What is claimed is:

1. Use of a synthetic retinal derivative that provides replacement for endogenously produced 11-cis-retinal in the preparation of a medicament for treating loss or impairment of vision caused by a retinoid deficiency disorder in a patient, wherein said medicament is to be administered in a dosing regimen characterized by:

a) administering to the patient an initial therapeutically effective dose of said medicament,

b) refraining from administering to the patient said medicament for a resting interval of at least 1 month,

c) administering to the patient an additional therapeutically effective dose of said medicament; wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of from 5 to 14 days.

2. Use of a synthetic retinal derivative that provides replacement for endogenously produced 11-cis-retinal in the preparation of a medicament for treating loss or impairment of vision caused by a retinoid deficiency disorder in a patient, wherein said medicament is to be administered in a dosing regimen characterized by:

a) administering to the patient an initial therapeutically effective dose of said medicament,

b) refraining from administering to the patient an additional dose of said medicament until the improvement or restoration of the patient's vision diminishes,

c) administering to the patient another therapeutically effective dose of said medicament; wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of from 5 to 14 days

2.3. The use of claim 1, wherein the initial dose is administered in a single dose.

~~3. The use of claim 1, wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of from 5 to 14 days.~~

4. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of 7 to 10 days.

5. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of one week.

6. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the synthetic retinal derivative is a retinyl ester of 9-cis-retinal.

7. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the synthetic retinal derivative is a retinyl ester of 11-cis-retinal.

8. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the synthetic retinal derivative is 11-cis-retinal -acetate.

9. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the synthetic retinal derivative is 9-cis-retinal acetate.

10. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is administered in a divided dose over a period of two weeks.

11. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is in the range of from 70 to mg/m^2 to 525 ~~mg/kg~~mg/m^2.

12. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is in the range of from 70 mg/ m^2 to 490 ~~mg/kg~~mg/m^2.

13. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is in the range of from 280 mg/m^2 to 490 mg/m^2.

14. The use of claims 1 or 2, wherein the initial dose is in the range of from 70 mg/m^2 to 280 mg/m^2.

15. The use of claim 5, wherein the initial dose is 280 mg/m^2.

~~16. Use of a synthetic retinal derivative that provides replacement for endogenously produced 11-cis-retinal in the preparation of a medicament for treating loss or impairment of vision caused by a retinoid deficiency disorder in a patient, wherein said medicament is to be administered in a dosing regimen characterized by:~~

~~a) administering to the patient an initial therapeutically effective dose of said medicament,~~

~~b) refraining from administering to the patient an additional dose of said medicament until the improvement or restoration of the patient's vision diminishes,~~

~~c) administering to the patient another therapeutically effective dose of said medicament.~~

~~17.~~16. The use of any one of claims ~~11~~1-15, wherein the initial dose of said medicament is to be administered orally.

~~18.~~17. The use of any one of claims ~~11~~1-15, wherein the initial dose of said medicament is to be administered by intraocular injection.

~~19.~~18. The use of any one of claims 1-~~18~~17, wherein the resting interval is at least 3 months.

~~20.~~19. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is at least 6 months.

~~21.~~20. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is at least 9 months.

~~22.~~21. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is from 3 to 6 months.

~~23.~~22. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is from 6 to 9 months.

~~24.~~23. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is from 3 to 9 months.

~~25.~~24. The use of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the resting interval is from 3 months to 1 year.

~~26.~~25. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is retinitis pigmentosa.

~~27.~~26. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is Leber congenital amaurosis.

~~28.~~27. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is congenital stationary night blindness.

~~29.~~28. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is fundus albipunctatus.

~~30.~~29. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is age-related dark adaptation.

~~31.~~30. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is age-related macular degeneration.

~~32.~~31. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is caused by a mutation in the LRAT gene.

~~33.~~32. The use of any one of claims 1-~~25~~24, wherein the retinoid deficiency disorder is caused by a mutation in the RPE65 gene.