Claims:

Claim 1. Use of a LINK_TSG6 polypeptide in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention dry eye disease,

wherein the LINK_TSG6 polypeptide consists of (i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 or SEQ ID NO: 9, or (ii) an amino acid sequence up to 100 amino acids in length having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 or 9.

Claim 2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the treatment or prevention of an ocular surface disorder such as dry eye disease comprises one or more effects selected from the group consisting of:

healing of corneal epithelial defects;

increase in tear production;

suppression of inflammation; and

a higher number of conjunctival goblet cells.

Claim 3. The use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the treatment comprises topical administration of LINK_TSG6 polypeptide to the eye.

Claim 4. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the treatment comprises administering LINK_TSG6 polypeptide two times per day.

Claim 5. The use according to claim 3 wherein the LINK_TSG6 polypeptide is formulated as an eye drop.

Claim 6. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein LINK_TSG6 is co-administered with one or more of prednisolone, cyclosporine, Lifitegrast (Xiidra™) or artificial tears.

Claim 7. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein 10µg-200µg LINK_TSG6 polypeptide is administered per eye, preferably 120µg-150µg LINK_TSG6 polypeptide is administered per eye.

Claim 8. The use according to claim 2, wherein the suppression of inflammation comprise a decrease in the production of one or more pro-inflammatory cytokines in the cornea or the intraorbital lacrimal glands, the pro-inflammatory cytokines optionally selected from TNF-α, IL-6, IFN-γ and IL-1β.

Claim 9. The use according to claim 2 wherein the treatment or prevention of dry eye disease comprises healing of corneal epithelial defects, increase in tear production, suppression of inflammation or increase in number of conjunctival goblet cells as compared to the corneal epithelial defects, tear production, inflammation or number of conjunctival goblet cells prior to the administration of LINK_TSG6 polypeptide.

Claim 10. The use according to claim 2 wherein the treatment or prevention of dry eye disease comprises healing of corneal epithelial defects, increase in tear production, suppression of inflammation or increase in number of conjunctival goblet cells as compared to the corneal epithelial defects, tear production, inflammation or number of conjunctival goblet cells as compared to a control individual treated with full-length TSG-6 protein.

Claim 11. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the individual being treated has Sjögren's syndrome.

Claim 12. The use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the treatment comprises the administration of an eye drop comprising LINK_TSG6.

Claim 13. An eye drop comprising LINK_TSG6 polypeptide, wherein the LINK_TSG6 polypeptide consists of (i) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9, or (ii) an amino acid sequence up to 100 amino acids in length having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

Claim 14. The eye drop according to claim 13 comprising between 240µg/ml and 3000µg/ml LINK_TSG6 polypeptide, preferably between 2400µg/ml and 3000µg/ml LINK_TSG6 polypeptide.

Claim 15. The eye drop according to claim 13 or claim 14 further comprising prednisolone, cyclosporine, Lifitegrast (Xiidra™) or artificial tears.