What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating an angiogenic eye disorder in a patient, said method comprising sequentially administering to the patient a single initial dose of a VEGF antagonist, followed by one or more secondary doses of the VEGF antagonist, followed by one or more tertiary doses of the VEGF antagonist;

wherein each secondary dose is administered 2 to 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose; and

wherein each tertiary dose is administered at least 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein only a single secondary dose is administered to the patient, and wherein the single secondary dose is administered 4 weeks after the initial dose of the VEGF antagonist.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein only two secondary doses are administered to the patient, and wherein each secondary dose is administered 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein each tertiary dose is administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein at least 5 tertiary doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient, and wherein the first four tertiary doses are administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose, and wherein each subsequent tertiary dose is administered 8 or 12 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is selected from the group consisting of: age related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, central retinal vein occlusion and corneal neovascularization.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is age related macular degeneration.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the VEGF antagonist is an anti-VEGF antibody or fragment thereof, an anti-VEGF receptor antibody or fragment thereof, or a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the VEGF antagonist is a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises VEGFR1R2-FcΔC1(a) encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises (1) a VEGFR1 component comprising amino acids 27 to 129 of SEQ ID NO:2; (2) a VEGFR2 component comprising amino acids 130-231 of SEQ ID NO:2; and (3) a multimerization component comprising amino acids 232-457 of SEQ ID NO:2.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by topical administration or by intraocular administration.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by intraocular administration.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the intraocular administration is intravitreal administration.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by topical administration or by intraocular administration.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by intraocular administration.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the intraocular administration is intravitreal administration.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise from about 0.5 mg to about 2 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise 0.5 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise 2 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

21. A VEGF antagonist for use in a method of treating an angiogenic eye disorder in a patient, wherein the method comprises sequentially administering to the patient a single initial dose of a VEGF antagonist, followed by one or more secondary doses of the VEGF antagonist, followed by one or more tertiary doses of the VEGF antagonist;

wherein each secondary dose is administered 2 to 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose; and

wherein each tertiary dose is administered at least 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

22. The VEGF antagonist of claim 21, wherein only a single secondary dose is administered to the patient, and wherein the single secondary dose is administered 4 weeks after the initial dose of the VEGF antagonist.

23. The VEGF antagonist of claim 21, wherein only two secondary doses are administered to the patient, and wherein each secondary dose is administered 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

24. The VEGF antagonist of any one of claims 21 to 23, wherein each tertiary dose is administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

25. The VEGF antagonist of any one of claims 21 to 23, wherein at least 5 tertiary doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient, and wherein the first four tertiary doses are administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose, and wherein each subsequent tertiary dose is administered 8 or 12 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

26. The VEGF antagonist of any one of claims 21 to 25, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is selected from the group consisting of: age related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, central retinal vein occlusion and corneal neovascularization.

27. The VEGF antagonist of claim 26, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is age related macular degeneration.

28. The VEGF antagonist of any one of claims 21 to 27, wherein the VEGF antagonist is an anti-VEGF antibody or fragment thereof, an anti-VEGF receptor antibody or fragment thereof, or a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

29. The VEGF antagonist of claim 28, wherein the VEGF antagonist is a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

30. The VEGF antagonist of claim 29, wherein the VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises VEGFR1R2-FcΔC1(a) encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

31. The VEGF antagonist of claim 29, wherein the VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises (1) a VEGFR1 component comprising amino acids 27 to 129 of SEQ ID NO:2; (2) a VEGFR2 component comprising amino acids 130-231 of SEQ ID NO:2; and (3) a multimerization component comprising amino acids 232-457 of SEQ ID NO:2.

32. The VEGF antagonist of any one of claims 21 to 31, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by topical administration or by intraocular administration.

33. The VEGF antagonist of claim 32, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist are administered to the patient by intraocular administration.

34. The VEGF antagonist of claim 33, wherein the intraocular administration is intravitreal administration.

35. The VEGF antagonist of claim 34, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise from about 0.5 mg to about 2 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

36. The VEGF antagonist of claim 35, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise 0.5 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

37. The VEGF antagonist of claim 35, wherein all doses of the VEGF antagonist comprise 2 mg of the VEGF antagonist.

WE CLAIM:

1. Use of at least one VEGF antagonist in the manufacture of at least one medicament for the treatment of a patient with an angiogenic eye disorder, wherein the at least one medicament is formulated for administration to the patient in a dosing regime that provides a therapeutically effective amount of the at least one VEGF antagonist, and wherein the dosing regime comprises a dosing cycle that is designed to provide the effective delivery of the at least one VEGF antagonist, the dosing cycle comprising providing to the patient:

(i) a therapeutically effective amount of the at least one VEGF antagonist as a single initial dose; and

(ii) a therapeutically effective amount of the at least one VEGF antagonist as at least one secondary dose, wherein the at least one secondary dose is formulated for administration 2 to 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose; and

(iii) a therapeutically effective amount of the at least one VEGF antagonist as at least one tertiary dose, wherein the at least one tertiary dose is formulated for administration at least 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose,

and wherein the dosing cycle is repeated for as long as necessary to achieve the desired biological response in the patient.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein only one secondary dose is provided to the patient, and wherein the one secondary dose is to be administered 4 weeks after the initial dose of the at least one VEGF antagonist.

3. The use of claim 1, wherein two secondary doses are provided to the patient, and wherein each secondary dose is to be administered 4 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the at least one tertiary dose is provided to the patient, and wherein the at least one tertiary dose is to be administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein at least 5 tertiary doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist are to be provided to the patient, and wherein the first four tertiary doses are to be administered 8 weeks after the immediately preceding dose,

and wherein each subsequent tertiary dose is to be administered 8 or 12 weeks after the immediately preceding dose.

6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is selected from the group consisting of age related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic macular edema, central retinal vein occlusion and corneal neovascularization.

7. The use of claim 6, wherein the angiogenic eye disorder is age related macular degeneration.

8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the at least one VEGF antagonist is an anti-VEGF antibody or fragment thereof, an anti-VEGF receptor antibody or fragment thereof, or a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein the at least one VEGF antagonist is a VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule.

10. The use of claim 9, wherein the at least one VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises VEGFR1R2-FcΔC1(a) and which is encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

11. The use of claim 9, wherein the at least one VEGF receptor-based chimeric molecule comprises:

(a) a VEGFR1 component comprising amino acids 27 to 129 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a VEGFR2 component comprising amino acids 130-231 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

(c) a multimerization component comprising amino acids 232-457 of SEQ ID NO:2.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein all of the doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist are formulated for topical or intraocular administration.

13. The use of claim 12, wherein all of the doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist are formulated for intraocular administration to the patient.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein the intraocular administration is intravitreal administration.

15. The use of claim 14, wherein all of the doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist comprise from about 0.5 mg to about 2 mg of the at least one VEGF antagonist.

16. The use of claim 15, wherein all of the doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist comprise 0.5 mg of the at least one VEGF antagonist.

17. The use of claim 15, wherein all of the doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist comprise 2 mg of the at least one VEGF antagonist.

18. Use of at least one VEGF antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament according to claim 1, wherein:

(i) the single initial dose of the at least one VEGF antagonist formulated for administration to the patient is 2 mg; and
(ii) the at least one secondary dose of the at least one VEGF antagonist formulated for administration to the patient is 2mg; and
(iii) the at least one tertiary dose of the at least one VEGF antagonist formulated for administration to the patient is 2mg.

19. The use according to claim 18, wherein each of the 2mg doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist is formulated for intravitreal injection.

20. The use according to claim 18, wherein each of the 2mg doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist is formulated for intraocular administration.

21. The use according to claim 18, wherein each of the 2mg doses of the at least one VEGF antagonist is formulated for topical administration.