



# Capital Markets Day

Stockholm, Sweden

21 September 2022

# WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

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**GUARD THERAPEUTICS INTERNATIONAL AB**

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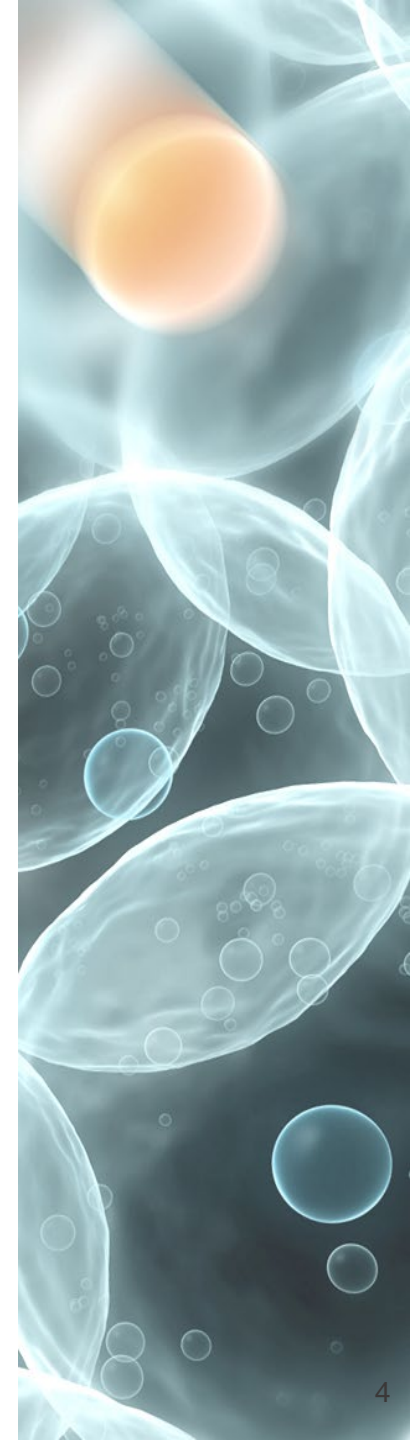
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# GUARD THERAPEUTICS AT A GLANCE

- Developing targeted therapies for Acute Kidney Injuries (AKI) – clinical stage company since 2019
- Lead investigational drug RMC-035 (ROSGard)
- Robust preclinical program with efficacy data in >10 disease models
- Clinical Phase 1 program including 4 studies
- Recently initiated large global Phase 2 study for the treatment of Cardiac Surgery associated AKI (CS-AKI)
- CS-AKI a USD >1bn opportunity with no approved therapies
- Recently initiated second clinical program in kidney transplantation
- Listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market in Stockholm [GUARD] with SEK ~325m market cap (~USD 31m) & SEK 151m in cash (June 31, 2022)





# GUEST SPEAKER – PROF ALEXANDER ZARBOCK, MD

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- Professor of anesthesiology and intensive care, University of Münster, Germany
- Director of Anesthesiology, Operative Intensive Care and Pain Therapy, Münster University Hospital
- Global Key Opinion Leader in the field of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)
- Main academic interest include AKI, sepsis and organ protection
- Author of more than 150 scientific articles and book chapters in this field
- Principal Investigator for the ongoing Phase 2 study (AKITA)



# SPEAKERS FROM GUARD THERAPEUTICS

NAME / POSITION	EXPERIENCE
 <p><b>TOBIAS L. AGERVALD</b> MD, PhD, CEO</p>	<p><b>+10</b> years in industry</p> 
 <p><b>MICHAEL REUSCH</b> MD, CMO</p>	<p><b>+30</b> years in industry</p>  
 <p><b>PETER GILMOUR</b> MSc, PhD, CSO/Head of Preclinical</p>	<p><b>+20</b> years in industry</p>  

# AGENDA

- **Acute kidney injury in cardiac surgery – an intensive care physician’s perspective**
  - Professor Alexander Zarbock, MD
- **RMC-035 – a novel first-in-class investigational drug**
  - Peter Gilmour, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer/Head of Preclinical Sciences
- **Clinical experience of RMC-035 – overview of Phase 1 program & Phase 2 AKITA study**
  - Dr Michael Reusch, Chief Medical Officer
- **Coffee break**
- **Clinical strategy for RMC-035 in kidney transplantation**
  - Dr Michael Reusch, Chief Medical Officer
- **Market considerations & future pricing/reimbursement opportunities**
  - Tobias Agervald, Chief Executive Officer
- **Summary**
  - Tobias Agervald, Chief Executive Officer
- **Q&A**





# RMC-035 – a novel first-in-class investigational drug

Capital Markets Day, Stockholm

September 21, 2022

Peter Gilmour, Head Preclinical Sciences

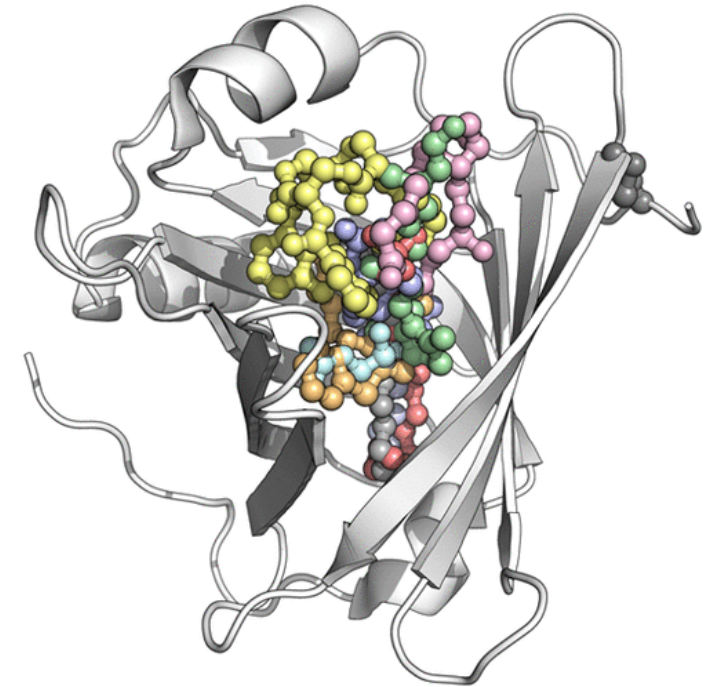


# RMC-035: FIRST-IN-CLASS INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG

- RMC-035 (ROSGard) is a first-in-class drug developed for the treatment of acute kidney injuries (AKI)
- Biological – delivered via intravenous infusion
  - Recombinant variant of the endogenous protein alpha-1-microglobulin (A1M)
- Short treatment duration (2–5 days)
- Preclinical efficacy shown in >10 disease models
- Ideal for treatment of AKI
  - Mechanism of action well aligned with disease pathways
  - Targets several pathways – differentiation from other candidate therapies
  - Ideal biodistribution with rapid uptake in kidney (tubular) cells – the principal site of cellular injury in AKI

# LIPOCALINS – A BLUEPRINT FOR NOVEL DRUGS

- Highly conserved protein superfamily, found in bacteria, plants and vertebrates
- Barrel shaped 3-dimensional structures, with protein strands forming a cylinder, containing internal ligand binding sites
- Involved in binding, storage and transportation of small hydrophobic or chemically reactive molecules
  - Steroids, lipids and heme
  - Can act as immune modulators, antioxidants, signal transducers, tissue development and cell homeostasis



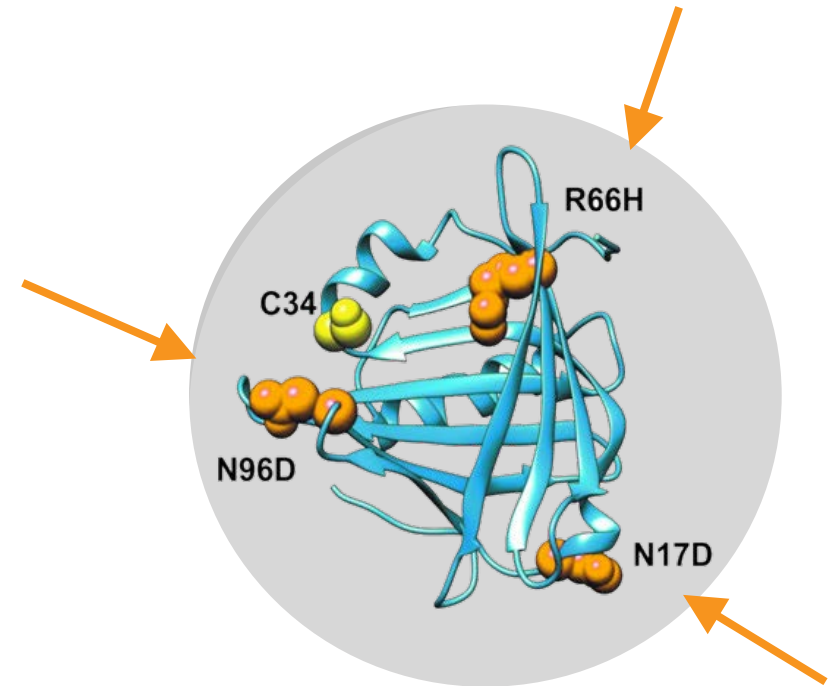
# ALPHA 1-MICROGLOBULIN – A NATURAL PROTECTOR OF THE KIDNEYS

- Evolutionary conserved, found in all vertebrates
- Mainly produced in the liver
  - Expression is stimulated by oxidative stress and free heme
- Plasma and tissue distribution
  - Present in blood, extravascular compartments and all tissues
  - Renal clearance
- Serves as a tissue housekeeping protein ('circulating wastebasket')
- Biochemical structure facilitates multiple mechanisms of action

Properties of endogenous A1M protein can be leveraged for the treatment of AKI

# RMC-035 IS A FIRST-IN-CLASS DRUG BASED ON ALPHA 1-MICROGLOBULIN STRUCTURE

- RMC-035 is a druggable, recombinant and patent protected variant of the endogenous protein
- Physicochemical changes compared to native protein:
  - Three amino acid substitutions to improve solubility
  - N-terminal tag for increased stability & solubility
  - Lack of glycosylation (manufactured in *E. coli*)



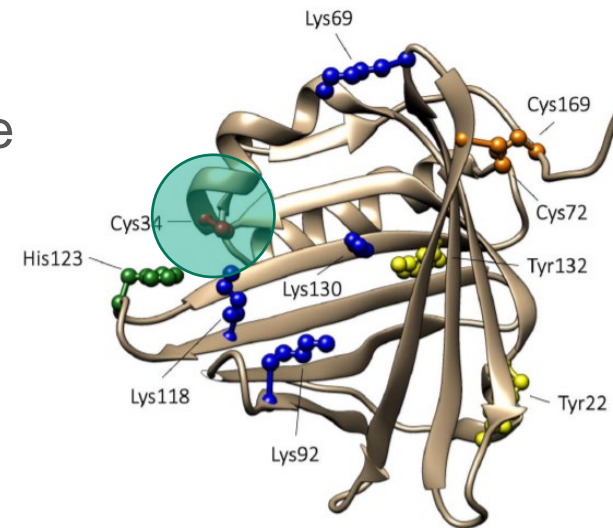
RMC-035 has improved physicochemical properties with retained potency as compared to the endogenous A1M protein



# RMC-035 STRUCTURE-FUNCTION RELATIONSHIP ARE WELL CHARACTERIZED

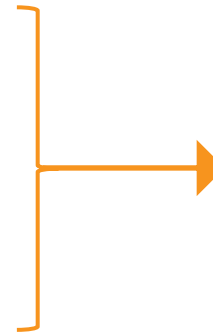
1. **Reductase activity** – reduction of 5–6 free radicals per RMC-035 molecule
2. **Free radical trapping** – binds free radicals including reactive oxygen species
3. **Heme binding & degradation** – two specific heme-binding sites
4. **Mitochondrial binding/stabilization** – binds and stabilizes cytochrome C

- Cysteine and the three-dimensional protein structure provide the basis for specific protein functions



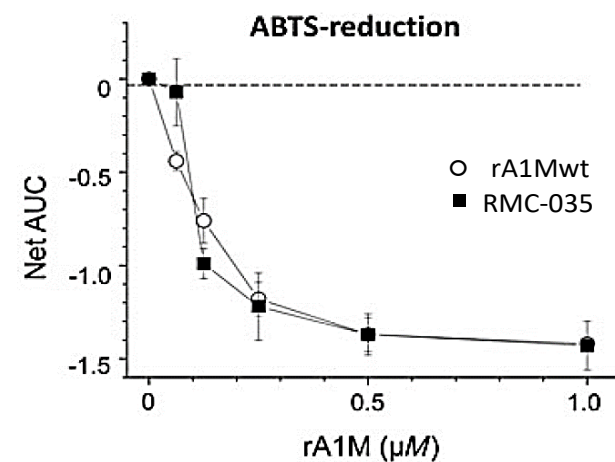
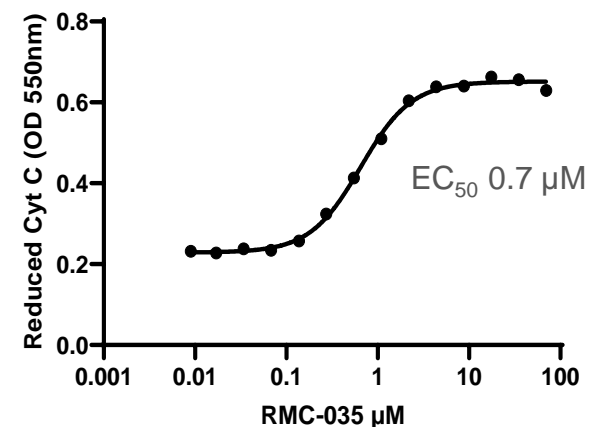
# RMC-035 MECHANISMS TARGET KEY PATHWAYS IN CARDIAC SURGERY-ASSOCIATED (CS-AKI) AKI

- CS-AKI is mainly initiated by ischemic kidney injury and heme-driven toxicity
  - **Ischemia/hypoxia** during surgery
  - **Heme-injury** caused by hemolysis (release of heme from red blood cells during CPB)
- Downstream consequences of renal ischemia and hemolysis
  - Surge of toxic free radicals
  - Reduced reductase activity/capacity in tissue
  - Surge of circulating free heme
  - Mitochondrial dysfunction & renal tubular cell death



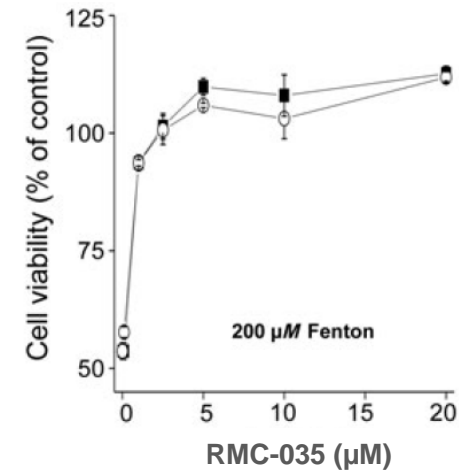
# RMC-035 IS A POTENT REDUCING AGENT IN VITRO

- Oxidized molecules induce oxidative stress in kidneys during ischemia
- RMC-035 reduces oxidized Cytochrome C in a dose-dependent way
- RMC-035 reduces the synthetic free radical molecule ABTS in a dose-dependent manner as determined by ABTS abundance

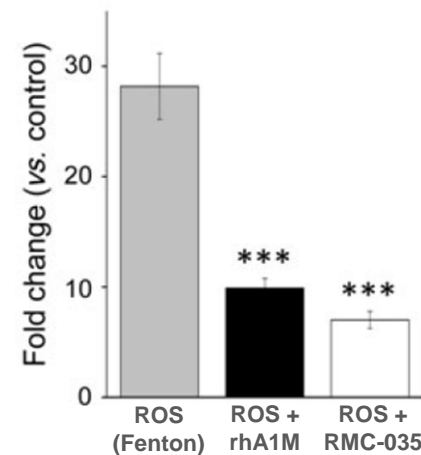


# RMC-035 PROTECTS AGAINST CELL INJURY CAUSED BY OXIDATIVE STRESS

- Reactive oxygen species (ROS) damage human kidney cells
- RMC-035 scavenges Fenton chemistry-generated radicals (ROS)
- RMC-035 prevent human kidney (HK-2) cell death and reduce expression of the stress-response gene heme oxygenase-1 (HO-1)



RMC-035 (▪) & A1M (○) scavenge ROS and reduce HK-2 cell death in vitro



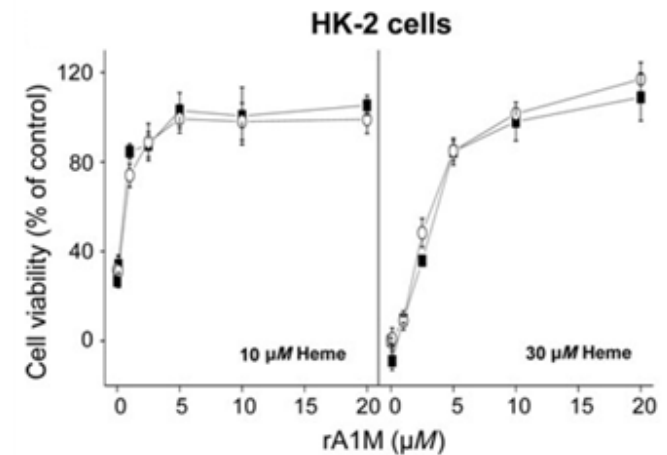
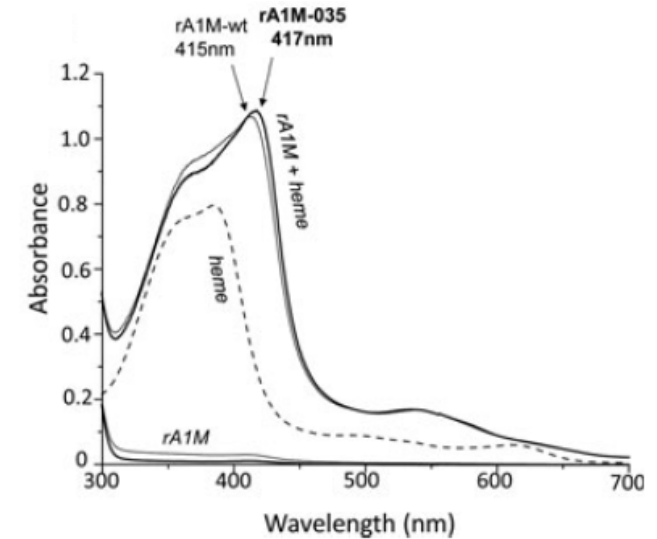
RMC-035 & A1M prevent ROS-induced expression of HO-1

\*\*\* p<0.001



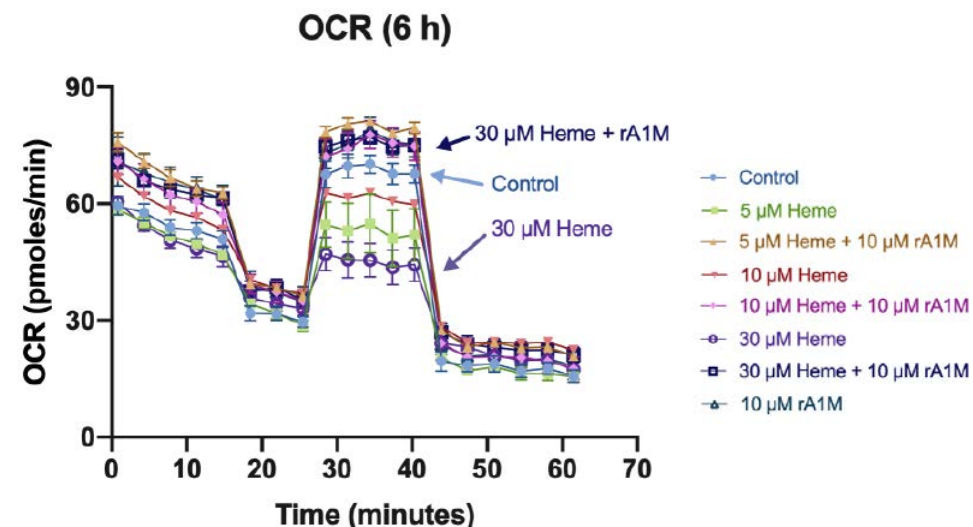
# RMC-035 BINDS HEME & REDUCES HEME TOXICITY

- RMC-035 bind heme as evaluated by absorbance spectroscopy
  - RMC-035 retained heme-binding capacity as compared to native protein with similar absorbance spectra
- RMC-035 reduces heme-mediated kidney cell death in vitro

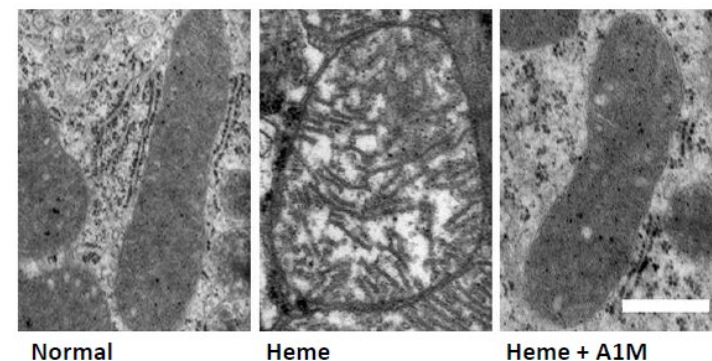


# RMC-035 PROTECTS MITOCHONDRIAL FUNCTION FROM HEME TOXICITY

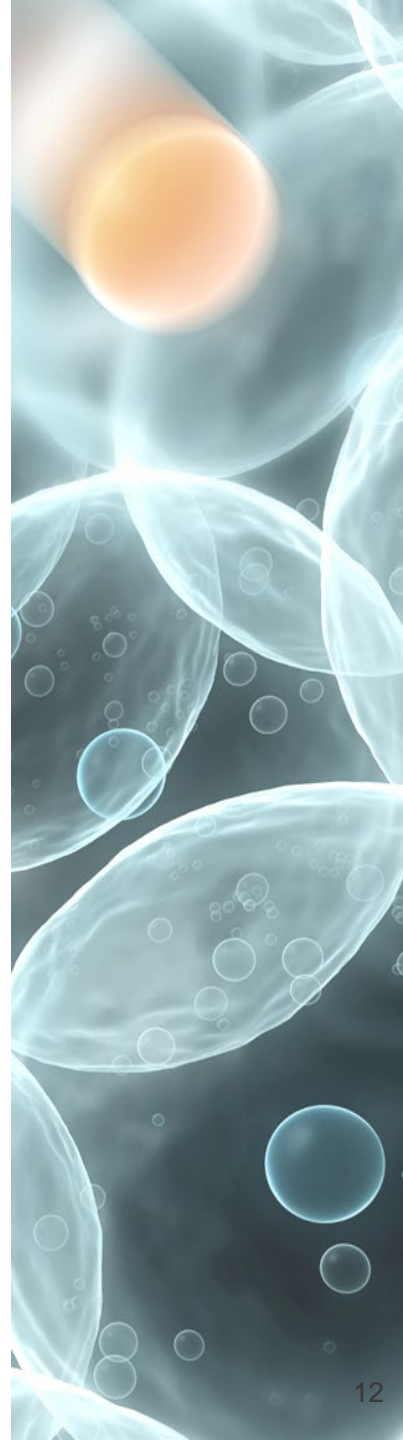
- RMC-035 (tool compound)
  - Binds to mitochondria (complex I)
  - Stabilizes structure and function
  - Reduces ROS release
- Heme reduces mitochondrial function in HK-2 cells in vitro as shown by assessment of mitochondrial respiration (oxygen consumption rate; OCR)
- RMC-035 (tool compound)
  - Prevents heme-driven reduction of mitochondrial OCR
  - Preserves mitochondrial function



Human keratinocytes loss of mitochondrial structure & swelling caused by heme is prevented by RMC-035



# PHARMACOLOGY, PHARMACOKINETICS & TOXICOLOGY



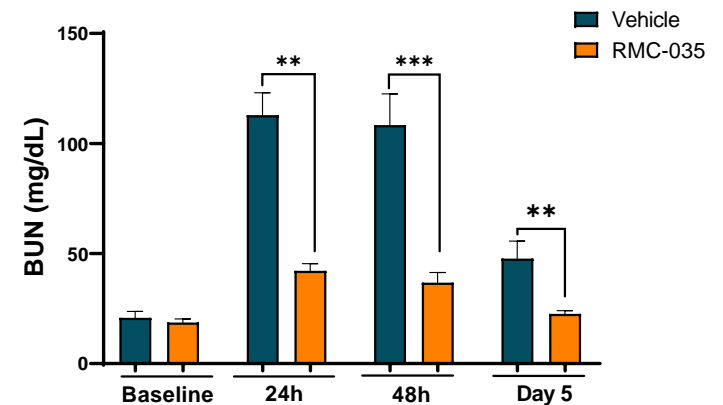
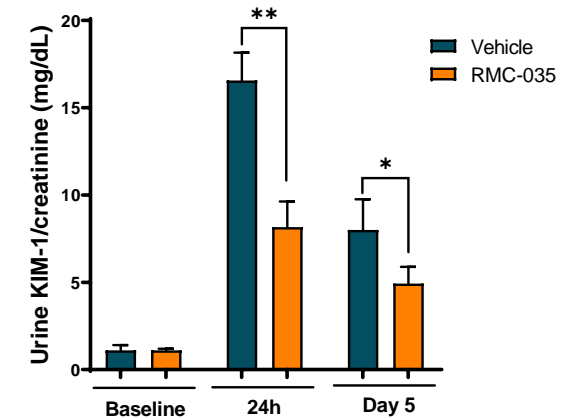
# ROBUST PHARMACOLOGY OF RMC-035 SUPPORTS POTENTIAL FOR CLINICAL TRANSLATION

- Consistent RMC-035 performance in vivo
  - Efficacy demonstrated in large number of disease models in multiple species
  - Protection in AKI and several non-kidney relevant disease models
- Optimal clinical posology for RMC-035 supported by in vivo pharmacology
  - Dose-finding
  - Frequency of dosing
  - Therapeutic vs preventive dosing
  - RMC-035 also effective in preventing AKI on top of existing kidney disease
- Upstream effect of RMC of initial kidney insult and pre-AKI initiation phase – not seen in previous AKI therapies
- Non-clinical pharmacology data supports translation into potential clinical efficacy



# RMC-035 IS REDUCES KIDNEY TUBULAR CELL INJURY IN VIVO (RAT IRI-AKI MODEL)

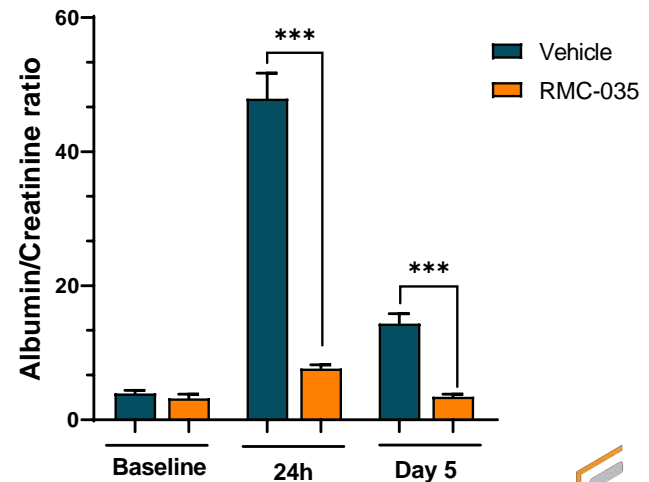
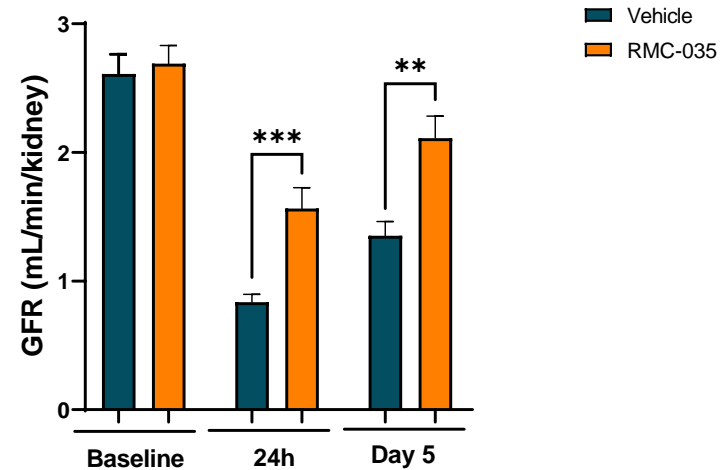
- Rat kidney ischemia & reperfusion model of AKI
- RMC-035 administered IV at dose of 2 mg/kg
  - 5 x over 48h: matches clinical dosing schedule
- RMC-035 protects kidney from ischemic damage shown by translational markers of renal injury
  - Cell injury marker KIM-1 (kidney injury molecule-1)
  - BUN (Blood urea nitrogen)



\* p<0.05  
\*\* p<0.01  
\*\*\* p<0.001  
n=6/7 per treatment group

# RMC-035 IMPROVES RENAL FUNCTION IN VIVO (RAT IRI-AKI MODEL)

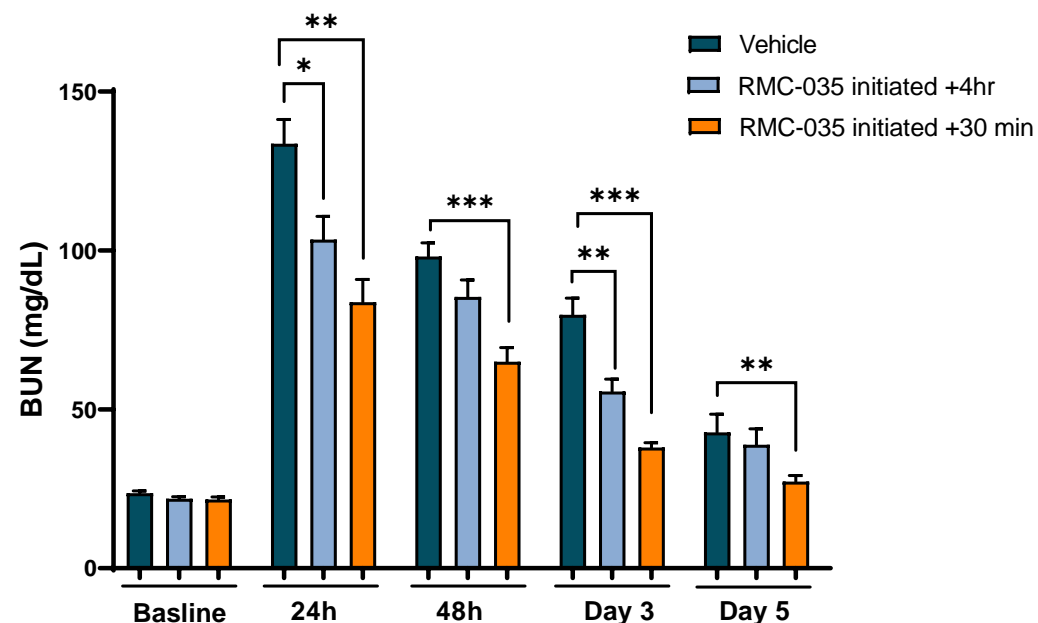
- RMC-035 administered IV at 2 mg/kg
  - 5 x over 48h: matches clinical dosing schedule
- RMC-035 protects from loss of kidney renal function and damage
  - Improved glomerular filtration rate (GFR)
  - Reduced albuminuria (albumin/creatinine ratio)



\*\* p<0.01  
\*\*\* p<0.001  
n=6/7 per treatment group

# RMC-035 EFFECTIVE WITH THERAPEUTIC DOSING STRATEGY (RAT IRI-AKI MODEL)

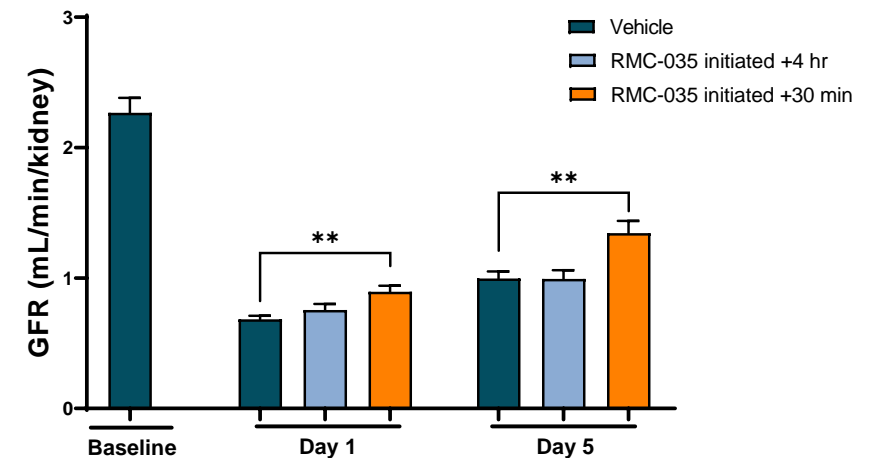
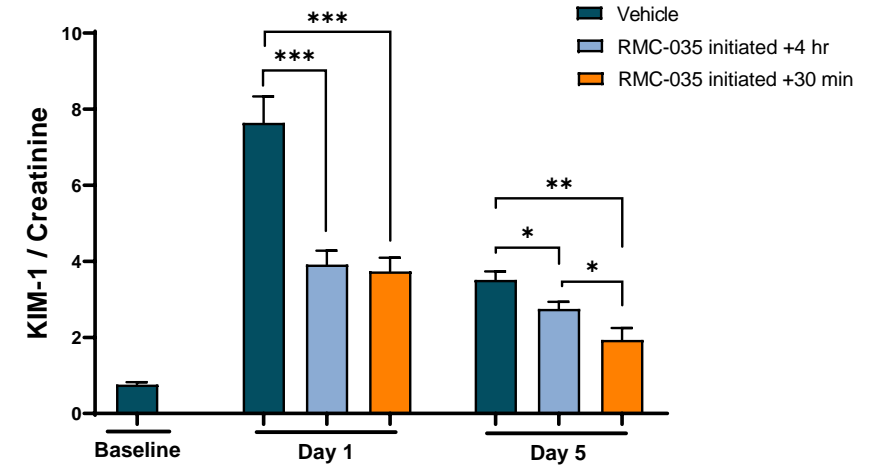
- Therapeutic dosing = dosing after onset of ischemia
- Dosing in relation to initial ischemia evaluated:
  - 4 doses initiated at 4 hours post ischemia
  - 5 doses initiated at 0.5 hours post ischemia
- Therapeutic dosing reduces kidney function biomarker BUN
- Therapeutic dosing was effective, but best initiated soon after insult



\* p<0.05  
\*\* p<0.01  
\*\*\* p<0.001  
n=7/8 per treatment group

# RMC-035 EFFECTIVE WITH THERAPEUTIC DOSING STRATEGY (RAT IRI-AKI MODEL)

- Therapeutic dosing = dosing after onset of ischemia
- Dosing in relation to initial ischemia evaluated:
  - 4 doses initiated at 4 hours post ischemia
  - 5 doses initiated at 0.5 hours post ischemia
- Therapeutic dosing reduces kidney injury biomarker KIM-1 and preserves renal function (GFR)
- Therapeutic dosing was effective, but best initiated soon after insult

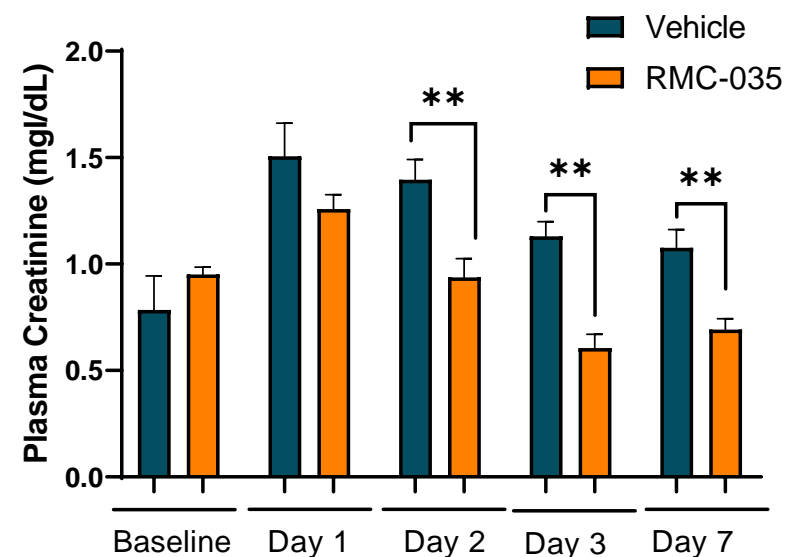


\* p<0.05  
\*\* p<0.01  
\*\*\* p<0.001  
n=7/8 per treatment group



# RMC-035 REDUCES AKI ON TOP OF EXISTING RENAL IMPAIRMENT (RAT 'AKI-ON-CKD MODEL')

- Removal of one kidney & remaining kidney subject to 30 min ischemia with 4-week recovery period
  - New ischemic injury to remaining kidney at 4 weeks
- RMC-035 administered IV at 2 mg/kg (per dose administration)
- 2 doses administered at 30 min before ischemia & 4 hours post-reperfusion
- RMC-035 was effective for reducing AKI on top of existing CKD as measured by renal function markers plasma creatinine & BUN

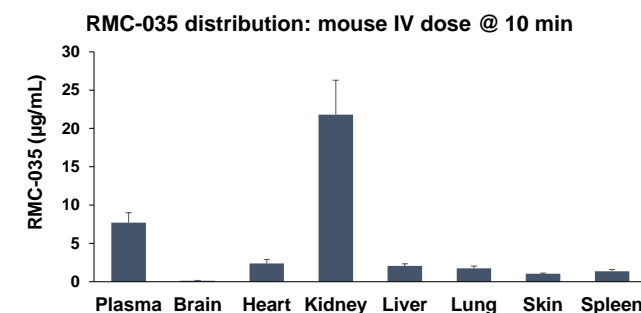
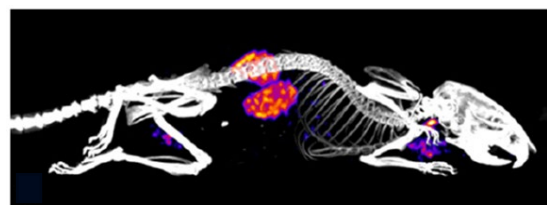


\*\* p<0.01  
\*\*\* p<0.001  
n=5/6 per treatment group

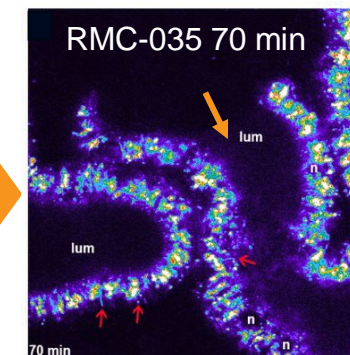
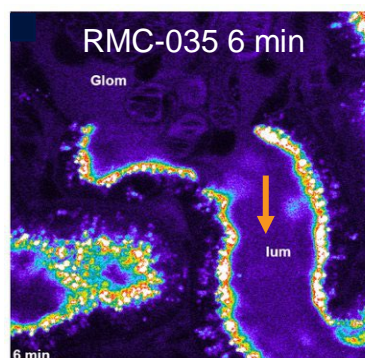
# RMC-035 RAPIDLY DISTRIBUTES TO KIDNEYS & PRESENTS WITHIN PROXIMAL TUBULAR CELLS

- RMC-035 preferentially distributes to target cells where AKI occurs
- Small proteins (like RMC-035) rapidly filtered by the kidney glomeruli
- Filtered RMC-035 is then reabsorbed by kidney tubules
- RMC-035 is present in tubule cells within an hour of administration

## Radiolabeled RMC-035 preferentially distributes to the kidneys



## Fluorescent-labelled RMC-035 internalized by kidney proximal tubular cells

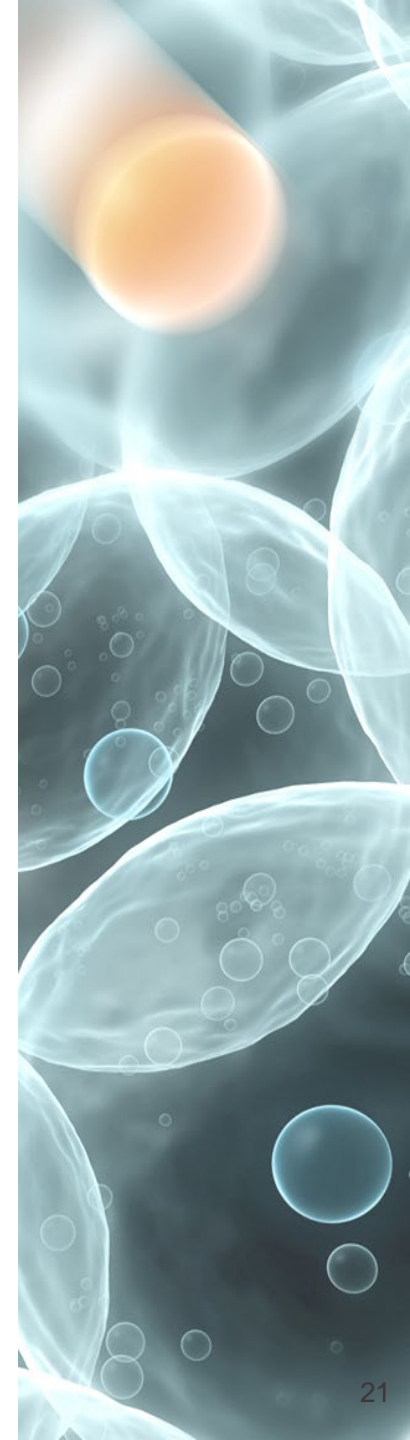


# TOXICOLOGY EVALUATIONS OF RMC-035 SUPPORT AN ATTRACTIVE SAFETY PROFILE

- Safety profile evaluated in 4 GLP repeat dose toxicity studies
  - Rat, marmoset, cynomolgus monkey
- Findings were limited to mild kidney response
  - Expected from a small protein
  - Tubular deposition of drug at high doses – ‘protein overload’
- Toxicology program completed – data usage:
  - Support and adult development in CS-AKI & transplant to NDA/MAA
  - Indication, PK and short-term treatment nullifies data requirements for carcinogenesis/reproductive and/or developmental toxicology studies

# SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

- RMC-035 is a novel investigational drug in development for the prevention and early treatment of AKI
- Well characterized mode-of-action that targets key disease pathways in AKI
- Robust and reproducible efficacy in multiple disease models and species
  - Congruent in vitro and in vivo pharmacology
- Short half-life and rapid natural distribution to kidney tubular cells – the initial site of injury in AKI
- Modified naturally occurring protein with good safety profile
- Targets AKI upstream of cell injury – a unique treatment paradigm
- Indication choice (AKI) limits preclinical requirements up to NDA/MAA







# Clinical experience with RMC-035

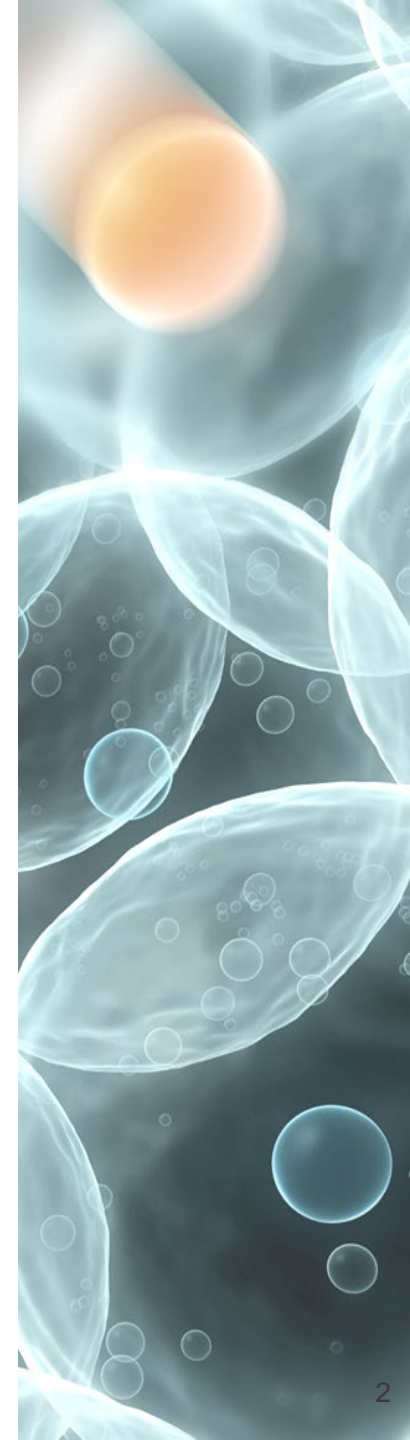
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Michael Reusch, CMO

# CLINICAL STUDIES OF RMC-035

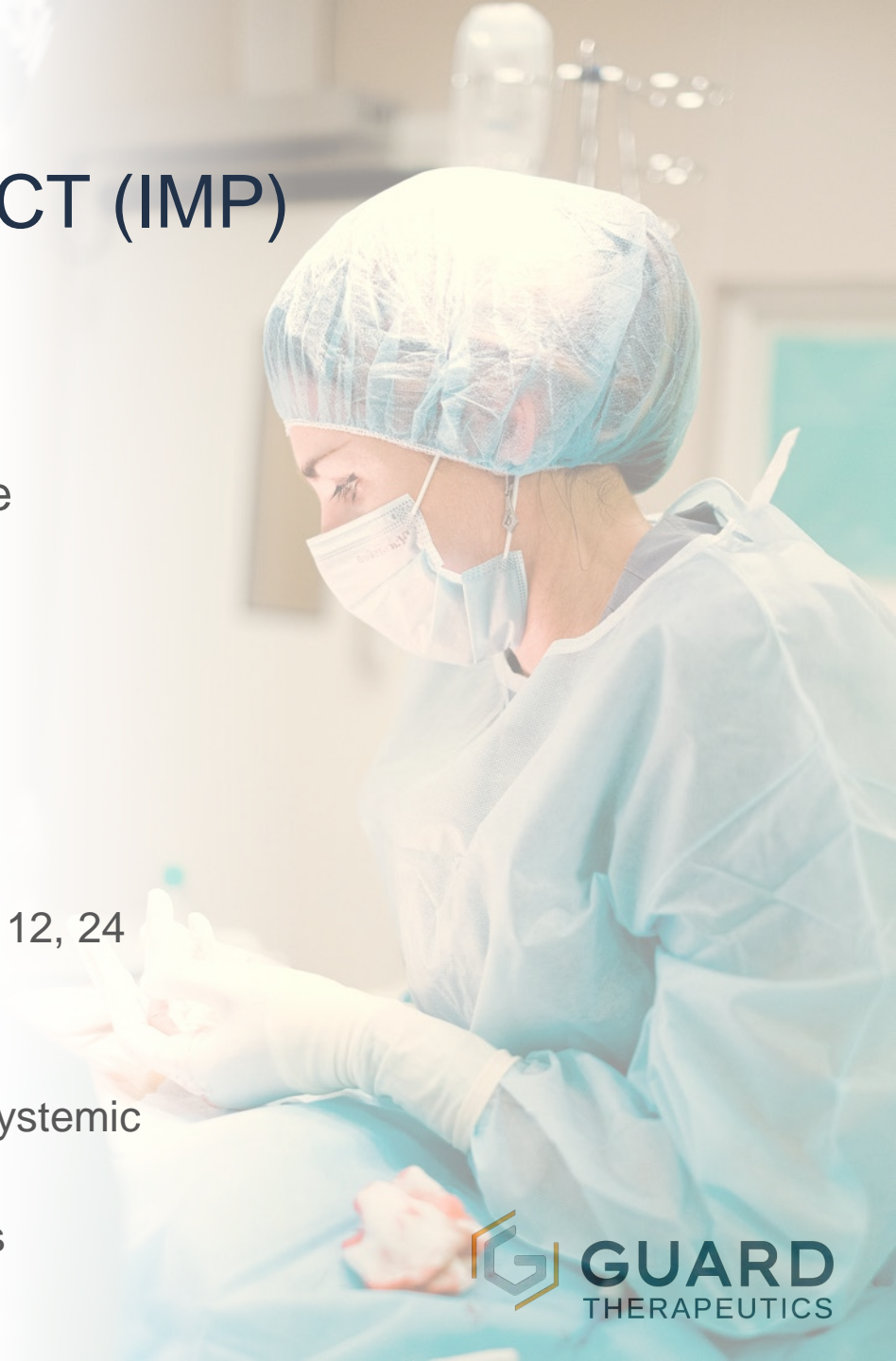
Study	Phase	Population	Dosing	Key endpoints	Country	Status
ROS-01	Phase 1	Healthy subjects	Single dose (0.08-2.6 mg/kg)	Safety, tolerability	Sweden	Completed
ROS-02	Phase 1	Healthy subjects	Multiple dosing (0.43-1.3 mg/kg)	Safety, tolerability	Sweden	Completed
ROS-03	Phase 1	Renal impairment	Single dose (0.22 or 0.43 mg/kg)	Pharmacokinetics	Sweden	Completed
ROS-04	Phase 1b	Cardiac surgery	Multiple dosing (0.65 or 1.3 mg/kg)	Safety, tolerability	Germany	Completed
AKITA	Phase 2	Cardiac surgery	Multiple dosing (0.65 or 1.3 mg/kg)	Efficacy, safety	Europe, North America	Ongoing
ROS-06	Phase 1b	Kidney transplantation	Multiple dosing, variable dose (start dose 0.3 mg/kg)	Pharmacokinetics	Sweden	Ongoing





# INVESTIGATIONAL MEDICINAL PRODUCT (IMP)

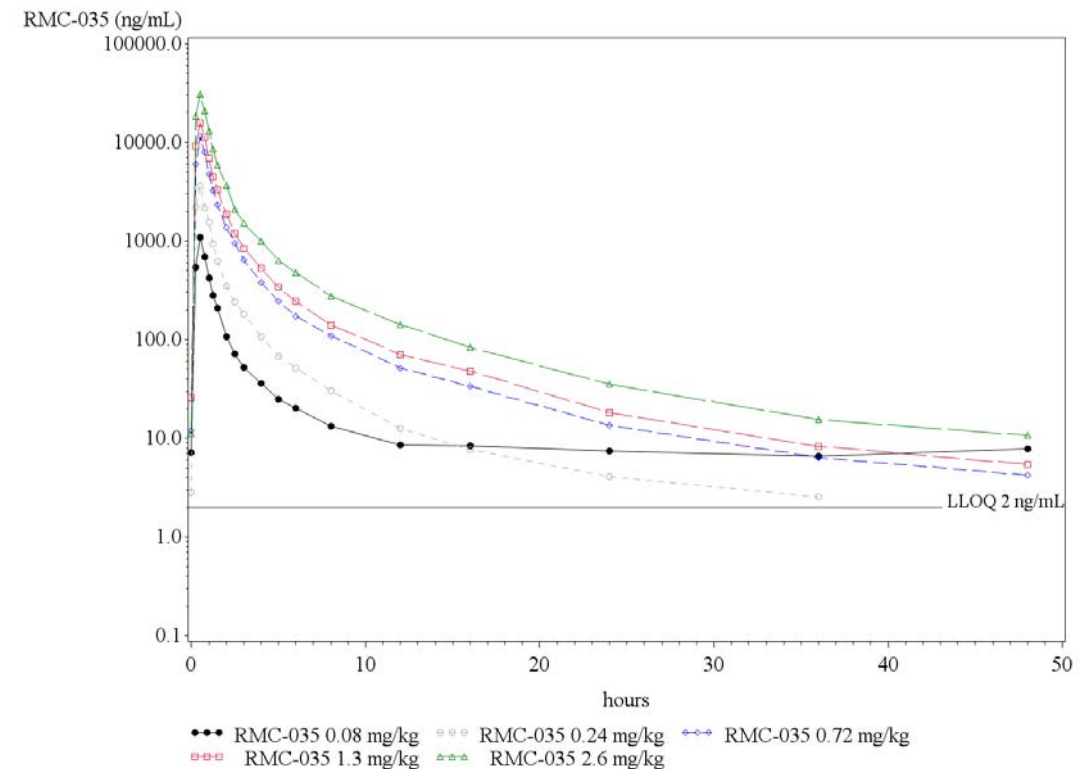
- Drug product is delivered to clinical sites as 'Concentrate for solution for infusion'
- Diluted with NaCl solution to a set volume (50 mL) prior to use
- Intravenous (IV) administration at ICU/hospital
  - Central venous catheter (CVC)
  - Peripheral venous catheter (Phase 1 studies)
- Current dosing paradigm in cardiac surgery:
  - In total 5 doses (first dose during surgery, remaining doses at 6, 12, 24 & 48 hours after the first dose)
    - First infusion must start before cardio-pulmonary bypass
  - First 2 doses delivered as infusions over 60 minutes to extend systemic exposure
  - Remaining doses (3 to 5) delivered as infusions over 30 minutes



# PHARMACOKINETICS (SAD STUDY) – RAPID INITIAL ELIMINATION PHASE AND DOSE PROPORTIONAL EXPOSURE

- $T_{max}$  was 0.5 hours (end-of-infusion)
  - Observed in all dose groups
- Dose-proportional exposure for  $C_{max}$  and  $AUC_t$  across full dose range
- Multi-exponential plasma elimination phase
  - Rapid initial elimination
  - 70-80% decrease in plasma levels within 1 hour after end-of-infusion

**RMC-035 plasma concentrations**  
*Line plots geometric mean (all dose groups; full analysis set)*

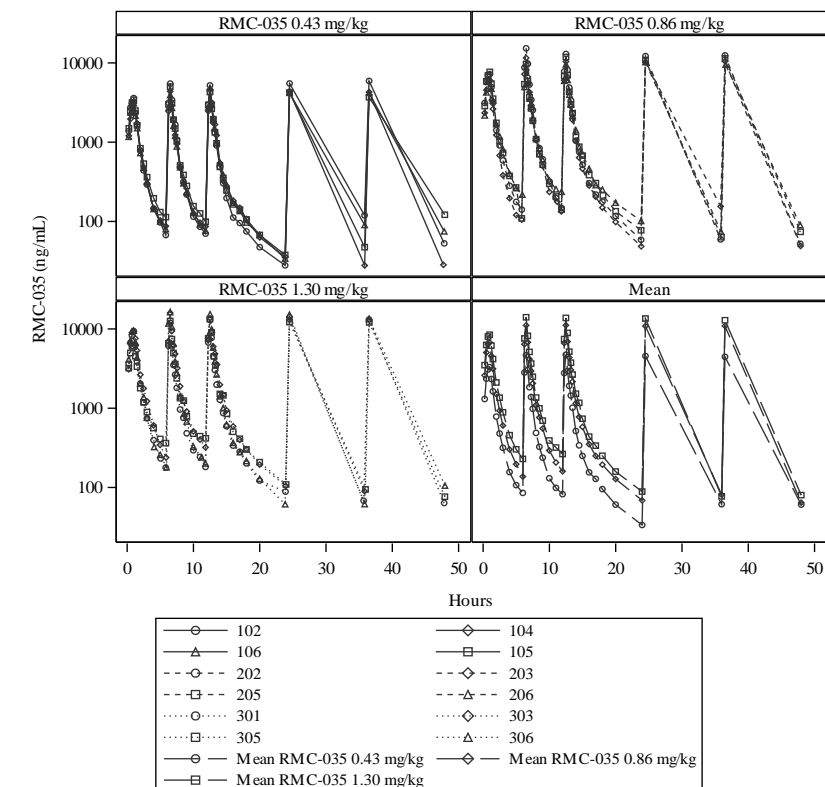


$T_{max}$ : time of maximum plasma concentration;  $C_{max}$ : maximum plasma concentration;  $AUC_t$ : area under the curve total measured exposure; CV: coefficient of variation;  $T_{1/2}$ : plasma half-life; SAD: single ascending dose

# PHARMACOKINETICS (MAD STUDY) – DOSE LINEARITY AND NO DRUG ACCUMULATION

- $T_{max}$  observed at end-of-infusion (30 or 60 min)
- $C_{max}$  and  $AUC_{0-24h}$  increased with dose
- Dose linearity across dose groups, with slightly lower exposures than predicted in highest (3<sup>rd</sup>) dose group
- No accumulation
  - Rapid initial elimination phase (as in SAD study)

RMC-035 Plasma concentrations  
Logarithmic line plots 0-48h RMC-035 (ng/mL) (PK analysis set)

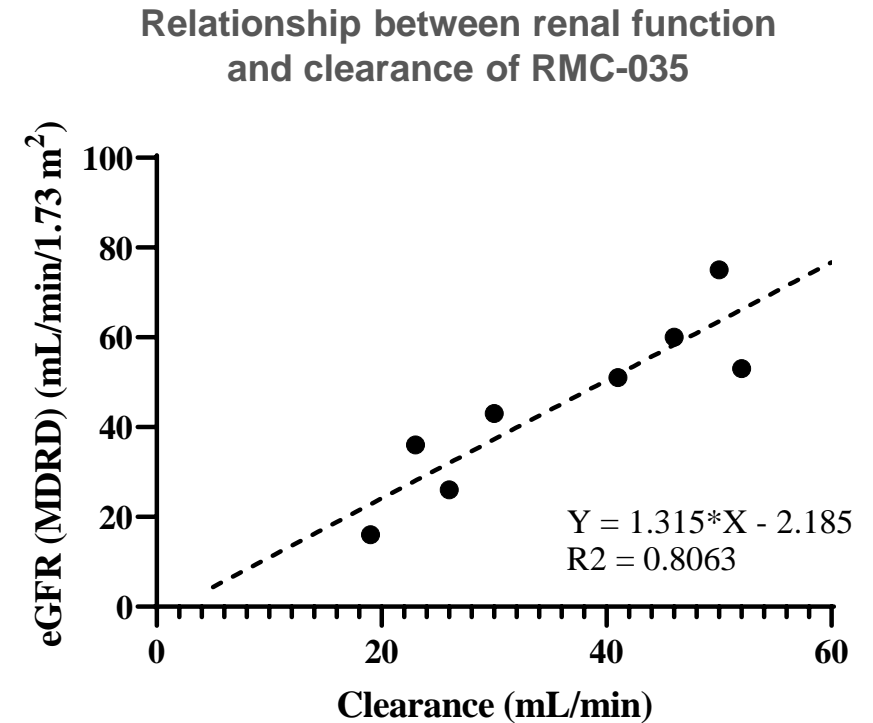


$T_{max}$ : time of maximum plasma concentration;  $C_{max}$ : maximum plasma concentration;  $AUC_{0-24h}$ : area under the curve 24h measured; CV: coefficient of variation; SAD: single ascending dose; MAD: multiple ascending dose;  $T_{1/2}$ : plasma half-life



# RENAL IMPAIRMENT STUDY – RMC-035 EXPOSURE INCREASES WITH DECLINING RENAL FUNCTION

- Plasma clearance for RMC-035 (absolute & relative) generally decreased with declining renal function
- AUC ( $AUC_{0-last}$  and  $AUC_{0-inf}$ ) increased with declining renal function
  - AUC approximately doubles when renal function is reduced by 50%



Start dose in Phase 2 AKITA study dependent on renal function

# EARLY PHASE 1 STUDIES – FAVORABLE SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY PROFILE OF RMC-035

## SAD study

- One serious adverse event (SAE) – not related to study drug
- Most frequently reported adverse events (AEs):
  - Nasopharyngitis: mostly mild – not related to study drug
  - Headache: 5 subjects on RMC, 1 on placebo; most events reported as possibly related to study drug

# EARLY PHASE 1 STUDIES – FAVORABLE SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY PROFILE OF RMC-035

## MAD study

- No SAEs

## Most frequently reported AEs

- Local infusion site reactions (majority of subjects treated with RMC-035)
- Headache (5 on RMC-035, 3 on placebo)
- Nausea (5 subjects on RMC-035; most events reported as possibly related to study drug)

## Renal impairment study

- Only one AE in the study of mild severity (feeling cold)

No safety signals of concern in Phase 1 studies of RMC-035

# ROS-04 – FIRST STUDY IN CARDIAC SURGERY PATIENTS

- Small Phase 1b pharmacokinetics and safety study in target patient population – de-risks Phase 2 (AKITA) study
- Exploratory analysis of urine biomarkers – renal tubular cell stress/injury markers
  - Note: study not powered for this analysis

OVERVIEW OF STUDY ROS-04	
<b>DESIGN</b>	Randomized, double-blind
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	Primary: safety; Secondary: pharmacokinetics (PK); Exploratory: biomarkers
<b>PRIMARY ENDPOINT</b>	Safety profile (adverse event reporting)
<b>STUDY SUBJECTS</b>	Subjects undergoing non-emergent open-chest cardiac surgery at high risk to develop CS-AKI
<b>CONTROLS</b>	Placebo
<b>SAMPLE SIZE</b>	12 (8 on RMC-035 & 4 on placebo)
<b>DURATION</b>	Recruitment period: Q1-2 2021

# ROS-04: OVERVIEW SAFETY REPORTING

- 23 AEs in total (following reconciliation of reported and measured events)
  - Majority of AEs were mild or moderate in severity
  - 18 AEs were treatment-emergent (i.e., occurring within 3 days after last dose)
- 7 SAEs reported in 4 subjects
  - RMC-035: 5 SAEs in 3 subjects
  - Placebo: 2 SAEs in 1 subject
  - 5 SAEs were treatment-emergent
    - Pericardial tamponade (n=1), AKI (n=2), pericardial effusion (n=1), pneumonia (n=1)
- No AEs were related to study drug or led to withdrawal of study drug

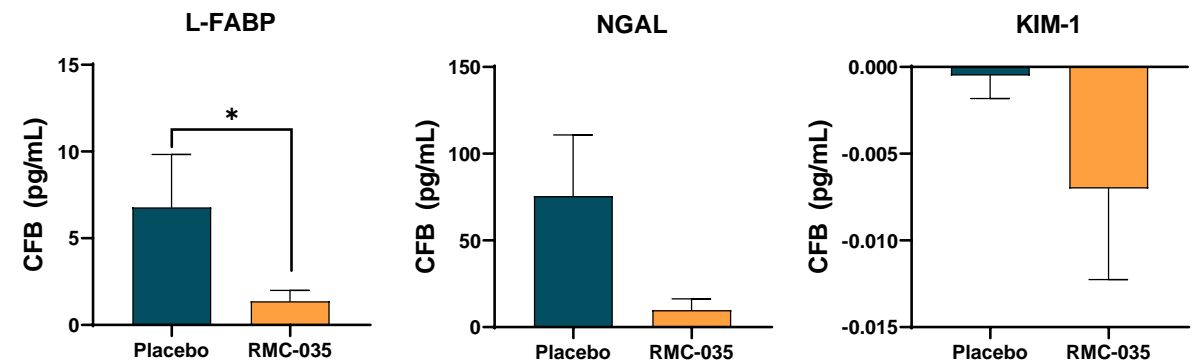
Frequency and type of events as expected following cardiac surgery



# BIOMARKER RESPONSE INDICATE REDUCED KIDNEY CELL INJURY WITH RMC-035 TREATMENT

- Panel of urine biomarkers reflecting renal tubular cell stress and/or injury
  - Measured pre-dose & 4 hours after onset of surgery to capture intra-operative stress
- Renal cell injury biomarkers:
  - Liver fatty acid binding protein (L-FABP)
  - Neutrophil gelatinase associated lipocalin (NGAL)
  - Kidney injury molecule-1 (KIM-1)

Urine markers of cell injury – change from baseline at 4 hours



CFB = change from baseline

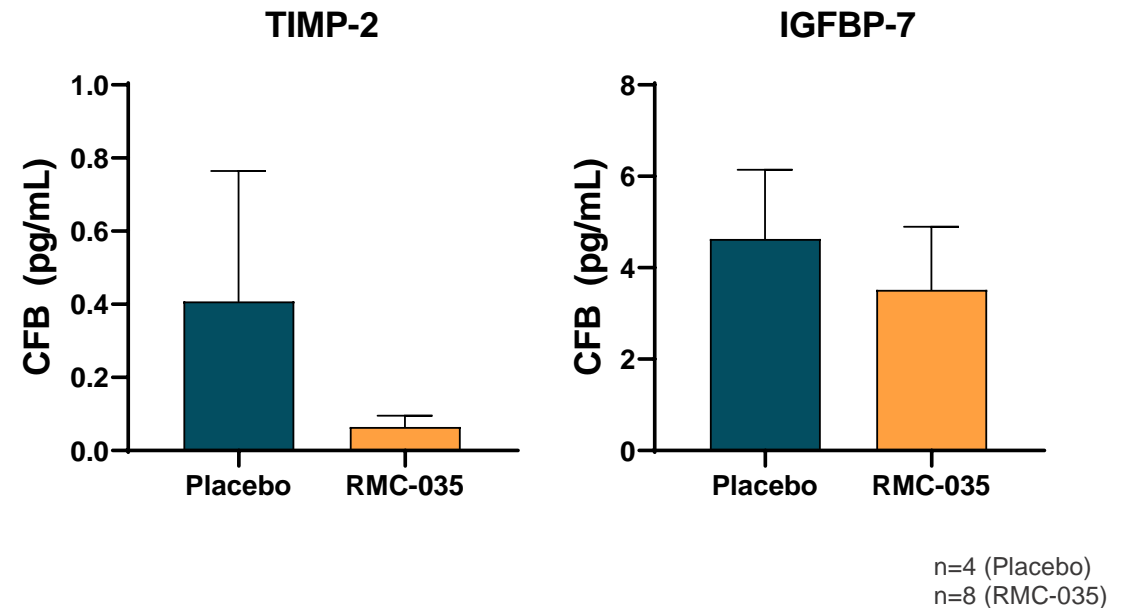
\* p<0.05  
n=4 (Placebo)  
n=8 (RMC-035)

Expected early rise of kidney cell injury markers L-FABP & NGAL was blunted with RMC-035 treatment

# BIOMARKER RESPONSE INDICATE REDUCED KIDNEY CELL STRESS WITH RMC-035 TREATMENT

- Renal cell stress markers: tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase -2 (TIMP-2) and insulin growth factor binding protein (IGFBP-7)
  - These markers are FDA-approved to predict onset of AKI (NephroCheck®)
- 4-hour timepoint most relevant to determine perioperative cell stress/injury

Urine markers of cell stress – change from baseline at 4 hours



All biomarkers of kidney cell injury/stress demonstrated a numerical reduction as compared to placebo, in alignment with RMC-035 mechanism

# SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS OF PHASE 1 PROGRAM

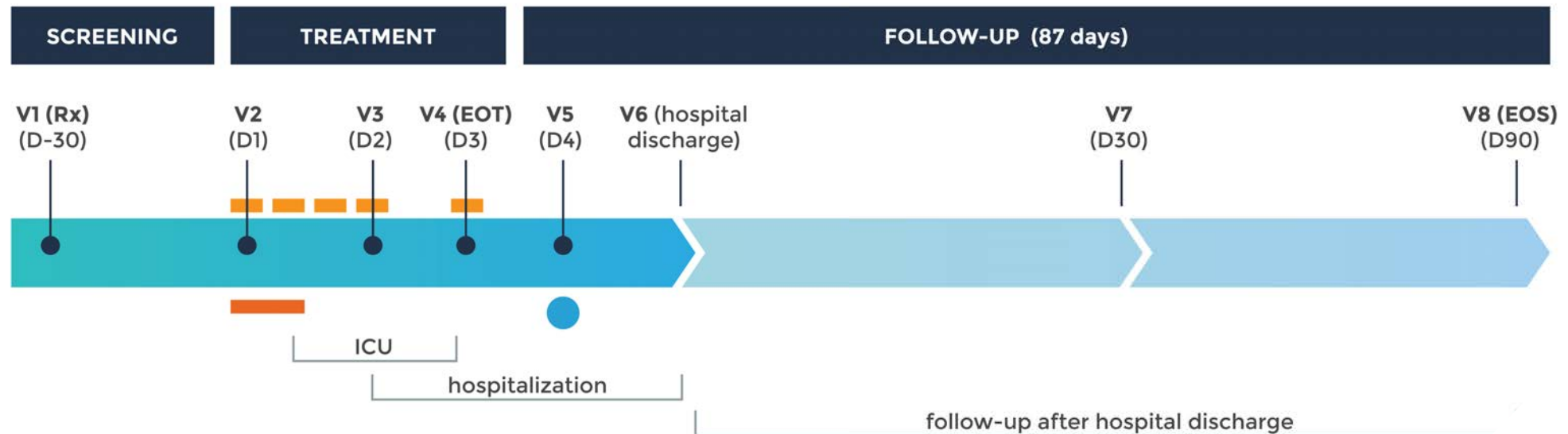
- RMC-035 has well-targeted mechanisms with preferential biodistribution to the kidney
  - Ideal for AKI prevention and treatment
- In total 52 subjects exposed to RMC-035 in four studies (ROS-01 to -04)
  - Healthy subjects (n=36)
  - Renally impaired subjects (n=8)
  - Cardiac surgery patients (n=8)
- Predictable and consistent PK profile with rapid initial elimination from plasma (due to glomerular filtration)
  - Dose linearity, no accumulation
  - Total exposure (AUC) increases with declining renal function
- RMC-035 assessed as safe and generally well tolerated across study populations
- Biomarker signal supports reduced peri-operative kidney cell injury

# GLOBAL PHASE 2 STUDY (AKITA) – DESIGN

- Objective is to evaluate the efficacy & safety of RMC-035 in subjects at high risk of developing AKI following open-chest cardiac surgery
- Randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, adaptive, parallel group
- 268 subjects in total (1:1 randomization RMC-035:placebo)
- Two starting doses dependent upon kidney function
- Primary endpoint is AKI as per Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) guidelines within 72 hours after surgery
- Key secondary (efficacy) endpoints include:
  - Post-baseline changes in renal function
  - Severity/duration/persistence of AKI
  - Dialysis treatment; length of hospital & ICU stay
  - MAKE (major adverse kidney events: either death, dialysis or  $\geq 25\%$  eGFR decline)

**Study design will facilitate informed decision about optimal Phase 3 design**

# AKITA STUDY – OVERVIEW



- Rx = randomization
- EOT = end-of-treatment
- EOS = end-of-study
- study visit
- administration of study drug
- cardiac surgery
- primary endpoint evaluation

**AKITA study has operational advantages as compared to chronic indications, including alignment with standard-of-care, short treatment period and limited follow-up period**



# STUDY POPULATION – CARDIAC SURGERY AT RISK FOR AKI

- Adult patients up to age 84 years
- Scheduled for non-emergent surgery with use of cardiopulmonary bypass:
  - Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) surgery
  - AND/OR valve surgery (single or multiple valves)
  - AND/OR ascending aorta aneurysm surgery
  - AND AKI risk factors<sup>†</sup> present
    - One type of surgery: at least two AKI risk factors OR eGFR < 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> alone
    - Combined surgery: at least one AKI risk factor

## <sup>†</sup> AKI Risk factors include:

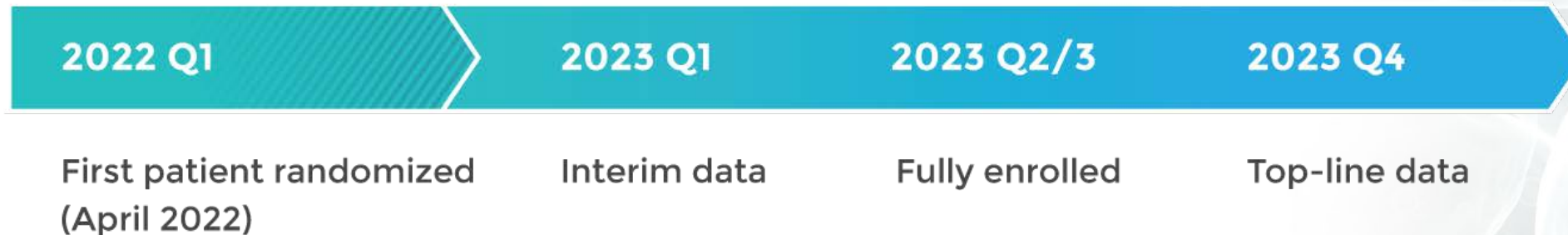
- Left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) < 35%
- Repeat surgery/history of open chest cavity cardiac surgery
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Age ≥ 70 years
- Heart failure
- History of AKI
- Anemia with hemoglobin ≤ 11 g/dL
- Albuminuria
- Estimated glomerular filtration rate is < 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>

# BLINDED INTERIM ANALYSIS WILL BE PERFORMED AFTER 134 PATIENTS – OUTCOME EXPECTED IN Q1 2023

- Independent Data Monitoring Committee (DMC) will perform blinded interim analysis when 134 subjects have completed study visit at 72 hours after surgery
- Conditional power (CP) calculated based on primary endpoint
- Key secondary endpoints considered if prespecified criteria are not met for study continuation
- Principal outcomes of analysis:
  - Study continuation as planned (i.e., n=268)
  - Sample size expansion to maximum 348 subjects
  - Termination for safety/futility (no formal pre-specified criteria)

# AKITA STUDY IS PROGRESSING ON TRACK

- Currently 53 patients randomized
- Recruitment in line with projections
- Sites open in Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain



# FRAMEWORK OF PIVOTAL PHASE 3 TRIAL

- One pivotal Phase 3 study is sufficient for registration
- FDA tentatively agreed to conduct an adaptive and seamless Phase 2b/3 study
  - Phase 2b = find optimal therapeutic dose
  - Phase 3 = confirm therapeutic effect
- Dose-finding based on acute endpoint (e.g., within 7 days after surgery)
- Similar design as AKITA study – powered for MAKE endpoint
  - No need for assessment of long-term safety
- Conservative estimate of sample size is 150–200 (P2b) + 600–800 (P3)
  - Data-driven evaluation following AKITA results on optimal P2b/3 design
  - Opportunity for optimizing patient population (e.g., targeting CKD patients)

**AKITA study provides opportunity to set optimal Phase 2b/3 design**

MAKE: Major Adverse Kidney Events

# OVERALL SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- RMC-035 has targeted mechanisms and biodistribution profile ideal for the treatment of CS-AKI
- Comprehensive Phase 1 program of four separate studies
  - No safety signals of concern
  - Provides data to support indication expansion to other AKI patient groups
  - Biomarker results supporting pharmacodynamic effect of RMC-035 with protection of kidney (tubular) cells
- Ongoing recruitment in large global Phase 2 AKITA study with expected interim analysis in Q1 2023 & full results in Q4 2023
- AKITA study provides the basis for
  - Initiation of one pivotal (P2b/3) study in CS-AKI
  - Optimized and data-driven design of P2b/3 study





# Clinical strategy for RMC-035 in kidney transplantation

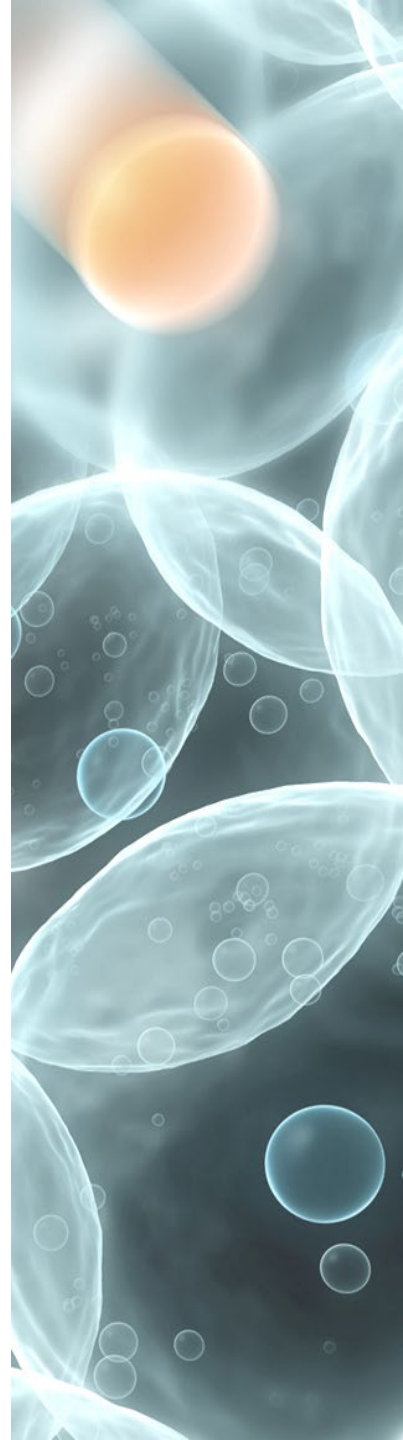
Capital Markets Day, Stockholm

September 21, 2022

Michael Reusch, CMO

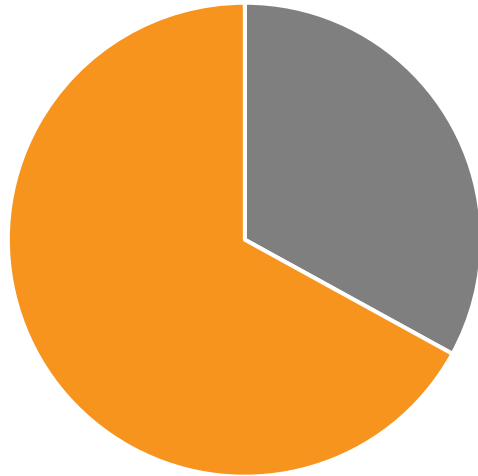
# OPPORTUNITY FOR RMC-035 IN KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION

- Large unmet medical need to protect kidney graft and improve long-term clinical outcomes (including graft function)
- Significant commercial opportunity in relation to anticipated size of development program
  - Initial addressable patient population in US & EU ~20,000 patients
    - ~40,000 deceased donor kidney transplantations
    - ~ 50% assessed as “high risk” and target for treatment
  - Total market opportunity in US & EU5 assessed as >\$300M
- No approved drugs and limited competition
- Solid scientific rationale, preclinical proof-of-concept established
- Clear regulatory pathway
  - Endpoint acceptability
  - Orphan Drug Designation opportunity

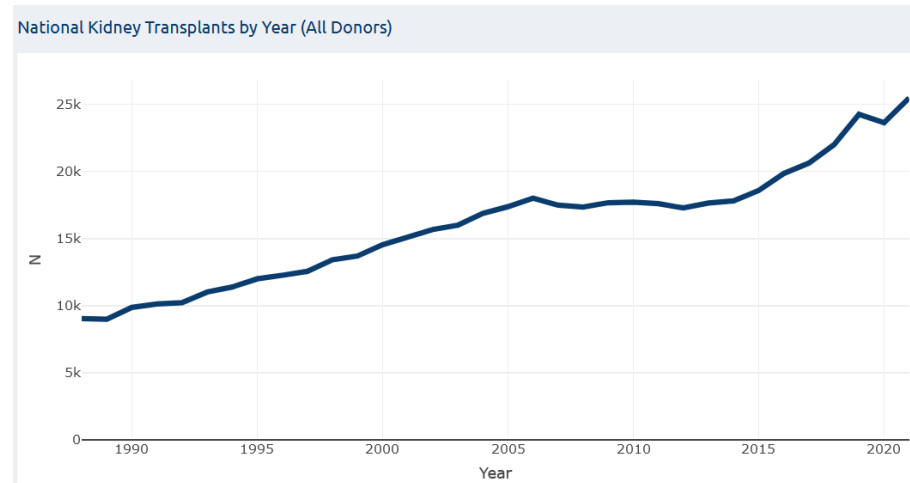


# OVER 40,000 DECEASED DONOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATIONS ARE PERFORMED ANNUALLY IN US/EU

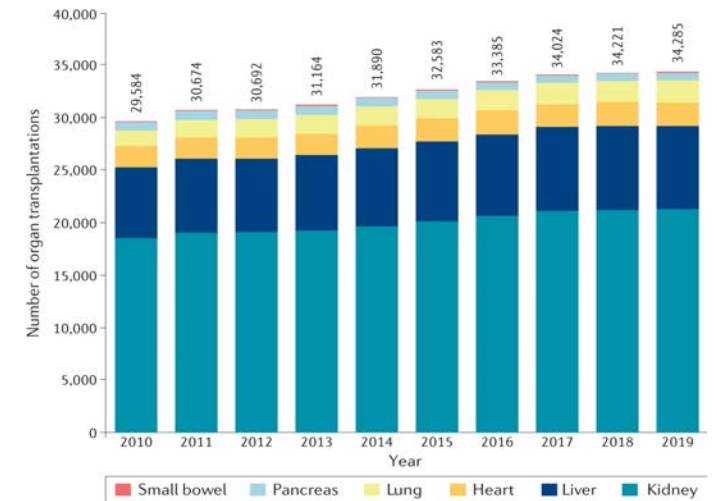
Kidney transplantations performed with deceased donor (cardiac death, brain death)



US: National Kidney Transplants by Year (All Donors)



EU: Number of organ transplantations performed between 2010 and 2019

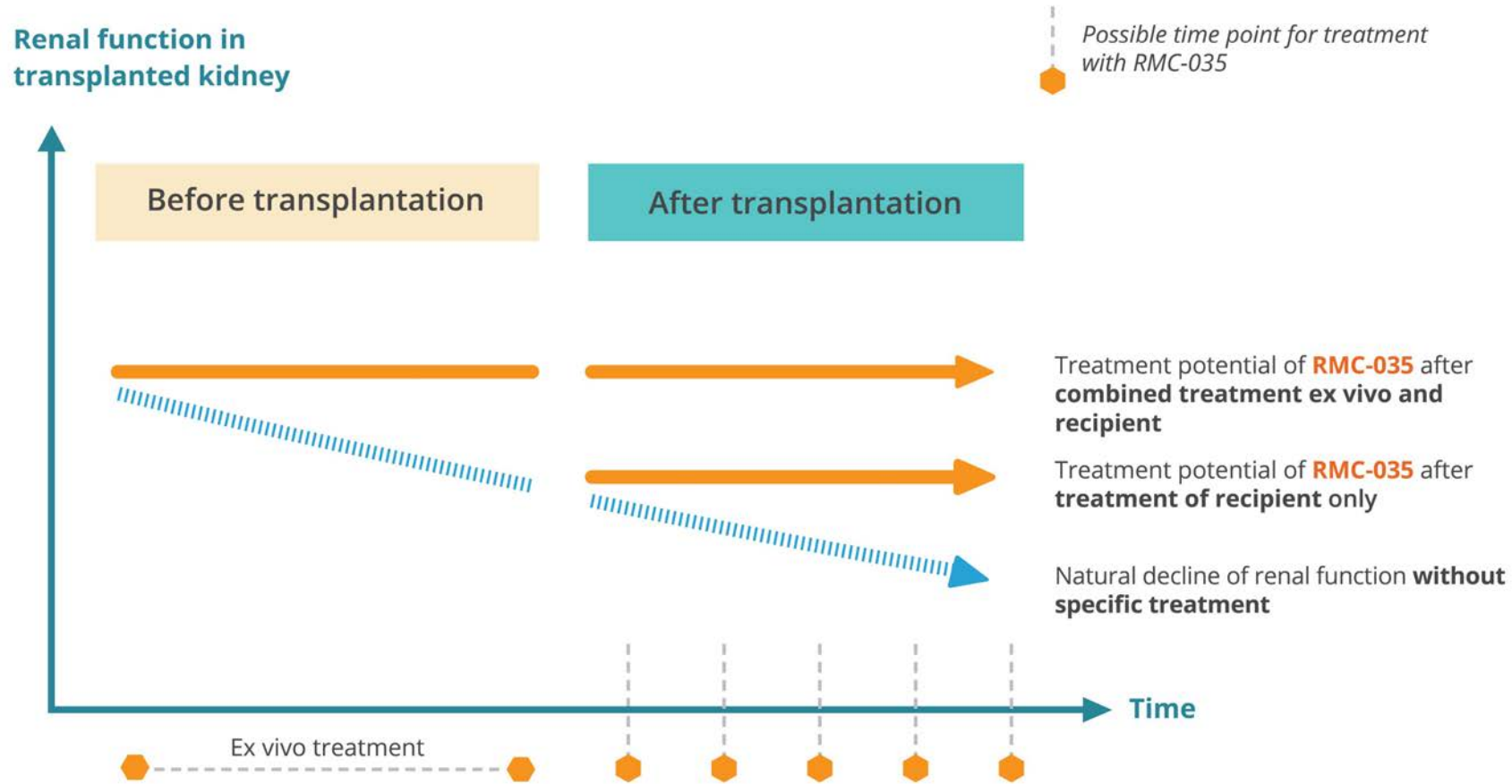


# MEDICAL NEED & SCIENTIFIC RATIONALE FOR RMC-035 IN KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION

- High rate of extensive ischemic injuries in kidney grafts
  - Similar to cardiac surgery
  - Ischemia/IRI\* arises during organ procurement, ex vivo storage and graft re-perfusion in transplant recipients
- Clinical manifestations of AKI = delayed graft function (DGF)
  - Dialysis requirement, prolonged hospital stay, complex post-operative management
- Target is prevention of long-term DGF complications
  - Decreased graft function
  - Shorter graft survival
  - Increased mortality
- Synergies
  - Overlapping pathophysiology between renal graft injury and CS-AKI
  - RMC-035 mechanism-of-action and available nonclinical data supportive
  - Data from healthy subjects and renally impaired subjects already available



# RMC-035 TREATMENT – OPPORTUNITY TO REDUCE KIDNEY GRAFT INJURIES EX VIVO & IN RECIPIENT



# CLEAR REGULATORY PATH WITH ORPHAN OPPORTUNITY

- FDA views prevention of DGF as a priority indication
  - FDA Guidance for Industry 2019
- Orphan Drug Designation opportunity
- No approved drugs for prevention of DGF/improvement of kidney graft function
  - Placebo comparison accepted
- Acceptable endpoints for registration
  - Reduction of DGF (traditionally defined as dialysis requirement within 7 days following transplantation)
  - More recently FDA accepts kidney graft function (eGFR) assessed at 1 year after transplantation
- Synergy with CS-AKI program



# HIGH LEVEL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## Small P1b study

Small PK study to establish exposure in transplanted patients

- Single-site
- 8-12 patients
- Open-label, non-comparative
- Clinical trial approval obtained in Sweden

Currently enrolling patients

## Exploratory P2 study

Generate efficacy data and establish proof-of-concept for a 3-month endpoint

- Around 60 patients (1:1 randomization active vs placebo)
- Faster evidence of effect compared to full proof-of-concept study
- De-risks Phase 3 trial

## Pivotal P3 study

Proceed to pivotal study with efficacy signal on eGFR

- Adaptive P2b/3 approach
- Interim analysis with futility component
- One pivotal study
- Anticipated size 300-600 patients

# FIRST TRANSPLANT STUDY (ROS-06) ONGOING – MAIN OBJECTIVES

Study	Phase	Population	Dosing	Key endpoint	Country	Status
ROS-06	Phase 1b	Kidney transplantation	Multiple dosing, variable dose (start dose 0.3 mg/kg)	Pharmacokinetics	Sweden	Ongoing

## Study objectives

### Primary

- Key pharmacokinetic parameters
  - Total exposure (AUC) most relevant

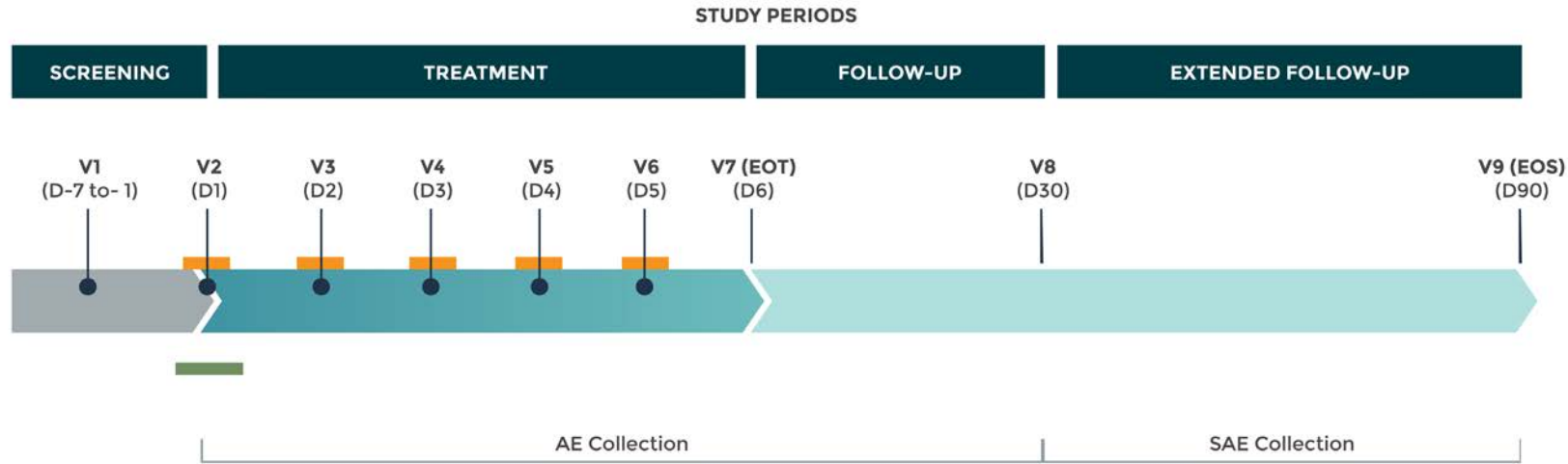
### Secondary

- Additional PK parameters
- Safety

### Exploratory

- Renal function
- Immunogenicity

# PHASE 1B STUDY (ROS-06) – DESIGN OVERVIEW



**V** = Visit  
**D** = Day  
**EOT** = End-of-Treatment  
**EOS** = End-of-Study  
**(S)AE** = (Serious) adverse event  
 ● Study Visit  
 ■ Administration of study intervention (RMC-035)  
 ■ Transplantation (surgery)

	Dose group 1 (4 patients)	Dose group 2 (4 patients)	Optional Dose group 3
Dose 1-2	0.3 mg/kg	0.3 mg/kg	To be determined
Dose 3-5	0.3 mg/kg	0.6 mg/kg	To be determined

# STATUS PHASE 1B STUDY (ROS-06)

- Single site study in Stockholm, Sweden
  - Executed in close collaboration with transplant surgeons at the Karolinska Institutet
- First patient enrolled in September 2022
- Interim analysis of the PK properties of RMC-035 following enrolment of two dose groups (8 patients)
  - Decision on need for an additional third dose group
- Full study results expected H1 2023
- Development of Phase 2 study protocol ongoing
  - Submission of clinical trial application for Phase 2 study based on interim results may be possible

# PHASE 2 STUDY TARGETS A DUAL TREATMENT CONCEPT

- Ex vivo treatment of kidney graft (via back-table perfusion or static cold storage solution)
- Recipient treatment
- First recipient dose during surgery
- Once daily dosing during hospitalization period



# BLUEPRINT FOR PHASE 2 STUDY

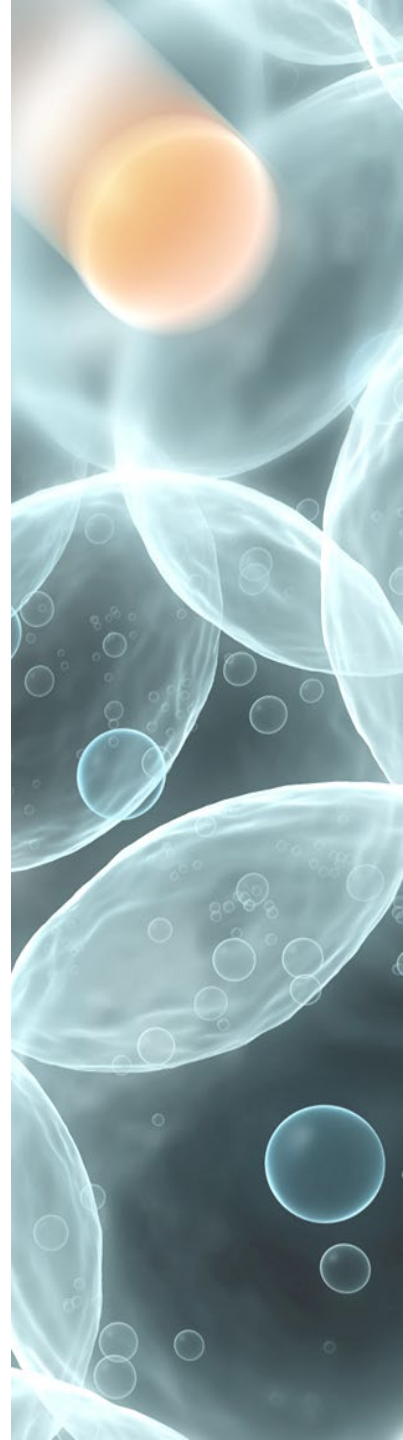
- Design discussions with global experts in US/EU (ongoing)
- Multi-center study – European centers only
- Randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel group
- One active dose arm and placebo
- Key eligibility criteria
  - Recipient of a transplant from a deceased donor (brain death or cardiac death criteria)
  - Kidney graft is to be preserved by static cold storage
  - Criteria for DGF risk required (enrichment for high DGF risk)
- Primary endpoint is kidney function (eGFR at 3 months after transplantation)
  - Potential for long-term follow-up
- Renal imaging, biopsies, urine biomarkers considered as secondary endpoints



# SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- Prevention of DGF and protection of kidney graft function is a large unmet medical need
  - Short-term and long-term complications (e.g., dialysis need, mortality)
- Attractive development with clear regulatory pathway to approval
- Large commercial opportunity in relation to anticipated size of development program
- No approved drugs and limited competition
  - No clinical development programs in late stage targeting DGF/renal function
- Strong scientific rationale & available data with RMC-035
  - Overlapping disease pathways in CS-AKI and DGF in kidney transplantation

Available clinical data of RMC-035 enables rapid progression to Phase 2





# Market considerations – pricing & reimbursement

Capital Markets Day, Stockholm

September 21, 2022

Tobias Agervald, CEO

# US MARKET & PRICING OPPORTUNITIES – IN SHORT

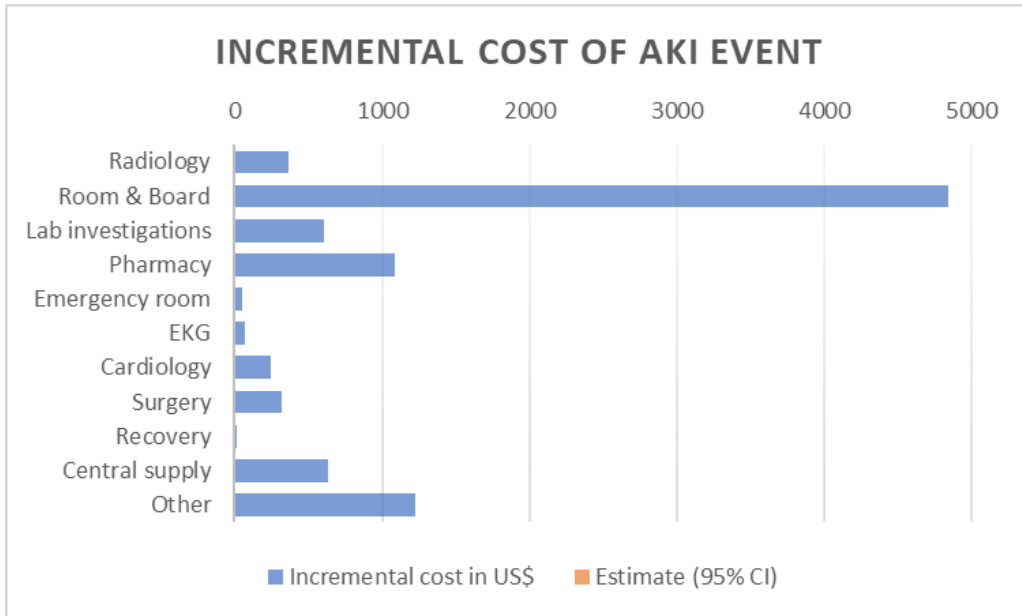
- Burden of CS-AKI after cardiac operations is well documented – cost exceeds ~\$1B annually in the US only
- In-patient hospital reimbursement expected via a bundled payment system termed diagnosis related group (DRG) or case rate
  - CABG is one of the top DRG margins for US hospitals
- RMC-035 has potential for New Technology Add-on Payment (NTAP)
- Anticipated product price at ~\$5k to \$7.5k per treatment according to US Hospital Pharmacy & Treatment (P&T) members
- ~\$15k to \$20k per treatment attainable for hospital formulary inclusion in more circumscribed patient population (e.g. chronic kidney disease -CKD)
- Market opportunity in the US only is projected to ~\$500M-\$750M

**Global market opportunity well above \$1B adding EU, JP & ROW**

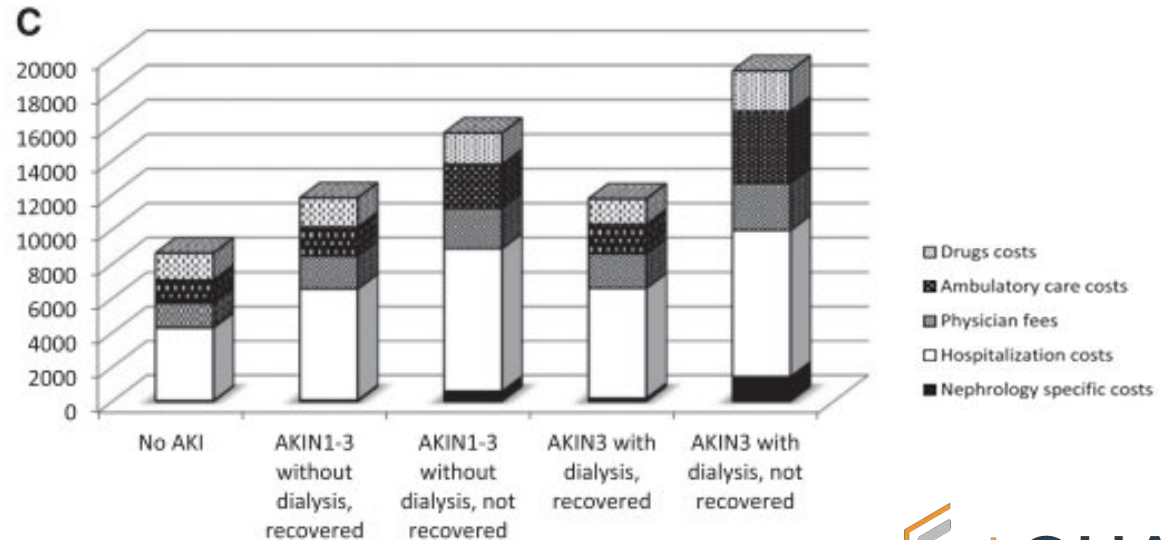
# CS-AKI IS A SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL BURDEN FOR HOSPITALS WITH ANNUAL COST IN THE US ~\$1B

<p><b>~\$1B</b></p> <p>in annual incremental hospitalization cost for CS-AKI patients</p>	<p><b>~\$40k</b></p> <p>in additional costs per hospitalization for CS-AKI</p>	<p><b>~6 day</b></p> <p>average increase in length of stay for AKI patients</p>	<p><b>~\$5,000</b></p> <p>Average cost for a day in ICU</p>	<p><b>~\$2,500</b></p> <p>Average cost for a day in the hospital</p>
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The incremental cost of an AKI event following cardiac procedures in the US is largely driven by length of stay



Costs for nephrology care in the 90-days to 1-year following hospital admission is significantly higher for patients with AKI (Canadian dollars)



Sources: External analysis (Draft report, September 2022) & prior work, expert interviews; <https://www.nephrocheck.com/global/aki-detection-urgency/>, Ann Thorac Surg. 2018 Feb;105(2):469-475, Am J Cardiol. 2020 Jan 1;125(1):29-33, Clin J Am Soc Nephrol. 2017 Nov 7;12(11):1733-1743





# LARGE DISSATISFACTION WITH CURRENT LACK OF THERAPIES IN CS-AKI

- No available treatment options
- No relevant off-label therapies

**“Current options for CS-AKI are very poor”** – US Interventional Nephrologist

**“I am highly unsatisfied with current options for CS-AKI... the situation is even worse for CKD patients, who account for ~15-20% of our patients if you use a liberal definition”**– US Cardiothoracic Surgeon

## Degree of Satisfaction with Current Options for CS-AKI

Completely satisfied

5



1.5

1

Highly unsatisfied



# RMC-035 MECHANISM & TARGET PRODUCT PROFILE VIEWED FAVORABLY BY CLINICIANS

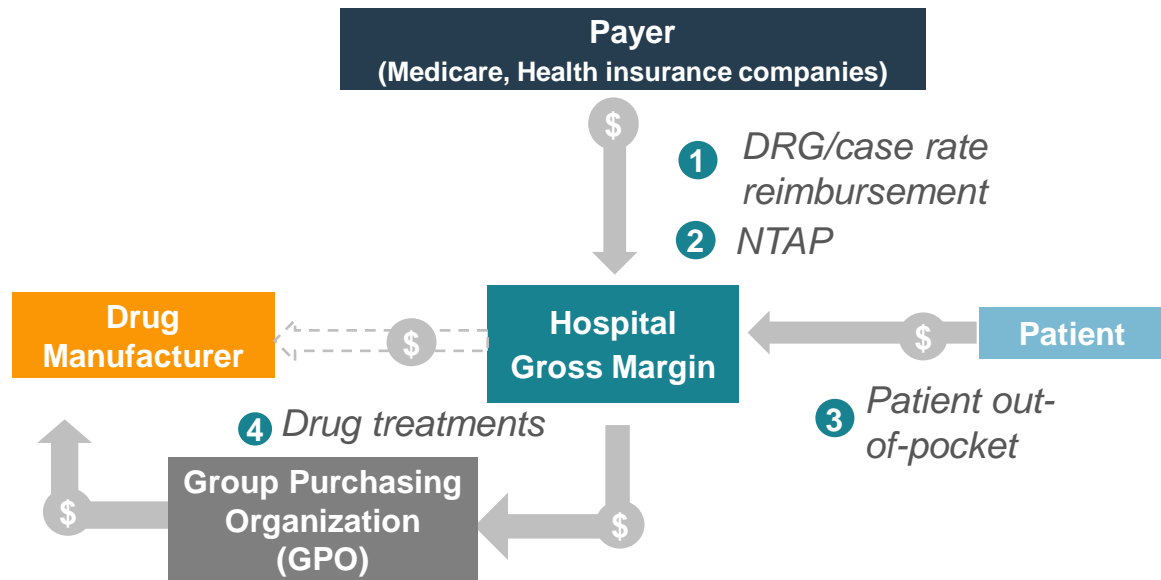
- Target product profile (TPP) of RMC-035 viewed favorably by clinicians: large unmet medical need & financial burden of AKI
- RMC-035 mechanism viewed as novel & clearly differentiated – not a “me-too drug”
- Highlighted importance of endpoints such as length of hospital stay, length of ICU stay, dialysis requirement
  - CS-AKI is a key performance indicator at most US hospitals
- Strong interest in subgroup of patients with CKD
  - Medicare spending for CKD patients >65 years old exceeded \$50B in 2014, with a significant portion of spending allocated to dialysis patients

PRODUCT X TPP		Overview
Product X, a biologic recombinant variant of the endogenous A1M protein, has shown safety and proof-of-mechanism in a Phase 1b study in Cardiac Surgery related Acute Kidney Injury (CS-AKI)		
<b>Overview</b>		
Mechanism of Action	<p><b>Variant of the endogenous protein A1M</b> with minor changes to the native amino acid sequence designed to increase solubility and stability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhances reduction of oxidative stress, mitochondrial stress, and removal of heme (breakdown product of free hemoglobin) that occurs following ischemic kidney injury</li> <li>• Ischemic kidney injury results from aortic cross-clamping, low blood pressure, hypoperfusion, micro-embolisms &amp; repeat ischemia-reperfusion injury (IRI) during cardio-pulmonary bypass (CPB)</li> <li>• Preclinical data shows Product X reduces proteinuria, plasma creatinine, and blood urea nitrogen while improving renal function in multiple IRI-AKI models</li> <li>• Further, Product X reduced heme-driven kidney injury in rhabdomyolysis and heme-infusion models and protected against cisplatin and radiation induced kidney injury</li> </ul>	
Phase 2 Study Dosing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administered as one IV infusion over 60 minutes 10 minutes before the start of CPB, with four additional doses over 30 minutes 6-, 12-, 24-, and 48-hours following surgery (5 doses in total)</li> <li>• Variable start dose based on the patient population:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 1.3 mg/kg if eGFR ≥ 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>– 0.65 mg/kg in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD), defined as eGFR &lt; 60 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Efficacy Data-to-Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At 6 hours after cardiac surgery in 12 patients (N = 8 with Product X and N = 4 receiving placebo), an exploratory analysis showed Product X led to a reduced postoperative increase in urine biomarkers of tubular stress and injury including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Liver fatty acid binding protein (L-FABP), neutrophil gelatinase associated lipocalin (NGAL) and NephroCheck® biomarkers (FDA-approved markers to predict onset of AKI)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Safety and Pharmacokinetic (PK) Data to Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product X has been used in healthy subjects (N = 36), renally impaired subjects (N = 8), and cardiac surgery patients (N = 8), with <b>no serious adverse events (SAEs) attributable to the study drug</b></li> <li>• Product X has shown a predictable and consistent PK profile with rapid elimination from plasma</li> <li>• Product X is renally cleared and specifically targets proximal tubular cells</li> </ul>	

# IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL REIMBURSEMENT OF RMC-035 EXPECTED WITHIN A BUNDLED PAYMENT SYSTEM

- Bundled payment for CABG/valve surgery – Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) or case rate
- Hospital margin linked to reimbursement level in DRG system
- Cardiac surgery well reimbursed – provides opportunity to add new therapies

## Hospital Reimbursement Landscape



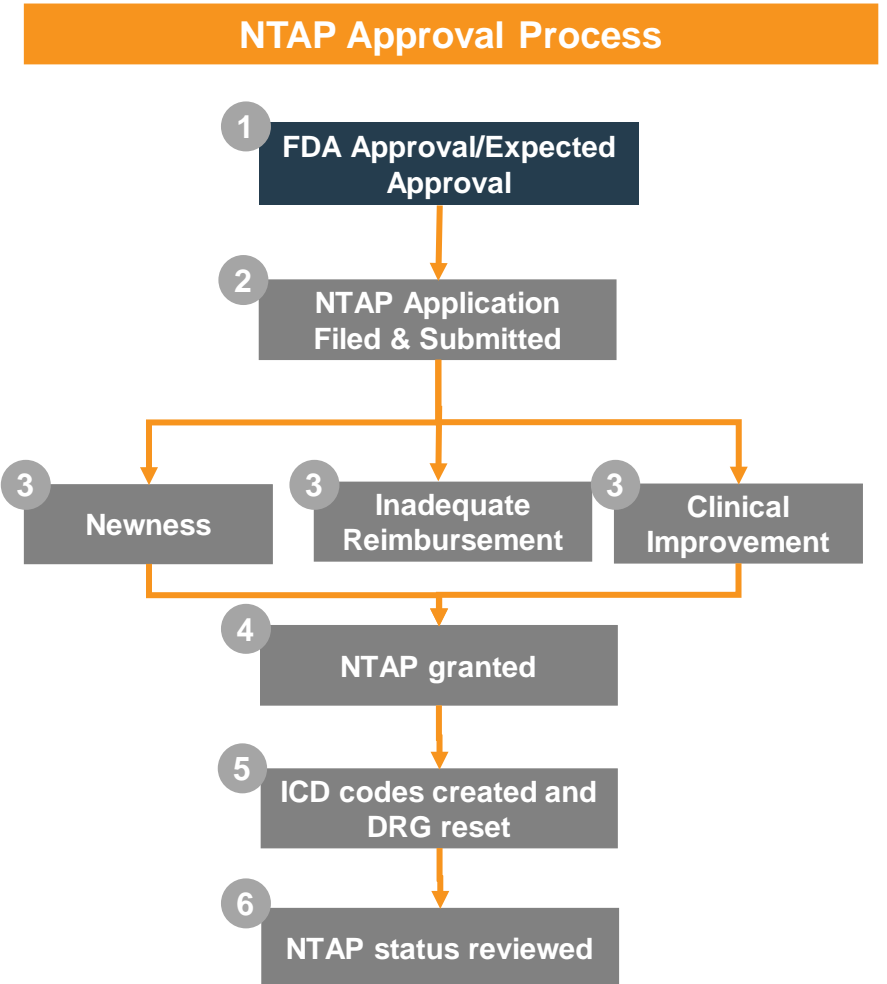
*“Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG) is one of the top DRG margins for the hospital”– US Hospital P&T Member*

# RMC-035 HAS POTENTIAL FOR NTAP

- Intended as a temporary 2-3-year designation, New Technology Add-on Payment (NTAP) status is granted until DRGs are reset

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) necessitates technologies meet newness, cost, & clinical improvement criteria**

- **Newness:** Technologies must be approved within the last 2-3 years and are evaluated on relative “newness” through its mechanism of action, DRG coding, and treated patient populations
- **Inadequate reimbursement:** Case charges must be >75% above a standard deviation of the Medicare Severity (MS)-DRG case rate
- **Clinical Improvement:** Use of the technology must significantly improve clinical outcomes for a specified patient population, compared to currently available treatments

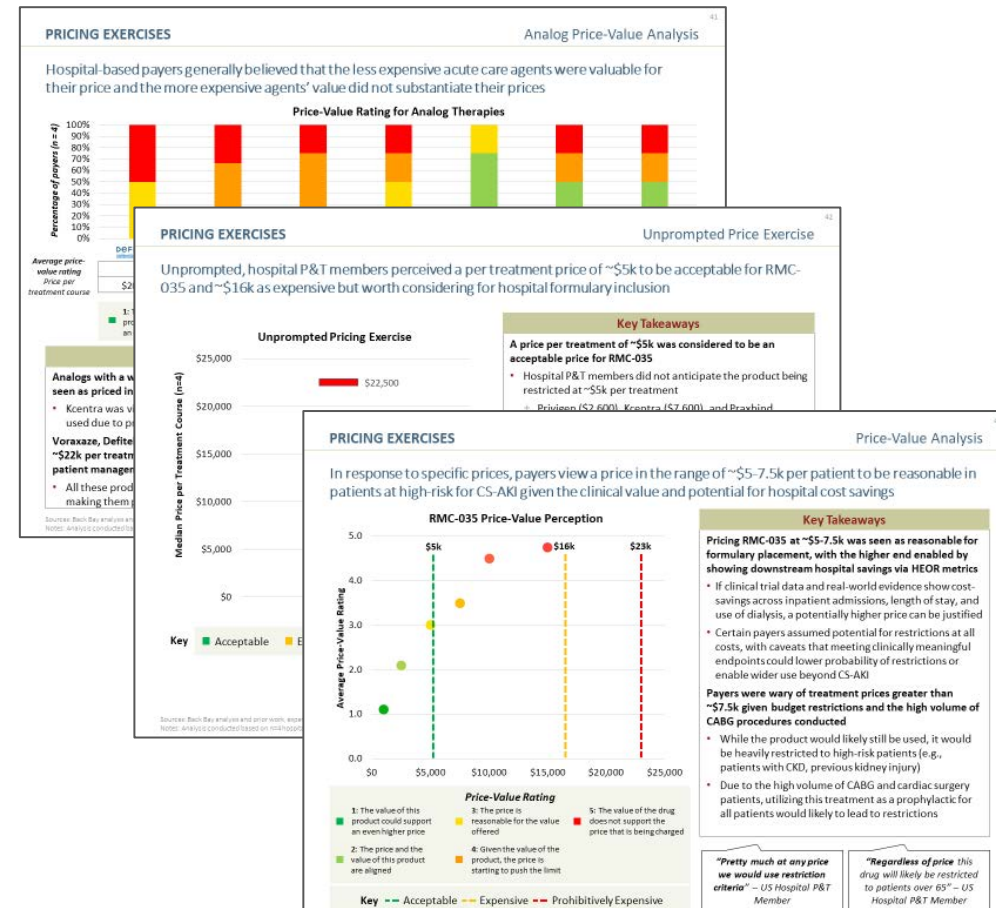


# METHODOLOGY & APPROACH TO PRICING RESEARCH

- Interviews with stakeholders across US clinical and hospital P&T settings and clinicians with deep experience in management of CS-AKI
  - Covering regional health center, large community hospital, academic medical centers, city hospitals
- Pricing exercises
  - Analogue price value
    - Respondents' perception of price vs clinical value for available analog products
  - Psychological thresholds
    - Unprompted view on acceptable, expensive, and prohibitively expensive price thresholds for RMC-035 treatment
  - Product value
    - Identified clear price points where respondents' perception of price versus clinical value changes from positive to negative

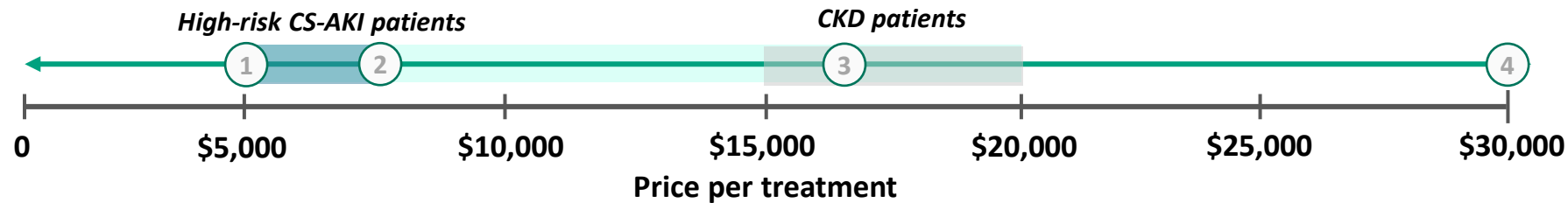
# HOSPITAL P&T MEMBERS: ~\$5K TO \$7.5K PER TREATMENT OF RMC-035 ACCEPTABLE FOR HIGHER RISK PATIENTS (CURRENT TPP)

- Payers benchmarked acceptable pricing to less expensive pricing analogs due to high volume of CABG procedures
  - Analogs with lower price points are more likely to see rapid and generalized uptake in the acute setting
- Unprompted, hospital P&T members perceived a treatment price of ~\$5k to \$7.5k acceptable per patient
- ~\$16k perceived as expensive but still worth considering for hospital formulary inclusion (eg for defined subgroups of patients)





# RATIONALE FOR PRICE RANGE ~\$5,000-\$20,000 FOR RMC-035, PARTICULARLY IF EVIDENCE FOR DIRECT COST OFFSET OR REDUCTION OF SEVERE RENAL DISEASE



1 Hospital P&T members did not anticipate the product being restricted at < \$7.5k per treatment across patients at high-risk for CS-AKI, noting the cost per day in the hospital/ICU is \$2.5k/\$5k and RMC-035 could lead to a direct cost offset

2 ~\$7,500/course was seen as the upper pricing limit for RMC-035 assuming that HEOR metrics establish cost-savings for hospitals, with stakeholders also noting a price greater than ~\$7.5k could potentially lead to restrictions

3 Hospital P&T members perceived a per treatment price of ~\$16k to be expensive but still worth considering for formulary inclusion given the expense associated with patients who progress to severe renal disease following cardiac surgery. A range of ~\$15-20k is potentially acceptable in a more circumscribed population such as patients with CKD.

4 Angion's ANG-3777 was projected to be priced at ~\$30,000 in DGF AKI (less common than CS-AKI)

# INITIAL MARKET OPPORTUNITY IN CS-AKI

## ~\$500M-\$750M (US ONLY)

- Target patient population is patients who undergo open cardiac surgery (CABG, valve, or combination CABG/valve) at increased risk for CS-AKI
- Total population ~250,000 patients
  - ~160-180,000 CABG with or without valve
  - ~80-100,000 valves (open)
- ~40% of total population fulfil AKI risk criteria
- Addressable patient population ~100,000
- Price potential with current TPP ~\$5-7.5k per patient
- Total US addressable market opportunity ~**\$500M-\$750M**
- Global addressable market opportunity in CS-AKI is well above ~**\$1B**
  - Similar patient numbers in EU5 & US
  - Orphan opportunity in JP

# SUMMARY & CONCLUSION – US MARKET OPPORTUNITY

- Burden of CS-AKI after cardiac surgery exceeds ~\$1B annually (US only)
- In-patient hospital reimbursement for RMC-035 expected via bundled payment
  - CABG surgery well reimbursed – top DRG margins for US hospitals
  - NTAP pathway possible to increase DRG reimbursement level
- Hospital P&T members anticipated price for RMC-035 ~\$5k to \$7.5k per treatment according to current TPP
  - Evidence for direct cost savings (e.g. length of hospital stay) increases value proposition
- ~\$15k to \$20k per treatment likely for hospital formulary inclusion in more circumscribed population (e.g. CKD patients)
- US addressable market opportunity in CS-AKI based on current TPP is ~\$500M-\$750M
- Global addressable market opportunity in CS-AKI is well above ~\$1B

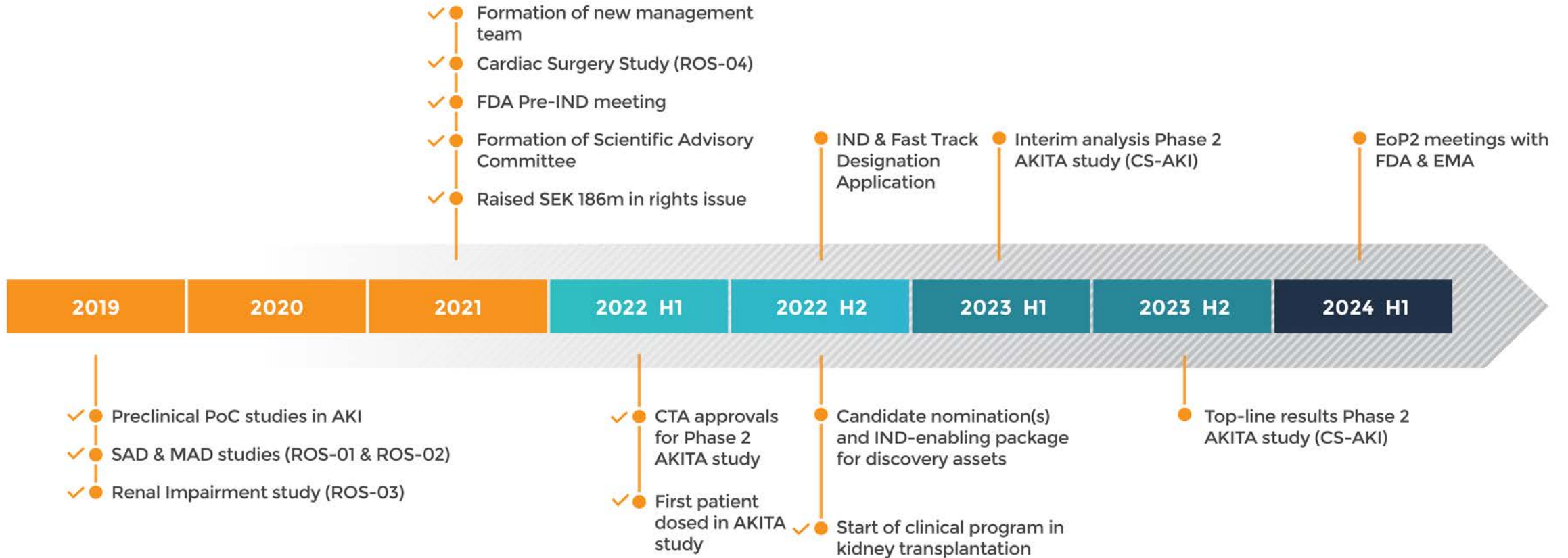
**Significant additional market opportunity with indication expansion**

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

**TOBIAS AGERVALD, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**GUARD THERAPEUTICS INTERNATIONAL AB**

# RECENT AND ANTICIPATED NEWS FLOW





# GUARD THERAPEUTICS – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Developing RMC-035, a first-in-class drug for the prevention/early treatment of CS-AKI, a severe and common condition without available therapies
- ✓ Novel mode of action, highly differentiated from competitors, limited competition with high potential to become first-to-market in CS-AKI
- ✓ Addressing significant market opportunity >\$1B annually
- ✓ Patent protection until 2037 with potential for further patent extension
- ✓ Strong clinical data in early development with favorable safety profile and biomarker data supportive of kidney cell protection
- ✓ Ongoing large global Phase 2 study (AKITA), recruitment follows projections
- ✓ Significant value inflection points with anticipated interim analysis Q1 2023 and full study results Q4 2023, facilitating design of pivotal study to support NDA/MAA

# Q & A

