

Therapeutics: Potential New Drugs and Drugs in Development

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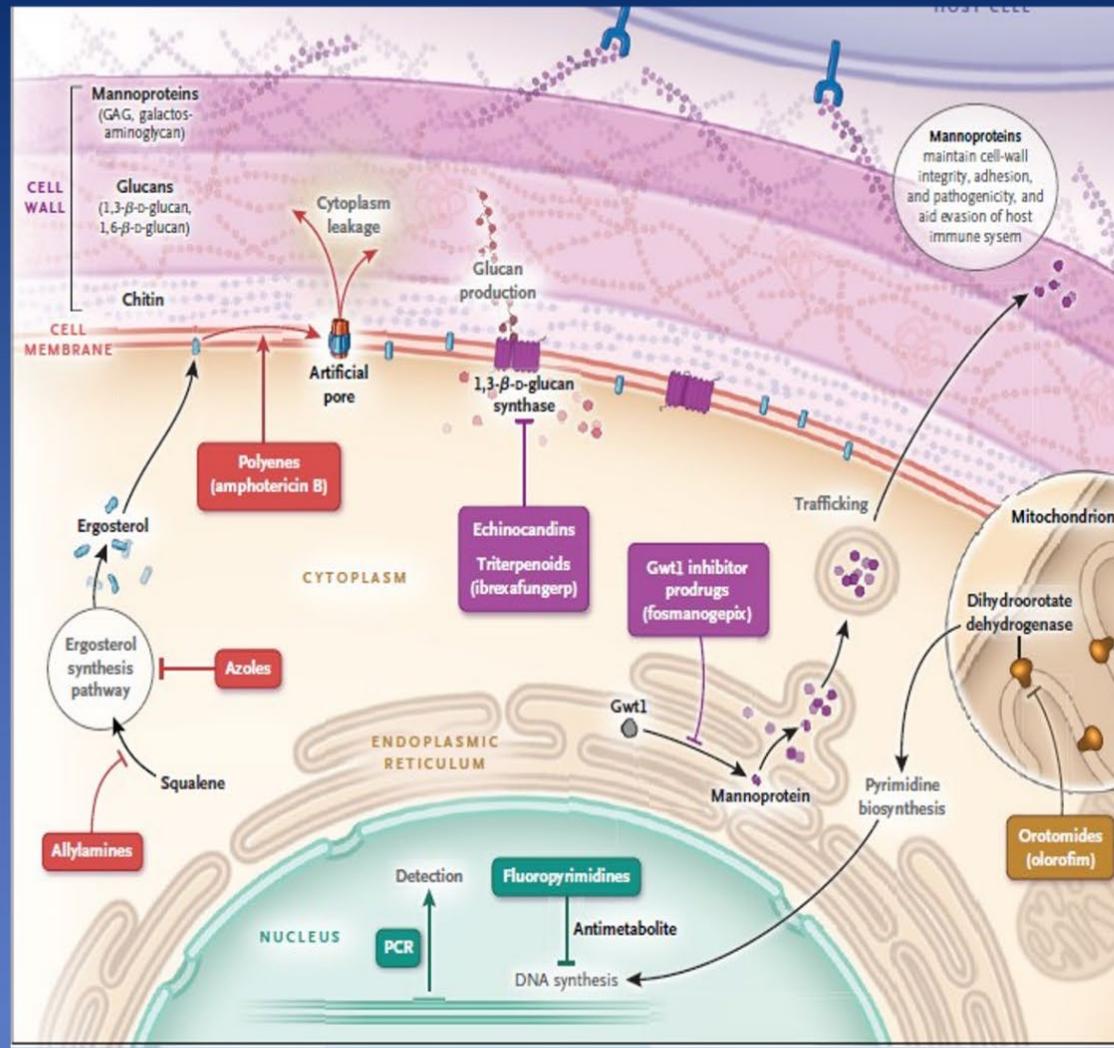
Presenter Disclosures

Thomas F Patterson MD

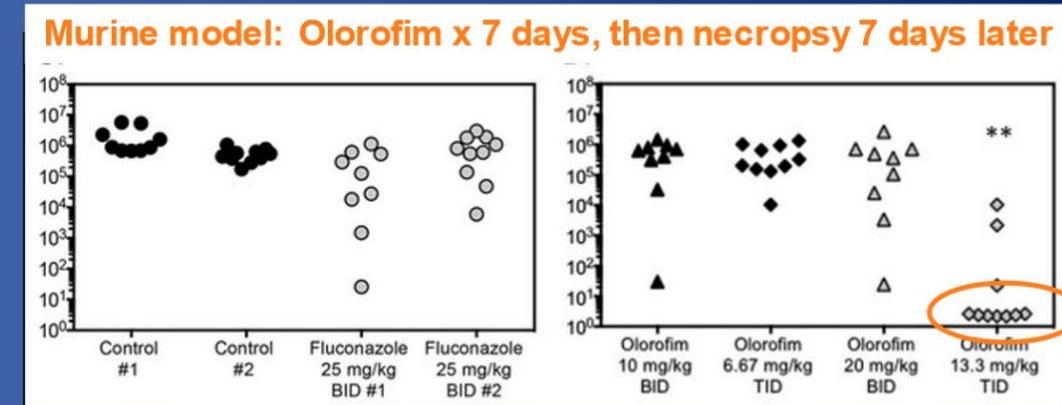
The following relationships with commercial interests existed during the past 24 months:

Company Name:	Nature of Relationship: Consultant, Speakers Bureau, Sponsored Research, Other
Grant support	Cidara, Gilead, F2G
Consultant	Basilea, F2G, Gilead, Merck, Pfizer, Scynexis, Sfunga
Speakers' bureau	None
Major Stock holder	None
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The Antifungal Pipeline: A Reality Check Novel Agents



Drug	Target	MIC (μ g/mL)
Olorofim	Dihydro-orotate dehydrogenase Pyrimidine synthesis	MIC ₅₀ /MIC ₉₀ ≤0.008/0.015
Ibrexafungerp	Glucan synthase New structure Cell wall	MIC range <0.125-0.25
Fosmanogepix	GPI synthesis inhibitor Cell wall	MEC range 0.002-0.016



Culture negative in
7/10!

Thompson GR and Young JH. *NEJM*. 2021; 385(16):1496-1509. Wiederhold

et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemo* 2018; 62(9):e00999-18

The Antifungal Armamentarium: Key Questions for Coccidioidomycosis

- Unmet need: burden of infection; impact of resistance
- Newer clinical agents with activity in cocci
 - Isavuconazole
 - Posaconazole tablets/IV
 - SUBA-itraconazole
- Drugs with in vitro / in vivo activity in coccidioidomycosis
 - Nikkomycin Z (VFS-1)
 - Oteseconazole (VT-1161), VT-1598
 - Olorofim (F901318)
 - Fosmanogepix (AXP001)
 - Ibrexafungerp (SCY-078)
- Other drugs in the pipeline: unknown cocci activity
 - Amphotericin B cochleates
 - Glucan synthase inhibitors: rezafungin, others
 - Repurposed drugs: sertraline, aranofin, others

Nikkomycin Z (VFS1)

(*Valley Fever Solutions*)

- **Nikkomycin Z (NikZ) is first in a new class of antifungal, chitin synthase inhibition**
 - Novel mechanism of action, significant unmet medical need
 - Activity against *Coccidioides*, *Blastomyces*, *Histoplasma*, *Aspergillus*, others
 - Selective to fungal cells - thus far no safety concerns in mammals
 - Efficacy in murine models
 - Efficacy in naturally occurring pulmonary coccidioidomycosis in dogs
 - May enhance other anti-fungal treatments in combination with other drugs
 - In 2014, GAIN Act QIDP designation—providing 7 and 5 years sequential market exclusivity after marketing approval.
 - Scaled up trial material in process, Phase IIa trials in clinical infection

Shubitz LF, et al. *J Infect Dis* 2014;209:1949-54; Hector RF, et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 1990;34:587-93; Najvar LK, et al. ICAAC, 2015

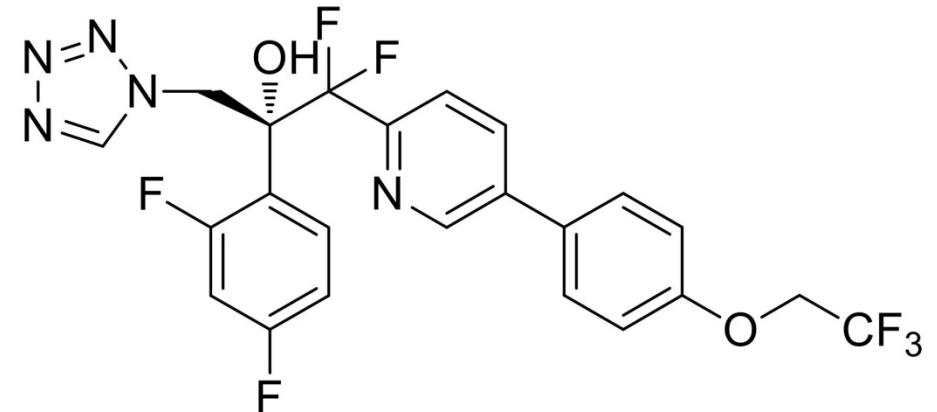
<http://valleyfeversolutions.com/>

Novel Cyp51 Inhibitors VT-1161/1598

(Viamet; Mycovia Pharmaceuticals, Inc.)

- Investigational fungal Cyp51 inhibitors
- MOA similar to azoles
- Highly selective for fungal Cyp51 enzyme vs human Cyp450 enzymes (>2000 more so than the azoles)
 - K_d against fungal Cyp51 $\leq 39\text{ nM}$
 - Failed to inhibit human CYP450 at $50\text{ }\mu\text{M}$
- Oteseconazole exhibits minimal interactions with CYP51 and key drug metabolizing CYPs; along with high protein binding contributes to long half-life (~138 days)

➤ **FDA approved: recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (NCT03561701 [VIOLET])**



VT-1161
(Oteseconazole)

Hoekstra WJ et al. *Bioorg Med Chem Lett* 2014;24:3455-8.
Warrilow AG et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2014;58:7121-7.

Comparative In-Vitro Activity: VT-1161 (Oteseconazole)

		Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (µg/ml) ^a (MIC)					
		Oteseconazole	Fluconazole	Voriconazole	Posaconazole	Anidulafungin	Amphotericin
Yeast MICs @ 50% inhibition	<i>Candida albicans</i>	0.001	0.2	≤0.008	0.03	0.015	0.5
	Azole-resistant <i>C. albicans</i>	0.15	20	0.32	0.20	b	b
	<i>C. glabrata</i>	0.16	2.0	0.06	0.25	0.06	1
	Echinocandin-res. <i>C. glabrata</i>	0.16	5.2	0.25	b	0.92	b
	<i>C. auris</i>	0.75	>64	0.70	0.035	0.12	1
	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	0.033	0.44	≤0.008	0.06	2	0.5
	<i>C. krusei</i>	0.16	31	0.25	0.5	0.06	1
	<i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	0.03	2.0	0.03	0.12	>4	0.5
	<i>C. gattii</i>	0.06	1.9	0.12	0.12	>4	0.25
	<i>Coccidioides</i> spp.	1.4	8.3	0.11	0.14	0.11 ^a	0.25
Endemic MICs @ 80% inhibition	<i>Histoplasma capsulatum</i>	0.43	2.0	0.06	0.47	0.40	0.25
	<i>Blastomyces dermatitidis</i>	1.0	2.5	≤0.03	0.62	0.55	0.12
Mold MICs @ 100% inhibition	<i>R. arrhizus</i> var. <i>arrhizus</i>	0.67	>64	8	1.0	>8	0.25

aAll MICs derived from studies conducted under CLSI protocols and represent either MIC50 or geometric mean values from collections of at least 10 clinical isolates (most studies having >50 isolates). Almost all oteseconazole values were from studies that used fluconazole as the comparator (and thus the fluconazole value is presented). Most other values were taken from the literature.

bNot in study found for other drugs; presumed to be fully sensitive.

Color codes: Green (Proven or Assumed Sensitive), Yellow (Proven or Assumed Intermediate), Red (Proven Resistant)

VT-1161 in Naturally Infected Dogs with Coccidioidomycosis

- ▶ Enrolled respiratory cases based on clinical signs, radiographs, serology, clinical pathology
- ▶ 60 days of medication: 14 days loading dose, followed by 46 days maintenance at ~5-fold lower dose

High dose – (29/6 mg/kg) – 12 dogs

- ▶ Mean entrance score: 13.3
- ▶ Mean exit score: 5.0
- ▶ Mean plasma concentration: $36 \pm 14 \mu\text{g/ml}^*$
- ▶ 9/12 dogs (75%) experienced 75%-100% reduction in clinical signs; 1 dog removed for progressive lung consolidation on day 35
- ▶ 66% of dogs had at least one dilution reduction in titer and 66% had reduction or resolution of CBC/serum chemistry abnormalities
- ▶ Radiographic improvement was mixed, ranging from no change to 90% improvement

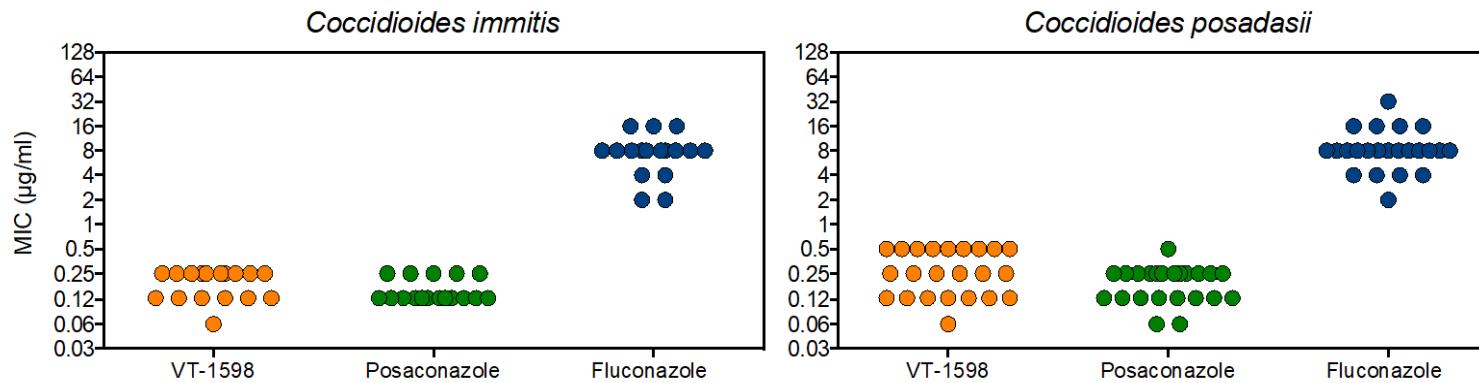
Low Dose (10/1.6 mg/kg) – 10 dogs

- ▶ Mean entrance score: 14.4
- ▶ Mean exit score: 4.7
- ▶ Mean plasma concentration: $19 \pm 8 \mu\text{g/ml}^*$
- ▶ All 10 dogs experienced clinical improvement though 1 had radiographic progression and increased titer
- ▶ 60% of dogs had at least 1 dilution reduction in titer and 80% had reduction or resolution of CBC/serum chemistry abnormalities
- ▶ Radiographic improvement mixed, ranging from no change to 85% improvement

**In vitro* MIC90 and MIC range of 2 and 1-4 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ for 52 clinical isolates of *Coccidioides*

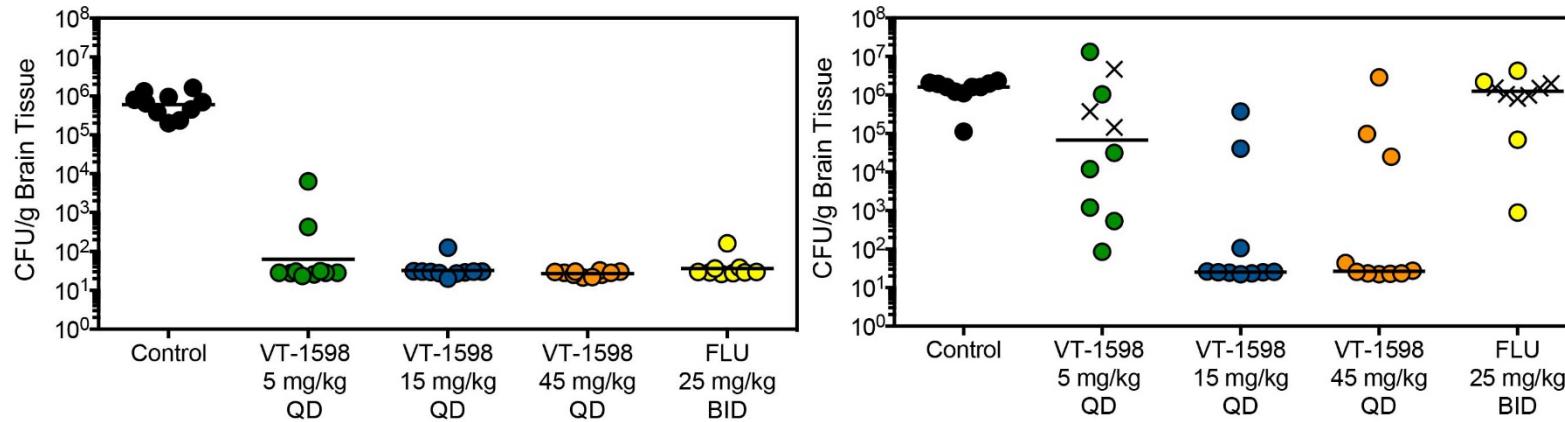
Shubitz LF, *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2017;Apr 24;6(5).
Shubitz LF, et al. 60th CSG. Thanks! Lisa!

In vitro activity of VT-1598, Posaconazole, & Fluconazole against *C. immitis* & *C. posadasii*



Species	<i>Coccidioides immitis</i> (n = 17)			<i>Coccidioides posadasii</i> (n = 23)		
	VT-1598	Posaconazole	Fluconazole	VT-1598	Posaconazole	Fluconazole
Antifungal	VT-1598	Posaconazole	Fluconazole	VT-1598	Posaconazole	Fluconazole
MIC range	0.06-0.25	0.12-0.25	2-16	0.06-0.5	0.06-0.5	2-32
MIC ₅₀	0.25	0.12	8	0.25	0.25	8
MIC ₉₀	0.25	0.25	16	0.5	0.25	16
GM MIC	0.180	0.153	7.08	0.250	0.179	8.00

VT-1598 in Murine CNS Coccidioidomycosis: Tissue Fungal Burden



Group	Control	VT-1598 5 mg/kg QD	VT-1598 15 mg/kg QD	VT-1598 45 mg/kg QD	Fluconazole 25 mg/kg BID
Mean log CFU/g (SD) Day 9	5.77 (0.30)	1.80 (0.80) *p<0.0001	1.51 (0.21) *p<0.0001	1.43 (0.06) *p<0.0001	1.56 (0.25) *p<0.0001
Median log CFU/g (Range) Survival	6.21 (5.05 – 6.37)	4.83 (1.93 – 7.12) *p = 0.0005 **p = 0.0063	1.40 (1.35 – 5.57) *p = 0.0018	1.42 (1.35 – 6.46) **p = 0.0193	6.10 (2.95 – 6.63)

*p-value vs. Control; **p-value vs. Fluconazole. X = mice in VT-1598 & Fluconazole groups that succumbed prior to day 30.

Tissue burden in fungal burden arm (day 9: A); and survival arm after 14 days of treatment wash-out (B).
Lower Limit of Detection = 10 CFU/g.

Orotomide: Olorofim (F901318) (F2G)

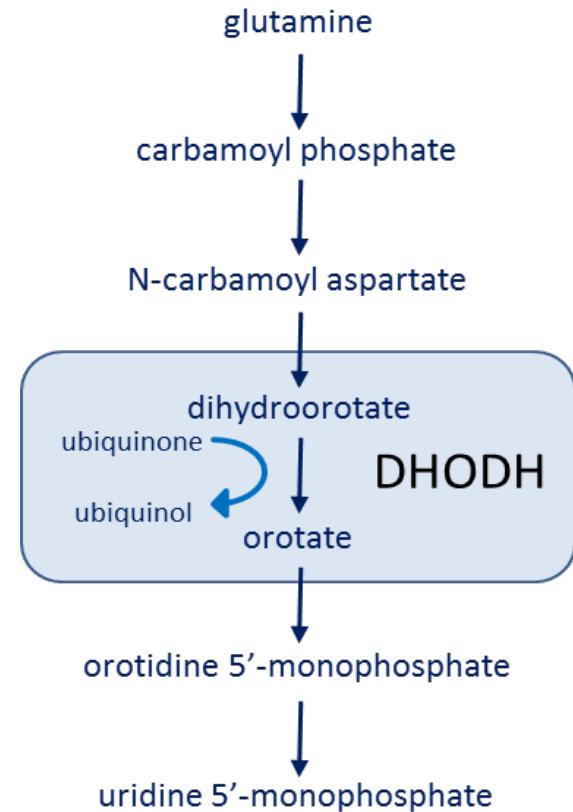
Mechanism of Action, Spectrum

- Olorofim is a potent inhibitor of *A. fumigatus* DHODH
 - DHODH (Dihydroorotate dehydrogenase) is a key enzyme involved in pyrimidine biosynthesis
- Mechanism was identified using genetic studies in *Aspergillus nidulans*
 - Confirmed by in vitro enzyme assays
- Humans also have this enzyme
 - But, > 2000-fold difference in IC₅₀ between human and fungal enzymes
- Spectrum of activity: highly active against moulds/endemics
 - *Aspergillus* (including resistant strains), *Lomentospora*, *Scedosporium*
 - Very potent vs endemic fungi: *Coccidioides*, *Blastomyces*, *Histoplasma*
- Phase II clinical study for resistant/refractory mycoses completed

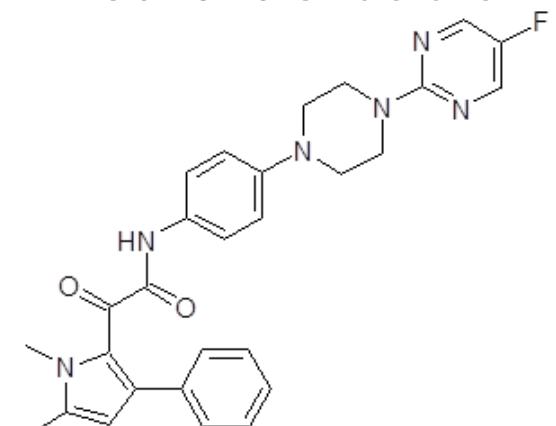
TABLE 1 MICs of olorofim and voriconazole against 59 *Coccidioides* species isolates

MIC parameter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) ^a	All <i>Coccidioides</i> Isolates ($n = 59$)		<i>Coccidioides immitis</i> ($n = 21$)		<i>Coccidioides posadasii</i> ($n = 24$)	
	Olorofim	Voriconazole	Olorofim	Voriconazole	Olorofim	Voriconazole
MIC range	≤ 0.008 to 0.06	≤ 0.03 to 0.25	≤ 0.008 to 0.015	≤ 0.03 to 0.25	≤ 0.008 to 0.015	≤ 0.03 to 0.25
MIC ₅₀	≤ 0.008	0.125	≤ 0.008	0.06	≤ 0.008	0.125
MIC ₉₀	0.015	0.25	0.015	0.125	0.015	0.125
GM MIC	0.011	0.113	0.009	0.072	0.009	0.103

^aMICs were measured, after 48 to 72 h of incubation at 35°C, as the lowest concentration that resulted in 80% inhibition of growth, compared to the growth control. MIC₅₀, MIC at which 50% of isolates were inhibited; MIC₉₀, MIC at which 90% of isolates were inhibited; GM, geometric mean.

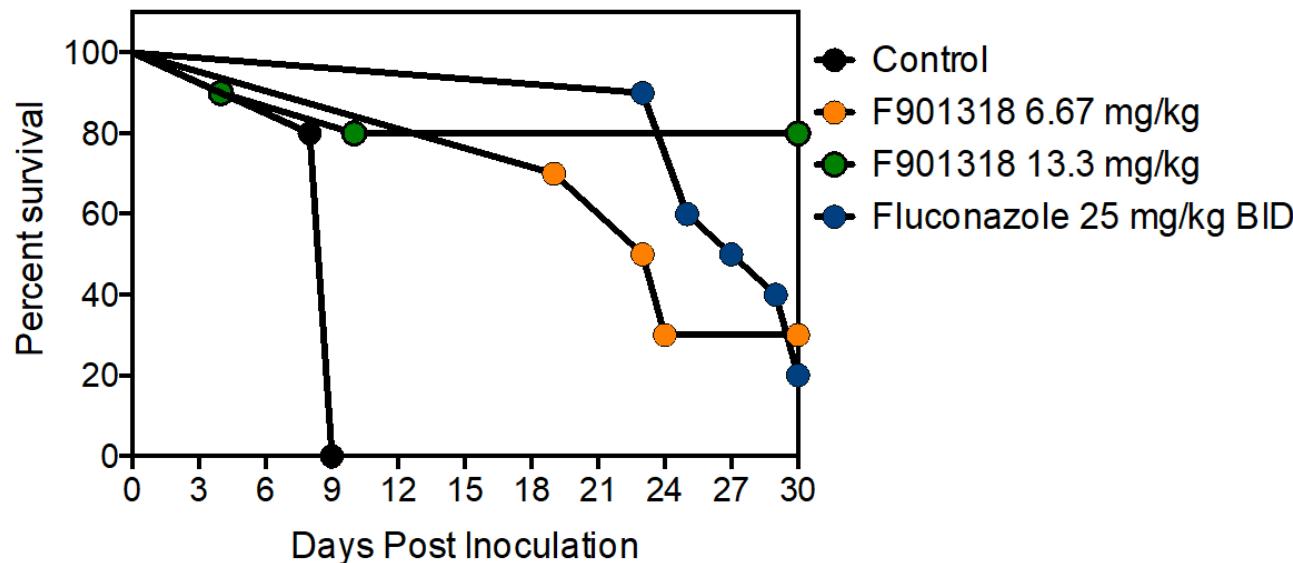


F901318 structure

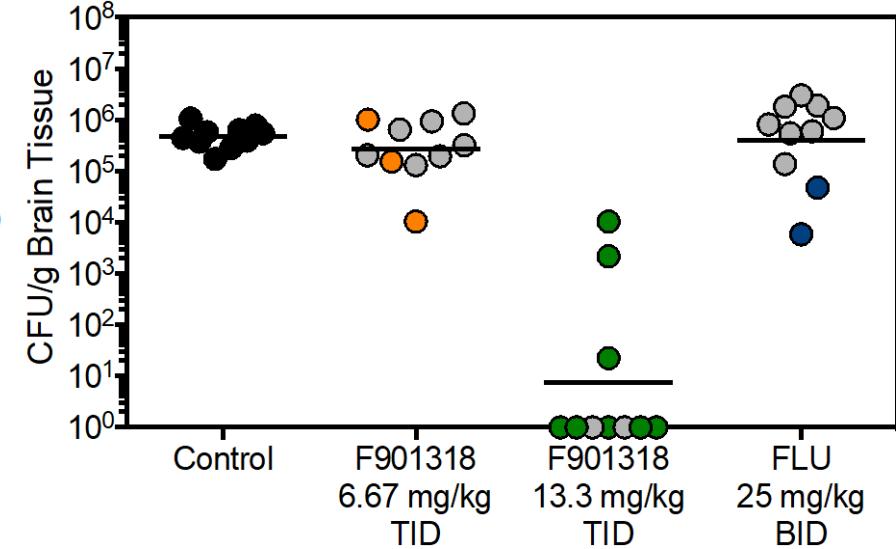


Olorofim in a Murine Model of CNS Coccidioidomycosis

A98 2017.06 Survival



A98 2017.06 Survival Fungal Burden



Group	Control	F901318 6.67 mg/kg	F901318 13.3 mg/kg	Fluconazole 25 mg/kg
Mean \log_{10} CFU/g (SD)	5.67 (0.22)	5.44 (0.62)	0.87 (1.55) *p < 0.0001	5.61 (0.84)
Mean \log_{10} CFU/g (SD) (LLD)	5.67 (0.22)	5.44 (0.62)	1.13 (1.38) *p < 0.0001	5.61 (0.84)

*p-value vs. Control

Gray circles represent mice in treatment groups that succumbed prior to day 30

**Phase II Study for Resistant/Refractory Mycoses Completed:
DRC-adjudicated response rate at Day 42 (mITT analysis set),
*including stable disease as success***

% success	DRC-adjudicated response rate ¹ Day 42	
	Complete + partial	Complete + partial + stable
Overall (N = 100)	44%	69%
<i>Aspergillus</i> spp. (N = 53)	47%	60%
<i>Lomentospora prolificans</i> (N = 17)	53%	88%
<i>Scedosporium</i> spp. (N = 11)	55%	82%
Other Olorofim-susceptible fungi (N = 8)	50%	87%
<i>Coccidioides</i> spp. (N = 11)	0%	54%

UTHSA Experience: Olorofim for Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis

- 49 yo Hispanic man oil field worker; 1/18 'CAP' unresponsive to abx, 7/18 knee swelling, serology pos cocci, treated flu no response & pseudohyperaldo; 9/19 Coccidioides IgG IDCP 1:1024 debrided change itra (rash, pollakiuria, brain fog), posa (brain fog, fatigue, alopecia); 2/21 IDCF 1:16; olorofim 4/21 PRO 'best he's felt since initial dx' 10/22 clinically improved IDCF 1:8
- 52 yo woman refractory CNS cocci failed multiple azoles and intrathecal AmB; persistent headaches and csf abnormalities IDCF 1:16; tolerated Isavuconazole with minimal improvement 3/21 begun on olorofim + isavu; headaches resolved; 10/22 IDCF 1:8; pt reports significant clinical improvement
- 37 yo Cambodian man moved to TX from WA; developed CNS symptoms; CNS cocci dx made with pos serology treated with flu no response; readm for worse symptoms treated voriconazole+L-AmB; presented to our hospital with C5 quadriplegia; csf pleocytosis; extensive leptomeningeal enhancement; CSF IDCF 1:256 restarted L-AmB+voriconazole then Olorofim +voriconazole; improvement in mental status and minimal arm movements csf titer dec to 1:8 by day 84 with improvement in CSF findings



June 2021

24 Jan 2022

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San Antonio Center for Medical Mycology

Coccidioidomycosis: External Controls

- Collaborated with Valley Fever Institute (VFI), Bakersfield, CA
- 3,184 VFI patients screened for cases similar to Study 32 patients
 - Extrapulmonary cocci, persistent symptoms, and at least 2 therapies.
 - Unless has died, at least 3 years follow-up
 - 29 comparable cases were identified
- Coccidioidomycosis HC cohort: Improvement to no symptoms was uncommon and slow
 - At average duration of observation of >4.5 years, **3%** (1/29) had no symptoms
- Olorofim-treated patients: Complete Clinical response (No symptoms)
 - Day 42: **18%** (2/11)
 - Day 120: **36%** (4/11)
 - Similar pattern seen for partial response endpoint
- Net: Rapid and frequent complete resolution of symptoms that is unexpected relative to HC cohort

GPI Biosynthesis Inhibition – APX001 / Fosmanogepix

(Amplyx, Pfizer)

Fungal adhesion ligands derived from GPI-anchored proteins

- *Candida albicans* possess ~115 GPI-anchored proteins
- Als protein family members

GWT1 gene encodes Gwt1p

- *an inositol acyltransferase in early GPI biosynthesis pathway*

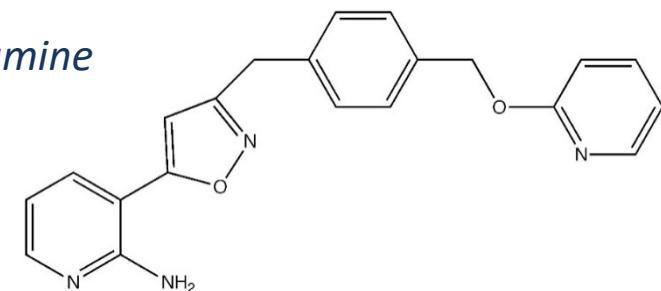


1-(4-butylbenzyl)isoquinoline (BIQ)



Manogepix (APX001a [E1210])

- *(3-(3-{4[(pyridin-2-yloxy)methyl]benzyl}isoxazol-5-yl)pyridin-2-amine*
- *Selectively inhibits fungal inositol acyltransferase*
- *Reduces expression of Als1p on C. albicans cell surface*



Umemura et al. *J Biol Chem* 2003; 278: 23639 – 47.

Watanabe et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2012; 56: 960 – 71.

Manogepix (APX001a[E1210]) In vitro Activity

Organism	Range	MIC50	MIC90
<i>C. albicans</i> (52)	≤ 0.008 – 0.016	≤ 0.008	≤ 0.008
<i>C. glabrata</i> (44)	≤ 0.008 – 0.06	0.06	0.06
<i>C. tropicalis</i> (23)	≤ 0.008 – 0.03	0.016	0.03
<i>C. parapsilosis</i> (26)	≤ 0.008 – 0.016	≤ 0.008	0.016
<i>A. fumigatus</i> (20)	0.03 – 0.13	0.06	0.13
<i>A. terreus</i> (23)	0.015 – 0.06	0.03	0.06
<i>F. solani</i> (23)	0.03 – 0.12	0.12	0.12
<i>F. oxysporum</i> (15)	0.03 – 0.25	0.06	0.12
<i>S. prolificans</i> (28)	0.03 – 0.25	0.06	0.12
<i>S. apiospermum</i> (28)	0.03 – 0.12	0.06	0.12
<i>S. apiospermum</i> (28)	0.03 – 0.12	0.06	0.12
<i>C. immitis/posadasii</i> (10)	0.002-0.016	0.004	0.004

*50% inhibition of growth for *Candida*; MEC endpoint for moulds/Cocci (static activity)

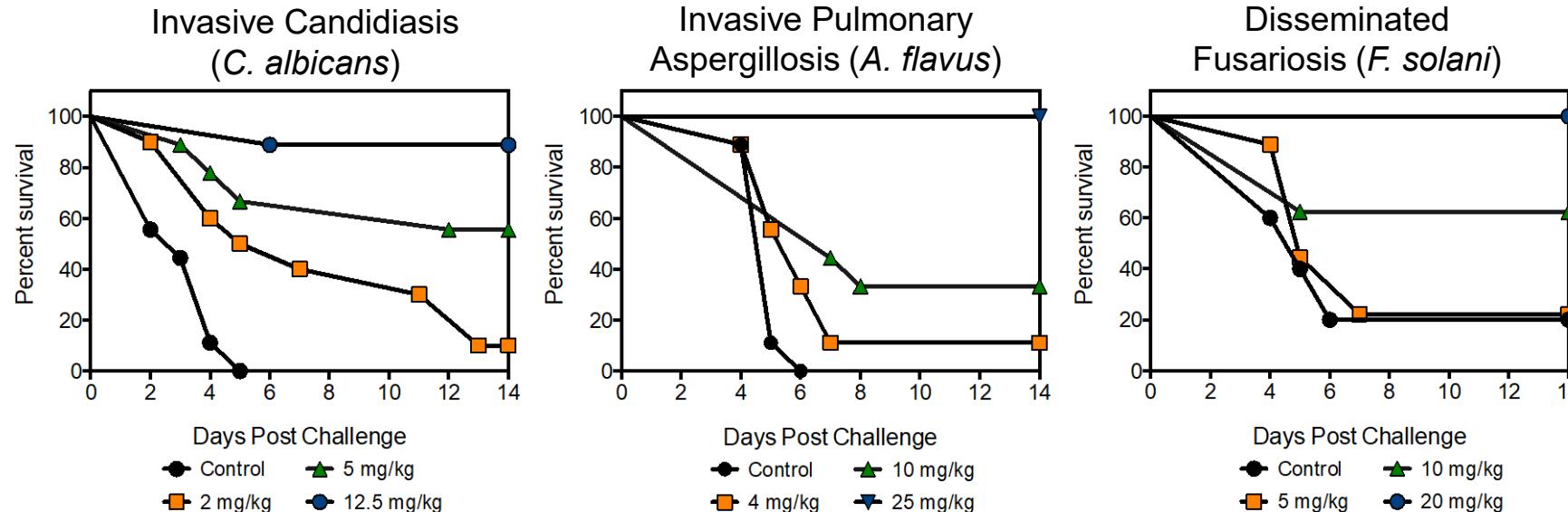
**Inactive against *C. krusei* and members of the Order Mucorales

Active against fluconazole-resistant *Candida* (MIC90 - 0.03 µg/mL)

GPI Biosynthesis Inhibition (Amplyx, Pfizer)

Fosmanogepix (APX001[E1211]) – In vivo Efficacy

In vivo efficacy demonstrated in murine models of invasive fungal infections



PK parameter	Tmax	Bioavailability	Half-life
1 mg/kg PO X1	0.5 hours	57.5%	2.2 hours

- ✓ Efficacy in vitro and in vivo against resistant *C. albicans* & *C. auris*
- ✓ Phase 2 trials for *Candida* & moulds in progress

Hata et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2011; 55: 4543 – 51;
Wiederhold NP, et al. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2015;59:690-2.

Efficacy of APX001/1a in vitro and in vivo against *Coccidioides*

- In vitro testing using agar dilution:

Strain	MEC (μ g/ml), APX001A	MIC (μ g/ml) ^a			
		APX001A	FLC	AMB	POS
<i>C. immitis</i> RS	0.002–0.004	8	>16	0.125	0.06–0.125
<i>C. posadasii</i> C735	0.004	0.03	>16	0.25	0.06–0.125
<i>C. posadasii</i> Silvera	0.008	8	>16	0.25	0.03

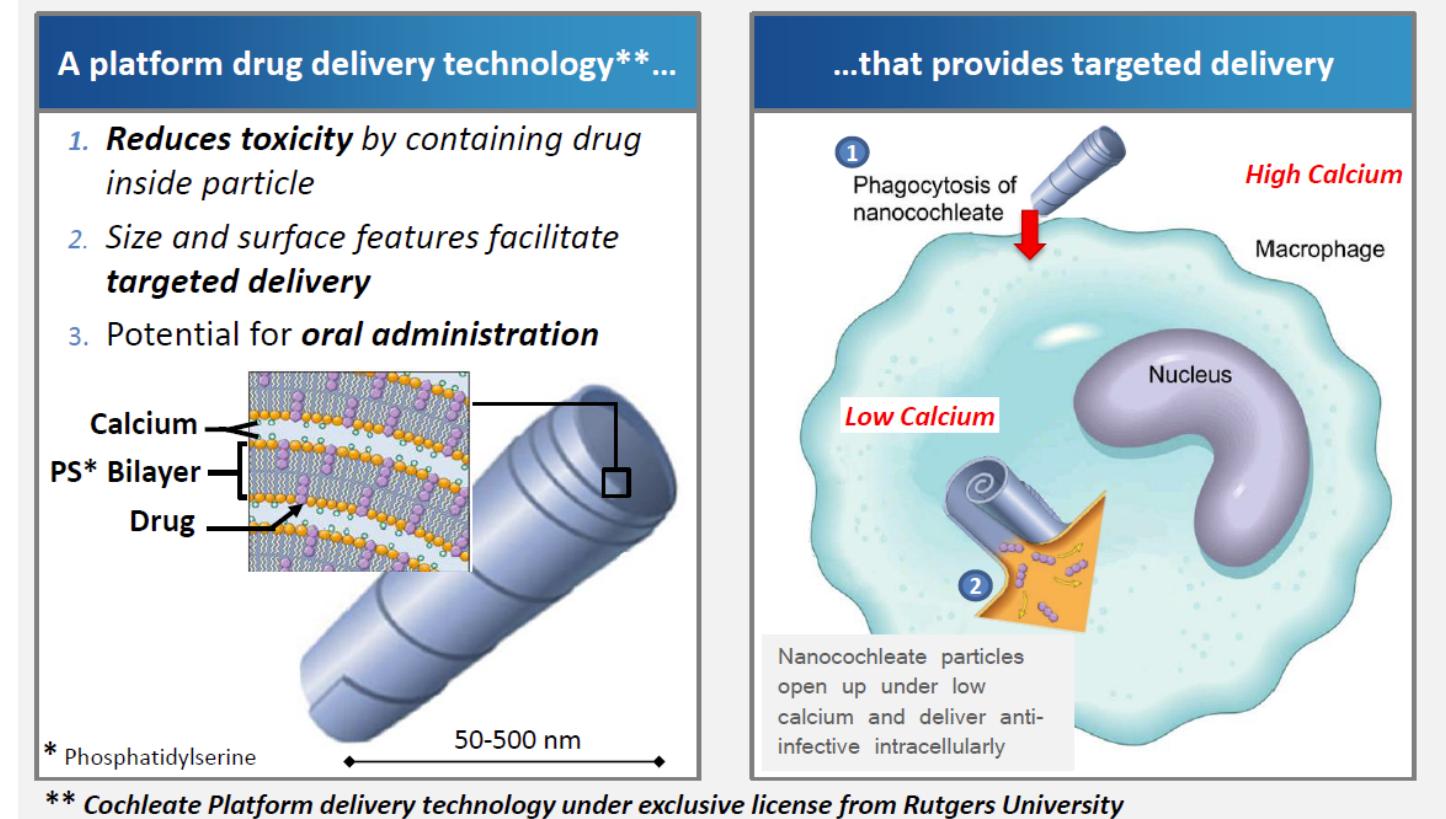
^aThe MIC value was read at 100% inhibition. FLC, fluconazole; AMB, amphotericin B; POS, posaconazole.

- Murine pulmonary coccidioidomycosis
 - 50 mg/kg bid + ABT starting d 7 and continuing for 5d
 - ~3-log reduction in lung CFU treated vs untreated controls
 - Reduced dissemination to spleen (1/10) vs controls (9/10); GM fungal burden $3.99 \log_{10}$

AmB Cochleates (MAT2203)

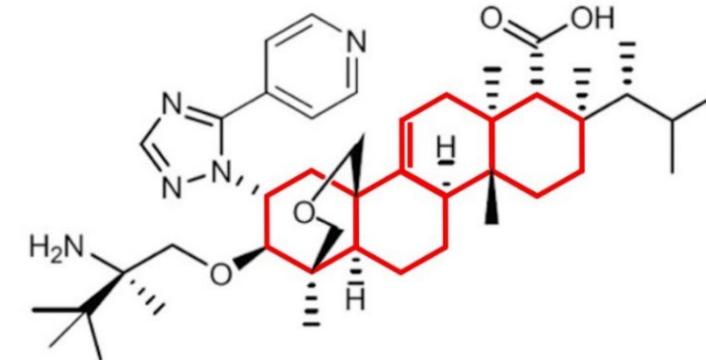
(Matinas Biopharma)

- Cochleate targeted nanoparticle delivery
 - Reduced toxicity
 - Targeted delivery
 - Oral delivery
- MAT2203
 - Animal studies
 - Human Phase I tolerability
 - Phase 2 cryptococcal meningitis (EnACT) (NCT04031833)
 - Better tolerated than cAmB
 - Survival 90% vs 85% cAmB regimens
 - Good early fungicidal activity (EFA)



Glucan Synthase Inhibitors: Ibrexafungerp – SCY-078 (Scynexis)

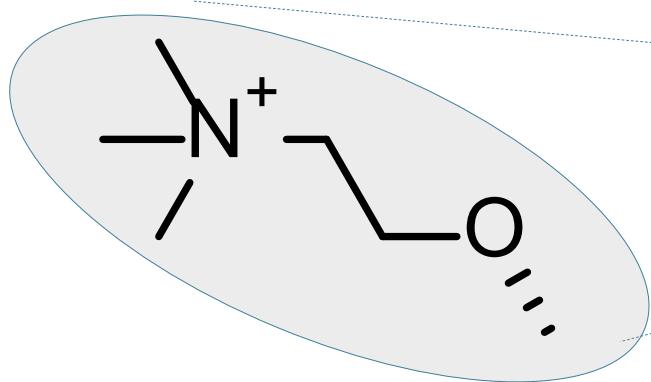
- Semi-synthetic derivative of natural product
 - New molecular class--triterpenoid
- Potent β 1,3 glucan synthesis inhibitor (GSI)
 - Same target as echinocandin antifungals Blocks synthesis of essential component of cell wall of pathogenic fungi
 - Unique target not in mammalian cells
- Excellent in vitro & in vivo activity against *Candida* (including *C. auris*), *Aspergillus*, *Pneumocystis*, *Coccidioides*
 - Active in vitro against azole & echinocandin resistant *Candida* strains
- Orally bioavailable/IV in development
- Extensive tissue distribution: kidney, lungs



- Phase I/II - generally well tolerated with good pharmacokinetics (QD); low drug-drug interactions
- Phase III trial *C. auris* (CARES) NCT03363841
- Phase III trial IFI resistant/unresponsive to therapy (FURI) NCT03059992
 - Includes coccidioidomycosis
- **FDA Approved Acute Vaginal Candidiasis and Recurrent VVC (VANISH/CANDLE)**
NCT 03734991/NCT03987620

Rezafungin (CD101)

A novel echinocandin antifungal (*Cidara*)



Structural modification yields chemical stability & enhanced biological properties

Permanent charge & highly stable ring structure...

- Prolongs PK: once weekly dosing
- Eliminates toxic degradation products: improved safety & dose range
- Allows high exposures: treats less susceptible pathogens
- Enables multiple formulations: systemic and topical

In vitro activity: *C. auris* including some echinocandin resistant strains
Aspergillus including azole resistant strains

✓ Phase 2/3 trials: candidemia vs caspo complete (STRIVE [NCT 02734862], RESTORE [NCT03667690])

Sofjan AK, et al. *J Glob Antimicrob Resist* 2018;Feb 24; Berkow EL, et al. *Diag Microbiol Antimicrob Resist* 2018;90:196-7; Wiederhold NP, et al. *J Antimicrob Chemother* 2018;doi:10.1093/jac/dky280; Thompson GR, et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2021;73:e3647-66

Sertraline

- Serotonin-reuptake inhibitor
 - Activity against other fungi (*Cryptococcus*)
- In vitro activity against *C. immitis* vs fluconazole and in combination

Drug	MIC (mcg/mL)			
fluconazole	4	8	16	32
sertraline	4	4	8	8
fluc + sert	4	2	4	4
MFC (mcg/mL)				
fluconazole	4	16	16	32
sertraline	4	8	8	8
fluc + sert	2	4	4	4

- *Coccidioides* MIC (n=10): Flu 8-64 mcg/ml vs Sertraline 8 mcg/ml

New Antifungals for Coccidioidomycosis: What Do We Need?

- Significant unmet medical needs: resistance, toxicity, drug interactions, oral bioavailability
- Many new potential targets and compounds under early & more advanced stages of investigation
 - New methods of delivery for old drugs
 - New uses for existing compounds
 - New agents in currently used classes
 - New compounds with novel mechanisms of action!

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Ashraf Ibrahim

UTSA

ChiungYu Hung

NIAID

Dennis Dixon

Rory Duncan

Maliha Ilias

Erin Zeituni

Erica Raterman

Swee Teo

Dona Love



NIAID Grants/Contracts

AMoID/PCMID/In Vitro:

HHSN27201000038I

HHSN27200005 (A93)

HHSN27200006 (A98)

HSN27220100039I

HHSN27200004 (A20)

75N93019F00131 (A34)

75N93022F00001 (A65)

75N93019D00022

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Grants:

U19AI166761 (Hung/López-Ribot)

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