

IMU-935, a Potent RORγt Inverse Agonist, Effectively Inhibits T Helper 17 Cells but Maintains Normal Thymocyte Development

Evelyn Peelen, Ph.D. | Immunic Therapeutics | NASDAQ: IMUX July 28, 2022 | 3rd B & T Cell-Mediated Autoimmune Disease Drug Development Summit

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Immunic Therapeutics

Company Introduction

Our Mission



We are developing a pipeline of nextgeneration selective oral therapies focused on offering patients with chronic inflammatory and autoimmune diseases new and clinically meaningful treatment options.



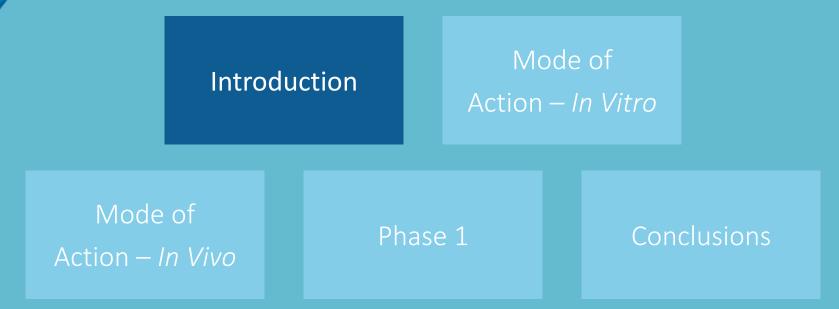


Multiple Clinical Data Readouts Expected Throughout 2022

Program	Target	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Key Milestones
Vidofludimus Calcium (IMU-838)	DHODH	Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis (RMS) – ENSURE Trials Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (PMS) – CALLIPER Trial Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC)			 RMS interim analysis planned after approx. half of the events occurred PMS interim analysis planned after half of the patients completed 24 weeks of treatment 	
IMU-935	IL-17 / RORγt	Psoriasis Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC)			 H2/2022: initial psoriasis data expected Q3/2022: initial CRPC safety data expected 	
IMU-856	Intestinal Barrier Function	Celiac Disease				 Q3/2022: SAD/MAD safety data expected

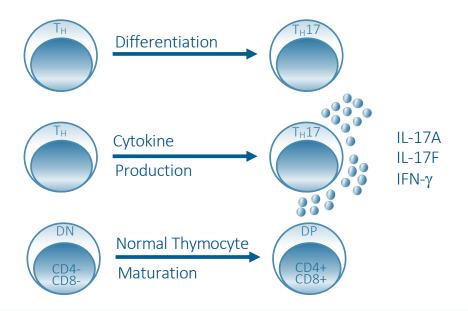


IMU-935 Overview



The Nuclear Retinoic Acid Receptor-Related Orphan Receptor (ROR) Gamma (RORγ)

- \succ ROR γ is encoded by the gene *RORC* and consists of two isoforms
 - RORγ1: full length 518 aa
 - RORγt (RORγ2): lacks the first 21 aa. It is mainly expressed by T cells, but also in some other immune cells and is involved in IL-17 expression





RORyt important in the differentiation towards $T_{\rm H} 17$ cells



ROR γt transcription factor for IL-17A and IL-17F



 ${\sf ROR}\gamma t$ important for physiological maturation of T cells within the thymus

Th: T helper; IL: interleukin; IFN: interferon; DN: double-negative; DP: double-positive; CD: cluster of differentiation



Clear Need for Potent and Specific Inhibition of IL-17 in Multiple Autoimmune Diseases

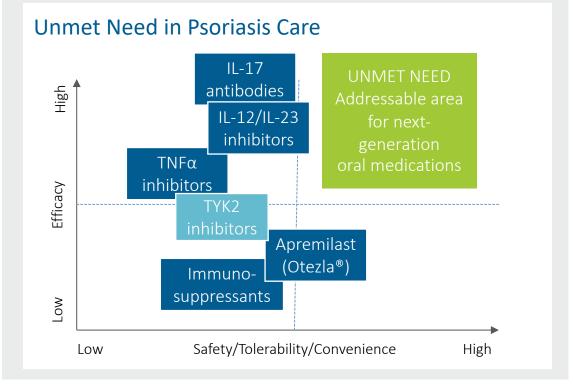


IL-17 is Significant in Many Autoimmune Diseases

- Imbalance between regulatory T cells (T_{regs}) and T helper 17 (T_H17) cells contributes to autoimmune diseases, with Th17 cells secreting pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-17^[1]
- RORγt is a master regulator of T_H17 cell development and expression of IL-17^[2]



Goal: Develop a Potent, Specific, and Orally Available IL-17 Inhibitor



[1] Fasching, Patrizia, et al. Molecules 2017 22.1: 134 [2] Bassolas-Molina, Helena et.al., Front. Immunol., 22 October 2018 [
 Th: T helper; IL: interleukin; TNF: tumor necrosis factor; TYK2: Tyrosine kinase 2; RORy: retinoic acid receptor-related orphan nuclear receptor gamma





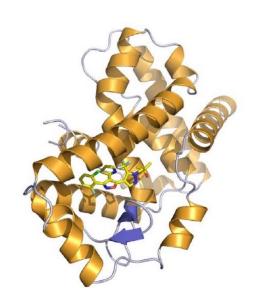


IMU-935 Inhibits Cytokines Associated With Autoimmune Diseases With an IC₅₀ of 3-5 nM in Stimulated Human Lymphocytes

	IC ₅₀ (μM)
IL-17A	0.005
IL-17F	0.004
ΙΕΝγ	0.003
IL-1a and b	no inhibition
IL-4,5,6,8	no inhibition
RORγ (MST)	0.024
RORγ (cellular, reporter assay)	0.020
Th17 differentiation (murine) ^[1]	0.135

Read-out: effect on cytokine production after 48 hours in PBMC

PBMC: Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells; Th: T helper; IL: interleukin; IFN: interferon; MST: microscale thermophoresis [1] Zuoming Sun, City of Hope, 2019



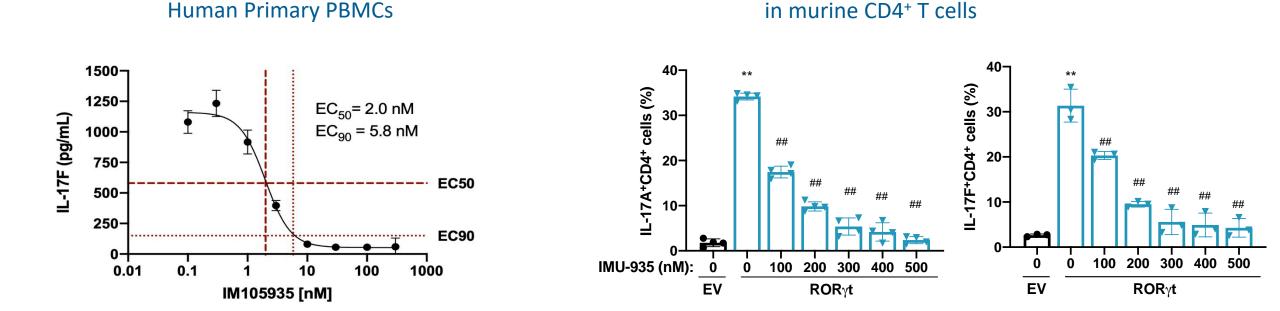
Co-crystal structure (Resolution 2.6 A) of a closely related derivative compound binds to hydroxycholesterol binding site of RORy



IMU-935 Potently Inhibits Human and Murine IL-17 and T_H 17 Cells

Intracellular IL-17A and IL-17F

Strong inhibition of human IL-17A (EC₅₀: 5 nM) and IL-17F (EC₅₀: 4 nM) secretion and murine T_H17 cell differentiation (EC₅₀: 135 nM)

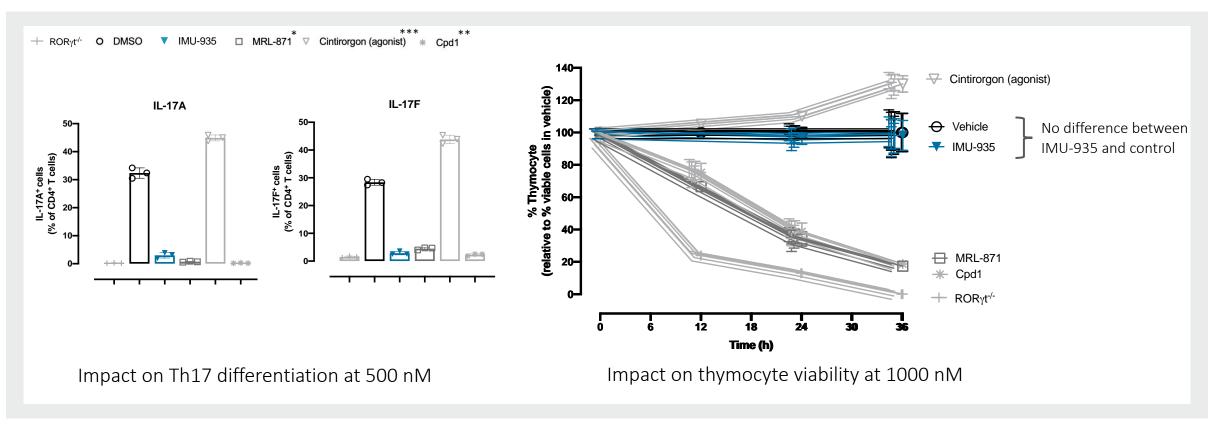




IL-17F Secretion

<u>IM</u>U-935 Potently Inhibits T_H17 Cell Differentiation but Does Not Induce Thymocyte Apoptosis

In contrast to IMU-935, comparator compounds have a negative impact on thymocyte viability and therefore bear the risk of lymphoma.



Sun, Zuoming. City of Hope, 2021, unpublished,

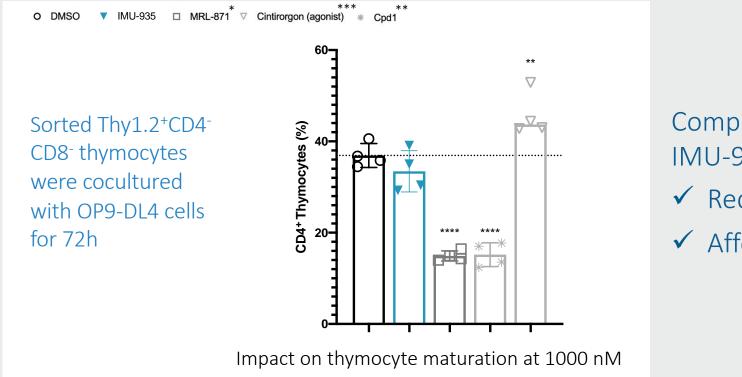
*Guo et al., 2016, Cell Reports (MRL-871), **Guntermann et al., 2017, JCI Insight (Cpd1), Mahalingam et al., 2019, ***Clin Cancer Res. (Cintirorgon)



IMU-935 Does Not Impair Thymocyte Maturation In Vitro

 $\underline{(!)}$

In contrast to IMU-935, comparator compounds have also a negative impact on thymocyte maturation and therefore bear the risk of lymphoma.



Compared to the reference compounds, IMU-935 does not:

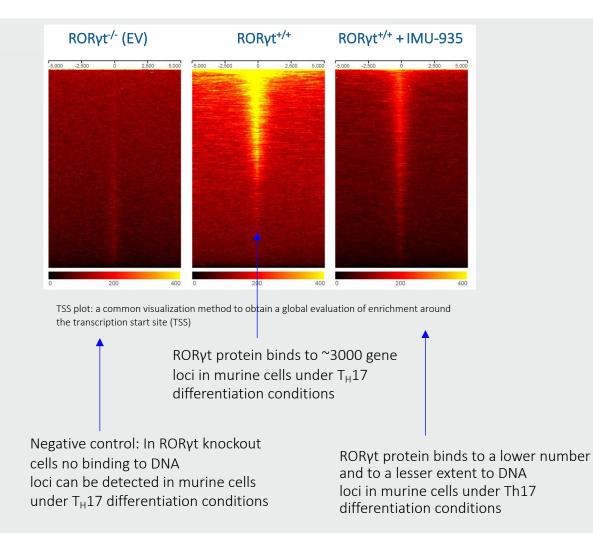
- ✓ Reduce thymocyte survival
- ✓ Affect thymocyte maturation

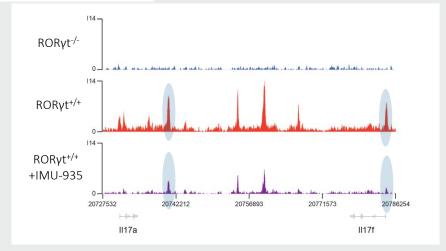
Sun, Zuoming. City of Hope, 2021, unpublished

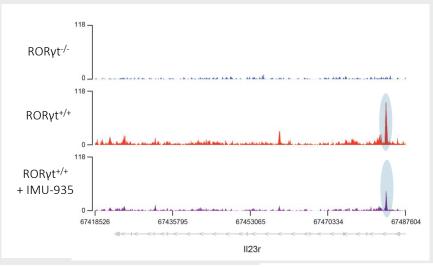
*Guo et al., 2016, Cell Reports (MRL-871), **Guntermann et al., 2017, JCI Insight (Cpd1), Mahalingam et al., 2019, ***Clin Cancer Res. (Cintirorgon)



IMU-935 Attenuates ROR γ t Genome-Wide DNA-Binding in T_H17 Cells – No DNA binding in ROR γ t^{-/-} or ROR γ t^{+/+} with IMU-935



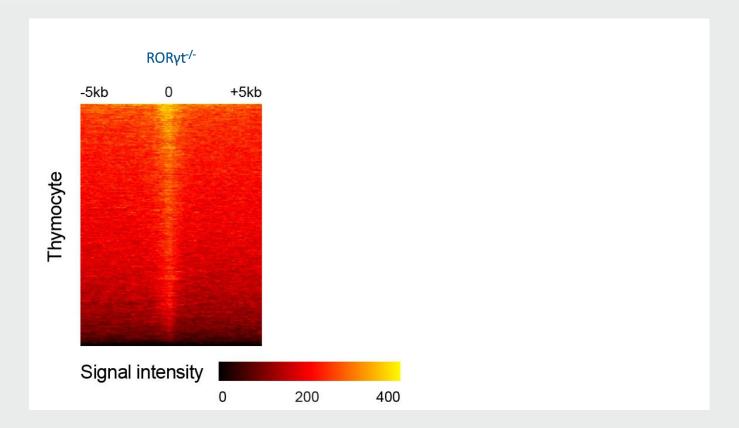




Sun, Zuoming. City of Hope, 2021, unpublished



IMU-935 Does Not Affect RORγt Target Genes Critical for Thymocyte Function – DNA Binding in WT with and without IMU-935

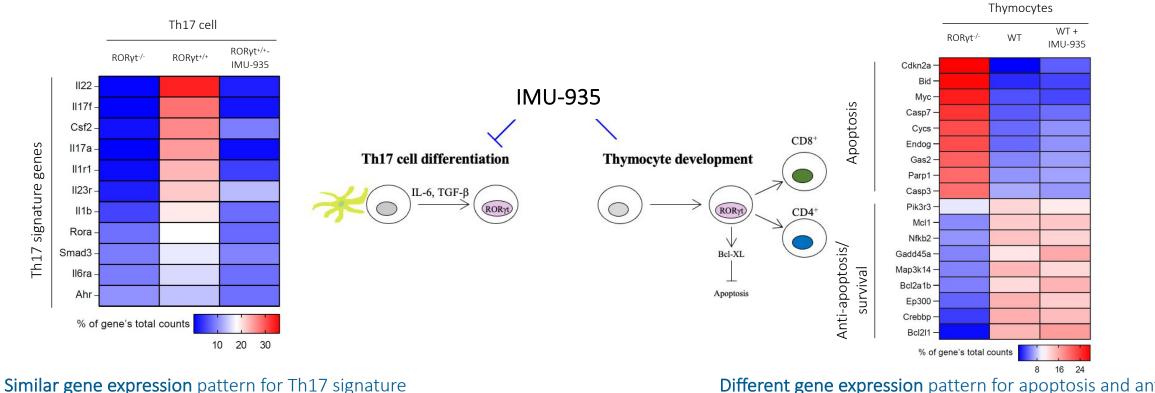


- RORyt protein binds to many gene loci in murine thymocytes
- RORγt protein binds to a similar number and to a similar extent to DNA loci in murine thymocytes in the presence of IMU-935



Sun, Zuoming. City of Hope, 2021, unpublished

IMU-935 Blocks Th17 Differentiation But Allows Normal Thymocyte Maturation: Gene Expression Profiles



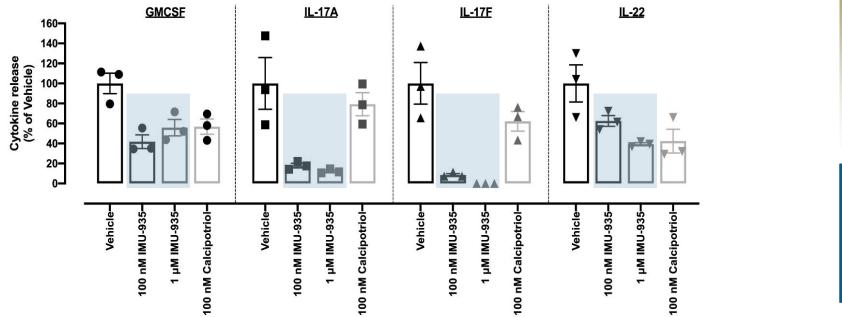
Similar gene expression pattern for Th17 signature genes in RORyt knockout and wild type cells treated with IMU-935 **Different gene expression** pattern for apoptosis and antiapoptosis/survival signature genes in **RORy knockout** and **IMU-935 treatment**, but similar for WT

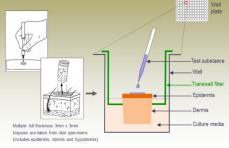
Zuoming Sun, City of Hope, 2021



IMU-935 Potently Inhibited Cytokine Release in *Ex Vivo* Stimulated Human Skin Punches

Cytokine Inhibition in Inflamed Human Skin Model





IMU-935 is active with < 100 nM on GM-CSF IL-17A IL-17F

Method:

Skin punches from a human healthy volunteer were *ex vivo* pretreated with IMU-935 for 24 hours and then challenged with a pro-inflammatory cytokine cocktail for another 24 hours.

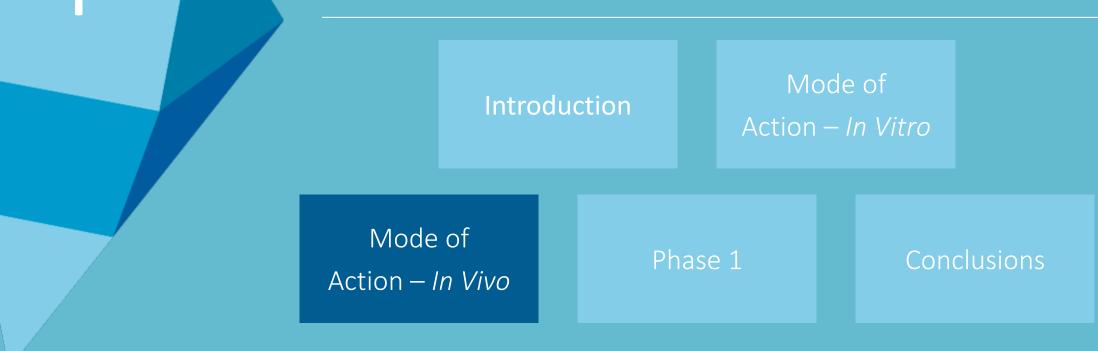


Result:

IMU-935 demonstrated a strong inhibition of GM-CSF, IL-17A, IL-17F and IL-22.



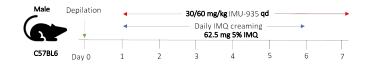




IMU-935 Showed Histological Improvement and Reduction in IL-17F Expression in Skin an Imiquimod Induced Mouse Model



Reduction of histological score on ear and skin



- Systemic exposure leads to dose dependent inhibition of IL-17F mRNA expression *in vivo* in the skin
- IMU-935 was more potent in IL- 17F suppression than the corticosteroid control Clobetasol

Skin Histology Score

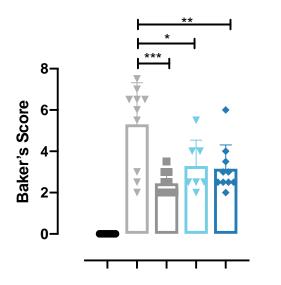


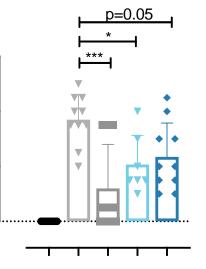
6-

4

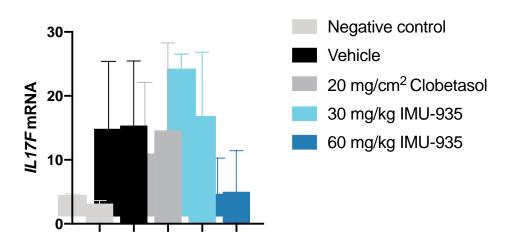
2-

3aker's Score





Skin IL-17F mRNA Expression



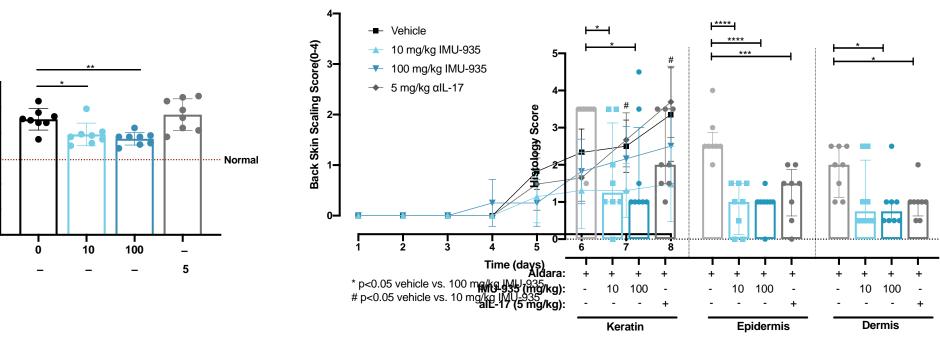


IMU-935 Demonstrated Activity in an Imiquimod Induced Psoriasis Model

- IMU-935 benchmarked with an IL-17A antibody (InVivoMab, Clone: 17F3), demonstrating superiority of IMU-935 on skin thickness at day 8
- Interestingly, the antibody lost activity from day 6 on

Back Skin Thickness d8

IMU-935 reduced the histological pathology scores in all skin layers



 5 mg/kg all-17A
 5 mg/kg all-17A
 5 mg/kg all-17A
 5 mg/kg all-17A

 Female
 Depilation
 10/100 mg/kg
 IMU-935 (bid)

 Daily IMQ creaming
 50 mg 5% IMQ

 BALB/cl
 Day 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8





Skin Thickness (mm)

уса 0.2-

IMU-935 (mg/kg):

αIL-17A (mg/kg):

1.0-

0.8-

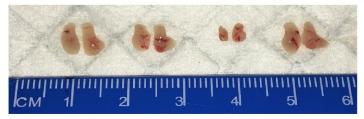
0.6-

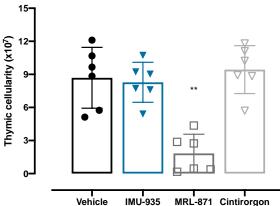
0.4-

IMU-935 Allows Normal Thymocyte Maturation In Vivo

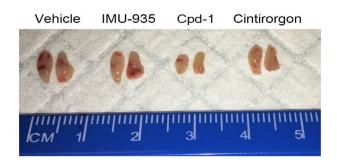
Acute model: Treatment with IMU-935 (100 mg/kg), MRL-871 (100 mg/kg), or Cintirorgon (30 mg/kg) for 3 days (BID)

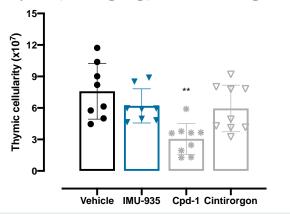
Vehicle IMU-935 MRL-871 Cintirorgon





Chronic model: Treatment with IMU-935 (100 mg/kg), Cpd1 (40 mg/kg), or Cintirorgon (30 mg/kg) for 4 weeks (BID)



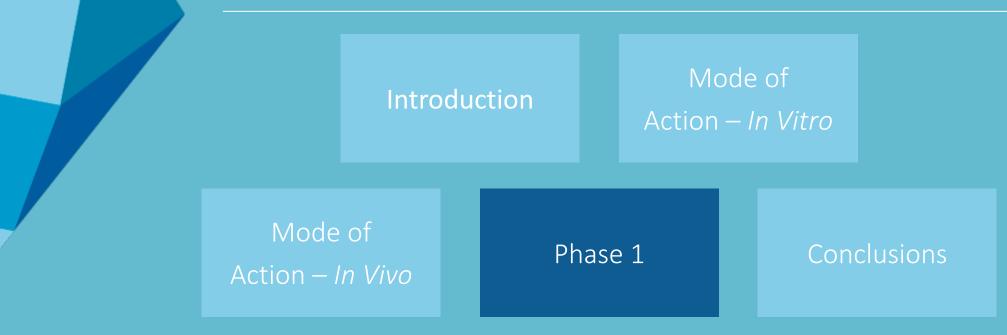


In contrast to MRL-871 and Cpd1, IMU-935 does not impact thymus size, thymocyte cell numbers or thymocyte maturation in an acute and chronic mouse model.

Guo et al., 2016, Cell Reports (MRL-871), Guntermann et al., 2017, JCI Insight (Cpd1), Mahalingam et al., 2019, Clin Cancer Res. (Cintirorgon) Sun, Zuoming. City of Hope, 2021, unpublished







Phase 1 Clinical Trial: Trial Design and Current Status





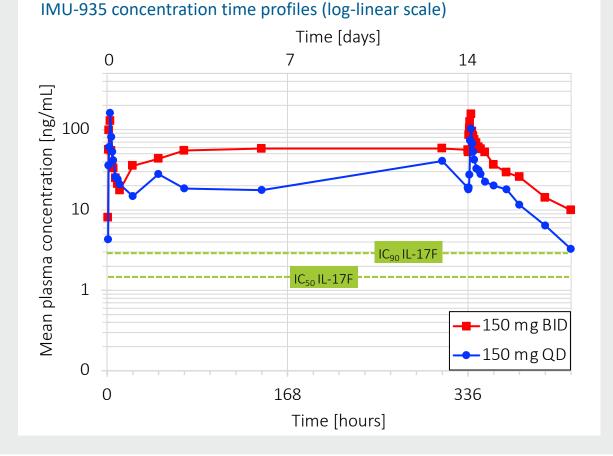
PART **C**

Evaluation of	Evaluation of	Evaluation of
single ascending doses (SAD)	multiple ascending doses (MAD)	moderate-to-severe psoriasis
Healthy human subjects	Healthy human subjects	patients receiving 28-day
randomized to receive single	randomized to receive 14-day	treatment of
dose of IMU-935 or placebo	treatment of IMU-935 or placebo	IMU-935 or placebo
 Dose escalation completed: 100, 200, 300 and 400 mg of IMU-935 Final PK analysis ongoing 79 subjects enrolled IMU-935 was well-tolerated and showed dose-linear PK 	 Dose escalation completed: 150 mg QD and 150 mg BID of IMU-935 Final PK analysis ongoing 15 subjects enrolled IMU-935 was well-tolerated and steady- state was achieved after 3-6 days of dosing 	 150 mg QD and 150 mg BID of IMU-935 Approximately 40 patients planned to be enrolled Initial results expected to be available in H2/2022



PK: pharmacokinetic; QD: quaque die = once-daily; BID: bis in die = two times daily

Phase 1 Clinical Trial: Pharmacokinetic Results Part B: Summary of QD and BID Dosing Regimen for IMU-935



F S

Favorable PK Properties for IMU-935 atSteady-State Observed

Pharmacokinetic parameters in steady-state (mean)	150 mg QD	150 mg BID
C _{max, ss} (ng/mL)	124	206
C _{min, ss} (ng/mL)	15.7	48.5
T _{max, ss} (hr)	2.8	2.4
t _{1/2, ss} (hr)	29.0	38.0
AUC _{last} (hr*ng/mL)	1540	3040

Ion-compartmental analysis

- Fast achievement of steady-state within first week and stable steady-state trough levels over 14-day treatment period.
- Accumulation factors of 1.29 (150 mg QD) and 2.21 (150 mg BID) allowing predictable trough levels.

Interim data, PK analysis ongoing

QD: quaque die = once-daily; BID: bis in die = two times daily; PK: pharmacokinetic; ss: steady-state; C_{max}: maximum plasma drug concentration; T_{max}: time to reach maximum plasma concentration; hr: hours; t_{1/2}: half-life; AUC_{last}: area under the concentration-time curve from dosing to last measurement Accumulation factors were calculated as the relationship of AUC_{0-tau} of Day 14/Day 1 (after first dosing).



Phase 1 Clinical Trial: Summary of Safety and Tolerability Findings Part B



Daily Dosing of IMU-935 in Healthy Human Subjects Over 14 Days Was Found to Have a Favorable Safety and Tolerability Profile



No serious adverse events



No dose-dependency in adverse events



No maximum tolerated dose reached



No trends for post-dose changes in any laboratory parameter



No adverse events regarding any laboratory parameter



No medically relevant changes in vital signs or 12-lead electrocardiograms as compared to placebo



IMU-935 Phase 1 Clinical Trial Part C in Moderate-to-Severe Psoriasis Patients

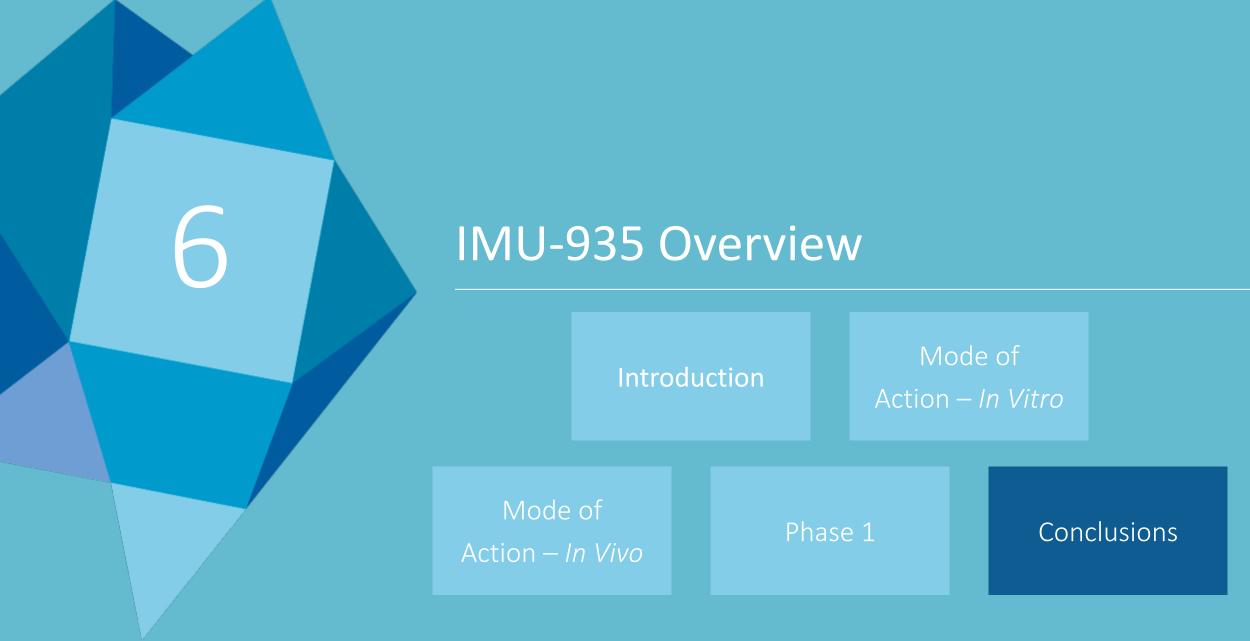


Detecting Therapeutic Activity of IMU-935 in Moderate-to-Severe Psoriasis Patients

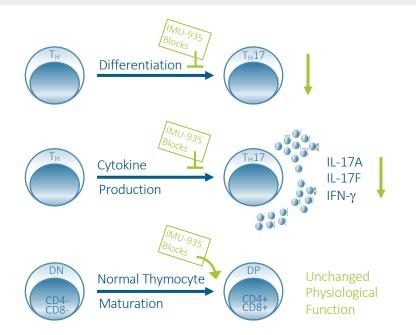
- Double-blind, placebo-controlled dose escalation study to evaluate safety, tolerability, pharmacodynamics and exploratory efficacy of IMU-935 in patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis
- Psoriasis patients receive **28 days** of daily treatment in two cohorts:
 - First cohort of up to 16 patients receive a low dose of IMU-935 (150 mg QD) or placebo at a ratio of 3:1
 - Low dose cohort ongoing in Australia and New Zealand
 - Second cohort of up to 24 patients receive a high dose of IMU-935 (150 mg BID) or placebo at a ratio of 3:1
 - Received regulatory approval to proceed with the trial in Europe
- Initial results from part C are expected to be available in H2/2022

QD: quaque die = once-daily; BID: bis in die = two times daily





IMU-935 Selectively Inhibits T_H17 Differentiation and IL-17 Secretion





The differentiation towards $T_H 17$ cells is inhibited by IMU-935

-	\rightarrow	

The production of IL-17A and IL-17F is inhibited by IMU-935

\rightarrow	

The physiological maturation of T cells within the thymus is not affected by IMU-935

 \rightarrow

IMU-935 showed a good safety and tolerability profile in single and multiple ascending doses in healthy human subjects and is currently in a Phase 1C trial in psoriasis patients

Th: T helper; IL: interleukin; IFN: interferon; DN: double-negative; DP: double-positive; CD: cluster of differentiation



Thank You!



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