CLAIMS

1. Use of a ribonuclease that is a member of the ribonuclease A superfamily in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of an adenoviral infection to the human eye, wherein the ribonuclease is ranpirnase.

2. Use of:

a. a ribonuclease that is a member of the ribonuclease A superfamily and that is non-irritating to the eye; and

b. a vehicle,

in the preparation of an ophthalmic composition for the treatment of an adenoviral infection of the human eye, wherein the ribonuclease is ranpirnase.

3. Use of an ophthalmic composition to the eye, the composition comprising:

a. a therapeutically effective dose of a ribonuclease that is a member of the ribonuclease A superfamily and that is non-irritating to the eye; and

b. a vehicle,

in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of an adenoviral infection of the human eye, wherein the ribonuclease is ranpirnase.

4. The use of any one of claims 2 to 3, wherein the vehicle is an aqueous solution.

5. Use of ranpirnase in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of an adenoviral infection of an eye, wherein the composition is to be administered topically.

6. The use according to claim 5, wherein the ranpirnase is a recombinant ranpirnase.

7. The use according to claim 5, wherein the ranpirnase is SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

8. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the adenoviral infection is the cause of viral conjunctivitis, epidemic keratoconjunctivitis, or pharyngoconjuctival fever.

9. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 8, wherein the adenoviral infection is caused by an adenovirus 3, an adenovirus 4, an adenovirus 7, an adenovirus 8, an adenovirus 19, an adenovirus 29 or an adenovirus 37.

10. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 9, wherein the ranpirnase is formulated as an ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition.

11. The use according to claim 10, wherein the ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition is a solution, a suspension, a nanosuspension, an emulsion, a microemulsion, a nanoemulsion, an ointment, a gel, a hydrogel, liposomes, niosomes, nanoparticles, or dendrimers.

12. The use according to claim 10 or claim 11, wherein the ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

13. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 12, wherein the ranpirnase is to be administered as eye drops.

14. The use according to any one of claims 5 to 13, wherein the eye is from a human.