

# Novel therapies targeting kidney disease

Company Presentation

October 2024



# FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

*This presentation contains certain forward looking information that reflects Guard Therapeutics International AB (publ)'s current views of future events and financial and operational performance. Words such as “intends”, “anticipates”, “expects”, “can”, “plans”, “estimates” and similar expressions regarding indications or forecasts of future developments or trends, and which are not based on historical facts, constitute forward looking information.*

*Forward looking information is inherently associated with both known and unknown risks and uncertainties because it is dependent on future events and circumstances. Forward looking information is not a guarantee of future results or developments, and actual results may differ materially from results referred to in forward looking information. Forward looking information in this presentation is only applicable on the date of issue of the report. Guard Therapeutics International AB (publ) does not commit to publishing updates or revision of any forward looking statements as a result of new information, future events or similar circumstances other than those required by applicable regulations.*

# PIONEERING TRANSFORMATIVE MEDICINES FOR KIDNEY DISEASE






















## RMC-035 for kidney protection in open heart surgery

- > **Phase 2b *POINTER*** study with RMC-035 initiated – **results expected year-end 2025**
- > **Granted FDA Fast Track Designation** (kidney protection in open heart surgery); eligible for Breakthrough Therapy Designation
- > **Clinical proof-of-concept established in Phase 2a *AKITA* study with 177 patients**
  - > **59% reduction vs placebo (*MAKE*, regulatory endpoint)**
- > **First-to-market potential** in open-heart surgery; >USD 1 billion market – no approved therapies

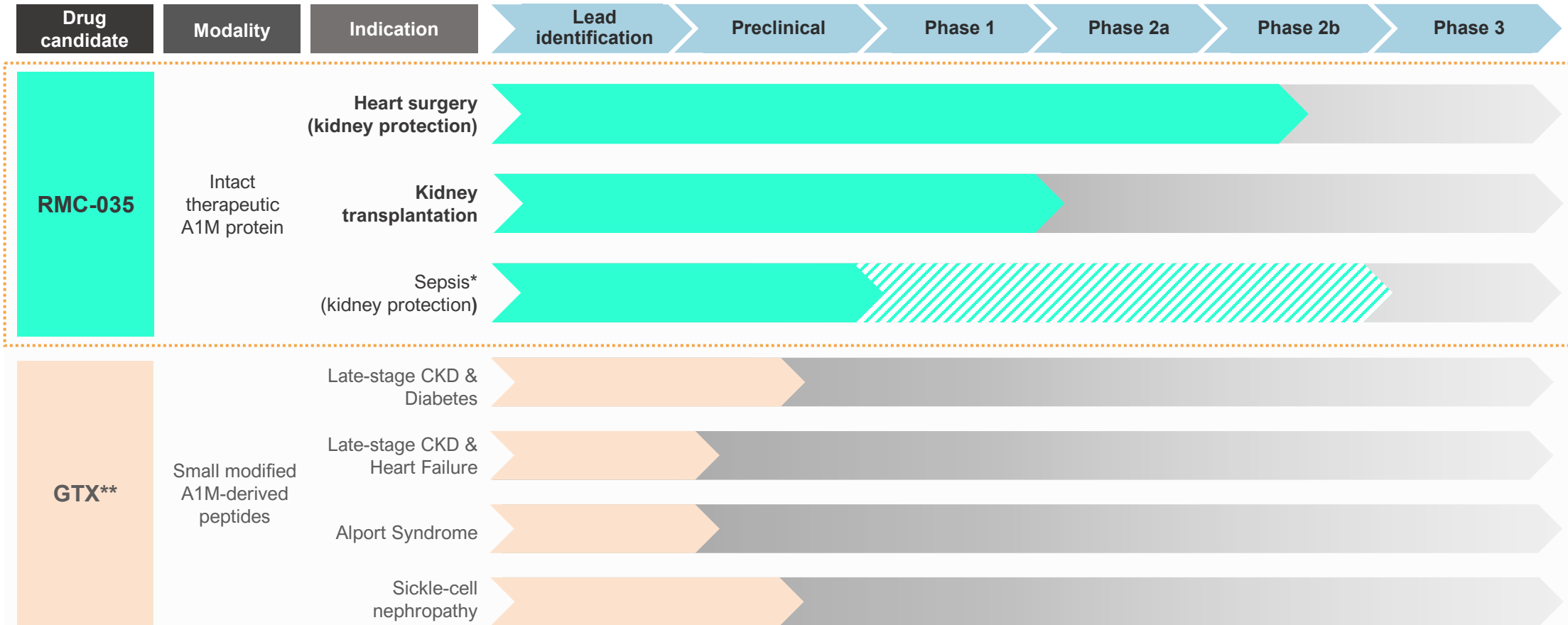
## Additional opportunities with RMC-035 & GTX peptides

- > **Phase 3 ready sepsis programme** and **Phase 2a/b ready kidney transplantation programme** for >USD 5.6 billion market
- > **Unique positioning of preclinical GTX peptides** in late stage and orphan chronic kidney diseases for >USD 8 billion market
- > Listed in Stockholm with top shareholders including Industrifonden and Swedbank Robur [Nasdaq FN Growth Market: GUARD]

# EXPERIENCED MANAGEMENT TEAM WITH STRONG & PROVEN TRACK RECORD IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT

NAME / POSITION		EXPERIENCE	NAME / POSITION		EXPERIENCE		
	<b>TOBIAS L. AGERVALD</b> MD, PhD, CEO	<b>+10</b> years in industry			<b>KARIN BOTHA</b> MSc, CFO	<b>+20</b> years in industry	   GlaxoSmithKline
	<b>MICHAEL REUSCH</b> MD, CMO	<b>+30</b> years in industry	 		<b>PETER GILMOUR</b> MSc, PhD, CSO/Head of Preclinical	<b>+20</b> years in industry	 
	<b>TORBJÖRN LARSSON</b> BSc, Head of CMC	<b>+30</b> years in industry	  		<b>SARA THURESSON</b> MSc, Head of Clinical Operations	<b>+15</b> years in industry	   

# LATE-STAGE RMC-035 DEVELOPMENT WITH MULTIPLE PIPELINE OPPORTUNITIES



\* Opportunity to initiate pivotal Phase 3 study in sepsis following results in ongoing Phase 2b study (POINTER) in open-heart surgery.

\*\* Multiple GTX peptides fulfill criteria for candidate drug nomination. GTX-86 at nomination stage.

A1M, alpha-1-microglobulin.

# CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE & END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE – A GLOBAL HEALTH CONCERN

## **Acute Kidney Injury (AKI):**

- Multiple causes, often resulting from in-hospital complications like severe infections & sepsis and major surgeries (e.g., open-heart surgery, kidney transplantation)
- 50% or more of high-risk open-heart surgery patients develop AKI; addressable patient population ~100,000-120,000 cases per year in the US alone (~30,000 patients with pre-operative CKD)

## **Progression to Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)**

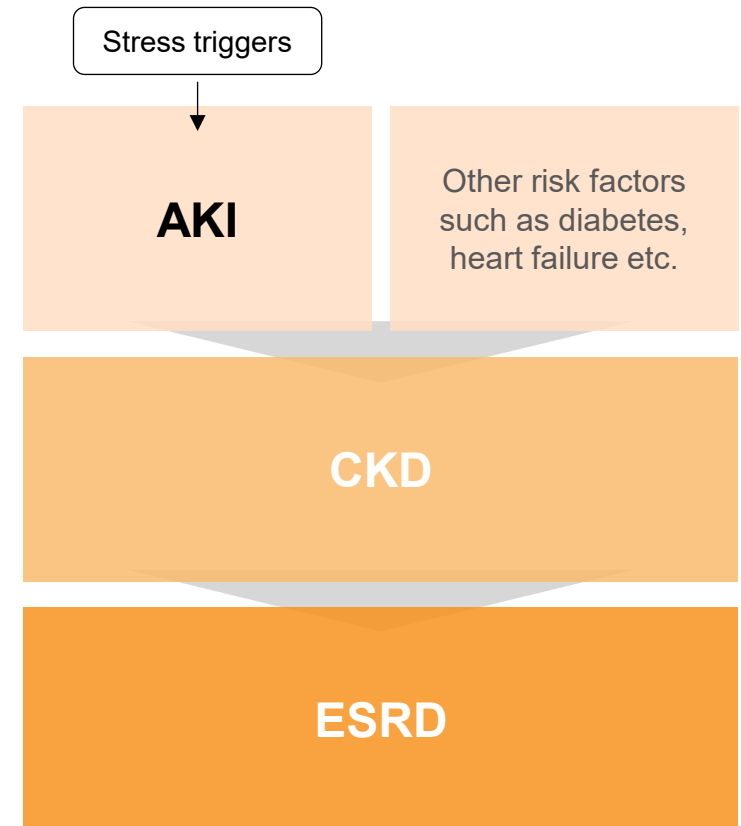
- AKI raises the risk of CKD; 15-20% progress to advanced CKD within 24 months
- CKD leads to severe complications, e.g., cardiovascular disease and kidney failure
- Years of life lost (YLL) from CKD are expected to surpass diabetes by 2040

## **AKI in patients with pre-existing CKD:**

- CKD is a strong risk factor for AKI
- AKI in CKD accelerates progression to ESRD – high unmet need

## **CKD to End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD):**

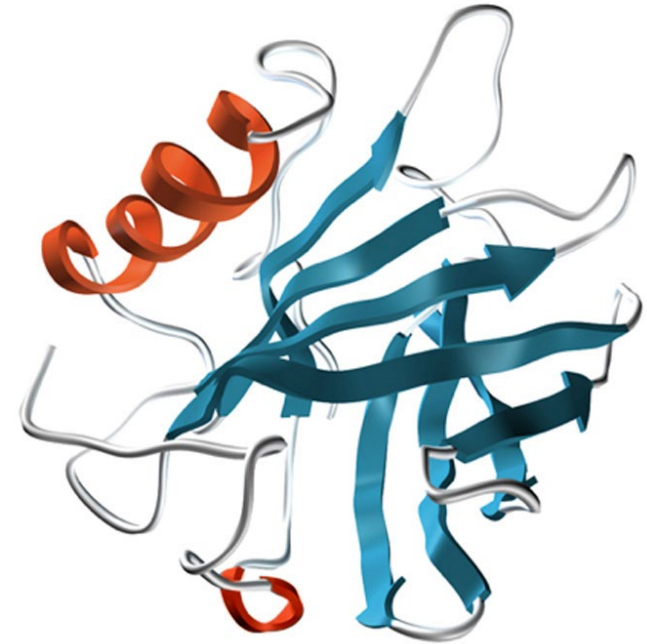
- 10-15% of CKD patients advance to ESRD; requires dialysis or kidney transplant
- High mortality rate (15-20%), worse than many cancers
- Represents 7% of Medicare costs but affects 1% of the population



# NOVEL THERAPEUTIC APPROACH

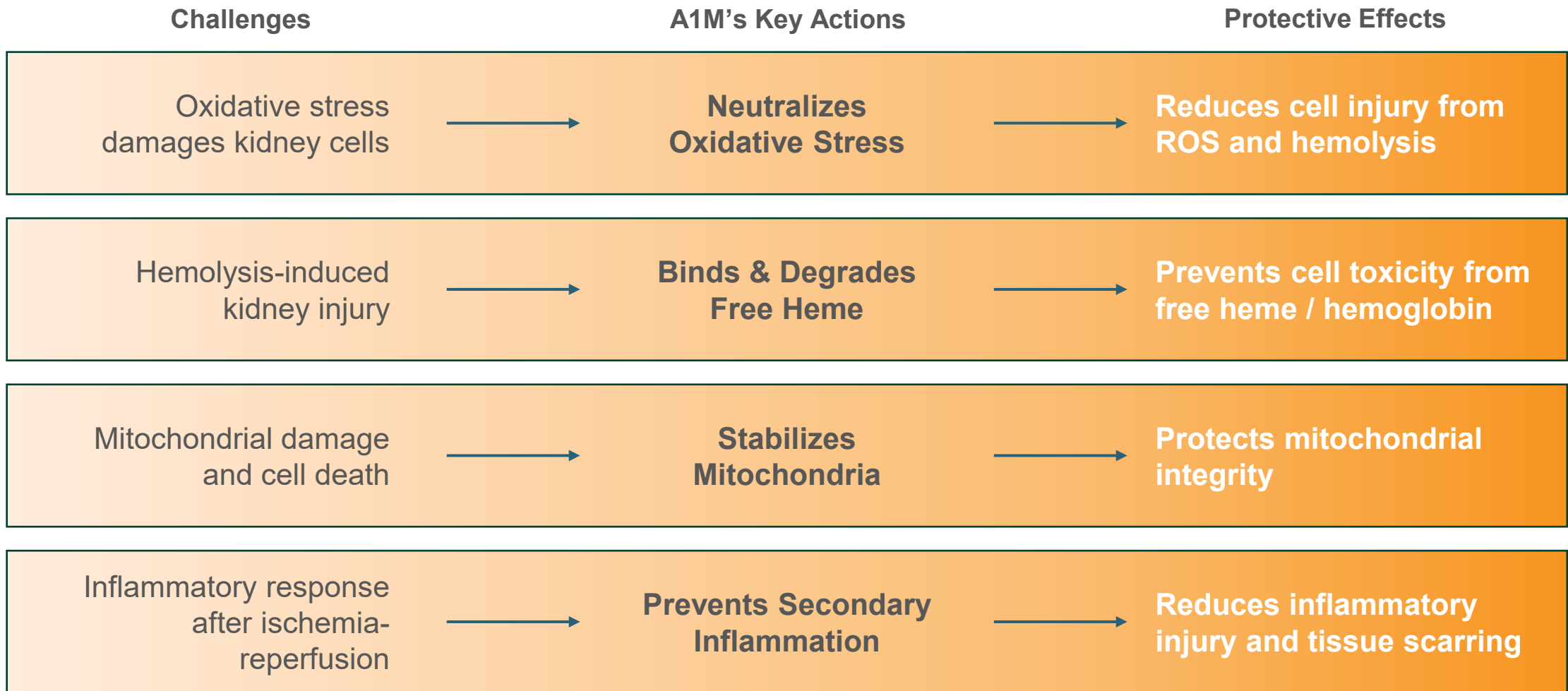
## Harnessing natural properties of alpha-1-microglobulin (A1M) to protect the kidneys

- **Preferentially distributed to kidney** including proximal tubules
- **Reduces oxidative stress** and **heme toxicity**, two primary triggers in the onset of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)
- **Eases stress on kidneys** during high-risk situations, such as open-heart surgery, potentially lowering the incidence of AKI in vulnerable patients
- **Supports kidney recovery**, offering a new avenue to prevent the progression of AKI to more severe stages like CKD and ESRD
- Potentially **saving lives** while also **reducing the substantial financial burden** on the healthcare system



*3-D structure of A1M protein*

# A1M PROTECTS KIDNEY FUNCTION BY TARGETING CRITICAL DISEASE PATHWAYS







**RMC-035**

**(recombinant alpha-1-microglobulin)**

**Kidney protection in heart surgery**

# COMPLETED PHASE 2a AKITA STUDY

## – OUTLINE & OBJECTIVES



- Recruitment in the **US, Canada & Europe**
- Double-blind, placebo-controlled (1:1 RMC-035:placebo) in patients undergoing **open-heart surgery at increased risk for kidney injury**
- Sample size ~170 to maximum 348 subjects
- Main objective: **Proving efficacy & safety with the maximum possible dose**
  - *Primary endpoint: Acute eGFR, not accepted for regulatory approval*
  - *Secondary endpoints: Long-term eGFR, accepted for regulatory approval*
- Start dose 1.3 mg/kg; reduced to 0.65 mg/kg for patients with low pre-operative renal function
  - *Overexposure risks linked to short-term eGFR dip*

# COMPLETED PHASE 2a AKITA STUDY – FLOWCHART



**Primary (acute) endpoint**  
AKI within 72 hours  
(surrogate marker for long-term stable eGFR)

**Secondary endpoints**  
eGFR & MAKE



**Surgery time:** ~4-6 hours  
**Treatment duration:** ~48 hours  
**Time in hospital:** ~7 days  
**Follow-up time:** up to 90 days after surgery

AKI, acute kidney injury; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; MAKE, major adverse kidney events.



# PHASE 2a RESULTS SUPPORT ROBUST EFFICACY ON HARD KIDNEY ENDPOINTS

Efficacy stronger than required for regulatory approval based on renal function (eGFR) & Major Adverse Kidney Events (MAKE) on Day 90

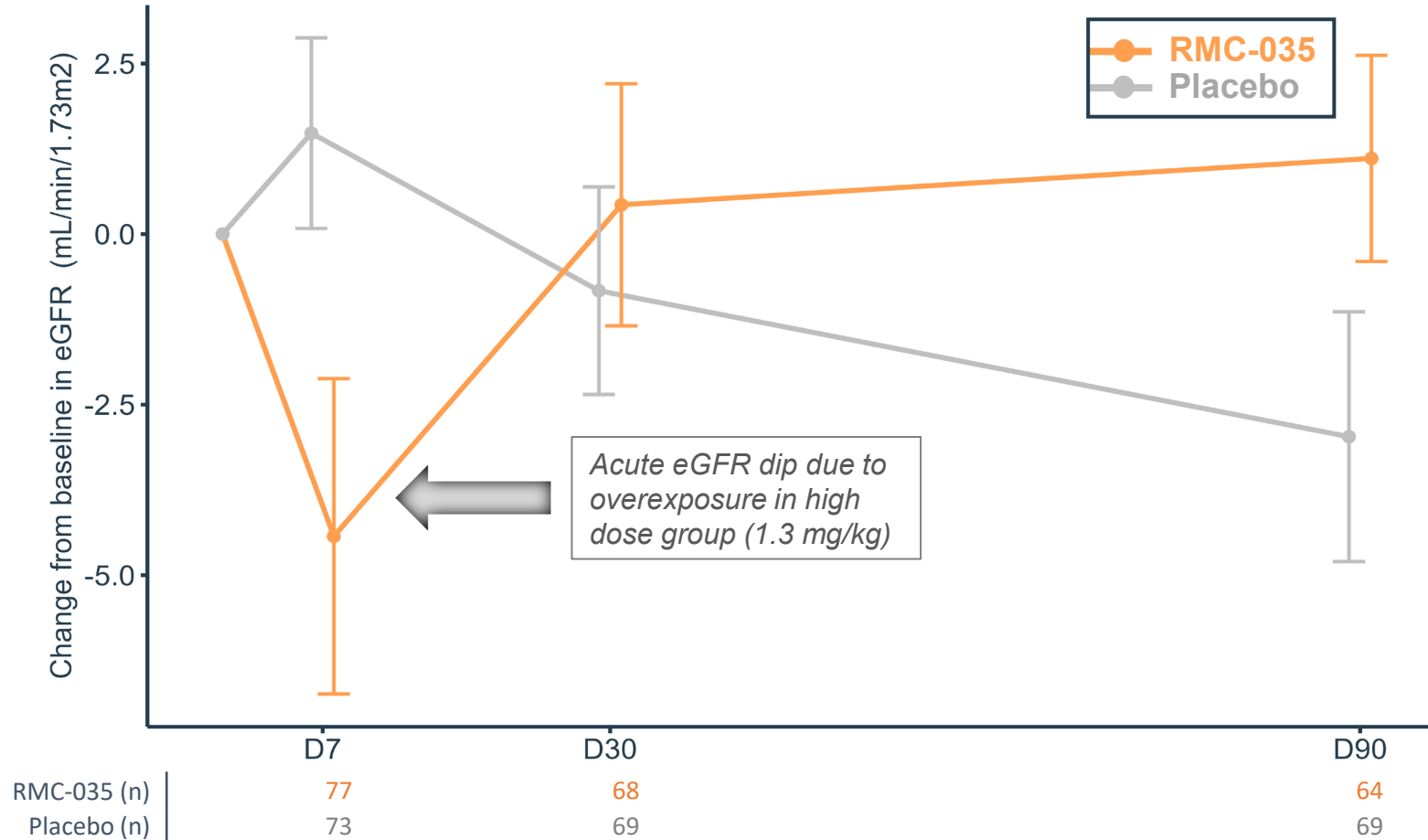
- **Statistically significant & clinically relevant improvement of renal function (eGFR) vs placebo**
  - Improved eGFR vs placebo 4.3 mL/min (full population)
  - Improved eGFR vs placebo 7.9 mL/min (pre-defined subgroup of patients with chronic kidney disease [CKD])
- **Reduced proportion of patients with MAKE (i.e., severe loss of kidney function)**
  - 59% risk reduction vs placebo for composite endpoint MAKE (death, dialysis or  $\geq 25\%$  eGFR loss)
  - FDA recommends **MAKE as primary endpoint in Phase 3 – 20% risk reduction sufficient for approval**

**Results support progression to Phase 2b**



# RENAL FUNCTION (EGFR) – CHANGE FROM BASELINE

Clinically & statistically significant Improvement of long-term renal function with RMC-035 vs placebo



**eGFR benefit at Day 90:**

**MMRM model**  
4.3 mL/min  
p=0.06\*

Pre-defined alpha level was 0.1.  
P-values < 0.1 are statistically significant.

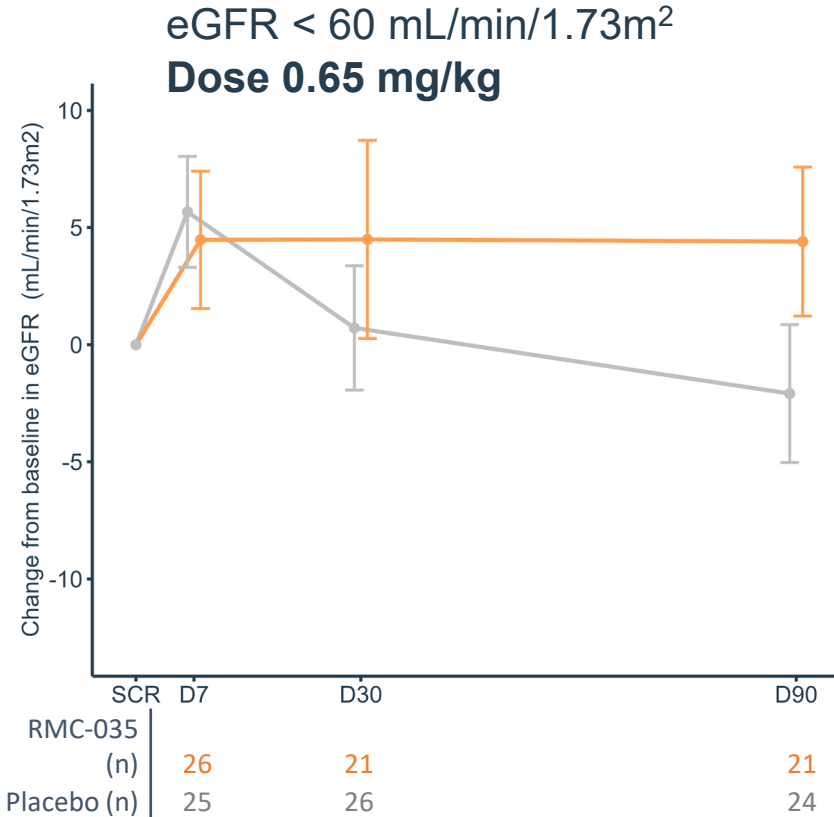
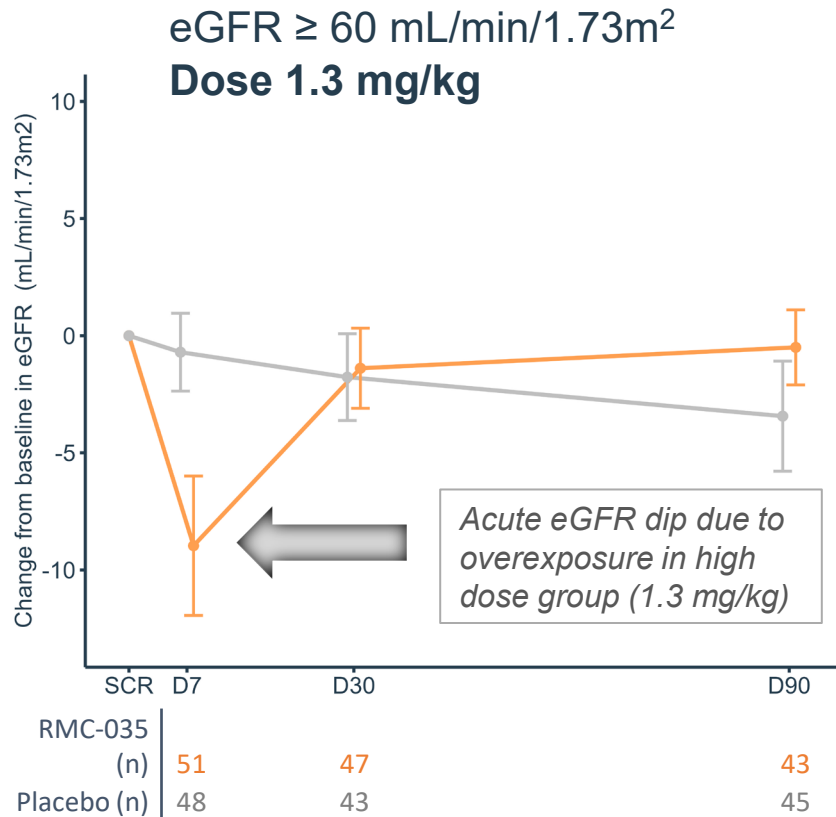
Source: Table 14.2.3.3.1. Error bars indicate mean +/- Standard Error (SE); eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; MMRM, Mixed Model of Repeated Measures.



# RENAL FUNCTION (EGFR) – CHANGE FROM BASELINE

Clinically & statistically significant Improvement of long-term renal function with RMC-035 vs placebo

eGFR subgroups pre-specified based on different start doses and risk for kidney injury



**eGFR benefit at Day 90:**

Subgroup	MMRM model
eGFR ≥ 60	2.3 mL/min p=0.41
eGFR < 60	7.9 mL/min <b>p=0.05</b>

Pre-defined alpha level was 0.1.  
P-values < 0.1 are statistically significant.

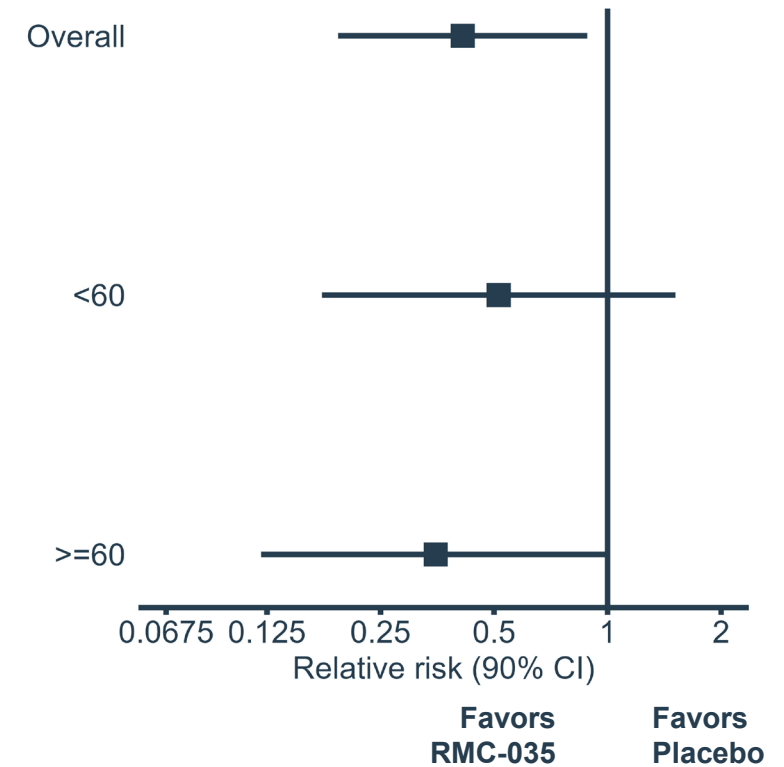
Source: Table 14.2.3.3.1. Error bars indicate mean +/- Standard Error; MMRM, Mixed Model of Repeated Measures.



# MAKE90\* – REGULATORY PHASE 3 ENDPOINT MET

Clinically & statistically significant reduction of MAKE90 – efficacy signal present irrespective of start dose

	RMC-035 (N=89)	Placebo (N=88)
Number (%) of Subjects with MAKE at Day 90	6 (6.7%)	14 (15.9%)
Death through Day 90	4	4
Dialysis through Day 90	3	2
<b>≥25% eGFR* reduction at Day 90</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>
Relative Risk (90% CI)	0.41 (0.19, 0.88) <b>p&lt;0.05</b>	



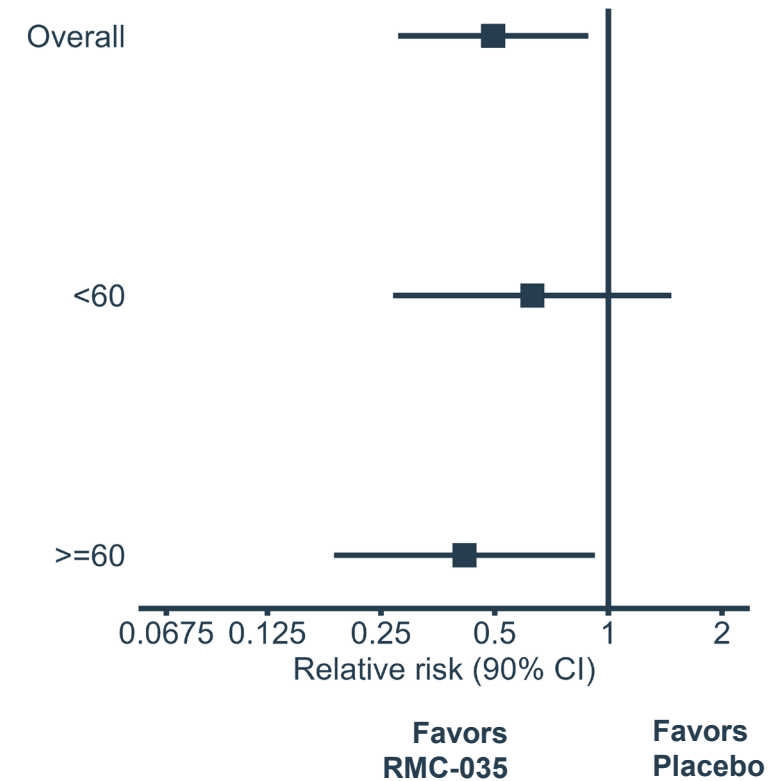
Source: Table 14.2.3.9.1. CI, confidence interval; MAKE, Major Adverse Kidney Events.  
 Note (\*): eGFR calculated using CKD-EPI equation with serum creatinine.



# SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF MAKE90\*

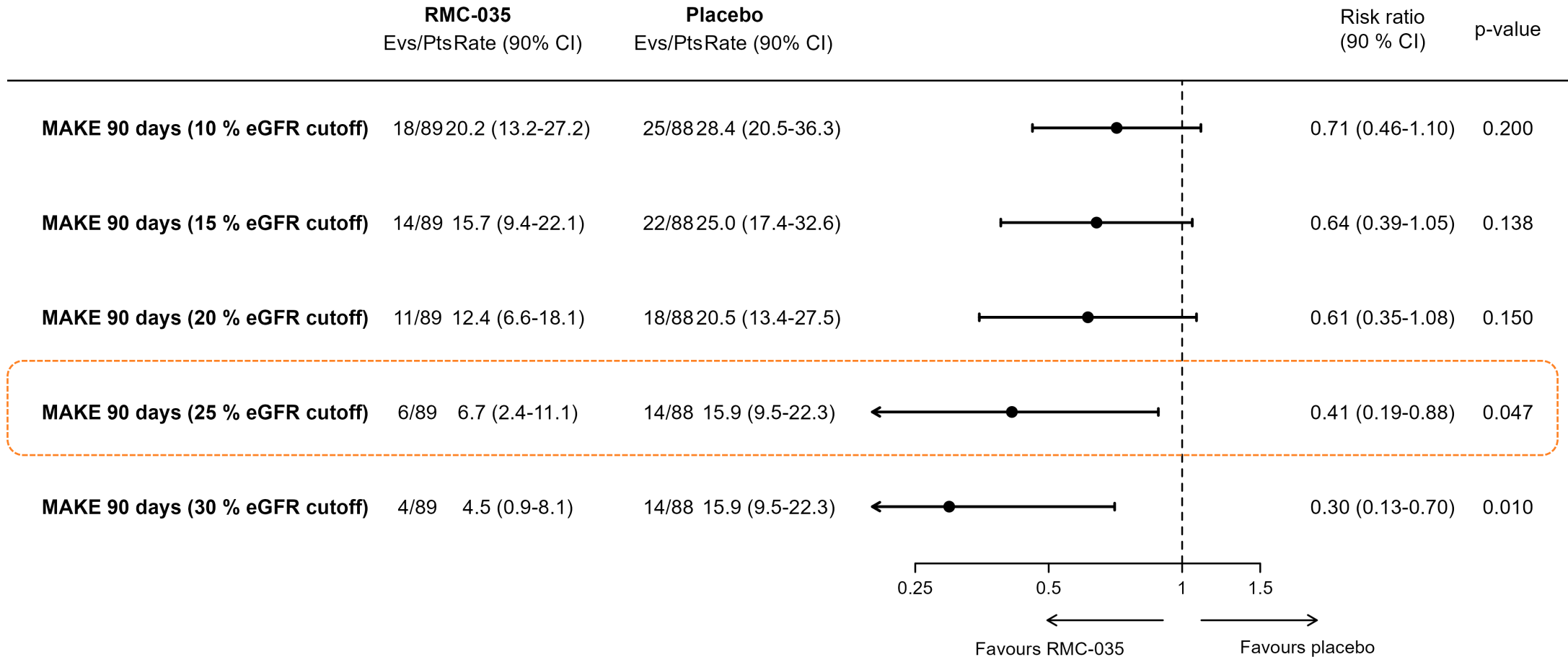
Confirms efficacy signal on regulatory phase 3 endpoint – irrespective of start dose

	RMC-035 (N=89)	Placebo (N=88)
Number (%) of Subjects with MAKE at Day 90	10 (11.2%)	20 (22.7%)
Death through Day 90	4	4
Dialysis through Day 90	3	2
<b>≥25% eGFR* reduction at Day 90</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>
Relative Risk (90% CI)	0.50 (0.28, 0.88) <b>p&lt;0.05</b>	





# RMC-035 CONSISTENTLY REDUCES MAKE90 USING VARIOUS THRESHOLDS OF eGFR LOSS



Source: post-hoc analyses of Study 21-ROS-05. MAKE, major adverse kidney events; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate

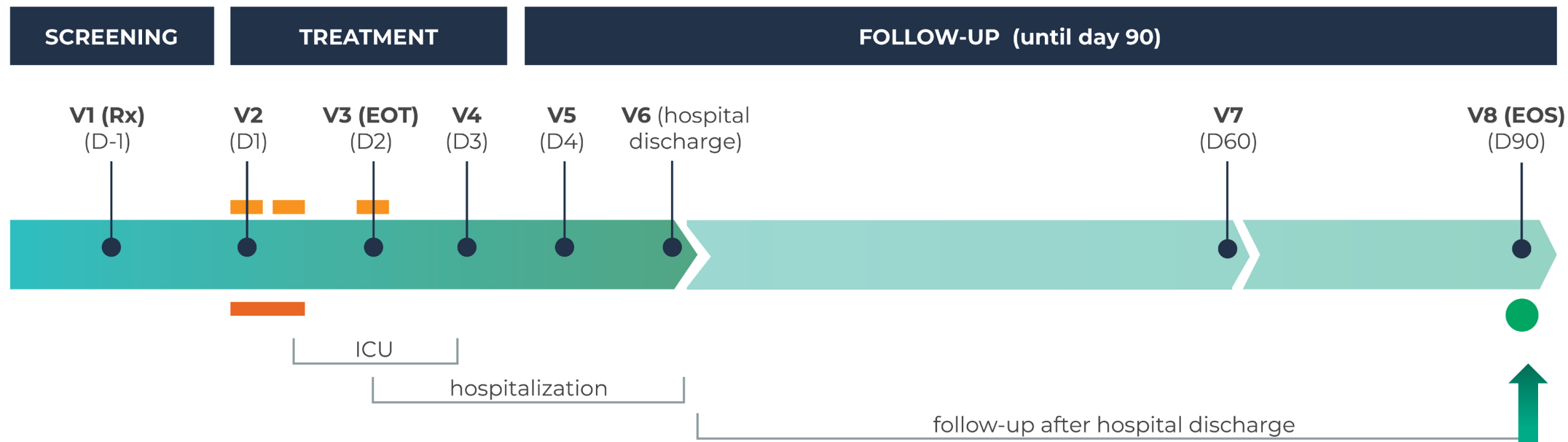
# ONGOING PHASE 2b *POINTER* STUDY

## – OUTLINE & OBJECTIVES



- Study protocol reviewed by the FDA (US IND study)
- **First patient enrolled in Q3 2024** (Canada & EU)
- Main objective: **establish dose & target population** for Phase 3
- Sample size **~160 patients** (30% required to have chronic kidney disease [CKD])
- Two dose arms (60 & 30 mg) & Placebo (2:2:3 randomization)
- **Data Safety Monitoring Committee** (DSMC) to review data from 1/3 & 2/3 of patients
- Expected **recruitment time ~1 year**
- All patients **followed up to 90 days after surgery**

# ONGOING PHASE 2b *POINTER* STUDY – FLOWCHART



**Rx** = randomization  
**EOT** = end-of-treatment  
**EOS** = end-of-study

- study visit
- administration of study drug
- cardiac surgery
- primary endpoint evaluation

**Key endpoints on Day 90:**

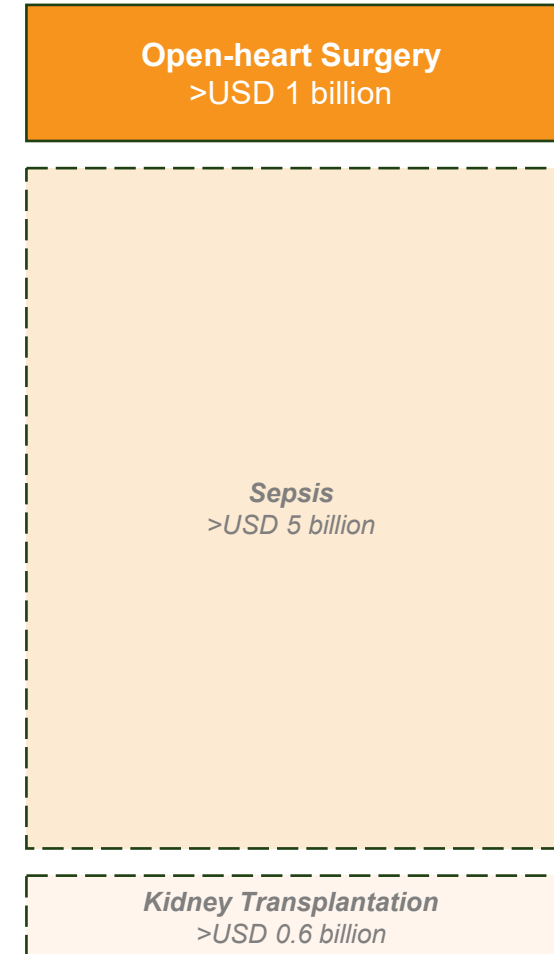
Primary: change of renal function (eGFR) from baseline

Secondary: MAKE

ICU, intensive care unit; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; MAKE, major adverse kidney outcomes

# CLEAR PATH TOWARDS MARKET APPROVAL FOR RMC-035

- **Fast Track Designation** granted by the US FDA
  - *Reducing risk for death, dialysis or irreversible loss of kidney function in patients undergoing open-chest cardiac surgery at high risk for acute kidney injury*
- Indication eligible for **Breakthrough Therapy Designation**
- **Single pivotal Phase 3 study** sufficient to support market approval
  - *Primary endpoint MAKE at Day 90 after surgery (~600 patients)*
  - *Potential for accelerated approval based on interim analysis of eGFR (~300 patients)*
  - *First-to-market potential*
- **Phase 3 Expansion Opportunities**
  - *Sepsis Phase 3 ready and Kidney Transplant Phase 2a/b ready, following successful Phase 2b POINTER results*



# STRONG VALUE PROPOSITION – EFFICACY & COST-BENEFIT PROFILE

## Robust kidney protection in AKITA study

- ~5 x greater eGFR effect than one year of standard-of-care CKD treatment
- 3 x greater risk reduction of MAKE than required for FDA approval

## Strong evidence for eGFR in Cost Effectiveness Models

- Value dossier supported by available health economic data in patients with CKD

## Short-term therapeutic benefit (AKI, dialysis, length of hospital stay & re-admission)

- Acute benefits offer direct & indirect hospital savings

## Attractive cost-benefit profile

- Anticipated formulary inclusion with marginal impact on hospital cost
- Fulfils NTAP criteria

Value dossier based on HEOR & available Cost Effectiveness Models in AKI & CKD

Approach P&T Committees & Payers via FDA-approved AMCP dossier

Launch

Critical Pre- and Post-Launch activities

Cost Effectiveness Analysis: quality-adjusted life years (QALYs)

Budget Impact Model & Budget Analysis Tool

# FIRST-TO-MARKET POTENTIAL WITH NO APPROVED THERAPIES

## – COMPETITOR LANDSCAPE

COMPANY (DRUG)	PHASE	MODE OF ACTION	POC DATA HEART SURGERY	COMMENT
<b>Guard Therapeutics (RMC-035)</b>	<b>2b</b>	<b>A1M analog</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>Study ongoing, enrolment target 161 patients. Enrollment initiated in Canada in August/September 2024. Recruitment in EU set to begin October 2024. All regulatory and ethics approvals are in place. Top-line results expected year-end 2025.</p> <p>Efficacy demonstrated with RMC-035 vs placebo on eGFR &amp; MAKE90 endpoints in Phase 2a AKITA study.</p>
Novartis (TIN-816)	2a	Human CD39 enzyme	-	<p>Study ongoing, enrollment target 120 patients. Recruitment delayed; results projected for September 2025.</p> <p>No efficacy data available based on Phase 1 program.</p>
AstraZeneca / Alexion (Ultomiris)	3	Complement 5 inhibitor	-	<p>No efficacy data in open-heart surgery. Drug already approved for Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) and atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS); Pivotal study in open-heart surgery started in Q3 2023.</p>
Renibus Therapeutics (RBT-1)	3	Iron sucrose + stannus protoporphyrin	-	<p>Drug targets acute endpoints like length of hospital stay &amp; hospital re-admission rate. Did not show efficacy on renal endpoints in Phase 2a study.</p>

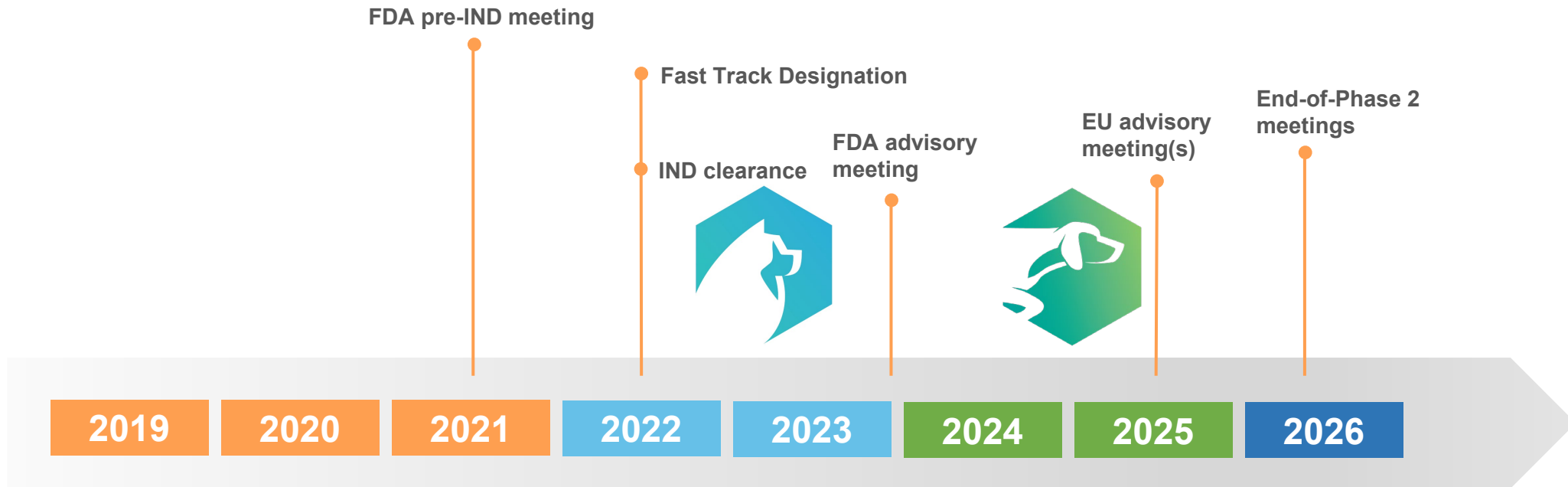
# RECENT PHARMA DEALS IN NEPHROLOGY

## – TOTAL DEAL VALUE OVER \$11BN 2023-24 YTD

TARGET	ACQUIRER	YEAR	DEAL VALUE	STAGE	LEAD ASSET	INDICATION
Alpine Immune Sciences	Vertex Pharma	2024	<b>\$4.9bn</b>	Phase 2	Povetacicept	IgAN
Human Immunology Biosciences	Biogen	2024	<b>\$1.15bn + milestones</b>	Phase 2	Feltzartamab	IgAN, Primary membranous nephropathy & antibody-mediated rejection
Jnana Tx	Otsuka	2024	<b>\$800m</b>	Preclinical	Panel of solute carrier inhibitors	Ion transporter kidney disease
Calliditas	Asahi Kasei	2024	<b>\$1.1bn</b>	Marketed	Tarpeyo (Budesonide)	IgAN
Chinook Tx	Novartis	2023	<b>\$3.5bn</b>	Phase 3	Atrasentan & Zigakibart	IgAN
CinCor Pharma	AstraZeneca	2022	\$1.8bn	Phase 2	Baxdrostat	Treatment-resistant hypertension, primary aldosteronism and CKD
Vifor Pharma	CSL	2021	\$12.3bn	-	Product portfolio in nephrology	-
Sanifit Tx	Vifor Pharma	2021	\$205m + milestones	Phase 3	SNF472	Treatment for calciphylaxis ESRD patients
Corvidia Tx	Novo Nordisk	2020	\$2.1bn	Phase 2	Zilitivekimab	Therapies within CKD segments

IgAN, IgA nephropathy; CKD, chronic kidney disease; ESRD, end-stage renal disease; NDA, new drug application

# KEY MILESTONES & DELIVERY ACCORDING TO PLAN



Clinical Phase 1 program

- ✓ ROS-01 (single dose, healthy subjects)
- ✓ ROS-02 (multiple doses, healthy subjects)
- ✓ ROS-03 (renal impairment study)
- ✓ ROS-04 (safety/PK study in heart surgery)

Phase 2a *AKITA* study

- ✓ ROS-05 (proof-of-concept, heart surgery)
- Phase 1b study
- ✓ ROS-06, kidney transplant

Phase 2b *POINTER* study

- ROS-07 (dose-finding)

Phase 3 study heart surgery

Optional Phase 3 study in sepsis

Optional Phase 2a/b study in kidney transplantation



# **Additional opportunities**

**with RMC-035 & GTX peptides (modified peptides derived from A1M)**

# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR RMC-035

## – SEPSIS

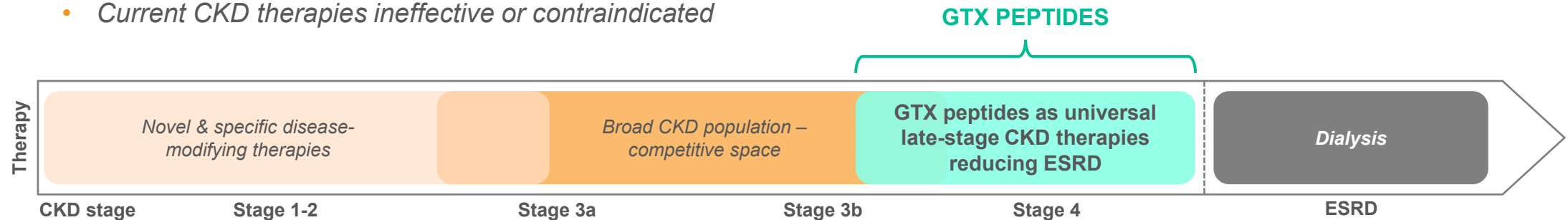
- Sepsis is **leading cause of acute kidney injury (AKI)**. Multifactorial etiology, kidney cell stress due to reduced perfusion, oxidative stress, endotoxins and inflammation
- **RMC-035 efficacious in preclinical sepsis models**
- In the US, **~1.7 million** patients develop sepsis each year; **~800,000 patients** with sepsis develop AKI; and **~250,000 patients** develop CKD
- Dosing regimen: once daily up to 5 days; First dose given at sepsis diagnosis (ICU admission)
- Clear regulatory path to market approval – **Major Adverse Kidney Events (MAKE) at 90 days**
- **Single confirmatory Phase 3 study** sufficient for approval
  - *Sample size ~400-600 patients depending on eligibility criteria*
  - *Recruitment time ~2 years*
- **Pivotal Phase 3 study in sepsis enabled by Phase 2b POINTER study (heart surgery)**
  - *Interim analysis with sample size re-estimation to be built in in the absence of preceding efficacy study*
  - *Should be preceded by a Phase 1b study of approximately 15-20 patients to evaluate exposure & safety*

# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR RMC-035 – KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION

- **Phase 1b study of RMC-035 completed**
- Acute kidney graft dysfunction & impaired long-term dysfunction in deceased donor transplantation due to **graft ischemia & ischemia-reperfusion injury, and inflammatory / fibrotic response**
- Approximately **20,000 deceased donor kidney transplantation** performed annually in US – eligible for **orphan drug designation**
- Treatment goal: **protect long-term graft function in recipient**, avoiding need for re-transplantation
- Dosing regimen: once daily up to 5 days; First dose given intra-operatively to graft recipient
- **Clear regulatory path** to market approval – **eGFR at 1 year** after transplantation
- **Single confirmatory Phase 3 study** sufficient for approval
  - *Sample size 300-600 patients depending on eligibility criteria*
  - *Recruitment time 2-3 years*
- New formulation considered, may enable higher price point than in open-heart surgery

# GTX PEPTIDES (A1M-DERIVED) – MASSIVE OPPORTUNITY IN LATE-STAGE CKD

- GTX peptides: Subcutaneous delivery, chronic treatment for late-stage CKD
- High potency and efficacy, comparable to RMC-035
- Initially targeting late-stage CKD patients:
  - *Highest risk for progression to ESRD*
  - *Often excluded from clinical trials*
  - *Current CKD therapies ineffective or contraindicated*



- **Broad impact across CKD etiologies, including orphan diseases**
  - *Demonstrated robust efficacy in a wide range of disease models*
- Ready for candidate nomination – approximately 2 years from IND

# PIONEERING TRANSFORMATIVE MEDICINES FOR KIDNEY DISEASE

## RMC-035 for kidney protection in open heart surgery

- > **Phase 2b *POINTER*** study with RMC-035 initiated – **results expected year-end 2025**
- > **Granted FDA Fast Track Designation** (kidney protection in open heart surgery); eligible for Breakthrough Therapy Designation
- > **Clinical proof-of-concept established in Phase 2a AKITA study with 177 patients**
  - > **59% reduction vs placebo (MAKE, regulatory endpoint)**
- > **First-to-market potential** in open-heart surgery; >USD 1 billion market – no approved therapies

## Additional opportunities with RMC-035 & GTX peptides

- > **Phase 3 ready sepsis programme** and **Phase 2a/b ready kidney transplantation programme** for >USD 5.6 billion market
- > **Unique positioning of preclinical GTX peptides** in late stage and orphan chronic kidney diseases for >USD 8 billion market
- > Listed in Stockholm with top shareholders including Industrifonden and Swedbank Robur [Nasdaq FN Growth Market: GUARD]