pro Pro Gly Phe Met Gly Arg Thr Cys Glu Lys Ala Cys Glu
245 250 255

Leu His Thr Phe Gly Arg Thr Cys Lys Glu Arg Cys Ser Gly Gln Glu
260 265 270

Gly Cys Lys Ser Tyr Val Phe Cys Leu Pro Asp Pro Tyr Gly Cys Ser
275 280 285

Cys Ala Thr Gly Trp Lys Gly Leu Gln Cys Asn Glu Ala Cys His Pro
290 295 300

Gly Phe Tyr Gly Pro Asp Cys Lys Leu Arg Cys Ser Cys Asn Asn Gly
305 310 315 320

Glu Met Cys Asp Arg Phe Gln Gly Cys Leu Cys Ser Pro Gly Trp Gln
325 330 335

Gly Leu Gln Cys Glu Arg Glu Gly Ile Pro Arg Met Thr Pro Lys Ile
340 345 350

Val Asp Leu Pro Asp His Ile Glu Val Asn Ser Gly Lys Phe Asn Pro
355 360 365

Ile Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Trp Pro Leu Pro Thr Asn Glu Glu Met Thr
370 375 380

Leu Val Lys Pro Asp Gly Thr Val Leu His Pro Lys Asp Phe Asn His
385 390 395 400

Thr Asp His Phe Ser Val Ala Ile Phe Thr Ile His Arg Ile Leu Pro
405 410 415

Pro Asp Ser Gly Val Trp Val Cys Ser Val Asn Thr Val Ala Gly Met

420

425

430

Val Glu Lys Pro Phe Asn Ile Ser Val Lys Val Leu Pro Lys Pro Leu
435 440 445

Asn Ala Pro Asn Val Ile Asp Thr Gly His Asn Phe Ala Val Ile Asn
450 455 460

Ile Ser Ser Glu Pro Tyr Phe Gly Asp Gly Pro Ile Lys Ser Lys Lys
465 470 475 480

Leu Leu Tyr Lys Pro Val Asn His Tyr Glu Ala Trp Gln His Ile Gln
485 490 495

Val Thr Asn Glu Ile Val Thr Leu Asn Tyr Leu Glu Pro Arg Thr Glu
500 505 510

Tyr Glu Leu Cys Val Gln Leu Val Arg Arg Gly Glu Gly Gly Glu Gly
515 520 525

His Pro Gly Pro Val Arg Arg Phe Thr Thr Ala Ser Ile Gly Leu Pro
530 535 540

Pro Pro Arg Gly Leu Asn Leu Leu Pro Lys Ser Gln Thr Thr Leu Asn
545 550 555 560

Leu Thr Trp Gln Pro Ile Phe Pro Ser Ser Glu Asp Asp Phe Tyr Val
565 570 575

Glu Val Glu Arg Arg Ser Val Gln Lys Ser Asp Gln Gln Asn Ile Lys
580 585 590

Val Pro Gly Asn Leu Thr Ser Val Leu Leu Asn Asn Leu His Pro Arg
595 600 605

Glu Gln Tyr Val Val Arg Ala Arg Val Asn Thr Lys Ala Gln Gly Glu
610 615 620

Trp Ser Glu Asp Leu Thr Ala Trp Thr Leu Ser Asp Ile Leu Pro Pro
625 630 635 640

Gln Pro Glu Asn Ile Lys Ile Ser Asn Ile Thr His Ser Ser Ala Val
645 650 655

Ile Ser Trp Thr Ile Leu Asp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Ser Ser Ile Thr Ile
660 665 670

Arg Tyr Lys Val Gln Gly Lys Asn Glu Asp Gln His Val Asp Val Lys
675 680 685

Ile Lys Asn Ala Thr Ile Thr Gln Tyr Gln Leu Lys Gly Leu Glu Pro
690 695 700

Glu Thr Ala Tyr Gln Val Asp Ile Phe Ala Glu Asn Asn Ile Gly Ser
705 710 715 720

Ser Asn Pro Ala Phe Ser His Glu Leu Val Thr Leu Pro Glu Ser Gln
725 730 735

Ala Pro Ala Asp Leu Gly Gly Lys Met Leu Leu Ile Ala Ile Leu
740 745 750

Gly Ser Ala Gly Met Thr Cys Leu Thr Val Leu Leu Ala Phe Leu Ile
755 760 765

Ile Leu Gln Leu Lys Arg Ala Asn Val Gln Arg Arg Met Ala Gln Ala
770 775 780

Phe Gln Asn Val Arg Glu Glu Pro Ala Val Gln Phe Asn Ser Gly Thr
785 790 795 800

Leu Ala Leu Asn Arg Lys Val Lys Asn Asn Pro Asp Pro Thr Ile Tyr
805 810 815

Pro Val Leu Asp Trp Asn Asp Ile Lys Phe Gln Asp Val Ile Gly Glu
820 825 830

Gly Asn Phe Gly Gln Val Leu Lys Ala Arg Ile Lys Lys Asp Gly Leu
835 840 845

Arg Met Asp Ala Ala Ile Lys Arg Met Lys Glu Tyr Ala Ser Lys Asp
850 855 860

Asp His Arg Asp Phe Ala Gly Glu Leu Glu Val Leu Cys Lys Leu Gly
865 870 875 880

His His Pro Asn Ile Ile Asn Leu Leu Gly Ala Cys Glu His Arg Gly
885 890 895

Tyr Leu Tyr Leu Ala Ile Glu Tyr Ala Pro His Gly Asn Leu Leu Asp
900 905 910

Phe Leu Arg Lys Ser Arg Val Leu Glu Thr Asp Pro Ala Phe Ala Ile
915 920 925

Ala Asn Ser Thr Ala Ser Thr Leu Ser Ser Gln Gln Leu Leu His Phe
930 935 940

Ala Ala Asp Val Ala Arg Gly Met Asp Tyr Leu Ser Gln Lys Gln Phe
945 950 955 960

Ile His Arg Asp Leu Ala Ala Arg Asn Ile Leu Val Gly Glu Asn Tyr
965 970 975

Val Ala Lys Ile Ala Asp Phe Gly Leu Ser Arg Gly Gln Glu Val Tyr
980 985 990

Val Lys Lys Thr Met Gly Arg Leu Pro Val Arg Trp Met Ala Ile Glu
995 1000 1005

Ser Leu Asn Tyr Ser Val Tyr Thr Thr Asn Ser Asp Val Trp Ser
1010 1015 1020

Tyr Gly Val Leu Leu Trp Glu Ile Val Ser Leu Gly Gly Thr Pro
1025 1030 1035

Tyr Cys Gly Met Thr Cys Ala Glu Leu Tyr Glu Lys Leu Pro Gln
1040 1045 1050

Gly Tyr Arg Leu Glu Lys Pro Leu Asn Cys Asp Asp Glu Val Tyr
1055 1060 1065

Asp Leu Met Arg Gln Cys Trp Arg Glu Lys Pro Tyr Glu Arg Pro
1070 1075 1080

Ser Phe Ala Gln Ile Leu Val Ser Leu Asn Arg Met Leu Glu Glu
1085 1090 1095

Arg Lys Thr Tyr Val Asn Thr Thr Leu Tyr Glu Lys Phe Thr Tyr
1100 1105 1110

Ala Gly Ile Asp Cys Ser Ala Glu Glu Ala Ala
1115 1120