

Anti-ART1 Monoclonal Antibody for Improved Anticancer Immunotherapy

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ICIs are the gold standard for NSCLC and other solid tumors, but few patients achieve a durable response



Background & Unmet Need

- In the KEYNOTE-189 trial, treatment-naïve NSCLC patients who received pembrolizumab (anti-PD-1) in addition to standard chemotherapy achieved a 48% objective response, compared to 19% in patients receiving chemotherapy alone
- However, only 0.5% of patients in the KEYNOTE-189 trial achieved a complete response, with only 34% of pembrolizumab-treated patients alive and progression-free at 12 months
- **Unmet Need:** While ICIs have improved outcomes for NSCLC, there remains a persistent unmet need for additional therapies that synergize with ICIs to prolong survival and deliver a durable response

ART1 is an extracellular enzyme that modifies the ion channel P2X7R, causing constitutive opening and apoptosis



Adenosine 5-diphosphate (ADP)-ribosyltransferase-1 (ART1) is an enzyme with extracellular activity which catalyzes the transfer of ADP-ribose onto proteins in the local environment

A well-known target of ART1 is the P2X7 receptor (P2X7R), an ATP-gated ion channel which is essential for inflammatory responses, anti-tumor immunity, and immune memory

In the tumor microenvironment, cytosolic nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺) is released extracellularly during cell stress, where it can be used by ART1 to catalyze the ribosylation of P2X7R

Mono-ADP-ribosylation of P2X7R results in constitutive activation, causing uncontrolled Ca²⁺ release and eventual apoptosis in a process termed NAD-induced cell death (NICD)

High ART1 expression is observed across numerous cancer types





ART1 expression is associated with a reduction in CD8⁺ T cells and poor prognosis



22C12 is a highly potent and specific anti-ART1 monoclonal antibody developed in collaboration with the Tri-I TDI



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HuLC: Humanized light chain. ¹ 22C12 was found to have a fully human heavy chain variable region, but a murine light chain. Engineering of the light chain generated a fully humanized antibody. Tri-I TDI: Tri-Institutional Therapeutics Discovery Institute.

Blockade of ART1 with 22C12 reduces tumor burden in the LLC1 orthotopic lung tumor model



ART1 inhibition by 22C12 reduces tumor burden by increasing tumor infiltration of CD8+ T cells



Mechanistic data suggests that 22C12 may be an ideal combination partner for ICIs (e.g., PD-(L)1, CTLA4)

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ICI: Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor. Wennerberg et al., Sci Trans Med., 2022.

ART1 overexpression in human lung tumors correlates with lower frequencies of P2X7R⁺ CD8⁺ T cells



22C12 demonstrated further anti-tumor effects in a mouse model of melanoma



B16 Scr Cntrl Isotype

- In addition to NSCLC, human melanomas are shown to strongly express ART1 in the Human Protein Atlas
- Administration of mAb 22C12 significantly reduced the growth of subcutaneous B16 flank tumors (****P ≤ 0.0001) compared to isotype controls, similar to that seen with ART1 knock-out
- Additional cancers with high ART1 expression include colorectal cancer and glioblastoma, suggesting the possibility of a multiple indication anti-ART1 drug franchise



Utilization of an ART1 mAb in PD-(L)1-refractory patients may represent a ~56 K addressable patient population

Epidemiology: Incidence of Advanced Cancer per Year (K)



Indication	2022 Overall Incidence ¹	Advanced Stage Rate ²	PD-(L)1 Treatment Rate ³	Treatment Resistance Rate⁴	Incident Addressable Patients
Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer	~197 K	~70%	~44%	~52%	~32 K
Colorectal Cancer	~151 K	~55%	~44%	~56%	~20 K
Melanoma	~100 K	~14%	~44%	~66%	~4 K



¹ ACS Cancer Facts & Figures 2022 ² Estimations based on SEER 2000-2019 Data on Regional and Distant tumor sites. ³ Estimation based on overall cancer patients predicted to be eligible for PD-(L)1 Treatment, Haslam et al. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2019. ⁴ Estimation based on Overall Response Rate (ORR) reported in Keytruda Prescribing Information.

Advanced, PD-(L)1 resistant NSCLC/CRC/Melanoma patients may represent a ~\$6.7 B U.S. market opportunity



Research related to ART1 and associated pathways is limited, suggesting ART1i represents an innovative MOA



Competitive Landscape Summary

- ART1 is a novel target there are currently no known candidates in development targeting ART1 or its associated pathway
- Mono-PARPS (e.g., PARP7i / PARP14i) also target NAD+-utilizing enzymes but do not act directly on the ART1 pathway
- Candidates targeting P2X7R (the ligand-gated channel downstream of ART1) target a non-functional form and act via a separate MOA from ART1

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The ART1 program is supported by a robust IP strategy and several peer-reviewed publications

IP Status & Publications

- Intellectual Property:
 - PCT Patent Application (PCT/US23/62151): "Targeting ART1 for Cancer Immunotherapy". Priority date: Feb 7, 2022.
 - Cornell Docket: D-9386
- Publications:
 - <u>Wennerberg et al.</u> "The ART of tumor immune escape." Oncoimmunology. 2022.
 - <u>Wennerberg et al</u>. "Expression of the mono-ADP-ribosyltransferase ART1 by tumor cells mediates immune resistance in non– small cell lung cancer." Science Translational Medicine. 2022.
 - <u>Chen et al.</u> "ART1, an extracellular ADP-ribosyltransferase, is over-expressed in non-small cell lung cancer and facilitates cancer cell survival by immune-mediated mechanisms" *Journal of Thoracic Oncology.* 2016.
 - The Tri-I TDI has produced an extensive preclinical data package that is available under CDA
- Press Releases:
 - "<u>A Potential New Target for Cancer Immunotherapies</u>" *Weill Cornell Medicine Newsroom.* Published Mar 16, 2022.
 - "Enzyme Could be New Target for Immunotherapies" Cornell Chronical. Published Mar 17, 2022.

WCM is seeking partners to perform additional IND-enabling studies and advance 22C12 into the clinic

Development Status & Next Steps

Development Achievements

 \checkmark

Development of 22C12 using the AlivaMab mouse



In vitro validation of 22C12 affinity for ART1 and blockade of ART1 activity

 \checkmark

Demonstration of activity against lung cancer and melanoma models *in vivo* in mice

 \checkmark

Confirmation of P2X7R downregulation, ART1 upregulation in human NSCLC

Next Steps



License anti-ART1 mAbs to an established company with the capabilities and resources to drive clinical development

Summary of Inventors



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