

ASX:ALA



Corporate Presentation

March

2024



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Arovella's strengths

Off-the-Shelf iNKT Cell Platform

Developing off-the-shelf iNKT cell therapies to target blood cancers and solid tumour cancers

Lead Product Advancing to Clinic

ALA-101, potential treatment for CD19-expressing blood cancers, progressing to Phase 1 clinical trials, expected to commence in 2024

Addressing Key Unmet Need

Our iNKT cell platform is well positioned to solve key challenges that hamper the cell therapy sector

Strong Leadership Group

Leadership team and Board have proven experience in drug development, particularly cell therapies

Strategic Acquisitions

Focused on acquiring innovative technologies that strengthen its cell therapy platform and align with its focus areas

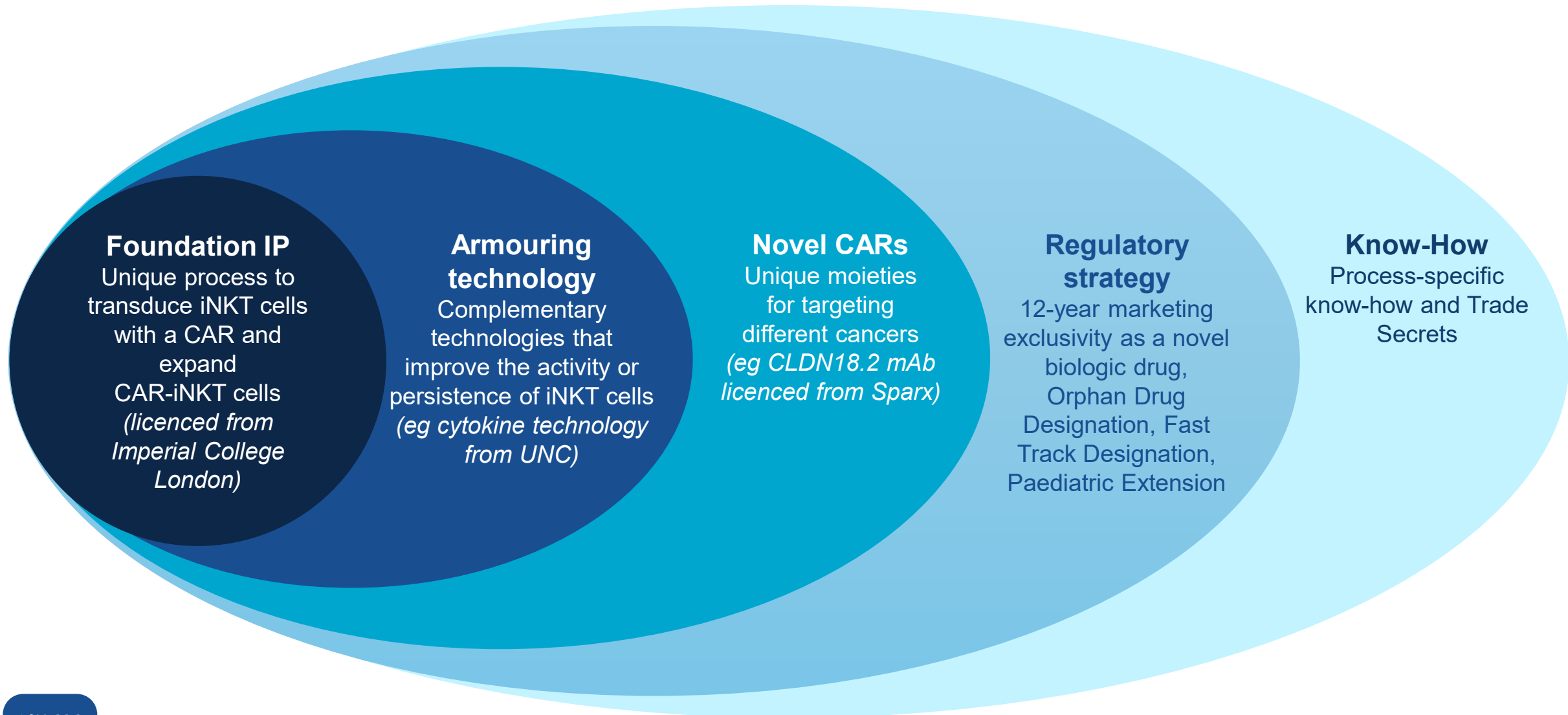
Unique Value Proposition

Arovella is among few companies globally developing an iNKT cell therapy platform



Arovella's iNKT cell strategy

Incorporating world class IP to target a range of tumour types



Exclusive worldwide rights to granted patents

Further patent claims and applications actively being pursued

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Transduction and Expansion of Cells

- Patent life until 2038
- Method of manufacture, cell population claims
- Applicant: Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine
- Granted in Europe, Canada and Hong Kong, pending in USA, China and Australia
- Worldwide exclusive rights for human disease

(19) United States
(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2020/0207857 A1
Zhu et al. (43) Pub. Date: Jul. 2, 2020

(54) BINDING MOLECULES SPECIFIC FOR CLAUDIN 18.2, COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS THEREOF, FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES

(52) U.S. CL. CPC C07K 16/2827 (2013.01); C12N 15/85 (2013.01); C07K 2317/515 (2013.01); C07K 2317/54 (2013.01); C07K 2317/51 (2013.01); C07K 2317/622 (2013.01); C07K 2317/734 (2013.01); C07K 2317/732 (2013.01); C12N 2015/8518 (2013.01); C07K 2317/55 (2013.01)

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(21) Appl. No.: 16/727,554

(22) Filed: Dec. 26, 2019

Related U.S. Application Data

(57) ABSTRACT
Compositions and methods of making isolated binding molecules (e.g. an antibodies) or antigen-binding fragments thereof useful as therapeutics for treating and/or preventing diseases associated with cells expressing claudin 18.2, including tumor-related diseases such as gastric cancer, esophageal cancer, pancreatic cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, colon cancer, hepatic cancer, head-neck cancer, cancer of the gallbladder are described. Also, described are pharmaceutical formulations comprising the described compositions for the treatment of diseases either as a single agent



Binding Molecules Specific for Claudin 18.2

- Patent life until 2038
- Composition of matter claims for a unique CLDN18.2 monoclonal antibody sequence
- Applicant: Sparx Therapeutics Inc.
- Granted in USA, pending in Europe, China, Japan and South Korea
- Worldwide exclusive rights for use in Cell Therapies

Strong Leadership

Leadership



Dr. Michael Baker
CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR



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CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



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VP MANUFACTURING & QUALITY



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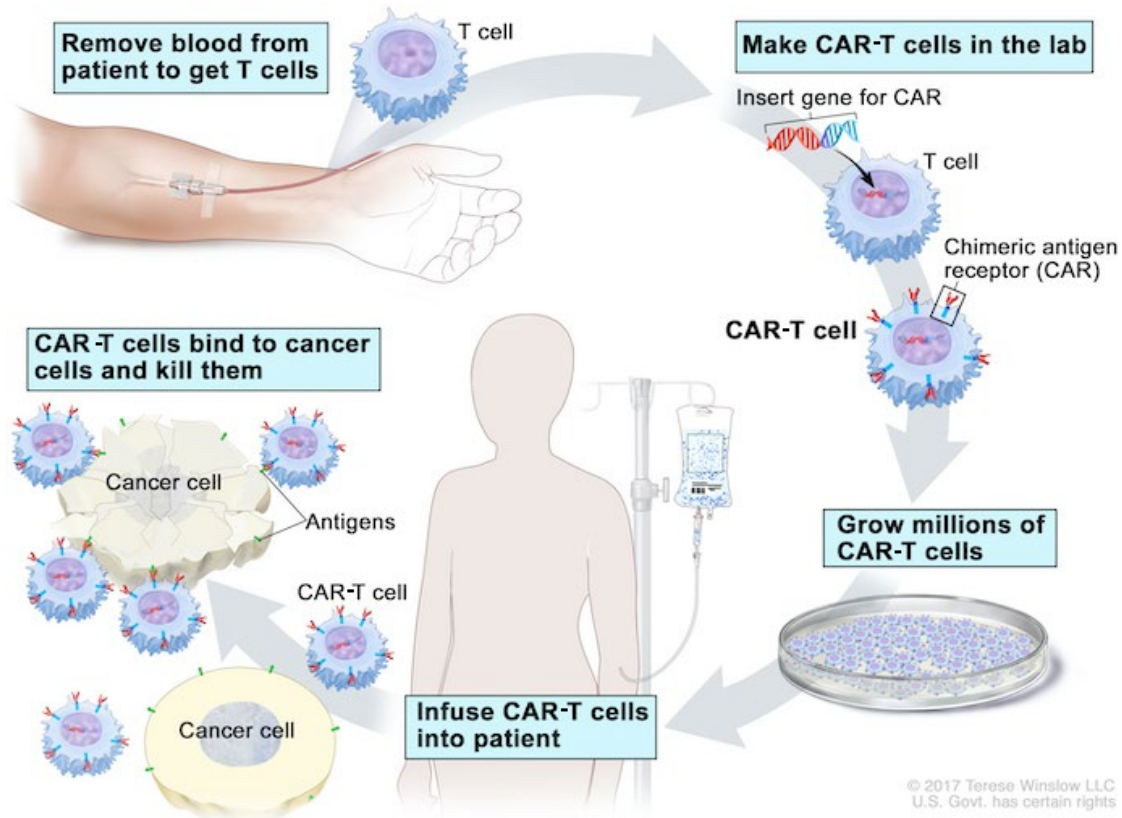




About CAR-T cells

How original CAR-T cell therapies work

CAR-T cell therapy is personalised medicine



T cells = immune cell

T cells are a common type of immune cell that fight infections and can help fight cancer.



T cells from patient 'reprogrammed'

To generate autologous CAR-T cells, T cells are taken from a patient with blood cancer and 'reprogrammed' to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR). The CAR can recognise cancer cells through a target antigen.



CAR-T cells find & kill tumour cells

CAR-T cells are administered to the patient to find and kill the tumour cells. Once the CAR binds to a tumour cell, the CAR-T cell is activated to kill the tumour cell.

Cell Therapy has revolutionised blood cancer treatment

CAR-T cells have demonstrated their curative potential in blood cancers



The Cell Therapy market is expected to reach **\$61.2 billion** by 2030¹

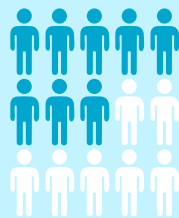


Cure

CAR-T cells have demonstrated ability to **cure haematological cancers**



Strong Sales



40-60%

Patients relapse post-CAR-T therapy²

Product	Approval Year	2023 Revenue
 YESCARTA (axicabtagene ciloleucel) ³	2017	US\$1498m ³
 KYMRIAH (tisagenlecleucel) ⁴	2017	US\$509m ⁴
 Abecma (idecabtagene vicleucel) ⁵	2021	US\$472m ⁵

- <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230529005130/en/Global-Cell-Therapy-Market-Report-2023-Advancements-in-Biotechnology-Drives-Growth---ResearchAndMarkets.com>
- Zinzi et al., 2023 Pharmacological Research - 10.1016/j.phrs.2023.106742
- [https://www.gilead.com/news-and-press/press-room/press-releases/2024/2/gilead-sciences-announces-fourth-quarter-and-full-year-2023-financial-results#:~:text=Yescarta%C2%AE%20\(axicabtagene%20ciloleucel\)%20sales,%E2%80%9D\)%20outside%20the%20United%20States.](https://www.gilead.com/news-and-press/press-room/press-releases/2024/2/gilead-sciences-announces-fourth-quarter-and-full-year-2023-financial-results#:~:text=Yescarta%C2%AE%20(axicabtagene%20ciloleucel)%20sales,%E2%80%9D)%20outside%20the%20United%20States.)
- https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis_com/files/2024-01-interim-financial-report-en.pdf
- <https://news.bms.com/news/details/2024/Bristol-Myers-Squibb-Reports-Fourth-Quarter-and-Full-Year-Financial-Results-for-2023/default.aspx>

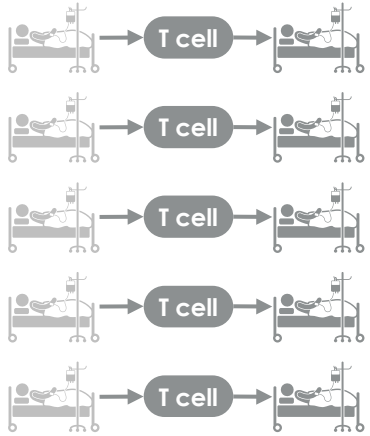


Emily Whitehead - Celebrating 10 years of CAR-T cell therapy

<https://emilywhiteheadfoundation.org/10-years-of-car-t/>

Autologous CAR-T pose challenges

The current manufacturing costs and time are limiting



Each manufacturing batch is **patient-specific**

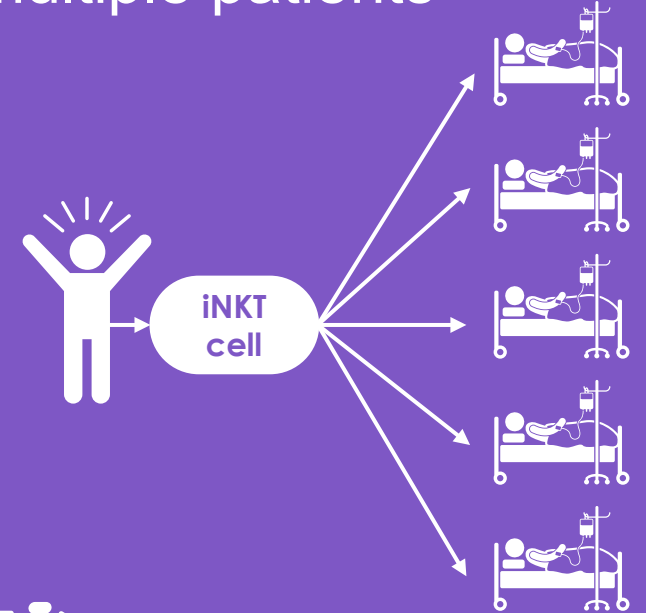
Patient must wait **3-4 weeks** for therapy



- ❗ Manufacturing & supply chain **costs are high**
- ❗ T cells **can be compromised** due to disease
- ❗ **Limited centres** can collect and manufacture
- ❗ **Time is an issue** for patients with aggressive disease
- ❗ Manufacturing run **failures can occur**

Allogeneic

A single healthy donor batch = treatment for multiple patients

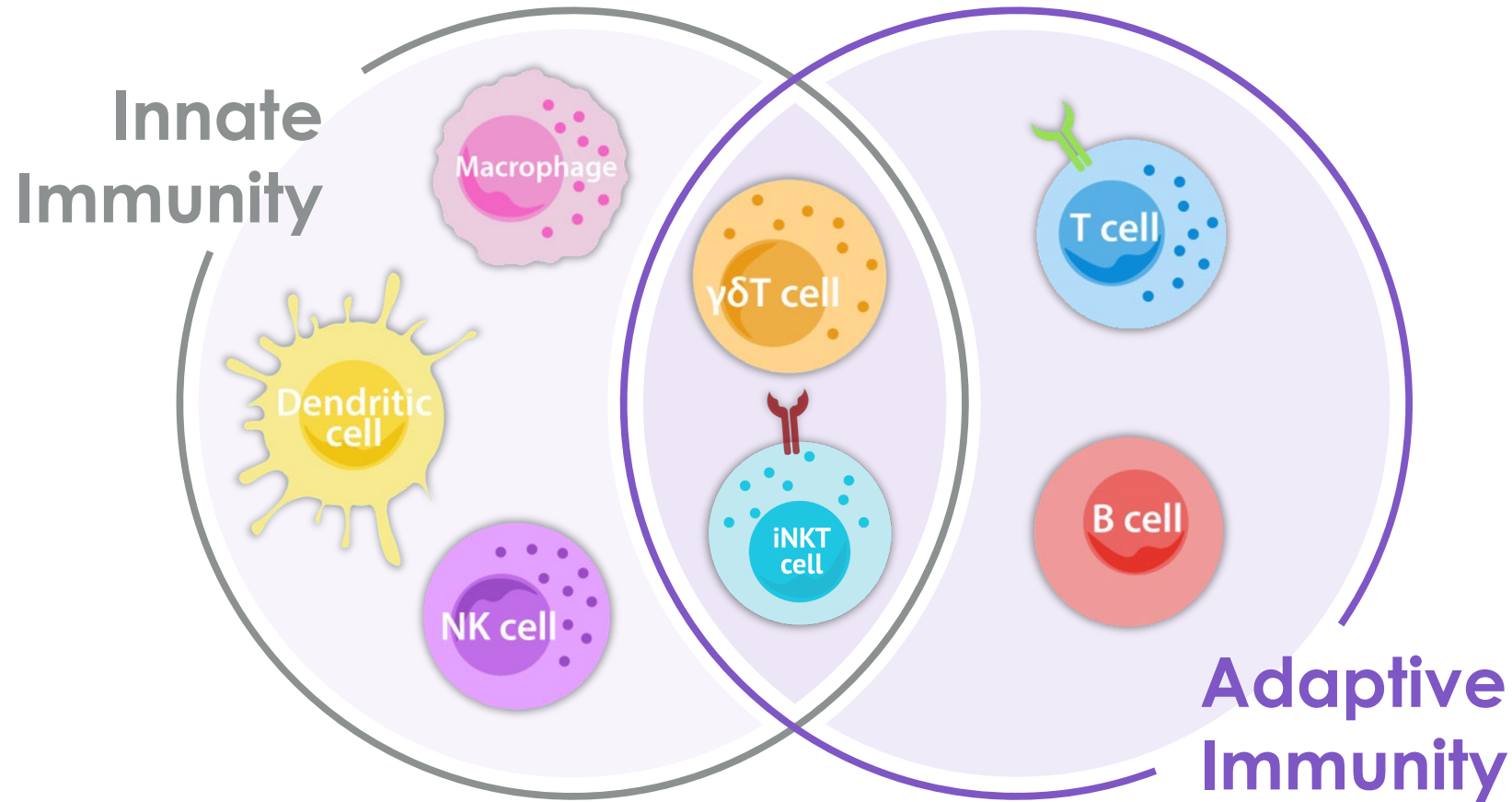


 **1 week**

Patients ready to dose within 1 week

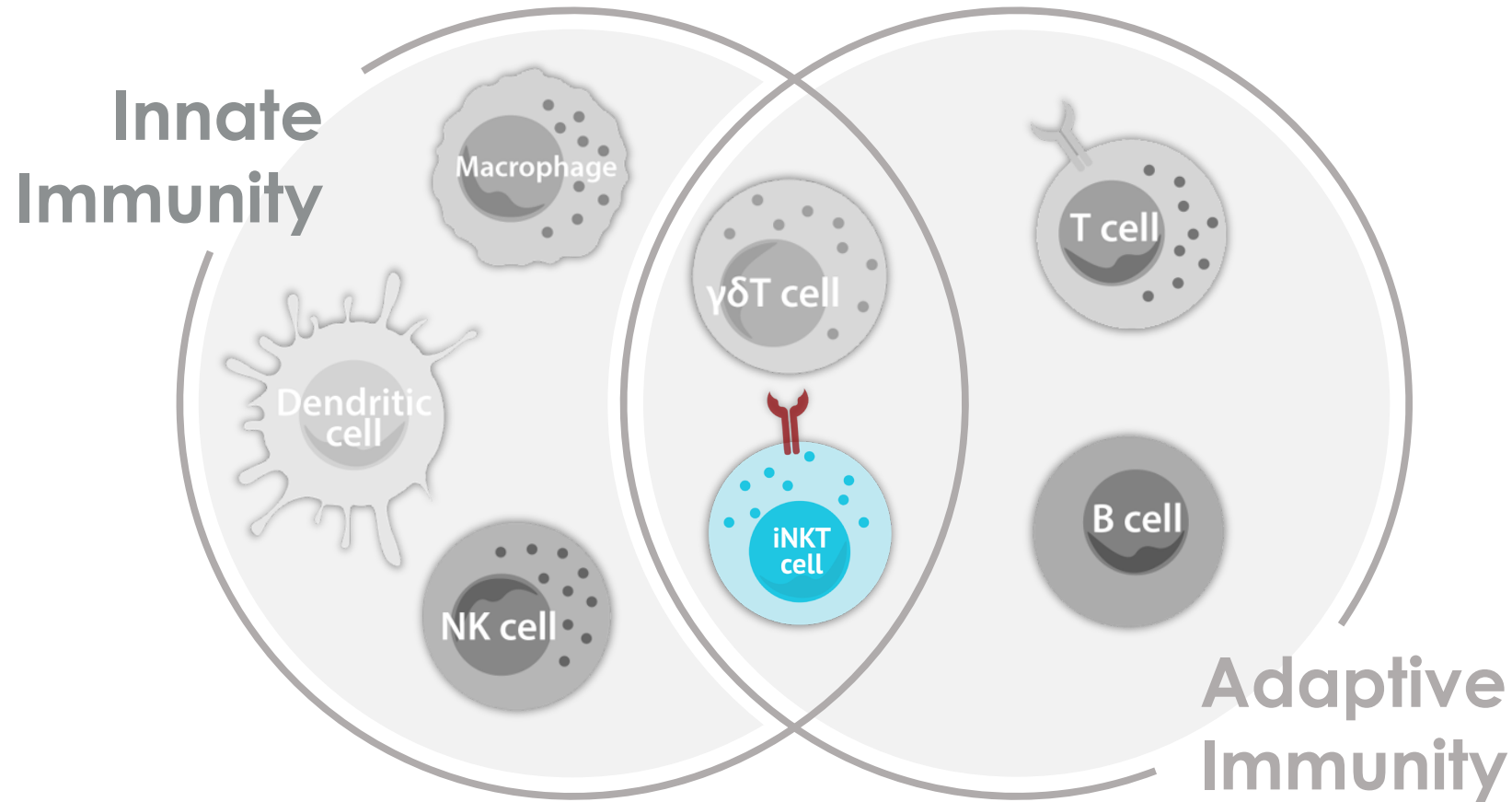
Introducing invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cells

Bridging the innate and adaptive immune system



iNKT cells represent a next-generation cell therapy

Properties make them ideal for use in cell therapy



Strong safety profile

- Don't cause graft versus host disease (GvHD)

Front line of the human immune system

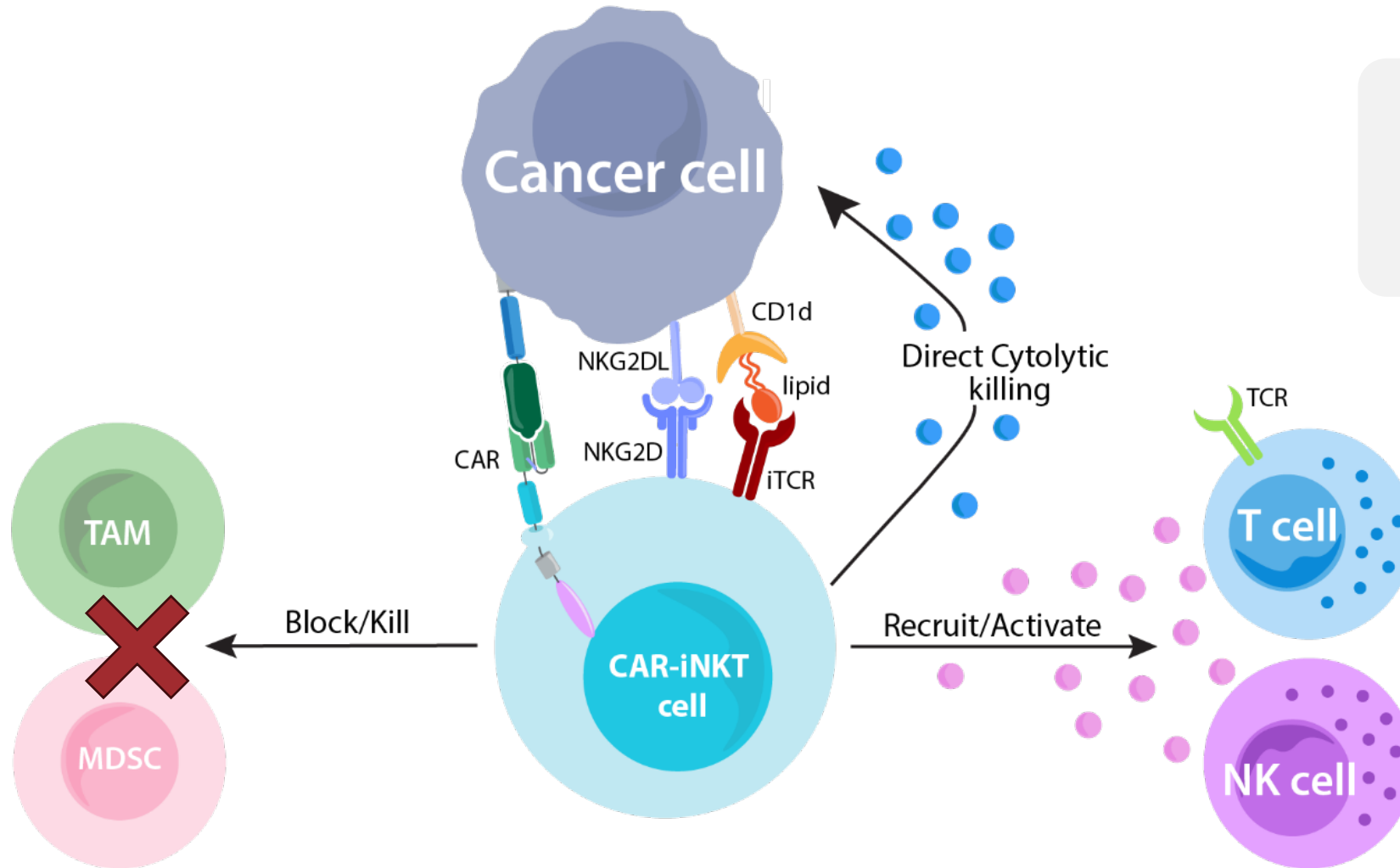
- Bridge innate & adaptive immune responses
- Contain both T cell & NK cell killing mechanisms
- Naturally target & kill cancers that express CD1d

Multiple anti-cancer properties

- Shape the tumour microenvironment by blocking/killing pro tumour cells (TAMs/MDSCs)
- Infiltrate tumours & secrete signaling molecules to activate other immune cells to kill tumour cells

CAR-iNKT cells have multiple ways to kill cancer cells

Also recruit 'good' immune cells and block 'bad' immune cells



TAM	Tumour Associated Macrophage
MDSC	Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cell
CAR	Chimeric Antigen Receptor
NK	Natural Killer

1. Via the CAR

- Specific target depending on tumour type

2. Via the NKG2D pathway

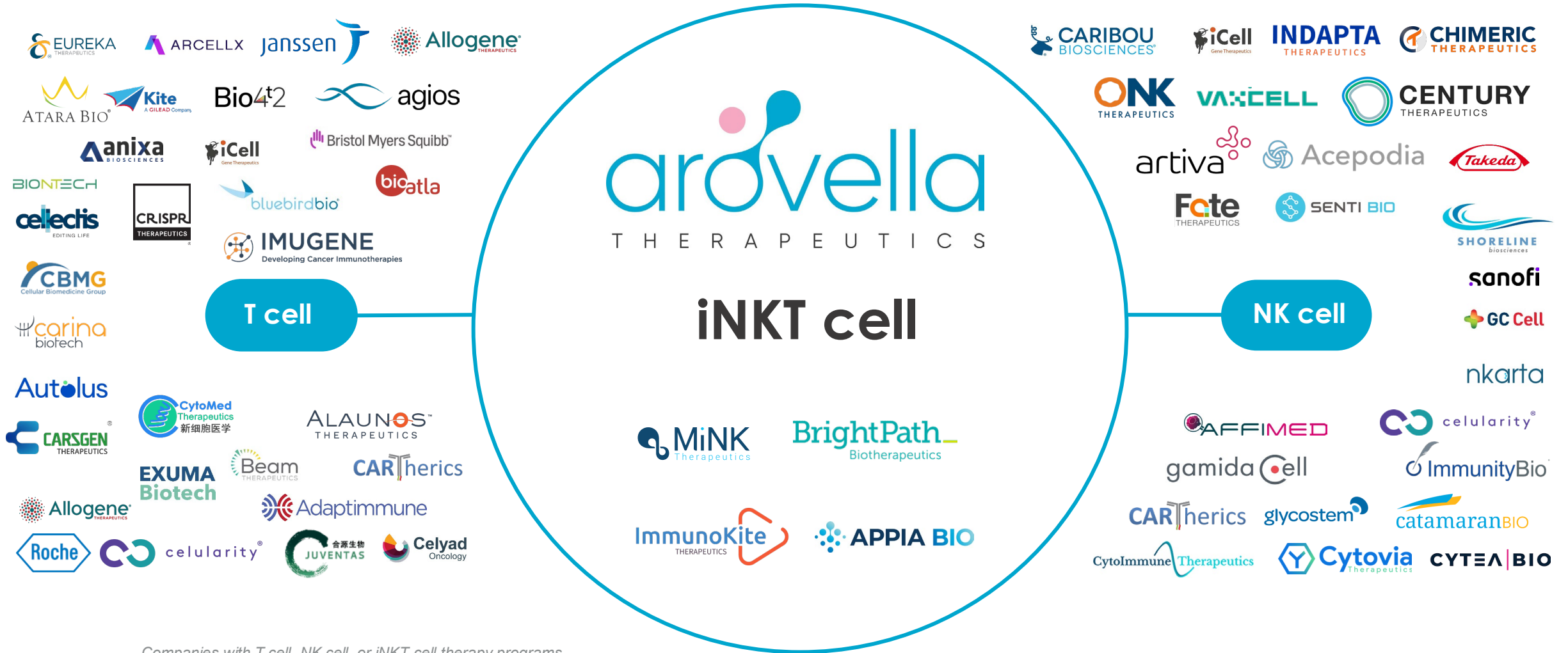
- NKG2D ligands are upregulated in cancer cells

3. Via lipid-bound CD1d

- Several cancers naturally express CD1d

A differentiated position

T cell and NK cell sectors are competitive

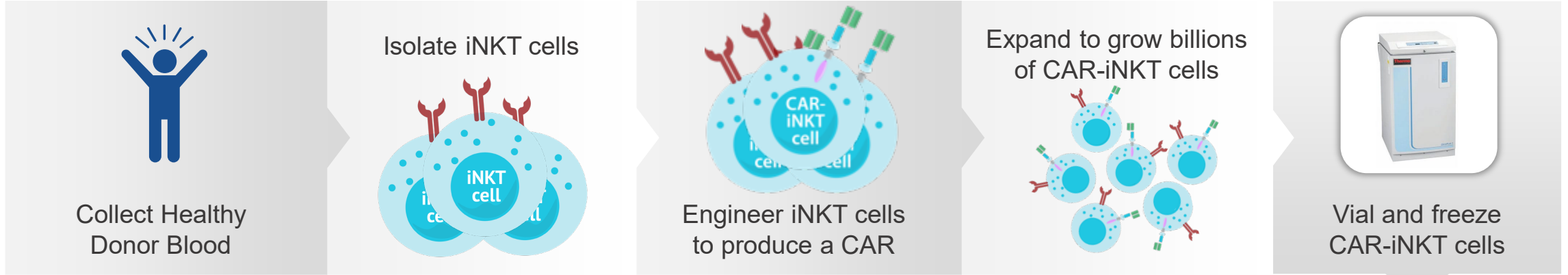


Companies with T cell, NK cell, or iNKT cell therapy programs.
Source: Company analysis based on public information

CAR-iNKT cell therapy production advantages

Off-the-shelf manufacturing advantages

MANUFACTURING



Healthier starting material

Potentially better efficacy



Scalable manufacturing with reduced costs

Reach more patients



Faster access to treatment

Improved outcomes for aggressive cancers



Removes risk of manufacturing run failure

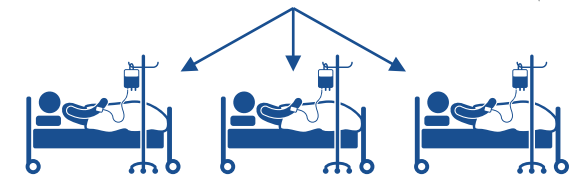


Vial and freeze CAR-iNKT cells

Thaw CAR-iNKT cells



Dose eligible patients



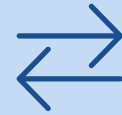
TREATMENT

iNKT cell platform advantages



Efficient expansion of genetically modified cells leads to

**multiple doses
from a single
batch**



High transduction efficiency

a high percentage of isolated iNKT cells (>60%) become modified to express the CAR



Uses mature iNKT cells from healthy adult donors that **do not require 'reprogramming'**



Transduction performed immediately after isolation of low number of cells, resulting in

reduction in quantity of expensive reagents required



Maintains **highly cytotoxic** population of iNKT cells



ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)

A next generation **off-the-shelf**
cell therapy for CD19
expressing cancers

CD19+ hematological malignancies

Targeting CD19+ blood cancers

**CD19+
lymphomas
and CD19+
leukemias**

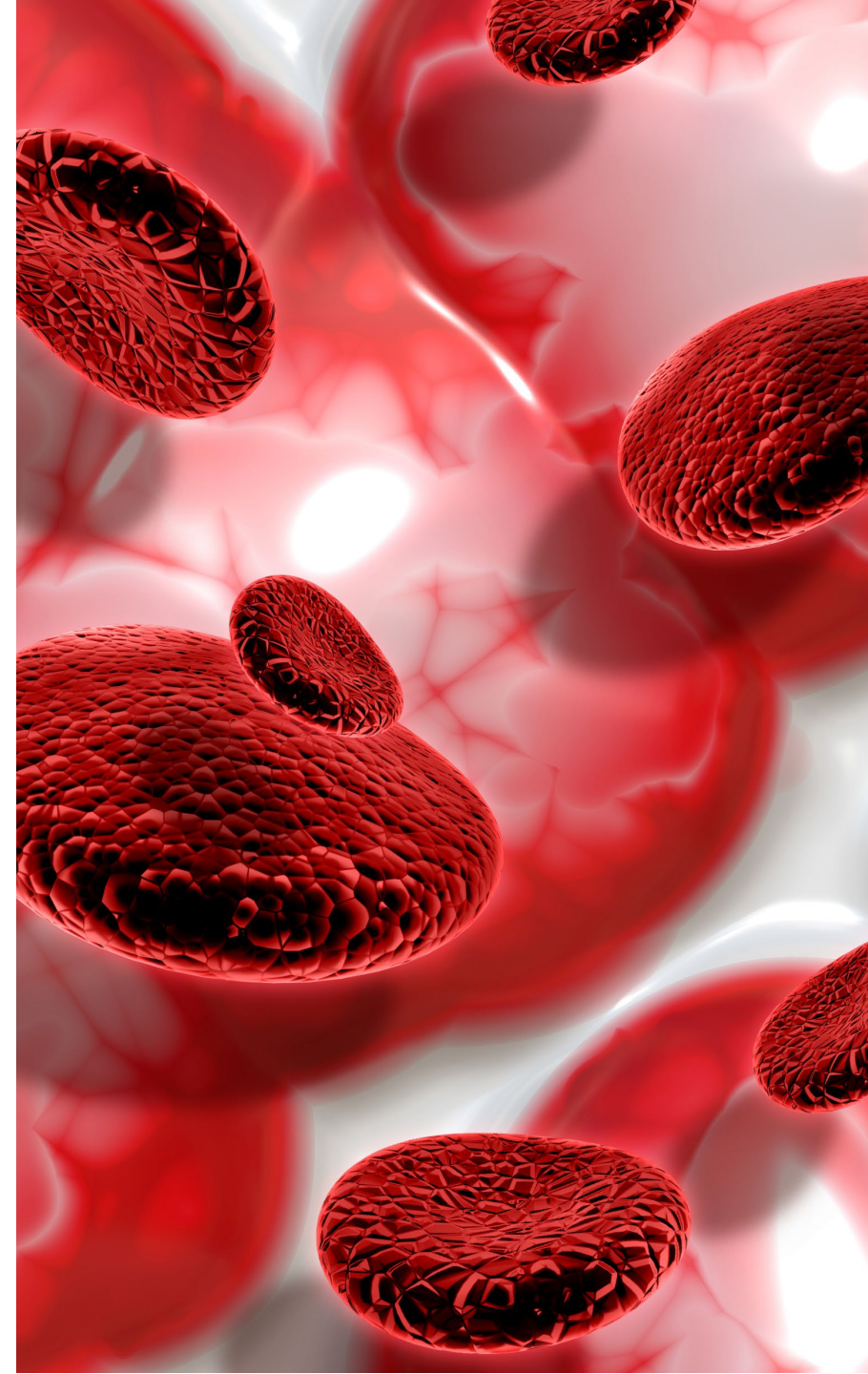
>140k cases in the US in 2023^{1,2}

>40k deaths in the US in 2023^{1,2}

CAR-T products are moving to second line therapy

No allogeneic cell therapy approved to date for blood cancers

- Certain sub-types of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and leukaemia provide opportunities to apply for orphan drug designation



CAR-T cell therapies pose challenges

Targeting CD19-expressing blood cancers

Current
Treatments

Four

approved
autologous
CAR-T products
target CD19

**Significant
unmet need
remains**

**6-month
complete
response rate in
relapsed
refractory DLBCL** = **Only 30-35%**

**Substantial
safety risk** = **with high rates of
CRS, ICANS and
infections**

ALA-101 Solution



Off-the-shelf

iNKT cell therapy that
targets CD19
expressing cancer cells



Attractive potential treatment

For B cell Lymphomas
and Leukaemias



Clinical trial 2024

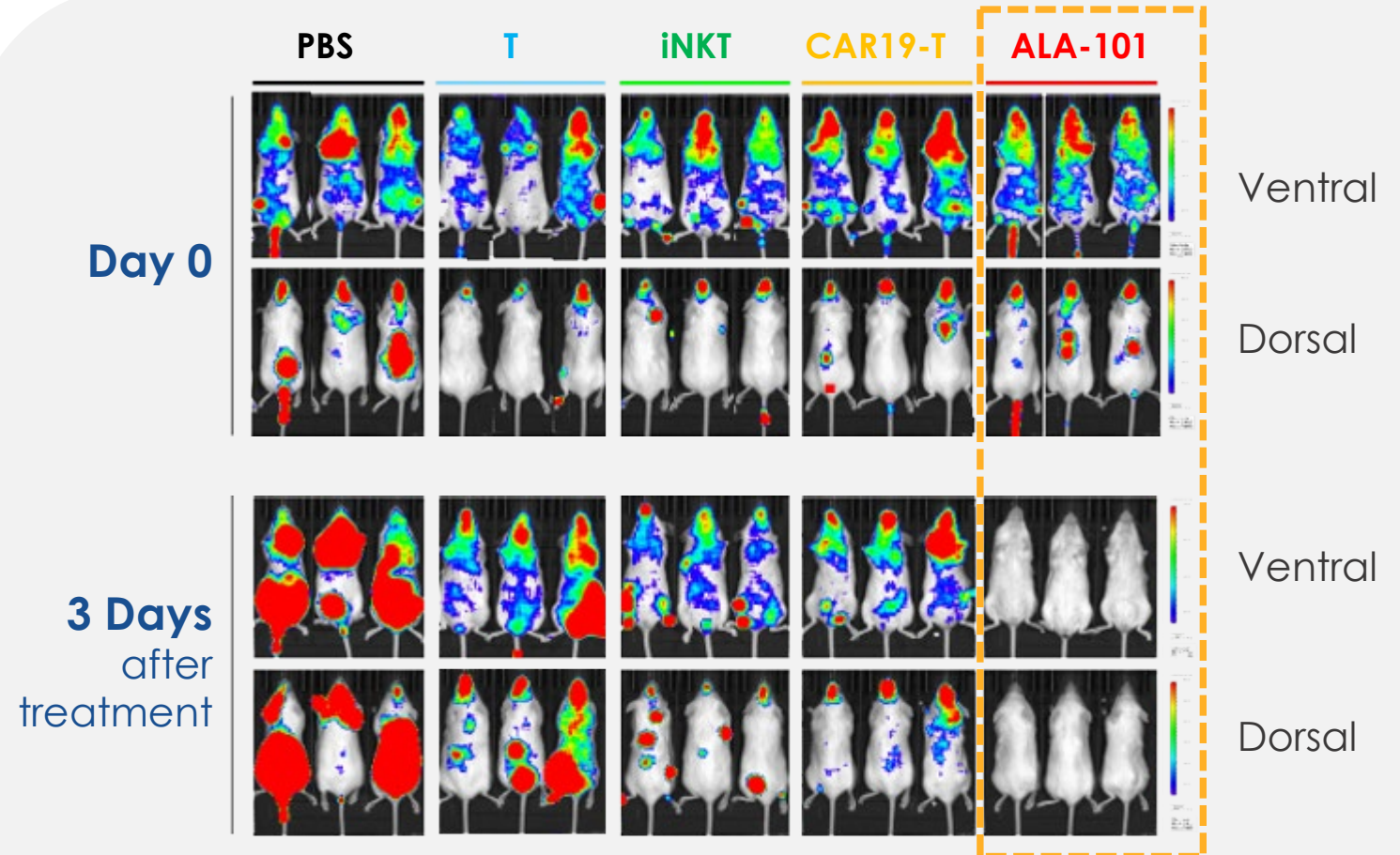
Phase 1 clinical trial in
non-Hodgkin's
lymphoma expected to
commence in 2024

DLBCL =Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma; CRS = Cytokine Release Syndrome; ICANS = Immune Effector Cell Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome

ALA-101: enhanced tumour killing *in vivo*

ALA-101 rapidly eradicates tumour cells in mice

- Tumour cells expressing **CD19** and **CD1d** were intravenously delivered into mice
- Mice were treated with:
 - PBS (saline)
 - Unmodified T cells (T)
 - Unmodified iNKT cells (iNKT)
 - CAR19-T cells
 - ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)
- After three days, ALA-101 resulted in significant regression of tumour cells
- In all other treatments, there was strong tumour cell persistence
- ALA-101 displays swift action

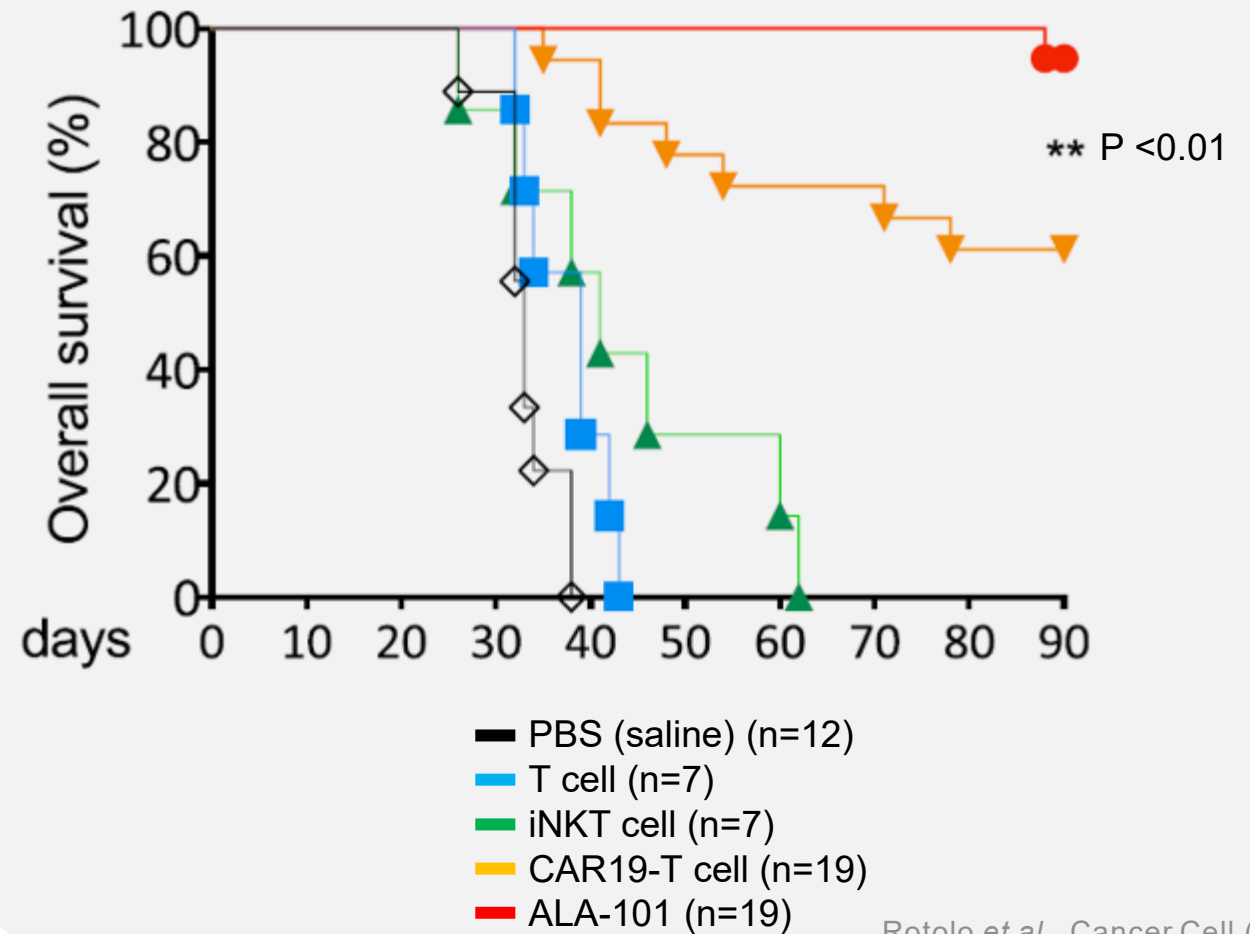


Rotolo *et al.*, Cancer Cell (2018)

ALA-101: next generation cell therapy

ALA-101 significantly increased survival in mice versus treatment with CAR19-T cells

- Tumour cells expressing **CD19** and **CD1d** were intravenously delivered into mice
- Mice were treated with:
 - PBS (saline)
 - Unmodified T cells (T)
 - Unmodified iNKT cells (iNKT)
 - CAR19-T cells
 - ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)
- After 90 days, only mice treated with CAR19-T cells or ALA-101 remained alive
- 1.5x more mice treated with ALA-101 remained alive after 90 days relative to CAR19-T cells
- ALA-101 has the potential to be an effective, off-the-shelf cell therapy for the treatment of CD19-expressing cancers

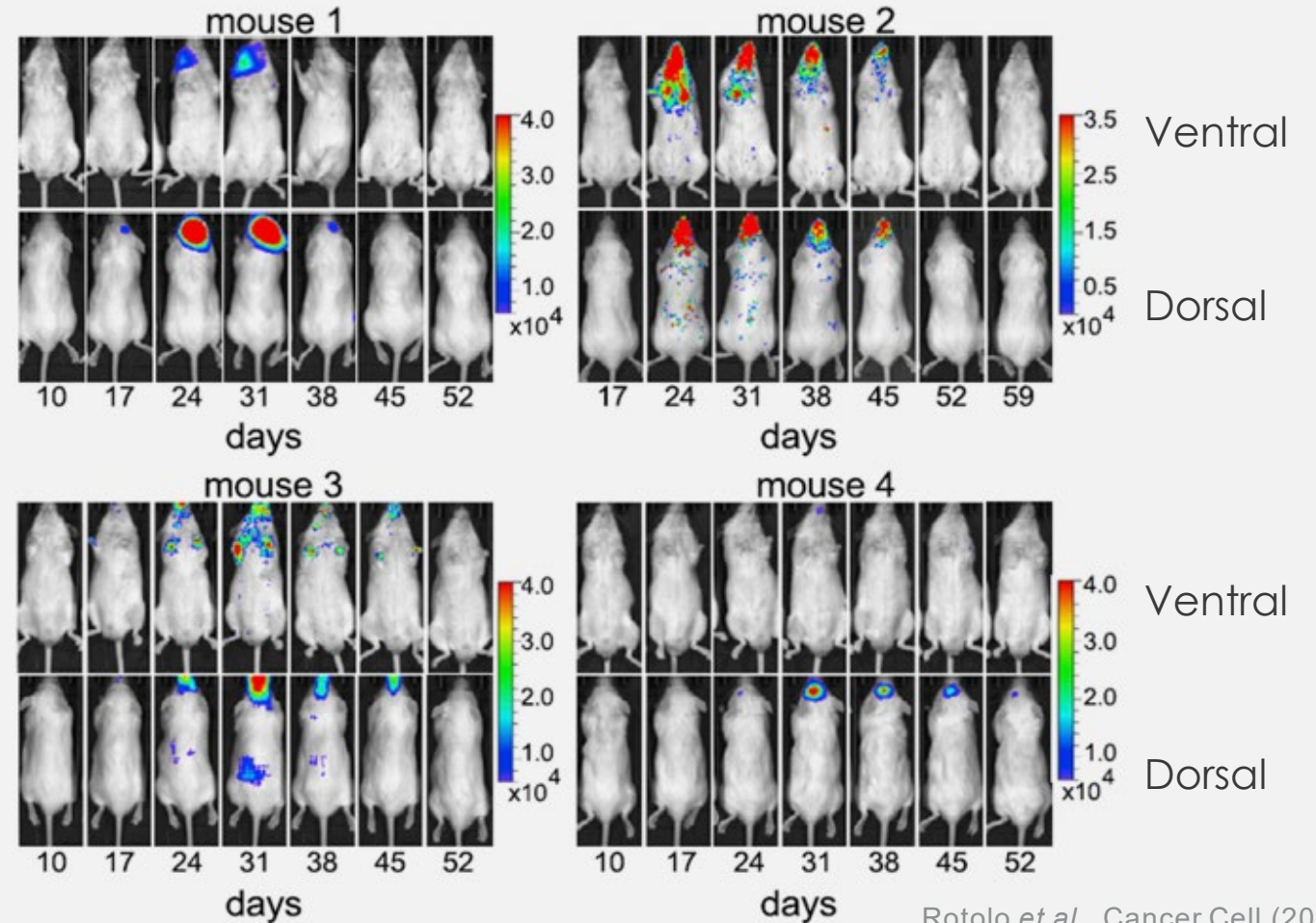


Rotolo et al., Cancer Cell (2018)

ALA-101: spontaneous secondary remission

ALA-101 activity may persist to eradicate tumour cells following relapse

- Four mice treated with ALA-101 had the cancer return to the brain
- In all four mice, the cancer was eliminated a second time with no additional dosing
- This provides evidence that CAR19-iNKT cells can survive and continue to protect against cancer cells in vivo
- Potential to use ALA-101 to treat central nervous system lymphoma or brain metastases



Rotolo *et al.*, Cancer Cell (2018)

Progress towards first-in-human clinical trials

ALA-101 data confirms activity and off-the-shelf capability

Potent antitumour activity

Demonstrated efficacy of ALA-101 against CD19+ lymphomas and leukemias. Proof-of-concept data with clinical-designed lentiviral vector in animal models using thawed, “off-the-shelf” ALA-101.



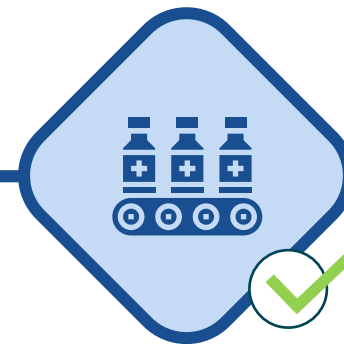
Expected to be safe

iNKT cells have been shown in clinical trials not to cause graft versus host disease (GvHD) and the CD19 targeting CAR (FMC63) is a validated targeting agent in approved cell therapies.

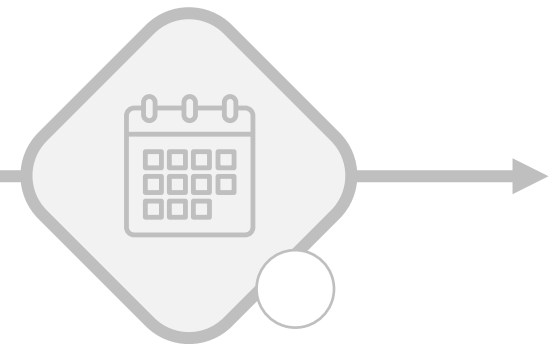
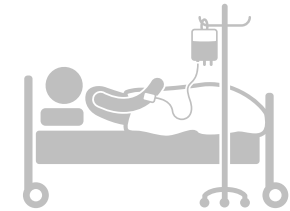


Multiple dose manufacturing

ALA has demonstrated that its manufacturing process can produce a high number of CAR+ cells with potent cell killing properties and has completed production of GMP-grade lentivirus for CD19 CAR expression.



Phase 1 clinical trial anticipated CY 2024



iNKT cells to target solid tumours

Arovella is implementing its strategy to target and kill solid tumours – 90% of newly diagnosed cancer cases¹

1. <https://www.cancer.gov/types/common-cancers>

Arovella's strategies to combat solid tumours

Arovella is using three approaches to expand the iNKT cell platform into solid tumours



License novel cancer targets

Identify and license new targets that are expressed in multiple cancers to incorporate into Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform



Armour iNKT cells

Enhance the performance of iNKT cells by equipping iNKT cells with novel armouring technologies



Create unique partnerships

Create partnerships to use novel combination therapies with synergistic effects

Solid tumours pose challenges to cell therapies



Solid tumours are more **difficult to treat with cell therapies**



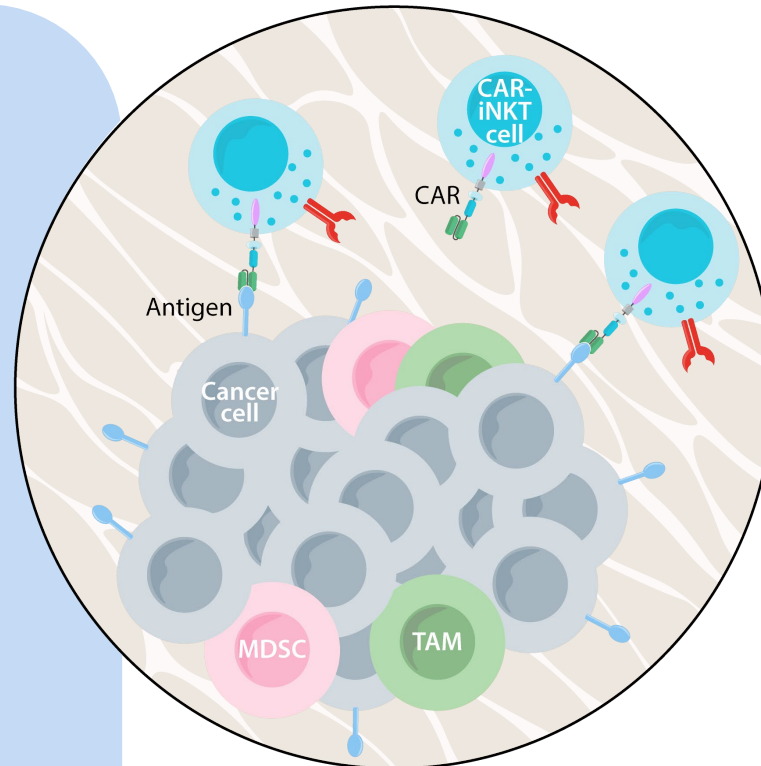
Access to tumour



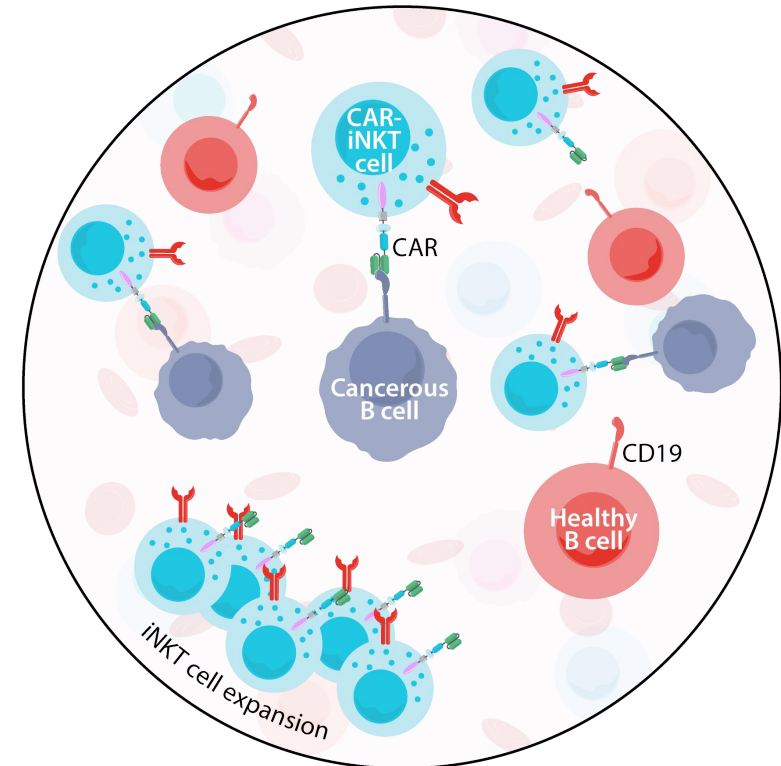
Antigen specificity and uniformity



Tumour microenvironment contains cells that support cancer cell growth



Solid tumour



Blood cancer

iNKT cells:



Home to tissues and infiltrate tumours

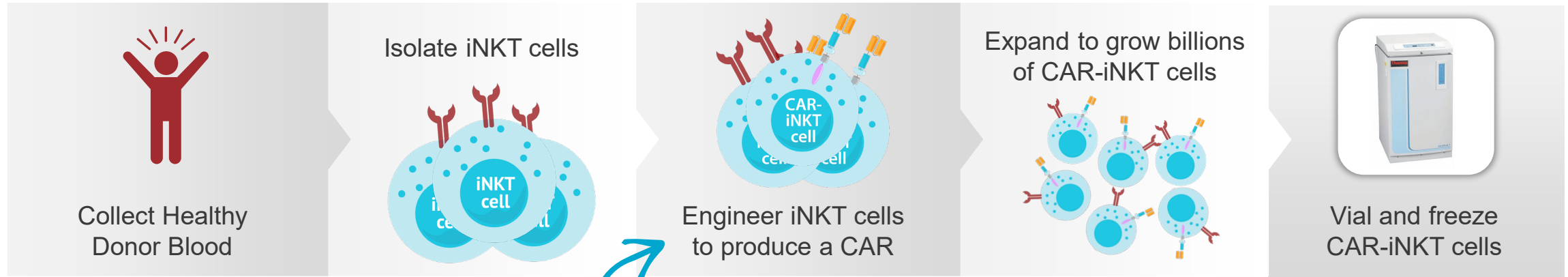


Modify the TME to block or kill cells that promote tumour growth and recruit helpful immune cells

Add additional CARs for novel targets

Arovella's manufacturing process can be leveraged for multiple cancer types

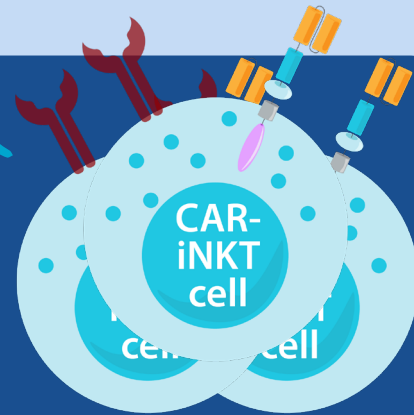
MANUFACTURING



CARs targeting novel antigens specific for solid tumours

can be incorporated into iNKT cells

using the same manufacturing process



+ New lentiviral vector generated for each new CAR

Introducing Claudin 18.2 (CLDN18.2)

A promising solid tumour target

CLDN18.2 overexpression has been **identified in several types of cancers**

gastric cancer (GC)

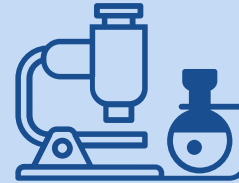
gastroesophageal junction cancer (GEJC)

pancreatic cancer (PC)

esophageal cancer (EC)

ovarian adenocarcinoma (OAC)

lung cancers (LC)



Validated target

with first monoclonal antibody expected to be **approved in 2024**



Gastric cancer

market alone expected to reach **\$10.7 billion** by 2031¹

1. <https://www.alliedmarketresearch.com/gastric-cancer-market-A74458#:~:text=The%20global%20gastric%20cancer%20market,cells%20lining%20of%20the%20stomach>

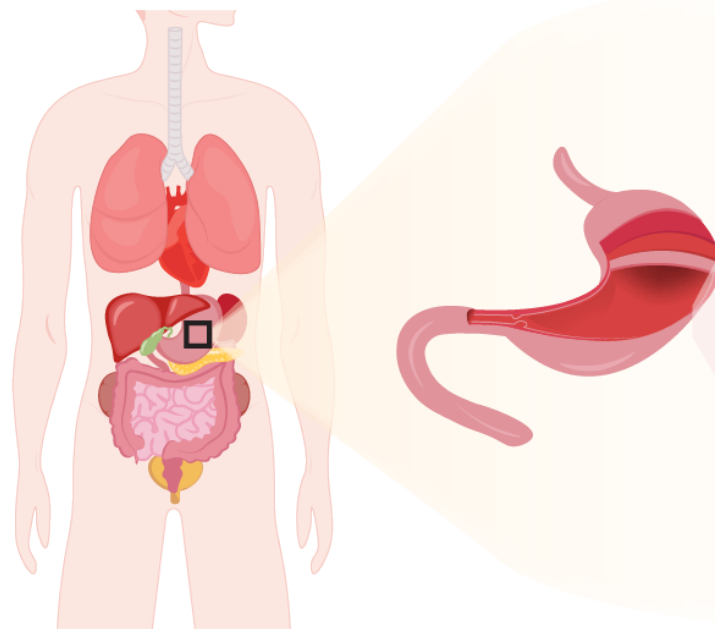
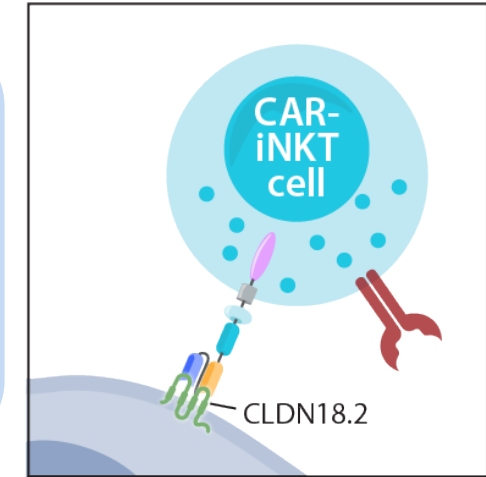
CLDN18.2 is a validated target

CLDN18.2 is hidden in healthy tissues and exposed on tumour cells

CLDN18.2 is **not present in most healthy tissues** but is found in gastric mucosal membrane epithelial cells (lining of GI tract)

In normal tissue CLDN18.2 is sequestered in tight junctions and hidden between cells so is **not accessible**

Changes in cancer cells lead to **exposure of CLDN18.2** and CLDN18.2 is expressed on primary cancers and metastases



Healthy tissue

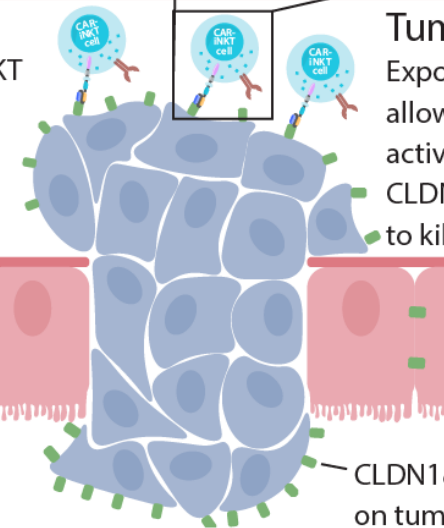
No access to CLDN18.2-iNKT



CLDN18.2 hidden between healthy cells

Tumour

Exposure of CLDN18.2 allows binding and activation of CLDN18.2-iNKT cells to kill tumour cell



CLDN18.2 exposed on tumour cells

Targeting tumours of high unmet need

CLDN18.2 is found in a high proportion of gastric and pancreatic cancers



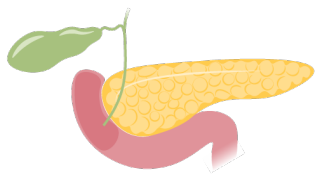
Gastric Cancer

>1,000k cases per annum globally¹

770k deaths per annum globally¹

~6-33% Regional and distant 5-year survival²

4th highest cause of cancer death annually¹



Pancreatic Cancer

496k cases per annum globally³

466k deaths per annum globally³

~3-15% Regional and distant 5-year survival⁴

No effective standard of care For late-stage diagnosis

A Claudin 18.2 mAb is effective in gastric cancer

The mAb, zolbetuximab, is expected to be approved in Q1 2024



Zolbetuximab

completed
phase 3

and is expecting
approval in 2024

FDA granted Priority Review Biologics License Application (BLA)

Priority Review
only granted for major
advances in therapy
or where no adequate
therapy exists



2.4 months increase

in overall survival

relative to standard of care
in phase 3 study for gastric
and gastroesophageal
junction cancers*

Astellas acquired zolbetuximab

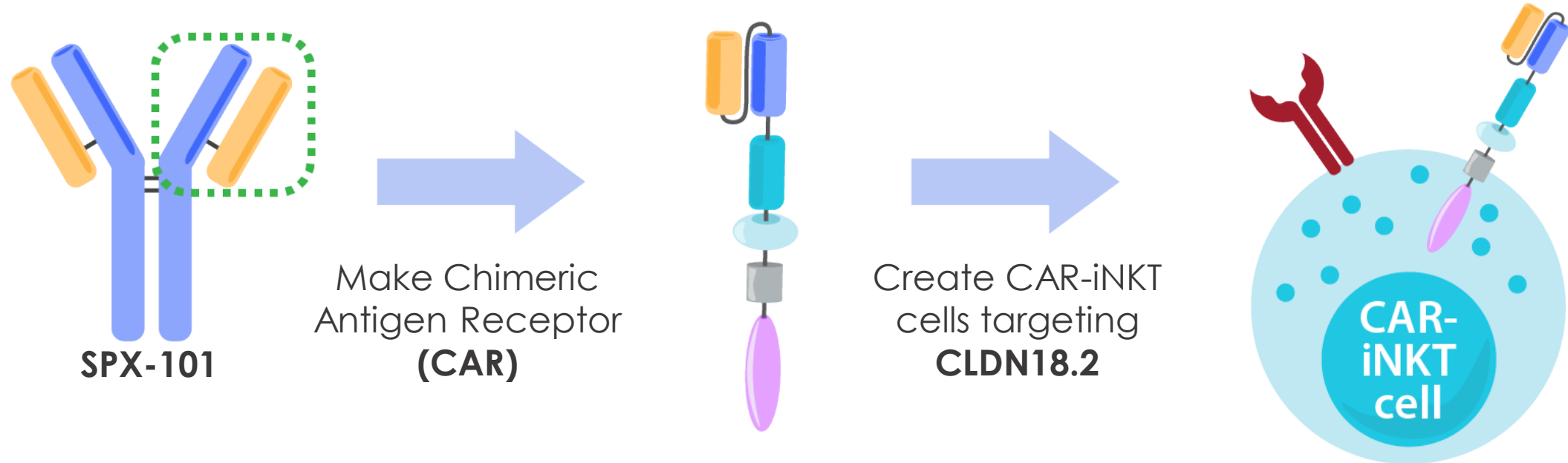
through the acquisition
of **Ganymed** in 2016
for an upfront payment of
€422 million and milestones
of **€860 million** and

expects peak sales of US \$0.65-\$1.3 billion



Leverage the mAb to create CLDN18.2-CAR-iNKT cells

Cell therapies generally expected to have better efficacy than mAbs

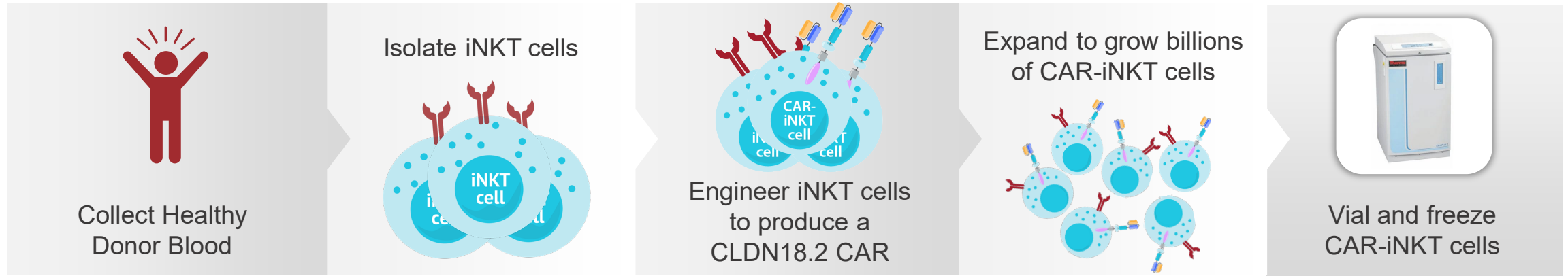


- The CLDN18.2-binding domain of SPX-101 will be used to create a CAR and incorporated into the iNKT cell platform
- This will be the **first off-the-shelf CAR-iNKT cell product targeting CLDN18.2**
 - An autologous CLDN18.2 CAR-T product is in Phase 1 and has demonstrated promising data

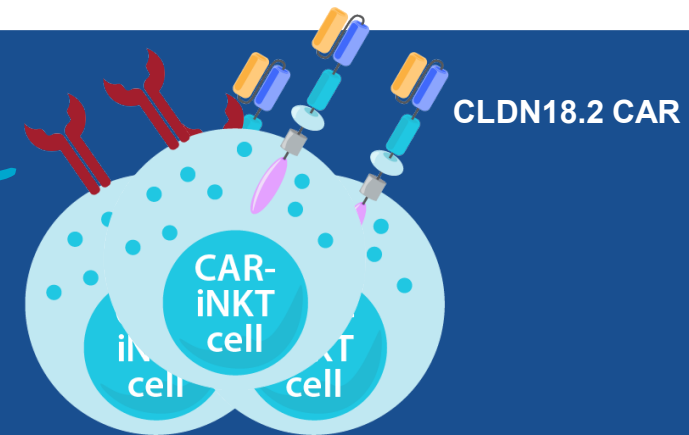
Manufacturing CLDN18.2-iNKT cells

Generation of CLDN18.2-iNKT cells will leverage existing manufacturing process

MANUFACTURING



Arovella will use its **proprietary manufacturing process** to create CLDN18.2-iNKT cells



“Armouring” CAR-iNKT cells

IL-12-TM (cytokine technology) enhances CAR-iNKT cell activity in solid tumours

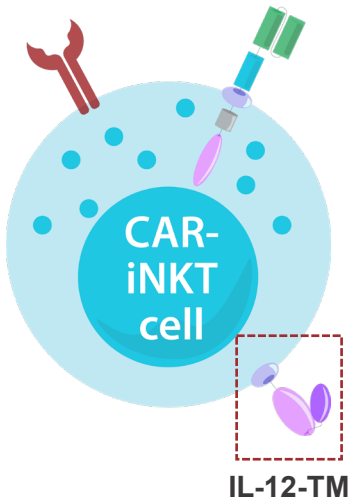
IL-12-TM

IL-12-TM is a modified version of IL-12

with a membrane anchor that links it to the surface of CAR-iNKT cells. By linking it to the surface of iNKT cells, it can enhance CAR-iNKT cells without being released into the blood stream making it safer.

The IL-12-TM is incorporated into the lentiviral vector and system and

does not require changes to the manufacturing process



iNKT cells + IL-12-TM

Expand more and survive for longer

than CAR-iNKT cells lacking the cytokine

10x more circulating CAR-iNKT cells

4 weeks after treatment in a mouse model

Superior anti-tumour activity

compared to CAR-iNKT cells lacking the cytokine

The technology has been published in the prestigious, peer reviewed journal **Nature Communications**

[nature](#) > [nature communications](#) > [articles](#) > article

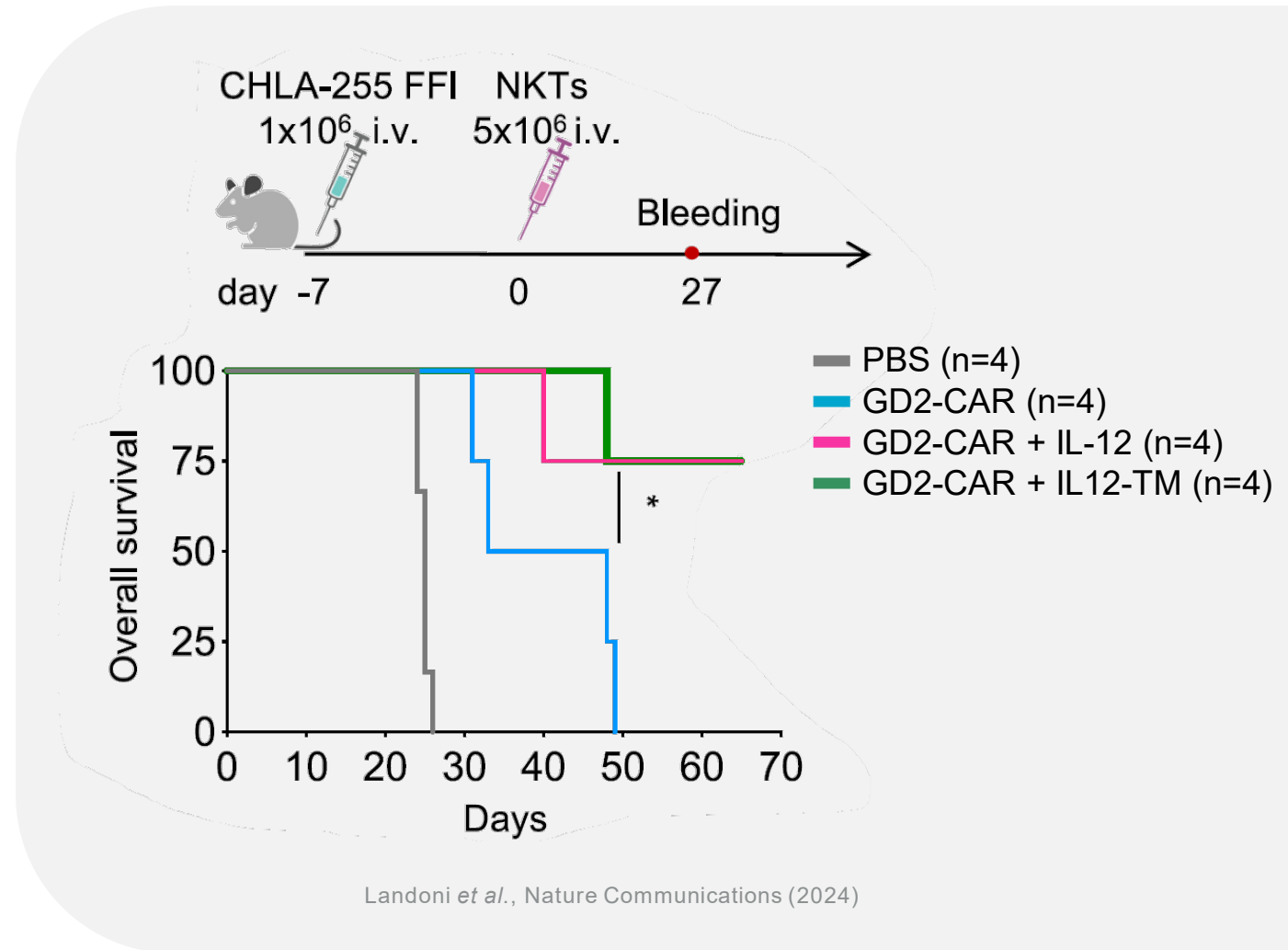
Article | [Open access](#) | [Published: 02 January 2024](#)

IL-12 reprograms CAR-expressing natural killer T cells to long-lived Th1-polarized cells with potent antitumor activity

Key benefits of IL-12-TM for CAR-iNKT cells

IL-12-TM enhances antitumor activity of CAR-iNKT cells

- Tumour cells expressing GD2 and were intravenously delivered into mice before treatment with CAR-iNKT cells
- Mice were treated with:
 - PBS (saline)
 - GD2-CAR
 - GD2-CAR + IL-12
 - GD2-CAR + IL-12-TM
- After 60 days, only mice treated with GD2-CAR + IL12 or IL-12-TM remained alive
- IL-12-TM enhances CAR-iNKT cell numbers and antitumour activity

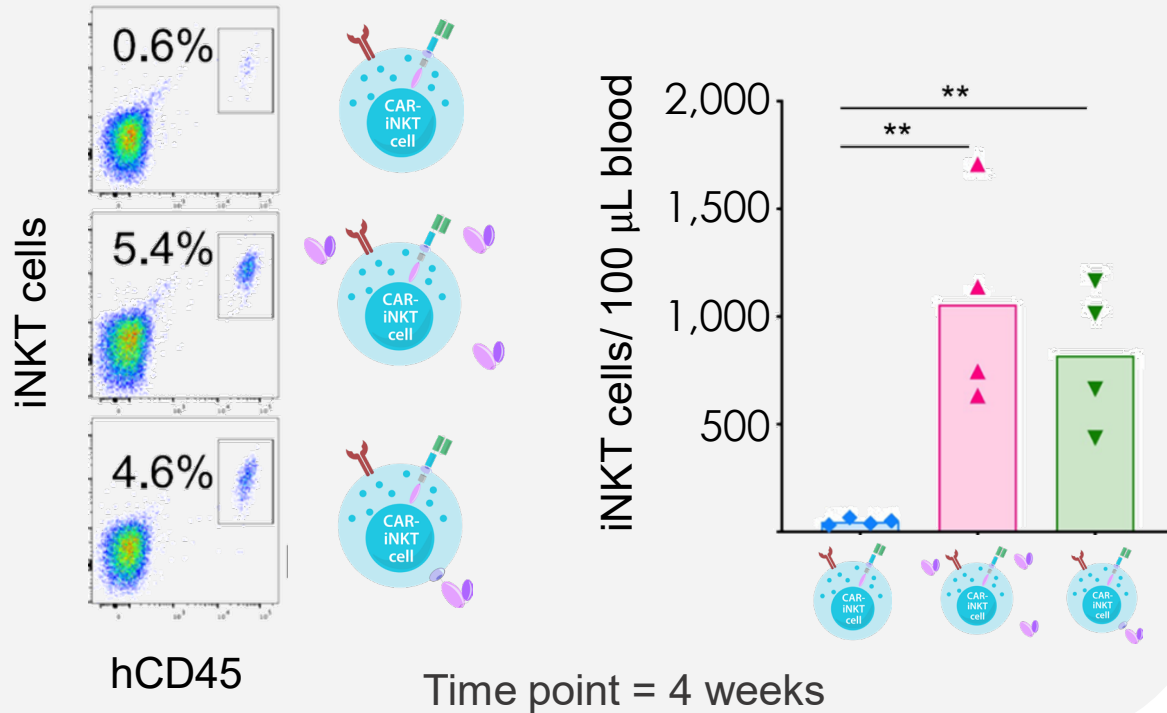


Key benefits of IL-12-TM for CAR-iNKT cells

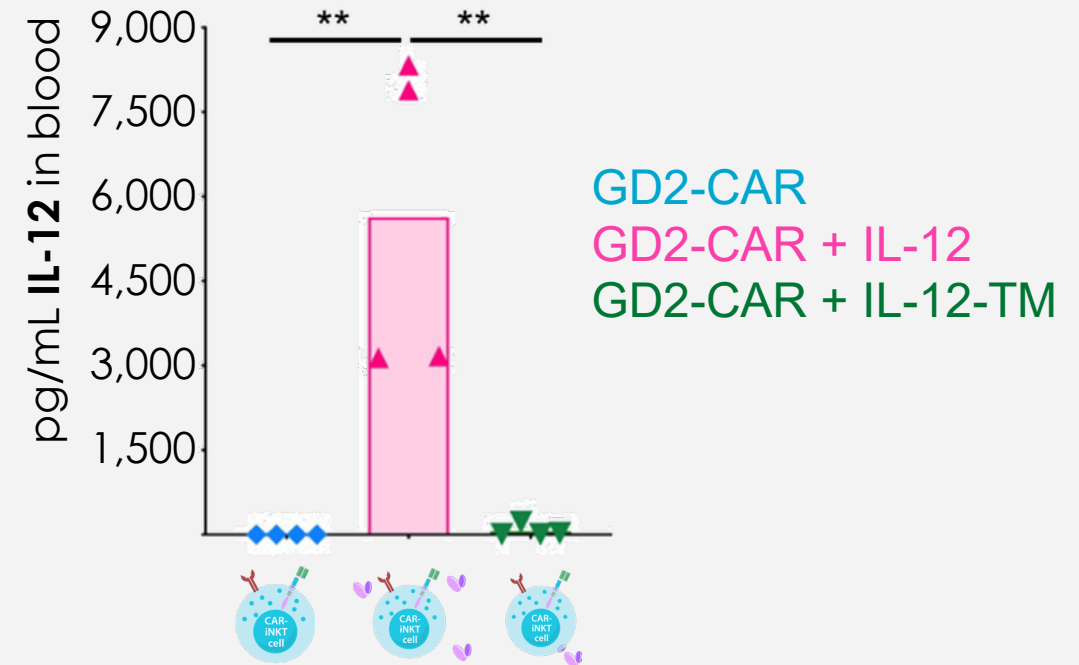
IL-12-TM increases CAR-iNKT cell numbers and does not get released into the bloodstream



Increased CAR-iNKT cell numbers



IL-12-TM is not released from CAR-iNKT cells



Key benefits of IL-12-TM for CAR-iNKT cells

We expect IL-12-TM to enhance Arovella's CAR-iNKT cell platform

Increases CAR-iNKT cell numbers

IL-12-TM prolongs persistence of CAR-iNKT cells. Cells continue to proliferate and increase in number.



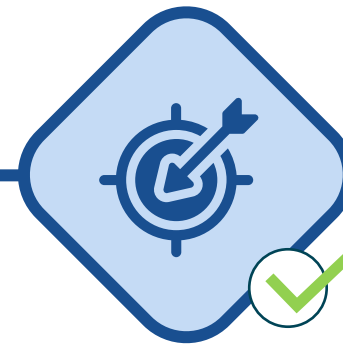
IL-12-TM is not released from CAR-iNKT cells

IL-12-TM is not released from CAR-iNKT cells and is expected to be safer than secreted IL-12.



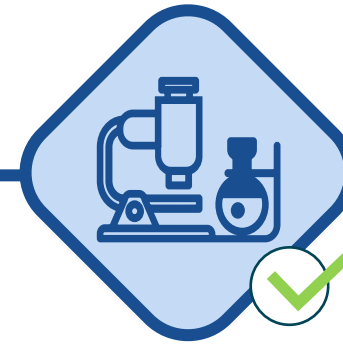
Enhances CAR-iNKT cell antitumour activity

IL-12-TM enhances CAR-iNKT antitumor activity against solid tumour cancers like neuroblastoma



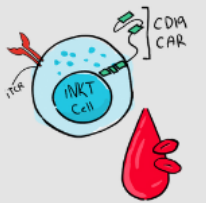
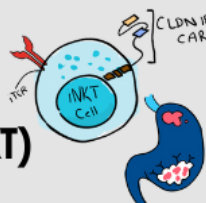
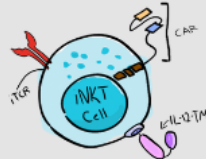
Integrates with existing manufacturing process

IL-12-TM incorporated into lentiviral vector and does not require changes to manufacturing process



Arovella's expanding pipeline



PRODUCT	INDICATION	DISCOVERY	PRECLINICAL	PHASE 1
ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT) 	CD19 Expressing cancers	CD19 Expressing Lymphoma		
ALA-105 (CLDN18.2-iNKT) 	CLDN18.2 positive solid tumours	Gastric & Pancreatic Cancers		
IL-12-TM 	Solid Tumours	Solid Tumours		

Financial overview

Financial Snapshot

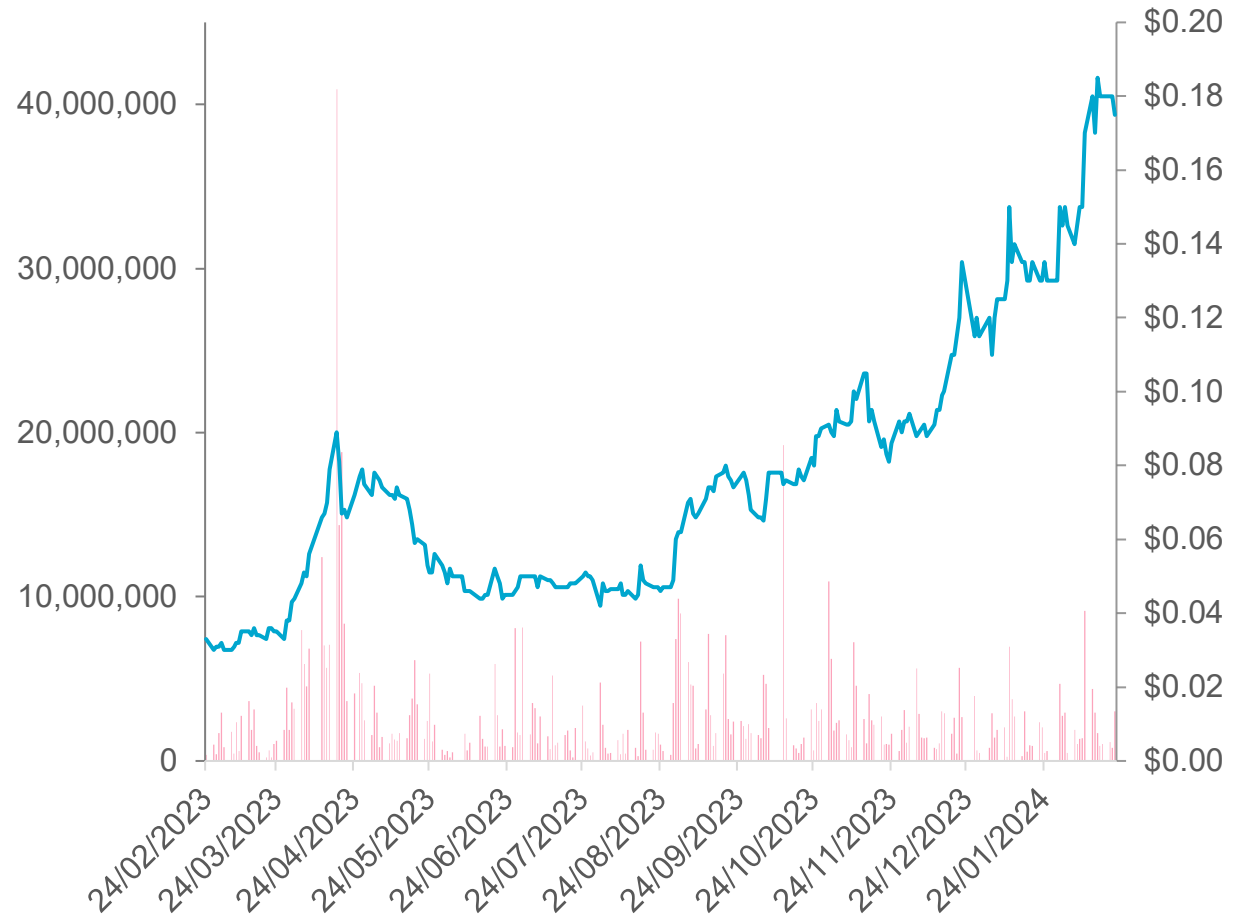
ASX CODE	ALA
Market capitalisation ¹	\$160.7 million
Shares on issue	918.04 million
52-week low / high ¹	\$0.029 / \$0.185
Cash Balance (Dec 31 2023)	\$4.76 million

Major Shareholders

Shareholder	Ownership (%) ¹
THE TRUST COMPANY (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED	55,316,926 (6.03%)
RICHARD JOHN MANN	50,905,657 (5.55%)
UBS NOMINEES PTY LTD	20,620,196 (2.25%)
BLACKBURNE CAPITAL PTY LTD	17,637,456 (1.92%)
DYLIDE PTY LTD	15,666,666 (1.71%)

1. As of 23 February 2024

ALA Price and Volume - 12 Months¹

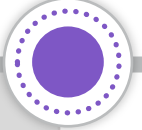


Upcoming milestones for 2024

January
2024

July
2024

December
2024



ALA-101 (CD19)

- Complete cGMP manufacture for Phase 1 clinical trials
- Complete preparatory activities for Phase 1 study, including preparation of regulatory dossier, engagement with clinical sites and KOLs

- Commence Phase 1 for ALA-101 targeting CD19+ lymphoma and leukemia

ALA-105 (CLDN18.2)

- Initiate proof-of-concept testing for CLDN18.2-iNKT cells to expand iNKT platform for treatment of solid tumours
- Optimise the CAR construct for robust efficacy

- Generate animal data for CLDN18.2 targeting CAR-iNKT cells against gastric cancer and/or pancreatic cancer
- Commence activities to manufacture ALA-105 for clinic (e.g. lentiviral vector)

iNKT Cell Therapy Platform

- Integrate IL-12-TM into solid tumour programs and test its efficacy in anti-tumour models
- Enter into a Sponsored Research Agreement (SRA) with Professor Gianpietro Dotti's research group



Expect to advance ALA-101 to Phase 1 first-in-human clinical trial during 2024

Dose escalation Phase 1 study in patients with CD19+ blood cancers

Summary



Novel allogeneic CAR-iNKT cell platform

iNKT cells serve as an excellent platform to develop allogeneic, or “off-the-shelf”, cell therapies to treat cancer



Lead product progressing to clinical trials

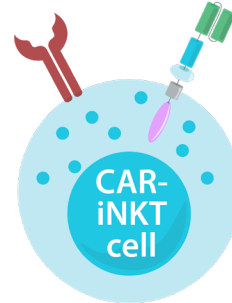
ALA-101, a potential treatment for CD19-expressing blood cancers, is being progressed to Phase 1 clinical trials, expected to commence in 2024

Arovella has an expanding pipeline

Arovella continues to expand the iNKT cell platform to potentially treat solid tumours



Arovella's CAR-iNKT Cell Platform



Improved manufacturing logistics

Allogeneic CAR-iNKT cells will significantly improve logistics and increase patient access



Arovella is poised for growth

Arovella is developing a cutting-edge CAR-iNKT cell therapy platform, with an expanding pipeline and a strong leadership team

CAR-iNKT cells have multiple anticancer properties

CAR-iNKT cells have multiple anti-cancer properties that may support enhanced efficacy over other immune cell types

ASX:ALA



Thank You

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