XVII Encuentro de Cooperación Farma-Biotech

## EC-70124, a dual FLT3 -PIM inhibitor for the treatment of AML



Madrid, 28 de Noviembre de 2018





MEDICAMENTOS INNOVADORES Plataforma Tecnológica Española

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## **1. The Institution: EntreChem at a glance**

Founded in 2006, EntreChem optimizes natural products for oncology.

Raised >9M€ of seed capital, public R&D funds and private partners.

STRATEGY: select know anti-tumor natural products and expand their chemical space to improve efficacy and reduce toxicity.

TECHNOLOGY: combinatorial biosynthesis, biocatalysis and synthetic biology to explore new chemical space not possible otherwise.



Francisco Morís, Ph.D. Managing Director & Co-founder

10 years track record in the US: TSRI, ThermoGen-MediChem-deCode, Bristol-Myers Squibb

Co-founded EntreChem in 2006











# 1. The Institution: Pipeline

Currently developing two lead compounds with highly favorable preclinical data :

EC-8042, novel in class transcription reprogramming agent for tumors with genomic instability.

EC-70124, next-generation Midostaurin for AML with superior metabolic and PPB profile.





EC-70124









#### EC-70124: dual Flt3-PIM inhibitor for the treatment of AML

- Indolocarbazoles are a promising class of anticancer compounds (led by staurosporin) with a established safety record in clinical trials (midostaurin, UCN-01, becatecarin, edotecarin, enzastaurin, lestaurtinib).
- In April 2016, Novartis announced FDA approval of Midostaurin (Rydapt<sup>®</sup>) in Flt3-mutated AML patients.
- Patients treated with PKC412 (midostaurin, RYDAPT<sup>®</sup>) experienced a 23% improvement in overall survival, a
  major advancement in the heavily underserved AML setting.
- EntreChem was able to create novel indolocarbazole compounds with markedly improved properties applying proprietary technology to combine biosynthesis genes for staurosporine and rebeccamycin.
- Modifications introduced include changes in the sugar moiety which by classical medicinal chemistry methods would not have been possible.







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## EC-70124 kinase profile vs Midostaurin

- Different profile based on affinity IC<sub>50</sub> despite being close analogs  $\rightarrow$  viability profile
- EC-70124 more potent on relevant AML targets Flt3, JAKs, PIMs and SYK



# EC-70124 targets multiple key pathways in AML

- FIt3-ITD lines show strong STAT5 inhibiton (target of FIt3): phosphorylation and qPCR of STAT5 targets
- In all cell lines pBAD (PIM1 target) is inhibited by EC-70124, but not by midostaurin
- In all cell lines (including wt HL60) the mTOR-S6 pathway is inhibited













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### EC-70124 pharmacodynamic profile: same as in vitro

- Oral dose in mice bearing MV4-11 tumor shows high distribution to tumor tissue
- >100nM in plasma at 48h, 100x higher in tissue
- Main target pSTAT5 stays dephosphorylated at 48h
- mTOR downstream target pS6 recover early, but p4EBP1 response is sustained



## EC-70124 better survival than FDA approved Midostaurin

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- MV4-11 xenograft in CB17 immunosuppressed mice
- Equivalent oral doses, 1g/Kg total dose per treatment course
- Both drugs cause 8/8 full regressions and one permanent cure
- Recurrence in 7/8 mice responds to a second course of drugs
- EC-70124 provides highly significant survival advantage at 2g/Kg total dose





# EC-70124 superior to midostaurin in AML not driven by Flt3



Puente-Moncada et al. Mol Cancer Ther. 2018 Mar;17(3):614-624





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120

90

60

PA-84 (WT)

PA-86 (ITD)

PA-87 (WT)

PA-96 (WT)

10

50

EC-70124 (nM)

◆ PA-90 (ITD)
▲ PA-93 (WT)

O.D. (% vs Control)

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100

#### 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 PA-86 PA-90 (ŵŤ) PA-84 PA-87 (ŴŤ) (WT) (ITD) (WT) (ITD)

ex-vivo AML specimens show EC-70124 activity in wt as well as in Flt3-ITD

100

90

**Cell death** 

%

100nM EC-70124

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EC-70124 superior to Midostaurin in murine

models of PIM-driven AML (MOLM-16)

# **AML - Pipeline Competition**

- Midostaurin, the only natural product, multi-targeted drug, in the clinical practice and the only one approved based on promising Phase III data
- EC-70124 better profile represents a fast-follower approach to Midostaurin
- ► NDAs under Revision:
  - **Quirzatinib** (Daichii, licensed from Ambit): resistance through mutation of Flt3 kinase domain
  - **Gilteritinib** (Astellas): resistance through mutation of Flt3 and others (NRAS)
  - ► In both cases resistance is rapid, so **survival benefit not comparable** to that of Midostaurin
- Other drugs struggling through advanced clinical trials or dropped from the pipeline
  - Volasertib (plk1 inhibitor), Crenolanib (dual FTL3- PDGFR), AZD1208 (pan PIM), sapacitabine (oral nucleoside analogue), CC-486 (DNA Methyl Transferase inhibitor, oral azacytidine)









## EC-70124 vs Midostaurin key differences

Parameter	Midostaurin	EC-70124
Selectivity Profile	Highly promiscuous, hitting also undesired targets like c-Kit	Much more <b>focused on AML-relevant targets</b> like Flt3, PIMs, VEGF2, and SYK
Protein Plasma Binding	High Protein Plasma Binding >99%	Unbound fraction <b>increased by a factor of 4</b> in comparison to midostaurin
Metabolic Stability	Metabolites detected in mice, 2 major metabolites (one accumulating) in humans	<b>Stable</b> in microsomal stability assays and <i>in vivo</i> (mice, rats and dogs)
in vivo Efficacy	Limited to Flt3-driven AML, needs combination with chemotherapy	Potential to treat <b>both Flt3-ITD and other AMLs.</b> <b>Also potential for solid tumors</b> if human PK is at least similar to midostaurin

Species	EC-70124,fu*	PKC-412, fu*		
Human	3.9	1.1		
Rat	4.2	n.d.		
Dog	3	n.d.		
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TRANSIL<sup>XL</sup> high sensitivity binding kit.

\* fu: fraction unbound

Puente-Moncada et al. Mol Cancer Ther. 2018 Mar;17(3):614-624









#### 2. The Product c) differential features facing the market

## Functional assays show superior PPB profile of EC-70124





EC-70124 MIDOSTAURIN

Human vs Mice serum target inhibition by EC-70124 and midostaurin

#### human



#### mouse



MOLM-13, IC50 (μM)						
% serum	EC-70124	Midostaurin	CEP-701	UCN-01		
10% FBS	$0.015 \pm 0.005$	$0.016 \pm 0.006$	$0.008 \pm 0.0007$	$0.014 \pm 0.006$		
50% human serum	$0.606 \pm 0.036$	$\textbf{2.160} \pm \textbf{0.084}$	$0.926 \pm 0.176$	$2.010\pm0.367$		
Ratio Human / 10%FBS	41	139	123	149		
Human serum Ratio EC-70124 / others	1,0	3,6	1,5	3,3		





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#### 2. The Product d) Current status of development

## EC-70124 Development: Next Steps



# Phase I Strategy for EC-70124: value inflexion point

#### > The FIH trial will determine:

- ✓ the Recommended Dose for a Phase 2 trial.
- $\checkmark$  plasma levels (PK) for early assessment of the treatment potential:
  - Plasma levels  $<15-20\mu M \rightarrow$  potential for selected tumors like Flt3-ITD AML
  - Plasma levels >15-20 $\mu$ M  $\rightarrow$  potential for other AMLs, and solid tumors
- > Unlike most drug development programs, the value inflexion point for EC-70124 resides in the Phase I data
  - ✓ Intrinsic potential to be the most bioavailable indolocarbazol ever in clinical trials







## Strong IP position - Composition of Matter until 2028

Торіс	Priority Date	Status
Indolocarbazole Rebeccamyicin genes In-Licensed from UniOvi	Oct 19, 2001	Granted on August 18, 2010 EP1443113 Validated in ES, FR, GB, DE (All in force) Granted on June 26, 2012: US 8,207,321 (in force)
Glycosylated Indolocarbazoles In-Licensed from UniOvi EC-70124	April 8, 2008	Granted on December 3, 2013: <b>US 8,598,132</b> (in force) Granted on March 15, 2017 <b>EP2277885</b> Validated in ES, FR, GB, DE and IT (All in force) Entry in National Phases in Europe Divisional EP17154953.8 Examination is in progress
70124 combinations in triple negative breast cancer 100% EntreChem	May 30, 2014	Granted on November 7, 2017: <b>US 9,808,469</b> (in force) Granted on Nov. 23, 2016. <b>EP14170596.2</b> Validated in DE, FR, GB, IT, ES (All in force)
70124 combinations in colon cancer 100% EntreChem	Sept 26, 2014	Entered regional/national Phases in EP and USA. Examination is in progress

- Industrial secret: a significant layer of protection is provided by EntreChem's proprietary position on the bacterial strain which is required for producing EC-70124.
- In addition to patent protection, EC-70124 is eligible for Orphan Drug Status in its lead indication AML, which confers a market exclusivity of 10 years in Europe and Japan, and of 7 years in the US.









# **Potential Pitfalls and Risks**

- PK fails to reach levels similar to those of Midostaurin and other 1) indolocarbazoles previously in clinical trials
- 2) GI toxicity limits the dose or forces a to non-optimal schedule
- Unexpected toxicity not foreseen in preclinical studies 3)











### **Prefered scenario**

- > Co-development until PoC in humans. Unmet disease, fast regulatory approval.
  - > upfront fee + milestones
- From PoC until approval : EntreChem to provide CMC experitse + production
  - Royalties based on PoC results









## **Final Summary**

- EC-70124 is a novel multi-targeted kinase inhibitor from the same chemical class as Novartis midostaurin, but with marked improvements in terms of selectivity profile, protein plasma binding and metabolic stability. It is the result of successful mining of new chemical space by applying proprietary technology.
- Based on strong in vitro and in vivo data, EntreChem has selected EC-70124 as clinical development candidate with AML as lead indication and FIH scheduled for 2019. Regulatory preclinical trials are underway.
- Further in vivo data indicate that in addition to AML, EC-70124 has potential in **glioblastoma**, **prostate**, **colorectal and triple-negative breast cancer**.
- EC-70124 production is straightforward through fermentation of a proprietary bacterial strain.

We are seeking for a partner to advance EC-70124 into the clinic, gain regulatory approval, and to commercialize the product on a regional or worldwide level.







