



***CPD100Li:***

*Unique Development Opportunity  
in Oncology*

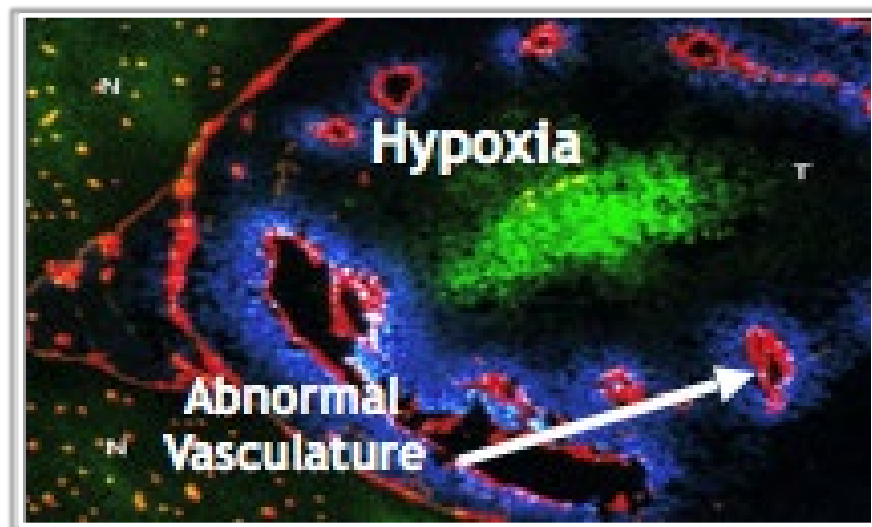
# Cascade Background

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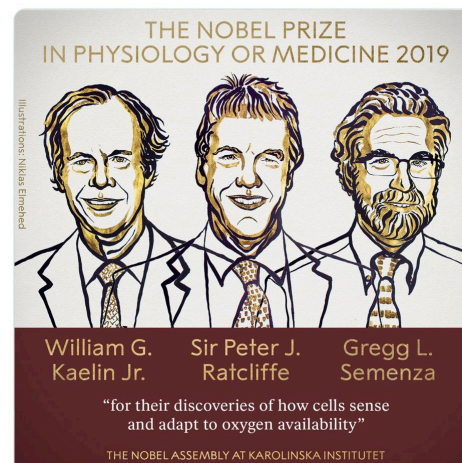
- CPD100Li (N-oxide prodrug of vinblastine) is a unique prodrug molecule that targets the hypoxic component of the tumor microenvironment
- Proof of Concept (POC) established for CPD100Li:
  - ✓ Prodrug SAR – In vitro microtubule polymerization inhibition assays
  - ✓ Bio-reduction under hypoxic conditions – Ex vivo cell based assays
  - ✓ 10X MTD & reduced side-effects – In vivo safety pharmacology
  - ✓ Strong anti-tumor response – In vivo efficacy models of pancreatic, lung and colon cancer
- Pancreatic cancer identified as initial indication – FDA Orphan Drug Designation
- Compelling evidence supporting development as single agent and/or in combination with other chemotherapy or checkpoint inhibitors
- IND filing targeted for 2025
- Cascade ProDrug (Based in Eugene, OR) – Platform chemistries for generating novel classes of hypoxia activated prodrugs and optimized formulation

# Targeting the Hypoxic Tumor Microenvironment

*Solving chemo and I/O ineffectiveness*



Bernsen et al, (2000) *J. Neurosurgery* 93:449-454



*J Clin Invest* 2020 Jan 2;130(1):4-6.

The 2019 Nobel Prize honors  
fundamental discoveries in  
hypoxia response

**Hypoxia is a common feature of the tumor microenvironment that negatively impacts the effects of chemotherapy or immuno-oncology (I/O) treatment**

# Hypoxia effect on tumor microenvironment

*Solving chemo and I/O ineffectiveness*

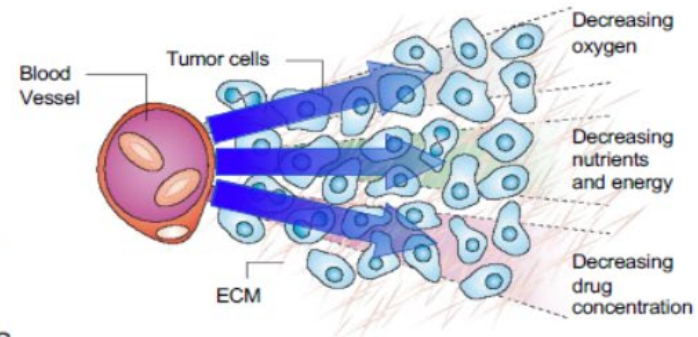
## HYPOXIA: LOW O<sub>2</sub> LEVELS

### Solid tumors develop unique hypoxic tumor microenvironments

- Enhances aggressive tumor growth behavior
- Supports resident and infiltrating immunosuppressive cells
- Leads to exclusion and dysfunction of cytotoxic T cells
- Tumor mobility; induces Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal transitions

### Tumor microenvironment is a major impediment to conventional vinca alkaloid therapies

- Confers radiotherapy resistance
- Confers chemotherapy resistance
- Promotes malignant tumor cell phenotype
- Acidity reduces maximum possible drug dosing



Tumor O<sub>2</sub> levels rapidly decrease as distance from blood vessel increases

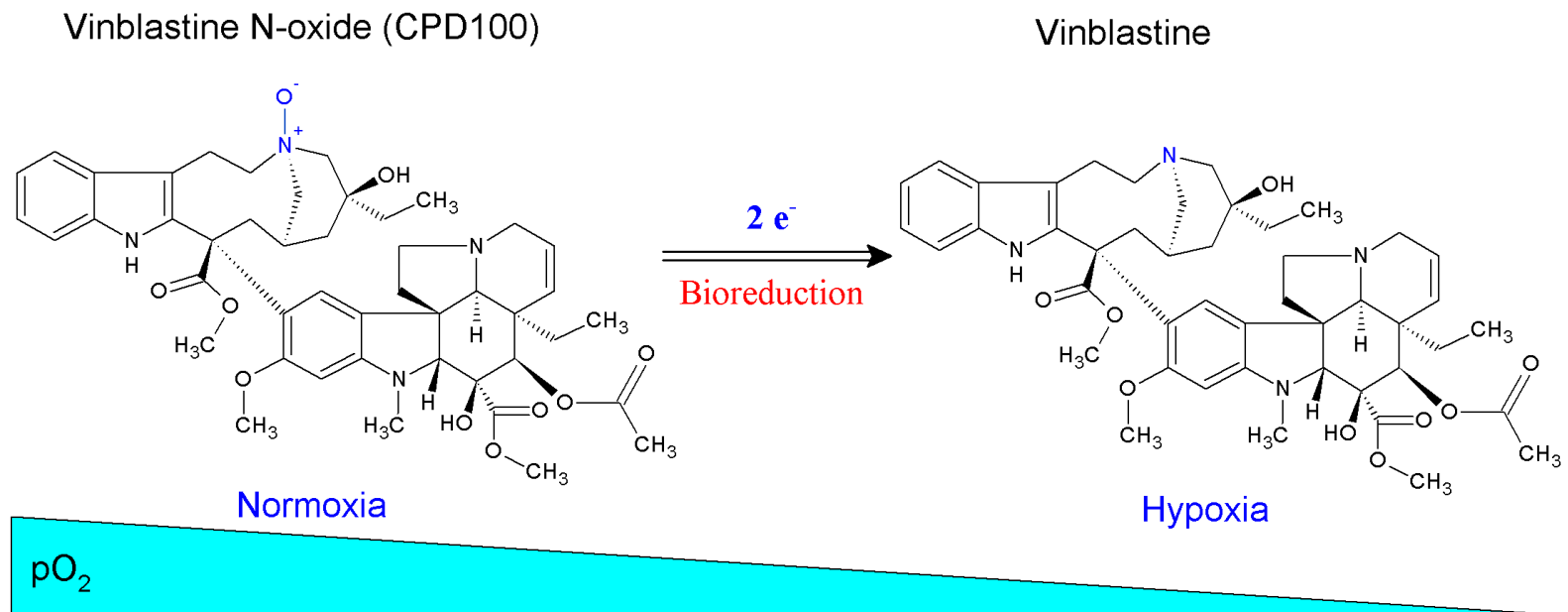
# Hypoxia a common feature of most tumors

*pO<sub>2</sub> (oxygen partial pressure) measured in mmHg using electrode probes*

Tumor	Tumor Tissue pO <sub>2</sub> mm Hg (# patients)	Normal Tissue pO <sub>2</sub> mm Hg (# patients)
Pancreas	2 (8)	57
Brain	13 (104)	26
Head & Neck	10 (592)	N/A
Lung	16 (26)	N/A
Breast	10 (212)	52
Cervix	9 (730)	42
Liver	6 (4)	30
Prostate	2-21 (57,55,55,10,13)	N/A
Sarcoma	14 (283)	51
Melanoma	12 (18)	41
Lymphoma	18 (8)	N/A

Vaupel, P. *et al.*, *Antioxidants & Redox Signaling*, 9: 1221, 2007

# CPD100 Pro-Drug Chemistry



- N-oxide prodrug technology inactivates parent drug with addition of oxygen; effecting SAR
- Reduction under hypoxic tumor environment releases oxygen and activates parent drug
- Alters the TME due to its cytotoxicity in hypoxic physiology
- Results in higher therapeutic index:
  - ✓ less normal tissue toxicity
  - ✓ higher MTDs in vivo
  - ✓ selective accumulation of activated cytotoxic drug in hypoxic tumor tissue
  - ✓ effective tumor cell killing

# Clinical POC for a hypoxia-activated prodrug

## Evofosfamide vs Abraxane Pancreatic Phase III results

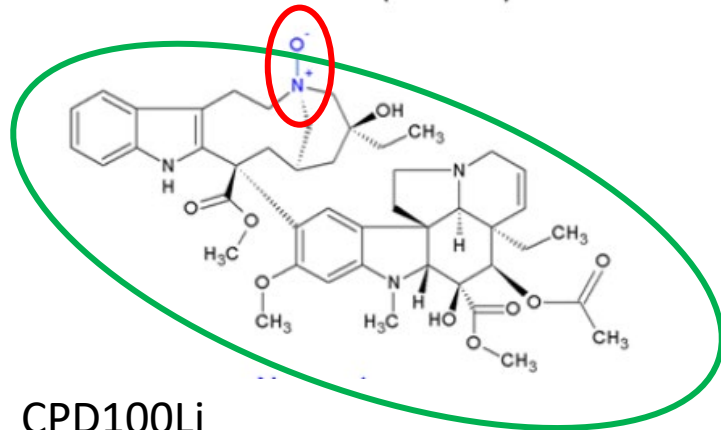
Trial Design	Overall Survival (OS)	Progression Free Survival (PFS)	Overall Response Rate (ORR)
<b>Evo + Gem</b> vs Placebo/Gem (n=660)	8.7 vs 7.6 months P=0.059 (not statistically significant)	5.5 vs 3.7 months P=0.004	15% vs 9% P=0.009
<b>Abraxane + Gem</b> vs Placebo/Gem (n=861)	8.5 vs 6.7 months P<0.001	5.5 vs 3.7 months P<0.001	23% vs 7% P<0.001

- While Evofosfamide plus Gemcitabine just missed OS endpoint, data supports the demonstration of clinical POC for hypoxia-activated prodrug approach.
- Abraxane plus Gemcitabine data demonstrate the bar remains low for approvals in pancreatic cancer.



# CPD100Li vs Evofosfamide (THLD prodrug)

Vinblastine N-oxide (CPD100)



CPD100Li

**Warhead:** = Vinblastine (green)

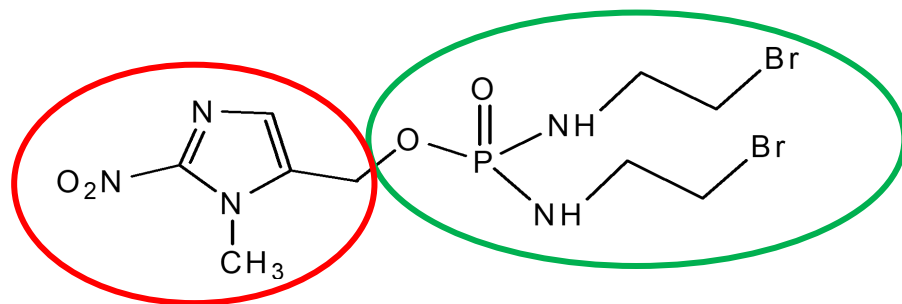
**Warhead MOA:** blocks spindle formation

**Prodrug Trigger:** N-oxide (red)

Direct activation in cytosol

Liposomal Formulation (improved  $t_{1/2}$ ,  
and tumor penetration)

Evofosfamide



Evofosfamide

**Warhead:** bromo ifosfamide (green)

**Warhead MOA:** DNA alkylator

**Prodrug Trigger:** nitroimidazole (red)

Involves free radical formation and activation  
in cytosol then translocation to nucleus

No Lipo formulation

**CPD100Li features are uniquely differentiated from Evofosfamide  
and represent an opportunity for improved efficacy.**



# Why Vinblastine as Prodrug Warhead?

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- Very potent cytotoxin targeting actively dividing cells; wide spectrum of tumor activity in humans
- Well understood and simple MOA
- FDA approved drug for treatment of cancer; 60+ years of clinical experience
- Drug chemistry amenable to inactivation with N-oxide formation and activation in hypoxic tumor environment

# CPD100Li Overcomes TME Limitations to Treatment Effectiveness

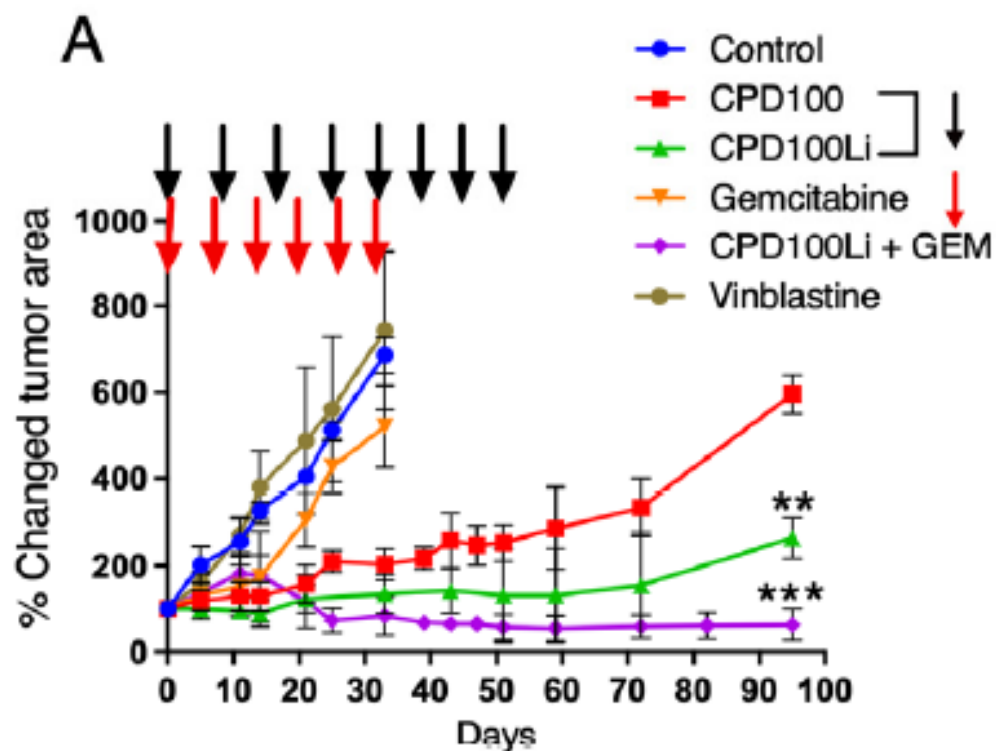
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- Anti-tumor activity of all chemotherapy and checkpoint inhibitors are impaired by the tumor hypoxic microenvironment:
  - Abnormal leaky vasculature and poor lymphatic drainage
  - Low pH
  - Immunosuppression
  - Increased extracellular matrix (ECM) deposition and crosslink
- CPD100Li's is designed to remove TME limitations of current checkpoint inhibitors and chemotherapy:
  - Prodrug: inactivate warhead and introduce activatable trigger
  - Liposome Formulation: Enhance pharmacology; increase  $t_{1/2}$ , target and penetrate tumor and increase tumor retention
  - Remodel TME: activate in hypoxic regions; selectively kill cancer and immunosuppressive cells, reduce abnormal ECM and block epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition

CPD100Li Delivers Safer More Effective Therapy

# CPD100Li Efficacy in Pancreatic Cancer Model

*Human Panc-1 orthotopic model, Mono and Combo Therapy*



## Dosing regimen:

- CPD100 and CPD100Li at 40mg/kg weekly for eight cycles
- GEM at 100 mg/kg biweekly six cycles
- Vinblastine at 5 mg/kg eight cycles
- CPD100Li at 40mg/kg weekly for eight cycles and GEM at 100 mg/kg biweekly six cycles

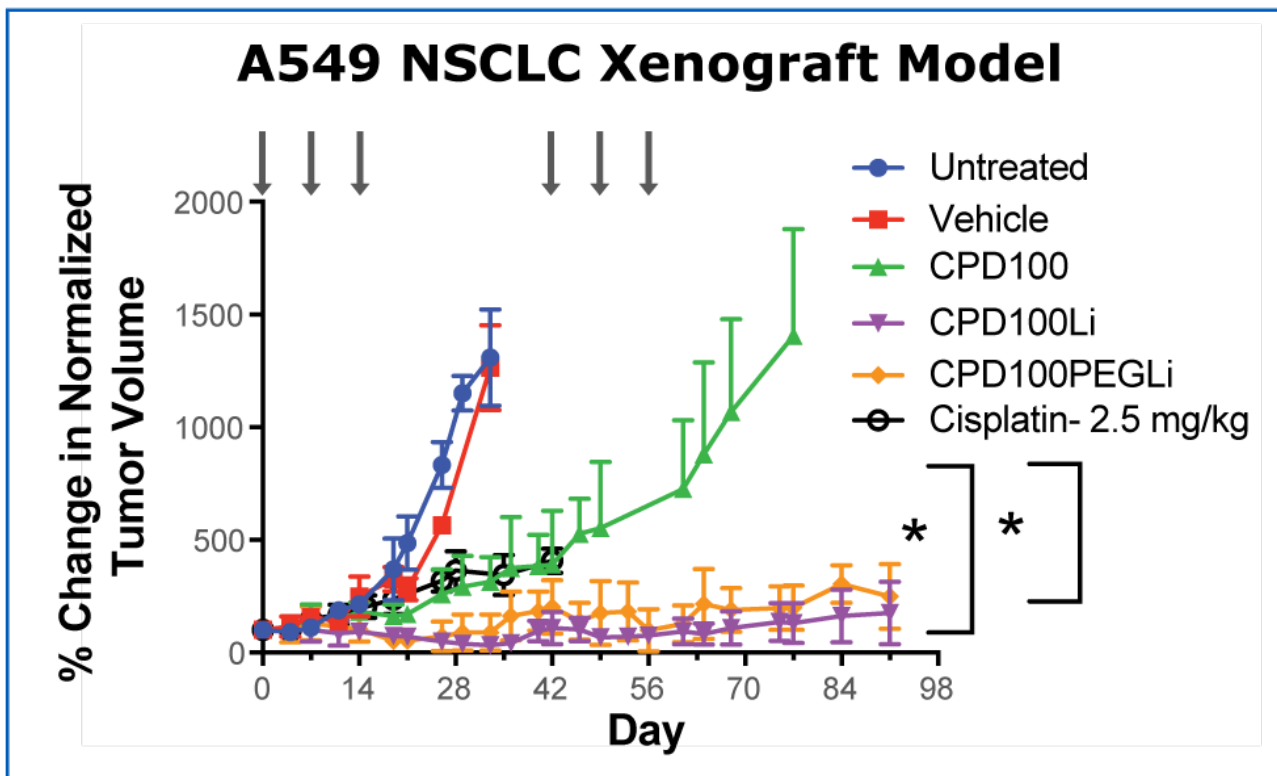
**CPD100Li is active as monotherapy and in combination with gemcitabine in Panc-1 model**

Microfluidics Formulated Liposomes of Hypoxia Activated Prodrug for Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer

Pharmaceutics 2022, 14, 713

# CPD100Li Efficacy in Human Lung Cancer Model

## A549 NSCLC Xenograft, Mono Therapy

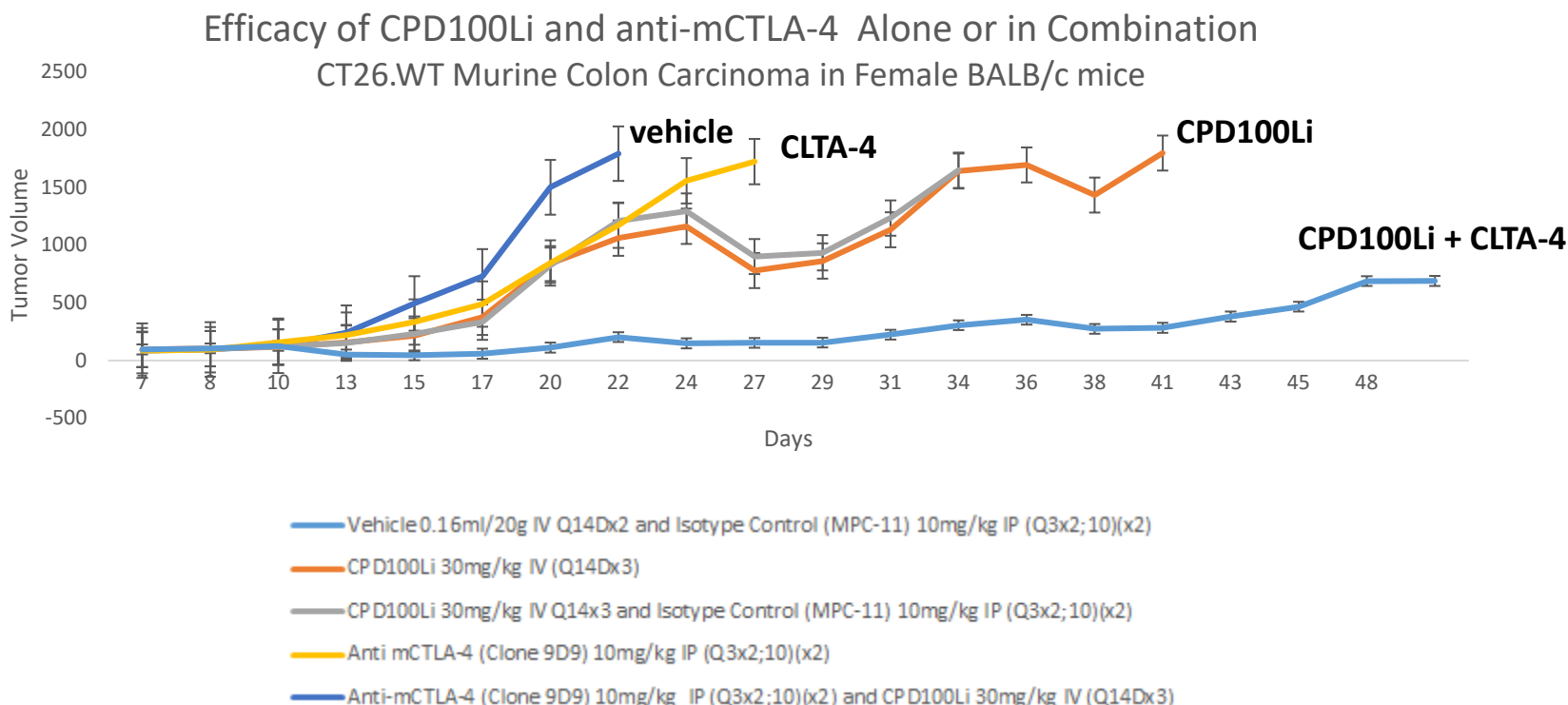


- CPD100 dosed at 40 mg/kg (iv) in all on-treatment cohorts
- Cisplatin dosed at 2.5 mg/kg (MTD)

**Prolonged tumor growth inhibition with CPD100Li monotherapy**

# CPD100Li Efficacy in Syngeneic Colon Cancer Model

*CT26.WT Murine Colon Carcinoma in Female BALB/c mice, Mono and Combo w/CTLA-4*



**CPD100Li demonstrated strong synergistic response in combination with anti-CTLA-4**

- ✓ Significant prolonged tumor growth inhibition vs CTLA-4 or CPD100Li alone
- ✓ Higher M1/M2 ratio suggests lowered tumor inhibitory environment and better prognosis

# CPD100Li Formulation & Pharmacokinetics

## Optimized Lead Prodrug

### Composition – Lipids

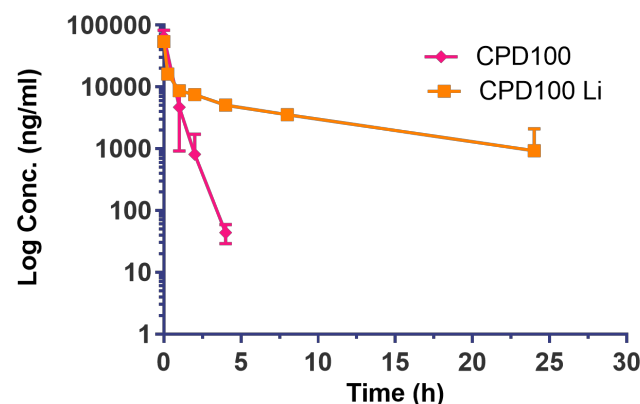
- SMP: Egg-Sphingomyelin (55%)
- Chol: Cholesterol (45%)
- A23187

### Liposome Characteristics

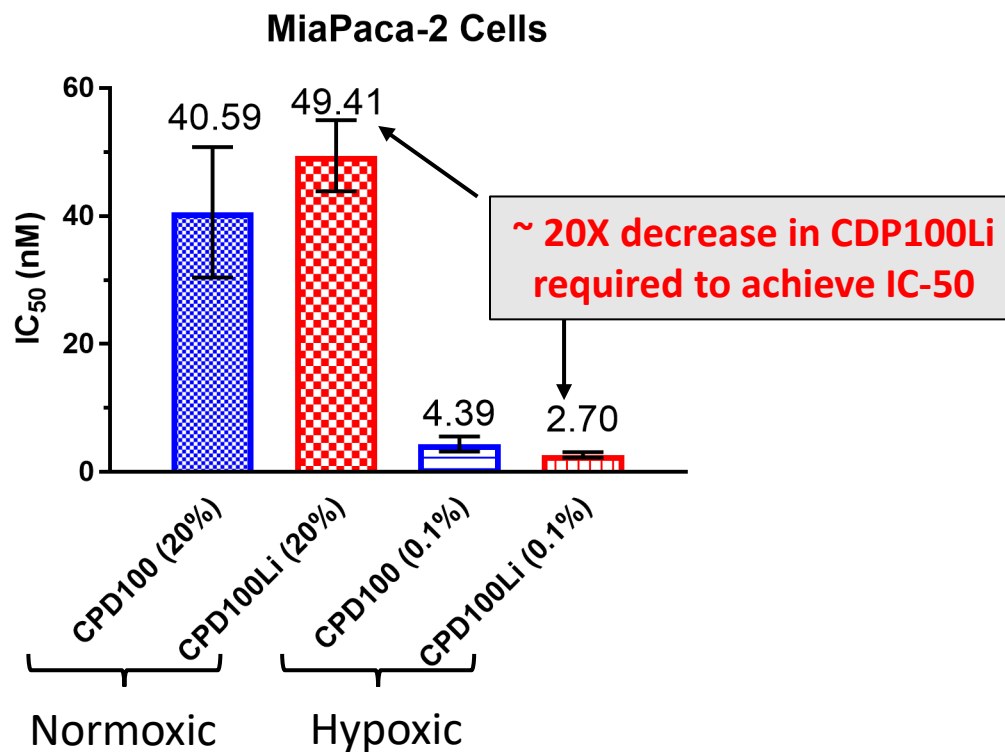
- Size:  $153.9 \pm 2.7$  nm
- PDI:  $0.07 \pm 0.01$
- Drug Loading:  $5.05 \pm 0.08$  mg/mL

### CPD100Li is well tolerated

- ✓ No acute toxicities observed (MTD = 40 mg/kg)  
**>10X greater MTD than vinblastine**
- ✓ No weight loss in tumor-bearing mice on treatment
- ✓ Modest elevations of liver enzymes and hematological markers



# CPD100Li Activation in Hypoxic Environment



**CPD100Li significantly more active against tumor cells under hypoxic conditions**



# Summary

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- Hypoxia is a feature of most solid tumors and impediment to conventional therapies – prodrug approach uniquely targets tumor microenvironment
- CPD100Li represents a unique pro-drug molecule with validated warhead (vinblastine) initially targeting pancreatic cancer
  - ✓ Potentially multiple pathways for development in other hypoxic tumors
- Compelling data in-vivo:
  - ✓ As a single agent
  - ✓ In combo with chemotherapy (Gem) and check point inhibitor (anti CTLA-4)
  - ✓ Activity seen in pancreatic, lung and colorectal cancers
- Cascade considering partnerships to advance development of CPD100Li



END OF PRESENTATION

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