# Unlocking Glucagon Biology to Overcome Fibrosis in MASH

M. Scott Harris, MD Chief Medical Officer Altimmune, Inc. MASH Drug Development Summit 25 September 2024



### **Forward-looking statements**

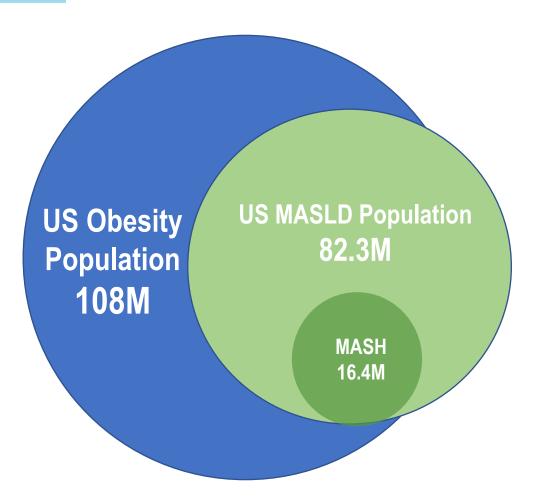
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# **OBESITY AND FATTY LIVER DISEASE**

DISEASES WITH UNMET NEED APPROACHING EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS



The recent successes of semaglutide (Wegovy<sup>®</sup>) and tirzepatide (Zepbound<sup>®</sup>) have created optimism for other incretinbased therapies

- GLP-1/GCG dual receptor agonists
- GLP-1/ amylin combination agents
- GLP-1/GIP mAb
- Oral GLP-1 monotherapies

GLP-1: glucagon-like peptide-1 GCG: glucagon mAB: monoclonal Ab

Hales CM et al. NCHS Data Brief. 2020 Feb;(360):1-8. PMID: 32487284; Younossi ZM et all. Gut. 2020 Mar;69(3):564-568; https://liverfoundation.org/liver-diseases/fatty-liver-disease/nonalcoholic-steatohepatitis-nash/

# OBESITY-RELATED CO-MORBIDITIES ARE THE MOST FREQUENT CAUSE OF DEATH IN PATIENTS WITH MASH

Outcome	n (%)
Death or liver transplantation	193 (100.0)
Cardiovascular disease	74 (38.3)
Non-liver cancer	36 (18.7)
Cirrhosis complications	15 (7.8)
Infections	15 (7.8)
HCC	2 (1.0)
Liver transplantation	1 (0.5)
Other	35 (18.1)
Unknown	15 (7.8)

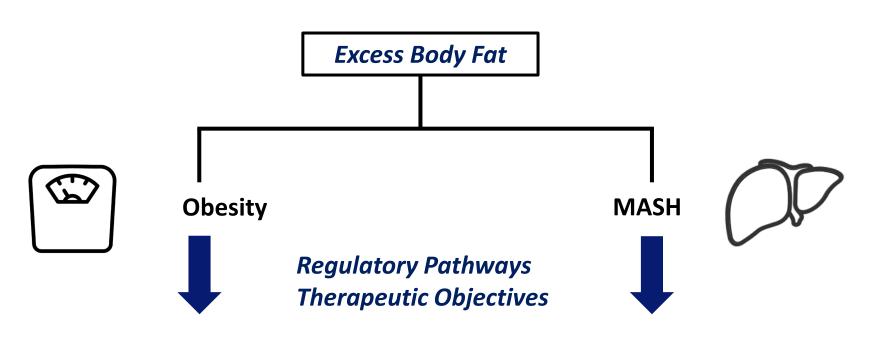
619 patients with biopsy confirmed MASH

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4 Adapted from Angulo, Gastroenterology 2015;149: 389–397

## **OBESITY AND MASH SYNERGIES**

DISTINCT REGULATORY PATHWAYS BUT SIMILAR THERAPEUTIC OBJECTIVES



- Reduce body weight
- Improve serum lipid profile
- Reduce cardiovascular risk factors

- Reduce liver fat
- Reduce liver inflammation

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• Reduce body weight

### NON-INCRETIN AGENTS FAIL TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL WEIGHT LOSS

SNAPSHOT OF COMPOUNDS IN ADVANCED MASH DEVELOPMENT

Agent	Mechanism	Change in Body Weight	MASH Resolution	Fibrosis Improvement
Obeticholic acid	FXR agonist	-2%	No	Yes
Resmetirom	THR $\beta$ agonist	no change	Yes	Yes
Lanifibranor (1200 mg)	PanPPAR	+3.1%	Yes	Yes
Pegozafermin	FGF21 agonist	-0.6%	Yes	Yes
Efruxifermin (70 mg)	FGF21 agonist	-2.6%	Yes	Yes

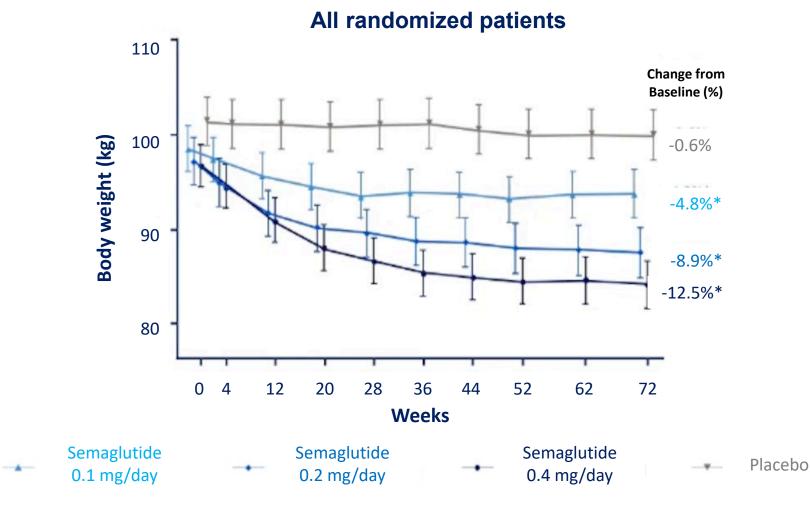
Younossi, YM 2019, Lancet 394: 2184-96; Harrison, SA 2019, Lancet 394: 2012-24; Harrison SA 2022 , AASLD2022; Franque SM, 2021; NEJM 385: 1547-57

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# SEMAGLUTIDE—WEIGHT LOSS IN PHASE 2 MASH CLINICAL TRIAL

SUBJECTS WITH AND WITHOUT DIABETES

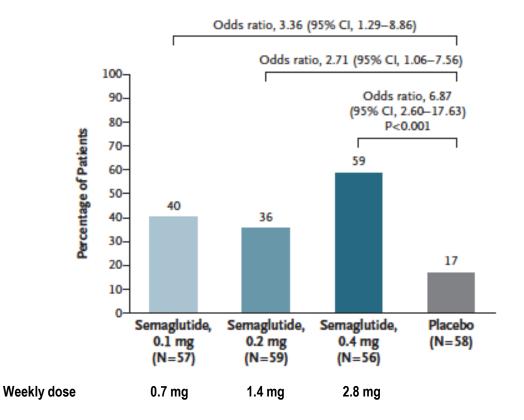


7 Newsome, NEJM 2020; Nov 13. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2028395

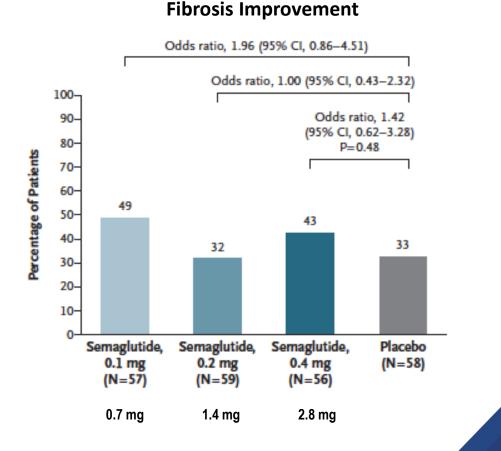
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### SEMAGLUTIDE—MASH RESOLUTION WITHOUT FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT

RESULTS OF A 68-WEEK, PHASE 2, MULTICENTER TRIAL



#### **MASH** Resolution

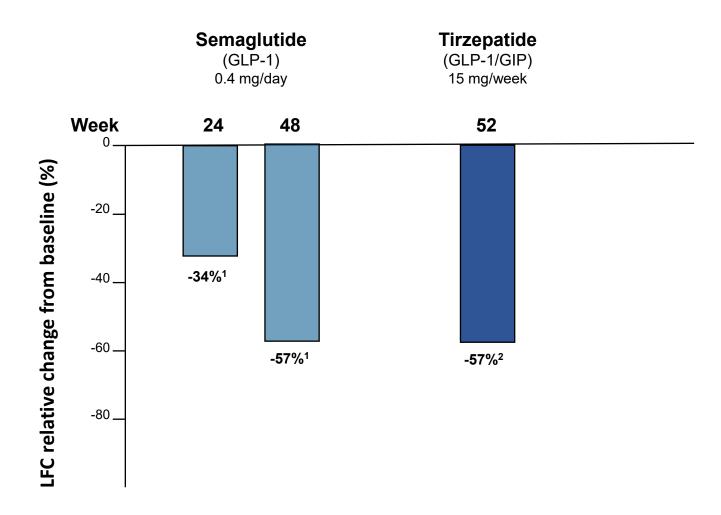


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8 Newsome, NEJM 2020; Nov 13. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2028395

# **GLP-1 AND GIP AGENTS HAVE ONLY MODEST EFFECTS ON LIVER FAT CONTENT**

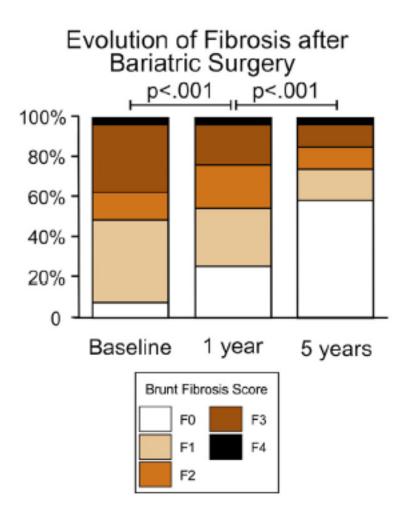
EFFECTS DRIVEN BY SOLELY BY WEIGHT LOSS DUE TO ABSENCE OF GLP-1 AND GIP RECEPTORS IN LIVER





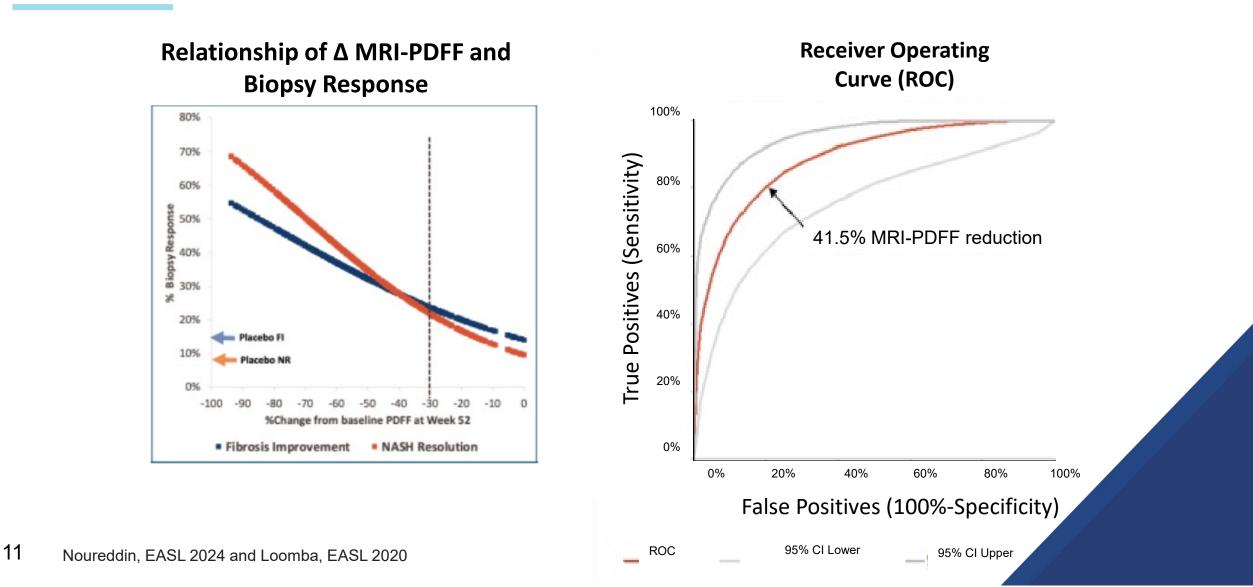
# THE IMPACT OF WEIGHT LOSS ON LIVER FIBROSIS MAY BE SLOW

IMPROVEMENT ON FIBROSIS MAY TAKE AS LONG 5 YEARS IN THE ABSENCE OF DIRECT LIVER EFFECTS





# MRI-PDFF REDUCTION STRONGLY PREDICTED OF BIOPSY RESPONSES ON NASH RESOLUTION AND FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT



### FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT DRIVEN BY LIVER FAT REDUCTION

#### **Fibrosis Improvement Achieved**

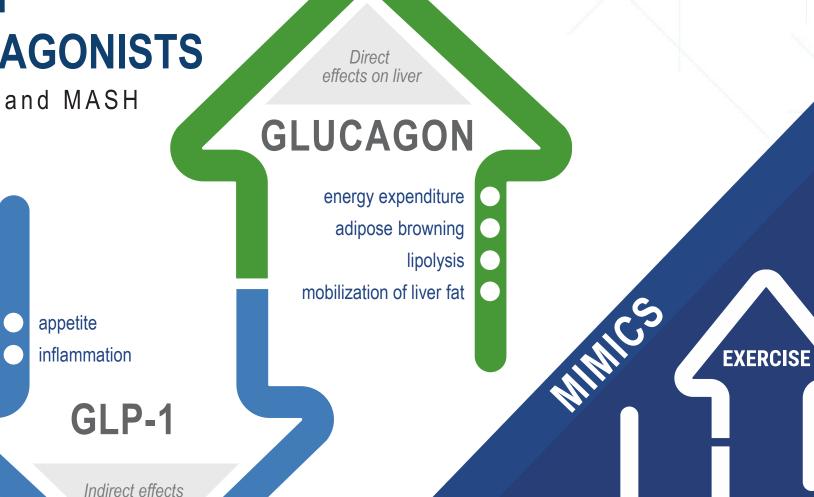
Compound Dose		Liver Fat	Duration of	Fibrosis Improvement			
	Dose	Mechanism	Reduction	Treatment	Treatment	Placebo	Δ
Resmetirom	100 mg QD	THR-β	48%	52 weeks	26%	14%	12%
Pegozafermin	44 mg Q2W	FGF21	54%	24 weeks	27%	7%	20%
Tirzepatide	15 mg QW	GLP-1/GIP	57%	52 weeks	51%	30%	21%
Survodutide	6.0 mg QW	GLP-1/GCG	64%	48 weeks <sup>2</sup>	42%	18%	24%
Efruxifermin	50 mg QW	FGF21	64%	24 weeks	41%	20%	21%
Pemvidutide	1.8 mg QW	GLP-1/GCG	75%	24 weeks	TBD	TBD	TBD

#### **Fibrosis Improvement Not Achieved**

Compound	Dese	Mechanism	Liver Fat	Liver Fat Duration of	Fibr	osis Improvem	ient
Compound Dose	Wechanism	Reduction	Treatment	Treatment	Placebo	Δ	
Semaglutide	0.4 mg QD	GLP-1	30-35% <sup>1</sup>	72 weeks	43%	33%	10%

# GLP-1/GLUCAGON DUAL RECEPTOR AGONISTS

Optimized for weight loss and MASH



DIETARY

on liver

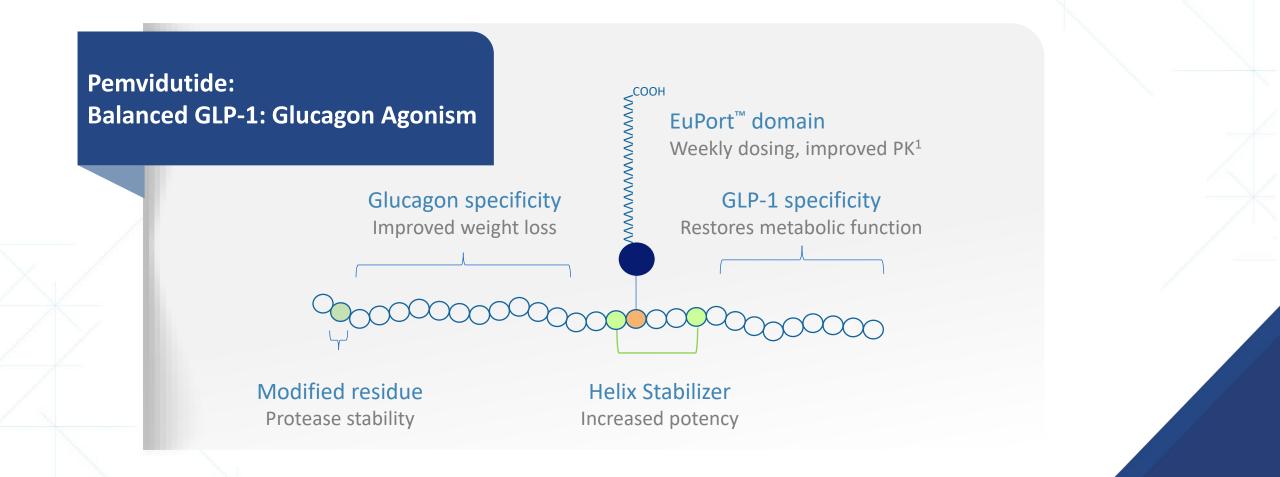
BODY WEIGHT LIVER FAT, INFLAMMATION, & RESULTING FIBROSIS

**Designed for significant** 

reductions in:

# PEMVIDUTIDE

BALANCED AGONIST WITH PROLONGED SERUM HALF-LIFE AND DELAYED TIME TO PEAK CONCENTRATION

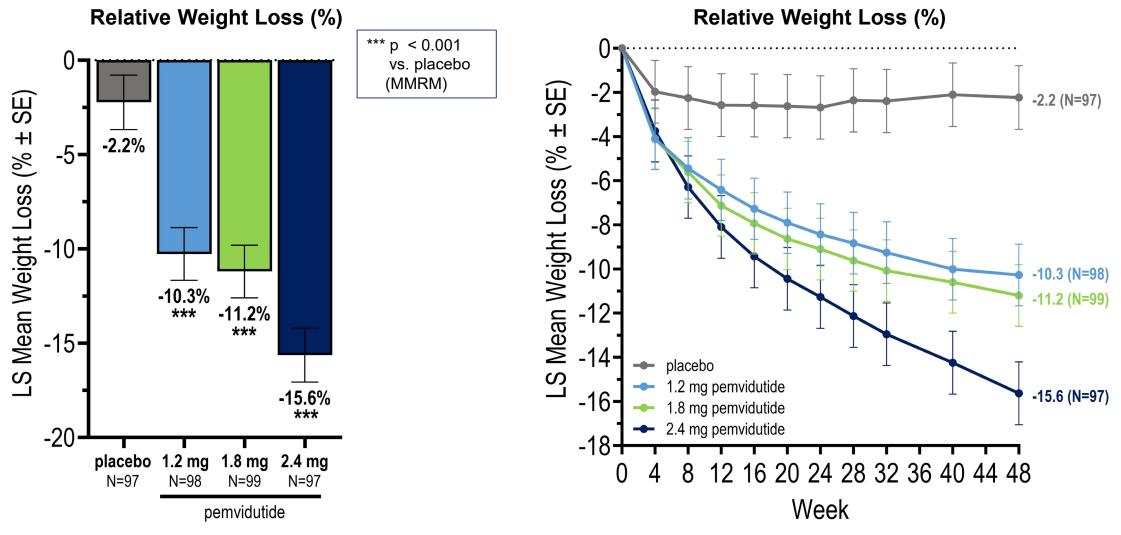


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# Weight Loss of 15.6% Achieved at Week 48 on 2.4 mg

MEAN WEIGHT LOSS OF 32.2 LBS AND MAXIMAL WEIGHT LOSS OF 87.1 LBS



MMRM, mixed model for repeated measures

## PEMVIDUTIDE—CLASS-LEADING EFFECTS ON LEAN MASS PRESERVATION

POTENTIALLY SUPERIOR TO THE 25% LEAN LOSS HISTORICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH DIET AND EXERCISE<sup>1</sup>

### LEAN LOSS INDEX

Drug	Study	Study duration	LBM loss index
Pemvidutide	MOMENTUM Phase 2	48 weeks	21.9% <sup>2</sup>
Tirzepatide	SURMOUNT 1 Phase 3	72 weeks	26.0% <sup>3,4</sup>
Retatrutide	Phase 2 obesity study	36 weeks	37.7% <sup>4</sup>
Semaglutide	STEP-1 Phase 3	68 weeks	39.9% <sup>5</sup>

Lean loss index = loss of lean mass/total mass loss

Excessive loss of lean mass has been associated an increased risk of frailty fractures, cardiovascular disease, dementia, cancer and increased all-cause mortality <sup>5,6</sup>

1. Heymsfield Obes Rev. 2014 April; 15(4): 310–321; 2. Aronne LA, 84<sup>th</sup> ADA Meeting, June 2024; 3. Kushner RF, Obesity Week 2022; 4. Harris C, Obesity Week 2023; 5. Wegovy Prescribing Information. 2024; <sup>6</sup> Wei, Front. Endocrinol. 2023. 14:1185221

### LEAN MASS PRESERVATION MAINTAINED IN OLDER SUBJECTS

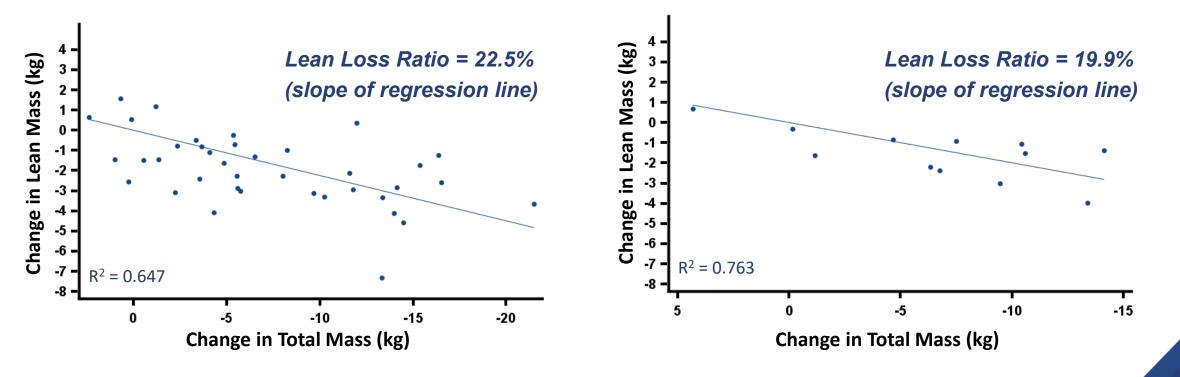
SUBJECTS  $\geq$  60 YEARS OLD (N=12)

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PREVENTING LEAN MASS LOSS IN THE ELDERLY MAY REDUCE RISK OF FALLS AND FRACTURES

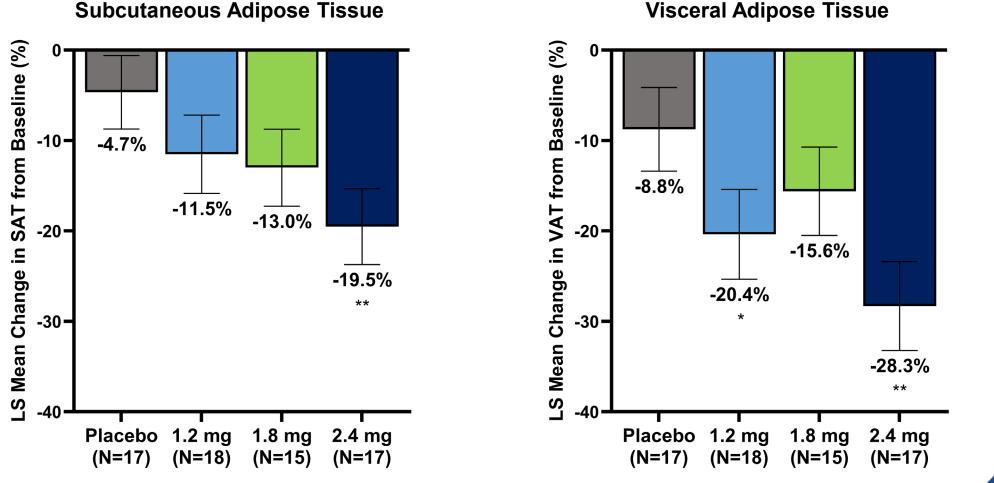
#### SUBJECTS < 60 YEARS OLD (N=38)



\*Change in Total Mass = Lean Mass Loss + Adipose Mass Loss

### VISCERAL ADIPOSE TISSUE REDUCED BY 28.3% AT WEEK 48 ON 2.4 MG

PREFERENTIAL REDUCTION OF VAT, THE ADIPOSE TISSUE DEPOT ASSOCIATED WITH CV RISK



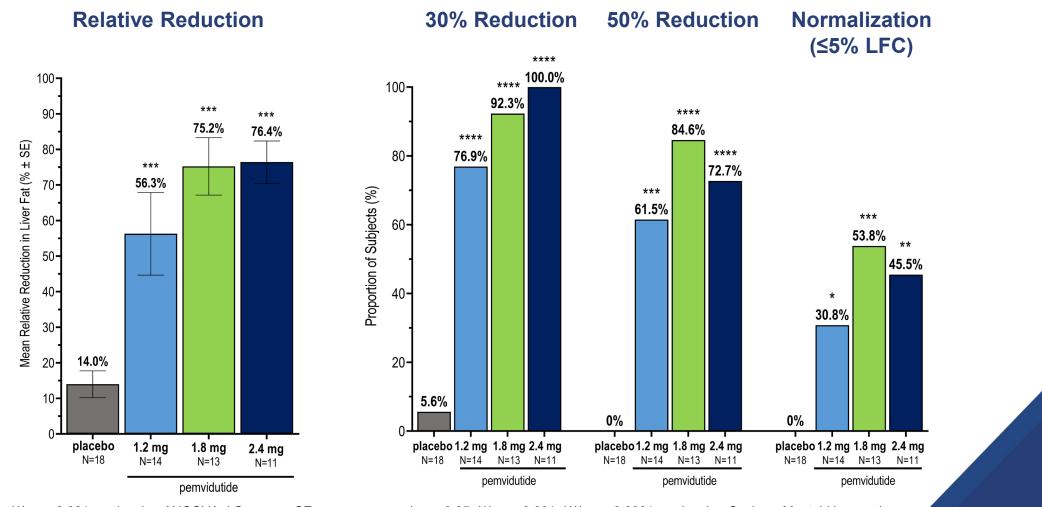
**Visceral Adipose Tissue** 

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Data are means ± SE. \* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\* p<0.001 vs placebo (ANCOVA)

## PEMVIDUTIDE— ROBUST REDUCTIONS IN LIVER FAT CONTENT AT 24 WEEKS

CORRELATES WITH MASH RESOLUTION AND FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT



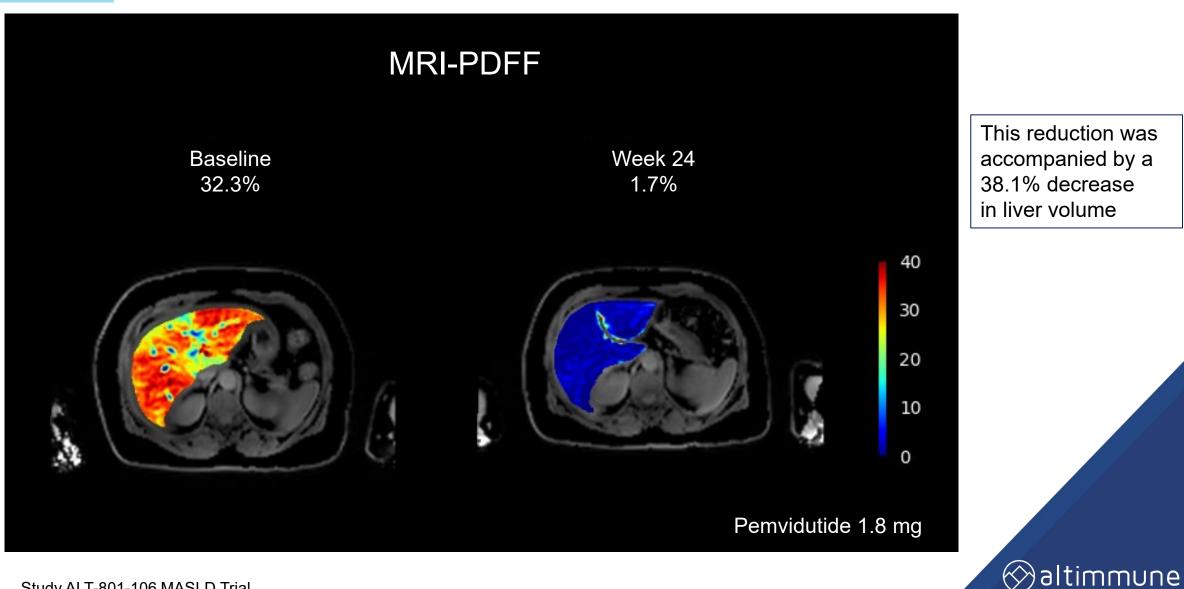
\*\*\* p < 0.001 vs placebo ANCOVA, LS mean ± SE

\* p < 0.05, \*\*\* p < 0.001, \*\*\*\*, p < 0.0001 vs placebo, Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel

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### **PEMVIDUTIDE— MARKED REDUCTION OF LIVER FAT CONTENT BY MRI-PDFF AT WEEK 24**



Study ALT-801-106 MASLD Trial

### **GLP-1 BASED AGENTS IN DEVELOPMENT<sup>1</sup> FOR MASH AND OBESITY**

HIGH GLUCAGON CONTENT DRIVES POTENT EFFECTS ON LIVER FAT AND BODY WEIGHT

Agent	Class	Agonist Ratios <sup>2</sup>	Dose Titration	LFC Reduction	Weight Reduction
Semaglutide	GLP-1		yes	+	++++
Tirzepatide	GLP-1/GIP	1:15	yes	+	++++
Cotadutide	GLP-1/GCG	5:1	yes	++	+
Retatrutide	GLP-1/GIP/GCG	1:6:0.1	yes	++++	++++
Survodutide	GLP-1/GCG	8:1	yes	+++	++++
Efinopegdutide	GLP-1/GCG	2:1	yes	++++	++++
Pemvidutide	GLP-1/GCG	1:1	no	++++	++++

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<sup>1</sup> Phase 2 and later; <sup>2</sup> based on cell-based potency assays

GLP-1, glucagon-like peptide-1; GIP, gastric inhibitory polypeptide; GCG, glucagon

### **IMPACT TRIAL**

PHASE 2 TRIAL ASSESSING THE EFFECTS OF PEMVIDUTIDE IN THE TREATMENT OF MASH

- Multicenter, randomized, placebo-control trial of pemvidutide in the treatment of MASH
- Enrollment of 190 subjects was rapid, completed in only 12 months
- Primary endpoint of MASH resolution and fibrosis improvement will be assessed at only 24 weeks
  - Rapid effects at 24-week will be evidence of the potency of pemvidutide, differentiating it from other incretin agents, which have read out at 48-68 weeks of treatment
- Trial readout Q1 2025



