

# Preclinical characterization of IMU-856, an orally available epigenetic modulator of gut barrier function and regeneration

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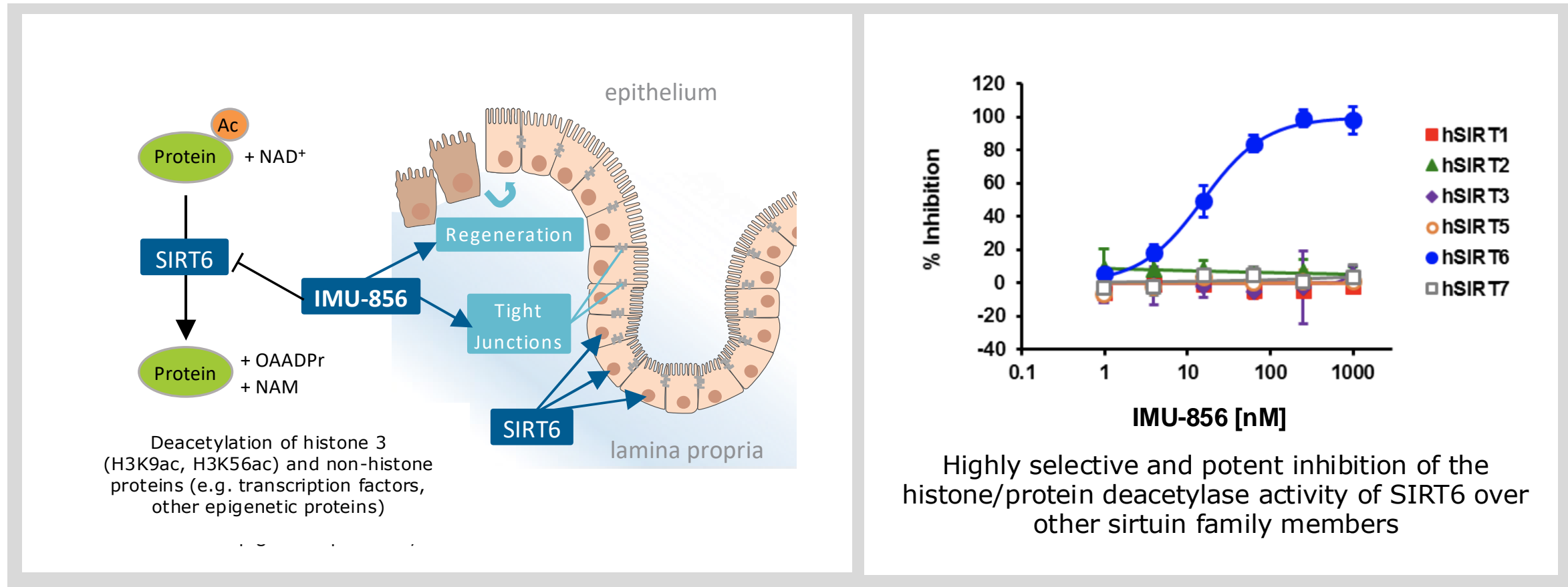
# Disclosures

Dr Martina Wirth

- I am an employee of Immunic AG, option and shareholder of Immunic Inc.

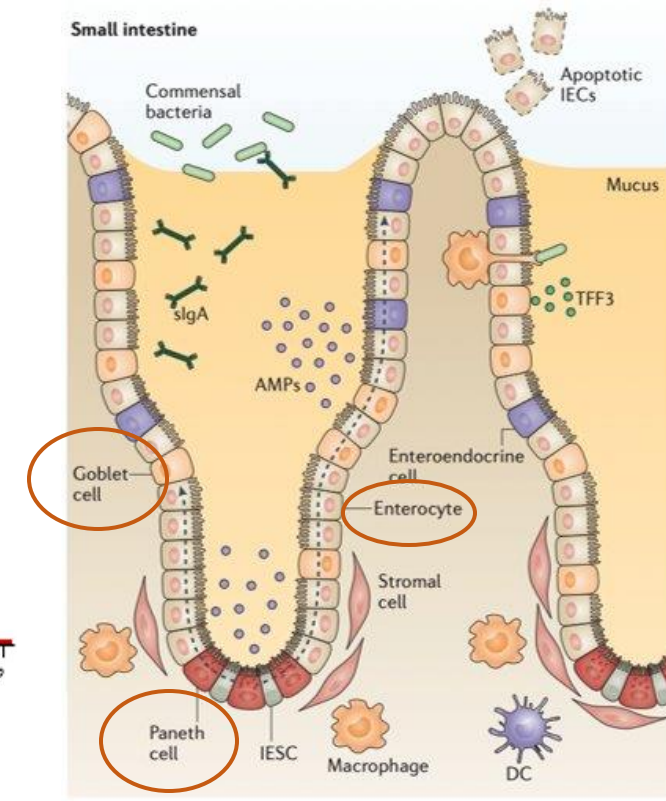
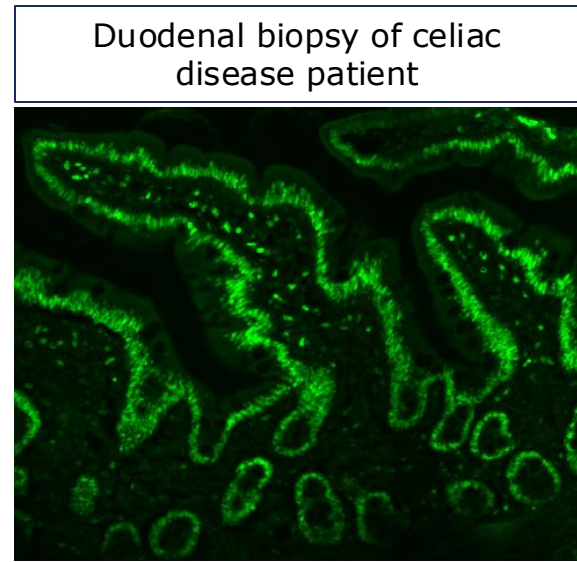
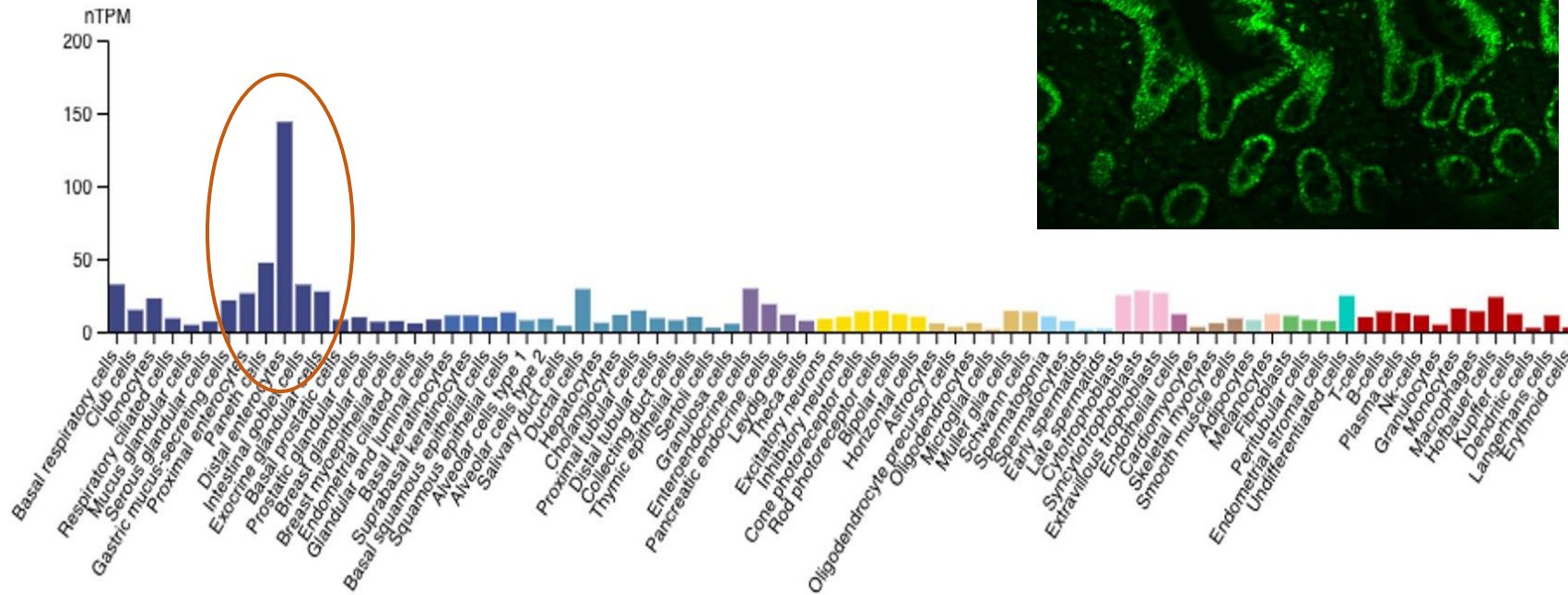


# IMU-856 is a highly selective and potent modulator of the histone/protein deacetylase SIRT6 (sirtuin 6)



- IMU-856 is a highly selective modulator of the enzymatic activity and stability of SIRT6
- IMU-856 improved barrier function and regeneration in human cell and animal models

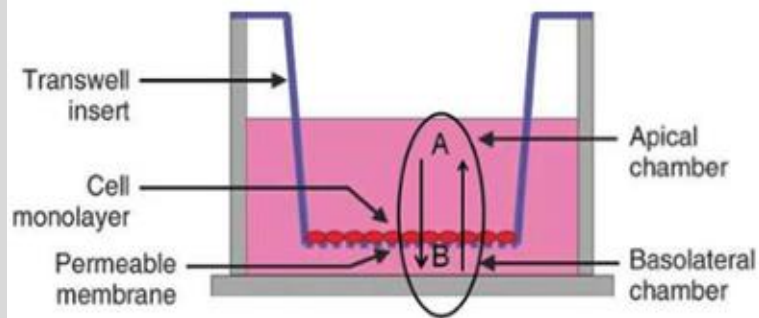
# SIRT6 is highly expressed in intestinal epithelial cells



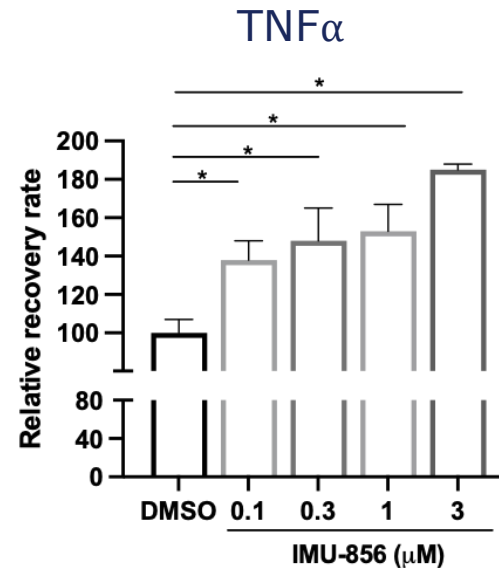
Left graph: <https://www.proteinatlas.org/>; Right image: Peterson, L., Artis, D. Nat Rev Immunol 14, 141–153. 2014; Duodenal Biopsy: Jilab Inc. / Immunic AG

# IMU-856 enhances intestinal barrier function by modulation of tight junction (TJ) proteins

Intestinal permeability was measured as TEER (transepithelial electrical resistance) after barrier-disrupting cytokine challenge in Caco-2 cells

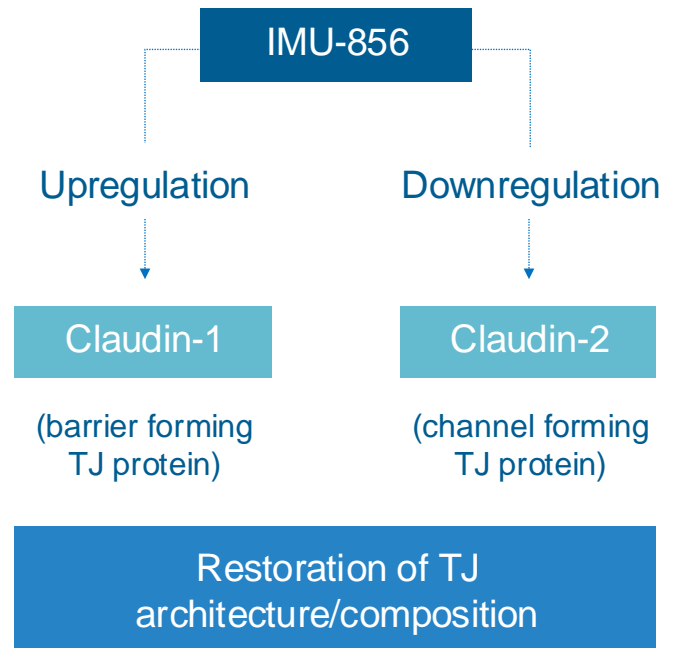


48 hours of TNF $\alpha$  challenge followed by 144 hours of IMU-856 treatment



IMU-856 treatment:

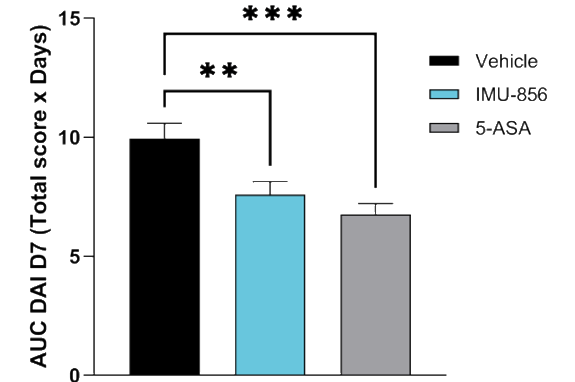
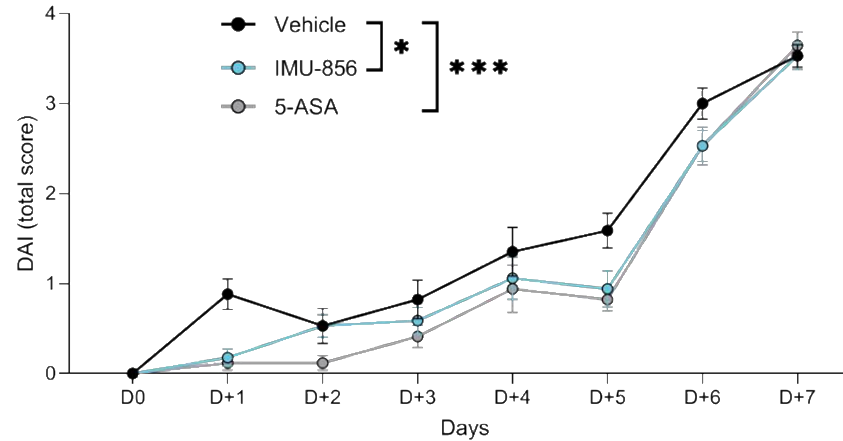
- dose-dependent increase in TEER recovery
- Modulation of tight junction (TJ) composition (protein levels)



TEER: transepithelial electrical resistance; Caco-2 cells: human intestinal epithelial cell line; TNF: tumor necrosis factor; DMSO: dimethyl sulfoxide

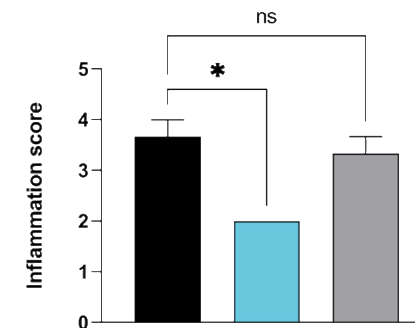
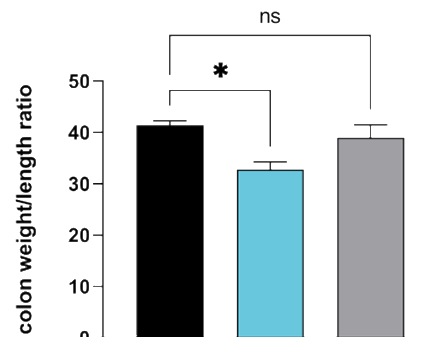
# IMU-856 is active in acute DSS-induced colitis in mice

- 2% DSS ad libitum from day 0 to 7
- IMU-856 (p.o. at 3 mg/kg), 5-ASA (p.o. at 60 mg/kg), or vehicle (0.5% MC) daily from day 0 to day 7



IMU-856 significantly reduced the severity of colitis in mice:

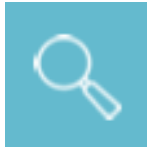
- disease activity index (DAI)
- colon weight/length ratio
- colon inflammation score



\* P < 0.05, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\*\* P < 0.001 compared to vehicle group (Kruskal Wallis, One-way or Two-way ANOVA followed by multiple comparisons test)

Prophylactic DSS-induced colitis mouse model, Urosphere SAS / Immunic AG; DSS: dextran sodium sulfate, 5-ASA: 5-aminosalicylic acid, MC: methylcellulose

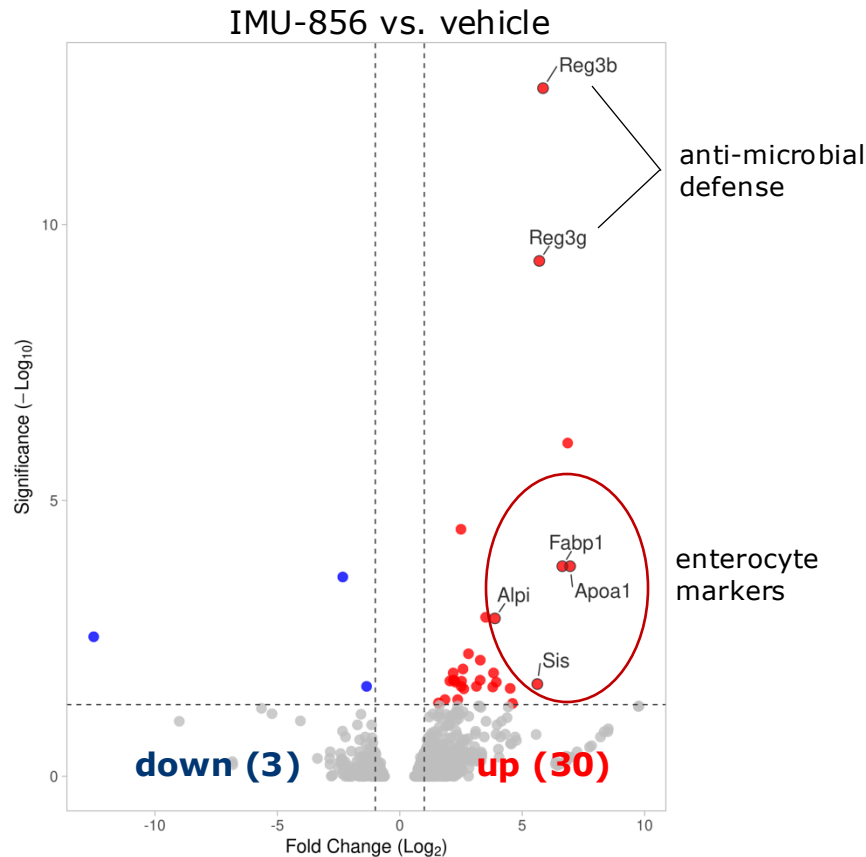
# IMU-856 preserves functional enterocytes measured by bulk RNA sequencing and plasma citrulline levels



IMU-856 significantly upregulated enterocyte marker genes in colon



IMU-856 significantly increased plasma citrulline levels

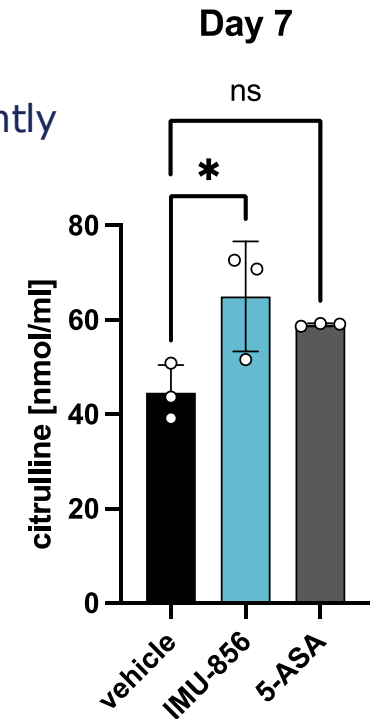


Significant DEGs (FDR p-value < 0.05 and |FoldChange| > 2); up (red): 30 genes; down (blue): 3 genes; colon tissue RNA of acute DSS-induced mice

Citrulline is a biomarker for the integrity and functionality of intestinal enterocytes

- Impaired intestinal function results in reduced plasma levels of citrulline
- Citrulline plasma levels were significantly higher in IMU-856 treated animals in this DSS colitis model
- Higher citrulline levels seen in celiac disease patients in a phase 1b trial in the active treatment group  
(Daverson et al. (2025) Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol.)

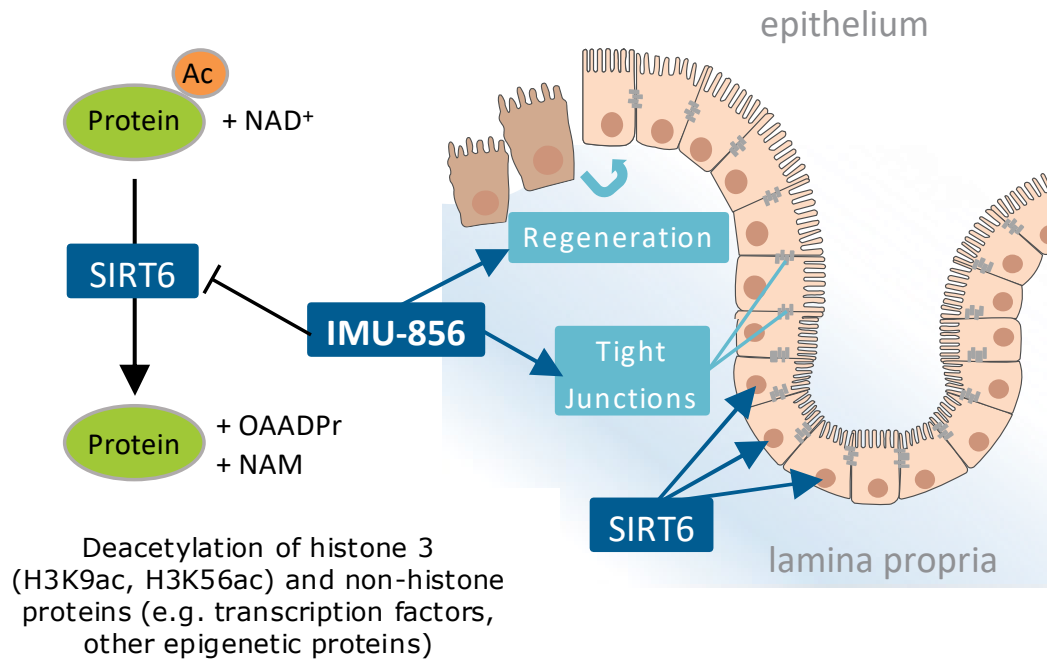
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\* P < 0.05 compared to vehicle group (One-way ANOVA followed by Dunnett's multiple comparisons test)



# Summary and conclusion



- SIRT6 is highly expressed in intestinal epithelial cells
  - IMU-856 is a highly selective and potent modulator of the enzymatic activity and stability of SIRT6
  - IMU-856 aims to:
    - regenerate the barrier by supporting renewal and differentiation processes
    - drive tightness of the barrier by regulation of tight junction proteins
- with no signs of immunosuppression seen so far
- IMU-856 may offer potential for the treatment of IBD and other gastrointestinal diseases with compromised barrier function

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**Thank you very much  
 for your attention!**

Phase 1 clinical data  
 Dr. Amelie Schreieck  
 Abstract: EC25-1515  
 DOP012, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 5:57-6:03 pm