UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): August 14, 2019

IVERIC bio, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-36080 (Commission

File Number)

20-8185347 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

One Penn Plaza, 35th Floor New York, NY 10119 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 845-8200

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	ISEE	The Nasdaq Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company o

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If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. o

Item 7.01. Regulation FD.

On August 14, 2019, IVERIC bio, Inc. (the "Company") posted a corporate presentation to its website at https://investors.ivericbio.com/events-and-presentation. A copy of the corporate presentation is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Item 7.01 of this Form 8-K (including Exhibit 99.1) shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing. The furnishing of this information hereby shall not be deemed an admission as to the materiality of any such information.

Item 8.01. Other Information.

The Company reaffirms its previous estimate that its year-end 2019 cash and cash equivalents will range between \$80 million and \$85 million. The Company believes that its cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to fund its operations and capital expenditure requirements as currently planned through the end of 2021. These estimates are based on the Company's current business plan, including the continuation of its current research and development programs. These estimates do not reflect any additional expenditures, including associated development costs, in the event the Company in-licenses or acquires any new product candidates or commences any new sponsored research programs. The Company may have based these estimates on assumptions that may prove to be wrong, and it could use its available capital resources sooner than it currently expects.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits:

The following Exhibit relating to Item 7.01 shall be deemed to be furnished, and not filed:

99.1 IVERIC bio, Inc. Corporate Presentation dated August 2019

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements

Any statements in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including Exhibit 99.1 (the "Form 8-K") about the Company's future expectations, plans and prospects constitute forward-looking statements for purposes of the safe harbor provisions under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements about the Company's strategy, future operations and future expectations and plans and prospects for the Company, and any other statements containing the words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend", "goal," "may", "might," "polect," "traget," "potential," "wuld," "could," "could," "continue," and similar expressions. In this Form 8-K, the Company's forward looking statements include statements about the implementation of its strategic plan, including its focus on developing gene therapies for orphan inherited retinal diseases, the project use of cash and cash balances, the timing, progress and results of clinical trials and other research and development activities, the potential utility of its product candidates, and the potential for its business development strategy, including its collaborative gene therapy sponsored research programs and any other statements. Such forward-looking statements include, among others, those related to the initiation and the progress of research and development programs, future results, performance or achievements to differ significantly from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, those related to the initiation and the progress of research and development programs, and any or achievements of discussed in the "Risk Factors" section contained in the quarterly and annual reports that the Company files with the Securities and ther programs. And development programs and any or achievenes and or acquisition transactions and other thick parties, establishment of manufacturing capabilities, expectations for regulatory matters, need for additional financing and negotiation and cosumm

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

IVERIC bio, Inc.

Date: August 14, 2019

By: /s/ David F. Carroll

David F. Carroll

Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer



NASDAQ: ISEE

August

Forward-looking Statements

Any statements in this presentation about IVERIC bio's future expectations, plans and prospects constitute forward-looking statements for purposes of the safe harbor provisions under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include any statements about IVERIC bio's strategy, future operations and future expectations and plans and prospects for IVERIC bio, and any other statements containing the words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend", "goal," "may", "might," "plan," "predict," "project," "target," "potential," "will," "would," "could," "should," "continue," and similar expressions. In this presentation, IVERIC bio's forward-looking statements include statements about the implementation of it strategic plan, including its focus on developing gene therapies for orphan inherited retinal diseases, the projected use of cash and cash balances, the timing, progress and results of clinical trials and other research and development activities, the potential utility of its product candidates, and the potential for its business development strategy, including its collaborative gene therapy research programs and any potential in-license or acquisition opportunities. Such forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties that could cause IVERIC bio's preclinical and clinical development programs, future results, performance or achievements to differ significantly from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, those related to the initiation and the progress of research and development programs and clinical trials, availability of data from these programs, reliance on university collaborators and other third parties, establishment of manufacturing capabilities, expectations for regulatory matters, need for additional financing and negotiation and consummation of in-license and/or acquisition transactions and other factors discussed in the "Risk Factors" section contained in the guarterly and annual reports that IVERIC bio files with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Any forward-looking statements represent IVERIC bio's views only as of the date of this presentation. IVERIC bio anticipates that subsequent events and developments will cause its views to change. While IVERIC bio may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, IVERIC bio specifically disclaims any obligation to do so except as required by law.

IVERIC bio

A leader in developing transformative gene therapy treatments for patients with orphan inherited retinal diseases

Well-positioned as a Leader in Orphan Inherited Retinal Disease Gene Therapy

- Compelling Science
 - Clear rationale for product constructs & strong pre-clinical animal data
- High Unmet Medical Need & Potential Best-in-Class
- Significant Commercial Opportunity
 - Program criteria: large epidemiology, unmet medical need, first and/or best-in-class
- Execution Focused
 - Gene therapy programs progressing toward INDs in 2020 and 2021 (IC-100 & IC-2
 - Collaborations with leading academic gene therapy centers UPenn, UMass, UFlorida
 - Strategic manufacturing relationship with Catalent's Paragon Gene Therapy
 - Manufacturing for lead product candidates underway and GMP slots secured
 - Continuing to evaluate additional BD opportunities
- Strong Cash Position and Well-Capitalized
 - 6/30/19: ~\$107 million cash; estimated YE'19 cash of \$80 million \$85 million*

*Estimate as of August 14, 2019; based on current business plan and excludes any potential business development activities or any other changes to the Company's current R&I

- Cash runway through end of 2021*

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Strong Senior Management with Significant Execution Experience and Domain Expertise in Retina

Key Management	Experience			
Glenn Sblendorio Chief Executive Officer	The Medicines Company	eyetech	n Roch	
Kourous A. Rezaei, MD Chief Medical Officer	RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	Illinois Retina Associates, s.c.	University of	of Cologne KRESG INSTIT
David F. Carroll Chief Financial Officer	The Medicines Company	Genentech A Member of the Roche Group	NOVARTIS	Bristol-Myers
Keith Westby Chief Operating Officer	Pharmasset	eyetech	Tunnell CONSULTING Stronger Performance Aread*	Roche 🖉
Evelyn Harrison Chief Clinical Operations Officer		eyetech	Roc	he
Ramil Latypov, PhD Head of CMC Gene Therapy	SANO	FI GENZYME) (AMGEN
Jennifer LeCouter, PhD Director of Research		Gen A Member	of the Roche Group	
Vishal Kapoor Chief Business Officer	(NPS Phar	rma Gen	entech of the Roche Group	Pfizer

IVERIC bio Gene Therapy Pipeline

Goal: Broadest and deepest inherited retinal disease portfolio



*We have an option to exclusively in-license intellectual property resulting from ongoing sponsored research.

- Compelling Science
- High Unmet Medical Need & Potential Best-in-Class
- Significant Orphan Patient Populations



Patient Populations for Orphan IRDs¹



¹ Estimated combined patient populations in US and EU5 for each indication based on published literature:

RHO-adRP estimate based on data from Arch Ophthalmology 2007 Feb; 125(2): 151–158. J EST1-related estimate based on data from Ophthalmic Genet. 2017; 38(2): 143–147. doi:10.1080/13816810.2016.1175645 / LCA10 estimate based or various sources including Genetics Home Reference; Am J Hum Genet 2006 Sep; 79(3) 556-561; Gene Reviews, Leber Congenital Amaurosis, Last update May 2, 2013; Human Mutation, Mutation in Brief #956(2007) / Stargardt data from Nation: Genetics Home Reference and Progstar Natural History Study / USH2A estimates based on data from Experimental Eye Research Vol 79, Issue 2, Aug 2004: 167-173.

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Scientific Collaborations: Leading Academic Gene Therapy Centers

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Horae (红瑞) Gene Therapy Center

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Manufacturing Strategy

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Rhodopsin-Mediated Autosomal Dominant Retinitis Pigmentosa

IC-100: scAAV2/5-H1p-shRNA820 -hOP-RHO820



IC-100: RHO-adRP Phase 1/2 Planned to Initiate in 2H 202

Significant Commercial Opportunity

- Estimated prevalence: ~11K in the US & EU5 combined¹
- High unmet need: Bilateral degeneration of rod and cone photoreceptors, leading to night blindness and progressive visual impairment
- Potentially first-in-class and best-in-class:
 - Lead gene therapy product candidate
 - Mutation independent approach compared to gene editing or RNA
- Compelling Science
 - Proof-of-concept in two animal models (canine and mouse)
 - Long-term preservation of retinal structure and function ~ 9 months
 - Knockdown and replacement with a single AAV vector
- Clear Path to IND Submission in 2020
 - Completed: Pre-IND FDA meeting and process development at Paragon
 - Ongoing: Natural History studies
 - Next Steps: IND-enabling tox studies and GMP production (slots secured at Paragon)

¹RHO-adRP estimate based on data from Arch Ophthalmology 2007 Feb; 125(2): 151–158.

Rhodopsin-Mediated Autosomal Dominant Retinitis Pigmento

- Retinitis pigmentosa (RP): most prevalent inherited retinal dystrophy
- Bilateral degeneration of rod and cone photoreceptors that ultimately leads to night blindness and progressive visual impairment
- <u>adRP</u>: The most common autosomal dominant retinal disease
- More than 150 identified rhodopsin gene (RHO) mutations

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The mutant rhodopsin protein is toxic



Source: Prog Retin Eye Res 2018; 62:1-23. Estimate based on data from Arch Ophthalmology 2007 Feb; 125(2): 151–158.

ADRP Caused by RHO Mutation

Phenotypic feature in a patient with RHO mutation showing inferior photoreceptor degeneration corresponding to superior visual field loss



Rhodopsin-Mediated Autosomal Dominant Retinitis Pigmentosa: Proof of Concept in Mouse and Naturally Occurring Canine Models

Mutation-independent rhodopsin gene therapy by knockdown and replacement with a single AAV vector

Artur V. Cideciyan, Raghavi Sudharsan, Valérie L. Dufour, Michael T. Massengill, Simone Iwabe, Malgorzata Swider, Brianna Lisi, Alexander Sumaroka, Luis Felipe Marinho, Tatyana Appelbaum, Brian Rossmiller, William W. Hauswirth, Samuel G. Jacobson, Alfred S. Lewin, Gustavo D. Aguirre, and William A. Beltran

PNAS September 4, 2018 115 (36) E8547-E8556; first published August 20, 2018 https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1805055115 http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/08/14/1805055115

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HUMAN GENE THERAPY 23:356-366 (April 2012) © Mary Ann Llebert, Inc. DOI: 10.1089/hum.2011.213

> Long-Term Rescue of Retinal Structure and Function by Rhodopsin RNA Replacement with a Single Adeno-Associated Viral Vector in P23H *RHO* Transgenic Mice

Haoyu Mao,¹ Marina S. Gorbatyuk,² Brian Rossmiller,¹ William W. Hauswirth,^{1,3} and Alfred S. Lewin¹ https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3327607/

Vector Construct for IC-100 that is Used for: POC Canine and Planned GLP Tox and Clinical Studies

- Vector: AAV2/5 (serotype 5 capsid and type 2 terminal repeats (TRs))
- Construct: scAAV2/5-H1p-shRNA820-hOP-RHO820, human opsin promote
- Delivery: Single subretinal injection



Canine Model Proof-of-Concept: Rescue in Naturally Occurring RHO Mu Dogs heterozygous for T4R Mutant Allele (RHO^{T4R/+})



Source: PNAS September 4, 2018 115 (36) E8547-E8556.

Histology - Preservation of Retinal Anatomy | ERG - Preservation of Retinal Func

scAAV2/5-H1p-shRNA820 -hOP-RHO820: Rescued Outer Retina



Function (ERG)

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Source: PNAS September 4, 2018 115 (36) E8547-E8556.

Green: scAAV2/5-RHO820 -shRNA8 RED: Balanced Salt Solution (BSS)

IC-100: RHO-adRP Program Summary

- Potentially first in class and best-in-class
- No clinical stage gene therapy competition
- Mutation independent strategy
 >150 identified rhodopsin gene (RHO) mutations
- Knockdown and replacement with a single AAV vector
 - Suppression of endogenous mutant toxic rhodopsin protein
 - Replace with healthy rhodopsin protein
- Proof-of-concept in two animal models (canine and mouse)
 - Naturally occurring canine disease model
 - Long-term preservation of retinal structure and function
- Clear path to IND submission
 - Completed: pre-IND FDA meeting
 - Ongoing: IND enabling activities and natural history studies
 - Paragon engaged as manufacturing partner; CMC strategy in place
- Phase 1/2 planned to initiate in 2H 2020



BEST1 Related Retinal Diseases

IC-200: AAV2-BEST1



IC-200: BEST1 Phase 1/2 Planned to Initiate in 1H 2021

- Significant Commercial Opportunity
 - Estimated prevalence: ~10K 40K in the US & EU5 combined¹
 - High unmet need: Bilateral disease caused by mutations in the BEST1 gene, which leads to vitelliform lesion in macular region, macular atrophy and permanent loss of central vision
 - Potentially first in class and best-in-class:
 - Lead product candidate no clinical competition currently
- Compelling Science
 - Proof of concept established in naturally occurring autosomal recessive canine model
 - Durable efficacy and safety ~ 4 years
- Clear Path to IND Submission in 1H 2021
 - Completed: Pre-IND FDA meeting
 - Ongoing: Process development at Paragon and Natural History studies
 - Next Steps: IND-enabling tox study and GMP production

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bio	¹ BEST1-related estimate based on data from Ophthalmic Genet. 2017 ; 38(2): 143–147. doi:10.1080/13816810.2016.1175645

BEST1 - Related Inherited Retinal Diseases

- BEST 1 is predominantly expressed in the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE)
- An integral membrane protein localized to the basolateral plasma membrane
- Over 200 mutations throughout the entire BEST1 gene have been reported
- Prevalence estimates range between ~10K and 40K in the US & EU5 combined based on published literature



Source: Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci.. 2007;48(10):4694-4705. PLoS ONE 2013; 8(10): e75666.

Best Disease (Best Vitelliform Macular Dystrophy)

- An orphan inherited retinal disease caused by mutations in the BES gene, autosomal dominant, generally affecting both eyes
- Best1 protein helps regulate chloride ion traffic in retinal cells
- Dysregulation of intracellular Ca²⁺ and Cl⁻ leads to microdetatchmer



Best Disease (Best Vitelliform Macular Dystrophy)



Disease Stages

 1. Subclinical Stage

 2. Vitelliform Stage

 3. Hypopyon stage

 4. Vitelliruptive Stage

 5. Macular Atrophy Stag

Source: Retina 2018; 38:1041-1046.

IC-200: Vector Construct

- Vector: AAV2/2 (serotype 2 capsid and type 2 terminal repeats (TRs))
- Construct: AAV2/2- BEST1, human VMD2 promoter
- Delivery: Single subretinal injection



- The most widely used AAV vector in pre-clinical and clinical trials targeting the RPE cells
- AAV2/2 vector serotype has been reported:
 - Safe
 - RPE Specific
 - Stable
- AAV2 + hVMD2 (BEST1) promoter: specific + exclusive tropism for RPE cells

Native GFP Fluorescence	a martine and the second and the second and the				
2 weeks p.i. Anti-GFP Antibody	4 weeks p.i.	6 months p.i.			
	CAN PROVIDE A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A LANGE AND A L	New york of the second se			
	Source: PLoS One 2013;8:e75666.				

Best1 Overexpression in Wild Type Canine RPE





Best1 Overexpression Reported Safe in Wild Type Canine RPE



Best1 Related Animal Model: Canine Multifocal Retinopathy (cmr)

- Spontaneous early-onset of disease
- Featuring the full spectrum of clinical and histologic features observe in BEST1-affected patients
- Caused by autosomal recessive mutations in BEST1 dog ortholog
- The 3 identified mutations model all major aspects of known disease associated mutations in man:
 - cmr1 (C₇₃T/R₂₅X): Early stop mutation, resulting in null phenotype
 - cmr2 (G₄₈₂A/G₁₆₁D): missense change, affecting protein folding and trafficking
 - cmr3 (C₁₃₈₈del/P₄₆₃fs): frameshift mutation: truncating the bestrophin1 C-termi



Source: PLoS One 2013;8:e75666.

Human Disease ~ Naturally Occurring Canine Model



BEST1 Mutation: Leads to Abnormal RPE Apical Microvilli



BEST1 Related Inherited Retinal Diseases

Proof of Concept in Naturally Occurring BEST1 Canine Model, 3 Different Mutat

BEST1 gene therapy corrects a diffuse retina-wide microdetachment modulated by light exposure

Karina E. Guziewicz^{a,1,2}, Artur V. Cideciyan^{b,1,2}, William A. Beltran^a, András M. Komáromy^{a,c}, Valerie L. Dufour^a, Malgorzata Swider^b, Simone Iwabe^a, Alexander Sumaroka^b, Brian T. Kendrick^a, Gordon Ruthel^d, Vince A. Chiodo^e, Elise Héon^f, William W. Hauswirth^e, Samuel G. Jacobson^b, and Gustavo D. Aguirre^a

^aDivision of Experimental Retinal Therapies, Department of Clinical Sciences and Advanced Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; ^bScheie Eye Institute, Department of Ophthalmology, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; ^cDepartment of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824; ^dDepartment of Pathobiology, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; ^eDepartment of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611; and ^rDepartment of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5G 2L3, Canada

Edited by Jeremy Nathans, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, and approved February 8, 2018 (received for review November 27, 2017)

http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/02/28/1720662115



Canine Model Proof-of-Concept: Resolution of Retinal Microdetachment after AAV2-hBEST1 Gene Therapy



IC-200: BEST1 Program Summary

- Potentially first in class and best-in-class
- No clinical stage competition currently
- Proof of concept established in the naturally occurring autosom recessive BEST1 canine model
 - 3 different mutations
 - Long-term preservation of retinal structure
- Clear path to IND submission
 - Completed: pre-IND FDA meeting
 - Ongoing: IND enabling activities and natural history studies
 - Paragon engaged as manufacturing partner (GMP slots secured); CMC strategy in place
- Phase 1/2 Planned to Initiate in 1H 2021



Sources: PNAS September 4, 2018 115 (36) E8547-E8556. HUMAN GENE THERAPY 23:356–366 (April 2012).

Minigene Programs



AAV Vectors Preferred for Ocular Gene Therapy

- FDA Approved (Luxturna[®])
- Extensive experience with intraocular application in both humans ar animal models
- Well documented safety profile
- Tropism for retinal tissue
- Alternative technologies have inherent challenges (e.g. Lentivirus)
- Limited packaging capacity of < 5kb Minigene Strategy</p>

The minigene solution:

Engineer AAV-amenable genes that encode functionally optimized protein



Current minigene Programs

- Leber Congenital Amaurosis (LCA10): miniCEP290
 Estimated Prevalence: ~2.7K 4.1K in US & EU5 combined
- Autosomal Recessive Stargardt Disease: miniABCA4
 - Estimated Prevalence: ~62K 77K US & EU5 combined
- Usher Syndrome Type 2A & USH2A related nonsyndromatic Autosomal Recessive RP: miniUSH2A
 - Estimated Combined Prevalence: ~20K 62K US & EU5 combined

LCA10 estimate based on data from various sources including Genetics Home Reference; Am J Hum Genet 2006 Sep; 79(3) 556-561; Gene Reviews, Leber Congenital Amaurosis, Last update May 2, 2013; Human Mutation in Brief #956(2007) / Stargardt estimate based on data from National Eye Institute, Genetics Home Reference and Progstar Natural History Study / USH2A estimates based on data from Experimental I Research Vol 79, Issue 2, Aug 2004: 167-173. / USH2A estimate based on data from Experimental Eye Research 79 (2004):167-173. J R Soc Med 2006;99:189-191. https://nei.nih.gov/health/ushers/ushers. Otolo Neurology 2018; 40:121-129.



miniCEP290: LCA10 Potential Product Candidate

- Significant Commercial Opportunity
 - Estimated Prevalence: ~2.7K 4.1K in US & EU5 combined¹
 - High Unmet Need: most common cause of LCA with early onset vision loss
 - Potential for best-in-class: Mutation independent strategy compared to gene editing or RNA approaches
- Compelling Science
 - Proof-of-Concept in mouse shows preservation of retinal structure and function
- Converted option to WW exclusive license in July 2019
 - New encouraging results support the potential of minigene in LCA10
 - Next steps: Continue to optimize constructs with the goal of identifying a lead product candidate

¹LCA10 estimate based on data from various sources including Genetics Home Reference; Am J Hum Genet 2006 Sep; 79(3) 556-561; Gene Reviews, Leber Congenital Amaurosis, Last update May 2, 2013; Human Mutation, Mutation in Brief #956(2007)



CEP290 in Leber Congenital Amaurosis Type 10



Leber Congenital Amaurosis Type 10 (CEP290)

- CEP290 mutations: one of the most common causes of LCA
- Estimated prevalence: ~2.7K 4.1K in the US & EU5 combined base on published literature
- Early onset vision loss
- Preserved outer retinal structure in the foveal area
- Extinguished Electroretinogram



Human Gene Therapy, Vol. 29, No. 1 | Research Articles

Gene Therapy Using a *miniCEP290* Fragment Delays Photoreceptor Degeneration in a Mouse Model of Leber Congenital Amaurosis

Wei Zhang,¹ Linjing Li,¹ Qin Su,² Guangping Gao,² and Hemant Khanna^{1,2,}

¹Department of Ophthalmology and ²Horae Gene Therapy Center, UMASS Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts

Published Online: 1 Jan 2018 | https://doi.org/10.1089/hum.2017.049

http://doi.org/10.1089/hum.2017.049



miniCEP290: LCA10 Preliminary Proof-of-Concep

● Preliminary proof-of-concept shown in mouse model → ongoing sponsored research to optimize and select lead product candidate



8 x 10⁹ vg/μl into the subretinal space of Cep290^{rd16} mouse pups (P0/P1), Week 3



Source: Hum Gene Ther. 2018 Jan;29(1):42-50.

miniCEP290: LCA10 Potential Product Candidate

- Potentially best-in-class
- Mutation independent strategy
- Replacement of the mutated gene with a novel miniCEP290 in AAV
- Preliminary proof-of-concept in mouse model
 - Preservation of retinal structure and function



Autosomal Recessive Stargardt Disease (ABCA4)

- The most common inherited macular dystrophy in both children and adults
- Prevalence estimates range between ~62K - 77K in US & EU5 combined
- ABCA4 gene makes a protein that helps clearing away visual cycle byproducts inside retinal cells
- ABCA4 mutation leads to accumulation of visual cycle byproducts causing retinal cell degeneration and vision loss

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Stargardt data from National Eye Institute, Genetics Home Reference and Progstar Natural History Study.



miniUSH2A: Overview

Disease: Mutations in the USH2A gene lead to visual loss in

- Usher syndrome type 2A: Prevalence estimates range between ~13K 55K in US & EU5 combined based on published literature
- USH2A related nonsyndromatic autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa: Prevalence estimate of ~7K in US & EU5 combined based on published literature
- Protein: USH2A/Usherin: 5200 amino acids, ~15Kb (too large for AAV delivery)



Technology: Mutation Independent Minigene Delivered with AAV Vector



AAV Gene Delivery Technology

• Strategic collaboration with Dr. Guangping Gao

- Renowned AAV Pioneer at UMass Medical School

- Pilot study to identify and evaluate various AAV capsids and routes of administration
- Histology data expected to be received 2H'19



IVERIC bio Gene Therapy Pipeline

Goal: Broadest and deepest inherited retinal disease portfolio



*We have an option to exclusively in-license intellectual property resulting from ongoing sponsored research.

- Compelling Science
- High Unmet Medical Need & Potential Best-in-Class
- Significant Orphan Patient Populations



Appendix (Therapeutic Assets Available for Partnering)



Zimura Clinical Programs: Update



Study	# of Pts. Enrolled	NA Sites	EX-US Countries	Ex-US Sites
OPH2003 Dry AMD	286 COMPLETE	56	6	24
OPH2005 Stargardt	95 COMPLETE	15	8	26



OPH2003 Geographic Atrophy (GA) Secondary to Dry AMD



OPH2003: Zimura in GA Secondary to Dry AMD – Ongoing

- Phase 2b, randomized, double masked, sham controlled clinical trial
- 3 Cohorts will be included for statistical analysis:
 - Zimura 4mg dose
 - Zimura 2mg dose
 - Sham

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- ~ 286 subjects were enrolled for monthly treatment with Zimura or Sham fc 18 months
- Primary Efficacy Endpoint
 - Mean rate of change in GA over 12 months measured by fundus autofluorescence (FAF) at three time points
- Top-line Data Expected in 2019
 - Data cleaning activities ongoing
 - Statistical analysis plan (SAP) finalized

OPH2005 Autosomal Recessive Stargardt Disease Orphan Indication



OPH2005: Zimura in AR Stargardt Disease – Ongoinç

- Phase 2b, randomized, double masked, sham controlled clinical tria
- Two arms:

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- Zimura 4mg
- Sham
- ~ 95 subjects were enrolled for treatment with Zimura or Sham for 18 months
- Primary Efficacy Endpoint
 - Mean rate of change over 18 months in the area of ellipsoid zone defermeasured by en face SD-OCT
- Top-line (18 month) data expected in 2H 2020
 - Potential to be used as a registration study

HtrA1 Inhibitor Program



HtrA1 Inhibitor Program

- Acquired Inception 4, a privately held company backed by Versant Ventures
 - Gained worldwide development and commercial rights to HtrA1 inhibitc program to treat age-related retinal diseases
 - ISEE obtained ~\$6.1 million in cash
 - Versant a major new investor in ISEE (~5.2 million shares)
 - Versant to identify additional opportunities to potentially expand IVERIC bio pipeline



HtrA1 Inhibitor Program: Small Molecules with Hig Affinity and Specificity for HtrA1

- Strong genetic link between HtrA1 & AMD:
 - Homozygotes have ~8.2 fold increased risk
- AMD patients overexpress HtrA1:
 - Increased intracellular expression of HtrA1 inside the RPE cells of AME patients
 - Increased HtrA1 staining in a majority of drusen of AMD patients' dono eyes
 - Increased HtrA1 protein level in aqueous humor of wet AMD patients
- Overexpression of HtrA1 protein contributes to AMD:
 - Damages the extracellular matrix and Bruch's membrane
 - Alters and disrupts RPE cells
 - Upregulates complement
 - Leads to drusen formation
 - Interferes with RPE cell function and secondarily impacting photoreceptors

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HtrA1 Inhibitor Program

- Formulation development activities ongoing
- Small scale API manufacturing ongoing
- CMO selection process underway for API scale-up and GMP manufacturing
- Animal PK/ formulation tolerability studies planned

