## Phase 1 Study of an Intravitreal Axitinib Hydrogel-based Implant for the Treatment of Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration (nAMD)

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ARVO Annual Meeting | May 2021 | Virtual

#### **Financial Disclosures**

- Sponsorship of clinical trial: Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.
- Wong JG (presenting author), Chang A, Guymer RH and Wickremasinghe S are investigators in the clinical trial sponsored by Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.
- Goldstein MH, Vantipalli S & Reilly E are employees of Ocular Therapeutix, Inc. and Moshfeghi AA is a consultant for Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.

## Unmet Need in Neovascular AMD Treatment

Therapeutic challenges associated with current therapies include

- Rapid clearance of VEGF inhibitors, requiring repeated injections every 1-2 months to maintain effective concentrations
- Over time, repeated intravitreal injections can lead to infection, retinal detachment, elevated intraocular pressure and poor patient tolerance<sup>1-3</sup>
- Even with flexible regimens (e.g., PRN and T&E protocols), multiple visits and injections challenging for patients/families leading to patient nonadherence and nonpersistence<sup>4-5</sup>

### Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors Act Directly on VEGF Receptors

- Axitinib is a small molecule multi-receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitor, potent and highly selective inhibitor of VEGFR-1, 2, 3 and PDGFR signaling<sup>6,7</sup>
- Axitinib acts intracellularly and interferes with cellular signaling through inhibition of the receptor tyrosine kinases<sup>7</sup>
- Lower doses of Axitinib (at nanomolar concentrations) exhibits high potency and selectivity compared to other TKIs (e.g., sunitinib, sorafenib and pazopanib)<sup>7</sup>
- Lower doses of Axitinib may minimize the TKI class-related adverse events resulting from systemic drug concentrations<sup>8</sup>
- Axitinib has low water solubility<sup>9</sup> compared to other TKIs (e.g., sunitinib, pazopanib, nintedanib),<sup>10-12</sup> allowing for controlled drug release

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UNMET NEED

Longer Duration of Action & Novel Mechanism of Action

# OTX-TKI (Axitinib Intravitreal Implant)

for Intravitreal Injection

### SUSTAINED-RELEASE

- Goal of longer duration without need for surgical intervention
- Goal of sustained release for 6 to 9 months

### **INTRAVITREAL TKI DELIVERY**

- Potential for broader anti-angiogenic profile compared to anti-VEGF agents
- Systemic TKI efficacy established in oncology

### BIODEGRADABLE

 Polyethylene glycol-based hydrogel fiber containing TKI biodegrades via ester hydrolysis in the presence of water and is cleared from the vitreous

### **OTHER PRODUCT ATTRIBUTES**

- Small fiber means minimal to no visual impact but still allows physician monitoring
- Free of antimicrobial preservatives



Hydrogel implant incorporates axitinib delivered via an intravitreal injection

## Study Objective and Design

#### DESIGN

- Open-label, dose-escalation, feasibility study
- 5 sites in Australia
- One eye per patient treated
- Key Inclusion criteria:
  - Active primary sub foveal neovascularization (SFNV) secondary to AMD
     – previously treated or naïve subjects but with retinal fluid present

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- · Safety, tolerability, and biological activity
- Safety evaluations at all visits; mean change in central subfield thickness (CSFT) measured by SD-OCT, BCVA, and clinically-significant leakage on FA and/or OCT-A



#### **Question:**

Does axitinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TKI) injected into the eye have biological activity?

## Interim Results: Mean Change in CSFT & BCVA in All Cohorts



Cohort 3a: n=6 until Month 2. n=4 for Months 3: n=3 for Month 4.5 & n=1 until Month 9: Cohort 3b: n=2 until Month 4.5: n=1 for Month 6 \*All BCVA and CSFT values compared to Baseline visit; NOTE; Interim review, unmonitored data; Data cut on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## SD-OCT Evaluation: Cohort 3





## SD-OCT Evaluation: Cohort 2





\*NOTE: Interim review, unmonitored data; Data cut on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021; BCVA presented in logMAR format with Snellen equivalent in parenthesis

## Overview of Safety and Tolerability

### No subjects had IOP elevation and no subject needed ocular steroids

Number of subjects with:	Cohort 1 200 µg n=6	Cohort 2* 400 µg n=7	Cohort 3a* 600 µg n=6	Cohort 3b* 400 µg + Anti-VEGF n=2	Total n=21
Adverse Events (AEs)	14	24	16	3	57
Suspected Relationship to Study Product	1	2	1	0	4
Suspected Relationship to Injection Procedure	1	4	10	2	17
Ocular AEs	12	16	13	2	43
Ocular AEs (Study Eye)	7	14	11	2	34
Serious Ocular AEs	0	0	0	0	0
By severity					
Mild Moderate Severe	12 2 0	19 5 0	15 1 0	3 0 0	49 8 0

### **Pharmacokinetics**

Plasma concentrations of axitinib were below the limit of quantification of assay <u>(BLQ) <0.1 ng/ml</u> at all sampled timepoints in all subjects in Cohorts 1 & 2

## Duration of Effect

## OVER 50% OF SUBJECTS DID NOT RECEIVE RESCUE THERAPY OUT TO 6 MONTHS

Percentage of Subjects Without Needing Rescue Medications **Extended Follow-up** At 6 At 7.5 At 1 At 3 At 9 At 12 At 14 At 17 months Cohorts months months months months months months months % (n/N) Cohort 1 (200 100 (6/6) **66.7** (4/6) **50** (3/6) **50** (3/6) **50** (3/6) NA NA NA μg) Cohort 2 (400 **85.7** (6/7) **71.4** (5/7) **57.1** (4/7) **42.9**(3/7) **42.9** (3/7) **50** (1/1)\* **28.6**(2/7) **20** (1/5)\* µg)\* Cohort 3a 100 (4/4)\* 100 (1/1)\* 100 (1/1)\* TBD TBD TBD **83.3** (5/6) 100 (1/1)\* (600 µg)\* Cohort 3b TBD TBD TBD TBD TBD 100 (2/2)\* 100 (2/2)\* **50** (1/2)\* (400 µg + anti-VEGF)\*

\*Follow-up ongoing

# Conclusions

#### OTX-TKI was generally well tolerated

- To date, observed to have a favorable safety profile, with no ocular serious adverse events in treatment naïve & previously treated wet AMD patients
- No measurable systemic exposure to axitinib observed in Cohorts 1-2
- Preliminary biological signal of clinically-meaningful decrease in retinal fluid
  - Some subjects showed a decrease in intraretinal or subretinal fluid by 2 months in Cohorts 2 (400 μg) & 3a (600 μg)
  - Combination of OTX-TKI + Anti-VEGF (Cohort 3b) showed a decrease in intraretinal or subretinal fluid immediately, as early as a week after treatment in two subjects

#### Therapy durability suggests extended duration of action (follow-up ongoing)

- Cohort 2 (400 µg): Several subjects demonstrated durability of therapy for up to 12 months
- Cohort 3: One subject demonstrates durability of therapy for up to 9 months in the 600 µg group & up to 6 months in the OTX-TKI + Anti-VEGF group

#### Consistent bio-resorption observed

o Implant biodegraded in all subjects in Cohort 1 by 9-10.5 months

#### Implant location observation suggests limited movement

Implant was able to be adequately monitored