



# Progress in RNAi-based Therapeutics at Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals

Asia Tides  
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# Comprehensive Platforms Yield Optimal RNAi Medicines

## RNAi Chemistry

**Broad FTO for Canonical siRNA**

**Broad FTO for Dicer siRNA**

**Broad FTO for Meroduplex siRNA**

**Broad FTO for UNAs**

**Novel proprietary RNAi triggers**

**Intracellular targeting ligands**

➤ **Activity booster**

**ALNY IP license for 30 targets**

Proprietary technologies and acquired/licensed fundamental IP from:  
Roche, Novartis, Alnylam, Mirus Bio, City of Hope Cancer Center, Marina  
Clinical PoC with HBV and AAT Programs

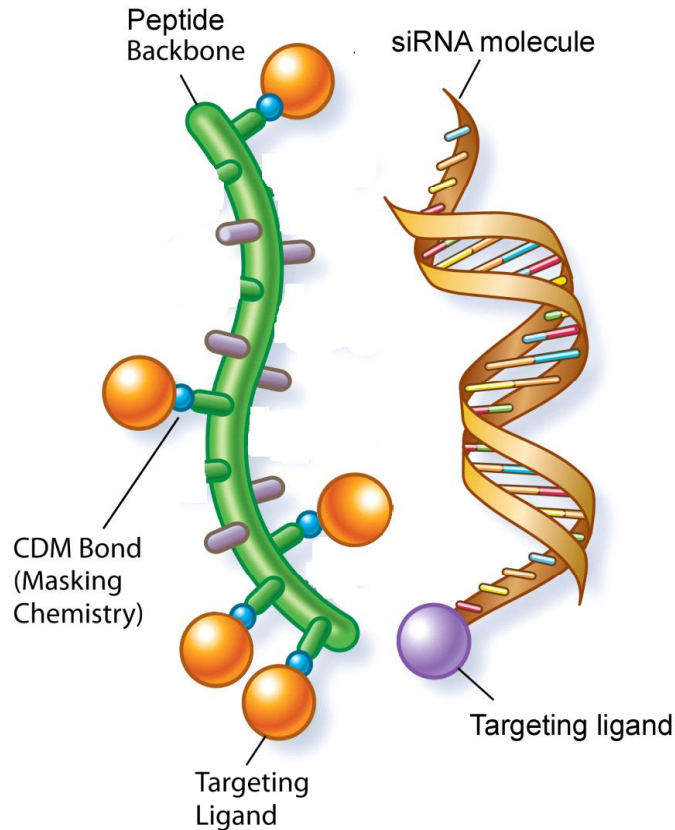
# The field has moved a long way in 5 years

- When Arrowhead bought Roche's RNA assets in late 2011
  - No large pharma had made it to the clinic with RNAi
    - And Roche, Novartis and Merck never did!
  - RNA stabilization was still immature
    - GalNac conjugates had poor potency and duration
  - Liposomal delivery was getting better but.....
    - Even today, requires high dose steroid pre-treatment
    - Inherently toxic approach
    - Not easily disposed to targeting
- Roche had obtained rights to DPC (Dynamic Polyconjugates) with the acquisition of Mirus Bio but had not progressed to the clinic
  - Arrowhead felt that DPCs were ready to move to the clinic and held potential advantages over liposomes with respect to toxicity and targetability

# DPC™ for liver delivery of RNAi triggers

## DPC™

- Amphipathic polymer/peptide for endosomal escape
- Polymer/peptide amines “masked” with pH-labile moiety, unmasked in endosome
- Targeted to liver with NAG (ASGPr receptor on hepatocytes)
- Co-injected with RNAi trigger

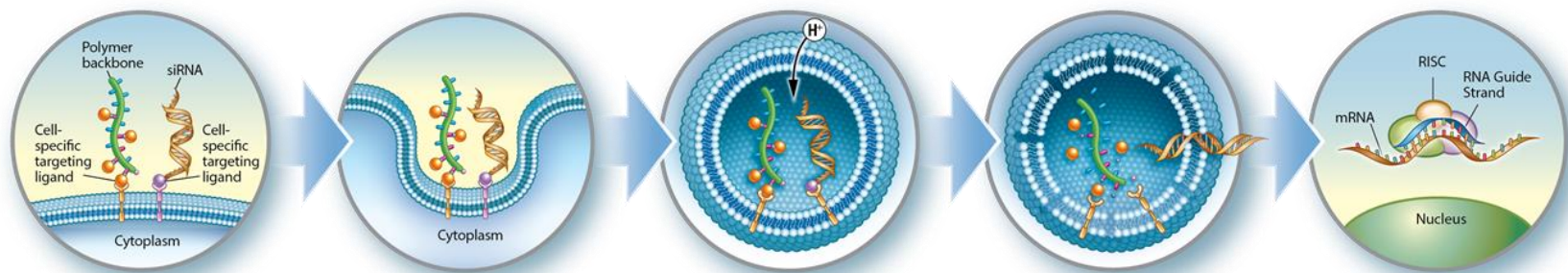


## RNAi Trigger

- Canonical siRNA or other format with minimal modifications
- Liver-tropic targeting ligand (eg. cholesterol)

**DPC and RNAi trigger do NOT form a complex, they are separately targeted to the liver**

# Mechanism of DPC-mediated siRNA delivery to cells



DPC™ peptide and RNAi trigger attach to their respective cell surface targets

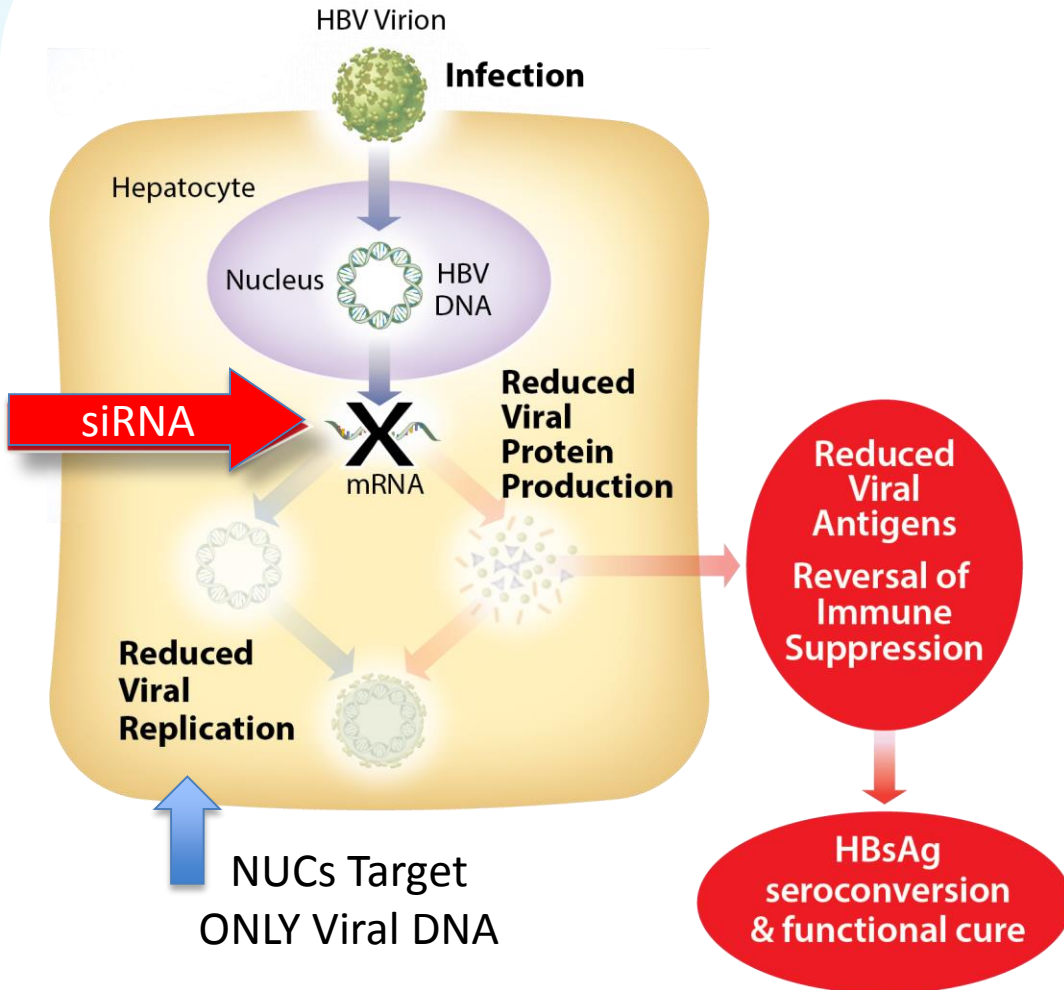
DPC™ peptide and RNAi trigger are internalized

DPC™ peptide and RNAi trigger are enclosed in endosomes. Low pH results in peptide unmasking

DPC™ peptide promotes endosomal escape of RNAi trigger into cell cytoplasm

RNAi trigger engages the cell's interference machinery, resulting in knockdown of target gene expression

# Simplified Theory of an HBV RNAi Therapeutic



## Silence Entire HBV Genome

### 1. "HBsAg Theory"

- Reducing HBsAg enables host immune system de-repression and long term control of virus

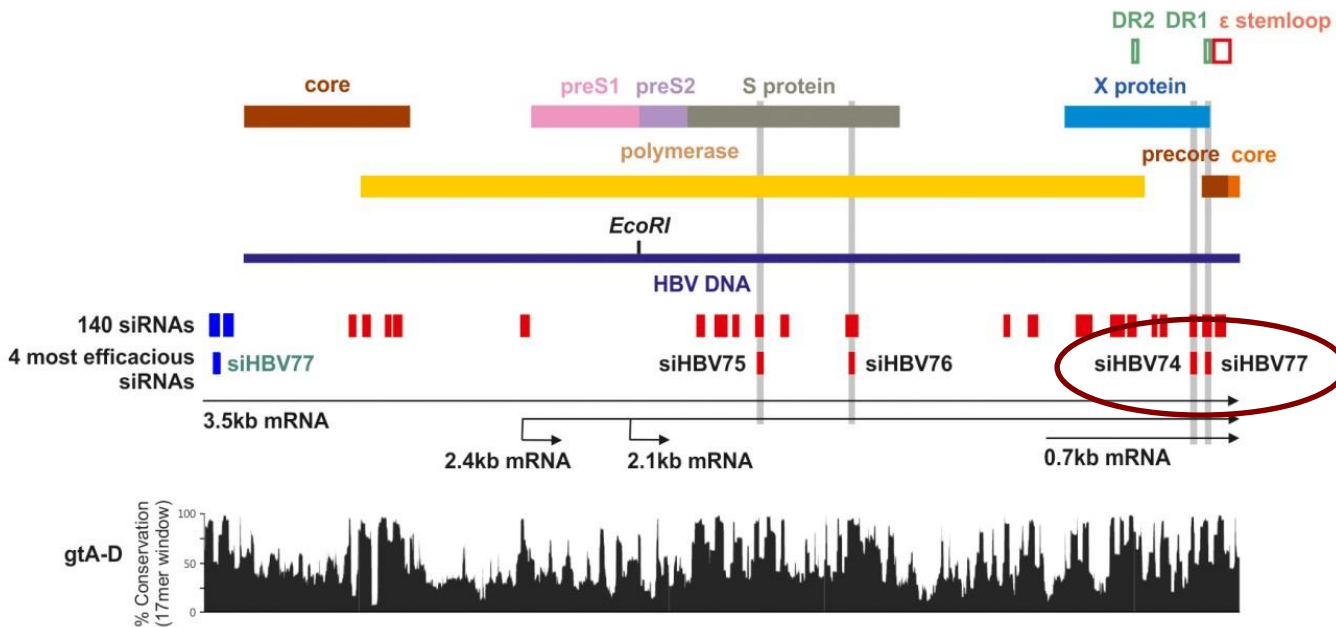
### 2. Destabilizing Viral Function

- Silencing all antigens could destabilize normal viral function
- Enable host immune system de-repression and long term control of virus

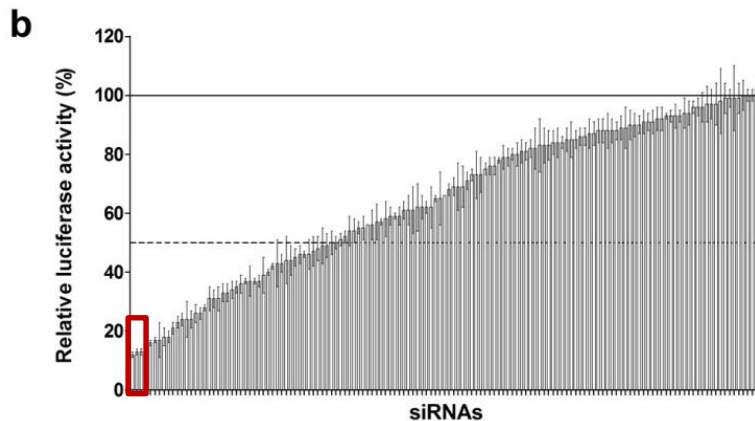
**ENABLE A FUNCTIONAL CURE**

# RNAi for treatment of chronic Hepatitis B

## *siRNA design and in vitro screening*

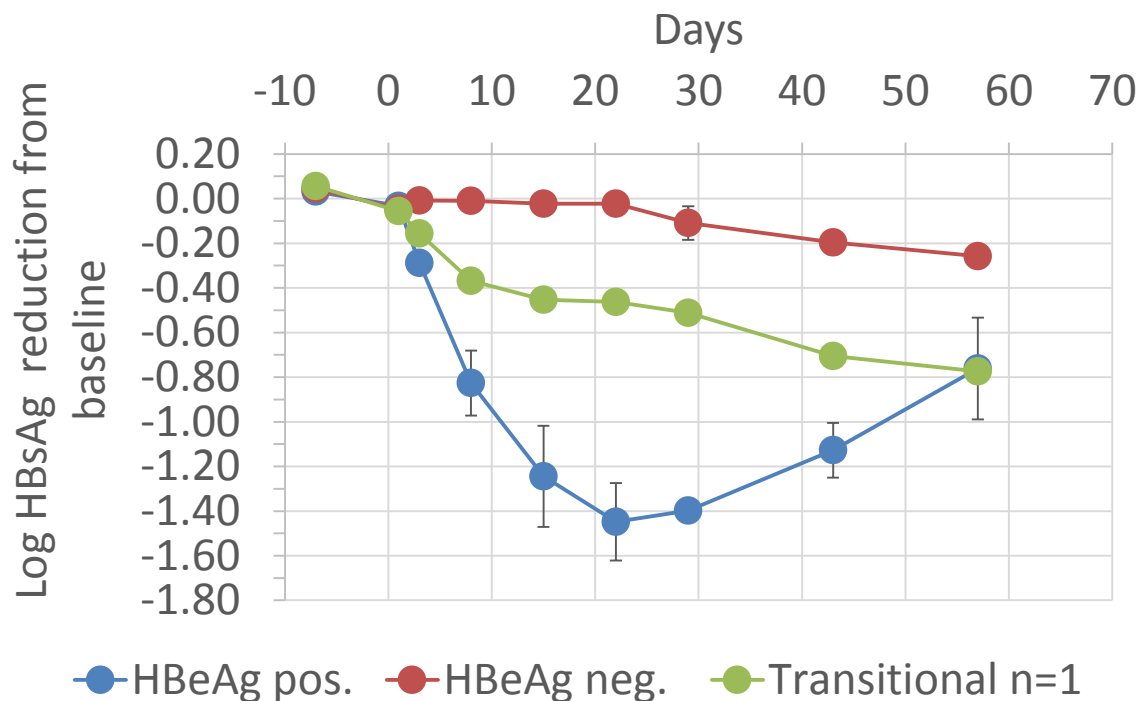


- Designed 140 siRNAs targeting conserved regions in GenBank HBV sequences (2,754)



- Screened candidate siRNAs in a cell culture system
- 4 highly potent siRNAs chosen for further testing in animal models
- siHBV-74 and siHBV-77 chosen as leads

## ARC-520 in treatment naïve chronic HBV patients:



- High level knockdown of HBsAg in HBeAg positive patients
- HBeAg negative patients respond less well
- HBeAg transitional patient is intermediate

HBeAg positive patients likely produce significant amounts of HBsAg from integrated DNA not targeted by ARC-520

# Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency

- AATD is a large scale orphan disease
  - Alpha-1 Foundation estimates 100,000+ in the US
  - Approximately 100,000+ in Europe
- Mutation in AAT gene (Z-AAT) leads to mis-folding of the protein and poor export from hepatocytes: low levels in circulation and accumulation in liver

## Pathophysiology

### Lung

Tissues susceptible to damage by neutrophil proteases: COPD



Treated with AAT enzyme replacement therapy

### Liver

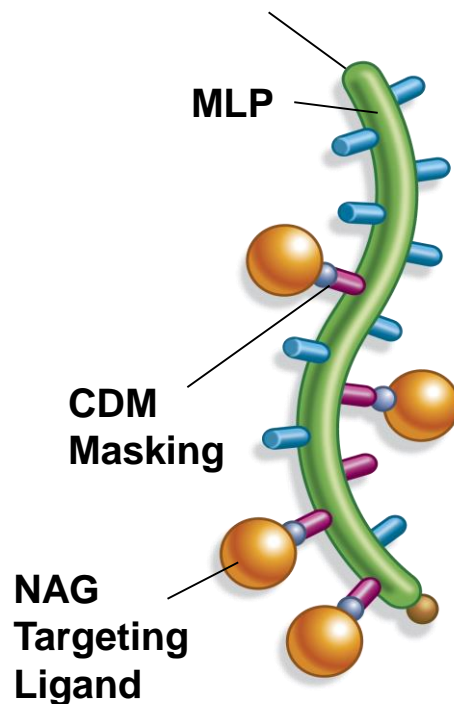
Accumulation of mutant Z-AAT protein can cause cirrhosis and HCC



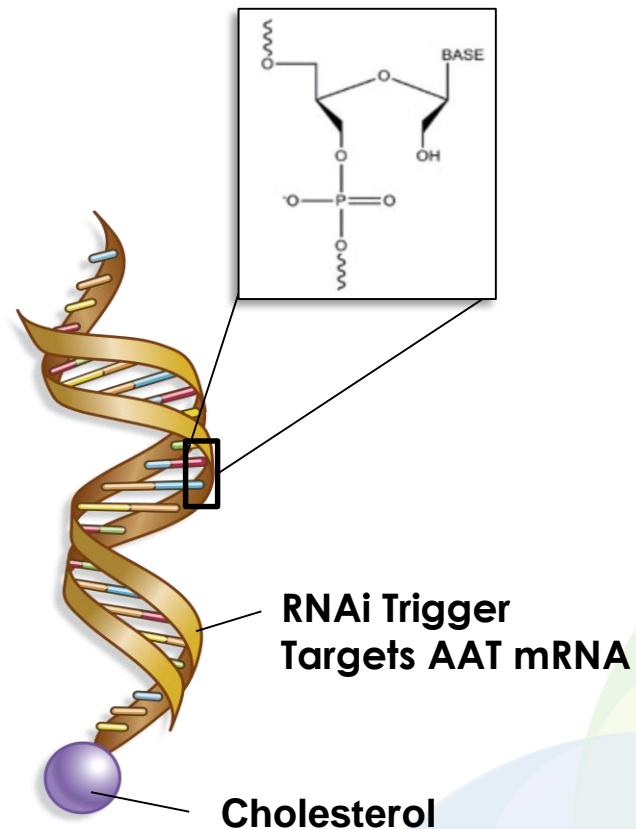
Currently no treatment

# ARC-AAT: An RNAi therapeutic for AATD-associated liver disease using Dynamic PolyConjugate (DPC™) technology

## DPC (ARC-EX1)

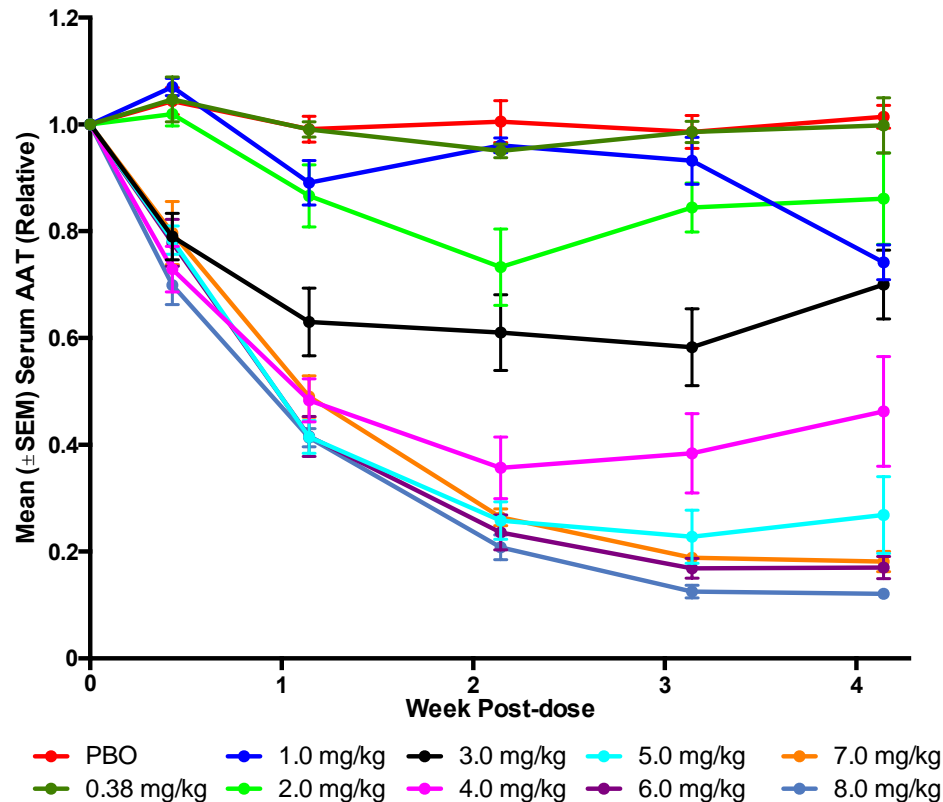


## RNAi Trigger (AAT-UNA)



MLP: melittin-like peptide  
CDM: carboxy-dimethylmaleamide  
NAG: N-acetyl-galactosamine

# ARC-AAT Dose-response Serum AAT Reductions in normal volunteers



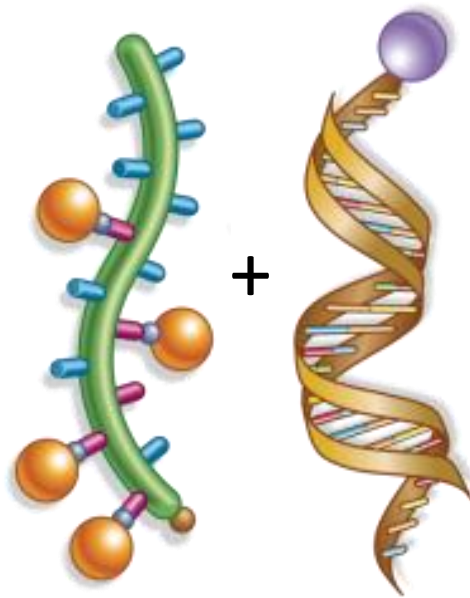
Dose Level (mg/kg)	3	4	5	6	7	8
Max KD	61.0%	76.1%	86.7%	87.1%	85.1%	89.8%
Mean Max KD ± SEM	45.3% ±6.8%	64.8% ±6.1%	78.1% ±4.4%	83.3% ±1.9%	82.6% ±1.3%	88.3% ±0.8%

# Just when things are going great.....

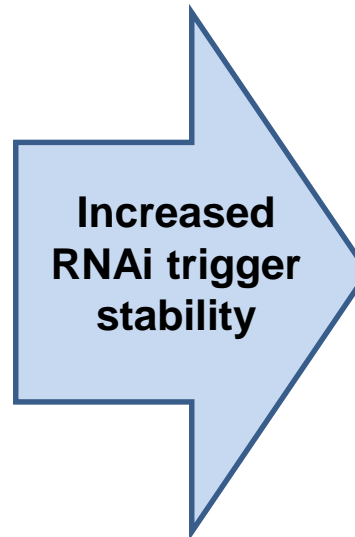
- Toxicology testing with ARC-520 and ARC-AAT had shown that cholesterol RNA conjugates were benign. High doses of Nag-MLP, however, could produce toxicity.
- At the doses used in the clinic, our DPC™ programs were proving to have good safety and tolerability
- In our third DPC program – ARC-521 – the highest dose tested was increased and resulted in NHP deaths leading to a regulatory hold. *Ultimately, all 3 programs were discontinued.*
- In the last 5 years, RNA chemistry has advanced to the point that with targeted delivery, knockdown approaching that seen with endosomal escape has emerged.
- **Arrowhead had already made the transition internally**

# Evolution of RNAi candidates at Arrowhead

**Intravenous administration,  
“active” endosomal release**



**ARC-EX1 +  
cholesterol-linked RNAi triggers**




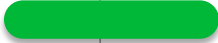





**Subcutaneous administration,  
stabilized trigger**



**Ligand trigger conjugates**

# Novel Drugs that Treat Intractable Diseases

Drug	Indication	Pre-clinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Launch
ARO-HBV	Hepatitis B					
ARO-AAT	Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency					
ARO-F12	Thrombosis and Angioedema					
ARO-HIF2	Clear Cell, Renal Cell Carcinoma					
ARO-LPA	Cardiovascular Disease		 Partnered with Amgen			
ARO-AMG1	Cardiovascular Disease					

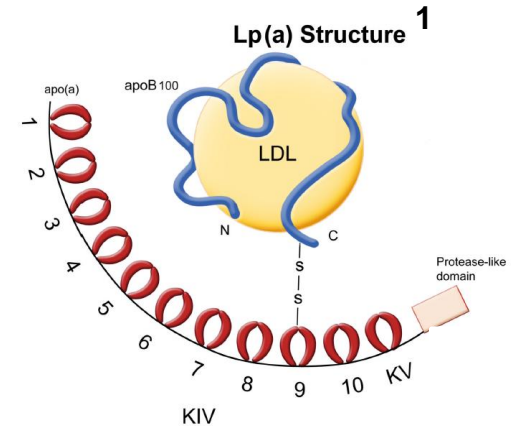
Diverse pipeline targeting high value, underserved indications

Discovery/development stage partnerships extract maximum value from platform

Clinical experience with HBV and AATD

# Lp(a) background

- **Lp(a) is a heterogeneous lipoprotein particle expressed predominantly in liver**
  - Lipid rich particle composed of apolipoprotein(a) linked to LDL via a disulfide bond to apoB-100
  - Restricted to humans and non-human primates
- **Lp(a) levels in humans are genetically defined**
  - Levels not changed significantly with diet, exercise, etc.
  - ~25% of US population has >30 mg/dL (normal levels: 0.1 – 25 mg/dL)
- **Lp(a) is an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease (CVD) through its atherogenic potential**
  - Higher levels of Lp(a) correlate with increased risk of CVD<sup>2-4</sup>
  - Indications include myocardial infarction, stroke, calcific aortic valve stenosis



<sup>1</sup>Hoover-Plow J and Huang M (2013) Metabolism 62:479-491

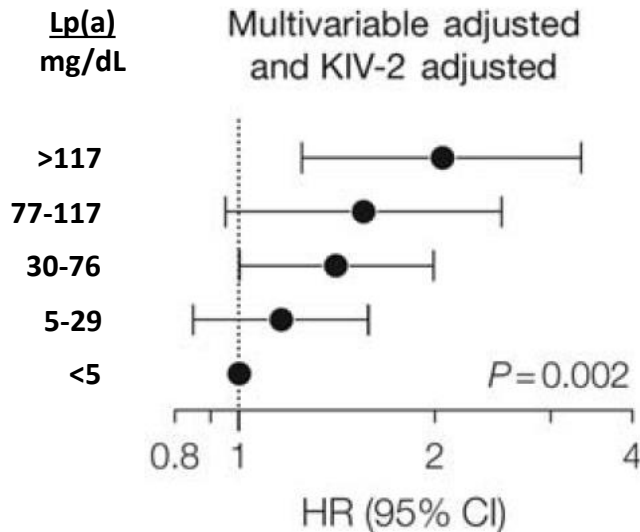
<sup>2</sup>Nordestgaard BG *et al.* (2010) Eur. Heart J. 31:2844-2853

<sup>3</sup>Clarke R *et al.* (2009) N. Engl. J. Med. 361:2518-2528

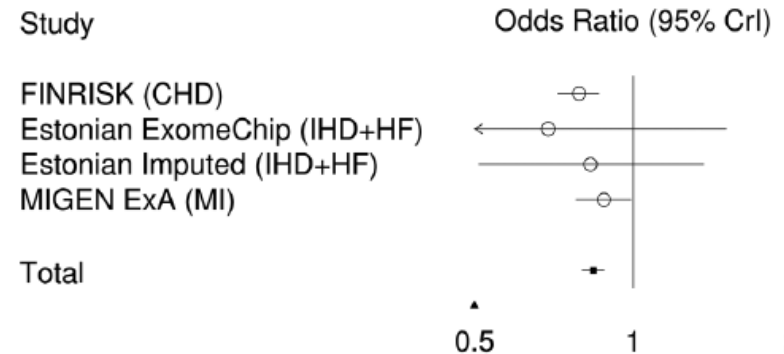
<sup>4</sup>Kampstrup PR *et al.* (2009) JAMA 310:2331-2339

# Lp(a) levels correlate with CV disease risk

## Elevated Lp(a) – increased risk



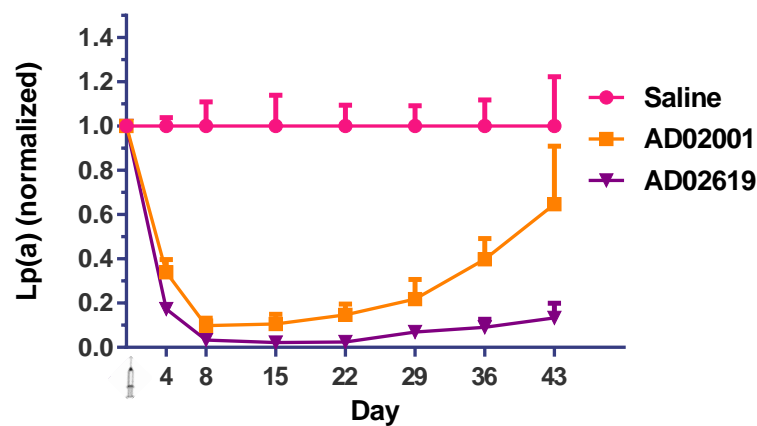
## LoF variants exhibit reduced risk



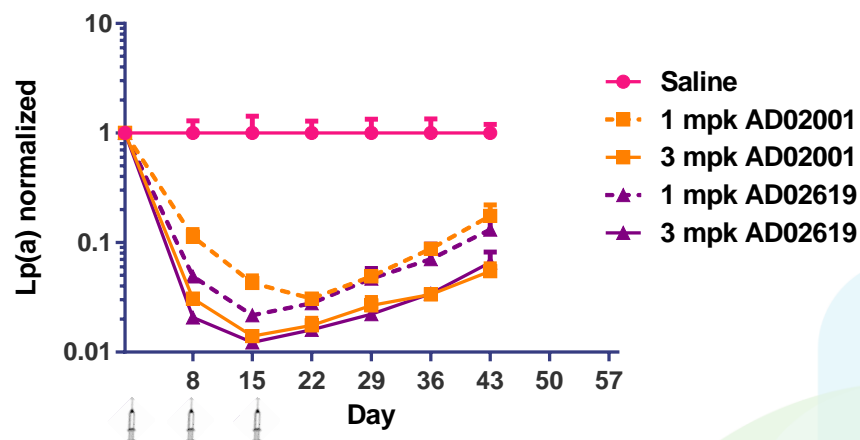
1. Nordestgaard *et al.* (2010) *Eur. Heart J.* 31:2844
2. Clarke *et al.* (2009) *NEJM* 361:2518
3. Kampstrup *et al.* (2009) *JAMA* 310:2331
4. Lim, E.T. *et al.* (2014) *PLoS Genet* 10:e1004494

# SQ RNAi trigger development – dose regimens

***Single 3 mpk SQ RNAi trigger dose in Lp(a) Tg Mice, n=3 per group***



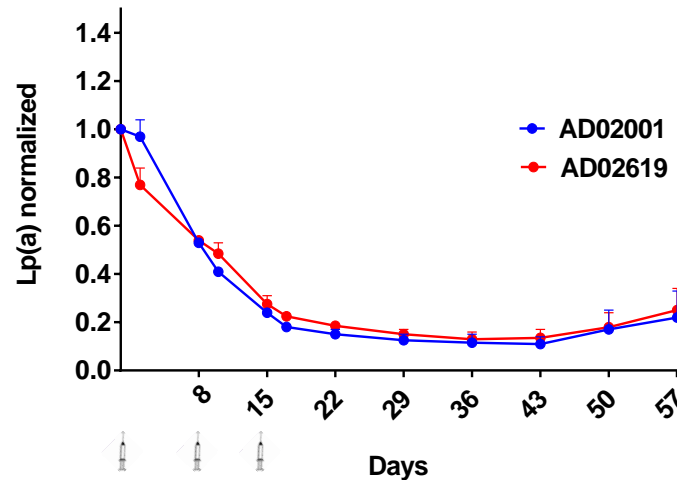
***Three weekly 3 mpk SQ RNAi trigger doses (3xqw) in Lp(a) Tg mice, n=4 per group***



- Dose response observed for both AD02001 and AD02619
- In multiple-dose studies, both AD02001 and AD02619 exhibit greater depth and duration of knockdown compared to a single dose

# Trigger Evaluation in NHPs

Three weekly 3 mg/kg SQ RNAi trigger doses (3xqw), n=2/group



- RNAi triggers AD02001 and AD02619 exhibit similar depth and duration of Lp(a) reduction in NHP
- Lp(a) reduction of 85-90% observed between days 29 and 43, with >75% knockdown at 6 weeks after the final dose

Third and fourth generation triggers show continued potency gains<sup>1</sup>

# Why are we developing Factor 12 ?

- The long sought alternatives to Coumadin - after a slow start - are now major drugs.
  - They are decidedly easier to use
  - They produce better outcomes
  - Reversibility agents should be available soon
- However, the risk of bleeding remains significant and, as seen by the constant tort lawyer ads, leaves a major unmet need still unsatisfied
- Also, adherence remains a bane and undoubtedly effects real world outcomes in the post-elective surgery setting
  - A 2-3 times delivered subQ administered in office/hospital would eliminate this concern
- Arrowhead's Factor 12 RNAi program is designed to address both issues

# F12 is an attractive target for RNAi therapeutics

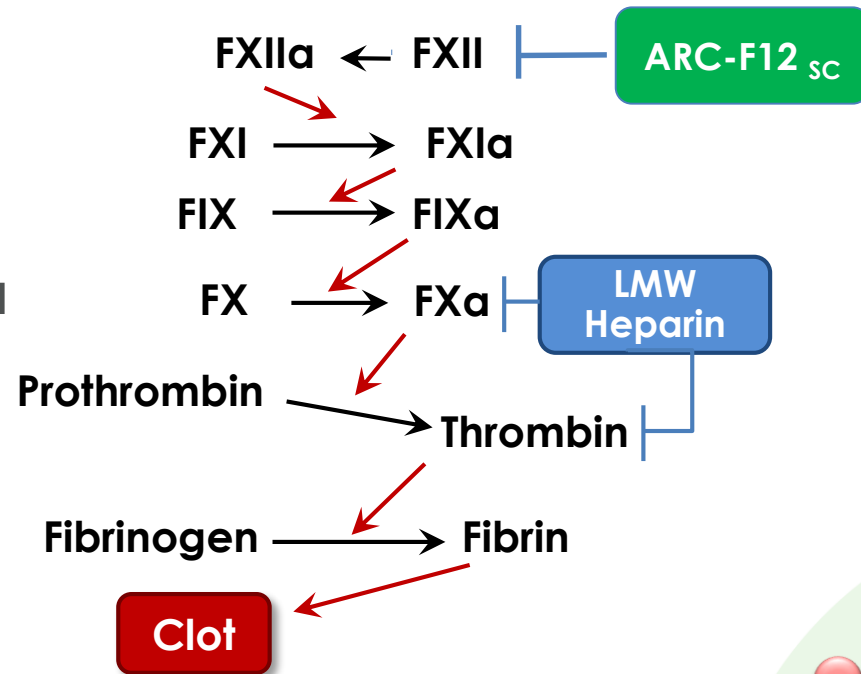
## Factor XII (F12)

- Key component of contact activation pathway
- Predominantly expressed in the liver; circulates in plasma

## F12 inhibition is genetically validated

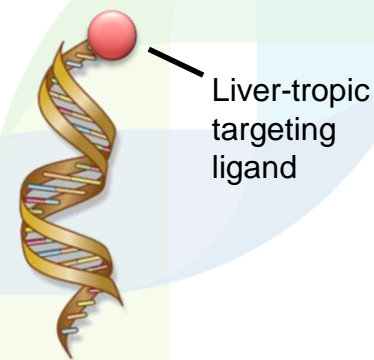
- F12-deficient mice:
  - viable and fertile<sup>4</sup>
  - do not show bleeding defects<sup>4,5</sup>
  - protected from thromboembolic disease<sup>5</sup>
- F12 deficiency in humans is not associated with either bleeding or thrombotic disorders<sup>1,2,3</sup>

## Contact (intrinsic) coagulation cascade



## ARO-F12 RNAi trigger

- Liver-tropic targeting ligand
- Injected subQ



<sup>1</sup> Girolami A. *et al.* (2004) *J. Thromb. Thrombolysis* 17:139–143

<sup>2</sup> Koster A. *et al.* (1994) *Br. J. Haematol.* 87:422–424

<sup>3</sup> Zeerleder S. *et al.* (1999) *Thromb. Haemost.* 82:1240–1246

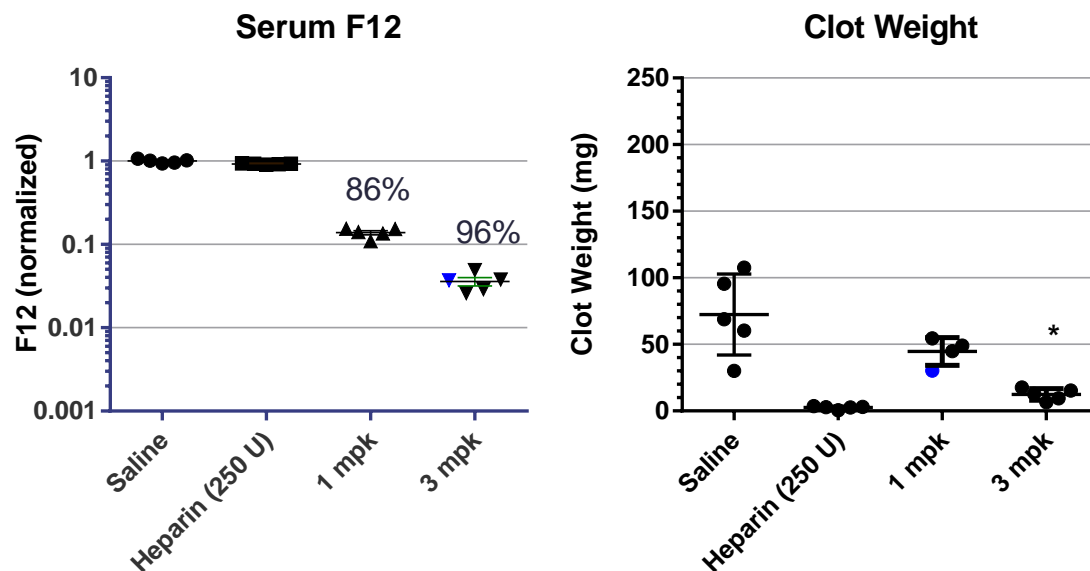
<sup>4</sup> Pauer, H. U., *et al.* (2004) *Thromb. Haemost.* 92:503

<sup>5</sup> Renne, T. *et al.* (2005) *J. Exp. Med.* 202:271

\* Figure modified from Albert-Weissenberger, C., *et al.* (2014) *Front. Cell Neurosci.* 8:345

# Rat arterio-venous shunt model – dose responsive

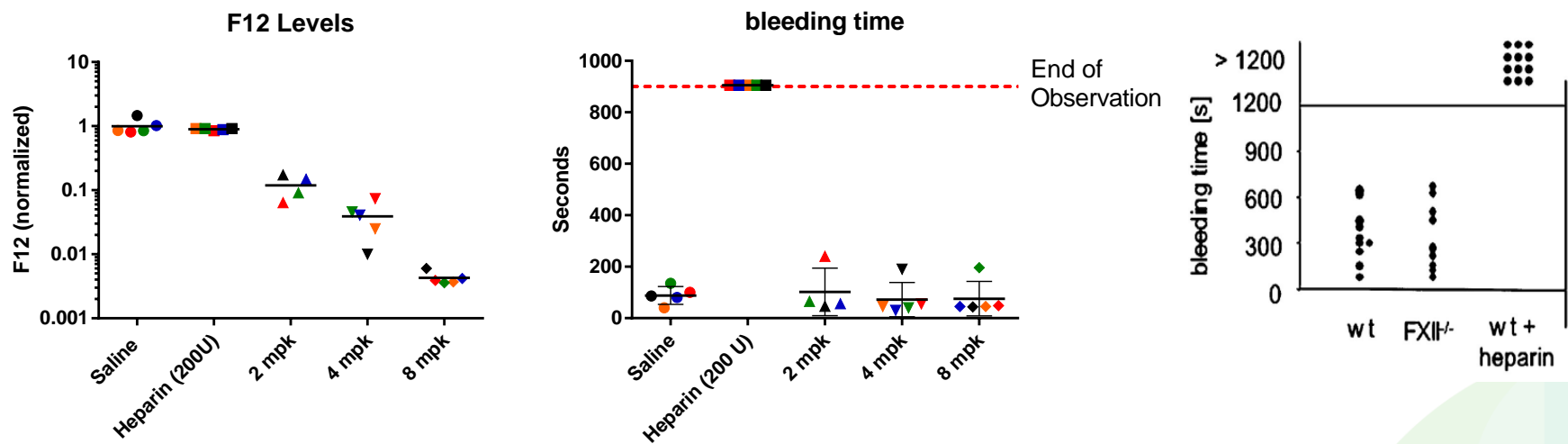
- **Measure thrombus weight by collection from Tygon tubing shunt**
- **Single dose ARO-F12, 14 days prior to assessment,  $n=5/\text{group}$**



- **Dose response observed for serum F12 levels and thrombus weight**
- **Statistically significant reduction in thrombus weight at >95% F12 knockdown ( $p=0.002$ )**

# No increase in bleeding risk in mouse model

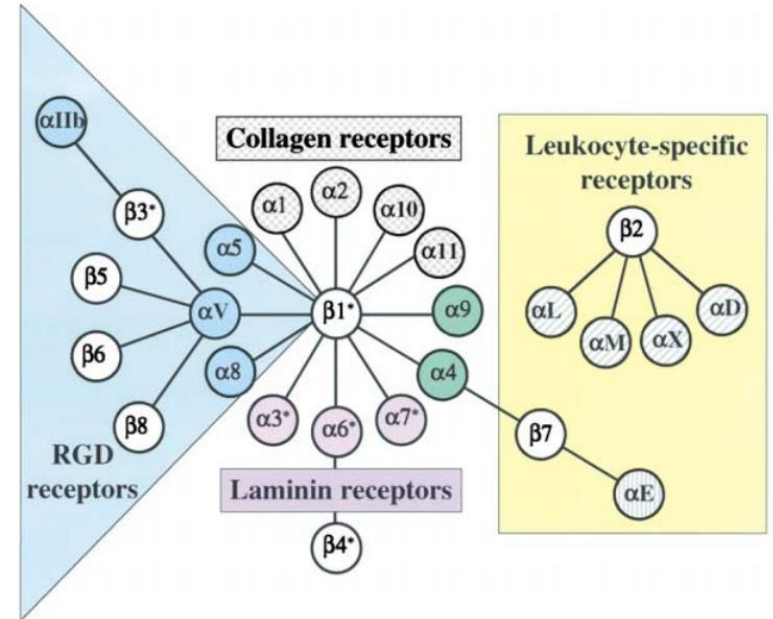
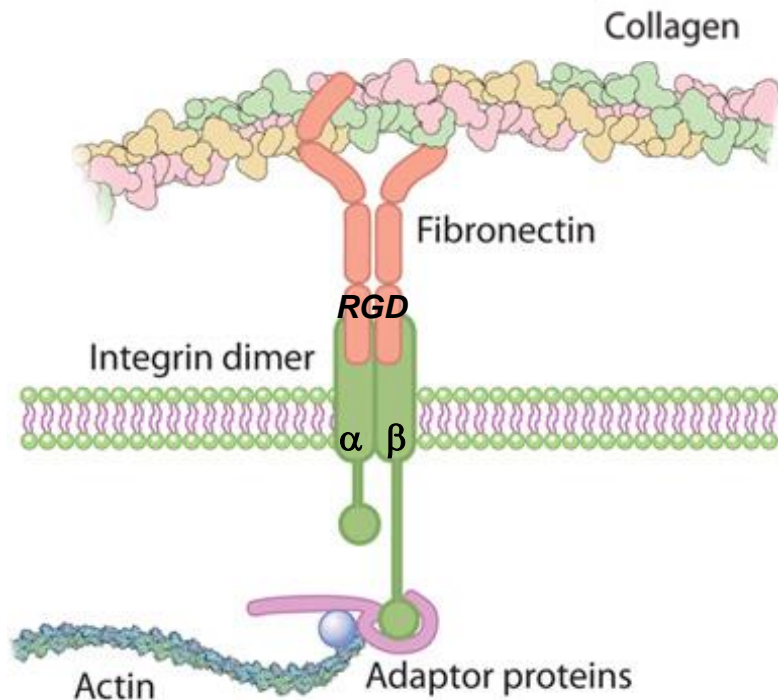
- *Transverse cut of tail vein, monitor time to clotting*
- *Single dose, 7 days prior to assessment, n=5/group*



- No increased bleeding observed, even with >99% knockdown of F12 levels
- Consistent with F12<sup>(-/-)</sup> mice showing no increase in bleeding over wild type controls

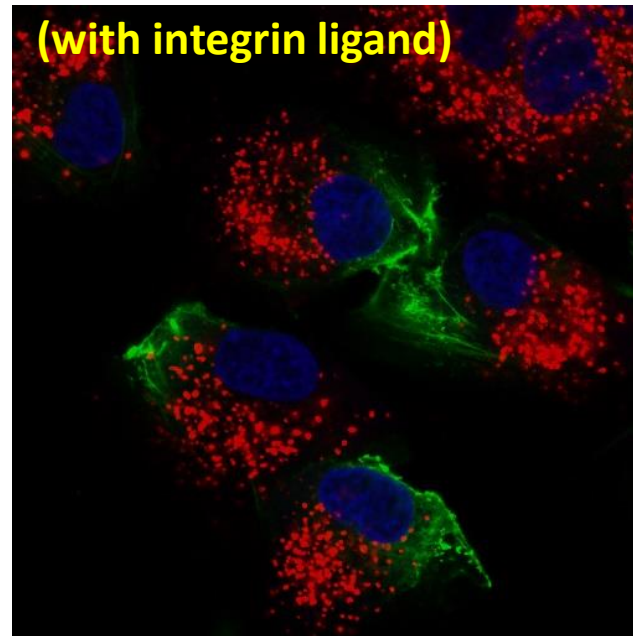
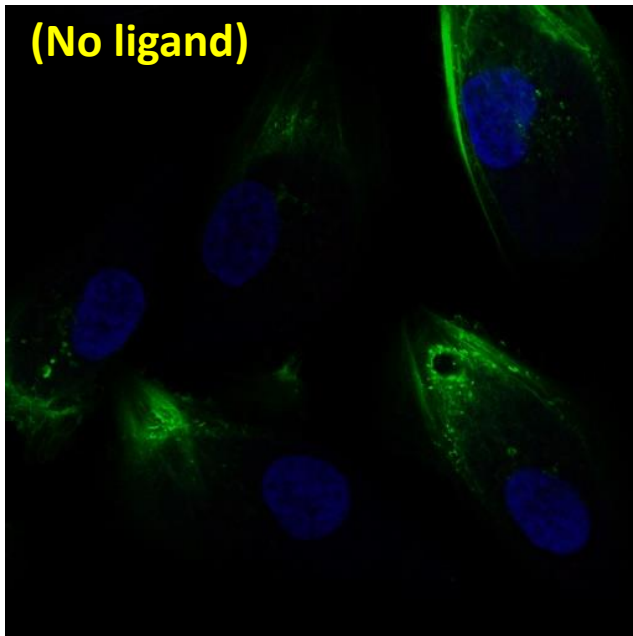
# Proprietary Tumor Targeting

- Targeting integrin receptors with proprietary RGD mimetic ligands
- Cell adhesion and signaling
- Heterodimers: 18  $\alpha$  and 8  $\beta$  subunits
- Diverse natural ligands: ECM, growth factors, etc.
- RGD mimetic: high-affinity, selective  $\alpha V$  integrin ligand



- $\alpha V$  integrins overexpressed in many tumors
- Promote angiogenesis and invasiveness
- $\alpha V$  integrin ligands: tumor delivery & imaging

# Ligand-dependent uptake in ccRCC tumor cell line



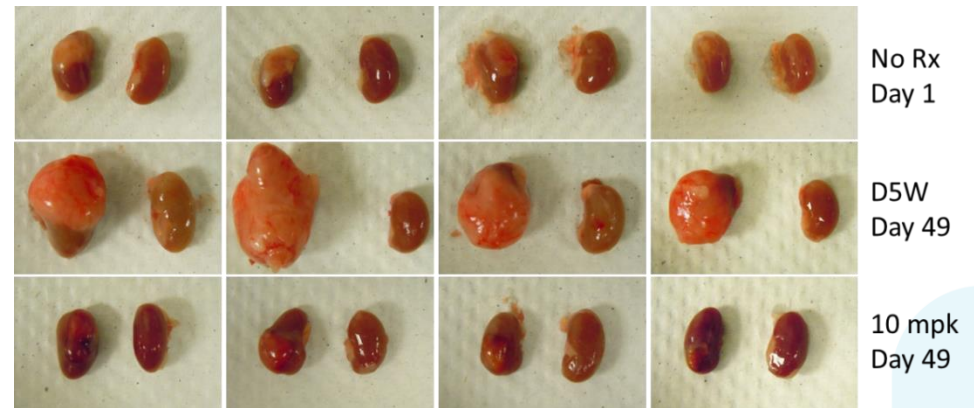
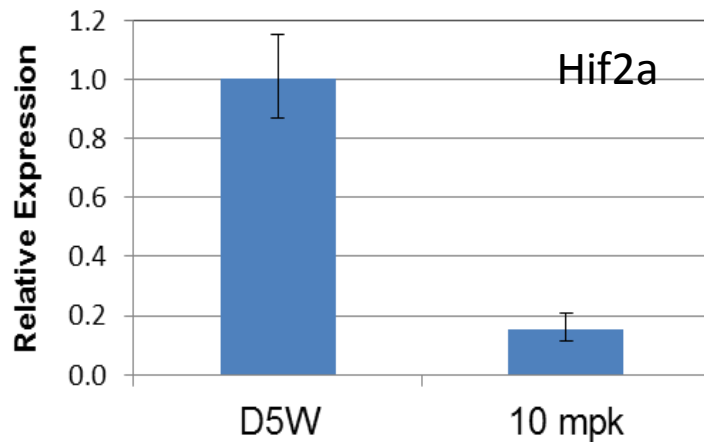
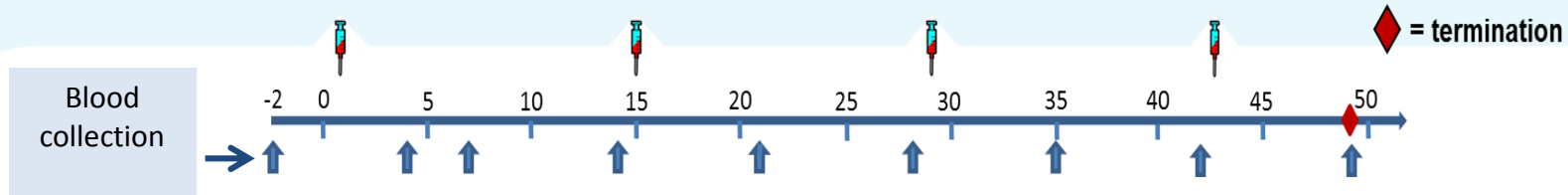
**Green:** Actin  
**Blue:** Nuclei  
**Red:** RGD-DPC

B Given, OTS, 2015

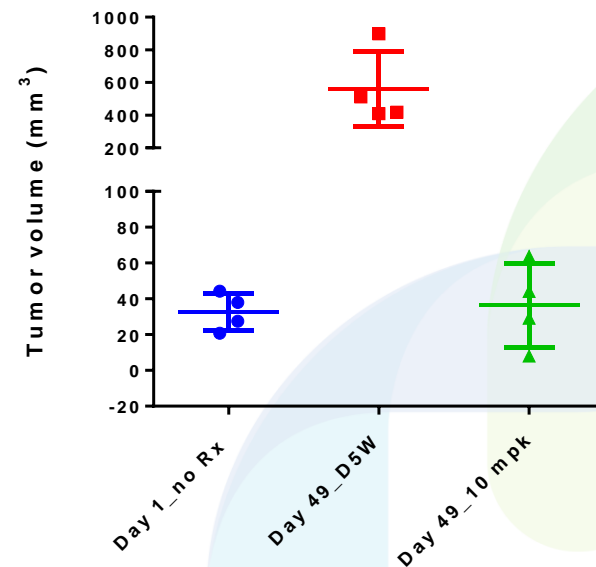
# HIF2 $\alpha$ is an important driver in ccRCC

- HIF2 $\alpha$  as gene target for clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC)
  - Normally expressed in response to low oxygen conditions
  - Overexpression of HIF2 $\alpha$  in tumors drives tumor growth and metastasis
  - Overexpression of HIF2 $\alpha$  is due to mutations in Von Hippel-Lindau protein which normally promotes degradation of HIF2 $\alpha$
  - 90% of ccRCC have Von Hippel-Lindau mutations

# Tumor growth inhibited after 4 bi-weekly doses in orthotopic ccRCC mice



- Tumor volumes unchanged in the treatment group, suggesting tumor stasis
- Histological examination revealed extensive tumor destruction
- Treatment was well tolerated



# What we've learned over the past 5 years

- Endosomal escape can be a powerful tool to achieve rapid release of intact RNAi triggers into the cytoplasm
  - We have demonstrated single dose knockdown nearing 2 logs, >3 logs with multiple dosing in humans
  - Tolerability in humans was good at therapeutically maximal doses
  - Toxic doses in NHPs could be fatal
  - Nag-MLP required IV delivery, which was not advantageous for marketing
- Using DPC<sup>TM</sup>s, we were able to achieve solid proof of concept in HBV and AAT, demonstrating the power of RNAi
- We are far advanced with ligand targeted conjugates for hepatic subcutaneous delivery in HBV, AAT, Lp(a), Factor 12 and other unannounced targets.
- We have also demonstrated successful extra-hepatic delivery in renal cell carcinoma
- Expect to see us back in clinical studies next year

# Arrowhead Madison

