

Eye Co Granted Further Jurisdiction for its dry AMD Patent.

Eye Co is very pleased to announce that the Japanese Patent Office has granted Eye Co a Patent relating to its lead compound, **Fludrocortisone Acetate (FA)**.

Japan represents one of the largest pharmaceutical markets globally and the granting of this patent, which has a maximum term until 2039, represents further recognition of the significance of **FA** in the treatment of major macular diseases.

The patent titled **Composition and Method of Treatment for Geographic Atrophy or Dry AMD**, again recognises the ability of **FA** to modulate the activity of both the glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid receptors in the retina. The clinical significance of this is that, unlike any other steroid, **FA** provides a balance of suppressing inflammation and improving retinal function. This has been observed in published pre-clinical and clinical studies.

Of note is that the Japanese patent examiner approved claims including the use of **FA** in **combination** with anti-VEGF such as ranibizumab and aflibercept. It is also worthy to mention that the approved patent includes the use of **FA** as a **prophylactic** treatment.

A Phase 1b safety study, published in the **British Medical Journal** in 2022 demonstrated that **FA** did not exhibit the side effects commonly associated with intravitreal medications such as IOP spikes or cataract formation.

Eye Co is in the process of raising funds to undertake two pivotal studies to demonstrate **FA's** effectiveness in humans in the treatment of **Geographic Atrophy** and as rescue therapy in patients with **Diabetic Macular Oedema** who have become unresponsive to anti-VEGF treatment.

Eye Co has applied for patents in key markets for all significant indications, in the treatment of macular diseases. A patent for the use of **FA** in the treatment of **Geographic Atrophy** has already been approved in Australia and approvals in other jurisdictions are expected in coming months.

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