



## Dual GLP-1 Agonists in the Treatment Metabolic & Liver Dysfunction in NASH

M. Scott Harris, MD  
Chief Medical Officer, Altimmune  
Gaithersburg, MD USA

4<sup>th</sup> Annual NASH Summit  
15-18 December 2020



# NASH AND NAFLD

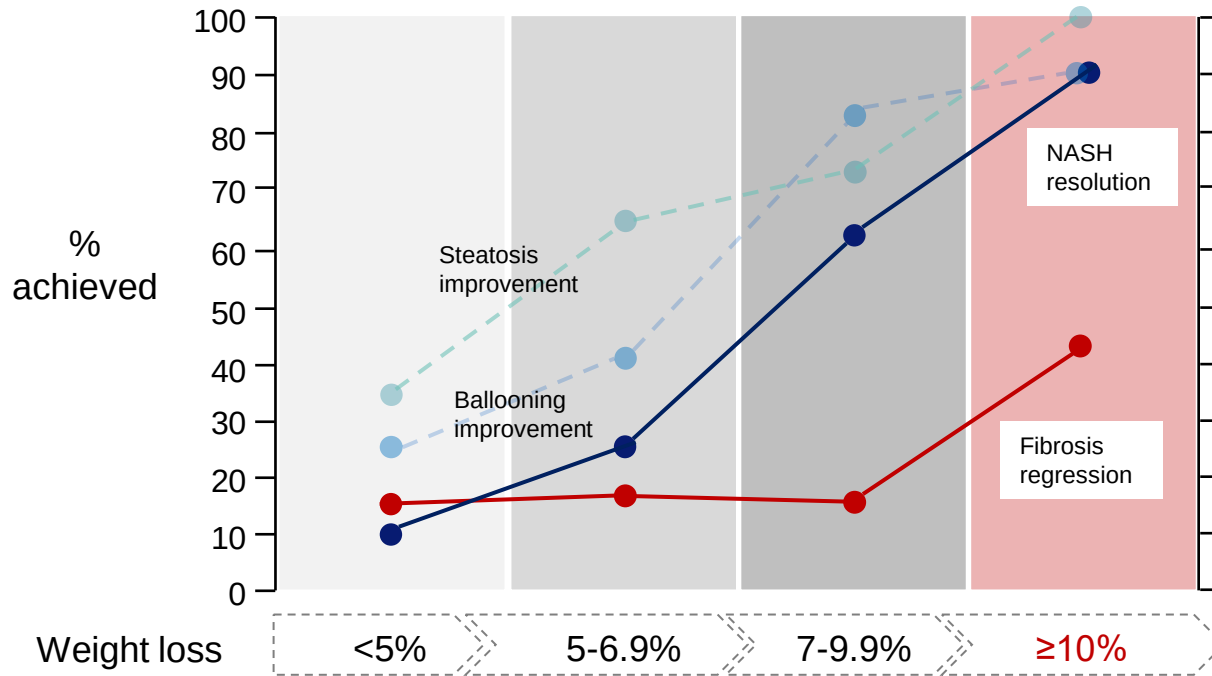
## HEPATIC MANIFESTATIONS OF OBESITY AND METABOLIC SYNDROME

- NAFLD is present in up to **90% of obese patients**, and **~20%** of NAFLD patients **progress to NASH**<sup>1</sup>
- Up to **40% of NASH patients develop NAFLD** recurrence one year after liver transplant—we believe the underlying metabolic disease is still present<sup>2</sup>
- The **treatment of obesity** is the cornerstone of treating NASH and the principal morbidities of NASH<sup>1,3</sup>
- Drugs in development should target the **weight loss range achieved by bariatric surgery**<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Glass LM, Fed Pract 2019; <sup>2</sup>Dureja, P, Transplantation 2011; <sup>3</sup>Perazzo H, Liver Int 2017; <sup>4</sup>Armstrong M, Vantage December 14, 2018

# SUBSTANTIAL BODY WEIGHT LOSS IS NECESSARY TO BLUNT NASH PROGRESSION

10% OR MORE WEIGHT LOSS MUST BE ACHIEVED<sup>1</sup>



The **treatment of obesity** remains the cornerstone of NASH and NAFLD therapy

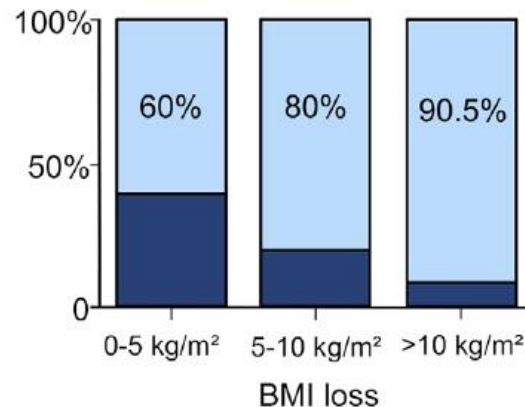
**Meaningful weight loss** is rarely achieved without medical intervention

**Current drugs have failed** to deliver the weight loss achieved by bariatric surgery

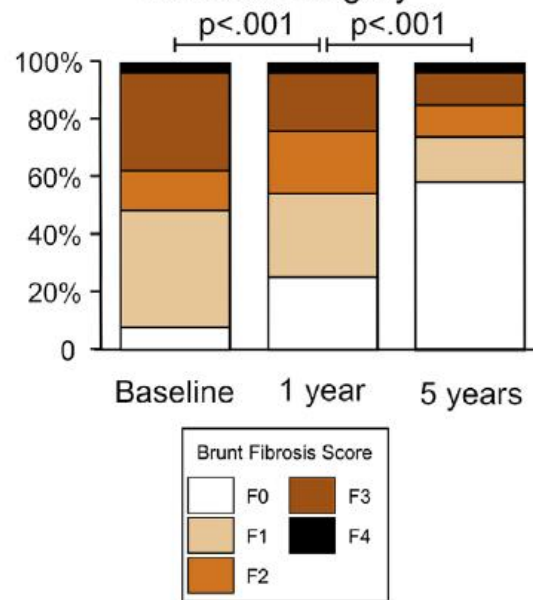
<sup>1</sup> Promrat et al Hepatology 2010; Glass et al Dig Dis Sci 2015; Vilar-Gomez et al Gastroenterology 2015; Marchesini et al Hepatology 2016; Koutoukidis et al JAMA Intern Med 2019 and adapted from Harrison, EASL 2019, Traber, Discovery on Target: Targeting NASH 2019

# BARIATRIC SURGERY PROVIDES LONG-TERM RESOLUTION OF NASH AND REGRESSION OF FIBROSIS

Resolution of NASH according to weight loss



Evolution of Fibrosis after Bariatric Surgery



# NAFLD—CAUSES OF DEATH

MOST DEATHS REFLECT COMPLICATIONS OF OBESITY RATHER THAN LIVER DISEASE

| Outcome                           | n (%)       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Death or liver transplantation    | 193 (31.2)  |
| Cardiovascular disease            | 74 (12.0) ← |
| Non-liver cancer                  | 36 (5.8) ←  |
| Cirrhosis complications           | 15 (2.4)    |
| Infections                        | 15 (2.4)    |
| Liver transplantation             | 1 (0.2)     |
| Other                             | 35 (5.7)    |
| Cirrhosis events                  | 26 (4.2)    |
| Variceal bleeding                 | 12 (1.9)    |
| Ascites                           | 9 (1.5)     |
| Encephalopathy                    | 6 (1.0)     |
| Hepatorenal syndrome              | 4 (0.6)     |
| Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis | 3 (0.5)     |
| Hepatocellular cancer             | 3 (0.5)     |
| Hepatopulmonary syndrome          | 2 (0.3)     |

619 patients with biopsy confirmed NAFLD (1975-2005)

Median follow-up 12.6 years (range 0.3-35)

# SNAPSHOT OF COMPOUNDS IN ADVANCED NASH DEVELOPMENT

## MOST AGENTS FAIL TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL LEVELS OF WEIGHT LOSS

| Agent                              | Author (year)                  | Mechanism     | Weight Loss (%)                              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Obeticholic acid                   | Younossi, ZM 2019 <sup>1</sup> | FXR agonist   | ~2%                                          |
| Resmetirom                         | Harrison, SA 2018 <sup>2</sup> | THRβ agonist  | no change                                    |
| Aldafermin (3mg) <sup>†</sup>      | Harrison, SA 2019 <sup>3</sup> | FGF19 agonist | 1.3%                                         |
| Pegbelfermin (10 mg) <sup>††</sup> | Sanyal, A 2018 <sup>4</sup>    | FGF21 agonist | 2.2%                                         |
| AKR-001 (70 mg)                    | Ritchie, M 2020 <sup>5</sup>   | FGF21 agonist | no change <sup>5</sup> ; 3.7% <sup>†††</sup> |
| Firsocostat                        | Lawitz, EJ 2018 <sup>6</sup>   | ACC inhibitor | no change                                    |
| Lanifibranor (1200 mg)             | Franque, S 2020 <sup>7</sup>   | PanPPAR       | increases 3.1%                               |

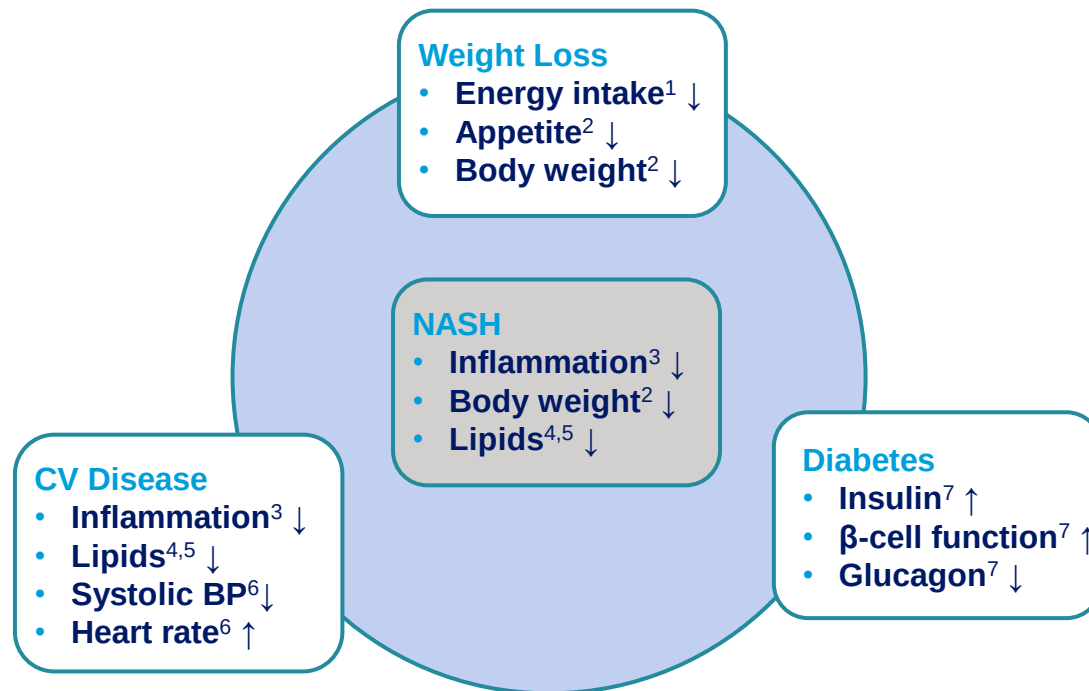
<sup>†</sup> No information has been made public on 1mg dose

<sup>††</sup> Gain of 0.6% on 20mg dose

<sup>†††</sup> BALANCED study (June 30 corporate deck)

<sup>1</sup>Younossi, YM, et al. (2019) *Lancet* 394: 2184-96; <sup>2</sup>Harrison, SA, et al. *Lancet* 394: 2012-24; <sup>3</sup> Harrison, SA, et al. (2019) *Lancet* 391:1174-85; <sup>4</sup>Sanyal, A, et al. (2018) *Lancet* 392:2705-17; <sup>5</sup>Ritchie, M, et al. (2020) *Exp Opin Invest Drugs*, 29:2, 197-204; <sup>6</sup> Lawitz, EJ, et al. (2018) *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* 16:1983-91; <sup>7</sup>Franque S, AASLD 2020

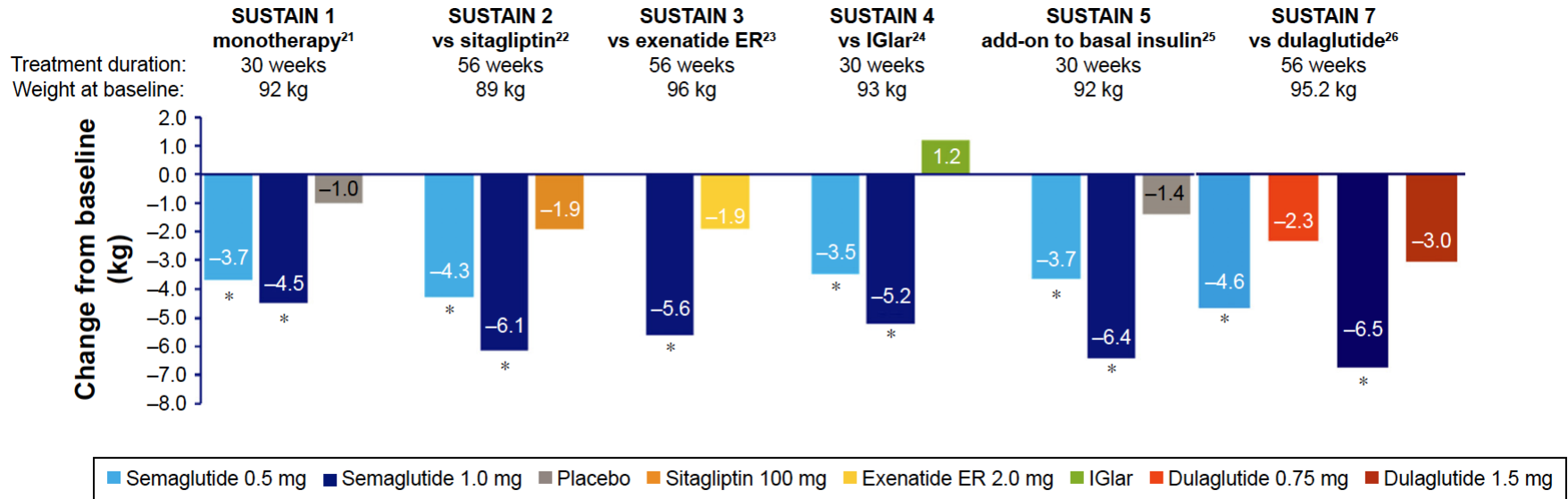
# GLP-1 ANALOGUES HAVE MULTIPLE BENEFICIAL EFFECTS



1 Bagger JI, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2015;100:4541–52; 2 Flint A, et al. *J Clin Invest* 1998;101:515–20.; 2 Tong J and D'Alessio D. *Diabetes* 2014;63:407–9; 3 Hogan AE, et al. *Diabetologia* 2014;57:781–4; 4 Hermansen K, et al. *Diabetes Obes Metab* 2013;15:1040–8; 5 Åhrén B, et al. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol* 2017;5:341–54; 6 Ryan D and Acosta A. *Obesity* 2015;23:1119–29; 7 Campbell JE and Drucker DJ. *Cell Metab* 2013;17:819–37

# SEMAGLUTIDE SUSTAIN TRIALS (0.5 – 1.0 MG/WEEK)

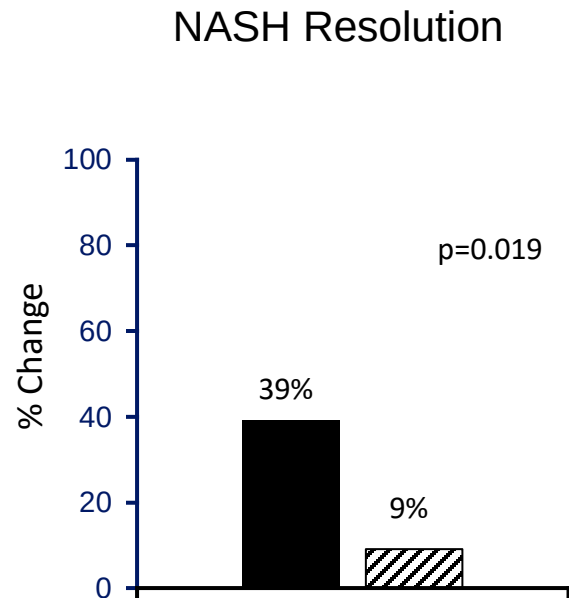
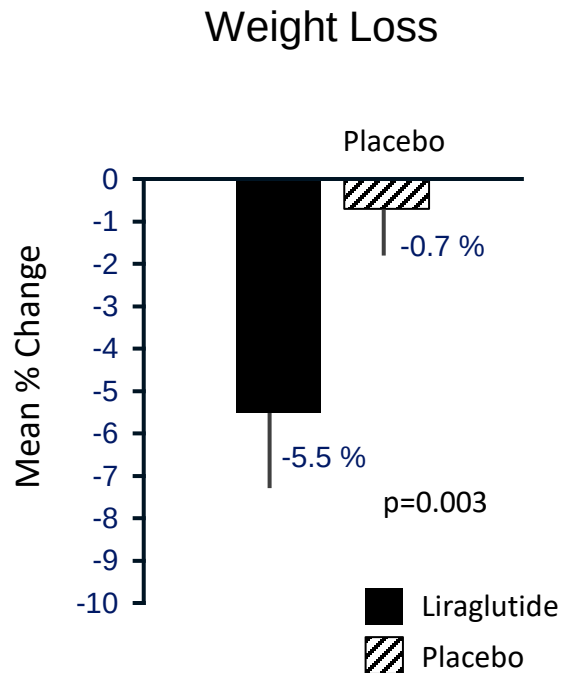
WEIGHT LOSS OF ONLY 5% TO 7% AFTER 30 TO 56 WEEKS TREATMENT





# LEAN TRIAL—WEIGHT LOSS AND NASH RESOLUTION

LIRAGLUTIDE 1.8 MG DAILY FOR 48 WEEKS

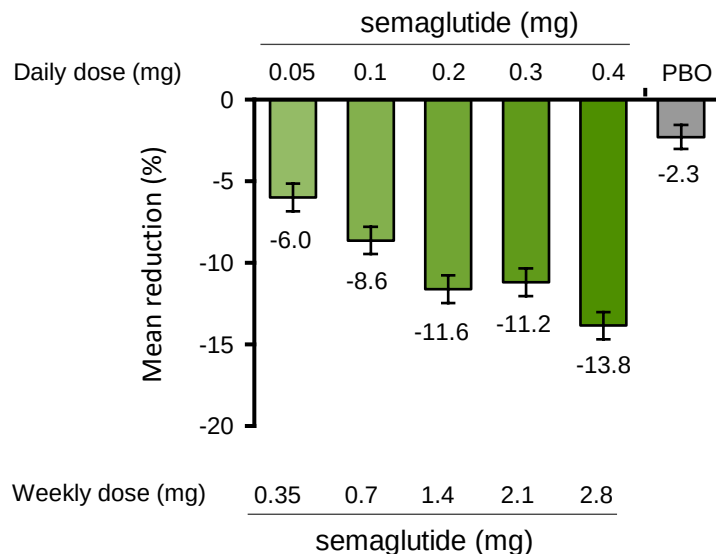


Armstrong MJ, Lancet 2016;387:679–90; Armstrong MJ, et al. BMJ Open 2013;3:e003995.

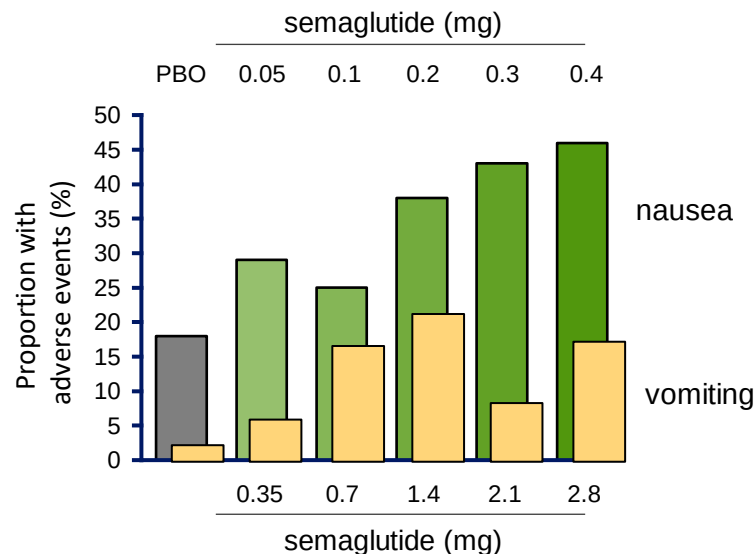
# SEMAGLUTIDE OBESITY TRIAL

WEIGHT LOSS DRIVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF GI SIDE EFFECTS AND EXTENDED DOSE-TITRATION

## Body Weight



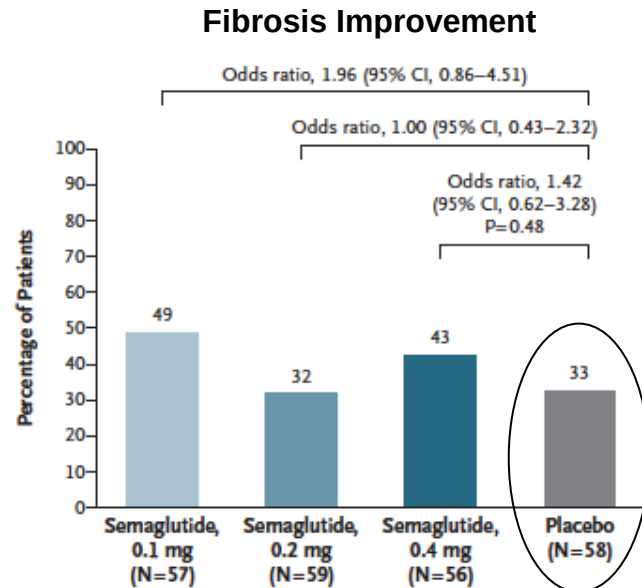
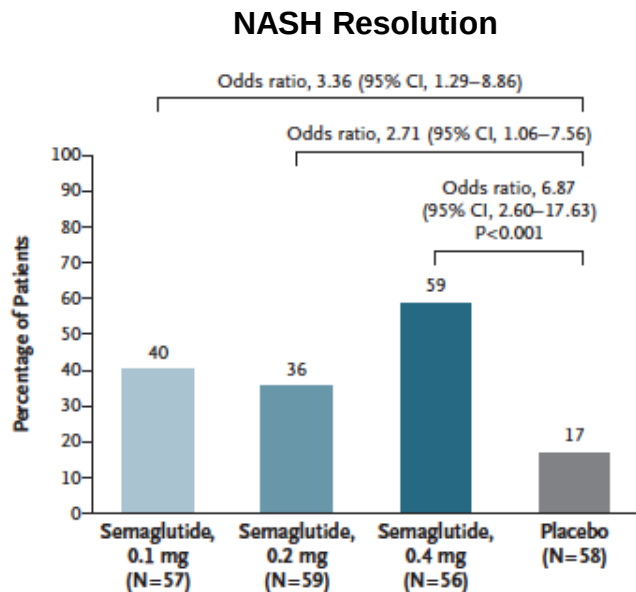
## Nausea and Vomiting



Adapted from O'Neil PM, et al. Lancet 2018;392:637-49

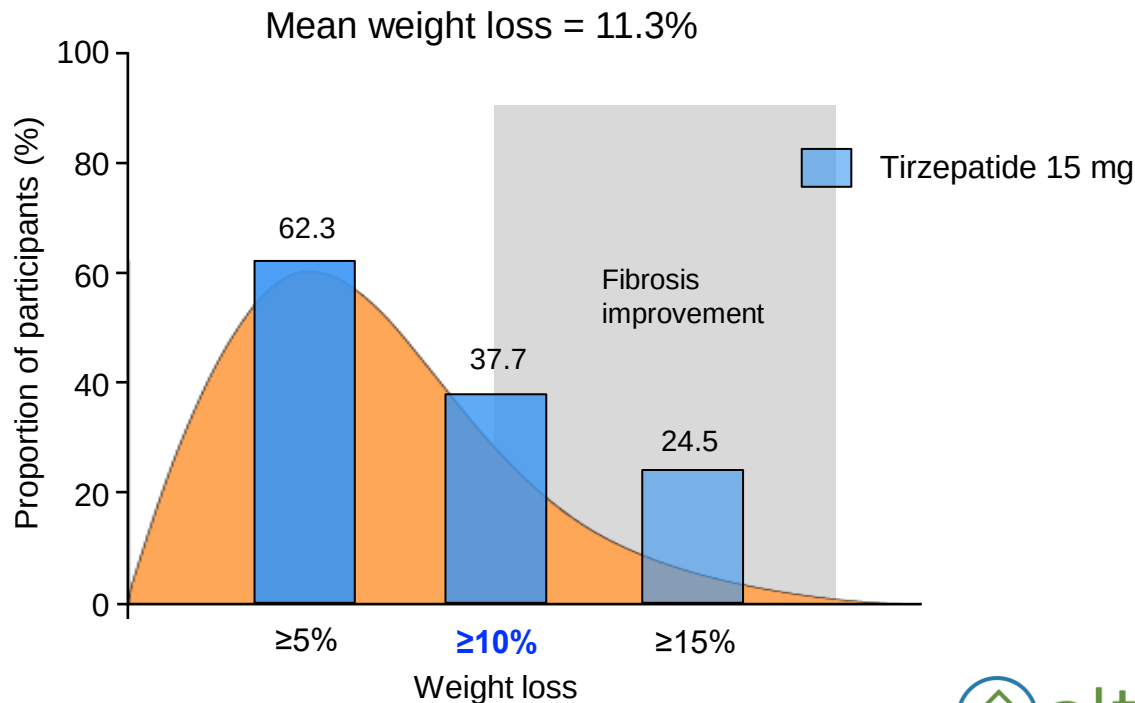
# SEMAGLUTIDE NASH TRIAL

## FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT CONFOUNDED BY UNUSUALLY HIGH PLACEBO RESPONSE



# MEAN WEIGHT LOSS COULD OVERREPRESENT NASH BENEFIT

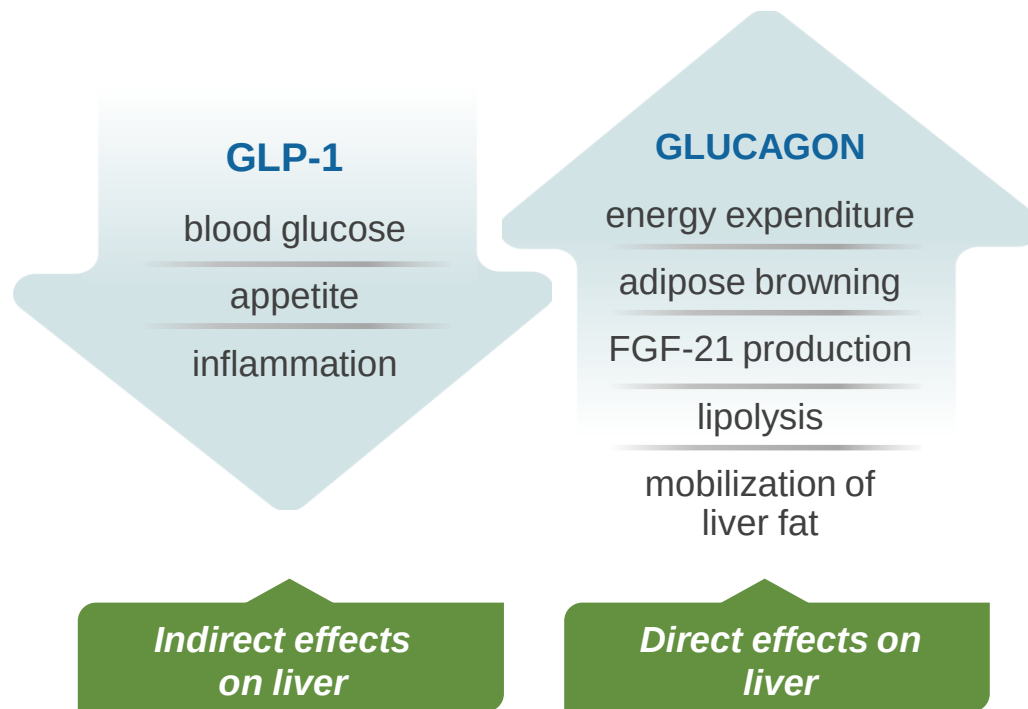
11.3% MEAN LOSS = ONLY 37.7% ACHIEVE THE VILAR-GOMEZ FIBROSIS IMPROVEMENT THRESHOLD



Adapted from Frias JP, Lancet 2018; 392:2180-93

# GLP-1/GLUCAGON RECEPTOR DUAL AGONISTS

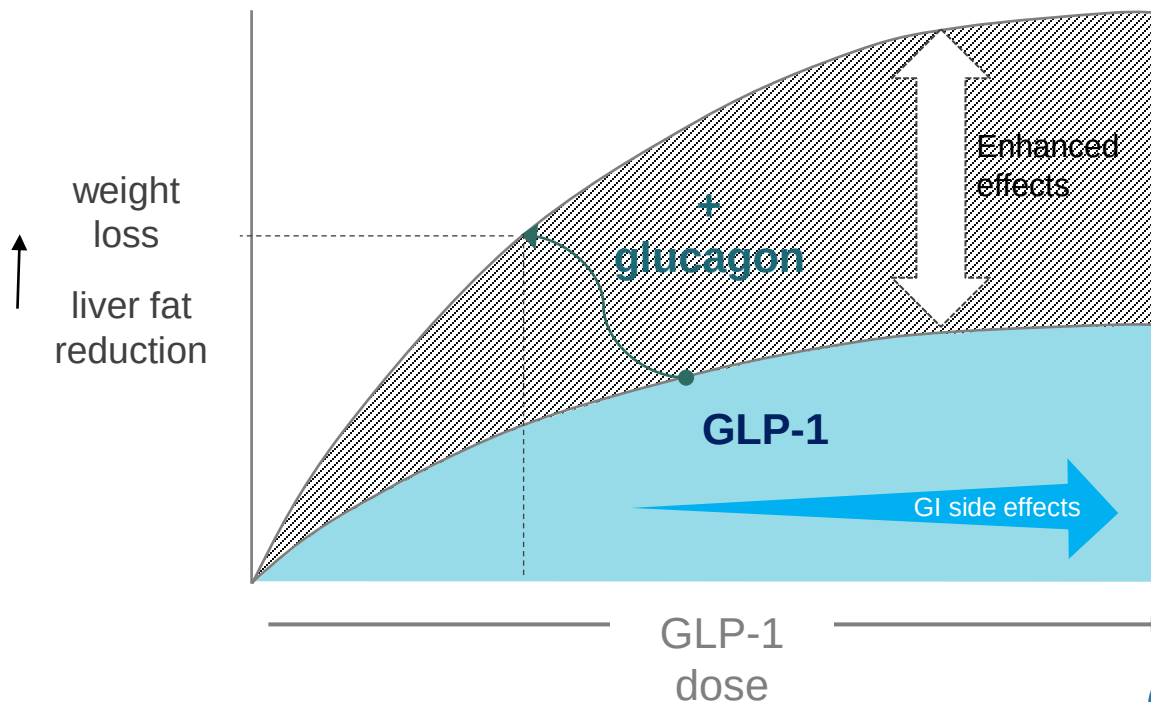
## OPTIMIZED FOR NASH AND WEIGHT LOSS



Sanchez-Garrido MA, *Diabetologia* (2017) 60:1851–1861; Soni H, *Med Hypotheses* 95 (2016) 5–9; Salem V, *Diab Obes Metab* 18: 72–81, 2016; Scot R, *Peptides* 104 (2018) 70–77

# GLUCAGON WITH GLP-1 AGONISM

POTENTIATES SYNERGISTIC EFFECTS ON WEIGHT AND LIVER FAT REDUCTION



# INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE

## GLP-1/GLUCAGON DUAL AGONISTS IN DEVELOPMENT

| Company                     | Molecule                           | Status/<br>Phase | Frequency of<br>Administration | Side Chain                        | GLP-1R/GCGR<br>Ratio in vitro |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Altimune                    | ALT-801                            | 1                | Weekly                         | EuPort™                           | Balanced                      |
| Merck/Hanmi                 | HM12525A                           | 2                | Weekly                         | IgG                               | Balanced                      |
| Transition / Lilly<br>/OPKO | LY2944876 / TT401                  | Terminated       | Weekly                         | PEG                               | >10:1 bias<br>toward GLP-1R   |
| OPKO<br>(Prolor)            | Pegapamodutide<br>OPK88003/MOD6030 | 2                | Weekly                         | PEG                               | Balanced                      |
| Novo Nordisk                | NNC9204-1177                       | Terminated       | Weekly                         | Free carboxylate<br>on fatty acid | 3:1 bias<br>towards GLP-1R    |
| BI/Zeland                   | BI 456906 US 2018/0094038 A1       | 2                | Weekly                         | Free carboxylate<br>on fatty acid | 7.5:1 bias<br>toward GLP-1R   |
| Astra Zeneca                | Cotadutide<br>MEDI0382             | 2                | Daily                          | Palmitoyl                         | 5:1 bias<br>toward GLP-1R     |
| Sanofi-Aventis              | SAR425899                          | Terminated       | Daily                          | Palmitoyl                         | 5:1 bias<br>toward GLP-1R     |

# BALANCED 1:1 GLP-1/ GLUCAGON AGONISM

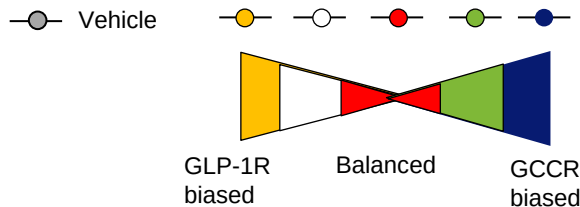
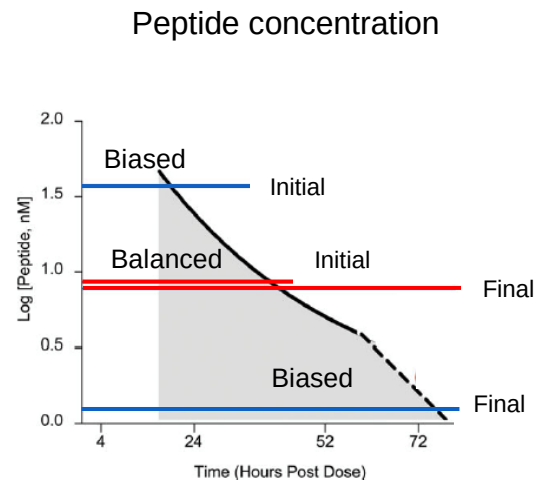
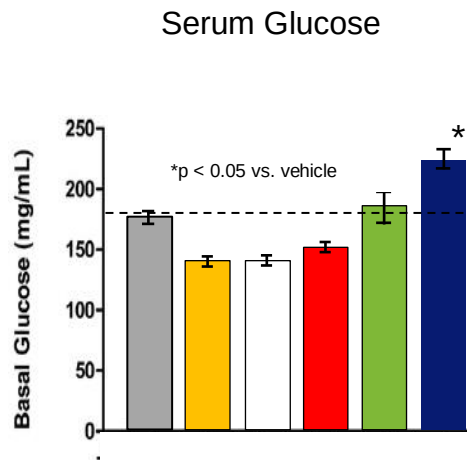
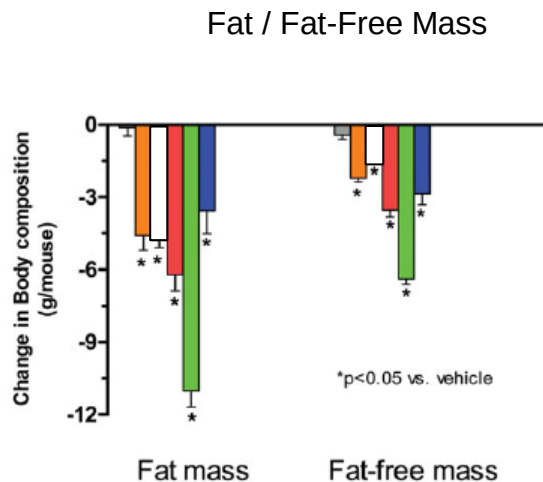
## KEY TO ACHIEVING IMPROVED EFFECTS ON NASH AND WEIGHT LOSS

- Sustained effects on both receptors are necessary to achieve improved weight loss
- Single receptor-biased ligands retain effects on only one receptor over a prolonged dosing period<sup>1</sup>
- By achieving 1:1 balance, the synergies of GLP-1 and glucagon are maintained throughout the entire dosing period

<sup>1</sup> Day JA, et al. *Peptide Science* 2012;98:443-50

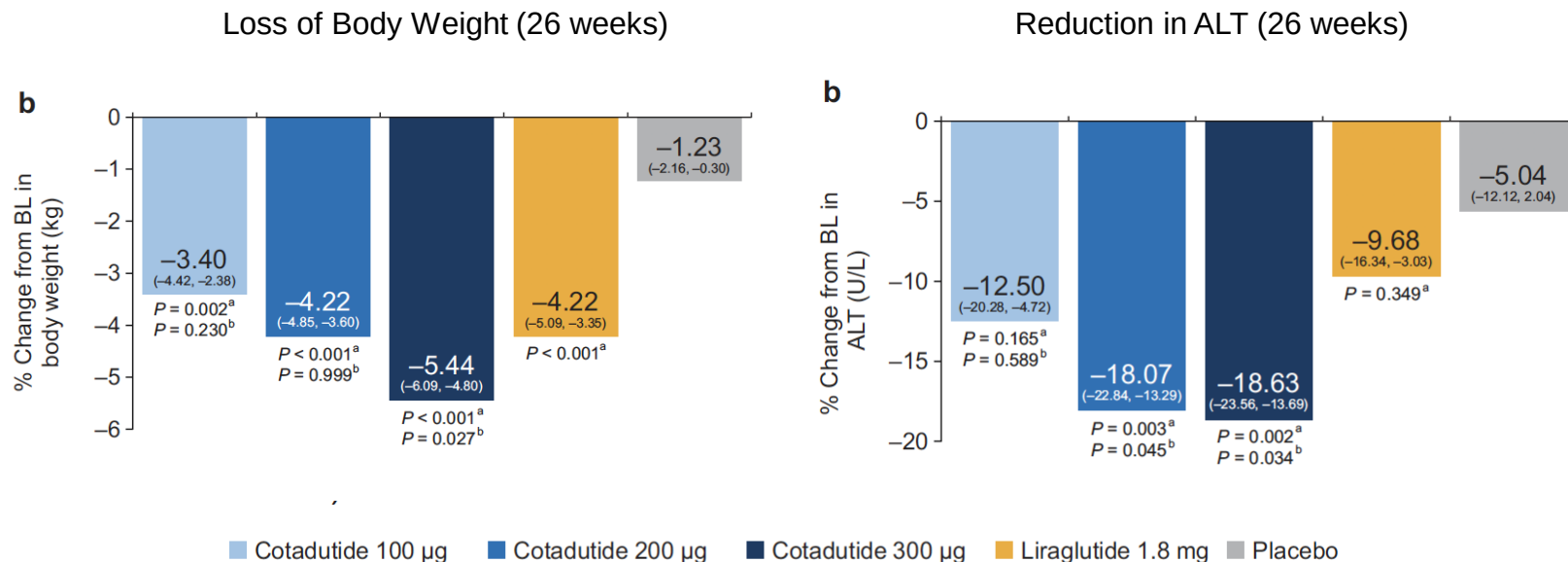


# BALANCED (1:1) AGONISTS EXERT OPTIMAL EFFECTS



# COTADUTIDE—5:1 GLP-1R/ GCGR RATIO

GREATER REDUCTION IN ALT AT SIMILAR LEVEL OF WEIGHT LOSS AS LIRAGLUTIDE



# COTADUTIDE—ADVERSE EVENTS

## HIGH INCIDENCE OF GI INTOLERANCE WHEN GLP-1 PREDOMINATES

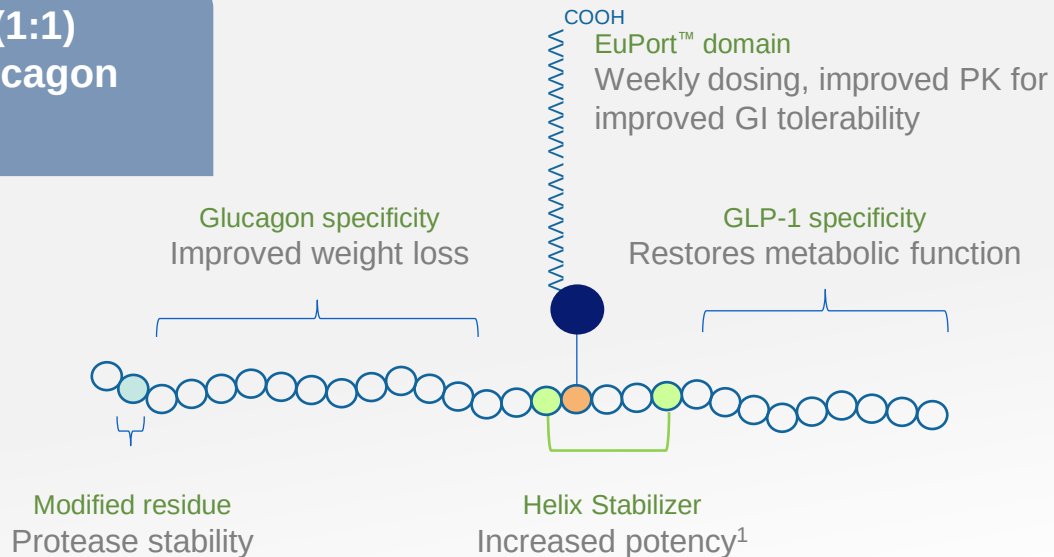
### Summary of Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events (TEAEs), n (%)

|                                  | <b>Cotadutide 100 µg</b><br>(n = 100) | <b>Cotadutide 200 µg</b><br>(n = 256) | <b>Cotadutide 300 µg</b><br>(n = 256) | Liraglutide 1.8 mg<br>(n = 110) | Placebo<br>(n = 112) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| TEAEs (total)                    | 64 (64)                               | 190 (74)                              | 188 (73)                              | 57 (52)                         | 60 (54)              |
| TEAEs leading to discontinuation | 11(11)                                | 37 (15)                               | 51 (20)                               | 2 (2)                           | 4 (4)                |
| Gastrointestinal TEAEs           | 37 (37)                               | 145 (57)                              | 146 (57)                              | 26 (24)                         | 26 (23)              |
| Nausea                           | 23 (23)                               | 85 (33)                               | 104 (41)                              | 16 (15)                         | 12 (11)              |
| Vomiting                         | 10 (10)                               | 50 (20)                               | 41 (16)                               | 2 (2)                           | 3 (3)                |
| Diarrhea                         | 11 (11)                               | 46 (19)                               | 26 (10)                               | 4 (4)                           | 10 (9)               |

# ALT-801

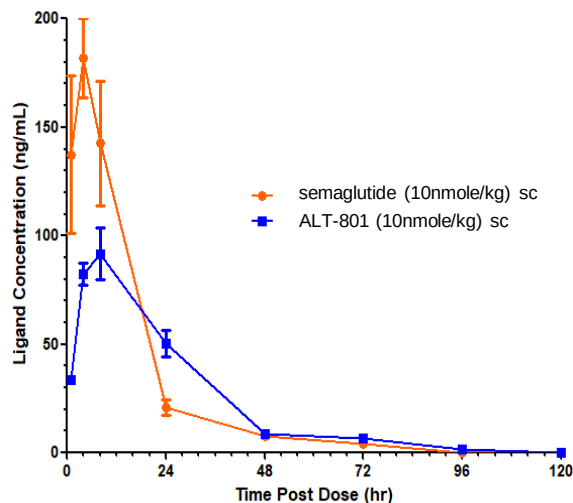
## BALANCED (1:1) DUAL AGONIST WITH ENHANCED PHARMACOKINETIC PROPERTIES

### Balanced (1:1) GLP-1:Glucagon Agonism



<sup>1</sup>Guarracino DA et al., Chem Rev. 2019 Sep 11;119(17):9915-9949

# EUPORT™ DOMAIN PROVIDES REDUCED C<sub>MAX</sub> AND IMPROVED TOLERABILITY AFTER SC ADMINISTRATION



- The micellar properties of EuPort™ slow entry of ALT-801 into the bloodstream after injection, lowering C<sub>max</sub> (peak concentration)
- Lower C<sub>max</sub> is associated with improved GIP-1RAs tolerability<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Bettge, K., et al. (2017) *Diabetes Obes Metab* (2017) 19: 336-347

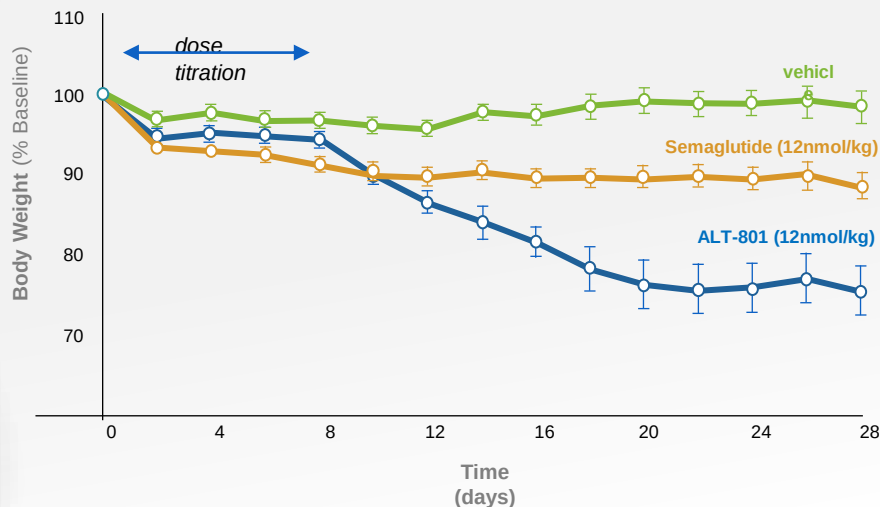
# GUBRA AMYLIN NASH MODEL IN MALE C57BL/6J MICE



# ALT-801

25% REDUCTION IN BODY WEIGHT TO CHOW-FED LEAN NORMAL RANGE

## Mouse DIO Model After 4 Weeks of Treatment

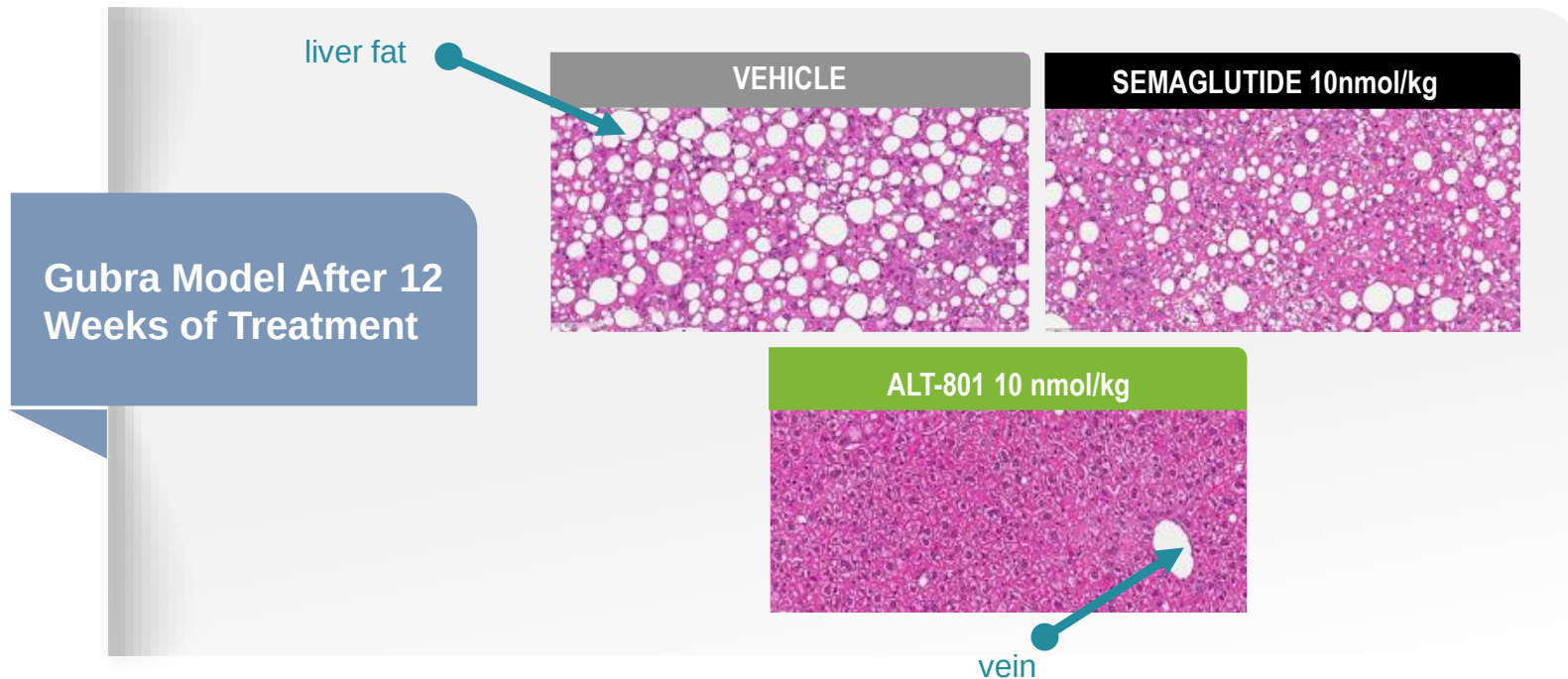


More than **2x** the weight loss of **semaglutide**

Body weight decreased to **lean normal range**

# ALT-801

REDUCTION IN LIVER FAT AND LIVER WEIGHT TO LEAN NORMAL RANGE

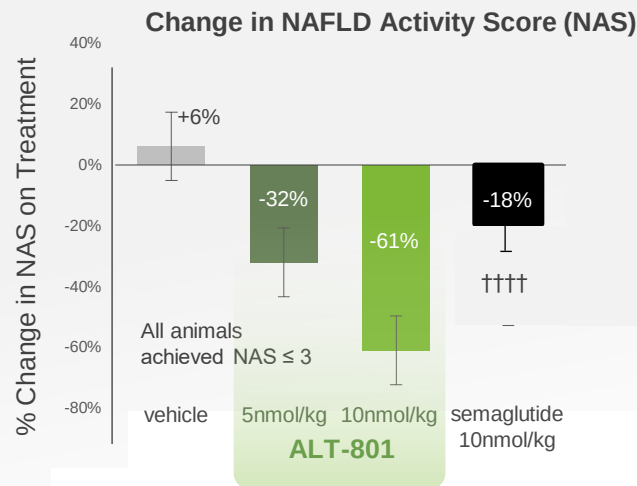




# ALT-801

## GREATER REDUCTION IN NAFLD ACTIVITY SCORE (NAS)

Gubra NASH Mouse Model After 12 Weeks of Treatment

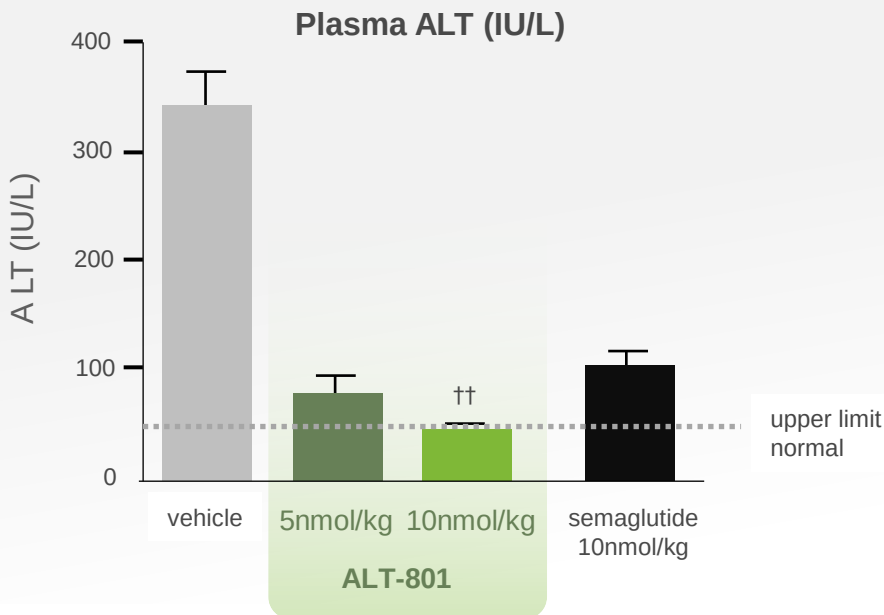


Mean (SE), 1-way ANOVA with Dunnett's adjustment for multiplicity  
††  $p < .01$ , †††  $p < .001$ , ††††,  $p < .0001$  vs. **ALT-801** 10 nmol/kg (n=11-12)

# ALT-801

## NORMALIZATION OF PLASMA ALANINE AMINOTRANSFERASE (ALT)

Gubra NASH Mouse Model After 12 Weeks of Treatment

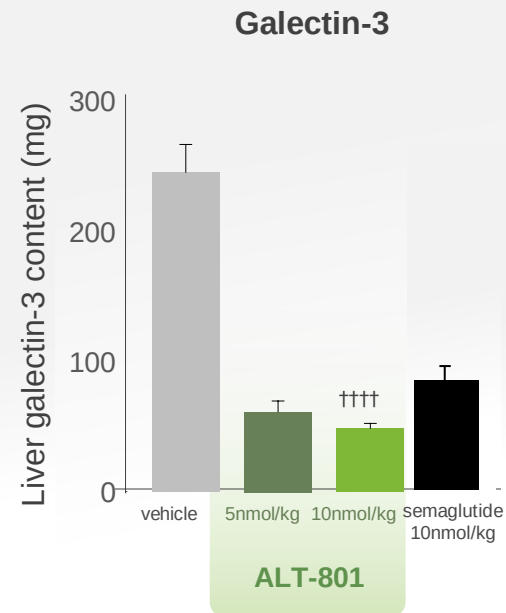
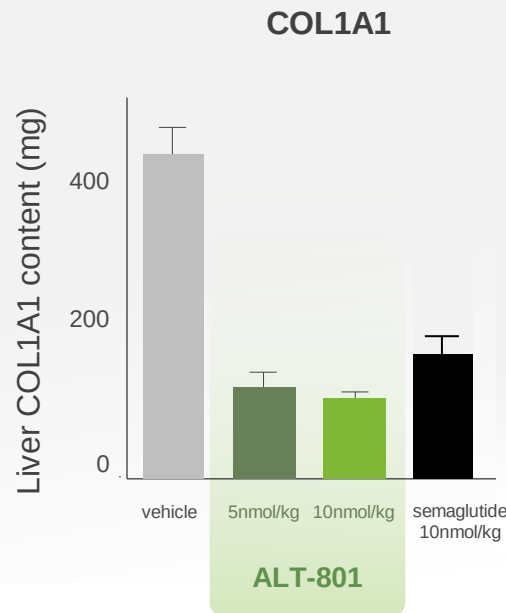


Mean (SE), 1-way ANOVA with Dunnett's adjustment for multiplicity  
††  $p < .01$ , †††  $p < .001$ , ††††  $p < .0001$  vs. semaglutide (n=11-12)

# ALT-801

## GREATER EFFECTS ON FIBROSIS AND INFLAMMATION

Gubra NASH Mouse Model After 12 Weeks of Treatment



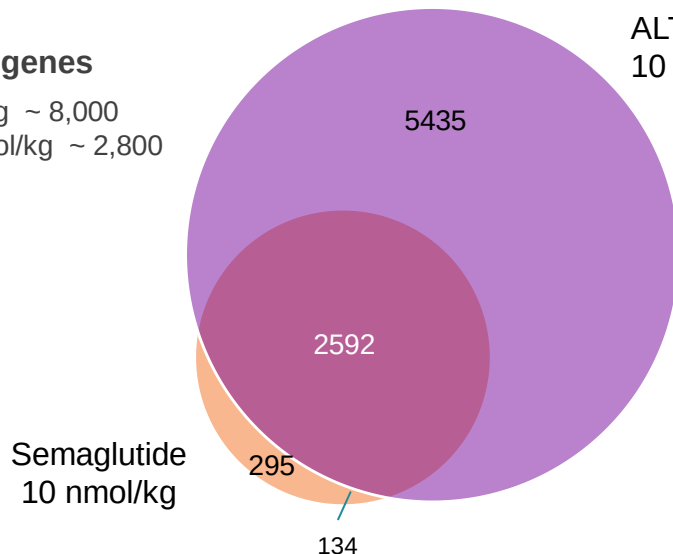
Mean (SE), 1-way ANOVA with Dunnett's adjustment for multiplicity  
†† p < .01, ††† p < .001, †††† p < .0001 vs. semaglutide (n=11-12)

# PLEIOTROPIC EFFECTS

## ALT-801 DIFFERENTIALLY REGULATED MORE PATHWAYS IN NASH PATHOGENESIS

### Total regulated genes

ALT-801 10nmol/kg ~ 8,000  
semaglutide 10nmol/kg ~ 2,800



ALT-801—modulation of genes affecting:  
10 nmol/kg

- **Fat usage and transport**—FASN, GPAT 2,4, PPAR- $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , SCT-1, CD36
- **Pro-fibrosis stellate cell pathways**—A-SMA, PDGF- $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta$
- **Cell death**—AIM2, IPAF, RIPK3
- **Inflammation**— JUN, FOSB, TLR4

Visualization of the number of genes regulated by each compound. Values inside circles indicate the number of genes differentially expressed versus the vehicle group that are compound specific or shared between treatments.

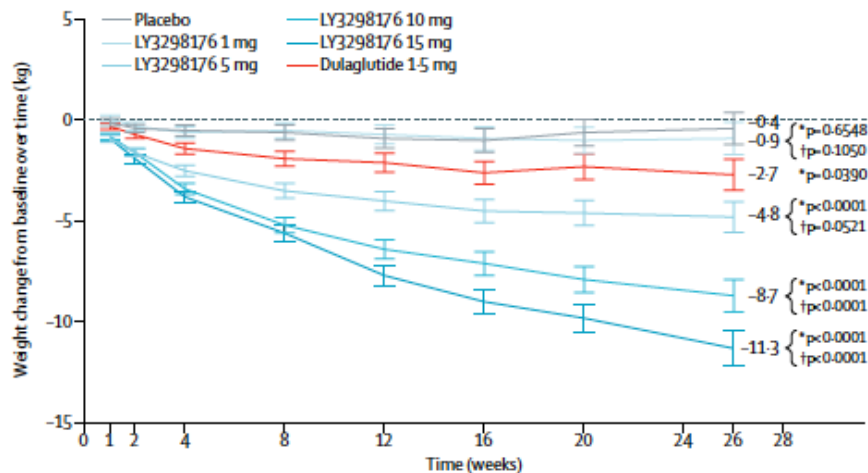
# GLP-1/GIP DUAL AND TRIPLE RECEPTOR AGONISTS IN DEVELOPMENT

| Company      | Molecule                   | Agonists                          | Status/<br>Phase                    | Frequency of<br>Administration | Side<br>Chain      | GLP-<br>1R/GCGR/GIP<br>Ratio in vitro | Liver Specific<br>Effects in<br>NASH |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lilly        | Tirzepatide<br>(LY3298176) | GLP-1/ GIP Dual Agonist           | Phase 3<br>Diabetes<br>Phase 2 NASH | Weekly                         | Fatty<br>di-acid   | Biased to GIP                         | No                                   |
| Novo-Nordisk | NNC0090-2746               | GLP-1/ GIP Dual Agonist           | Development<br>halted               | Daily                          | fatty-<br>acylated | Balanced                              | No                                   |
| Hanmi        | HM15211                    | GLP-1/ GIP/GCCR Triple<br>Agonist | Phase 2 NASH                        | Weekly                         | Ig Fc              | Not published                         | Yes                                  |

- GIP is a potent stimulator of insulin release and suppressant of gastric emptying
- The effects of GIP on adipose tissue and peripheral energy metabolism are controversial
- Diabetic patients may be desensitized to the effects of GIP on insulin release
- Agents combining GIP with other incretins have demonstrated high degrees of GI side effects

## PHASE 2 TRIAL OF TIRZEPATIDE IN TYPE 2 DIABETES

### Weight loss over 26 weeks

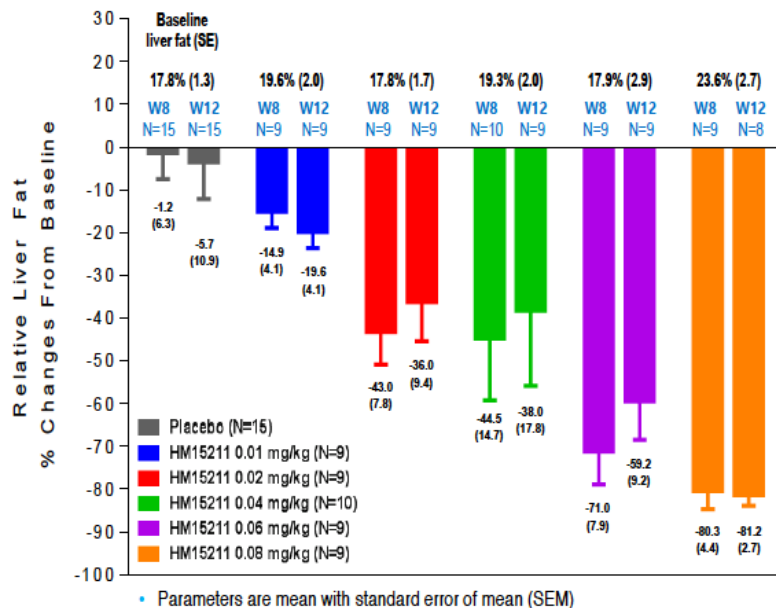


### High rates of adverse events

- 66% of patients in the high-dose (15 mg) group had GI adverse events (AEs)
- 24.5% of patients receiving 15 mg had AEs leading to treatment discontinuation
- Attempts to mitigate by extending dose titration beyond 20 weeks in Phase 3

# PHASE 1 12-WEEK TRIAL OF HM15211, A GLP-1/GLCC/GIP TRIPLE AGONIST IN NON-DIABETIC, OBESE SUBJECTS WITH NAFLD

Relative changes in liver fat by MRI-PDFF



- Only 5% weight loss was realized at the highest (0.08 mg/kg) dose, suggesting that the effects on liver fat reduction were due to glucagon agonism

## ALT-801

### SUMMARY

---

- NASH is a disease of obesity
- Drugs for treatment of NASH and NASH-related complications should target 10% or greater body weight loss
- Effective agents should induce pleiotropic effects across multiple pathways involved in NASH pathogenesis
- Glucagon agonism in combination with GLP-1 agonists exhibits synergistic effects on weight loss and liver fat reduction and hold promise for the treatment of both NASH and obesity

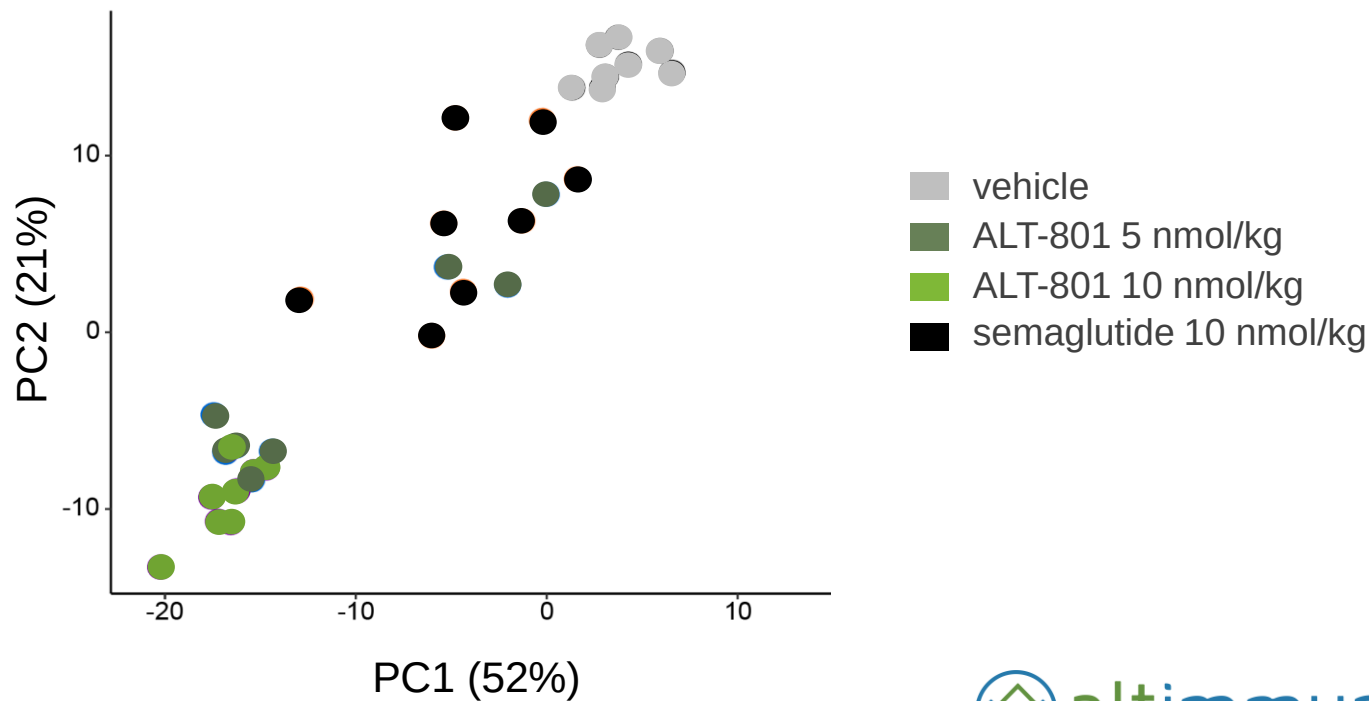


The background features a series of overlapping triangles in shades of blue, teal, and green, creating a layered effect. Overlaid on these triangles are stylized, puffy clouds in matching colors. The right side of the image is a plain white area.

**Thank You**

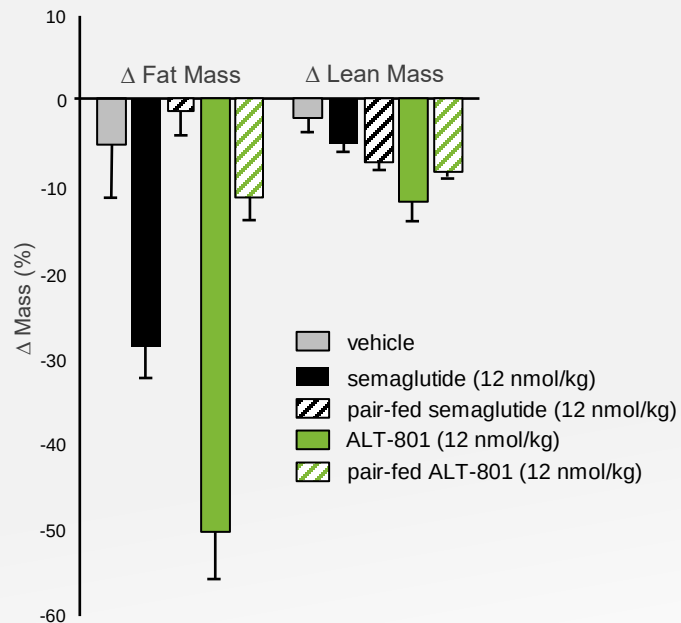
# PLEIOTROPIC EFFECTS

## PRINCIPAL COMPONENT ANALYSIS



# ALT-801

## REDUCTIONS IN FAT MASS—JAX DIO MICE (DAY 28)



- ALT-801-treated animals achieved ~2x the fat loss of semaglutide-treated animals (51% vs. 28%) and >4x pair-fed animals
- Relative preservation of lean mass