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The Clinical Promise of Tissue Directed Complement Therapeutics

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'For extreme diseases, extreme strictness of treatment is most efficacious'

Hippocrates of Kos, Aphorisms

The complement system is now understood to causally contribute to a growing list of immune, inflammatory and age-related conditions



- The modern picture of complement is one of **a powerful surveillance system** that can be triggered and cause damage to injured, stressed or immune targeted cells.
- Excessive or dysregulated activation is linked to the pathogenesis of myriad disorders ranging from acute inflammatory to chronic, including cancer, autoimmune, and age-related neurodegenerative, diseases.

Adapted from D. Ricklin and J.D. Lambris 2013

Successful therapeutic modulation of the complement system across a broad array of diseases requires maximal inhibition of inappropriate activation at specific sites injury while limiting impairment of systemic protective functions

Modulators of complement in circulation and on cell surfaces are essential to protect healthy cells and to adjust the response of the system to insults



Nature Reviews | Nephrology

Ricklin, D. et. al. (2016) Nat. Rev. Nephrol. doi:10.1038/nrneph.2016.70

Health

When fluid-phase and surface-directed complement regulation is intact, **complement maintains immunosurveillance function by sparing healthy cells**.

The severity and outcome of complement response to distinct triggers must be **carefully tuned and depends on the context-specific interplay** of some 50 different proteins.

Disease

When damaged cells, artificial surfaces or host surfaces are not sufficiently protected by regulatory molecules that drive the C3b breakdown process and inhibit AP amplification, non-linear C3 fragment accumulation occurs, driving convertase assembly

Persistent assembly of **surface-bound** C3 and C5 convertases **fuels** effector generation **and inflammatory tissue damage**.



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Nature Reviews | Nephrology

Activation of complement typically follows a simple sequence that involves **surface recognition and opsonic tagging of a target cell,** self-amplification, generation of effector molecules, and induction of immune signaling.

- In complement-related disorders, detrimental activation and amplification process occurs directly on surfaces that inappropriately trigger the defensive actions of complement: foreign biomaterials, transplanted cells or organs, or diseased cells and tissues.
- Independent of initiation route, amplification of response by the AP, via formation of C3 convertases that cleave the central component C3 into C3a and an C3b (opsonin) fragment, cause most of overall complement activation.

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Fluid phase targeting of complement has inherent limitations

The complement system is known to contribute to the pathology of myriad diseases and is an active area of drug development. However, despite a wealth of knowledge, very few drugs have made it to the final regulatory approval. **Why?**

- Poor bioavailability
- Large levels of target proteins (e.g., circulating C3 levels are >1.0 mg/mL)
- Rapid target turnover with half-lives ranging from hours to only a few days
- Need to control locally synthesized factors and increased systemic sinks in inflammatory disease.
- Need to maintain the protective roles of complement (infection clearing, shaping of adaptive immune response, cross talk with coagulation and other systems)

If these limitations could be overcome and control of the *full system could be achieved*, dosing for circulatory compartment inhibition would also address local, tissue specific amplification and injury

Q32 Bio approach to addressing these limitations is *via* tissue localization and sequestration



Approaches to target complement inhibitors to various surfaces



Adapted from D. Ricklin and J.D. Lambris 2013

- Through the three major processes which initiate the complement system, convergence upon the centrally important C3 protein occurs when multi-component C3 convertases are formed and C3 is cleaved and covalently attached to targeted sites.
- These C3 fragments irreversibly "mark" the targets as immunologically different and allows the subsequent cleavage of C3b to the iC3b/C3dg/C3d forms and binding of the complex to specific C3 fragment receptors.
- C3 activation is followed by the formation of a C5 convertase, resulting in C5 cleavage and activation, coincident release of soluble anaphylatoxins C3a and C5a, and formation of the pore-like membrane attack complex (MAC)

It is the deposition of tissue-localized C3 fragments and their subsequent processing to fragments with altered receptor-binding characteristics that underlies the tissue-specific targeting of Q32 Bio therapeutics



Unique therapeutic approach to restore complement regulation in diseased tissue is achieved via targeting C3d

- C3d is a validated ubiquitous biomarker of complement activation
- C3d is a clinical biomarker of tissue level complement activation
- C3d is deposited and covalently linked at sites of complement activation in diseased tissue; directly adjacent to C3 convertase complexes
- C3d is expressed in a wide range of diseases

Human Disease C3d Immunostaining



C3G kidney Glomeruli



Bullous Pemphigoid



Discoid Lupus Erythematosus





Complement activation in diseased tissue







Systemic inhibition: Non-targeted





Q32: Tissue-targeted inhibition







- FH binds to C3 fragments, thereby controlling both tickover activation and the amplification loop.
- The N-terminus of FH provides catalytic convertase decay activity and enables FImediated degradation of C3b to iC3b/C3d.
- This mode of action creates additional ADX-097 binding sites and increases local retention.





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- Bb **ADX-097** Complex C3d C3d C3d C3d C3d
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Q32 Tissue-targeted Platform Value Proposition: Designed to Enable Clinical Profile Superior to Systemic Complement Inhibitors

	The Unmet Need		The Opportunity
•	Limited activity: Reliant on systemic blockade for impact on affected organ	•	Enhanced activity through tissue targeting: Differentiated approach to driving efficacy by inactivating convertases directly at site of destruction
•	High doses, frequent administration required: High abundance, rapid turnover of most target complement proteins	•	Reduced treatment burden : SC route with QW dosing; potential for Q2W
•	Infection risk: Complement plays critical role in combating infection; systemic blockade increases risk	•	Improved risk/benefit profile: Designed to maximize therapeutic index while maintaining intact immune surveillance; broader indication potential









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ADX-097 target expression (C3d) has been validated in numerous complementassociated human kidney diseases

Immunohistochemistry of C3d

Negative controls

Disease



Acute Tubular Necrosis



IgA Nephropathy



Lupus Class IV



Lupus Class V



Minimal Change Disease



Thin Glomerular BM



MPGN



Membranous (PLAR2+)



C3 Glomerulopathy



Diabetic Nephropathy

LN, IgAN, C3G: Need for alternatives to broad acting immunosuppressives

LN, IgAN, C3G Unmet Need



6-fold mortality risk increase vs general population^{1,2}

Lupus Nephritis 100K (US)^{18,19} Up to 30% develop kidney failure requiring dialysis or kidney transplant within 15 years of diagnosis^{3,4}



Up to 40% develop ESRD w/in 20 years of diagnosis^{5,6}, and patients have 10 years reduced life expectancy^{7,8}

IgA Nephropathy 185K (US) 20, 21 ~70% not adequately controlled w/supportive care^{5,9}



C3 Glomerulopathy *3K (US)*²² Up to 50% of adult, 70% of pediatric patients progress to kidney failure within 10 years¹⁰⁻¹³ >70% experience recurring disease; ~50% experience allograft loss w/in 10 years of kidney transplant^{10,14-17}

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1. Mahajan et al. Lupus 2020; 2. Cervera et al. Medicine 2002; 3. Maroz et al. Am J Med Sci 2013. 4. Ward et al. J Rheumatol 2009; 5. Habas et al. Medicine (Baltimore) 2022. 6. Berthoux et al. Semin Nephrol 2008; 7. Pitcher et al. Clin Jour of Amer Soc Neph 2023. 8. Hastings et al. Kidney Int Rep 2018; 9. Raun et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 10. Heiderscheit et al. Am J Med Genet C Semin Med Genet 2022. 11. Smith et al. J Am Soc Nephrol 2007; 12. Servais et al. Kidney Int 2012; 13. Rabasco et al. Kidney Int 2015; 14. Smith et al. Nat Rev Nephrol 2019. 15. Welte et al. BMC Nephrology 2018; 16. Salvadori et al. WJT 2016. 17. Regunathan-Shenk et al. AJKD 2019 18. Hoover et al. Kidney Int 2016; 19. Pryor et al. Rheum Dis Clin North Am. 2021; 20. Braun et al. Int Urol Nephrol 2011; 21. McQuarry et al. Kidney Int 2013; 22. Bomback et al. Kidney Int. 2018.

ANCA-Associated Vasculitis (AAV): Tremendous Global Unmet Need for Efficacious, Safe Chronic Therapies

AAV: 100K (US) ~10K annually newly diagnosed severe patients or patients in major relapse

UNMET NEED

More effective induction and maintenance

- With treatment, 5-year mortality 10-30% overall
- 5-year mortality with renal disease 20-50%
- Relapse is substantial issue: Up to 50% of patients relapse within 5 years, often 12-18 months of IST discontinuation
- Aggressive cardiovascular disease is a major late driver of death in AAV

Reduction/Elimination of Glucocorticoids (GCs)

• IST, particularly GC side effects, account for significant early treatment related morbidity and mortality, primarily due to infection





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Thank You!

