2003052545

19 SEP 2003

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
17 October 2002 (17.10.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/081513 A3

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C12N 15/12, C07K 14/47, C12N 15/63, 5/10, C07K 16/18, C12Q 1/68, G01N 33/53, 33/68

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP02/03810

(22) International Filing Date: 5 April 2002 (05.04.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
01/04712 6 April 2001 (06.04.2001) FR

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(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

Published:
— *with international search report*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
1 May 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



162162



ACTION

WO 02/081513 A3

(54) Title: DISEASE-ASSOCIATED PROTEIN

(57) Abstract: Disclosed are methods and compositions for early diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of retinal dystrophy, age -related macular degeneration, Bardet-Biedel syndrome, Bassen-kornzweig syndrome, best disease, chroidema, gyrate atrophy, congenital amourosis, refsun syndrome, stargardt disease and Usher syndrome. In particular, the invention relates to a protein, termed 2Rdcvf1," that is differentially transcribed and expressed in subjects suffering from retinal dystrophies and the like, such as retinal dystrophy and age -related macular degeneration compared with non- sufferers, antibodies which recongnize this protein, and methods for diagnosing such conditions.