Acuitas Therapeutics

NON-CONFIDENTIAL PRESENTATION



Vision

Acuitas is the premier LNP technology provider globally, enabling our partners to advance new therapeutics to address unmet clinical needs



Mission

- To provide our partners with the best LNP delivery technology for nucleic acid therapeutics
- To support our partners to rapidly advance new therapeutics to address unmet medical needs
- To continually innovate to maintain and strengthen our LNP technological lead





Company Background

- Privately held biotechnology company
- Founded February 2009; based in Vancouver, British Columbia
- Highly experienced team developing lipid nanoparticle delivery systems
- Facilities for chemistry, formulation and preclinical studies





LNP Technology

LIPID NANOPARTICLES FORMULATION

- Clinically validated Acuitas developed LNP formulation used in ONPATTRO[®] (Patisiran[®])
 - First Approved RNAi product
 - Approved in US, Europe, Japan & elsewhere
- Improved LNP formulations exhibit substantially higher potency and therapeutic index





Therapeutic Opportunity: mRNA Therapy

Delivery of novel proteins to treat disease

Normal cell: Genomic DNA transcribed to mRNA

mRNA Therapy: Synthetic mRNA delivered in LNP

Therapeutic Opportunities

Vaccines

- Intracellular expression of viral or bacterial proteins generating protective immune response
- Expression of tumour antigens (personalized vaccines)
- Antibodies
 - Expression of prophylactic or therapeutic antibodies to treat current and emerging diseases
- Protein Replacement therapeutics
 - Expressing a human protein to address genetic disorders such as haemophilia & cystic fibrosis
- Genome Editing/Base Editing
 - Expressing a genome editing or base editing protein to modify human gene expression



Acuitas Capabilities





Acuitas LNP: Mechanism of Action

- Receptor-mediated uptake into hepatocytes
 - ▶ Loss of PEG-lipid from the LNP surface allows binding of ApoE
 - Extravasation from fenestrated capillaries allows direct access to interstitial space
 - Bound ApoE facilitates receptor binding and endocytosis





Acuitas LNP: Mechanism of Action

Endosomal Release

- Endosomal maturation results in drop in internal pH
- LNP cationic lipid becomes positively charged resulting in release of nucleic acid payload to cytoplasm





mRNA-LNP Technology Development: Objectives & Process

- Enhance potency and safety profile for LNP carriers
- Enable broad range of mRNA therapeutic applications
- Iterative approach to identify improved LNP compositions



mRNA-LNP Technology: Potency Enhancement

Screening program combined with key SAR relationship analysis results in substantial improvement in LNP potency.

Relative activities of LNP with different cationic lipids



mRNA LNP Technology: NHP Potency Studies

High level Antibody expression after iv administration of mRNA LNP

mRNA LNP Design improvements can substantially improve pharmacodynamics (protein expression)



mRNA LNP Technology: NHP PK Studies

LNP plasma profiles and exposure unchanged after repeated biweekly dosing



mRNA LNP Technology: NHP Safety Studies

Transient increases in ALT/AST above control levels on Days 2 and 5

No other mRNA LNP-related changes in clinical chemistry or hematology



mRNA LNP Technology: NHP Safety Studies

Small, transient increases in some cytokines/chemokines at 6 hours post-infusion; return to baseline by 24 hours



mRNA LNP Therapeutics: Gene Editing to Address Genetic Disorder

Phenylketonuria – Hepatic PAH deficiency causes CNS damage

- PAH deficiency in hepatocytes leads to an increase in phenylalanine and a decrease in methionine and tyrosine
- In the brain this causes a deficiency of the neurotransmitter dopamine, reduced protein synthesis, and demyelination
- A mouse model for Phenylketonuria (PAH^{enu2}) with a T>C mutation exists





mRNA LNP Therapeutics: Gene Editing to Treat Genetic Disease

Establishment of a base editor for the PAHenu2 locus

The APOBEC SaCas9-KHH base editor efficiently corrects the PAH^{enu2} locus



mRNA LNP Therapeutics: Gene Editing to Treat Genetic Disease

In vivo correction of Pahenu2 mouse

IV Administered mRNA-LNP delivering base editor corrects gene and restores function



mRNA LNP Therapeutics: COVID Vaccines

- SARS-CoV-2 emerged as global pandemic in early 2020
- High transmissibility and high rate of morbidity and mortality; >9 million confirmed infections as of July 2020
- Evaluated saRNA-LNP vaccine expressing SARS-CoV-2 spike protein in mouse model
 - Full-length, pre-fusion stabilized spike protein
 - ► Two IM injection (of 0.01-10 µg saRNA)
 - Antibody (total IgG and neutralizing) titres
 - Cellular responses



mRNA LNP Therapeutics: COVID Vaccine

SARS-CoV2- specific Antibody (IgG) Responses



- Electroporated +ve pDNA Control
- RABV Control
- 10 μg mRNA LNP
- 1 μg mRNA LNP
- O.1 μg mRNA LNP
- 0.01 μg mRNA LNP
- Recovered COVID-19 patients
- i.m. immunization with saRNA-LNP induces high plasma levels of virus-specific lgG



mRNA LNP Therapeutics: COVID Vaccine

SARS-CoV2- Neutralizing Ab Responses



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mRNA LNP Therapeutics: COVID Vaccine

SARS-CoV2- Cellular Responses



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- 10 μg mRNA LNP
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- 0.1 μg mRNA LNP
- 0.01 μg mRNA LNP

 i.m. immunization with saRNA-LNP induces robust Ag-specific, Th1-biased cellular responses



What makes Acuitas the Leader?

- Highest potency LNP carriers for mRNA therapeutics
- Broad IP portfolio providing commercial rights for mRNA-LNP therapeutics
- Broad partnership experience in mRNA therapeutics field
 - Multiple partnered products in clinical development
- Strong academic collaborations with KOLs
 - Expanding clinical opportunities for mRNA therapeutics



Acuitas Business Model

- Partner with multiple pharmaceutical/biotechnology companies to advance mRNA-LNP therapeutics
- Maintain leadership position in LNP Technology while supporting partner development programs





Contact Information

General Enquiries: Email: info@acuitastx.com

BD Enquiries: Email: lzhang@acuitastx.com

Website: <u>https://acuitastx.com</u>

