

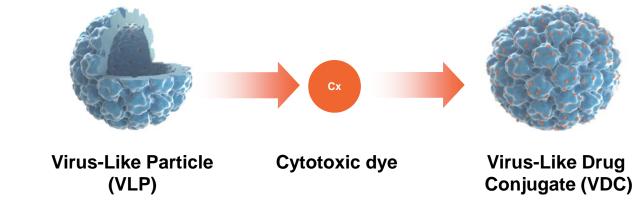
New Developments in Belzupacap Sarotalocan (AU-011), an Investigational Virus-Like Drug Conjugate (VDC) in Ocular Oncology

# aura

Research sponsored by Health Holland in collaboration with Aura Biosciences



#### Martine Jager, MD, PhD





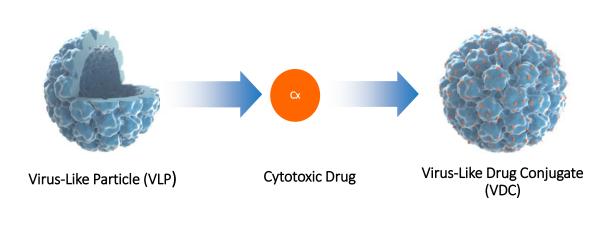


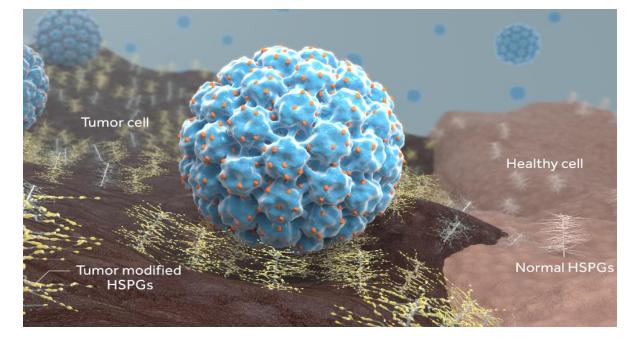
- Collaborative work: synergistic action of belzupacap sarotalocan in combination with immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Preclinical evidence in choroidal metastasis

### **Targeted Oncology Platform - Virus-Like Drug Conjugates (VDCs)**

Virus-Like particles are conjugated to a Cytotoxic drug to form the Virus-Like Drug Conjugate

# VDCs can recognize tumor-associated heparan-sulfate proteoglycans



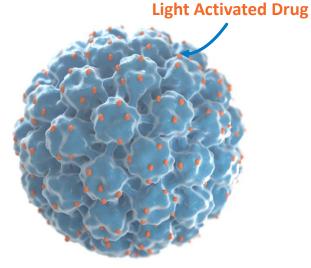


#### Technology Platform Designed to Target a Broad Range of Solid Tumors Based on Virus-Like Particles with Multiple Options for Cytotoxic Payloads

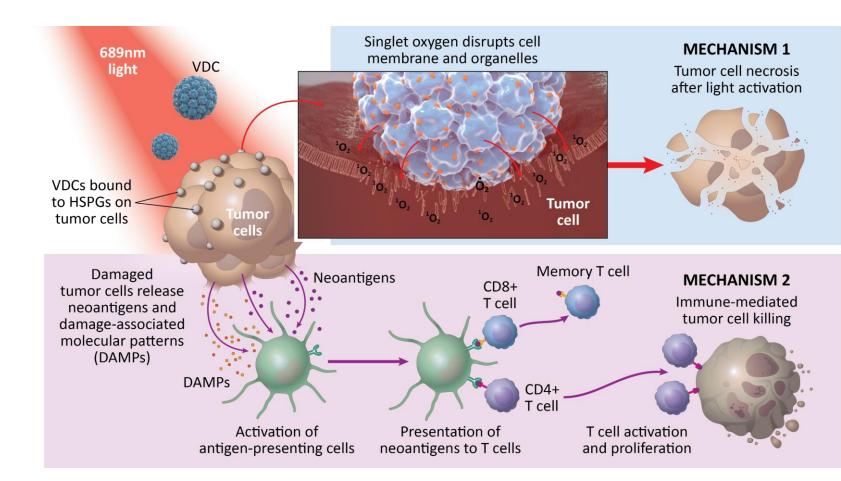
Kines et al; International Journal of Cancer, 138;901–911, February 2016; Kines et al; Molecular Cancer Therapeutics, 17(2) February 2018; Kines et al; Cancer Immunology Research, May 2021

\* HSPGs: Heparan Sulphate Proteoglycans

### Belzupacap Sarotalocan (AU-011) is a Virus-Like Drug Conjugate with a Novel Dual Mechanism of Action



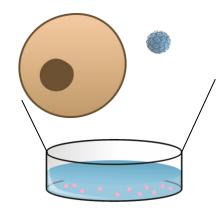
Belzupacap sarotalocan Belzupacap sarotalocan is a novel VDC that consists of the Virus-Like Particle conjugated to ~200 molecules of phthalocyanine dye

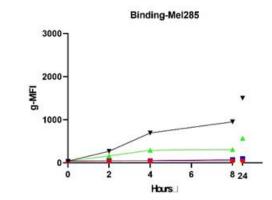


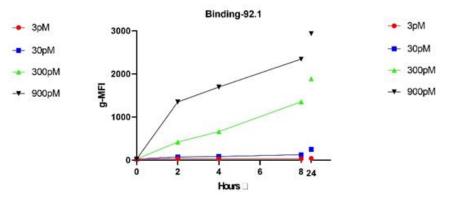
Potential Key Differentiation: Combined mechanism of acute cellular necrosis and anti-tumor immune response

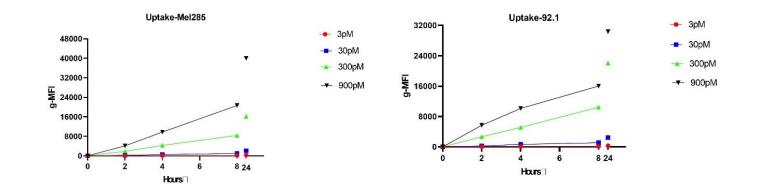
#### AU-011 has shown binding and uptake in uveal melanoma cells

Cancer cells AU-011

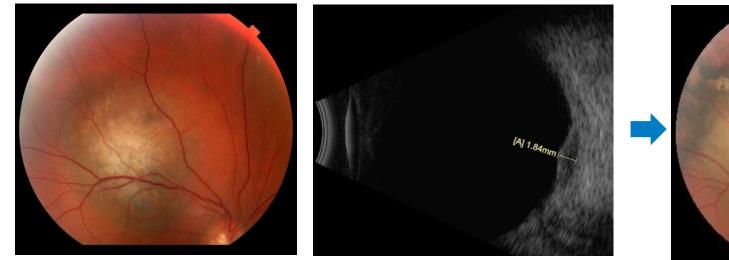




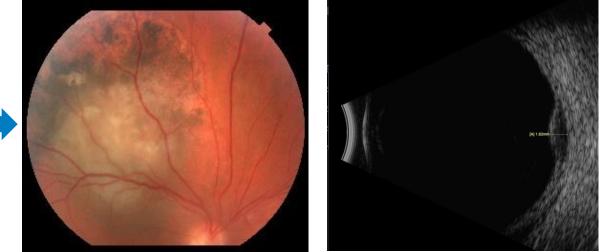




# Clinical Outcomes Support Safety and Efficacy of Belzupacap Sarotalocan as a Potential Treatment for Choroidal Melanoma



**Fundus photo and ultrasound at baseline** Tumor thickness: 1.87mm; LBD: 9.04mm



Fundus photo and ultrasound at 1 year Tumor Thickness: 1.80mm; LBD: 8.75mm

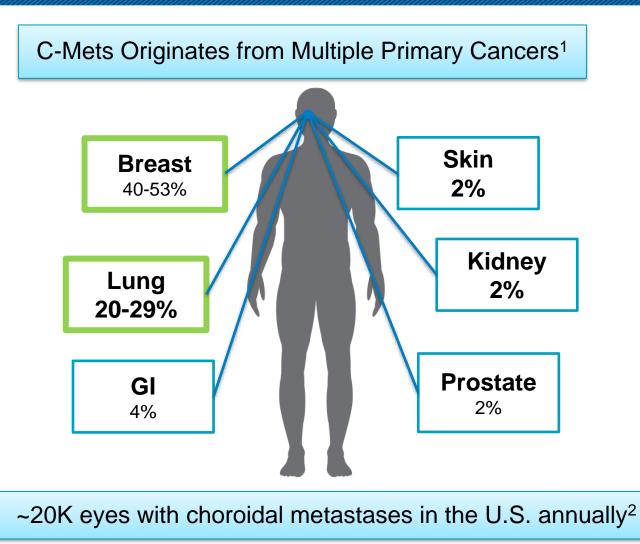
All imaging performed as per independent reading center (IRC) procedures for consistency

#### Subject 152 (Cohort 12) with Documented Tumor Growth, SRF and Orange Pigment Tumor located 1.6mm from fovea and 1.6mm from optic disc

| Months                 | Baseline | 1  | 2  | 3  | 6  | 9  | 12 |
|------------------------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| BCVA<br>(letter score) | 69       | 72 | 64 | 64 | 51 | 53 | 56 |

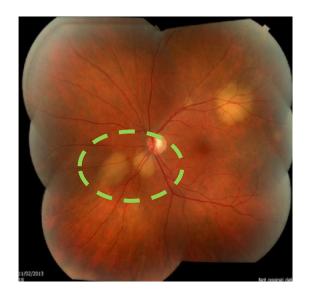
Images and case courtesy of Dr. Ivana K. Kim, used with permission. Case is from completed Ph1b/2 trial NCT03052127

### **Belzupacap Sarotalocan Potential Applicability in Other Ocular Cancers is Being Investigated - Choroidal Metastasis**



#### Common Features of C-Mets<sup>3</sup>

- Unilateral (72%)
- Solitary (72%)
- Choroidal location (88%)

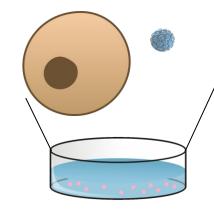


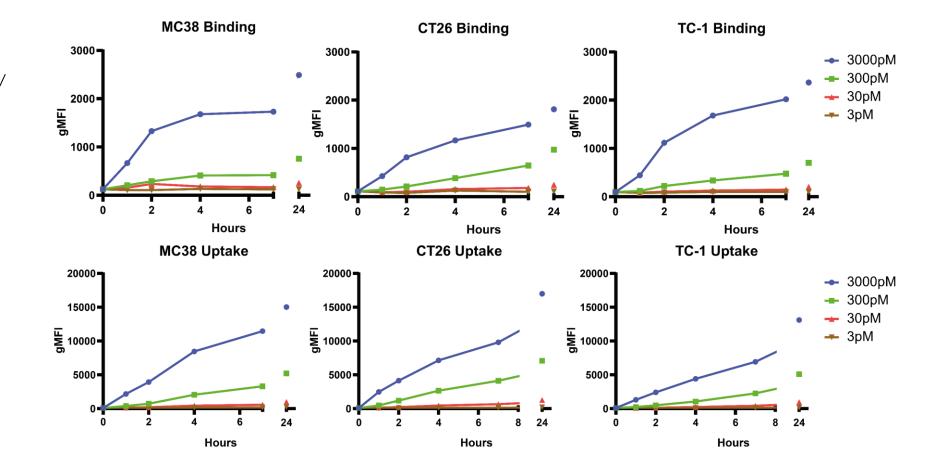
Choroidal Metastasis from nonsmall cell lung cancer<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mathis et al. New concepts...choroidal metastasis, *Progress in retinal and eye research* (2019), <sup>2</sup>Cohen, Ocular metastasis, Eye (2014), <sup>3</sup>Shields et al. Survey of 520 eyes with uveal metastases. *Ophthalmology* (1997), <sup>4</sup>Namad et al. Bilateral choroidal metastasis from non-small lung cancer, Case reports in oncological medicine (2014).

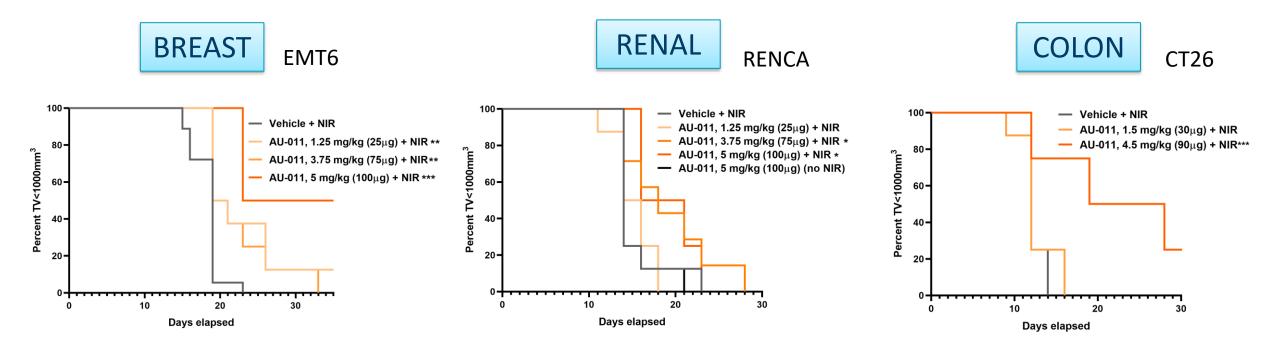
#### AU-011 has shown binding and uptake in multiple types of tumor cells

Cancer cells AU-011





Belzupacap Sarotalocan Has Demonstrated Dose-dependent Activity For Cancer Types Known To Metastasize To The Choroid



Single administration of belzupacap sarotalocan inhibited tumor growth and prolonged survival in a dose-dependent fashion

Savinainen et al., ARVO 2022 Abstract # 3709397 NIR = near-infrared light

## **Conclusions – Belzupacap Sarotalocan**

#### Choroidal Melanoma

Demonstrated safety and early efficacy in a Phase 1b/2 study supports further clinical development in a pivotal study in primary indeterminate lesions and small choroidal melanoma

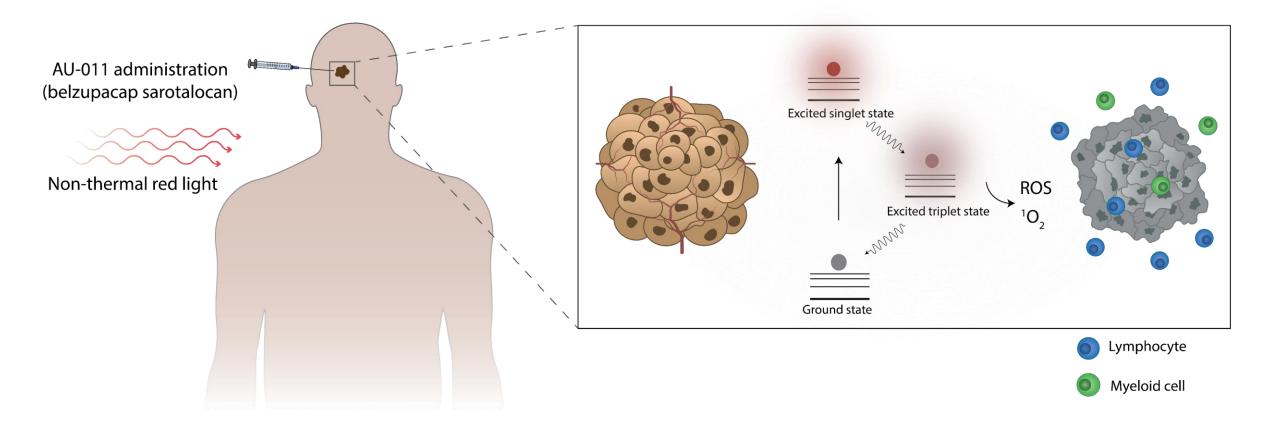
#### Choroidal Metastasis

Showed dose-dependent activity in vivo using syngeneic mouse models for cancer types known to metastasize to the choroid

- Significantly inhibits tumor growth and prolongs survival
- Statistically significant results in multiple tumor models

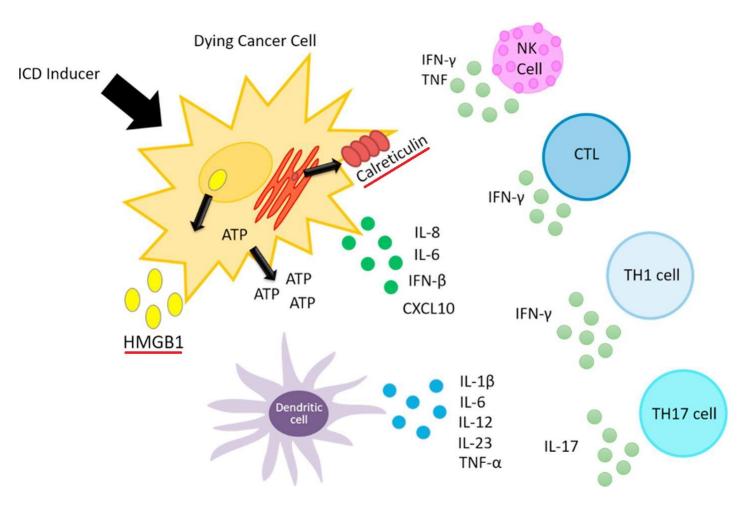
Study results support further evaluation of belzupacap sarotalocan as a potential treatment for ocular cancers

# AU-011 is an investigational virus like drug conjugate with a novel mechanism of action



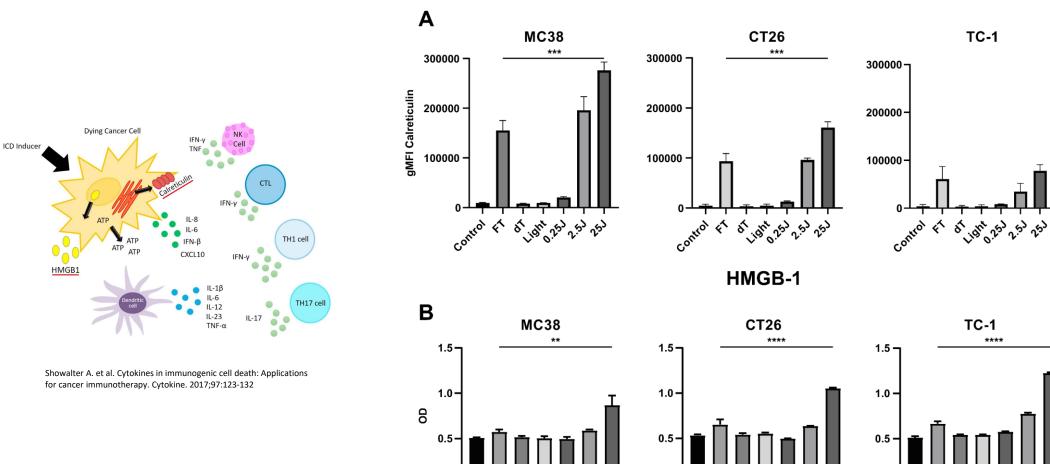
Cancer cell directed cytotoxicity
Induction of antitumor immune responses

### Damage-associated molecular patterns (DAMPs)



Showalter A. et al. Cytokines in immunogenic cell death: Applications for cancer immunotherapy. Cytokine. 2017;97:123-132

#### **Release of DAMPs following AU-011 treatment**



61 19th 252 2.52 253

control

\*\* of 101, 252 253 253

control

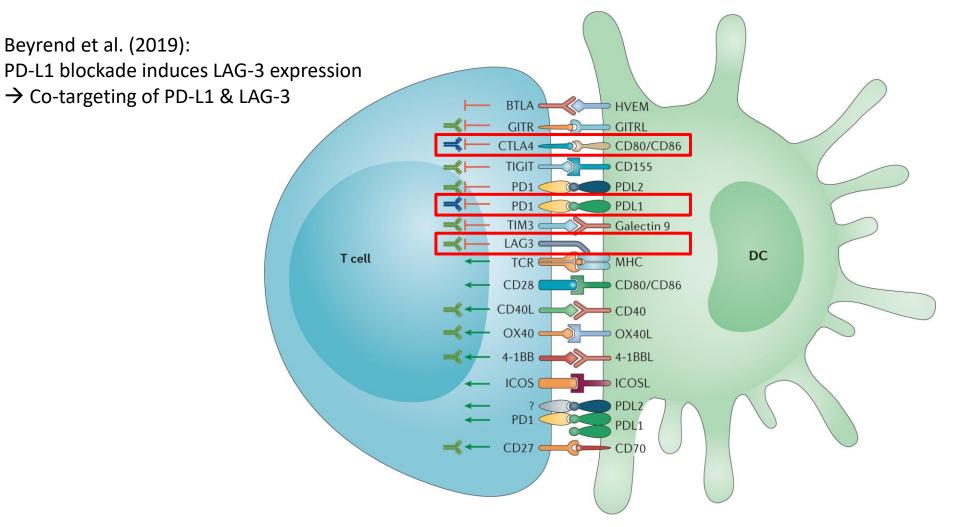
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Calreticulin

control

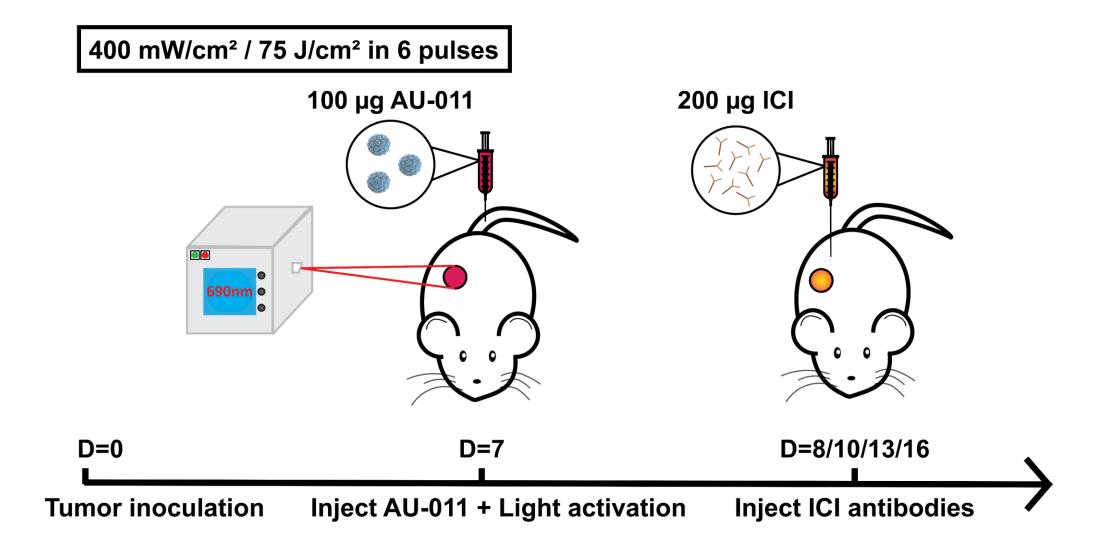
\*1 of 10th 252 253 253

### Rationale for combining AU-011 treatment and Immune Checkpoint Inhibition: T cells are inhibited through ICI's

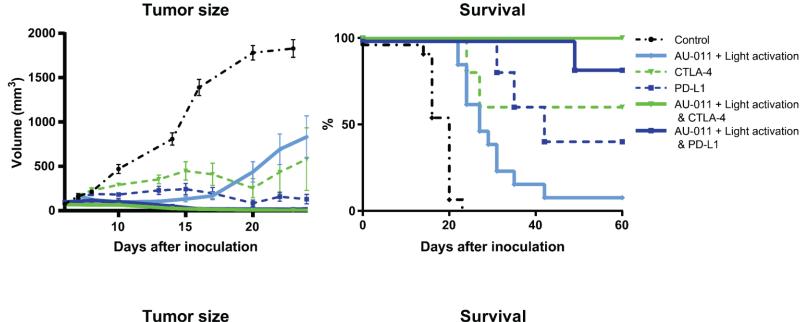


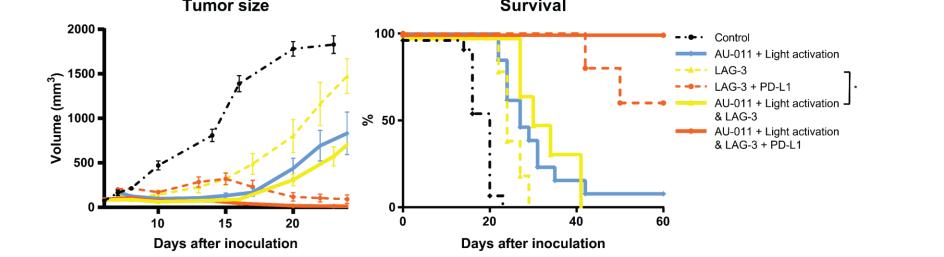
Wykes M. N. & Lewin S. R. Immune checkpoint blockade in infectious diseases. Nature Reviews Immunology. 2018;18:91–104

AU-011 + Light activation combined with ICI enhanced treatment response compared to either treatment alone (1 of 2)

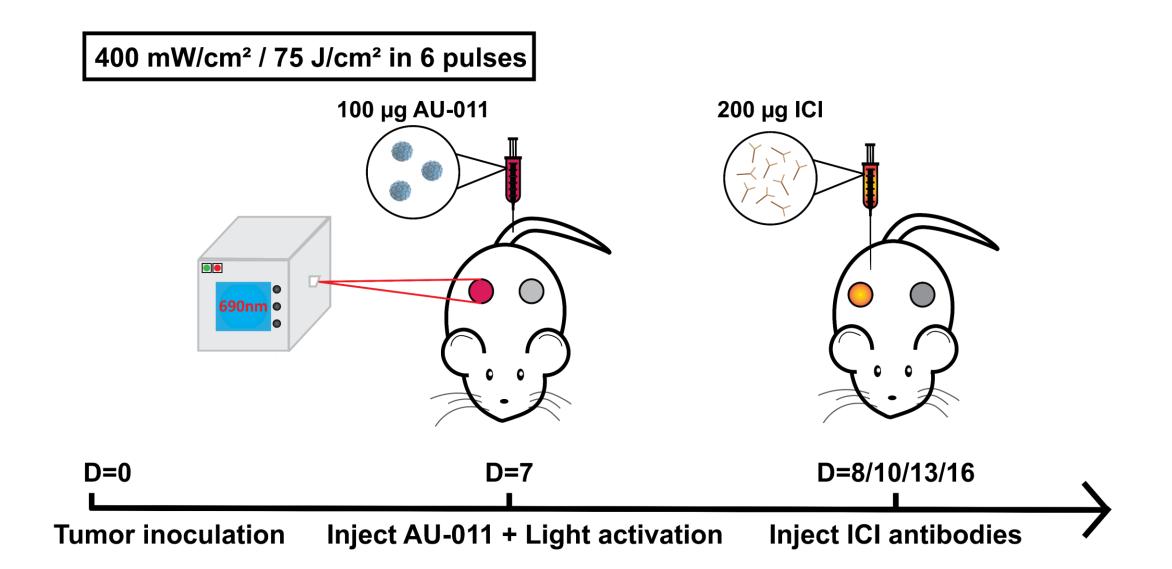


# AU-011 + Light activation combined with ICI enhanced treatment response compared to either treatment alone (2 of 2)

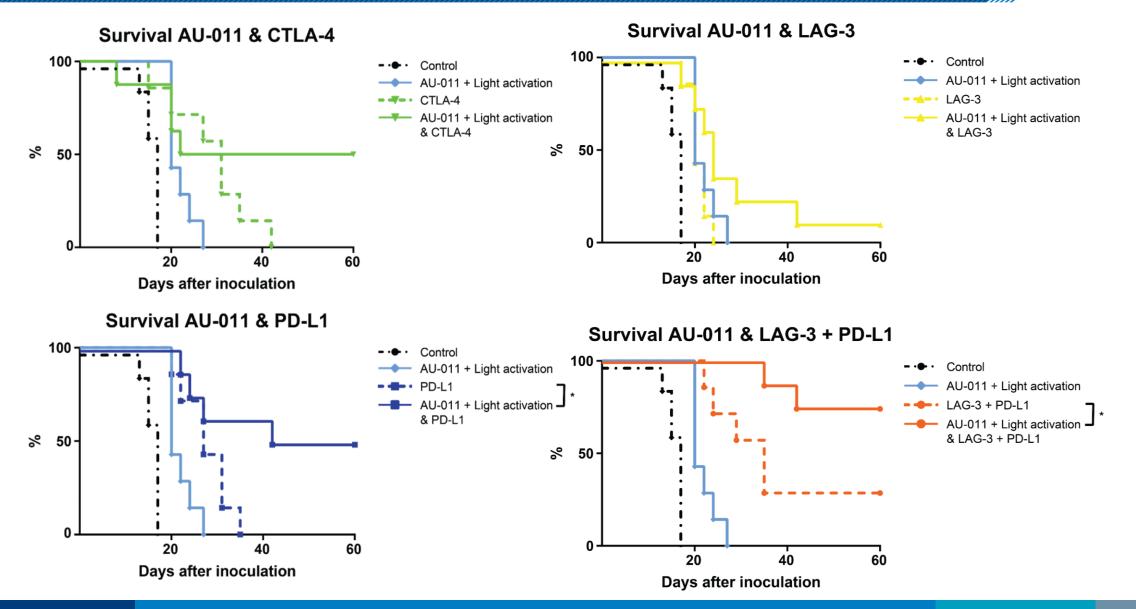




Treatment of primary and distant tumors was enhanced by AU-011 + Light activation with ICI versus either treatment alone (1 of 3)



#### Treatment of primary and distant tumors was enhanced by AU-011 + Light activation with ICI versus either treatment alone (3 of 3)



## AU-011 + Light activation:

- Induced cancer cell-directed cytotoxicity
- Released DAMPs and induced maturation of antigen-presenting cells
- Combined with ICI using anti-PD-L1 & anti-LAG-3 antibodies showed potential to induce complete and lasting tumor responses in both primary and distant tumors in murine models

## **Conclusions – Belzupacap Sarotalocan**

#### Choroidal Melanoma

Demonstrated safety and efficacy supports starting a pivotal trial in primary indeterminate lesions and small choroidal melanoma

#### **Choroidal Metastasis**

Showed dose-dependent activity in vivo using syngeneic mouse models for cancer types known to metastasize to the choroid

- Significantly inhibits tumor growth and prolongs survival
- Statistically significant results in multiple tumor models

Treatment Of Primary Tumor And Distant Lesions In Combination With ICIs\*

Belzupacap sarotalocan plus ICIs (anti-PD-L1 & anti-LAG-3) showed potential to induce complete and lasting tumor responses in both primary and distant tumors in murine models

\*immune checkpoint inhibitors

Study results support further evaluation of belzupacap sarotalocan as a potential treatment for ocular cancers