

# Novel Therapies Targeting Kidney Disease

Pareto Securities' 15th Annual Healthcare Conference

September 19, 2024



# GUARD THERAPEUTICS – IN SHORT

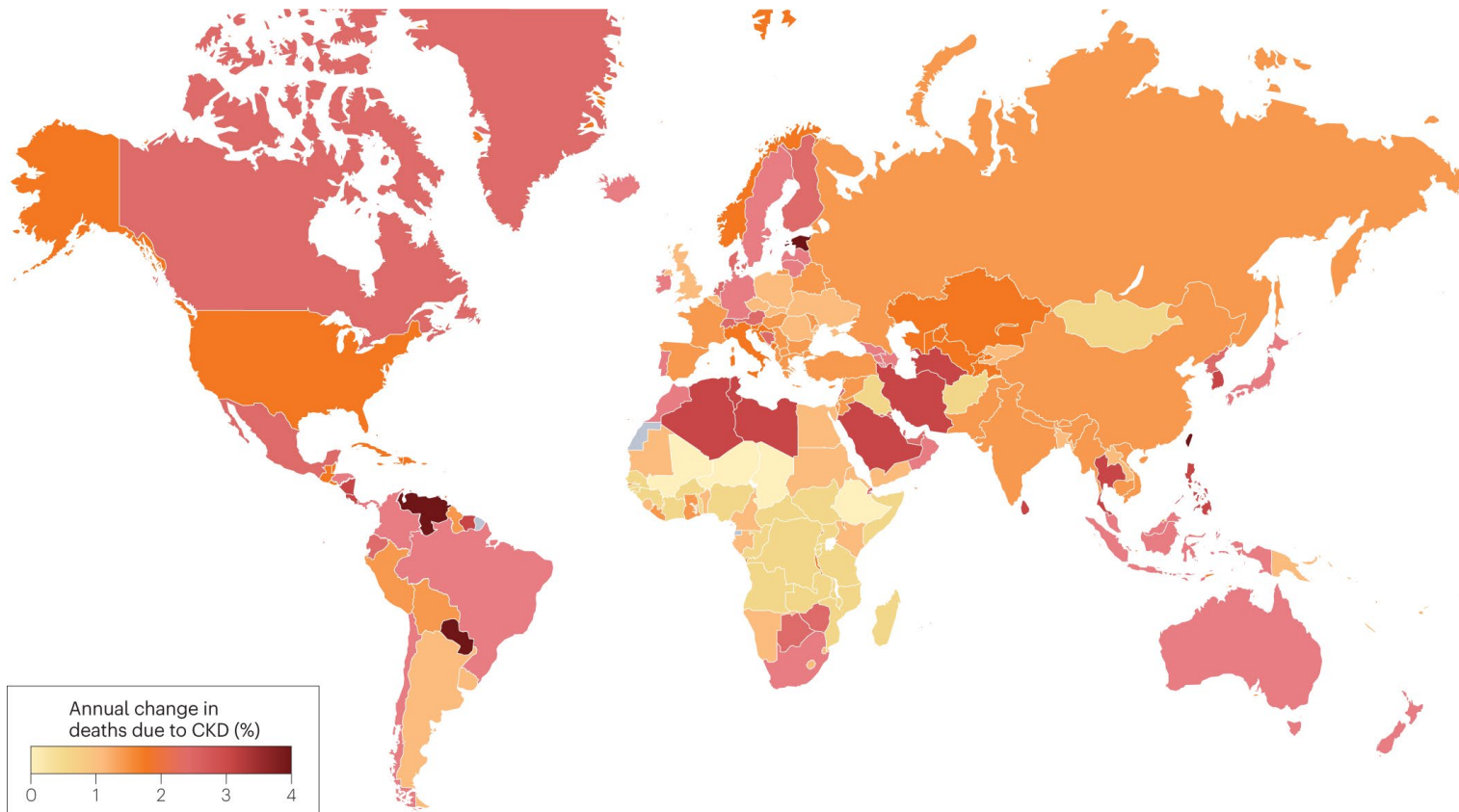
- Recently started Phase 2b *POINTER* study with candidate drug RMC-035 – results expected year-end 2025
  - Granted **FDA Fast Track Designation** (kidney protection in open-heart surgery)
  - Eligible for **Breakthrough Designation Therapy**
- Clinical PoC established on hard kidney endpoints in placebo-controlled Phase 2a study including 177 patients
- Lead indication >USD 1 bn opportunity – first-to-market potential & no approved therapies
- Massive opportunity & unique positioning in kidney disease with preclinical GTX peptide
  - Clinically validated target, robust efficacy in numerous disease models
- Listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market in Stockholm [GUARD]



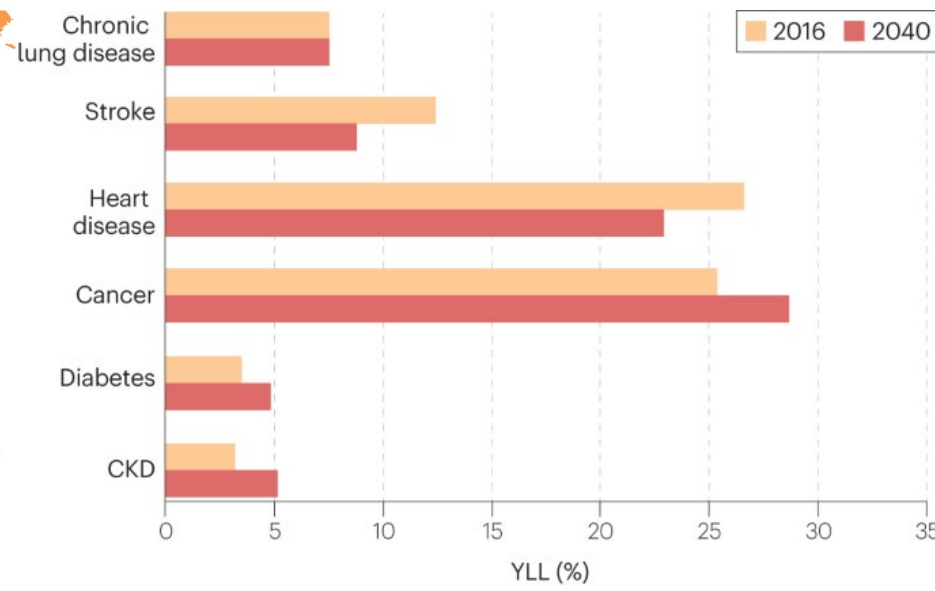
## VISION

Be a globally recognized leader in nephrology, **pioneering** transformative therapies for kidney disease, and **eliminating** the need for dialysis or kidney transplantation

# CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (CKD) – AN INCREASING GLOBAL HEALTH BURDEN REDUCING LIFE SPAN



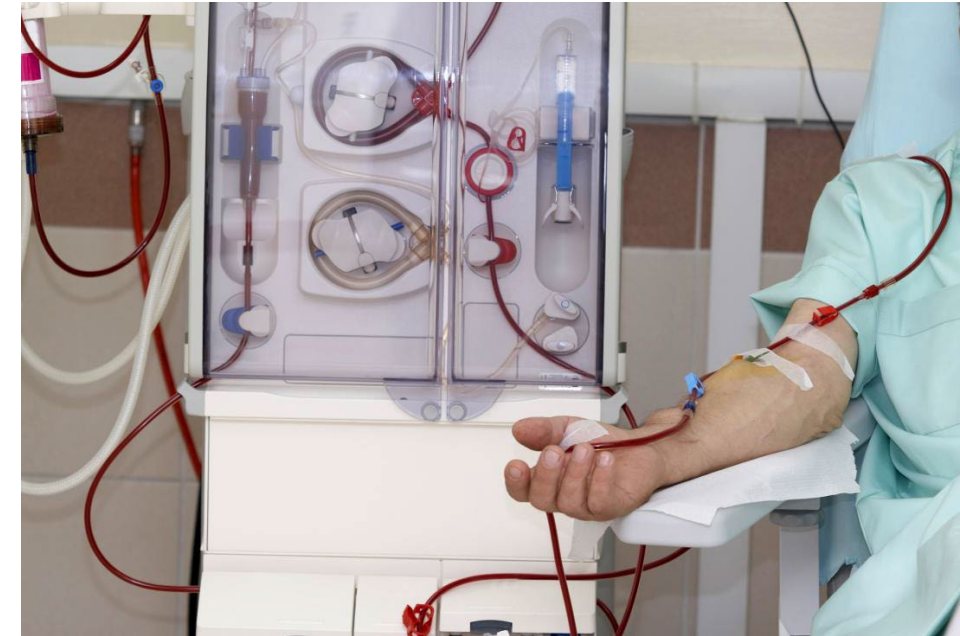
Modelling of Global Burden of Disease reveals an **increase in predicted deaths due to CKD between 1990 and 2040** (deaths per 100,000)



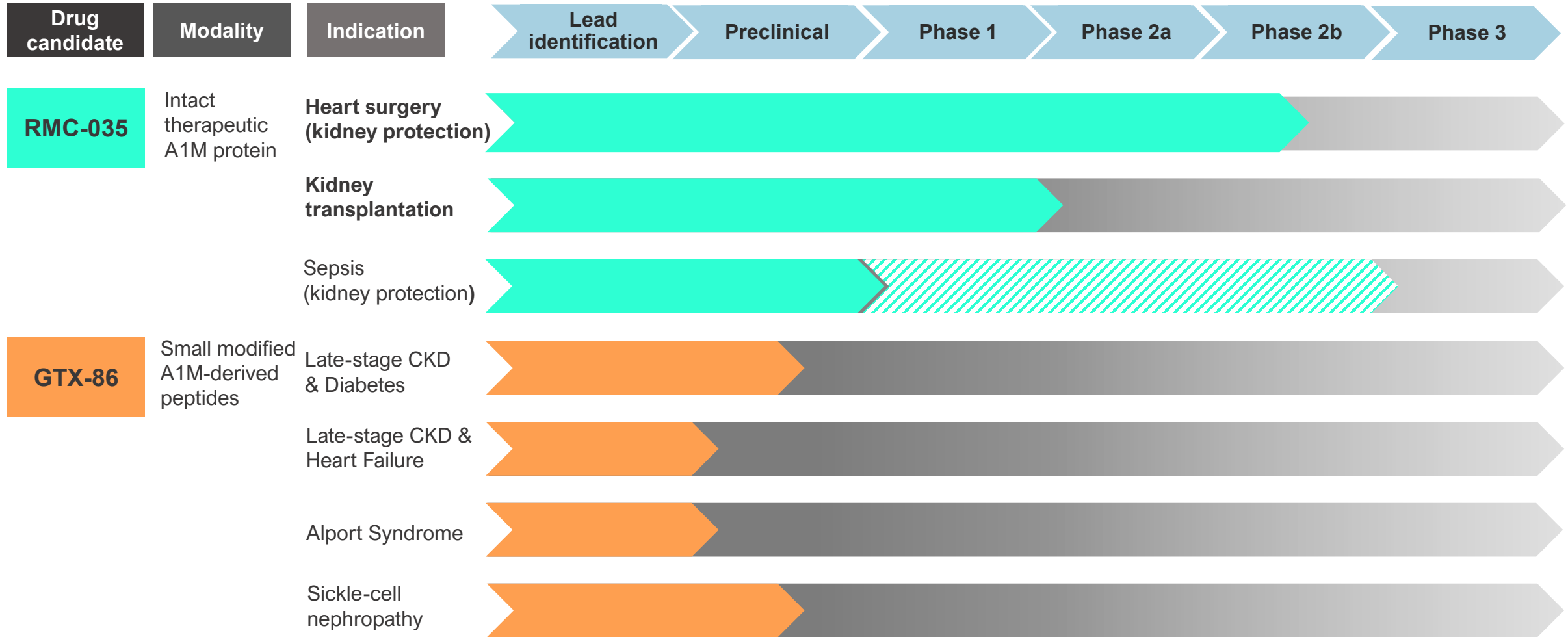
Years of life lost (YLL) due to CKD are predicted to **continue to increase and surpass diabetes** as a cause of YLL by 2040

# END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE (ESRD) – A DEVASTATING CONDITION WITH POOR OUTCOMES & SOARING HEALTHCARE COSTS

- Requires life-long dialysis treatment (or kidney transplantation)
- Annual mortality unacceptably high (15-20%)
  - Prognosis worse than many types of metastatic cancer
- High morbidity, poor quality of life
- Cost of patient management very high
  - Medicaid annual spend on ESRD treatment >**USD 50 bn**
  - ~7% of total Medicaid budget, although ESRD beneficiaries only account for ~1% of Medicaid population



# GUARD THERAPEUTICS PIPELINE



***Therapeutic approach:***

*“Leverage endogenous A1M defense system”*

# **SYNERGY #1 – A1M TARGET HAS BROAD UTILITY IN KIDNEY DISEASE WITH PROVEN CLINICAL EFFICACY**

## **Evolutionary conserved mechanism**

– aligned with acute & chronic kidney disease mechanisms

## **Robust efficacy in numerous preclinical disease models**

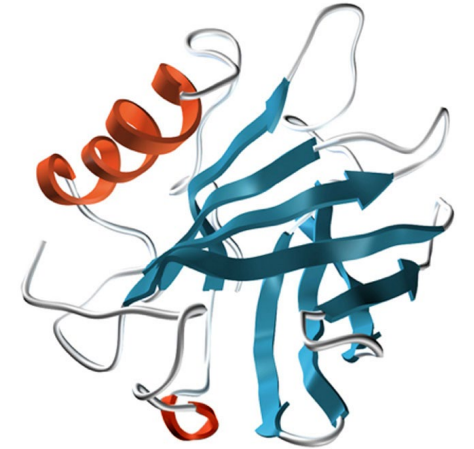
– provides translational confidence

## **Preferential biodistribution to the kidneys**

– relevant exposure in target organ

## **Clinically validated mechanism in Phase 2 study (n=177)**

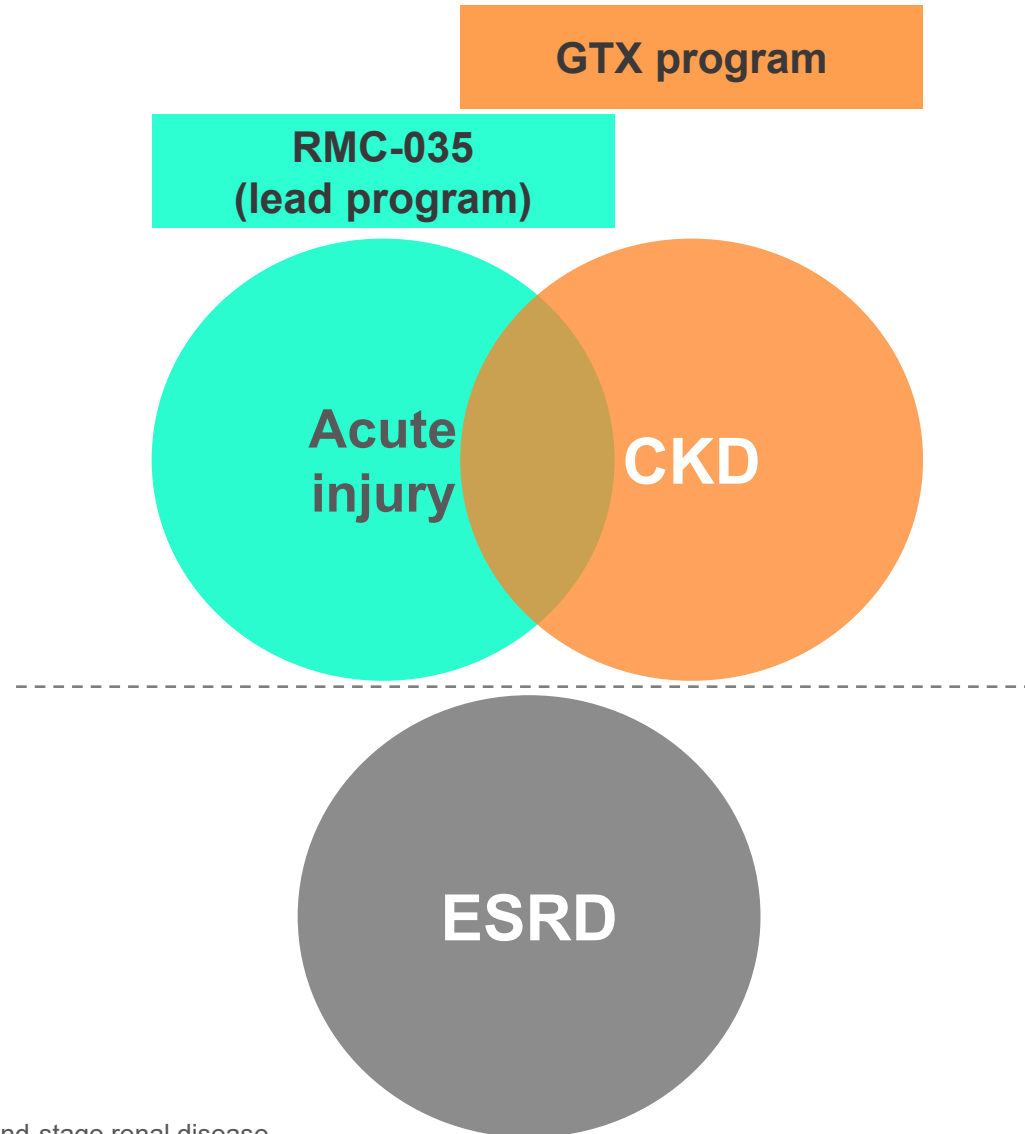
– established proof-of-concept for kidney protection in heart surgery



*3-D structure of A1M*



# SYNERGY #2 – PIPELINE TARGETS BOTH ACUTE & CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE TO REDUCE RISK OF ESRD



# Clinical results & late phase program



# PHASE 2 CLINICAL RESULTS DEMONSTRATE KIDNEY PROTECTION WITH RMC-035 IN HEART SURGERY

- Double-blind placebo-controlled Phase 2a study (*AKITA*) in open-heart surgery
  - N=177 patients at increased risk for kidney injury (1:1 randomization drug:placebo)

## Key results:

- Statistically significant & clinically meaningful improvement of kidney function (Day 90)
  - 4.3 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> (full population)
  - 7.9 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> (pre-defined subgroup of patients with CKD)
- Reduced proportion of patients with severe loss of kidney function
  - 59% relative risk reduction for composite endpoint MAKE (death, dialysis, ≥ 25% eGFR loss)
  - MAKE is the anticipated primary endpoint in Phase 3

**Results support progression to late phase development**

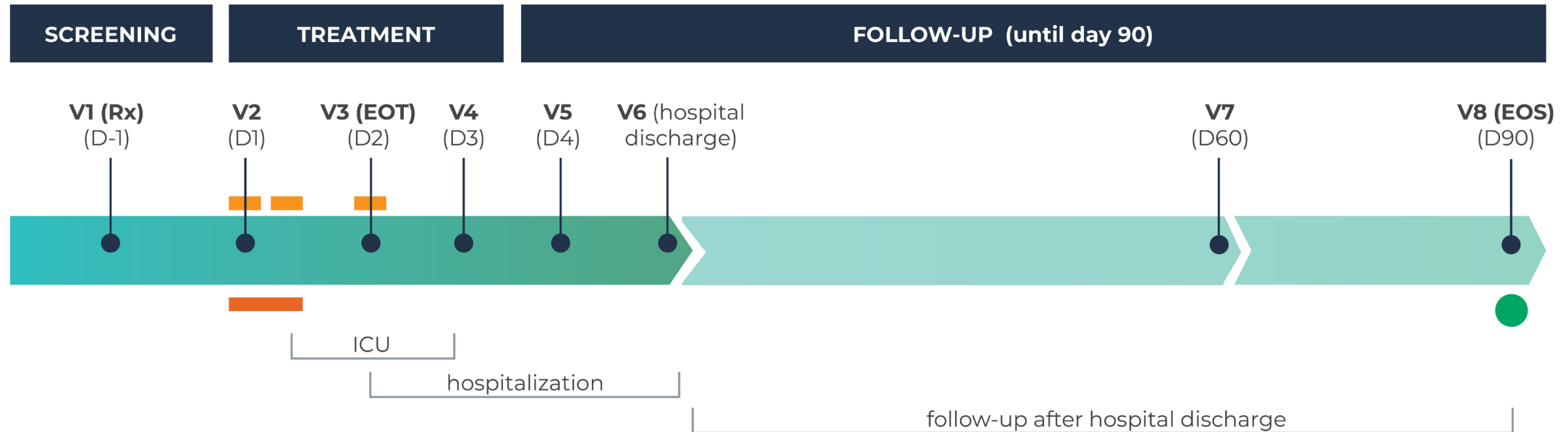
## PHASE 2b (*POINTER*) – RESULTS EXPECTED YEAR-END 2025



- Global study (US IND study), recruitment in Europe & Canada
- Sample size ~160 patients
  - 30% required to have CKD
- Two dose arms (60 & 30 mg) & Placebo (2:2:3 randomization)
- Data Monitoring Committee will review safety based on data from 1/3 & 2/3 of patients
- All regulatory & ethics approvals obtained
- **First patient enrolled in Q3 2024**
- Expected recruitment time ~1 year, 3 months follow-up



# OVERVIEW OF PHASE 2b *POINTER* STUDY



**Rx** = randomization

**EOT** = end-of-treatment

**EOS** = end-of-study

● study visit

■ administration of study drug

■ cardiac surgery

● primary endpoint evaluation

## Key endpoints:

Primary: change of renal function (eGFR) from baseline to Day 90

Secondary: MAKE90

# CLEAR PATH FOR RMC-035 TOWARDS MARKET APPROVAL

- **Fast Track Designation** granted by the US FDA
  - Indication eligible for **Breakthrough Therapy Designation**
- **Phase 2b POINTER results** expected year-end 2025
- **Single pivotal Phase 3 study** sufficient to support market approval
  - Primary endpoint is MAKE at Day 90 after surgery (~600 patients)
  - Potential for accelerated approval based on interim analysis of eGFR (~300 patients)

# GTX peptides

# GTX PEPTIDES – OPPORTUNITY IN LATE-STAGE CKD

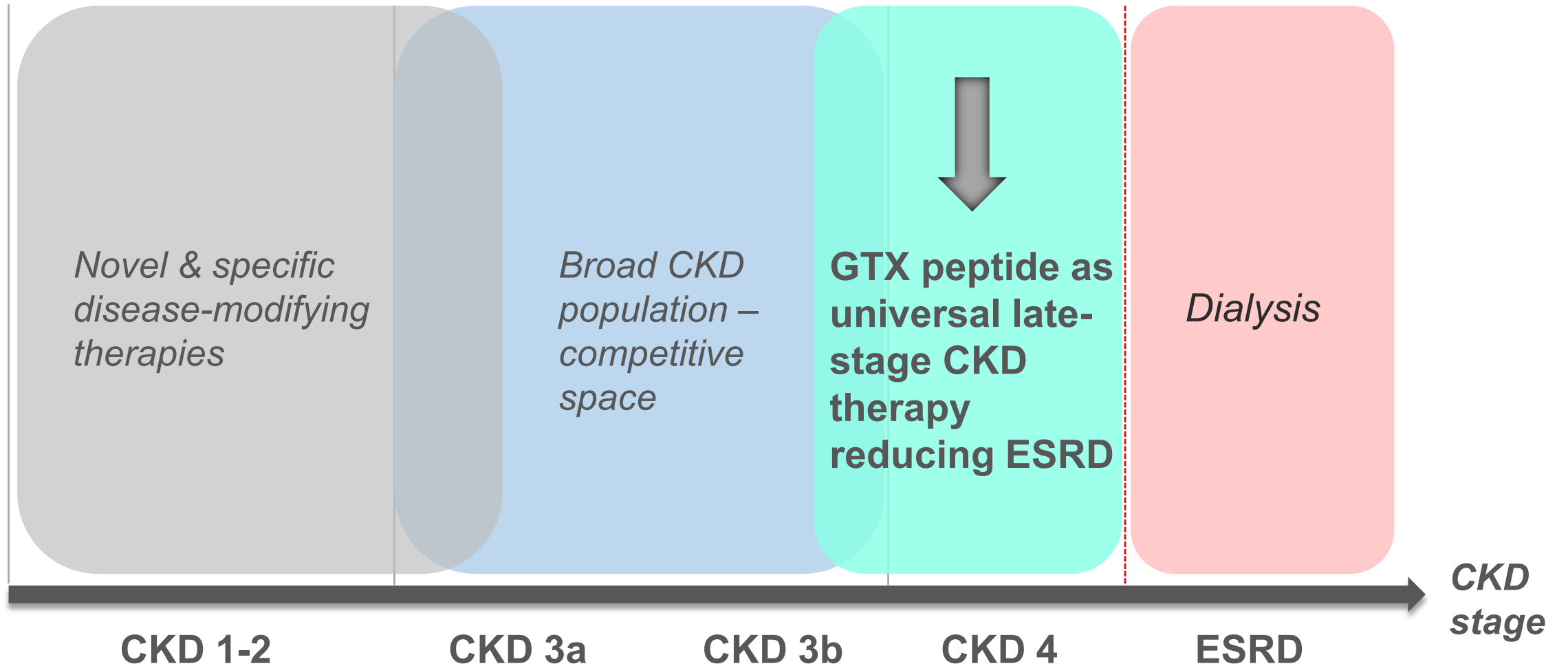
- GTX peptides enable **subcutaneous delivery & chronic treatment**
- Opportunity to improve patient outcomes regardless of underlying CKD etiology
  - Efficacy shown in >10 disease models, supporting therapeutic concept
- **Late-stage CKD is an underserved patient group**
  - Highest risk for progression to ESRD
  - Often excluded from participation in clinical trials
  - Available CKD therapies frequently discontinued or contraindicated in this patient group
  - Not in scope for novel & specific disease-modifying therapies

**Preventing ESRD in patients with late-stage CKD offers strong value proposition for patients, physicians & payors**



# GTX PEPTIDES IN LATE-STAGE CKD OFFER A UNIQUE COMMERCIAL POSITIONING & STRONG VALUE PROPOSITION

*Therapy*



# RECENT PHARMA DEALS SPOTLIGHT NEPHROLOGY AS HIGH-GROWTH THERAPEUTIC AREA

## **Vertex Pharmaceuticals Acquisition of Alpine Immune Sciences (2024)**

Deal value **\$4.9 billion**, driven by mid-stage drug candidate povetacept targeting IgAN. Largest acquisition in biopharma 2024.

## **Biogen Acquisition of Human Immunology Biosciences (2024)**

Deal value **\$1.15 billion**, single asset (feltzartamab), Phase 2 data in IgAN, primary membranous nephropathy & antibody-mediated rejection

## **Asahi Kasei Acquisition of Calliditas (2024)**

Deal value **\$1.1 billion**, lead asset Tarpeyo (budesonide) for the treatment of IgAN.

## **Novartis' Acquisition of Chinook Therapeutics (2023)**

Deal value **\$3.5 billion**. This deal was primarily motivated by Chinook's strong pipeline in kidney disease, especially its two late-stage assets, atrasentan and zigakibart, both of which are being developed to treat IgAN.

## **AstraZeneca Acquisition of CinCor Pharma (2022)**

Deal value **\$1.8 billion**. Deal included baxdrostat, an aldosterone synthase inhibitor, for the treatment of uncontrolled hypertension and cardio-renal syndrome.

## **CSL's Acquisition of Vifor Phama (2021)**

Deal value **\$12.3 billion**, largely driven by product portfolio in the nephrology space.

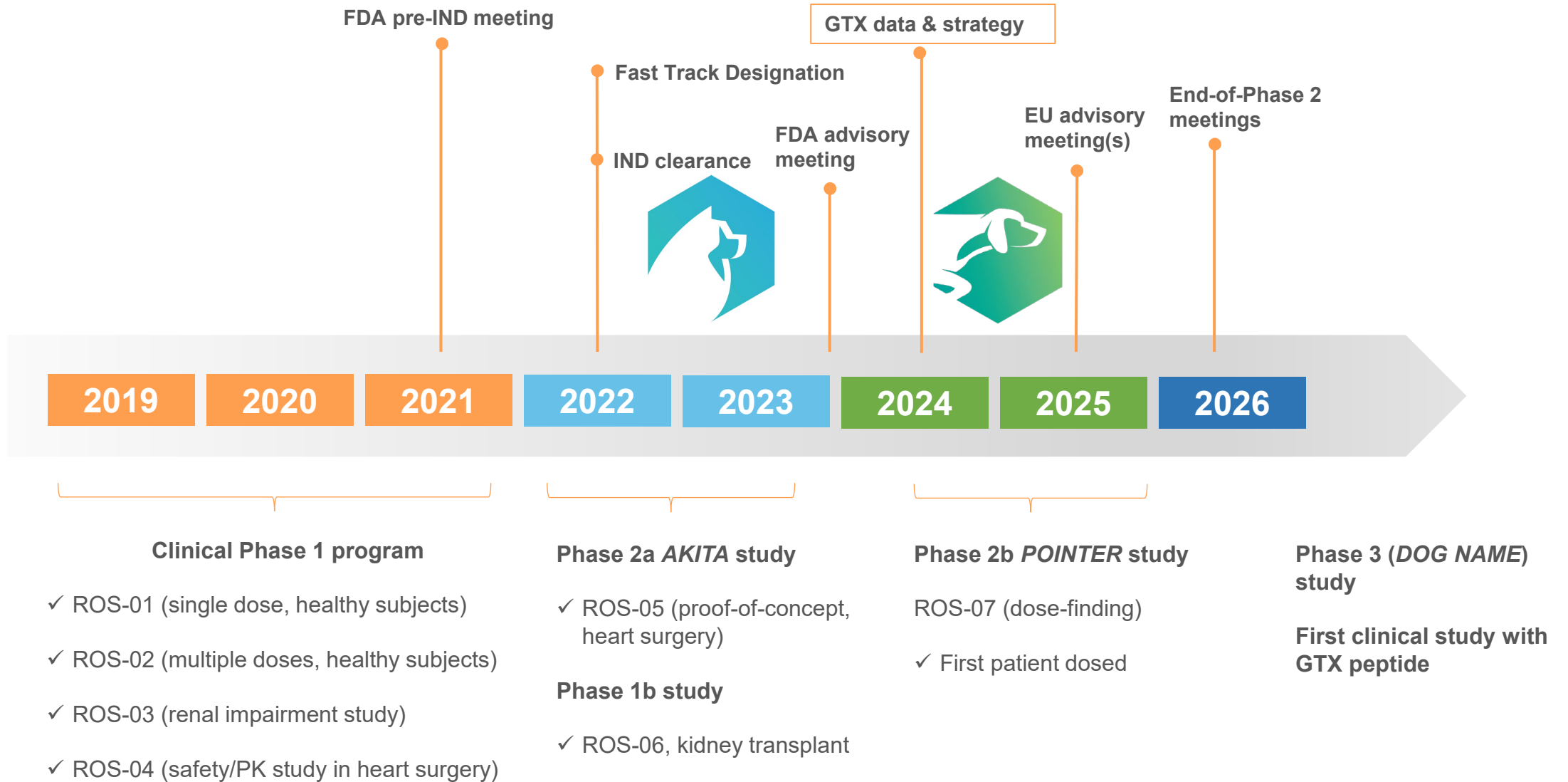
## **Vifor Pharma Acquisition of Sanifit Therapeutics (2021)**

Deal value **\$205 million** upfront, with potential milestone payments. Lead asset focused on treatment for calciphylaxis, a rare and serious condition associated with CKD. This acquisition expanded Vifor's portfolio in nephrology.

## **NovoNordisk Acquisition of Corvidia Therapeutics (2020)**

Deal value **\$2.1 billion**, goal to strengthen its cardiovascular & renal disease pipeline. Corvidia was developing therapies for CKD patients, including ziltivekimab, a drug for CKD patients with cardiovascular risk.

# KEY MILESTONES & DELIVERY ACCORDING TO PLAN



# Q & A

# SOLID IP POSITION

## RMC-035

- Composition of matter until 2037
- Approved in all major regions (US, EU, China, Japan)

## GTX

- Composition of matter until 2044
  - Currently in PCT phase
- Potential exclusivity beyond 2044 based on Orphan Drug Designation