

# SEEKING GENE THERAPY CURES

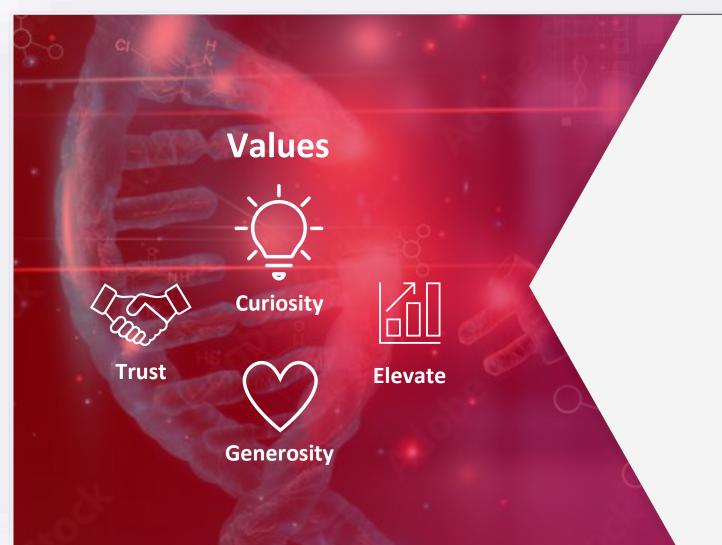
November 2024

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## **Vision:** Seeking Gene Therapy Cures

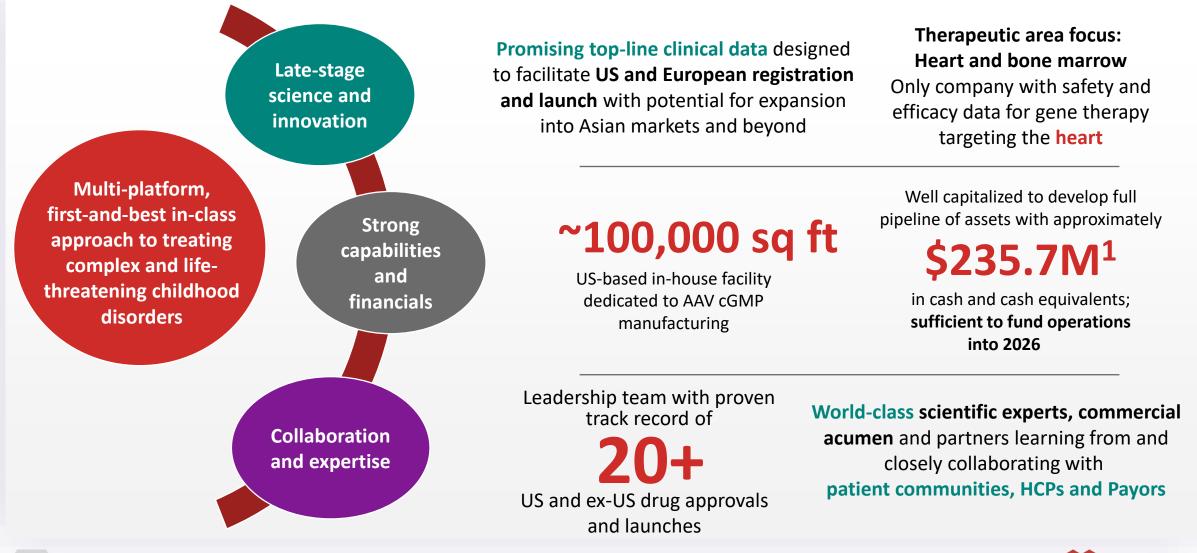


## Mission

To develop first-in-class and best-in-class curative gene therapies for patients with devastating diseases



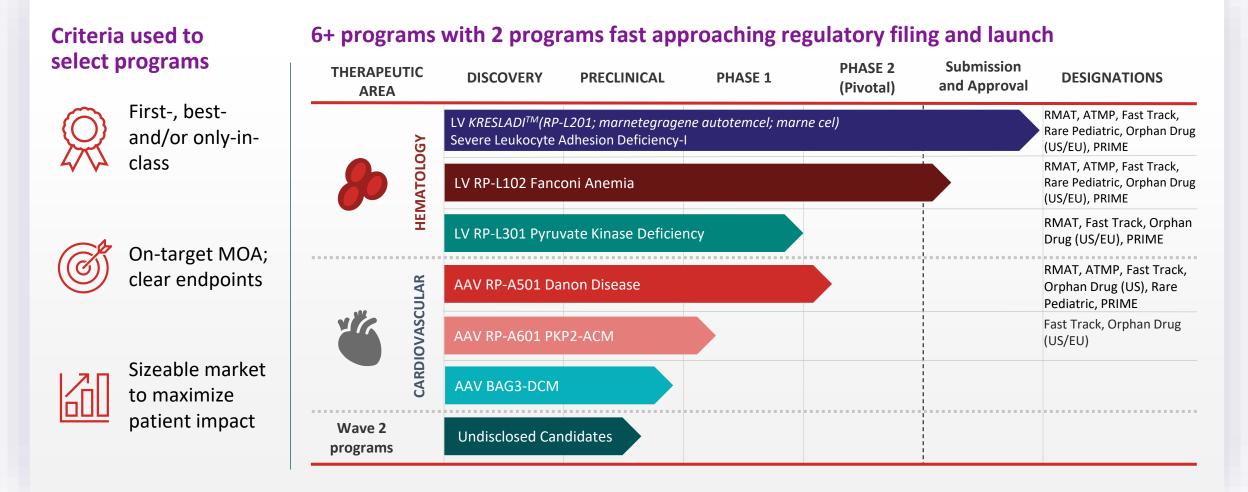
## A Fully Integrated Gene Therapy Company





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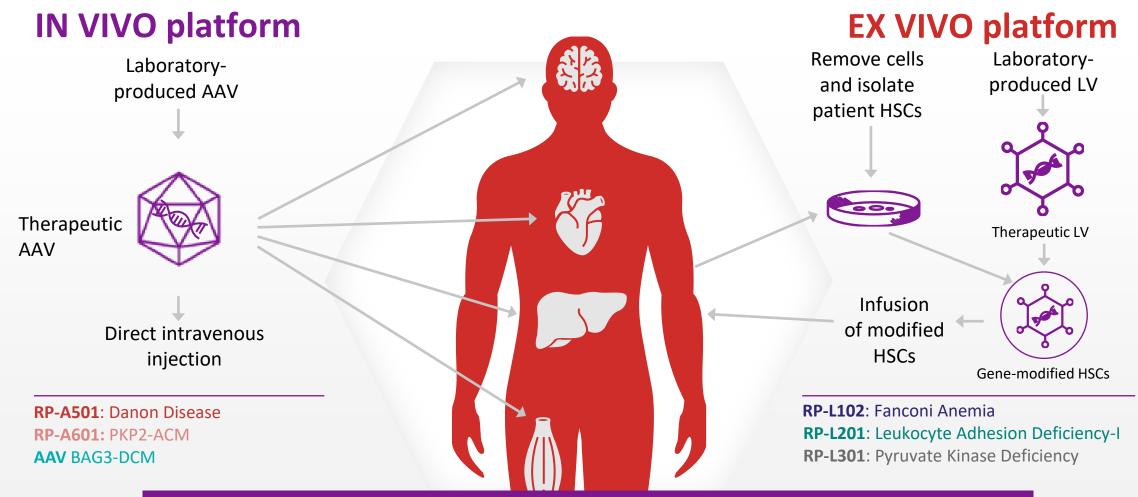
## Strong Science, Carefully-selected Assets and Smart Execution



AAV, adeno-associated virus; ACM, Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy; ATMP, advanced therapy medicinal product; BAG3, BLC2-associated athanogene 3 DCM, Dilated Cardiomyopathy; LV, lentiviral vector; MOA, mechanism of action; PKP2, plakophilin 2; PRIME, Priority Medicines; RMAT, regenerative medicine advanced therapy. KRESLADI<sup>TM</sup>, formerly RP-L201.



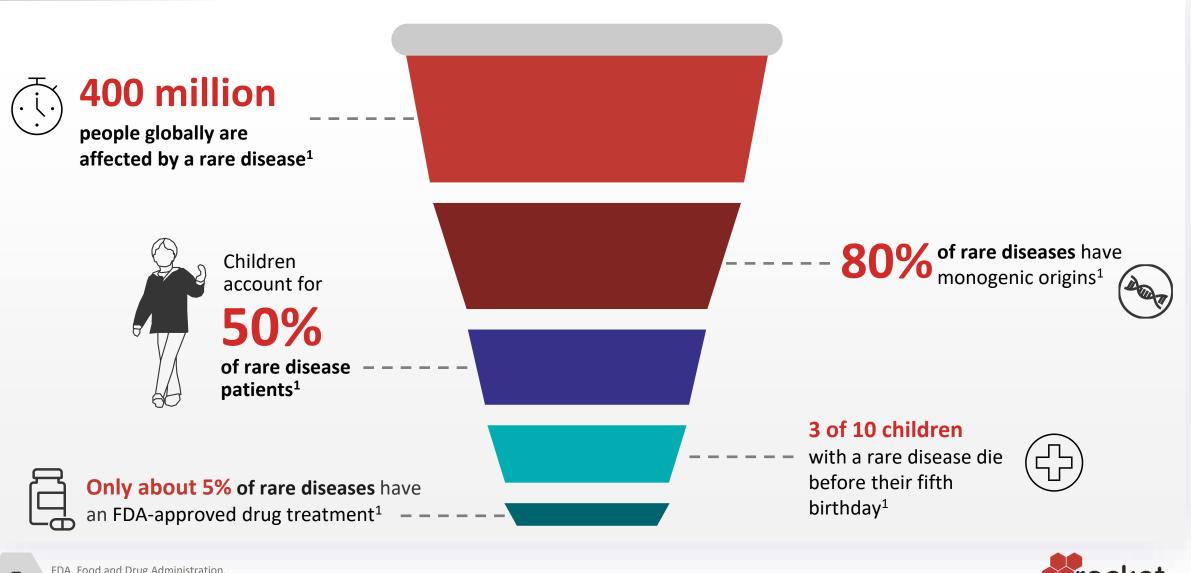
# Rocket Offers Multi-platform Gene Therapy Expertise



All Rocket therapies transfer full (non-truncated) coding sequence to target tissue

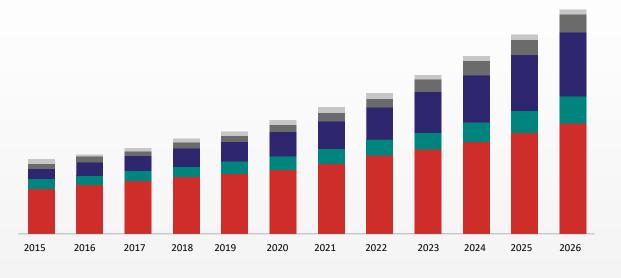


# **Rare Diseases** Are Associated With a Reduced Lifespan<sup>1</sup>



## Market for Rare Disease Treatment is Rising

# Rare disease treatment market by region, 2015-2026 (USD million)<sup>1</sup>



📕 North America 📕 Europe 📕 Asia Pacific 📕 Latin America 📗 MEA

## Rare disease treatment market by drug type, 2019 (USD million)<sup>1</sup>



- Rare disease treatment market is projected to grow from \$161.4 billion in 2020 to \$547.5 billion by 2030<sup>2</sup>
- CAGR of 13.1% projected by 2030<sup>2</sup>



Orphan drug approvals have increased

**4-fold**<sup>3</sup>

CAGR, compound annual growth rate.

1. Global Market Insights. Accessed April 2022. https://www.gminsights.com/industry-analysis/rare-disease-treatment-market 2. Global News Wire. Accessed August 2022.

https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2021/02/24/2181634/0/en/Global-Rare-Disease-Market-is-estimated-to-be-US-547-5-billion-by-2030-with-a-CAGR-of-13-1-during-the-forecast-period-by-PMI.html



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# **Costs** Associated With Rare Diseases Have Increased Exponentially<sup>1</sup>

### **Economic impact<sup>1</sup>**



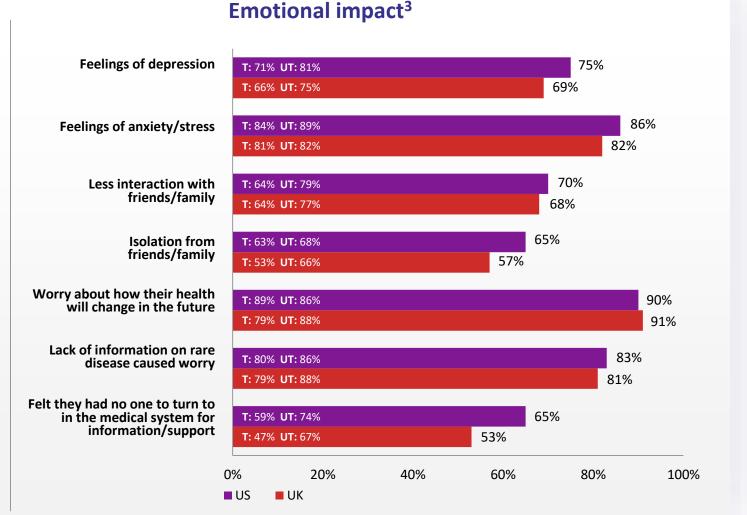
**26-fold** increase in average perpatient annual cost for orphan drugs\* compared to doubled costs for specialty and traditional drugs<sup>1</sup>



Patients with rare diseases or their caregivers are often compelled to leave the workforce<sup>2</sup>



Cost of **bone marrow** and **heart transplants & maintenance** is high



\*An orphan drug is a pharmaceutical agent developed to treat medical conditions, which, because they are so rare, would not be profitable to produce without government assistance T, treatable; UT, untreatable.

AHIP. Accessed April 2022. https://www.ahip.org/news/press-releases/drug-prices-for-rare-diseases-skyrocket-while-big-pharma-makes-record-profits (increase from 1998 to 2017)
 Every Life Foundation for Rare Diseases. Accessed April 2022. https://everylifefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/02/The\_National\_Economic\_Burden\_of\_Rare\_Disease\_Study\_Summary\_Report\_February\_2021.pdf
 Global Genes. Accessed April 2022. https://globalgenes.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/ShireReport\_1.pdf



## **Danon Disease: Serious Condition with High Unmet Medical Need**



Market Opportunity<sup>1</sup> – US and EU Prevalence of 15,000 to 30,000 individuals Annual incidence of 800 to 1,200 individuals



## **Disease Etiology**

 X-linked, dominant, monogenic disease

• Loss-of-function mutations in LAMP2



### **Therapeutic Challenges**

- Standard of care:
  - Heart transplant
- Limitations:
  - Considerable morbidity and mortality
  - Only ~20% of patients receive HTx<sup>2</sup>
  - Not curative of extracardiac disease



### **Clinical Manifestations**

### Impaired autophagy

- Prominent autophagic vacuoles
- Myocardial disarray

### Severe cardiomyopathy

### Other clinical manifestations

- Skeletal myopathy
- CNS manifestations
- Ophthalmologic manifestations
- Mortality secondary to heart failure or arrhythmia
- Males: Aggressive disease course, median overall survival: 19 years<sup>2,3</sup>
- Females: Delayed median presentation (~20 years later) due to additional X chromosome, highly morbid and fatal disorder<sup>2,3</sup>



CNS, central nervous system; *LAMP-2B*, lysosome-associated membrane protein 2B; HTx, heart transplant. 1. Rocket Pharmaceuticals data on file

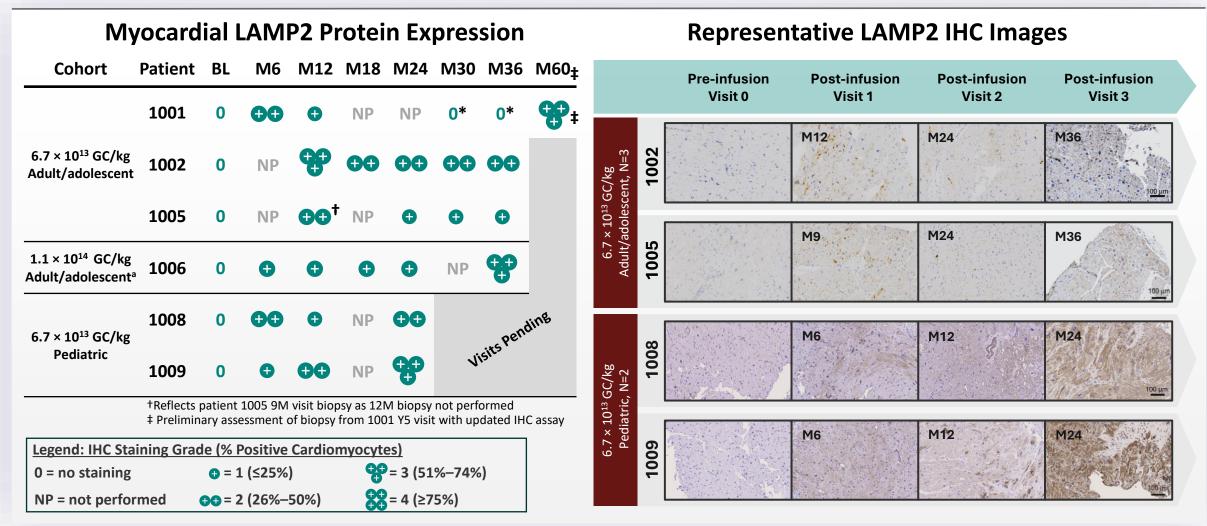
2. Boucek D, Jirikowic J, Taylor M. Natural history of Danon disease. Genet Med. 2011;13(6):563-568.

3. Brambatti M, Caspi O, Maolo A, et al. Danon disease: Gender differences in presentation and outcomes. Int J Cardiol. 2019;286:92-98.

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## **RP-A501** Phase I Study: Sustained LAMP2 Expression in Cardiomyocytes

Durable myocardial LAMP2 protein expression seen in all patients



a. Patient 1007 had LV systolic dysfunction (LVEF <40%) at enrollment and had progressive heart failure requiring transplantation 5m following RP-A501 treatment; this patient is currently stable 3 years post-transplant. Note: Grading of LAMP2 protein expression by IHC was done by a board-certified pathologist in a blinded fashion. The semi-quantitative grading reflects the extent of LAMP2 protein expressing cardiomyocytes in the entirety of biopsy sample according to the scale: Grade 0, negative staining; Grade 1 = <25%; Grade 2 = 26%-50%; Grade 3 = 51%-74%; Grade 4 = >75%.



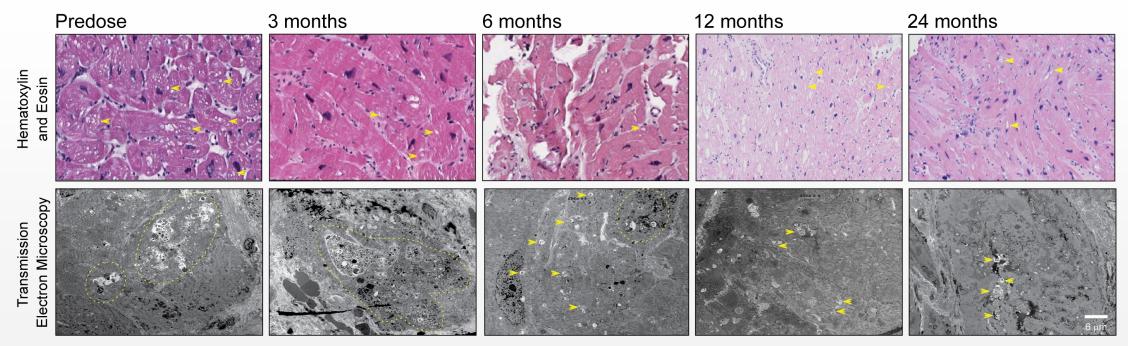
IHC=immunohistochemistry; LAMP2=lysosome-associated membrane protein 2; M=month(s); VCN=vector copy number.

\*Patient 1001 demonstrated Grade 0 LAMP2 protein IHC staining at the 30- and 36- month assessments, however, patient 1001's LAMP2B vector RNA and DNA (VCN) levels have persisted through 36 months of follow-up.

## **RP-A501** Phase I Study: Decreased Cardiomyocyte Vacuolization

Enhanced autophagy leads to improved myocardial ultrastructure and clinical phenotype

## **Representative Images from the Endomyocardial Biopsy of Patient 1008**



Dashed yellow lines mark myocardial regions with high densities of phagocytic vacuoles. Yellow arrowheads mark small clusters or individual phagocytic vacuoles



## **RP-A501** Phase I Study: Benefit Observed Across All Key Parameters

Early LAMP2, BNP, ThI changes associated with sustained clinical improvement and guided Phase 2 endpoint selection

Cohort	Patient	Age at Most RV (y)	Most Recent Visit (mo)	LVEF BL to RV (%)	Δ LVMI,* BL to RV (g/m <sup>2.7</sup> )	∆ IVSd, BL to RV (mm)	Δ LVPWd, BL to RV (mm)	Δ NT-proBNP, BL to RV (ng/L)	Δ cTnl,† BL to RV (ng/mL)	∆ NYHA Class	Δ KCCQ-12 OS, BL → RV
1:Low Dose Adult/ Adolescent	1001	22.3	54	57 to 64	-33%, 85 to 56.9	-6%, 19.8 to 18.6	-20%, 18.8 to 15	-17%, 336 to 279	-99% 0.6 to 0.01	II to I	+52, 44 to 96
	1002	24.9	54	55 to 66	-48%, 260.2 to 135.3	-52%, 60.1 to 28.6	-49%, 39.1 to 19.8	-93%, 5119 to 351	-96%, 1.46 to 0.06	ll to I	+27, 64 to 91†
	1005	21.8	42	65 to 59	-11%, 98.2 to 87.3	-10%, 30.9 to 27.8	-27%, 32.1 to 23.4	+16%, 841 to 975	-33%, 0.28 to 0.19	ll to I	+7, 77 to 84
2:High Dose Adult/ Adolescent	1006	23.9	36	62 to 51	-7%, 68.6 to 63.6	+5%, 18.0 to 19.0	-27%, 24.0 to 17.4	-65%, 720 to 249	-39%, 0.47 to 0.29	ll to I	+9, 79 to 89
3:Low Dose Pediatric	1008	14.4	24	74 to 78	-38%, 141.5 to 87.8	-19%, 42.4 to 34.2	+1%, 22.8 to 23.1	-78%, 1629 <sup>‡</sup> to 360 <sup>‡</sup>	-85%, 1.78 to 0.27	ll to I	+27, 50 to 77
	1009	13.7	24	77 to 77	-13%, 82.0 to 71.2	+12%, 18.5 to 20.8	-3%, 14.9 to 14.4	-48%, 1912 to 998	-82%, 1.08 to 0.20	II to I	+30, 52 to 82

\* Centrally evaluated (blinded) MRI data were utilized for LVMI when available. All other measurements of cardiac structure and function reflect centrally evaluated (blinded) echocardiogram data.

Improved <sup>†</sup>Central laboratory assessment of cTnI were performed on cryopreserved and non-cryopreserved samples. Values for cTnI from high-sensitivity and earlier tests. high-sensitivity and earlier assay are expressed in ng/mL.

BL=Baseline; BNP=Brain Natriuretic Peptide; cTnI=cardiac troponin I; ICD=Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator; IVSd=Intraventricular Septum in diastole; KCCQ=Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire; NT-Pro-BNP=N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide; NYHA=New York Heart Association; LV=Left Ventricle; LVEF=Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction; LVMI=Left Ventricular Mass Index, LVPWd=Left Ventricular Posterior Wall in diastole, RV=(Most) Recent Visit.



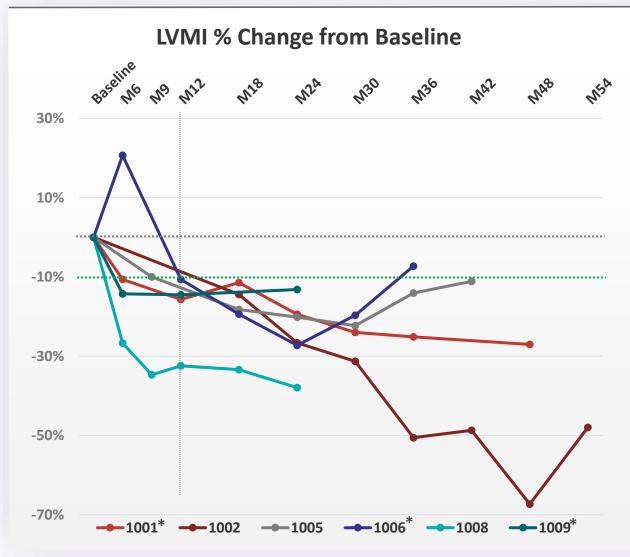
Worsened

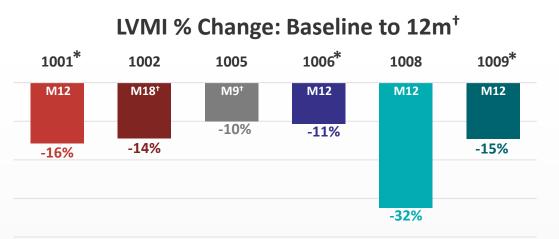
Stabilized

Data cut-off: April 19, 2024.

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# **RP-A501** Phase 1 Study: Sustained Improvements in LV Mass Index





### LVMI % Change: Baseline to Most Recent Visit\*



All patients showed ≥10% LVMI decrease at ~12m; improved or sustained at most recent visit

\* Where possible, cardiac MRI assessments shown (patients 1001, 1006, and 1009); otherwise, echocardiogram data presented. All assessments were conducted by a single reviewer blinded to both patient and timepoint, except for Patient 1001 cardiac MRI data, which includes reads from multiple reviewers. Patient 1001 most recent visit with MRI assessment was at 48m



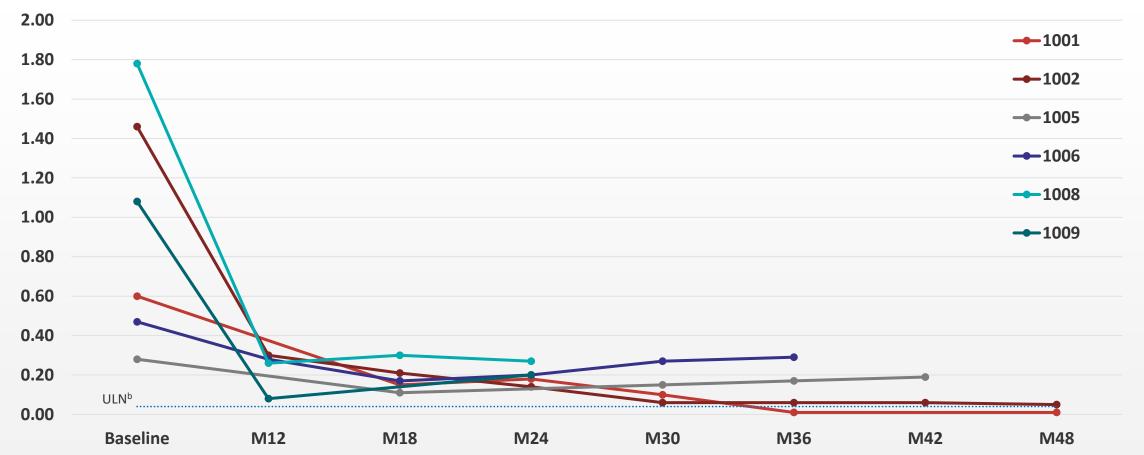
<sup>†</sup> Utilized 9m or 18 m data when 12m assessment was not done.
 LVMI, left ventricular mass index; MRI, magnetic resonance imaginary

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LVMI, left ventricular mass index; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; m, month(s). Data cut-off: April 19, 2024.

# **RP-A501** Phase 1 Study: Sustained Reductions in Cardiac Troponins





<sup>a</sup>Visits not conducted, and results pending or unavailable at various timepoints; data shown are cTnI levels performed on high-sensitivity and older assays. Values from both assays are expressed in nanograms per milliliter for consistency.



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cTnI, cardiac troponin I; M, month(s); ULN, upper limit of normal.

<sup>b</sup>Representative ULN: 0.04 ng/mL.

## Insights from Danon Disease Patients Treated on the Phase 1 Trial

He can walk upstairs without being short of breath or having to stop half-way. He doesn't have chest pain or fast heart rates like he used to. Another amazing thing we have seen is about 4 months after his therapy trial he started working and stopped using his motorized scooter altogether. -Patient 1005

Prior to therapy, he would say "my wish is not to die young." After gene therapy, we see him smile more because he was able to hold down a steady part-time job and can live independently in an apartment of his own. He is living a life he didn't think would be possible. –Patient 1006

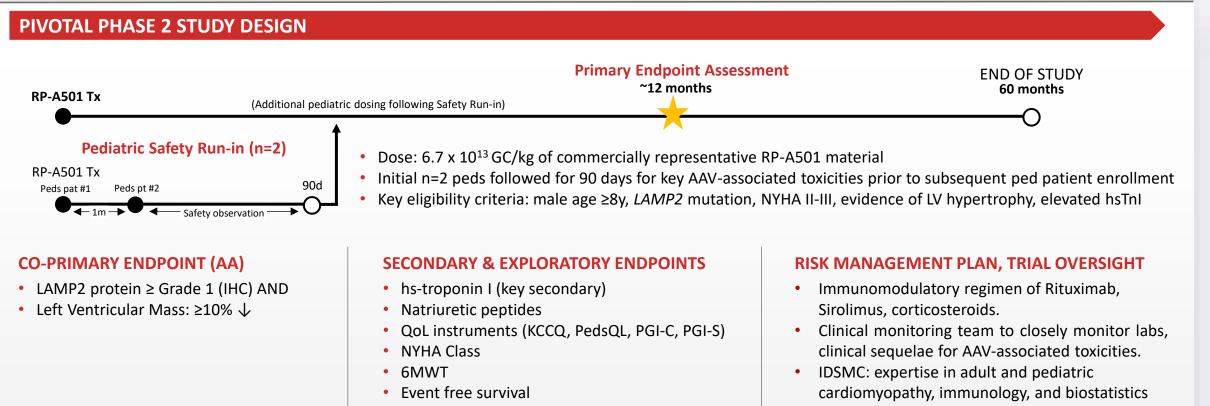
He went to overnight summer camp on his own for the first time and is no longer out of breath walking up stairs. -Patient 1008

He is now able to exercise on a more regular basis. After treatment, he was able to participate in an organized walk with his father completing most of the 10K course. -Patient 1009



## Phase 2 Trial Design – 12 Patients with 12-Month Primary Endpoint Duration

Pivotal, global, single-arm, open label study



- Treatment emergent safety events
- Actigraphy

### CONCURRENT NATURAL HISTORY STUDY

6MWT, 6-minute walk test; hsTnI, high-sensitivity I; IDSMC, Independent Data Safety and Monitoring Committee; KCCQ, Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire; LAMP2, lysosome-associated membrane protein 2; LV, left ventricular; NYHA, New York Heart Association; PedsQL, Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory; PGI-C, Patient Global Impression of Change; PGI-S, Patient Global Impression of Severity; QoL, guality of life; Tx, treatment.



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## **Primary Endpoint Reasonably Likely to Predict Clinical Benefit**

*Justification for use of LAMP2 protein expression and LV Mass* 

### WT Full Length LAMP2 Protein Expression

- Mutation of LAMP2 is root cause of Danon disease
- Epidemiologic support: even modest levels of LAMP2 confer a 2-decade survival advantage in female patients
- RP-A501 delivers full coding sequence of WT LAMP2 gene
- Pre-clinical LAMP2 restoration conferred histologic, functional and survival benefits in LAMP2 knock-out model<sup>1</sup>
- Phase 1: LAMP2 expression associated with decreased vacuolar area, improved myofibrillar disarray, clinical improvement

## Left Ventricular Mass

- Largest known hearts are Danon disease hearts
- Severity of the cardiomyopathy in Danon disease is the major prognostic factor<sup>2</sup>
- Retrospective natural history shows year-over-year increases in LV mass in Danon disease patients
- Phase 1: Consistent and significant reductions in LV mass as early as 6 months by echocardiography and cardiac MRI

### Primary Endpoint Will Be Interpreted in a Clinical Context:

- All components are measurable and unlikely to improve in the absence of a true treatment effect
- Primary endpoint will be assessed in the context of biomarkers, symptoms, QoL, clinical events derived from secondary endpoints and concurrent natural history study
- Phase 1 trial: LAMP2 expression and LV Mass improvements seen as early as 6 months in pediatric subjects with updated immunomodulation regimen



# In-House Manufacturing to Support Danon Pivotal Study and Commercial Production

- 2 Successful Danon AAV cGMP batches produced in Q4 2022
- Superior specifications to Phase I material; allow for full dosing with lower total viral particles, potentially further improving safety profile
  - *Productivity:* ~3X increase in number of patient treatments per batch
  - Product Quality: Significant increase in full versus empty viral particles
  - *Product Comparability:* All attributes tested to date are comparable or improved
- Regulatory progress and production capacity can support pivotal study <u>and</u> commercialization
  - FDA clearance on continued utilization of HEK-293 cell-based process through commercial
  - FDA alignment on comparability approach
  - Potency assay developed in-house

Overall, in-house cGMP manufacturing delivers commercial-ready product with higher yield, improved quality, and potential for enhanced safety profile



# **RP-L102 for Fanconi Anemia** Complementation Group A



Fanconi Anemia (A, C, and G)

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Market Opportunity<sup>1</sup> – US and EU Prevalence of 5,500 to 7,000 individuals Annual incidence of 200 to 275 individuals



## 🔿 Disease etiology

- FA-A is an autosomal recessive disease caused by FANCA
  - gene mutations
- FA proteins enable DNA repair
- FA-A accounts for 60% to 70% of FA cases



### Therapeutic challenges<sup>2</sup>

### Standard of care:

Allogeneic HSCT

### Limitations:

- Significant toxicities, especially for patients who do not have an HLAidentical sibling donor (~80%)
- 100-day mortality
- GvHD
- Increased long-term cancer risk



### **Clinical manifestations**

### Disorder of DNA repair characterized by:

- Progressive BMF; 80% of patients experience BMF within first decade of life<sup>3</sup>
- Predisposition to hematologic malignancies and solid tumors

Gene therapy approach: Selective advantage of corrected cells allows for **ex-vivo LV therapy <u>without conditioning</u>**; highly favorable benefit risk profile

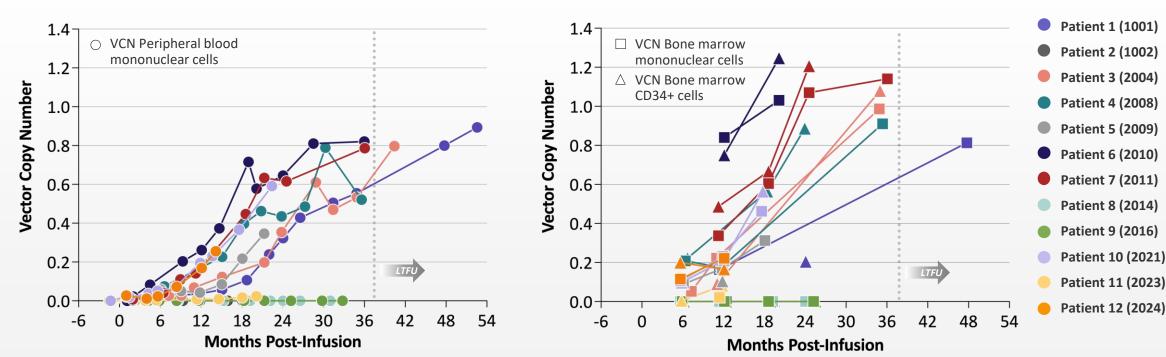
BMF, bone marrow failure; FA, Fanconi Anemia; FA-A, FA, group A; FANC, FA complementation group; GvHD, graft-versus-host disease; HLA, human leukocyte antigen; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. 1. Rocket Pharmaceuticals data on file; 2. Mehta PA, et al. Radiation-free, alternative-donor HCT for Fanconi Anemia patients: results from a prospective multi-institutional study. Blood. 2017;129(16):2308-2315; Fink O, et al. Two decades of stem cell transplantation in patients with Fanconi Anemia: Analysis of factors affecting transplant outcomes. Clin Transplant. 2023;37(1):e14835; 3. Sebert M, et al. Clonal hematopoiesis driven by chromosome 1q/MDM4 trisomy defines a canonical route toward leukemia in Fanconi Anemia. Cell Stem Cell. 2023;30(2):153-170; Kutler DI, et al. A 20-year perspective on the International Fanconi Anemia Registry (IFAR). Blood. 2003;101(4):1249-1256.



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# Progressively Increasing and Sustained Genetic Correction in 8 of 12 Patients ≥1 Year Post–RP-L102 in Pivotal Phase 2 Trial





#### **PBMC VCN**

**BM VCN** 

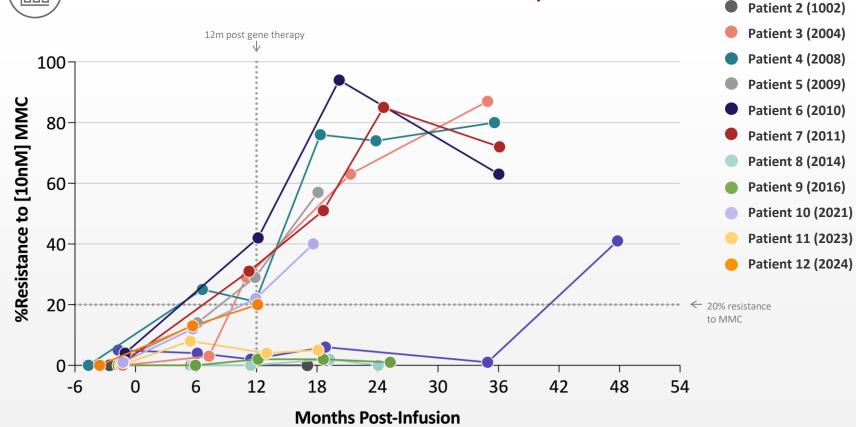


**RP-L102: Fanconi Anemia** 

## Increasing Phenotypic Correction over 1 to 3 Years Post RP-L102 in Pivotal Phase 2 Trial



### BM MMC-resistance ≥20% at 12m in 7 of 12 patients Sustained BM MMC-resistance confirmed in 6 patients \*



7 of 12 patients had MMC-resistance of ≥20% at 12 months

Patient 1 (1001)

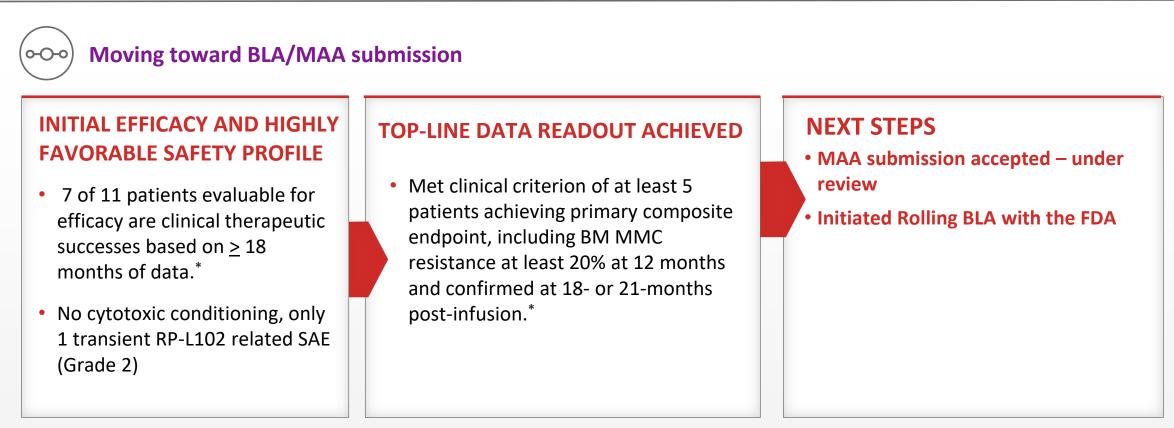
For 6 patients, increased MMC-resistance in BM CFU (40% to 94%) was observed 18 to 24 months post RP-L102 (confirmatory assessment pending for patient 12)



BM, bone marrow; CFU, colony-forming units; MMC, mitomycin-C.

\*One additional patient (Patient 1: 1001) was noted to have BM MMC resistance of 49% at ~40 months post–RP-L102 infusion (Unscheduled visit, not shown) and ~41% at 48 months post–RP-L102 infusion. Data cut-off: September 11, 2023; Preliminary interim results are presented from the ongoing clinical studies.

# **Development Plan**



### Additional life-cycle management activities:

- Expansion to FANC C and G
- Exploration of non-genotoxic conditioning and HSC expansion

#### **REGULATORY DESIGNATIONS:**

- RMAT and PRIME
- Orphan Drug designation in the US and EU
- Rare Pediatric Disease designation (eligible for PRV)
- Fast Track (US), ATMP



RP-L201: LAD-I

## RP-L201 for LAD-I: ITGB2 Gene Mutation





### **Disease etiology**

- ITGB2 gene mutations (21q22.3), encoding the beta-2-integrin, CD18; essential for leukocyte adhesion to endothelium
- CD18 absent or reduced
   on neutrophils



### Therapeutic challenges

- Standard of care:
- Allogeneic HSCT
   Limitations:
- Donor availability
- Infections
- Frequent GvHD
- Graft failure



### **Clinical manifestations**

### Patients suffer from recurrent infections; fatal in majority<sup>2</sup>

- Severe LAD-I: Death prior to age 2 in 60% to 75% of patients, infrequent survival >5 years in absence of allogeneic HSCT
- Moderate LAD-I: Death prior to age 40 in >50% of patients, extensive morbidity with recurrent infections and inflammatory lesions

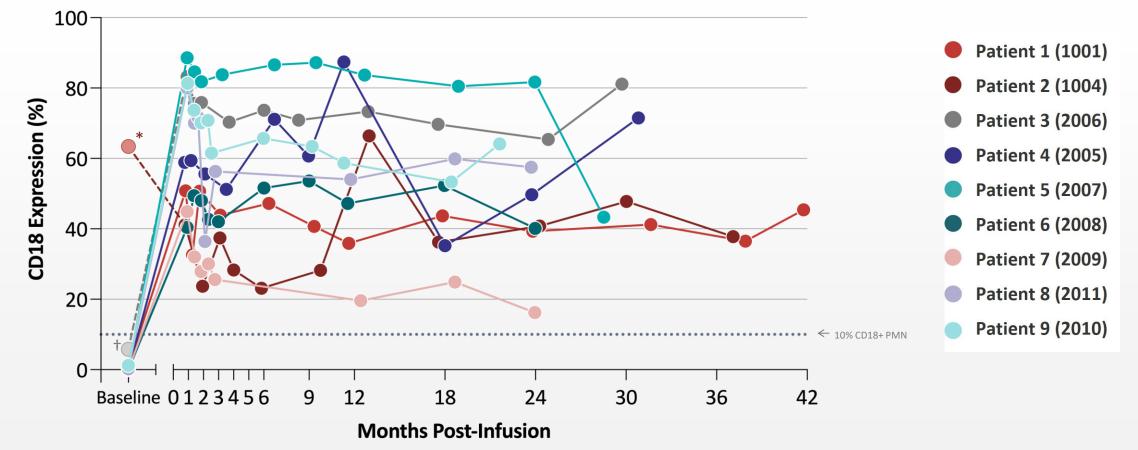
Market Opportunity<sup>1</sup> – US and EU Prevalence of 800 to 1,000 individuals Annual incidence of 50 to 75 individuals



RP-L201: LAD-I

# CD18 Expression in PB Polymorphonuclear Cells in Pivotal Phase 1/2 Trial





Neutrophil CD18 expression is reported utilizing CD18 monoclonal antibody (clone 6.7).

\* Dim/weak CD18 expression reported at baseline for Patient 2 (1004) in ~63% of cells in conjunction with <2% CD11a/CD11b expression, likely indicating abnormal/unstable protein.

+ Dim/weak CD18 expression reported at baseline for Patient 3 (2006) in ~5.8% of cells in conjunction with <2% CD11a/CD11b expression, likely indicating abnormal/unstable protein

PB, peripheral blood; PMN, polymorphonuclear neutrophil.

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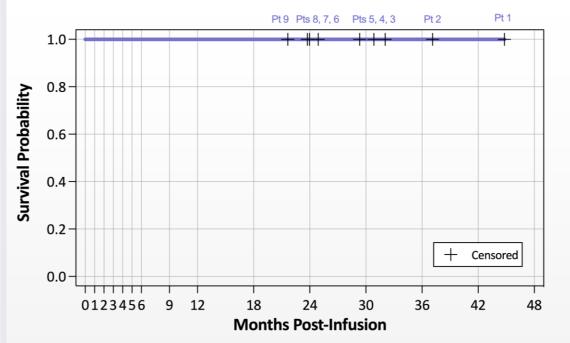
Data on file. Rocket Pharmaceuticals. 2024. Data Cut-Off: July 24, 2023. RP-L201-0318 120-Day Efficacy Update.

Pt 5 (2007) VCN at 30m timepoint remained stable relative to prior months, consistent with aberrant (artifactually low) CD18 result.

RP-L201: LAD-I

## Significant Reduction in Hospitalizations and 100% HSCT-free Survival in Pivotal Phase 1/2 Trial

### 100% HSCT-free survival Kaplan–Meier estimate



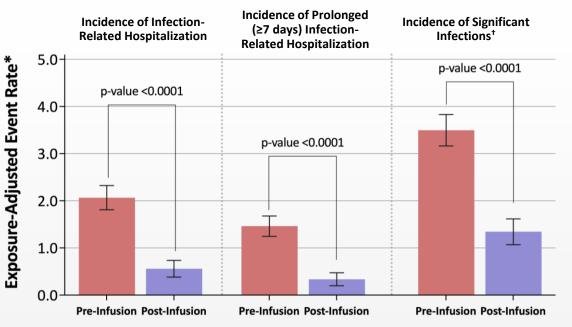
## Survival without allogeneic HSCT

### **Primary outcomes**

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- ≥1-year post–RP-L201 infusion AND
- ≥2 years of age for subjects enrolled <1 year of age

# Meaningful reduction in infection-related hospitalizations following immune reconstitution



- Infections that developed beyond 90 days post-infusion were consistent with typical childhood infections frequently observed in immunocompetent (healthy) children
- All patients have been able to stop prophylactic antibiotics (when permitted by institutional policy)

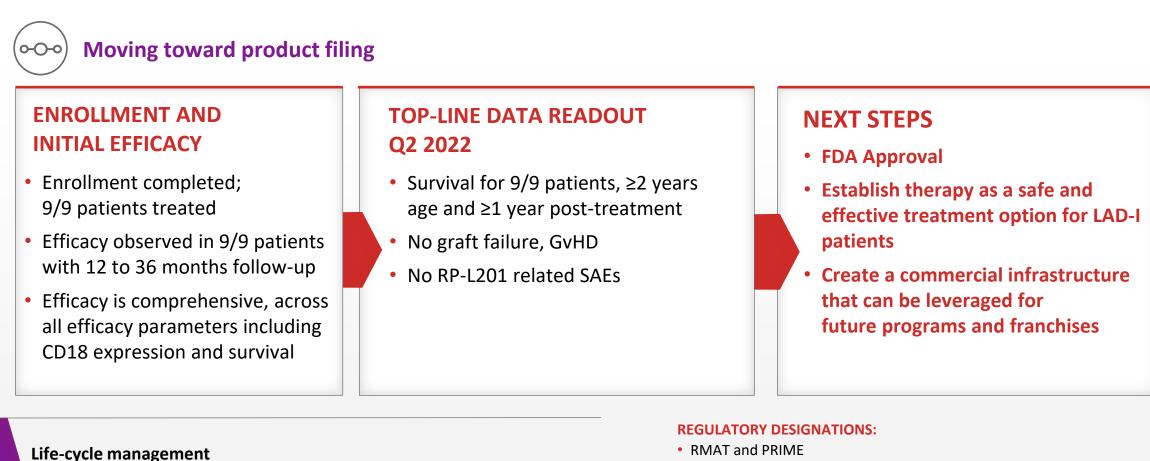
\* Annualized event rate is calculated as the Total Number of Events / Total Time in each Time Period. Results are adjusted event rate per year. Pre-infusion includes all lifelong medical history prior to RP-L201 infusion. p-values from Poisson regression with event and time period in the model with an offset of log exposure.



HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. Data Cut-Off: July 24, 2023; RP-L201-0318 120-Day Efficacy Update.

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# **Development Plan**



Potential label expansion to include moderate LAD-I population

- Orphan Drug designation in the US and EU
- Rare Pediatric Disease designation (eligible for PRV)
- Fast Track (US), ATMP



RP-L301: PKD

## RP-L301 for PKD: PKLR Gene Mutation





### Disease etiology<sup>2</sup>

- Autosomal recessive inheritance
- Pyruvate kinase deficient RBCs cannot synthesize ATP, resulting in
- hemolytic anemia



### Therapeutic challenges<sup>3</sup>

- Standard of care: Chronic blood transfusions and splenectomy
- Limitations:
  - o Iron overload
  - Extensive end-organ damage
  - Splenectomy confers lifelong infection and thrombotic risk



### **Clinical manifestations**<sup>4</sup>

- Lifelong chronic hemolysis
- Other clinical manifestations:
  - o Anemia
  - o Jaundice
  - Iron overload

Market Opportunity<sup>1</sup> – US and EU Prevalence of 4,000 to 8,000 individuals Annual incidence of 75 to 125 individuals

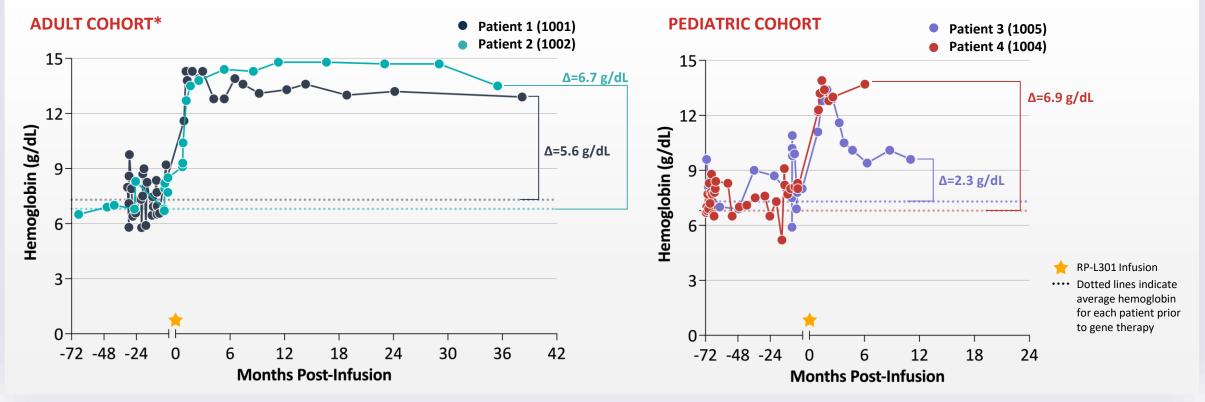
ATP, adenosine triphosphate; PKD, pyruvate kinase deficiency; PKLR, pyruvate kinase L/R; RBC, red blood cell.

1. Rocket Pharmaceuticals data on file; 2. Tanaka K, et al. Pyruvate kinase (PK) deficiency hereditary nonspherocytic hemolytic anemia. Blood. 1962;19(3):267-295; 3. Zanella A, et al. Iron status in red cell pyruvate kinase deficiency: study of Italian cases. British Journal of Haematology. 1993;83(3):485-490; Zanella A, et al. Molecular characterization of thePK-LR gene in sixteen pyruvate kinase-deficient patients. Br J Haematol. 2001;113(1):43-48; Marshall SR, et al. The dangers of iron overload in pyruvate kinase deficiency. Br J Haematol. 2003;120(6):1090-1091; 4. Zanella A, et al. E. Pyruvate kinase deficiency. Haematologica. 2007;92(6):721-723; Grace RF, et al. Erythrocyte pyruvate kinase deficiency: 2015 status report. American J Hematol. 2015;90(9):825-830; Canu G, et al. Red blood cell PK deficiency: an update of PK-LR gene mutation database. Blood Cells, Molecules, and Diseases. 2016;57:100-109.



## **Preliminary Phase 1 Efficacy Results: Adult and Pediatric Patients**

- Sustained & meaningful hemoglobin improvement from severe (<8 g/dL) baseline</li>
- No RBC transfusions required following neutrophil engraftment
- Concurrent improvement across hemolysis biochemical markers



The average baseline Hb is determined by Hb values from 2y prior to enrollment to immediately prior to stem cell mobilization, excluding those impacted by RBC tx. Post-transfusion Hb values within 61d of a prior RBC tx were excluded unless the reported Hbb value was a pre-tx assessment for a subsequent RBC tx within 3 days of the prior RBC tx date. RBC, red blood cell. \*Adult patient 2 underwent therapeutic phlebotomy 27 months through 36 months after gene therapy.

rocket

Data cut-off: February 5, 2024; preliminary interim results are presented from the ongoing clinical study.

## **Development Plan**



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## Alignment reached with FDA on pivotal Phase 2 trial design

## PLAN FOR PHASE 2 AND LAUNCH

### High level pivotal Phase 2 Trial Design

- Single-arm, 10 patient study
- Primary endpoint of ≥1.5g/dl increase in Hgb at 12 months post-infusion
- Supports accelerated approval

Well-delineated natural history in recent PKD NHS publications

### **REGULATORY DESIGNATIONS**

Fast Track, RMAT, Orphan Drug (US/EU), PRIME, Rare Pediatric Disease (eligible for PRV)

## **NEXT STEPS**

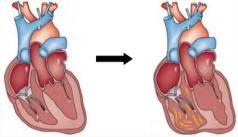
• Phase 2 Pivotal Study Initiated



#### RP-A601: PKP2-ACM

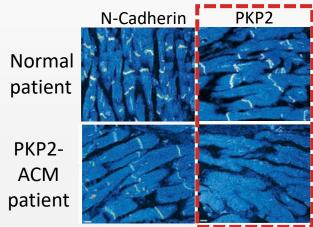
# **PKP2-Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy (ACM)**\*: A high-risk disease with no curative options

Advanced ACM Heart with fibrofatty replacement in right ventricle



Electrical manifestations can precede structural abnormalities

### ACM: Diminished Myocardial PKP2





 Autosomal dominant mutations in *PKP2* gene, which encodes for Plakophilin-2, a component of the desmosome localized to cardiac intercalated discs

### **Therapeutic Challenges**

- Current standard of care includes betablockers, anti-arrhythmic agents, and ablation
- Available treatments do not modify disease progression; no curative therapeutic options

**Kaplan-Meier Incidence of ICD Firing** 

# ).

## **Clinical Manifestations**

- Mean age at presentation: 35y (±18) <sup>1</sup>
- 5-10% annual risk of sustained ventricular arrhythmias (VA), with higher risk in patients who present with symptoms of disease (index patients)<sup>2-3</sup>
- In one study, >70% risk of VAs in index patients (median follow up, 7 years)<sup>4</sup>
- ICD placement in >80% of index patients <sup>5</sup>
- For patients with ICDs:
  - 45-75% will have ICD firing (shock) over 3-5 years
  - ≥50% 2-year incidence of firing in subgroups:
  - male; EPS-induced VT; history of VT;
  - $\geq$ 3 ECG leads with TWI; >1000 PVC/24h <sup>5-6</sup>

#### A .00 (JUL) 10, 0.75 (JUL) 10, 0.75 0.50 0.5

- Event free survival in ACM patients who underwent EP study prior to placement of an ICD
  - ~70% of patients who were inducible on EP study had an ICD firing at 2 years

\* This cardiomyopathy initially manifests in the right ventricular free wall, so the disease was termed arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy (ARVD/ARVC). However, since left dominant and biventricular forms have also been observed, this has led more recently to the use of the term "ACM". ECG, electrocardiogram; EPS, electrophysiologic study; ICD, implantable cardioverter defibrillator; LBBB, left bundle branch block; LV, left ventricle; PKP2; plakophilin 2; RV, right ventricular; RVEF, right ventricular ejection fraction; SD, standard deviation; SVA, sustained ventricular arrhythmia; TWI, T-wave inversion; VT, ventricular tachycardia.

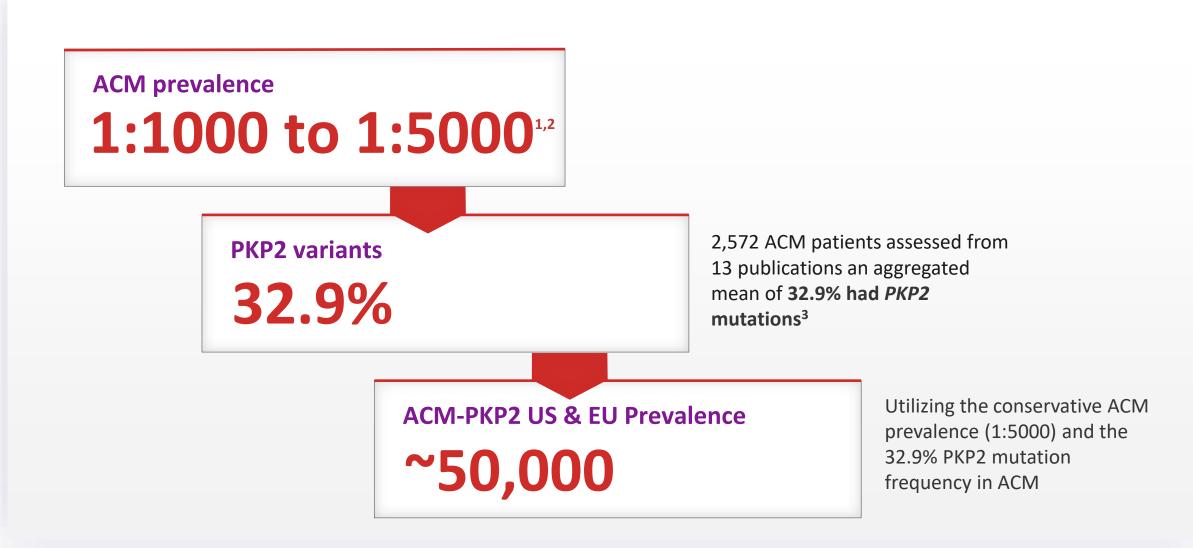


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Biopsy figure adapted from: Asimaki et al. NEJM, 2009; Table adapted from Dalal et al. Circulation 2006; 1. Bhonsale. EHJ 2015; 36: 847-55; 2. Towbin JA. Heart Rhythm 2019;16(11); 3. Cadrin-Tourigny J. Eur Heart J 2022;43; 4. Groenweg. Circ Cardiovasc Genet 2015; 8: 437-46; 5. Calkins. Circ 2017; 136: 2068-82; 6. Orgeron. J Am Heart Assoc 2017: e006242.

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## **PKP2-ACM Prevalence in the US and EU**



Peters S, Trümmel M, Meyners W. Prevalence of right ventricular dysplasia-cardiomyopathy in a non-referral hospital. Int J Cardiol. 2004;97(3):499-501.
 McKenna WJ, Judge DP. Epidemiology of the inherited cardiomyopathies. Nat Rev Cardiol. 2021;18(1):22-36. 3.Rocket Pharmaceuticals data on file.

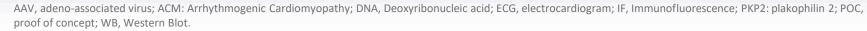


# **Proof of Concept in Translationally Relevant Animal Model**

## Completed RCKT Studies with Cardiomyocyte-specific PKP2 Knockout Mouse Model of ACM

- Initial POC evaluated 4 AAV Vectors: Cardiac Functional & Structural Analyses
- Dose-related effects evaluated with 2 AAV vectors: Cardiac Functional & Structural Analyses
- Evaluated Survival, Functional, and Anatomic Benefit in 'Arrest Progression' Models
  - Including delivery of AAV +7 or +14 Days after induction of PKP2 knockout and subsequent disease onset

Analyses Include:	Academic Partner:	Mario Delmar, MD, PhD Patricia and Robert Martinsen Professor of Cardiology,				
<ul> <li>Survival</li> <li>Echocardiography and ECG</li> <li>PKP2 expression (IF and WB)</li> </ul>	NYU Grossman School of Medicine	Department of Medicine; Division of Cardiology, NYU Grossman School of Medicine				
<ul> <li>Cardiac pathology &amp; fibrosis</li> <li>Vector DNA, transgene mRNA</li> <li>General safety including pathology</li> </ul>		<b>Marina Cerrone, MD</b> Research Associate Professor, Co-Director, Inherited Arrhythmia Clinic, Department of Medicine; Division of Cardiology,				
Completed sponsored research		NYU Grossman School of Medicine				



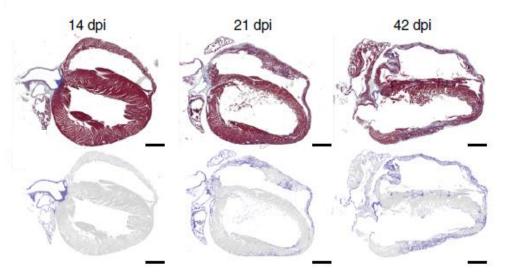


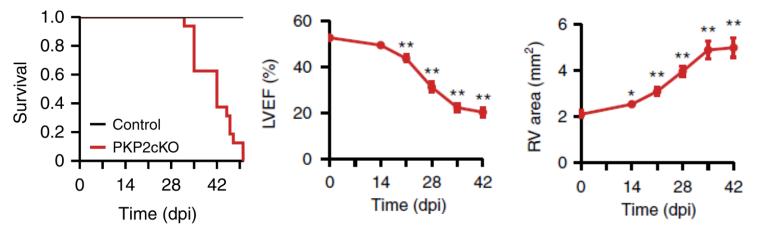
RP-A601: PKP2-ACM

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# Tamoxifen-induced ACM in the PKP2-cKO Mouse Model

- The PKP2-cKO mouse model recapitulates ACM following induction of PKP2 KO by tamoxifen injection<sup>1</sup>
- Progression of cardiomyopathy evidenced by Masson's trichrome staining of heart sections in PKP2-cKO mice from 14 to 42 days post-TAM (dpi)
- 100% mortality by day ~50 following TAM injection
- Left ventricular ejection fraction diminishes significantly across time
- Right ventricular enlargement occurs across time
- Premature Ventricular Contractions are a clinical hallmark of ACM and emerge in the animal model because of PKP2 loss





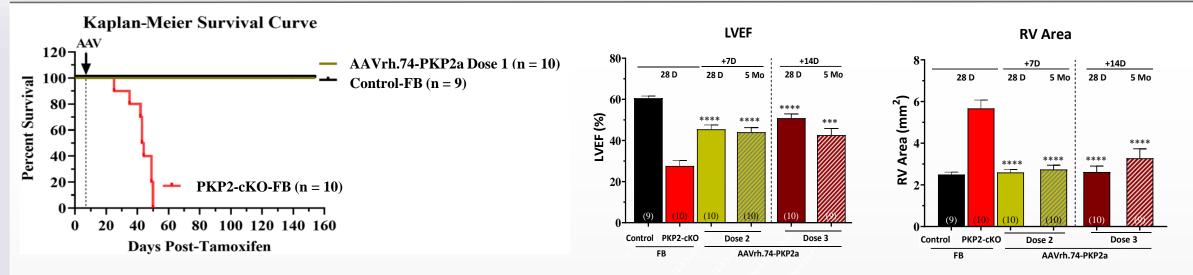


1. Cerrone M, Montnach J, Lin X, et al. Plakophilin-2 is required for transcription of genes that control calcium cycling and cardiac rhythm. Nat Commun. 2017;8(1):106. Published 2017 Jul 24.

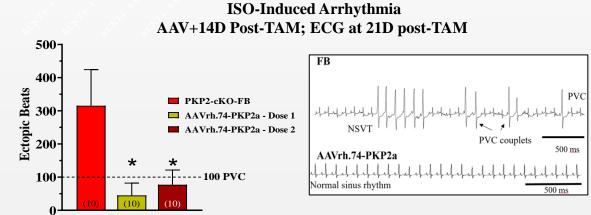


RP-A601: PKP2-ACM

# Increased Survival & Preserved Cardiac Function in the PKP2-cKO Model



- AAVrh.74-PKP2 delivered 7 days post-TAM:
  - 100% survival to 5 months, compared to 100% mortality by day ~50 in PKP2-cKO control animals
  - Preserved Ejection Fraction and Right Ventricular Area at 28 Days, sustained to 5 months
- AAVrh.74-PKP2 delivered 14 days post-TAM:
  - Mitigated isoproterenol-induced PVCs and arrhythmia, disease-related characteristics of ACM
  - Robust benefit on survival, cardiac function & structure to 5 months<sup>1</sup>



\*p <0.05 vs PKP2-cKO FB

ISO = isoproterenol; TAM = tamoxifen; ECG = Electrocardiography

#### <sup>1</sup>Data not illustrated in Figures

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AAV, adeno-associated virus; AAV.rh74; Recombinant AAV serotype 74; ACM, Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy; cKO, conditional knockout; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; PVCs, premature ventricular contractions; RV, right ventricle; TAM, tamoxofin.



# **Optimal Gene Therapy for PKP2-ACM Expected to be First-and Best-In-Class**

### cDNA/isoform:

• PKP2a: full wild type coding sequence of therapeutic gene, protein loss drives ACM

## AAV Serotype:

• AAV.rh74 serotype associated with favorable safety profile in DMD/LGMD2E<sup>1-3</sup>; potential for safe administration at optimal doses for adult ACM patients

## **Cardiac-Specific Promoter:**

• Effectively drives expression of therapeutic transgene in cardiomyocytes; minimizes off-target effects

## Route of Administration:

• IV Pharmacology studies demonstrate efficient cardiac transduction with IV administration

## **Robust Proof of Concept in Disease Relevant Animal Model:**

• NYU Cardiac-specific cKO-PKP2 mouse (biologically relevant translational model)

AAV, adeno-associated virus; AAV.rh74, Recombinant AAV serotype 74; ACM, Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy; cKO, conditional knockout; DMD, Duchenne muscular dystrophy; LGMD2E, limb-girdle muscular dystrophy 2E; IV, intravenous; PKP2; plakophilin. 2.



# **Clinical Development Plan**



Phase 1 Dose Escalation Study

### **Completed or Ongoing Activities**

- ✓ Phase 1 Study Initiated
- Enrollment compete in low-dose cohort
- ✓ Orphan Disease Designation
- GMP drug product manufacturing completed
- Pharmacology and GLP toxicology studies
- Potency assay

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- Clinical protocol developed, vetted by Scientific Advisory Board and informed by patient insights
- ✓ Launching multi-center, clinical trial

### **High Level Phase 1 Trial Design**

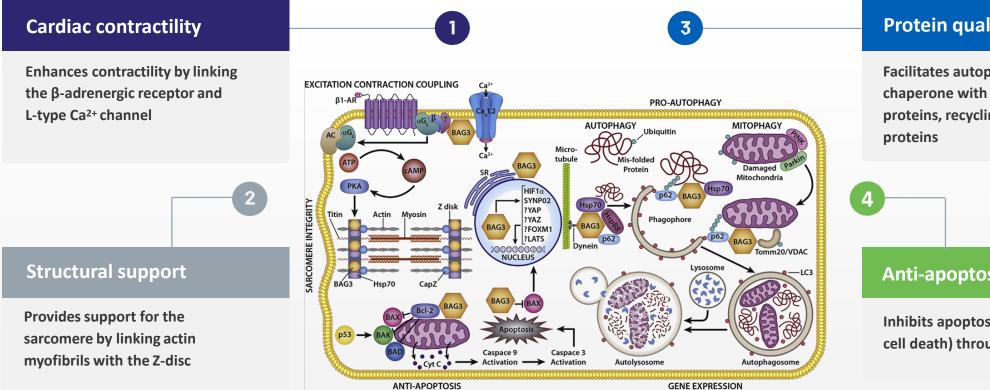
- Study design:
  - FIH, multi-center, dose escalation study to assess safety and preliminary efficacy
  - Starting dose of 8 x 10<sup>13</sup> GC/kg
  - Target population: Adult PKP2-ACM patients with ICDs and high risk for arrhythmias
- Primary endpoint:
  - Safety events
- Secondary and exploratory endpoints:
  - PKP2 tissue protein expression
  - Clinical markers of life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias
  - Cardiac biomarkers

### **Natural History**

 Natural history studies are planned to provide context for the Phase 1 trial and additional information on the progression of PKP2-ACM



# **BAG3** Regulates Critical Functions in Cardiomyocytes



### **Protein quality control**

Facilitates autophagy as a cochaperone with heat shock proteins, recycling misfolded

### **Anti-apoptosis**

Inhibits apoptosis (programmed cell death) through binding of BCL2

### We believe that a gene therapy approach is best positioned to restore the broad biological functions of BAG3 in the heart

BAG3, BLC2-associated athanogene 3; BCL2, B-cell lymphoma 2.

Knezevic T, Myers VD, Su F, et al. Adeno-associated Virus Serotype 9 - Driven Expression of BAG3 Improves Left Ventricular Function in Murine Hearts with Left Ventricular Dysfunction Secondary to a Myocardial Infarction. JACC Basic Transl Sci. 2016;1(7):647-656. Myers VD, Gerhard GS, McNamara DM, et al. Association of Variants in BAG3 With Cardiomyopathy Outcomes in African American Individuals JAMA Cardiol. 2018;3(10):929-938.



# **BAG3-DCM Opportunity and Next Steps**

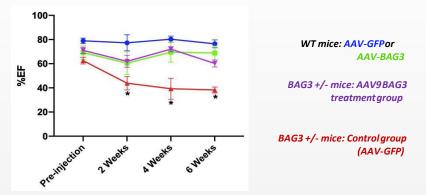
# BAG3-DCM Represents a Significant Market with Unmet Need

- DCM is the most common form of cardiomyopathy
- 20% to 50% of DCM patients have familial DCM; up to 40% of whom have an identifiable genetic cause<sup>1,2</sup>
- Scientific societies have endorsed clinical genetic testing for DCM patients and families<sup>3,4</sup>
- Prevalence of BAG3 DCM in US is estimated to be as high as 30,000 patients<sup>5,6</sup> and is expected to grow with increasing genetic testing and disease awareness

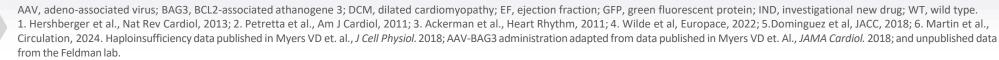
## Initial Proof-of-Concept for AAV9-BAG3 Supports Further Development

 Initial proof of concept for AAV9-BAG3 demonstrated in BAG3-knockout mouse model

> Ejection fraction in WT and BAG3 +/- mice treated at age 6 to 8 weeks with AAV9-GFP or AAV9-BAG3



- Evaluating optimal development pathway
- IND submission anticipated in the first half of 2025





# **Cranbury R&D and Manufacturing Facility Overview**

- Total Lab Space: ~30,000 sq. ft. for process development, analytical development, MS&T and QC
- Manufacturing capability from small-scale to toxicology-scale material
- Streamlined tech transfer timeline for pipeline assets from plasmid selection to IND in <15 months
- Manufacturing expansion to add media and buffer production capability
- Incorporating fully automated in-house vial filler suite
- Anticipated 2X capacity increase

Enables rapid, robust and cost-efficient internal development capability for new and existing programs in addition to full-scale commercial manufacturing

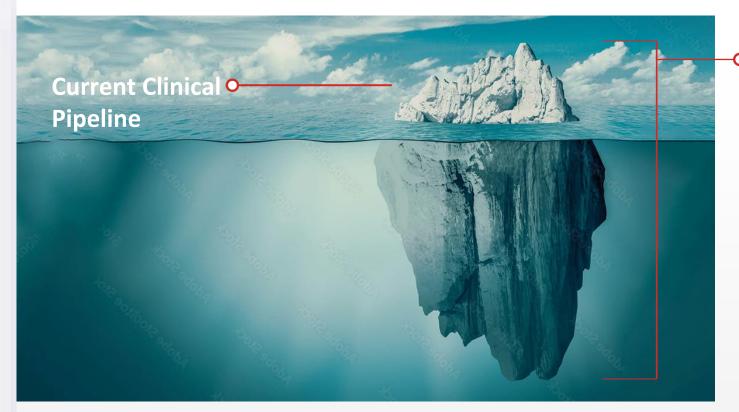
~100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility in Cranbury, NJ





#### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

## **Future Therapies:** Wave 2 (AAV)



## Focused R&D Strategy for **Sustainable Innovation**



First-, best- and/or only-in-class



**On-target MOA; clear endpoints** 

Sizeable market to maximize

patient impact

**3** therapeutic areas (CV, hemetology and undisclosed)

We continue to build our pipeline based on our core R&D strategy, identifying the "most impactful" indications for the most efficient development path.



## **Expert** Leadership With Proven Track Record



Gaurav Shah, M.D. Chief Executive Officer Spearheaded Kymriah (CART-19) development at Novartis towards approval

Memorial Sloan Kettering (1) Memorial Sloar Cancer Center **b** NOVARTIS 🔐 Brigham and Women's Hospital



Kinnari Patel, Pharm.D., MBA President, Head of R&D and **Chief Operating Officer** Led Opdivo and six rare disease indication approvals Pfizer AstraZeneca

Bristol Myers Squibb UNOVARTIS



Jonathan Schwartz, M.D. Chief Medical & Gene Therapy Officer

Led multiple biologics approvals Mount Sinai





**Aaron Ondrey** Chief Financial Officer 20+ years of experience in commercial finance, strategic planning, and M&A across multiple therapeutic areas ALEXION' MIRATI REGENERON



Mayo Pujols **Chief Technical Officer** ~30 years technical operations and GMP manufacturing expertise

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Mark White, MB.ChB. General Manager, **Commercial Affairs** 

Seasoned drug developer with 25+ years of industry experience

IM AstraZeneca



Martin Wilson, J.D. General Counsel & Chief **Corporate Officer** ~20 years legal, compliance and executive experience and accomplishment in life sciences





Gavatri R. Rao, M.D., J.D. Chief Regulatory Officer & SVP, Clinical Safety 7-year former Director of FDA's Office of Orphan Products Development

FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG SIDLEY



Raj Prabhakar, MBA **Chief Business Officer** ~20 years cell, gene and biotech business development

caladríus (PCT Osiris Celsion



Carlos Martin, BA, MBA **Chief Commercial Operations** & Revenue Officer 15+ years global & local leadership, commercial strategy and new product launches





Isabel Carmona, J.D. **Chief People Officer** Seasoned leader in human resources, legal and compliance across life sciences, financial services and IT









# **THANK YOU!**



