

bioasis

**The Blood Brain Barrier Delivery Company**

*Opening the door to large molecule  
biologic therapies for neurological  
diseases*

**29 June 2020**

BTI.V (TSX), BIOAF (OTCQB)

## Forward Looking Information

*This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and forward-looking information within the meaning of Canadian securities legislation. This information and these statements, referred to herein as "forward-looking statements", are made as of the date of this presentation or as of the date of the effective date of information described in this presentation, as applicable. The forward-looking statements herein relate to predictions, expectations, beliefs, plans, projections, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance (often, but not always, using words or phrases such as "expects", "anticipates", "plans", "projects", "estimates", "envisages", "assumes", "intends", "strategy", "goals", "objectives" or variations thereof or stating that certain actions, events or results "may", "can", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, or the negative of any of these terms and similar expressions).*

*All forward-looking statements are based on current beliefs as well as various assumptions made by, and information currently available to Bioasis. By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and risks exist that estimates, forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements will not be achieved or that assumptions do not reflect future experience. For a description of some of the risks that could cause our actual results to vary from those anticipated by forward-looking statements, please refer to the risk factors described in our filings with Canadian securities regulators, available at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). We caution any person reviewing this presentation not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements as a number of important factors could cause the actual outcomes to differ materially from the beliefs, plans, objectives, expectations, anticipations, estimates assumptions and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements.*

# Bioasis Strategy

<p><b><i>xB<sup>3</sup>™ Platform :</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Best-in-class technology for BBB drug delivery</i></b></p>	<p><b>Delivery of Therapeutics Across the BBB Using Our Proprietary xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enables delivery of a variety of therapeutics across the BBB, including enzymes, siRNA, antibodies and other biologics (also small molecules)</li><li>• Outperforms all other BBB technologies by delivering 4-6% of the injected dose into the brain, competitor technologies deliver 1-1.5%</li><li>• <b>120+ patents relating to the xB<sup>3</sup> delivery vector</b>, xB<sup>3</sup> fusions and conjugates with active agents and therapies for treating various diseases associated with the central nervous system; <b>foundation patents through 2034; additional patent term extension up to five years</b> and ongoing work anticipated to provide further long-term patent protection</li></ul>
<p><b><i>Internal pipeline is focused on lower risk, expedited opportunities</i></b></p>	<p><b>Initial Focus on Orphan Indications &amp; Rare Genetic Diseases with High Unmet Medical Need Where Proof-of-Concept Exists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Lead program xB<sup>3</sup>-001 - xB<sup>3</sup> + Herceptin® for HER2+ breast cancer brain metastases</b>; Favorable FDA pre-IND meeting completed June 2019; potential for accelerated approval</li><li>• <b>Second program xB<sup>3</sup>-007 - xB<sup>3</sup>+Cerezyme® for the treatment of Gaucher’s Disease</b>; pre-clinical POC study will demonstrate CNS efficacy and confirm translational endpoints for human studies; potential for accelerated approval</li></ul>
<p><b><i>Strategic partnering broadens uptake of the technology</i></b></p>	<p><b>Partners are using the Bioasis xB<sup>3</sup> platform to deliver antibodies and siRNA therapeutics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New licensing agreement with <b>Chiesi Group</b>, 4 undisclosed Lysosomal Storage Disease targets</li><li>• Licensing agreement with <b>Prothena</b>, undisclosed neurodegeneration targets</li><li>• Research agreement with <b>a major global pharma company</b></li></ul>

# Partnership with Chiesi Group

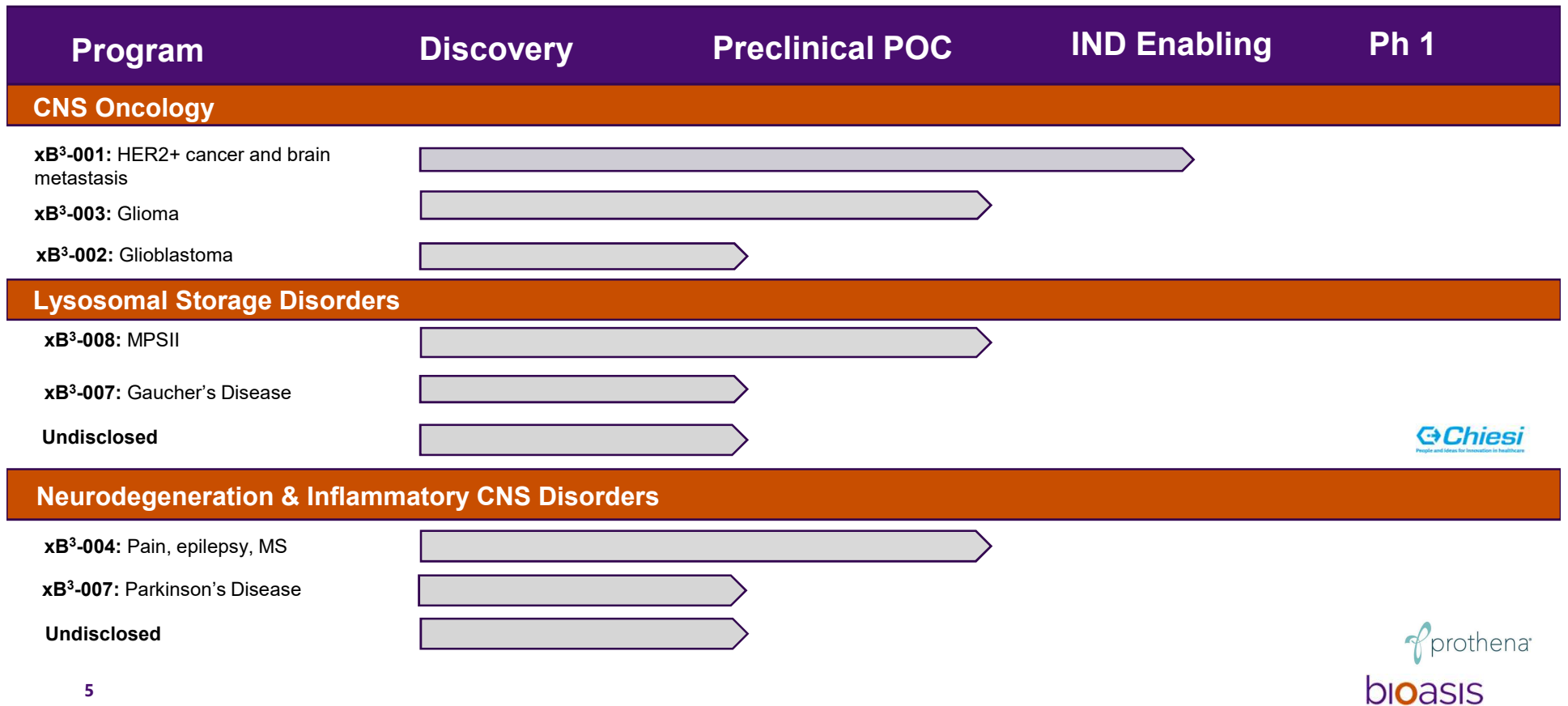
## Bioasis and Chiesi Group Announced Rare Diseases

### Strategic Alliance on 29 June 2020

- Deal provides Chiesi Group with worldwide, exclusive license to use Bioasis xB<sup>3</sup>™ platform for delivery of undisclosed enzymes in treatment of four lysosomal storage disorders.
- Under terms of the agreement, Bioasis will receive an upfront payment of US\$3 million, additional potential milestone payments of up to US\$138 million and royalties on net sales from licensed products.
- Chiesi Group will be responsible for all costs associated with research, development and commercialization of the four undisclosed LSD programs.
- Giacomo Chiesi, Head of Chiesi Global Rare Diseases, a business unit of Chiesi Group: *“The unique delivery method of their xB<sup>3</sup> platform has the potential to overcome a significant challenge in the treatment of many neurological disorders, which is the ability to cross the blood brain barrier”.*

# Bioasis Pipeline

*Opening the door to large molecule biologic therapies for neurological diseases*



## Strategic Approach:

### *Two Pillar Strategy to Maximize Value and Success*

**Pipeline Programs:  
Well-established medicines, fast path to BLA/NDA**

- De-risked programs
- Approved drugs, well-established with regulatory agencies, physicians and patients
- Orphan indications, including CNS cancers and rare genetic diseases with fast and cost-effective paths to BLA/NDA submission
- Significant market potential

**Business Development:  
Novel targets & drug candidates**

- Higher risk taken on by partner novel targets and new chemical entities
- Strategic partnering with selected Pharma
- Broaden utility and use of technology across multiple CNS disorders and treatment modalities
- Retain upside for Bioasis

**Maximizing Value and Success of xB<sup>3</sup> Platform  
Generating Multiple Inflection Points**

## Partnering Provides External Validation of our xB<sup>3</sup> Platform

- Strategic Alliance with Chiesi Group in Rare Diseases
  - Upfront payment of US\$3 million, additional potential milestone payments of up to US\$138 million and royalties on net sales from licensed products.
- xB<sup>3</sup>™ Platform Technology Licensing Agreement with Prothena
  - US\$1M upfront, up to US\$33M in milestones, additional royalty on product sales
- Agreement With Leading Pharmaceutical Company for Pre-Clinical Research Using the xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology
  - US\$500,000 upfront, up to US\$3M in R&D costs
- Publication of Independent Validation of the Company's xB<sup>3</sup>™ Platform Technology
  - MedImmune collaboration

# Investment Highlights

- Best in class technology for delivery of drugs into the brain:
  - Outperforms other delivery technologies, able to deliver diverse payloads into the brain
  - Protected by a well-developed patent portfolio and intellectual property strategy
- Significant commercial potential in de-risked pipeline:
  - Lead product xB<sup>3</sup>-001 targets HER2+ breast cancer and brain metastases
    - Worldwide peak revenue potential \$440m (brain metastases) to \$3.7b (standard of care)
    - Potential for accelerated approval
  - Robust pipeline includes non-opioid treatment for pain and inflammation, enzyme replacement therapy for Gaucher's Disease and Parkinson's disease, and treatments for brain cancers
- Partnerships with **Prothena** in neurodegeneration and **Chiesi Group** in Lysosomal Storage Disorders

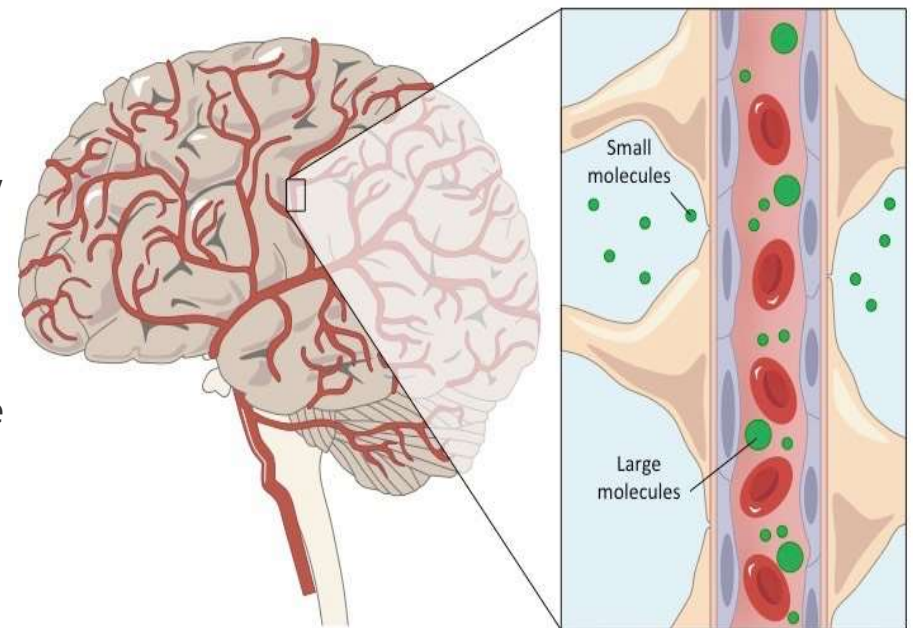


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# **xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology**

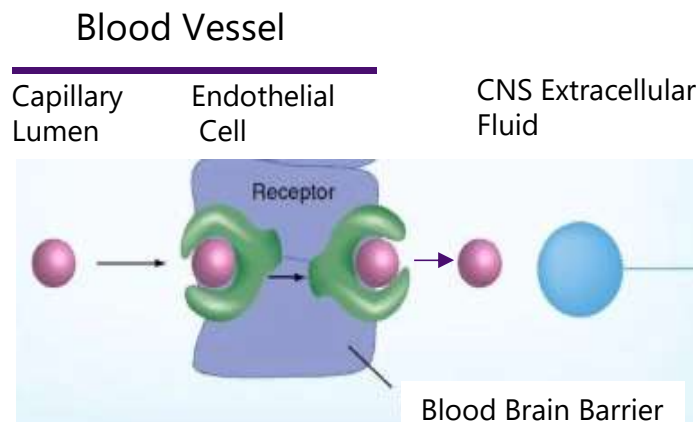
# The Blood Brain Barrier

- The blood-brain barrier (BBB) is a highly selective barrier that separates circulating blood from the brain and extracellular fluid in the CNS.
- The BBB functions to prevent the movement of bacteria, large molecules and most small molecules into the brain.
- The purpose of the blood-brain barrier is to protect the brain; however brain diseases are difficult to treat as the BBB significantly hinders the delivery of therapeutics to the brain.
- The ideal method for transporting drugs across the BBB should be controlled and should not damage the barrier in order to maintain its protective effects.



# The Bioasis Platform Technology

## Active Transport Across the BBB via the LRP1 Receptor



### **xB<sup>3</sup> Peptide**

Derived from an iron-binding human protein found at low concentrations in the blood

- xB<sup>3</sup> has been optimized by Bioasis' scientists to its key constituents (12 amino acids)
- xB<sup>3</sup> has shown improved brain penetration over the full-length protein

### **Mechanism of Action (MOA)**

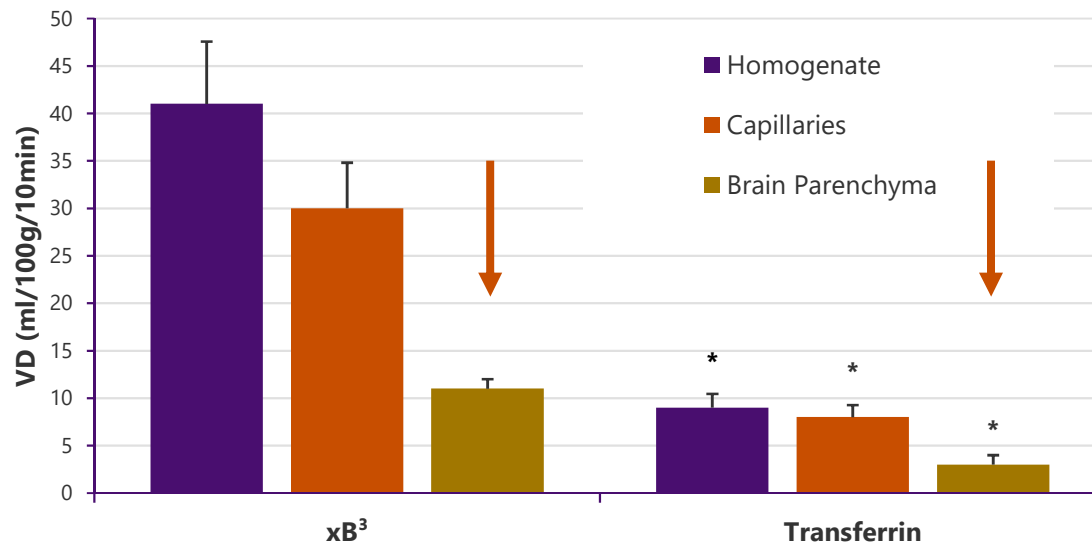
xB<sup>3</sup> binds to, and moves into cells via receptor-mediated endocytosis/transcytosis involving the Low Density Lipoprotein Receptor-related protein (LRP1) receptor

- High efficiency receptor with fast endocytosis and recycling
- LRP1 is highly expressed in critical brain regions and across multiple brain cell types
- LRP1 is overexpressed in multiple disease states including brain cancers, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease

# xB<sup>3</sup> Platform is Superior to Transferrin

## Greater CNS Transport Efficiency demonstrated *in vivo*

xB<sup>3</sup> platform demonstrates superior volume of distribution in the brain compared to Transferrin as measured by *in situ* brain perfusion



Mean ± SE \*  $p < 0.01$  Student's *t*-test (xB<sup>3</sup> to Transferrin comparison)  
n=8 for xB<sup>3</sup>, n=6 for Transferrin

Mice perfused with 10 nM xB<sup>3</sup> or Transferrin

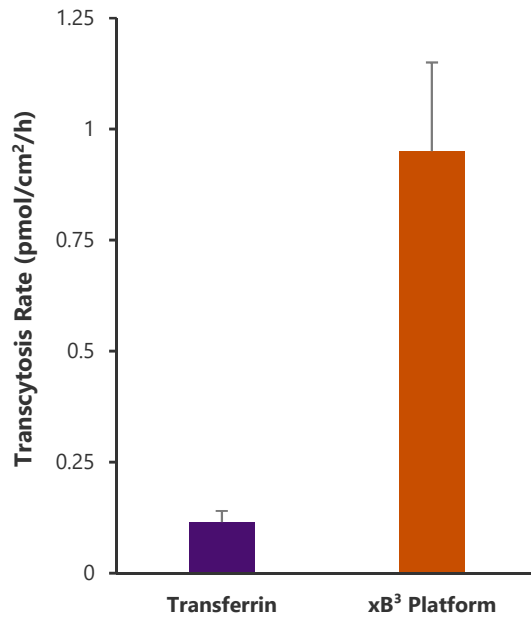
Mean ± SE ; n=4 for 37C and 4C, n=2 for denatured

Demeule et al. (2002). *J. Neurochem.* 83, 924-933.

# The xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology

## Outperforms Competing BBB Technologies

**xB<sup>3</sup> demonstrates superior transcytosis across *in vitro* BBB model (BBCEC)**



\* Bioasis internal data \*

Features	Bioasis xB <sup>3</sup> Platform	Denali	Genentech	Roche	Armagen	Angiochem
% injected dose in brain	4-6%	1-1.5%	1-1.5%	1-1.5%	1-1.5%	~1.5%
Mode of Action	LRP1	TfR	TfR	TfR	TfR and IR	LRP1
<b>Payload Modalities</b>						
Antibodies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Enzymes	✓	✓			✓	
siRNA	✓					
Small molecules	✓					✓

References: %ID/g brain based on 24 hr timepoint whenever available

<sup>1</sup>Thom G. et al. (2018) J Cereb Blood Flow Metab. ePub May 30, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Extrapolated from data in Denali therapeutic annual report on form 10-K, Mar 2018

<sup>3</sup>Bien-Ly N, Yu YJ, Bumbaca D, et al. J Exp Med. 2014;211(2):233-244.

<sup>4</sup>Lajoie JM, Shusta EV. Annu Rev Pharmacol Toxicol. 2015;55:613-631.

<sup>5</sup>Weber F. et al., Cell reports. 2018; 22(1): 149-162

<sup>6</sup>Boado R, Pardridge WM. Mol Pharm. 2017 Apr 3; 14(4):1271-1277

<sup>7</sup>Zhou et al., Mol Pharm. 2010 Dec 6; 7(6):2148-2155

<sup>8</sup>Lu F, Pang Z, Zhao J, et al. Int J Nanomedicine. 2017;12:2117-2127

<sup>9</sup>Van Rooy I. et al., Pharm Res. 2011 Mar;28(3):456-471.



# The xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology

## Key Advantages

Enables the delivery of large molecule therapeutics across the BBB into the CNS

- Improved brain uptake over competing technologies
- Enables targeting of previously unreachable CNS targets

Capable of delivering large and small molecules across the BBB

- Antibodies
- siRNA
- Enzymes
- Proteins
- Small molecules

Does not impact either PK, binding, or activity of payload

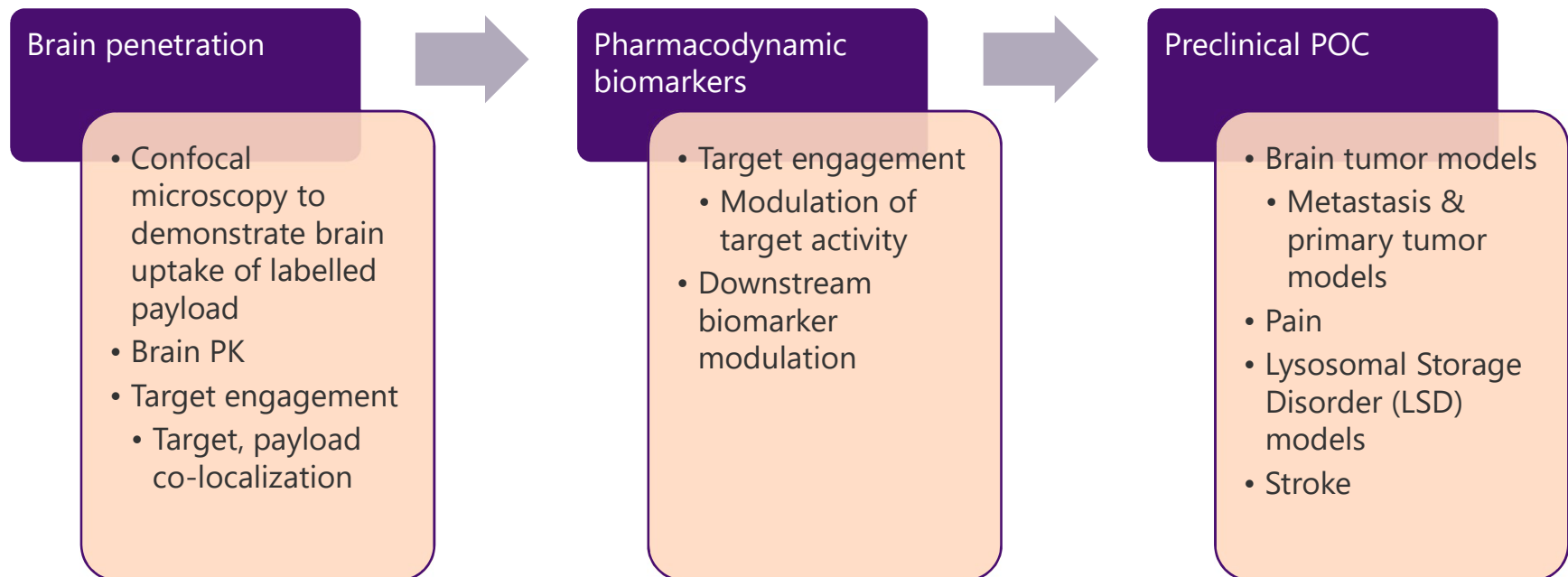
- Herceptin

*Nounou et al. Pharm Res. December 2016, 11 33(12); 2930-2942*

- IL1-RA

*Thom G. et al. (2018) J Cereb Blood Flow Metab. ePub May 30, 2018*

# xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Validation





## Independent validation of the xB<sup>3</sup> platform

**Antibodies and Cytokines** – IL-1RA preclinical POC in neuropathic pain-Medimmune collaboration

**Enzymes** – Preclinical POC in Hunters Syndrome – University of Padova

**siRNA** – Preclinical POC in ischemic induced stroke mouse model – National Research Council of Canada  
(see Appendix slides for detail)

**Small molecule** – Preclinical POC in the treatment of intracranial tumors – University of British Columbia  
(see Appendix slide for detail)



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**The Blood Brain Barrier Company**

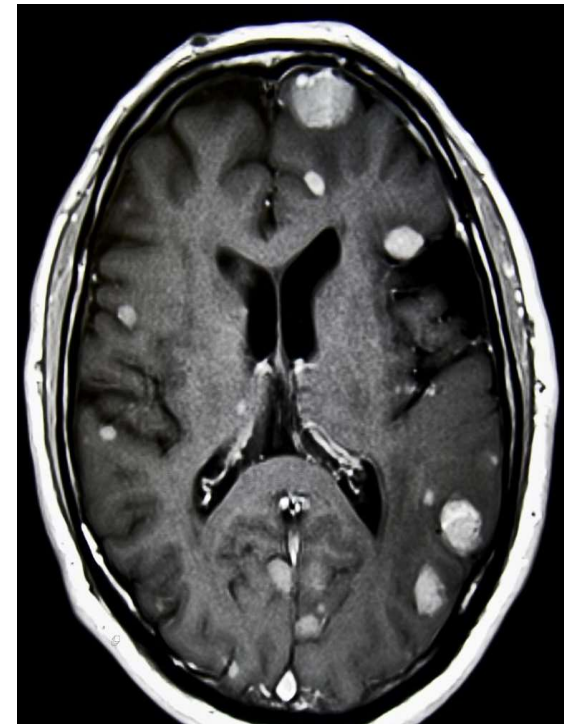
**Lead Program : xB<sup>3</sup>-001  
(xB<sup>3</sup> - Trastuzumab) for the Treatment  
of HER2+ Breast Cancer and Brain  
Metastases**

# xB<sup>3</sup>-001 (xB<sup>3</sup> - Herceptin) Summary

Indication	TREATMENT OF HER2+ BREAST CANCER AND BRAIN METASTASES
<b>Preclinical Evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confocal microscopy demonstration of enhanced brain uptake in normal murine brain</li> <li>• Autoradiographic demonstration of co-localization with brain metastases, higher calculated brain concentrations associated with brain metastases compared to concentrations in brain regions distal to metastases, overall 10-fold higher drug levels in brain</li> <li>• No adverse effects on peripheral efficacy or PK, peripheral efficacy equal to TZM in murine HER2+ breast cancer model</li> <li>• <b>Reduced both the number and size</b> of established brain metastases in a HER2+ murine breast cancer model</li> </ul>
<b>Development Milestones Achieved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-IND filing, favorable response from the FDA to IND enabling studies and clinical plan</li> <li>• Pilot manufacture completed by WuXi with demonstration of brain penetrance of manufactured material by confocal microscopy</li> <li>• Assay development advanced for IND enabling studies</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Development &amp; Clinical Milestones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of GMP manufacture</li> <li>• Completion of toxicology</li> <li>• IND submission (2021) and initiation of Phase 1b component of trial (2022)</li> <li>• Completion of dose escalation phase and EOPI meeting (2023)</li> <li>• Completion of Phase 2 expansion cohort (2023)</li> </ul>

## Breast Cancer Brain Metastases: Unmet Clinical Need

- Brain metastases are among the most common form of brain cancer in adults, with an estimated 200,000 patients newly diagnosed each year in the United States.
- Breast cancer is the second most common cause of brain metastases and is associated with increasing mortality rates and poor quality of life.
- HER2(+) breast cancers often show faster growth and metastasis compared to HER2 (-) breast cancers, with up to 50% of HER2+ patients developing brain metastases over time.
- ***Most systemic treatments do not penetrate the BBB***
- ***Current treatment options are limited***
- ***Safer and more effective treatment for brain metastases are needed***



## **xB<sup>3</sup>-001 is Designed to Improve upon the Efficacy of Herceptin, Improving upon CNS Disease Control and Potentially Development of CNS Metastases**

### **xB<sup>3</sup>-001 in HER2+ mBC**

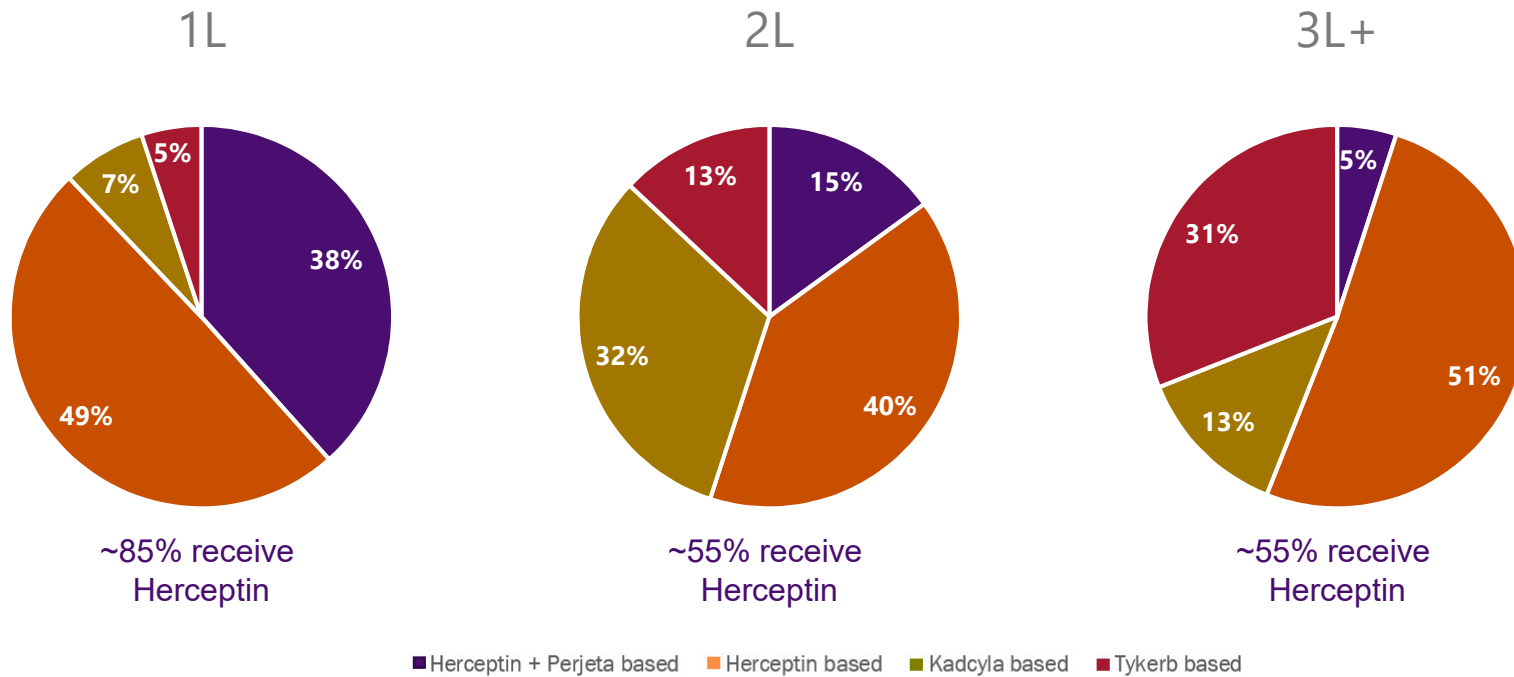
<b>xB<sup>3</sup>-001</b>	<b>Product Attribute</b>
✓	Utilizes the most widely used HER2-targeting agent, trastuzumab
✓	Does not impact the PK, binding, or activity of the trastuzumab payload
✓	Localizes in the brain better and shows 10-fold higher concentration of trastuzumab in metastases
✓	Retains peripheral disease control in xenograft models
✓	Safety profile that should allow for use in combination with other agents

**xB<sup>3</sup>-001 could launch as HER2-targeted therapy of choice in 2L+ patients with CNS metastases**

**Demonstrating superiority to Herceptin in CNS disease prevention would position for broad use**

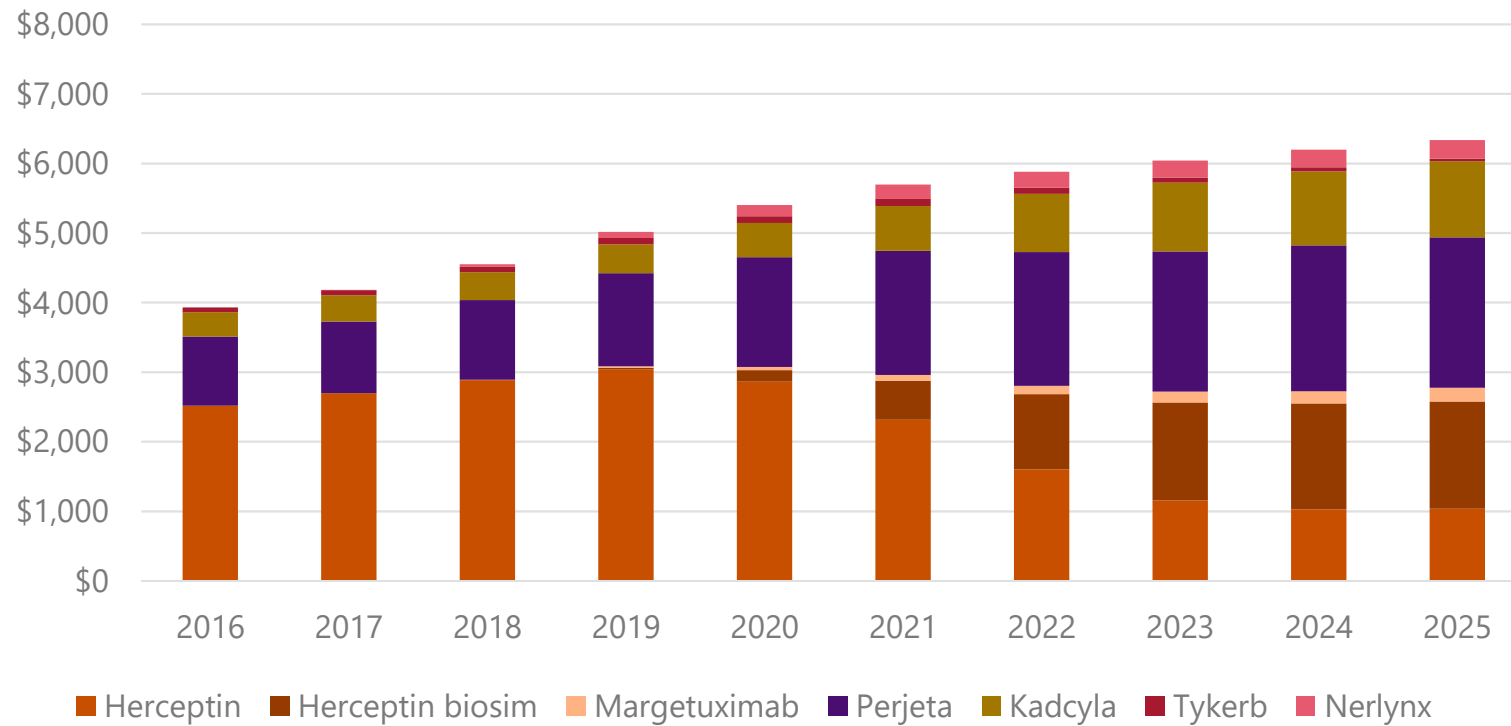
# The Majority of HER2+ mBC Patients Receive Herceptin in all Lines of Therapy

Market Share for HER2-Targeting Agents by Line of Therapy



# Datamonitor Expects Continued Growth of the US HER2+ Breast Cancer Market, Reaching >\$6B by 2025

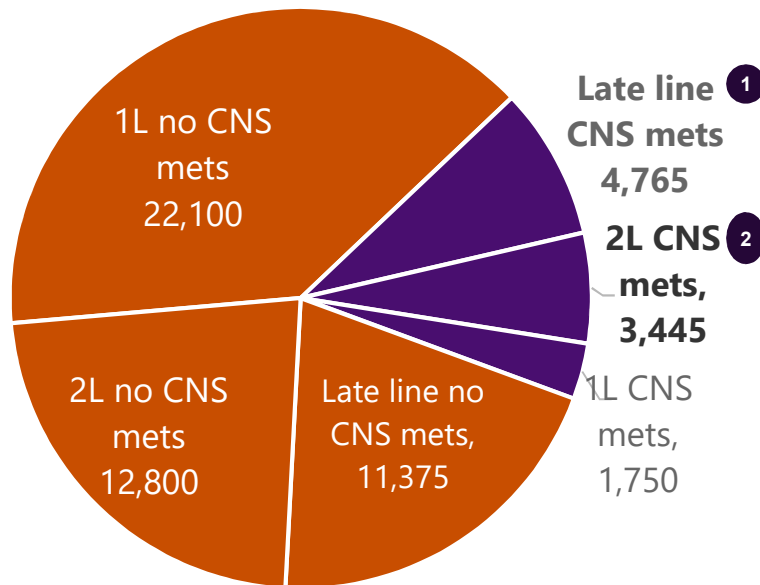
US HER2+ Breast Cancer Market  
Datamonitor Forecast



# xB<sup>3</sup>-001 Revenue Potential for 2L+ Patients with CNS Metastases is ~US\$440M Worldwide

## Market Potential – xB<sup>3</sup>-001 CNS Metastases Treatment

### HER2+ mBC Patients



### CNS Metastases Treatment

#### Late Line

Improved CNS disease control in 3L+ patients

~4,765 candidates <sup>1</sup>

8 mos median duration of therapy

#### Market Potential

\$380M US/\$760M WW

**xB<sup>3</sup>-001 Potential (@ 30% share)**

\$115M US/\$230M WW

#### 2L+

Superior to Kadcylla in 2L+ patients with CNS mets

~8,210 candidates <sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>

10 mos median duration of therapy

#### Market Potential

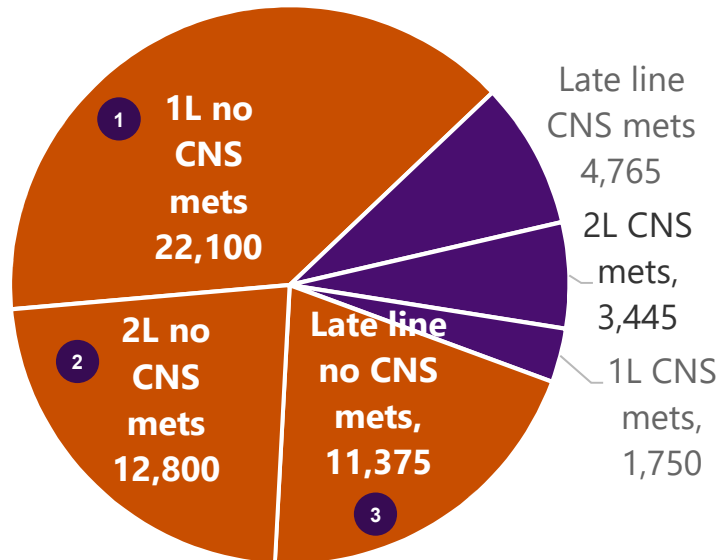
\$725M US/\$1.45B WW

**xB<sup>3</sup>-001 Potential (@ 30% share)**

\$220M US/\$440M WW

# Market Potential – xB<sup>3</sup>-001 CNS Metastases Prevention

## HER2+ mBC Patients



## CNS Metastases Prevention

### 2L+ Patients without CNS Metastases

~24,000 candidates (2) (3)  
8-10 mos median duration of therapy

#### Market Potential

\$2.2B US/\$4.4B WW

**xB<sup>3</sup>-001 Potential (@ 30% share)**

\$660M US/\$1.32B WW

### 1L+ Patients without CNS Metastases

~46,000 candidates (1) (2) (3)  
8-18 mos median duration of therapy

#### Market Potential

\$6.2B US/\$12.4B WW

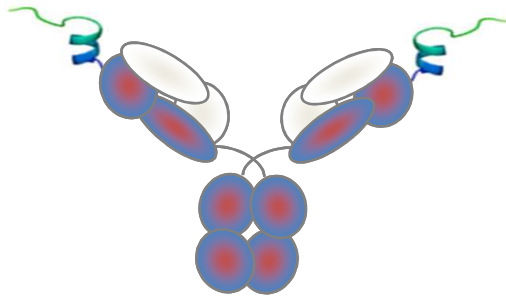
**xB<sup>3</sup>-001 Potential (@ 30% share)**

\$1.85B US/\$3.7B WW

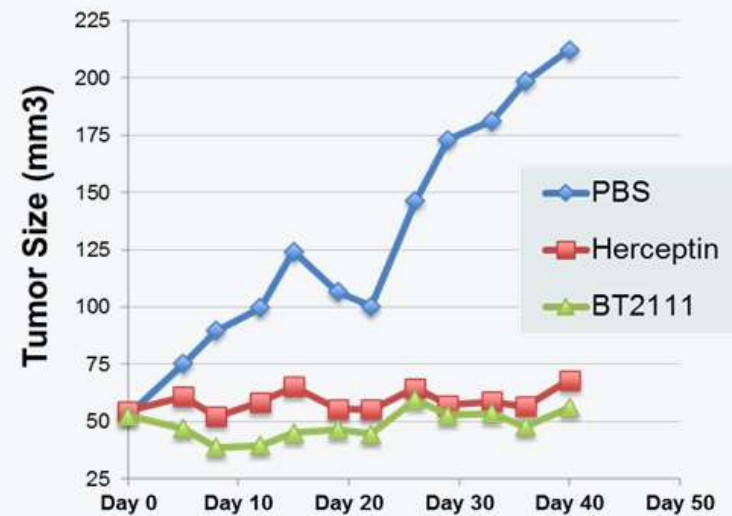


# xB<sup>3</sup>-Herceptin Retains Peripheral Anti-Tumor Efficacy in the BT474 Xenograft Model

xB<sup>3</sup> can be added to a therapeutic through chemical conjugation or fusion



BT2111 & Herceptin® Halt Growth of BT474 HER-2/*neu* Over-Expressing Tumors

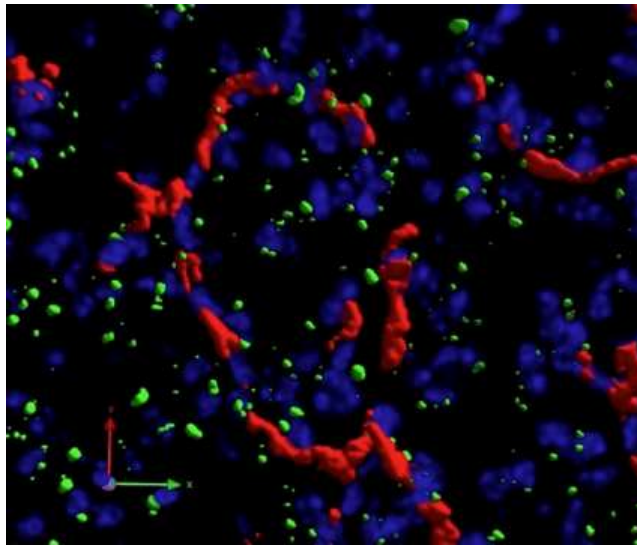


BT2111 = xB<sup>3</sup>-001 (xB<sup>3</sup>-Herceptin)

Ip injection 2x/wk for 5 weeks; 10mg/kg molar equivalent; n=10

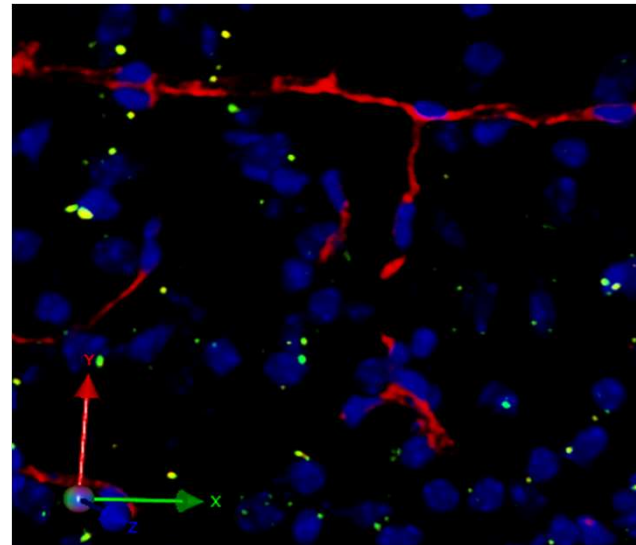
# **xB<sup>3</sup>- 001 Demonstrates Significantly Increased Localization in Brain Parenchyma Compared to Herceptin<sup>®</sup>**

**Confocal Images Two Hours Post IV Administration (10mg/kg) in mouse brain**



**xB<sup>3</sup>-Herceptin**

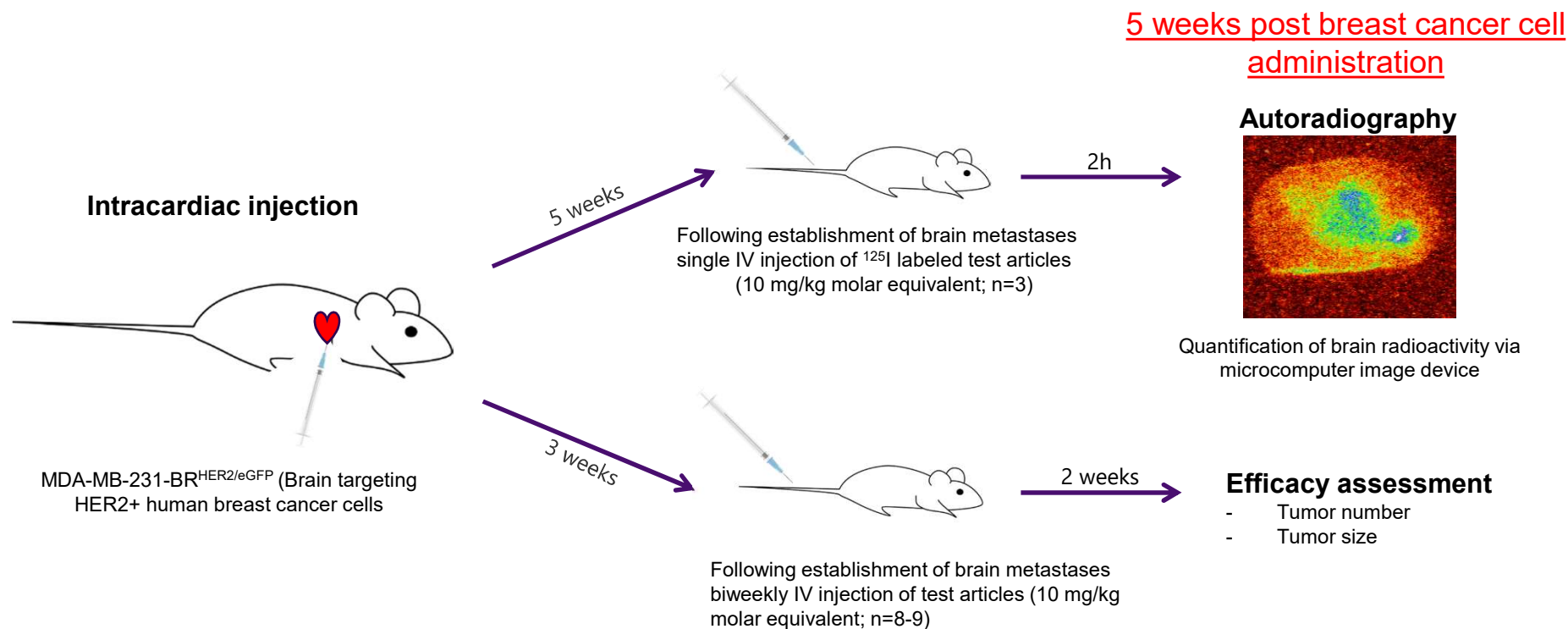
Red: Brain capillaries  
Blue: Brain Nuclei  
Green: xB<sup>3</sup>-Herceptin in brain



**Herceptin**

Red: Brain capillaries  
Blue: Nuclei  
Green: Herceptin in brain

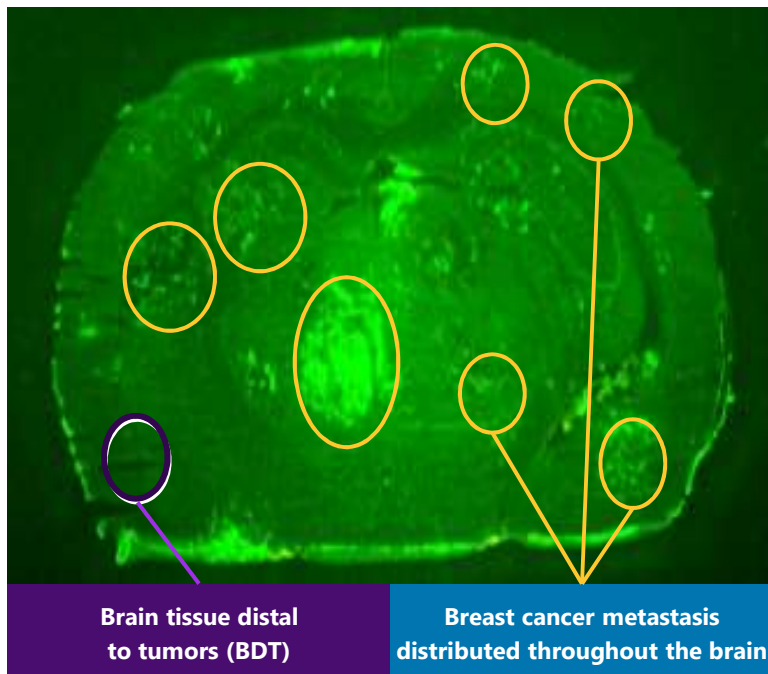
# HER2<sup>+</sup> Human Breast Cancer Brain Metastasis Mouse Model



# xB<sup>3</sup>-001 in Human HER2+ Brain Metastasis Mouse Model

## Target Engagement and Biological Effects

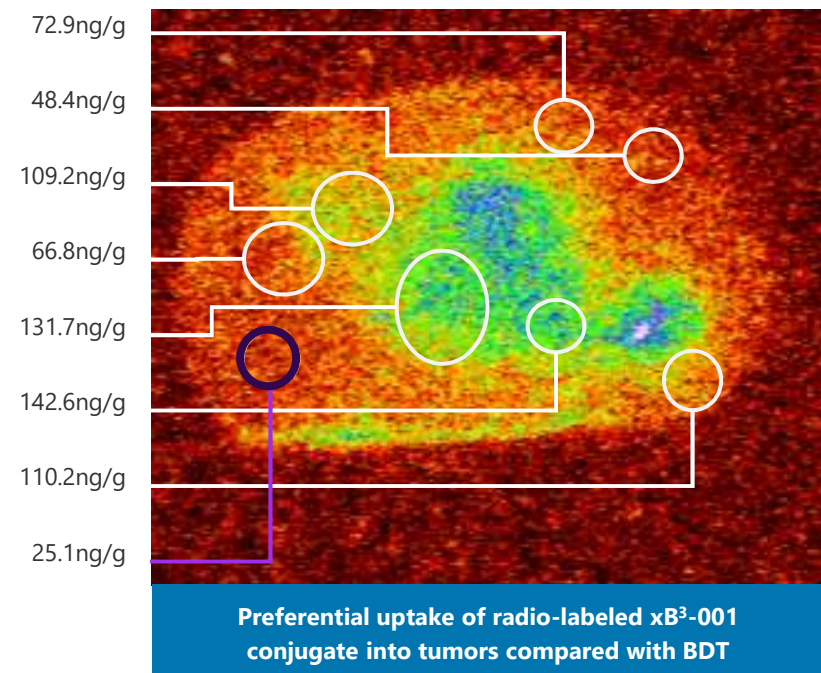
Metastases localization 5 weeks Post Inoculation



MDA-MB-231-BR<sup>HER2/eGFP</sup> breast cancer cell line injected in the left cardiac ventricle of mice.

28

Concentrations of xB<sup>3</sup>-001 within Brain Regions at 2hrs post dose

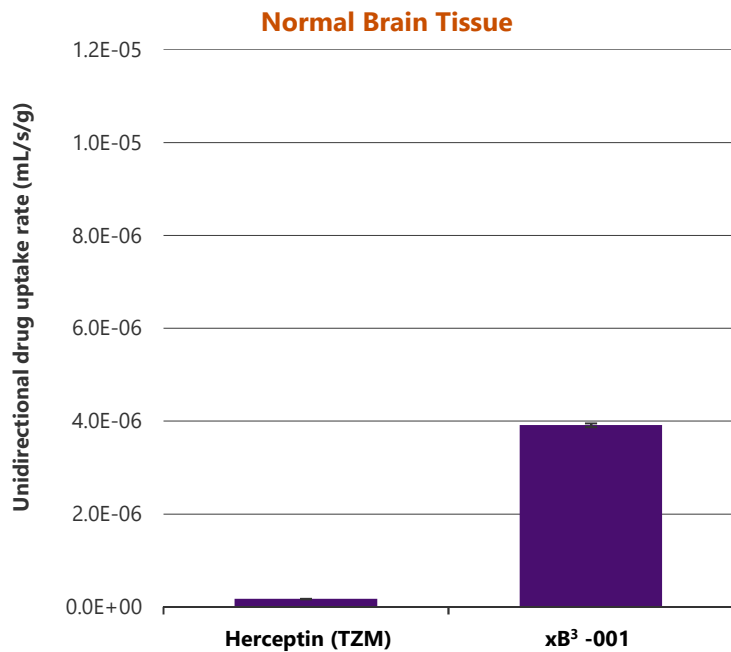


Single injection of <sup>125</sup>I-xB<sup>3</sup>-001 administered 5 weeks after initial intracardiac injection of cells and establishment of brain metastases.

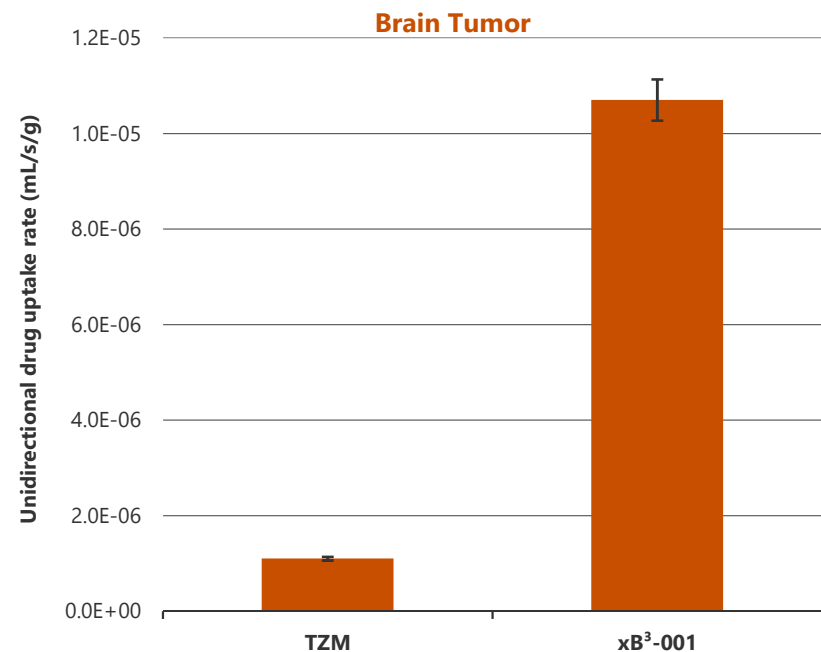
*Nounou, MI, et al. Pharm Res. 2016 Dec;33(12):2930-2942. Epub 2016 Aug 15*

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# xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Delivers 10-Fold Higher Herceptin<sup>®</sup> to Brain Metastases

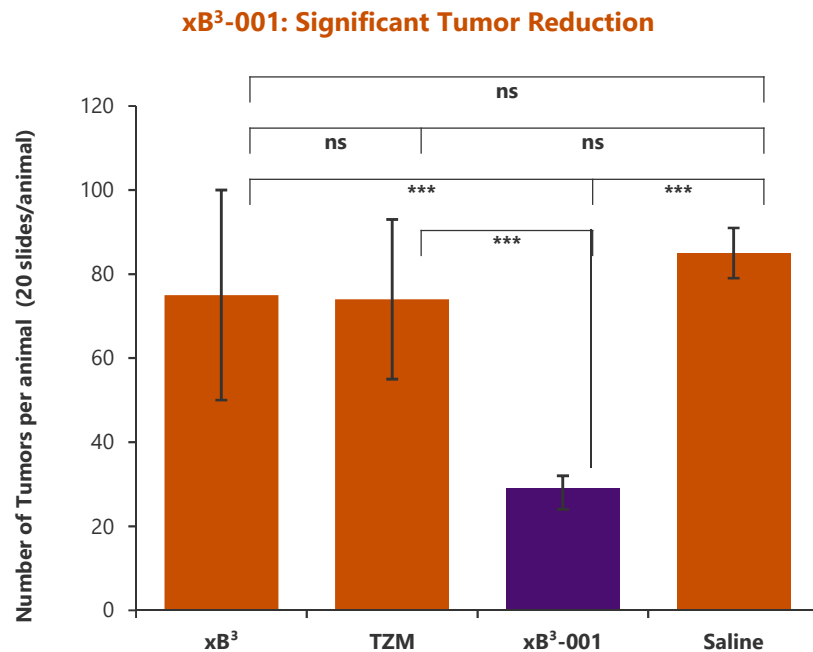


Mean ± SD; n = 61 (TzM), n = 77 (xB<sup>3</sup>-001); single dose; up to 8 hrs post dose.



Mean ± SD; n = 336 (TzM), n = 213 (xB<sup>3</sup>-001); single dose; up to 8 hrs post dose

# xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Delivers Herceptin<sup>®</sup> (Trastuzumab, TZM) to Brain Metastases and Reduces Both Tumor Number and Size



TZM: Trastuzumab; n= 13 for xB<sup>3</sup>, TZM groups; n=8-9 for xB<sup>3</sup>-001, Saline groups. Biweekly IV treatment for 2 weeks. 10mg/kg molar equivalent. One-way ANOVA \*\*P<0.001, \*\*\*P<0.001, \*\*\*\*P<0.0001 Mean+/-SEM

Group	Tumor size based on pooled data from all individual values in group	
	# of tumor	Tumor size (mm <sup>2</sup> ) Mean ± STDEV
Saline control (n=9)	765	1.654 ± 1.673
xB <sup>3</sup> -001 (n=8)	223	0.710 ± 0.727 <sup>1</sup>
TZM (n=13)	962	1.402 ± 1.217

<sup>1</sup>. xB<sup>3</sup>-001 group vs. TZM group P<0.001

## xB<sup>3</sup>-001 vs. TZM Treatment

- Reduced tumor number by 68%
- Tumors that remained after treatment were 46% smaller
- TZM treatment show no effect on reducing number of metastases with negligible reduction in tumor size

## xB<sup>3</sup> – 001 Path to Market

- **If clinically active, xB<sup>3</sup>-001 has the potential to be a candidate for accelerated approval:**
  - Addresses a serious or life-threatening condition.
  - Must demonstrate an effect on an intermediate clinical endpoint or surrogate endpoint, for example tumor shrinkage, in a way that is reasonably likely to predict clinical long-term benefit and can be measured earlier than that benefit. **As brain metastases determine the prognosis of HER2+ MBC patients they are a good surrogate for clinical benefit (survival).**
- **A non-inferiority study is not required as Herceptin is not effective in treating HER2+ brain metastases**
- **xB<sup>3</sup> – 001 accelerated approval study:**
  - The FDA have indicated that Bioasis should seek a meeting at the end of the Phase 1 component of the currently planned trial. At this time the company may have an opportunity to discuss an accelerated approval strategy and study design.

# A Strong Patent Portfolio Underpins Bioasis' Platform and Products

## Patent portfolio covers Bioasis' platform technologies (their uses and indications)

- Comprises over 120 patents and pending applications (10+ patent families) covering xB<sup>3</sup>, p97, fusion proteins of p97 or xB<sup>3</sup> with antibodies, including trastuzumab, bevacizumab, and other payloads
- Key xB<sup>3</sup> patent granted in U.S. (expires in 2034; additional patent term extension up to 5 years)
- Patents have been filed in major geographic markets and have expiration dates in 2034-2035 (plus patent term extensions)

## Patent pending for xB<sup>3</sup>-trastuzumab (xB<sup>3</sup>-001) - and uses/indications

- Patents have been filed in major geographic markets with expiration date in 2035 (plus patent term extensions)
- In June 2019, the European Patent Office issued allowance of a patent application relating to trastuzumab/xB<sup>3</sup> conjugates including xB<sup>3</sup>-001, Bioasis' lead product in development for the treatment of HER2+ breast cancer brain metastases.

## Additional patents pending for other xB<sup>3</sup>-related innovations

- Enzyme Replacement, e.g., Gaucher disease
  - In June 2019, the U.S. Patent Office and Trademark and European Patent Offices issued allowances of patent applications relating to iduronate-2-sulfatase, or IDS, polypeptide/xB<sup>3</sup> conjugates for the treatment of Hunter Syndrome a Lysosomal Storage Disorder.
- Brain transport plus lymphatic engagement
- Innovations in the areas of combination therapies, fusion proteins with various antibodies, CNS-targeted conjugates, treatment of neuropathologies and pain, as well as other innovations. Generally, these patents, when granted, have expiration dates from 2023 to 2037.



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xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology

MedImmune - Bioasis  
Collaboration

 MedImmune

Original Article

JCBFM

Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow &  
Metabolism  
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SAGE

## A peptide derived from melanotransferrin delivers a protein-based interleukin I receptor antagonist across the BBB and ameliorates neuropathic pain in a preclinical model

George Thom<sup>1</sup>, Mei-Mei Tian<sup>2</sup>, Jon P Hatcher<sup>3</sup>,  
Natalia Rodrigo<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Burrell<sup>1</sup>, Ian Gurrell<sup>3</sup>,  
Timothy Z Vitalis<sup>4</sup>, Thomas Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Wilfred A Jefferies<sup>6</sup>,  
Carl I Webster<sup>1</sup> and Reinhard Gabathuler<sup>4</sup>

### Abstract

Delivery of biologic drugs across the blood–brain barrier is becoming a reality. However, the solutions often involve the assembly of complex multi-specific antibody molecules. Here we utilize a simple 12 amino-acid peptide originating from the melanotransferrin (MTF) protein that has shown improved brain delivery properties. 3D confocal fluorescence microscopic analysis demonstrated brain parenchymal localisation of a fluorescently labelled antibody (NIP228) when chemically conjugated to either the MTF peptide or full-length MTF protein. Measurement of plasma kinetics demonstrated the MTF peptide fusions had very similar kinetics to an unmodified NIP228 control antibody, whereas the fusion to MTF protein had significantly reduced plasma exposure most likely due to a higher tissue distribution in the periphery. Brain exposure for the MTF peptide fusions was significantly increased for the duration of the study, exceeding that of the fusions to full length MTF protein. Using a neuropathic pain model, we have demonstrated that fusions to interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1RA) are able to induce significant and durable analgesia following peripheral administration. These data demonstrate that recombinant and chemically conjugated MTF-based brain delivery vectors can deliver therapeutic levels of drug to the central nervous system.

### Keywords

Blood–brain barrier, central nervous system, interleukin-1 receptor antagonist, melanotransferrin peptide, pharmacokinetic

Received 31 July 2017; Revised 23 March 2018; Accepted 26 March 2018

### Introduction

Although protective in design, the blood–brain barrier (BBB) presents a constant challenge to effectively deliver therapeutic drugs directed at the treatment of brain diseases. Efficient drug delivery across the BBB is most important in the treatment of neurophysiological disorders (including neuropathic pain, Alzheimer's disease

<sup>1</sup>Bioasis Technologies Inc., Richmond, BC, Canada

<sup>2</sup>Neural and Behavioural Sciences & Microscopy Imaging Core Lab, College of Medicine, The Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA, USA

<sup>3</sup>The Michael Smith Laboratories, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada; The Vancouver Prostate Centre, Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, BC, Canada; The Djavd Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada; Centre for Blood Research and Departments of Microbiology and Immunology, Medical Genetics, and Zoology University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

### Corresponding author:

Mei-Mei Tian, Bioasis Biosciences Corp., 14 Water Street, Gullford, CT 06437, USA.  
Email: meimei@bioasis.us

<sup>1</sup>MedImmune, Cambridge, UK

<sup>2</sup>Bioasis Biosciences Corp., Gullford, CT, USA

<sup>3</sup>Neuroscience IMED Biotech Unit, AstraZeneca, AKB, Cambridge, UK

## MedImmune Collaboration:

### *Independent Validation of Bioasis Technology*

#### Why

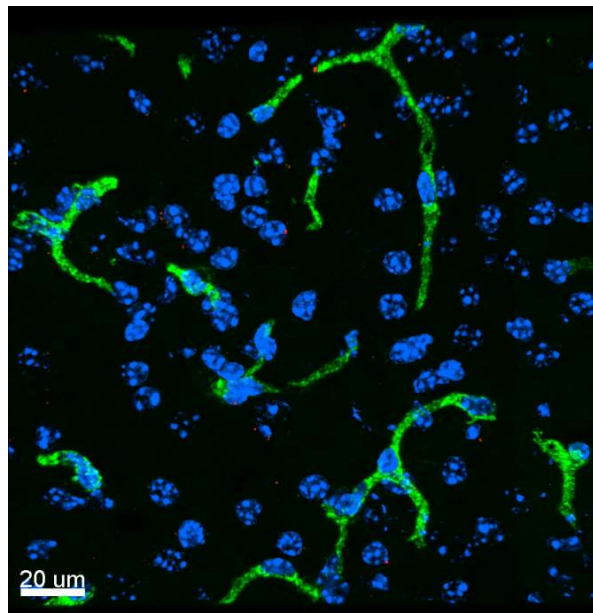
- MedImmune was evaluating blood-brain barrier platforms using test antibodies for brain delivery
- They evaluated **eight** blood-brain companies and selected Bioasis
- The selection was based on speed of delivery, superiority to transferrin and multi-modality potential

#### How – illustrative of the approach in a typical program

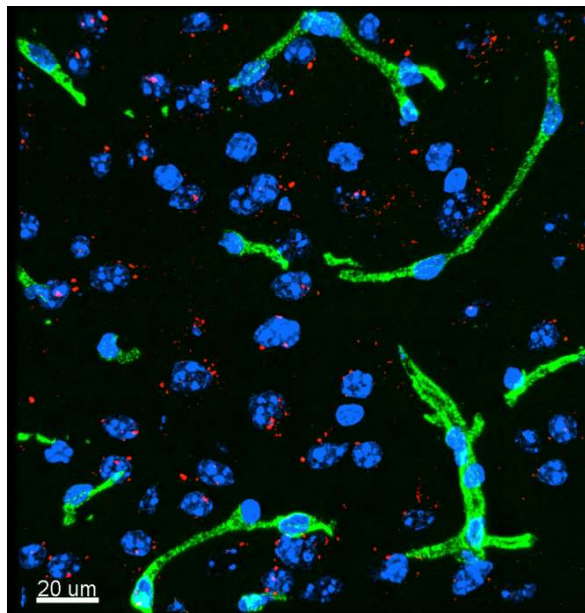
- Measured brain uptake by confocal microscopy
- Measured systemic and brain PK in wild-type mice (xB<sup>3</sup>-hIgG1) , followed by a PD study in a mouse neuropathic pain model (xB<sup>3</sup>-hIgG1-IL1RA)

# xB<sup>3</sup> Facilitated the Penetration and Preferential Localization of Antibodies in the Brain Parenchyma

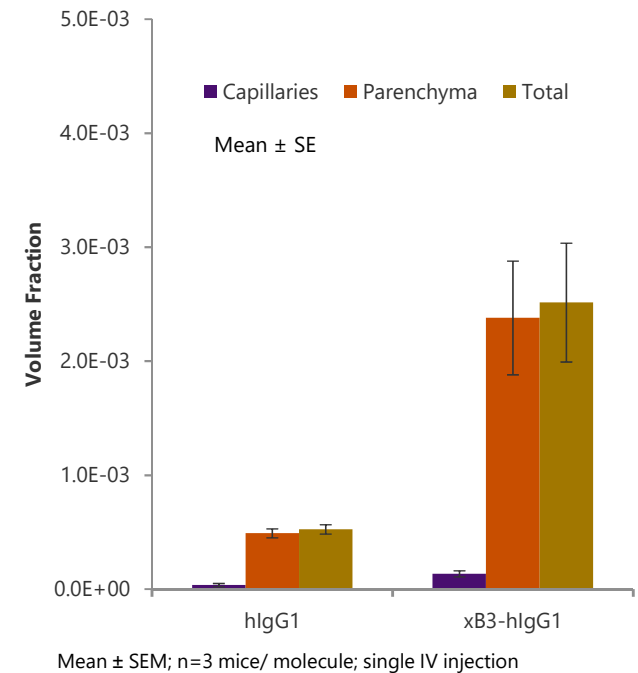
Confocal Images Two Hours Post Single IV Administration (10mg/kg) in Wild-type Mice



hIgG1  
Capillary  
Nucleus

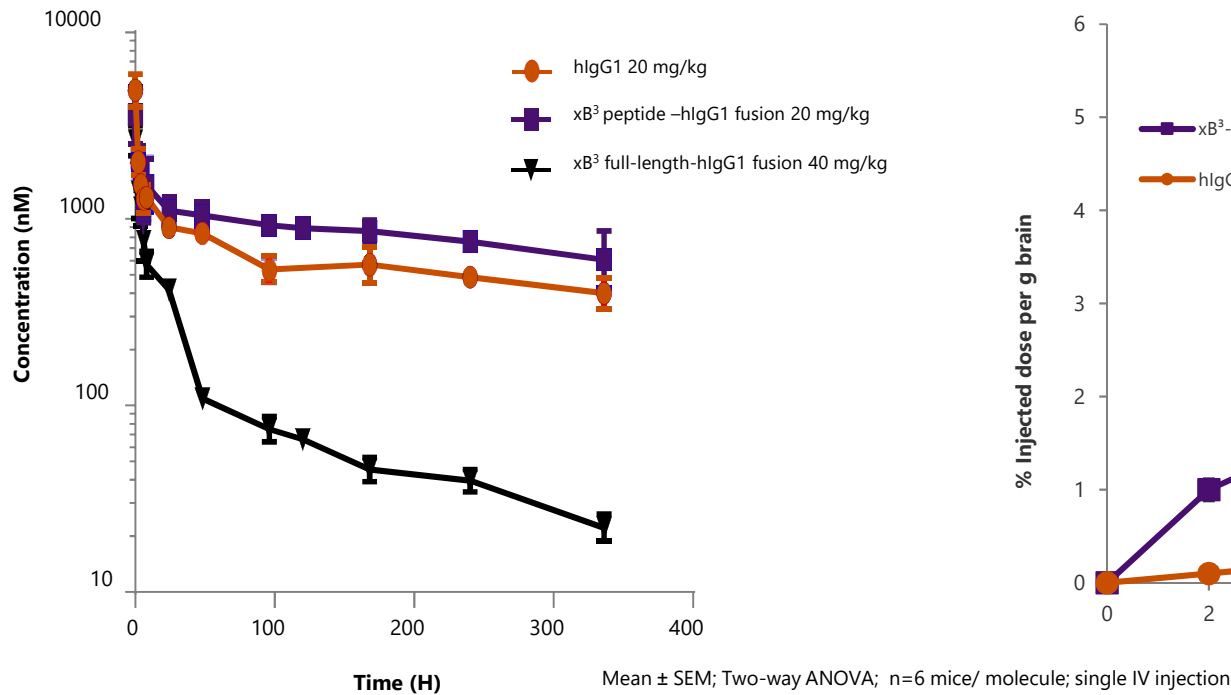


xB<sup>3</sup>-hIgG1  
Capillary  
Nucleus

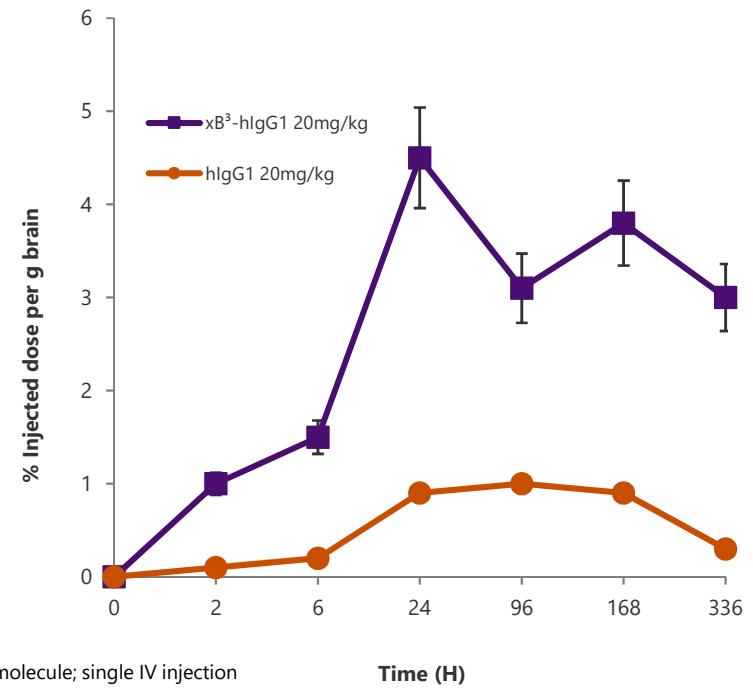


# xB<sup>3</sup> Resulted in Significant Exposure in the Brain Without Negative Impact on Plasma PK

xB<sup>3</sup> peptide-Ab Fusion show improved Plasma PK compared to xB<sup>3</sup> full length-Ab fusion

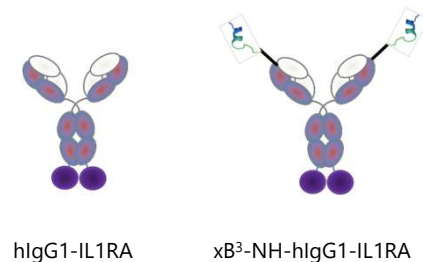
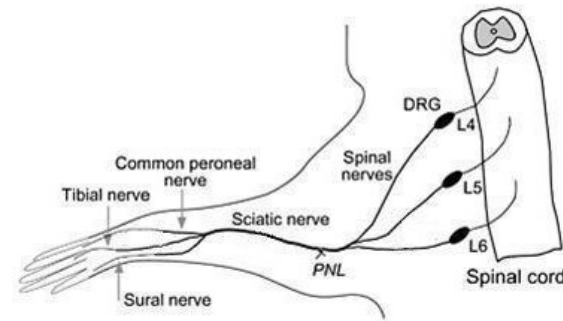


xB<sup>3</sup>-Ab Fusion significantly increased Brain Exposure over Ab alone



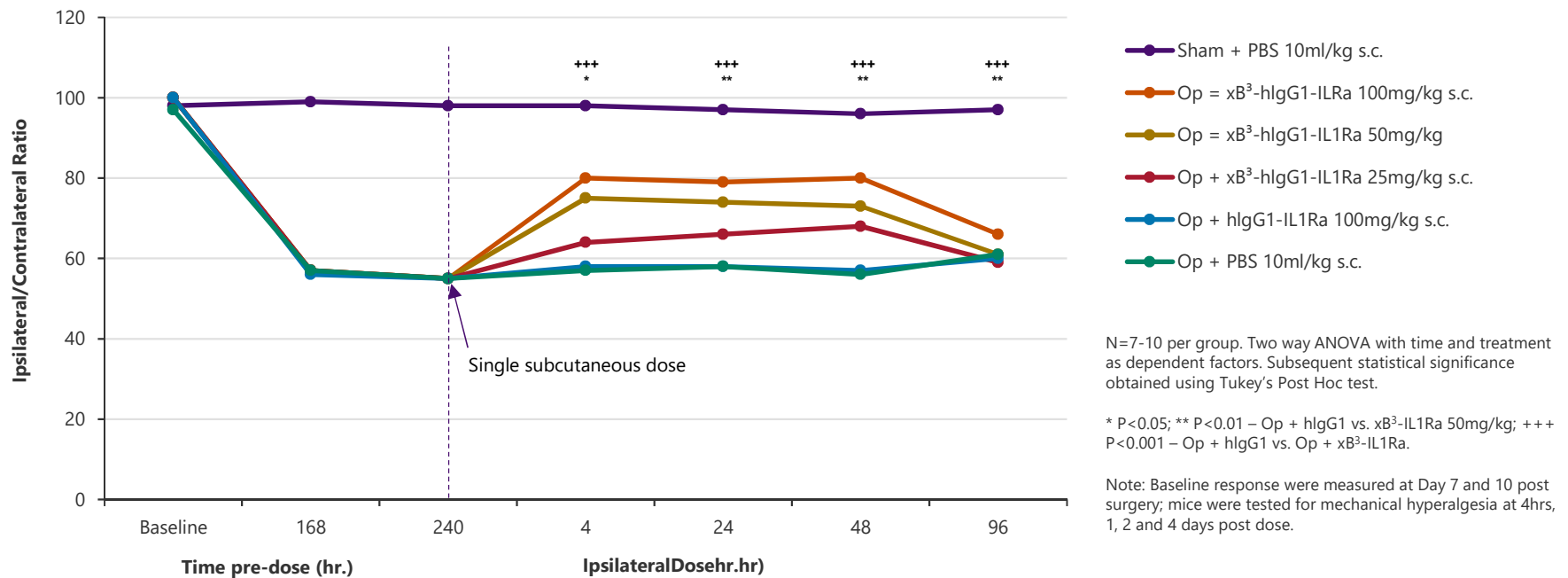
# Efficacy Model: Neuropathic Pain Mouse Model

- Neuropathic pain model (Seltzer et al, 1990)
  - Sciatic nerve of one limb partially ligated
  - Results in mechanical hyperalgesia
- Neuropathic pain centrally mediated
  - Drug must reach CNS to relieve pain
- Analgesic drug will reduce pain if it reaches the CNS
  - IL-1 receptor antagonism has been implicated in relieving the symptoms of neuropathic pain (Gabay et al, 2011)
    - IL1RA (Kineret) can induce analgesia **only** when delivered intrathecally
    - Peripheral delivery of IL1RA or control IgG-IL1RA do not induce analgesia



# Systemic administration of $\alpha B^3$ -IL1RA Fusion: Dose Dependent PD Effects in Neuropathic Pain Model

Effect of  $\alpha B^3$ -hlgG1-IL1RA on Reversal of PNL Induced Mechanical Hyperalgesia – Ipsi/Contra Ratio



# Neurodegeneration: Parkinson's Disease

*The Need for Improved Delivery of Therapeutics to the CNS Continues to Increase*

## Prevalence of Parkinson's

- Nearly one million will be living with Parkinson's disease (PD) in the U.S. by 2020, which is more than the combined number of people diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's disease (or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis)
- Approximately 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with PD each year.
- More than 10 million people worldwide are living with PD.
- Incidence of Parkinson's disease increases with age, but an estimated four percent of people with PD are diagnosed before age 50.
- Men are 1.5 times more likely to have Parkinson's disease than women.

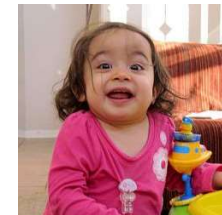
## Estimated Cost of Parkinson's

- Medications alone cost an average of \$2,500 a year and therapeutic surgery can cost up to \$100,000 per person.
- The combined direct and indirect cost of Parkinson's, including treatment, social security payments and lost income, is estimated to be nearly \$52 billion per year in the United States alone.

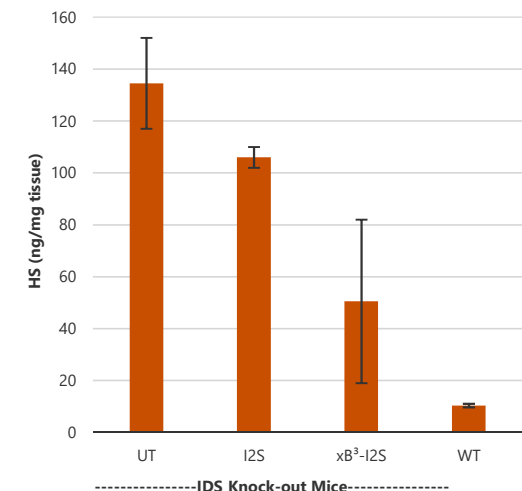
## xB<sup>3</sup>-007: Glucocerebrosidase

### Untreated Neuropathic Gaucher's Disease Type II

- Gaucher's disease (GD) results in the deficiency in an enzyme, causing a portion of old cells to be stored in areas such as the liver, spleen, lungs, lymph system, and bones instead of being expelled from the body. It is caused by mutations in GBA1 gene that encodes glucocerebrosidase enzyme
  - **Type II is an acute, infantile, neuropathic form of the disease, associated with severe brain damage: No effective treatments are currently available**
    - **Early onset (3-6 months), severe, rapidly progressing, fatal within two years**
    - **Pathologies: seizures, spasticity, enlarged spleen & liver, poor development**
- Cerezyme<sup>®</sup> (glucocerebrosidase) is used as an **enzyme replacement therapy** for patients with Gaucher's Disease Type I. Cerezyme robustly treats the peripheral symptoms of Type I (non-neuropathic), however, is not able to cross the BBB and is not effective in Types II and III
  - Bioasis scientists have preliminary data demonstrating the ability of an enzyme to cross the BBB with an associated decrease in heparin sulfate as well as glycosaminoglycans in the central nervous system



Reduction in Heparan Sulfate Accumulation



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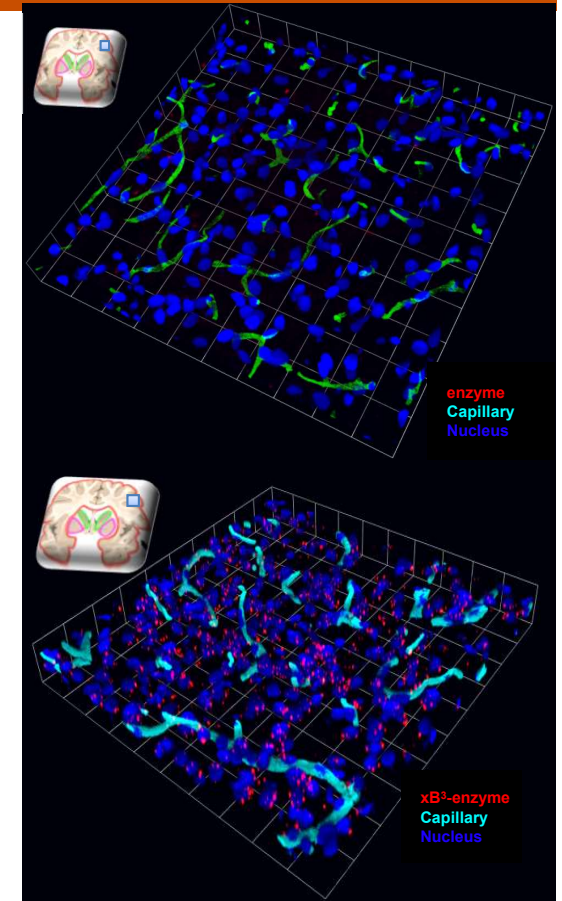


# **xB<sup>3</sup> is able to Effectively Deliver Enzymes to the Brain to Treat Lysosomal Storage Disorders**

## **Hunter Syndrome (MPS II)**

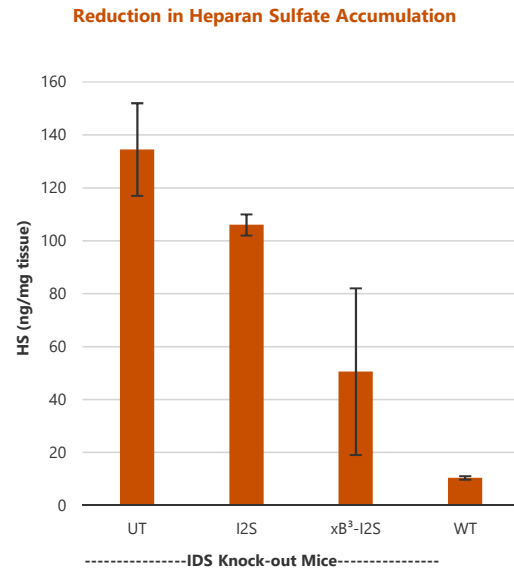
- Lysosomal Storage disease, MPS II is caused by an iduronate 2-sulfatase (I2S) enzyme deficiency
- Currently CNS effects are untreatable

***Bioasis' xB<sup>3</sup> peptide-I2S fusion molecule increased I2S uptake into the brain and was accompanied by cellular and biochemical changes characteristic of enzyme activity.***

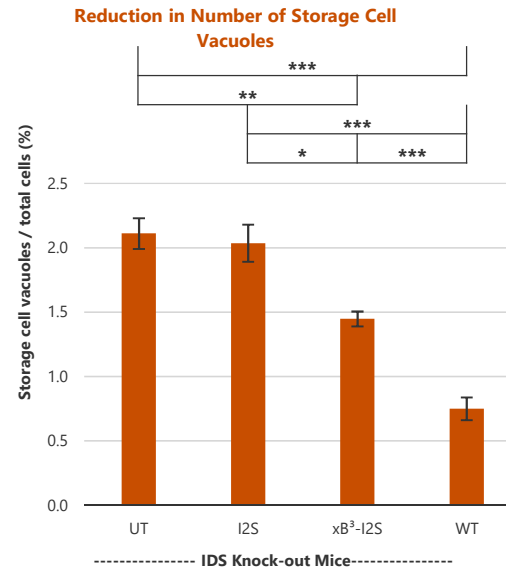


# xB<sup>3</sup>-I2S Treatment Facilitated the Reduction of Heparan Sulfate Levels, Reduced Number of Storage Cell Vacuoles & Reduction in Number of Lysosome Vesicles in the Brain

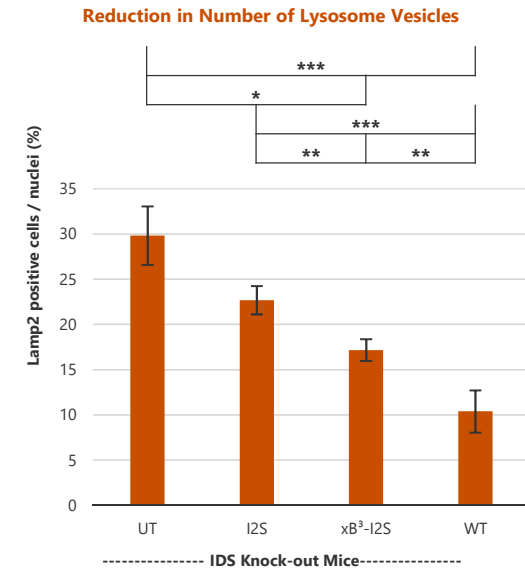
- Significant reduction in brain heparan sulfate accumulation, cell vacuolation and lysosome vesicles in a Hunter Syndrome mouse model
- Increase in brain heparan sulfate accumulation, cell vacuolation and lysosome numbers are hallmarks of Hunter Syndrome



Mean ± SEM; n= 2-3



Mean ± SEM (\*\*P≤0.0001, \*\*P≤0.001, \*P≤0.01, One-way ANOVA); n=4-5



Mean ± SEM (\*\*P≤0.005, \*\*P≤0.05, \*P≤0.01, One-way ANOVA); n=5

## Recent Achievements

- January 2019: Bioasis Announces Agreement With Leading Pharmaceutical Company for Pre-Clinical Research Using the xB<sup>3</sup> Platform Technology
  - \$500,000 upfront, up to \$3M in R&D costs
- October 2018: Bioasis Announces xB<sup>3</sup>™ Platform Technology Licensing Agreement with Prothena
  - \$1M upfront, up to \$33M in milestones, additional royalty on product sales
- May 2018: Bioasis Announces Publication of Independent Validation of the Company's xB<sup>3</sup>™ Platform Technology
  - MedImmune collaboration

# Appendix

# Delivery of siRNA-based treatment to brain in an induced ischemic stroke

## Why

- Utility of siRNA therapeutic approaches for CNS diseases has been limited by their distribution *in vivo*
  - Preferentially localize to the kidney and liver, unable to cross the BBB

## Aim

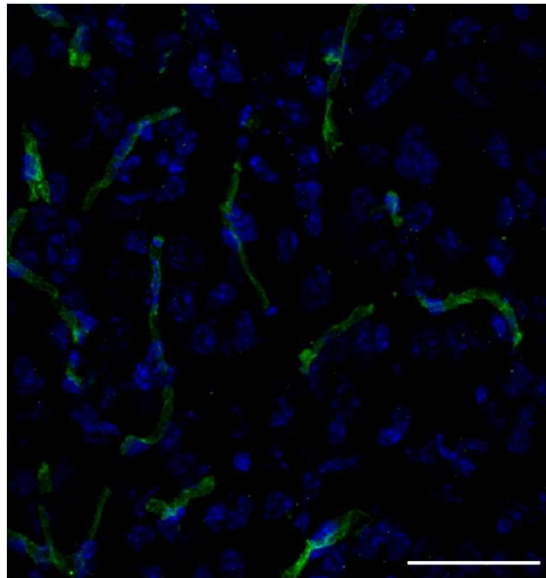
- Delivery of siRNA to brain to knock down gene targets associated with specific CNS disease / condition

## Target

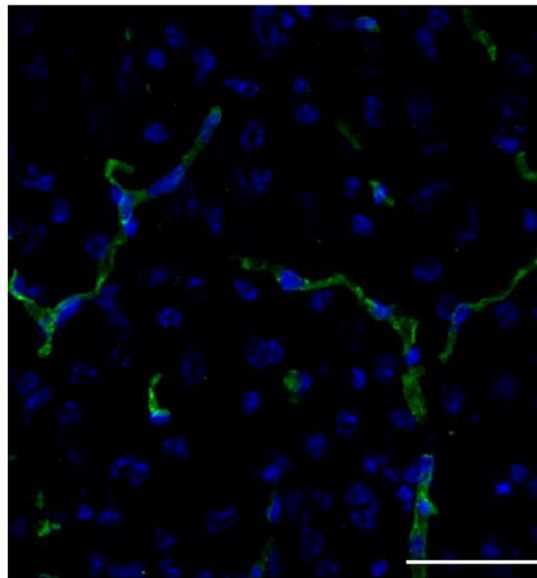
- NADPH oxidase (NOX) enzyme gene in ischemic stroke
  - Stroke is one of the leading causes of death in North America, with majority result from blockage of blood vessels in the brain (ischemic stroke)
  - NOX4 has been identified in neurons, astrocytes and microglia
  - NOX4 is thought to be responsible for majority of oxidative stress observed in acute traumatic brain injury<sup>1</sup>
  - Animal deficient in NOX4 are strongly protected from ischemic stroke<sup>2,3</sup>

# Conjugation to xB<sup>3</sup> Facilitated the Transport of siRNA Across the BBB into Brain Parenchyma of Wild Type Mice

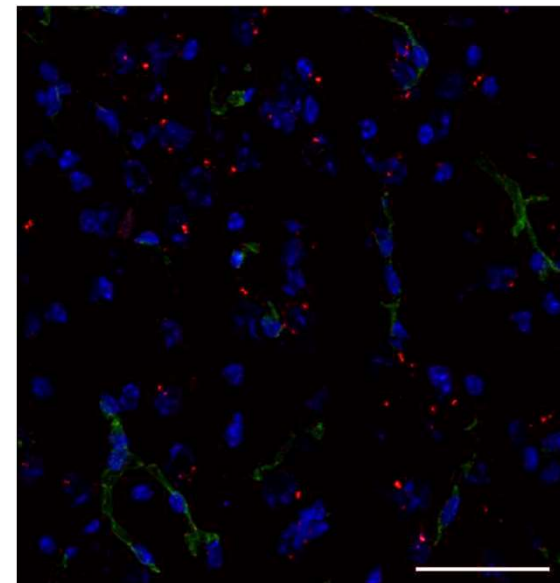
Confocal Images One Hour Post Single IV Administration (10mg/kg) in Wild-type Mice



PBS



siRNA



xB<sup>3</sup>-siRNA

siRNA / xB<sup>3</sup>-siRNA  
Capillary  
Nucleus

# Stroke Induction Via Middle Cerebral Artery Occlusion

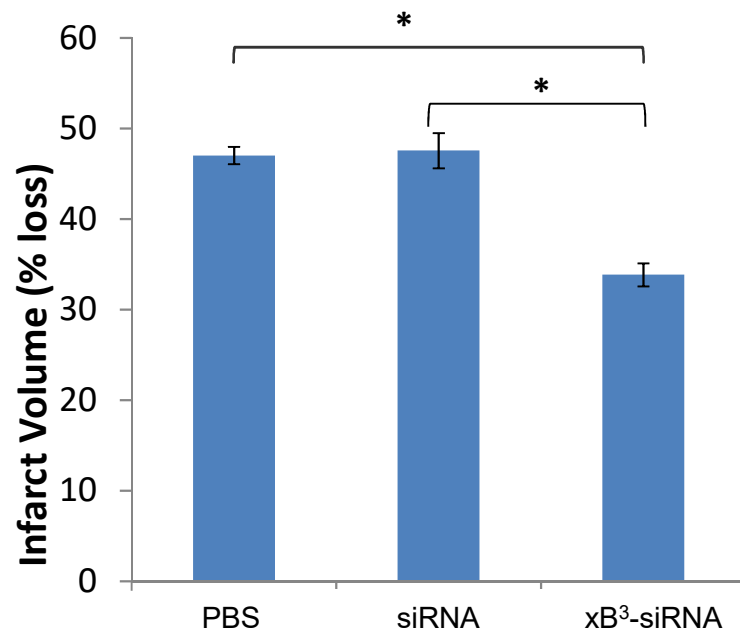
## Model:

- Middle cerebral artery occlusion via filament
- Duration of occlusion: 60 min
- Animal sacrificed 24 hrs post reperfusion
- Dose: 30 mg/kg
- Administration: i.v. prior to stroke induction

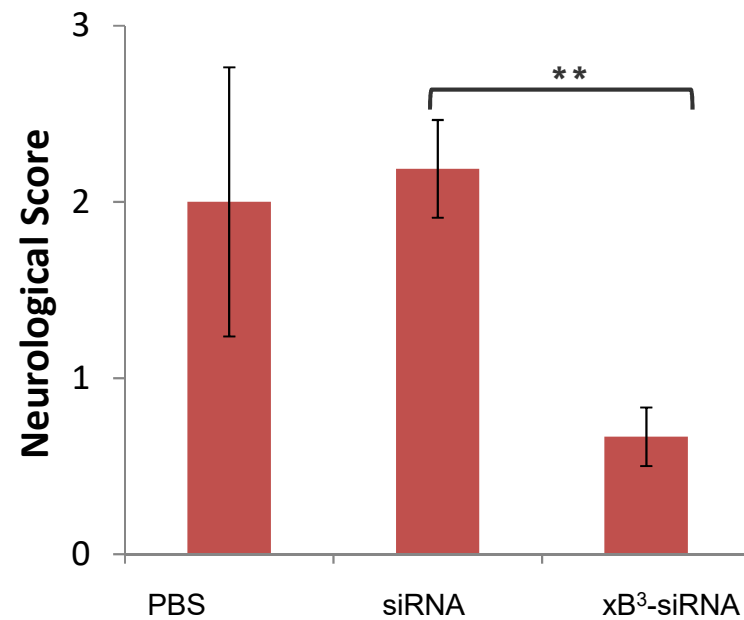
## Analysis>

- Cerebral infarction – via 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium chloride colorimetric staining
- Neurological deficit – blinded behavioral assessment base on scale of 0 (best) - 5 (worst)
- Knock-down quantification (mRNA level) – Quantitative PCR

## Pretreatment with xB<sup>3</sup>-siRNA Conjugates Significantly Reduced the Infarct Volume and Improved Neurological Deficit



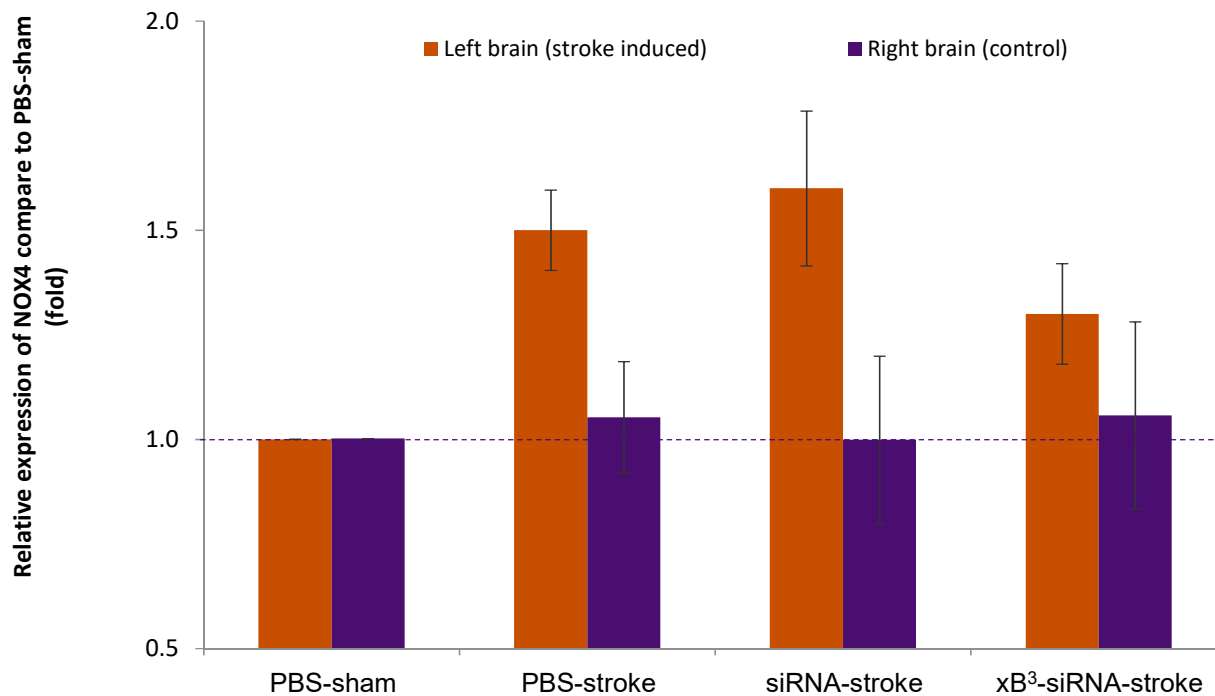
\*  $P \leq 0.05$  (1 way Anova); n=4



\*\*  $P \leq 0.01$  (1 way Anova); n=4



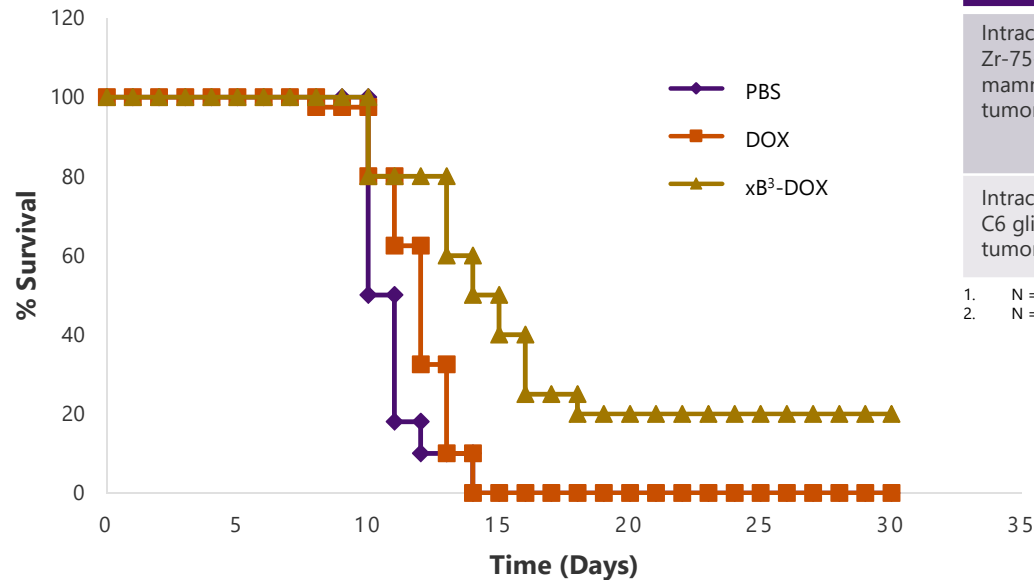
# xB<sup>3</sup>-siRNA Pretreatment Reduced NOX4 Expression Compared to siRNA or PBS in Stroke Induced Brain at mRNA Level



Mean  $\pm$  SEM; n=4; data obtained from a separate set of animal as those used for the analysis of infarct volume/neurodeficit

# Small Molecule: Doxorubicin Conjugate Achieves Significant Increase in Survival in Intracranial Tumor Mouse Models

## A Unique Carrier For Delivery Of Therapeutic Compounds



N = 10; total in DOX group = 20mg/kg, total ADR in xB<sup>3</sup>-DOX group = 5.5mg/kg; dosing schedule D3,4,5,6,7,10,11,12,13,14

Model	Compound (Total ADR dosed)	Mean survival (Days)	% change in mean survival	Significance
Intracranial Zr-75-1 mammary tumors <sup>1</sup>	PBS	10	-	-
	DOX (20mg/kg)	9.24	-7.6	P<0.05
	xB <sup>3</sup> -DOX (5.5 mg/kg)	17.7	77	P<0.005
Intracranial C6 glioma tumors <sup>2</sup>	PBS	20.2	-	-
	xB <sup>3</sup> -DOX (0.49 mg/kg)	28.3	40	P<0.001

1. N = 10; dosing schedule D3,4,5,6,7,10,11,12,13,14;  
 2. N = 10; dosing schedule D1,3,7,10,14

- Treatment with xB<sup>3</sup>-DOX raised the mean and median survival to 77% and 40% respectively
- 2/10 mice in xB<sup>3</sup>-DOX treatment group survived to over 50 days and were tumor-free at autopsy

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# Neuro-oncology Applications Beyond xB<sup>3</sup>-001

xB<sup>3</sup>-002 for the Treatment of Glioblastoma

## xB<sup>3</sup>-002 Program for the Treatment of Glioblastoma: One of the Most Aggressive Cancers Originating from the Brain

- **Approximately 80% of all diagnosed primary malignant brain tumors are malignant gliomas (GBM).**
- **The deadliest form of brain cancer due to the high infiltration of the tumor with surrounding brain tissues**
- **GBM tissues show moderate to high expression level of LRP1**
  - **68% of GBM brain slice specimens showed moderate to high LRP-1 expression**
  - **0% of normal brain slice specimens showed moderate to high LRP-1 expression**

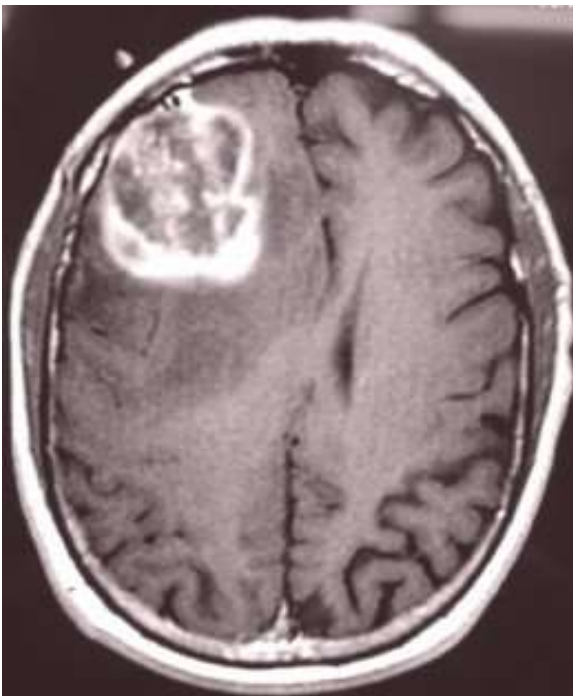
**Table 1.** Distribution of LRP1 expression in normal and GBM specimens.

Expression	Normal (%)	Glioblastoma (%)	Total (%)
Negative	21 (91)	7 (9)	28 (29)
Low	2 (9)	17 (23)	19 (19)
Moderate	0 (0)	30 (40)	30 (31)
High	0 (0)	21 (28)	21 (21)
Total	23 (100)	75 (100)	98 (100)

Histopathological scoring is as follows: negative staining (0), weak staining (1), moderate (2–3), and strong (4–5). Fisher’s exact test suggests a strong association between sample type and LRP1 expression level ( $p < 0.001$ ).

*Gopal U, et al. (2011) A Novel Extracellular Hsp90 Mediated Co-Receptor Function for LRP1 Regulates EphA2 Dependent Glioblastoma Cell Invasion. PLoS ONE 6(3): e17649*

## Avastin and Glioblastoma



Antiangiogenic compounds such as bevacizumab (Avastin, BEV) has been shown to prolong progression-free survival in glioblastoma, with no overall survival benefit.

**Due to a higher expression of LRP1 on glioblastoma, xB<sup>3</sup>-bevacizumab (xB<sup>3</sup>-002) therapy may provide advantages over bevacizumab alone:**

- **Potential to significantly increase brain levels of Avastin**
- **LRP1 receptors on glioblastoma may act like a “sink,” targeting more xB<sup>3</sup>-002 to the glioblastoma sites**

Bevacizumab is known to have negative impacts on CNS function, therefore targeting Avastin and minimizing localization to other brain areas may result in lower dose needed for efficacy and less negative impact to the CNS.

# Our Management Team



**Deborah Rathjen,  
Ph.D., MAICD, FTSE**

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Officer & Executive  
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*15 years of experience  
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research  
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**Dr. May Orfali**

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**Dr. May Orfali**, Chairperson of the Advisory Board in her role of consultant Chief Medical Officer, has an extensive background in drug and clinical development programs spanning two decades in multiple therapeutic areas, with a focus on rare diseases and oncology. Her career includes senior positions at Oncology and Rare Disease Consulting, CANbridge, Pfizer, Wyeth, Artisan Pharma, Aeris, Cubist and Boston Scientific Corporation.



**Dr. Hope S. Rugo** is Professor of Medicine at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she is also the director of Breast Oncology and Clinical Trials Education.



**Dr Javier Cortés** is Head of Breast Cancer and Gynecological Tumors at Ramon y Cajal University Hospital in Madrid and Clinical Investigator of the Breast Cancer Research Program at Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology, Barcelona.



**Dr. John de Groot** is a Professor, and Chairman ad interim, in the Department of Neuro-Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.



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