

CNS-Penetrant NLRP3 Inhibitor VTX3232 Results of Diet-Induced Obese Mouse Model Studies June 2024

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The Role of NLRP3 in Obesity: Building a Weight of Evidence...

- The NLRP3 inflammasome is emerging as an important axis in obesity and obesity-related cardiometabolic diseases
 - Obesity is a chronic inflammatory condition associated with microglial activation and release of NLRP3-related cytokines including IL-1β and IL-6
 - Reactive gliosis (inflammation) in the hypothalamus proposed as potential mechanism¹
 - Calorie restriction and exercise-mediated weight loss in obese individuals associated with reduced expression of NLRP3 and decreased systemic inflammation²
- In preclinical studies, NLRP3 activation is associated with obesity-related insulin resistance²
- NLRP3 inhibition drives weight loss in a diet-induced obesity (DIO) mouse model³



1. Thaler et al., J Clin Invest. 2012;122(1):153–162.; 2. Vandanmagsar et al., Nat Med. 2011 Feb;17(2):179-88.; 3. Thornton et al., Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Feb 9, 2024. Figure adapted from Van Dyken and Lacoste Front Neurosci 2018.

VTX3232: Novel CNS-Penetrant NLRP3 Inhibitor Phase 2 Ready for Neuroinflammatory Diseases and Conditions



Rapid equilibration across BBB to reach microglial target cells

Rationally Designed and Optimized for CNS-Efficacy

Highly Potent and Selective

- Hu WB IC₅₀ (IL-1 β) = **15 nM**
- Mu WB IC₅₀ (IL-1 β) = **94 nM**
- Inhibits palmitate-induced IL-1β
- No inhibition of other inflammasomes

Optimal PK, PD and Safety Profile

- Good safety & tolerability in Phase 1 Study
- Equal CNS partitioning; human Kp,uu = 0.5
- $T_{1/2}^{1/2} = \sim 17$ h with high free-drug fraction
- Robust effects on inflammatory biomarkers

QD dosing can achieve potent NLRP3 inhibition in the CSF

VTX3232 Preclinical Studies in Diet-Induced Obese (DIO) Mice

Two 28-day studies completed in DIO mice:

- **Study 1:** VTX3232 and semaglutide monotherapy
- Study 2: Addition of VTX3232/semaglutide combination

Key takeaways from both studies:

VTX3232 monotherapy

- Decreases body weight and food intake
- Reduces systemic inflammatory markers
- Depletes liver fat and restrains triglyceride level increases
- Decreases cholesterol levels
- Decreases insulin resistance, hyperglycemia and hemoglobin A1c

VTX3232 combination with semaglutide

- Additive reductions on body weight and food intake
- Greater reduction of systemic inflammatory markers
- Improves body composition towards a greater proportion of lean mass
- Incremental improvements in markers of metabolic dysfunction



Study 1

VTX3232 Reduces Body Weight in DIO Mouse Model



VTX3232 decreases body weight by 5g (~9%) vs. DIO Vehicle

→ DIO-Vehicle
→ DIO-VTX3232
→ DIO-sema



VTX3232 20 mg/kg BID orally; semaglutide 10 µg/kg QD subcutaneously; mean <u>+</u> SEM, ****p<0.0001 vs DIO Control; repeated measures ANOVA, Dunnett's post-hoc; semaglutide decreases body weight by ~9g (~16%)

Study 1

VTX3232 Reduces DIO-Driven Inflammatory Markers and Acute Phase Proteins in DIO Mouse Model

Fibrinogen expression induced by IL-1 β -sensitive cytokine IL-6



Reduction in circulating cytokines IL-1 β , IL-6

Reduction in DIO-driven fibrinogen

VTX3232 20 mg/kg BID orally; semaglutide 10 µg/kg QD subcutaneously; mean <u>+</u> SEM, *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001, ****p<0.0001, 1-way ANOVA, Dunnett's post hoc High sensitivity C-reactive peptide was measured but not elevated in DIO mice.

Change Study 2

VTX3232 + Semaglutide Combo Shows Greater Body Weight Change (%) than Semaglutide Alone

VTX3232 Remains Effective as Monotherapy in Study 2



VTX3232¹ and semaglutide² combination decreases body weight by 10.5g (~22%) vs. vehicle

VTX3232 20 mg/kg BID orally; Semaglutide 10 µg/kg QD subcutaneously; mean <u>+</u> SEM, * p <0.05 or more highly significant at all indicated timepoints, Mixed effects ANOVA, Sidak's post-hoc test. ¹VTX3232 monotherapy decreases body weight by ~4g (~8%), ²Semaglutide monotherapy decreases body weight by ~8g (~16%)

VTX3232 + Semaglutide Combo Shows Greater Reduction in Body Weight Gain and Caloric Intake Relative to Semaglutide Alone VTX3232 Remains Effective as Monotherapy in Study 2



VTX3232 and semaglutide combination suppresses BWG and food intake more than either monotherapy



sema., semaglutide; Std., standard; VTX, VTX3232; BWG, body weight gain; 1-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparison test to DIO Vehicle and the combination group to semaglutide monotherapy; key comparisons only are noted on graphs; **p<0.01, ***p<0.001, ***p<0.0001

Combination of VTX3232 and Semaglutide Reduces Inflammatory Risk Factors More than Either Monotherapy



- VTX3232 and semaglutide monotherapies decrease IL-1β, IL-6 and fibrinogen
- Combination therapy lowers inflammatory CV risk markers better than either monotherapy



Combination of VTX3232 and Semaglutide Improves Body Composition



VTX3232 and semaglutide combination decreases relative fat mass and increases relative lean mass



DEXA, dual energy X-ray absorptiometry, Bone mineral content mass not represented; 1-way ANOVA, Sidak's post-hoc test ***p<0.001, ****p<0.0001

Combination of VTX3232 and Semaglutide Incrementally Improves Body Composition



VTX3232 and semaglutide monotherapy and combined therapy decrease fat pad weight and increase gastrocnemius weight



Study 2

VTX3232 and Semaglutide Combination Shows Greater Improvement in Liver Steatosis Relative to VTX3232 or Semaglutide Alone



- VTX3232 reduces liver mass and restricts increases in plasma triglyceride levels
- VTX3232 and semaglutide combination results in lower steatosis and lower mean liver mass than either monotherapy

VTX3232 Reduces Cholesterol in DIO Mice



VTX3232 and semaglutide monotherapy or combination significantly reduces total, HDL and LDL cholesterol



Combination of VTX3232 and Semaglutide Incrementally Improves Insulin Resistance



VTX3232 Monotherapy

- Reduces insulin resistance (HOMA-IR)
- Reduces fasting glucose
- Reduces HbA1c

VTX3232 and Semaglutide Combination

 Lowers mean HOMA-IR and fasting glucose relative to monotherapy

Looking Beyond Mice: Studies with VTX3232 in Obese Participants

- Proof-of-concept Phase 2a trial in participants with obesity expected to initiate in H2 2024
 - Endpoints include biomarkers of inflammation (hsCRP, IL-1β, IL-18, IL-6, SAA) and cardiometabolic readouts (lipids, glycemic measurements)
 - Assess potential impact on body weight in a short-duration study
 - Topline results expected in H1 2025

Planning longer Phase 2 trial for initiation H1 2025

- 12-week trial of VTX3232 in participants with obesity
- Primary endpoint: weight loss with VTX3232
- Potential to include a combination arm with a GLP-1R agonist
- Inflammation and cardiometabolic biomarkers

VTX3232 Proposed Phase 2a Trial in Obese Participants*



