CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Use of an expression vector encoding an anti-human vascular endothelial growth factor (hVEGF) antibody in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) in a human subject, said expression vector is to be administered to the suprachoroidal space in the eye of said human subject.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein said expression vector is to be injected into the suprachoroidal space using a suprachoroidal drug delivery device.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the suprachoroidal drug delivery device is a microinjector.

4. Use of an expression vector encoding an anti-hVEGF antibody in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of nAMD in a human subject, said expression vector is to be administered to the subretinal space in the eye of said human subject via the suprachoroidal space in the eye of said human subject.

5. The use of claim 4, wherein said expression vector is to be administered to the subretinal space in the eye of said human subject by the use of a subretinal drug delivery device comprising a catheter that can be inserted and tunneled through the suprachoroidal space toward the posterior pole, where a small needle injects into the subretinal space.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein said expression vector is to be administered to the subretinal space in the eye of said human subject by inserting and tunneling the catheter of the subretinal drug delivery device through the suprachoroidal space.

7. Use of an expression vector encoding an anti-hVEGF antibody in the manfacture of a medicament for the treatment of nAMD in a human subject, said expression vector is to be administered to the outer surface of the sclera in the eye of said human subject.

8. The use of claim 7, wherein said expression vector is to be administered to the outer surface of the sclera in the eye of said human subject–by the use of a juxtascleral drug delivery device that comprises a cannula whose tip can be inserted and kept in direct apposition to the scleral surface.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein said expression vector is to be administered to the outer surface of the sclera in the eye of said human subject by inserting and keeping the tip of the cannula in direct apposition to the scleral surface.

10. The use of any one of claims 1-9, wherein administration of the medicament delivers a therapeutically effective amount of the anti-hVEGF antibody to the retina of said human subject.

11. The use of claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the anti-hVEGF antibody is produced by human retinal cells of said human subject.

12. The use of claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the anti-hVEGF antibody is produced by human photoreceptor cells, horizontal cells, bipolar cells, amacrine cells, retina ganglion cells, and/or retinal pigment epithelial cells in the external limiting membrane of said human subject.

13. The use of claim 12, wherein the human photoreceptor cells are cone cells and/or rod cells.

14. The use of claim 12, wherein the retina ganglion cells are midget cells, parasol cells, bistratified cells, giant retina ganglion cells, photosensitive ganglion cells, and/or Müller glia.

15. The use of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the human subject has a Best-Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) that is ≤20/20 and ≥20/400.

16. The use of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the human subject has a BCVA that is ≤20/63 and ≥20/400.

17. The use of claim 15 or 16, wherein the BCVA is the BCVA in the eye to be treated in the human subject.

18. The use of any one of claims 1-17, wherein the anti-hVEGF antibody is an anti-hVEGF antigen-binding fragment.

19. The use of claim 18, in which the antigen-binding fragment is a Fab.

20. The use of claim 18, in which the antigen-binding fragment is a $F(ab')_2$.

21. The use of claim 18, in which the antigen-binding fragment is a single chain

variable domain (scFv).

22. The use of any one of claims 1-21, in which the anti-hVEGF antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 2 or SEQ ID NO. 4, and a light chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1, or SEQ ID NO. 3.

23. The use of any one of claims 1-21, wherein the anti-hVEGF antibody comprises light chain CDRs 1-3 of SEQ ID NOs: 14-16 and heavy chain CDRs 1-3 of SEQ ID NOs:17-19 or SEQ ID NOs: 20, 18, and 21.

24. The use of claim 22, wherein the second amino acid residue of the light chain CDR3 does not carry one or more of the following chemical modifications: oxidation, acetylation, deamidation, and pyroglutamation (pyro Glu).

25. The use of claim 23, wherein the second amino acid residue of the light chain CDR3 is not acetylated.

26. The use of claim 23 or 24, wherein the eighth and eleventh amino acid residues of the light chain CDR1 each carries one or more of the following chemical modifications: oxidation, acetylation, deamidation, and pyroglutamation (pyro Glu).

27. The use of any one of claims 22-25, wherein the anti-hVEGF antibody comprises a heavy chain CDR1 of SEQ ID NO. 20 and wherein the last amino acid residue of the heavy chain CDR1 does not carry one or more of the following chemical modifications: oxidation, acetylation, deamidation, and pyroglutamation (pyro Glu).

28. The use of claim 26, wherein the last amino acid residue of the heavy chain CDR1 is not acetylated.

29. The use of claim 26 or 27, wherein the ninth amino acid residue of the heavy chain CDR1 carries one or more of the following chemical modifications: acetylation, deamidation, and pyroglutamation (pyro Glu), the third amino acid residue of the heavy chain CDR2 carries one or more of the following chemical modifications: acetylation, deamidation, and pyroglutamation (pyro Glu).

30. The use of any one of claims 1-29, wherein the expression vector is an AAV vector.

31. The use of claim 30, wherein the expression vector is an AAV8 vector.