

## ADX-097, a tissue targeted complement inhibitor

Stefan Wawersik, PhD VP, Head of Research and Translational

3<sup>rd</sup> Rare and Genetic Kidney Disease Drug Development Meeting Boston, MA

13 Sept. 2023



## **Complement is an important driver of disease...**

## ...but complement is also an immune & homeostatic mediator

### Dysregulated local complement drives autoimmune diseases



### Kidney

- aHUS
- PNH
- Lupus NephritisIgA Nephropathy



### Skin

- Bullous Pemphigoid
- Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS)
- Discoid Lupus Erythematosus (DLE)



Neurodegenerative

- Myasthenia Gravis
- Multiple Sclerosis



### Eye

- Geographic Atrophy
- Autoimmune Uveitis

## Complement mediates homeostatic and immune functions





## Systemic/non-targeted complement inhibition has inherent limitations

Complement contributes to pathology of myriad diseases. However, few drugs have made it to the final regulatory approval. **Why?** 

- Large target sinks (e.g., circulating C3 levels are >1.0 mg/mL)
  - Some targets upregulated in disease (e.g. factor D, factor B)
- Rapid target turnover
  - Half-lives ranging from hours to a few days
- Need to maintain the protective roles of complement
  - Infection clearing
  - Shaping of adaptive immune response
  - Cross talk with coagulation and other systems

Q32 Bio is generating tissue-targeted complement inhibitors to address the limitations of systemic blockade



## **Complement is regulated by C3 and C5 convertases**



## C3d is locally deposited where complement is active



**@32** BIO

## High density C3d deposition is observed in numerous complementassociated kidney diseases

### anti-C3d immunofluorescence

Disease

#### Negative controls



Acute Tubular Necrosis



IgA Nephropathy



Lupus Class IV



Lupus Class V



Minimal Change Disease



Thin Glomerular BM



MPGN



Membranous (PLAR2+)



C3 Glomerulopathy



**Diabetic Nephropathy** 



## ADX-097 binds C3d and localizes factor H to complement in tissues



**@32** BIC

## ADX-097 binds high-density C3d with high affinity

ADX-097 binds high-density C3d with greater affinity than to low density C3d

Affinity measurements (SPR) with increasing C3d density





# C3d mAb-fH<sub>1-5</sub> potently and durably reduces glomerular complement while avoiding systemic complement inhibition



**©32** BIC

## C3d mAb-fH<sub>1-5</sub> potently and durably reduces glomerular complement while avoiding systemic complement inhibition

Factor H knockout (CfH<sup>-/-</sup>) mice

Loss of factor H leads to uncontrolled complement

#### Durable tissue complement inhibition without systemic blockade

Single subcutaneous administration of mouse C3d mAb –  $fH_{1-5}$  (ADX-118)



measured by immunofluorescence



Tissue

PK/PD



5 mg/kg

1 mg/kg 18· 15 max. C3 inh 12 0 12 17 22 Days



# C3d mAb-fH<sub>1-5</sub> potently and durably reduces glomerular complement while avoiding systemic complement inhibition

Loss of factor H leads to low plasma C3 intact plasma C3 circ. complement activity circ. complement activity intact plasma C3 Drug clearance intact plasma C3 circ. complement activity **032** BIC

Factor H knockout (CfH<sup>-/-</sup>) mice

**Durable tissue complement inhibition without systemic blockade** Single subcutaneous administration of mouse C3d mAb –  $fH_{1-5}$  (ADX-118)



## ADX-097 inhibits NHP skin complement activation at doses that do not affect systemic complement activity

### Immunostaining of ADX-097 and Inhibition of Complement Activation

48h post-dose



### **Quantitation of Tissue and Circulating PK/PD**



# ADX-097 reduces disease progression by locally inhibiting tissue complement

- ADX-097 homes to local complement through C3d binding
- Subcutaneous delivery at doses that do not affect systemic complement



# Passive Heymann Nephritis (PHN) is a complement-driven model of Membranous Nephropathy in rats

Passive Heymann Nephritis (PHN): Injection With Sheep anti-GBM Serum Induces Rapid, Immune Deposit-Driven Renal Injury



Study Design: Evaluation of ADX-097 in PHN





## ADX-097 homes to PHN glomeruli and inhibits local complement activation





# ADX-097 reduces proteinuria and inhibits glomerular complement at doses that <u>do not</u> block systemic complement activity

ADX-097 Inhibits <u>Tissue</u> Complement at Doses ≥ 1 mg/kg

Glomerular Complement - anti-C3 frag. IHC

### Low Doses of ADX-097 Do Not Inhibit <u>Systemic</u> Complement

Serum Complement Activity - Zymosan Assay

#### ADX-097 Reduces Renal Injury (Proteinuria) at Doses ≥ 1 mg/kg Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio



\* P < 0.01, \*\* P < 0.005, \*\*\* P < 0.0001 (vs. PHN + PBS) CVF = Cobra Venom Factor (systemic complement inhibitor)



## Tissue targeting improves renal potency in Passive Heymann Nephritis rats

#### ADX-097 dose-dependently attenuates proteinuria



#### **Tissue targeting drives potency of ADX-097**



#### ADX-097 preserves podocyte ultrastructure



Hui Chen, Joel Henderson Boston University Medical School

## Changes in C5b-9 are associated with complement-driven disease

### **Terminal C5b-9 complement complex mediates cell lysis**



### C5b-9 is deposited in diseased kidney tissue

meta-analysis by Koopman et al., Front. Immunol., 2021



## C5b-9 can be detected in urine and can be a marker of treatment response in IgAN

data from Yu et al., J. Clin Med. 2022

steroid response

steroid non-response

### Key question: How does urine C5b-9 relate to tissue C5b-9?



# Samples from studies of ADX-097 in PHN allow evaluation of relationship between tissue complement and urine C5b-9

ADX-097 Inhibits <u>Tissue</u> Complement at Doses ≥ 1 mg/kg

Glomerular Complement - anti-C3 frag. IHC

### Low Doses of ADX-097 Do Not Inhibit <u>Systemic</u> Complement

Serum Complement Activity - Zymosan Assay

#### ADX-097 Reduces Renal Injury (Proteinuria) at Doses ≥ 1 mg/kg Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio



# Urine C5b-9 is a biomarker of tissue complement and demonstrates kinetics of tissue target engagement

### ADX-097 dose-dependently reduces urine C5b-9

Urine C5b-9/Creatinine Ratio Samples collected 4 days post-dose



## Urine C5b-9 closely correlates with tissue complement activity

Urine C5b-9/Creatinine Ratio vs Glomerular C3 IHC Samples collected 4 days post-dose

## Urine C5b-9 reveals kinetics of tissue complement inhibition by ADX-097

Urine C5b-9/Creatinine Ratio







# ADX-097 reduces disease progression by locally inhibiting tissue complement

- ADX-097 homes to local complement through C3d binding
- Subcutaneous delivery at doses that do not affect systemic complement
- Modulates disease progression
- Soluble C5b-9: a urine biomarker of tissue complement activity
- Completing Ph1 clinical trial



## Thanks!

**Q32 Bio Anne Cheung** Kelly Fahnoe **Ryan Faucette Claire Galand** Fei Liu Jennifer Morgan Sarah Ryan **Ravi Vats Katherine Vernon** Shelia Violette Hong Wu

**032** BIC

### **Collaborators**

Monica Locatelli, Ariela Benigni, Giuseppe Remuzzi (Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri)

Katja Bieber, Enno Schmidt, Admar Verschoor, Ralf Ludwig (University of Lubeck)

Shuyun Xu, Christine Lian (Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School)

David Salant (Boston University School of Medicine)

Hui Chen, Joel Henderson (Boston University School of Medicine)



### Q32 Co-founders

Mike Holers (University of Colorado School of Medicine) Josh Thurman (University of Colorado School of Medicine) Steve Tomlinson (Medical University of South Carolina)





