## XXII Encuentro de Cooperación Farma-Biotech

### 15 de noviembre de 2022

### Liposome-based Biomimetic Therapy Platform for autoimmune diseases



### Martí Dalmases







### XXII Encuentro de Cooperación Farma-Biotech

### Content

- 1. The Institution
- 2. The Product
  - a) Target Indications
  - b) Innovative mechanisms of action
  - c) Differential features facing the market
  - d) Current status of development
  - e) IPR protection
  - f) Pitfalls & Risks to be considered
- 3. Partnering Opportunities



# Therapeutics' Aim



We offer them something beyond today's palliative treatment that has secondary effects.



We want to **change the lives** of people diagnosed with **autoimmune diseases.** 



We offer them an **OPTION FOR HEALING.** 



We want to reduce their suffering and MODIFY the disease course.

# **Ahead Therapeutics in a Nutshell**





The only platform showing proven biomimetic treatments involving T-reg pathway



2 lead assets with promising results ready to be pushed towards clinical studies

- Rheumatoid Arthritis
  - Myasthenia Gravis



Potential to target more autoimmune diseases involving a multi-antigen approach



A highly experienced team in the field, with multiple publications



€10/20M series A

# Aheads' Platform targets autoimmune diseases



### More than 100 Immune diseases don't have curative treatments



















Brain

**Thyroid** 

**Blood** 

**GI Tract** 

**Nerves** 

Skin

**Bones** 

Muscles

Lung

Immune-diseases are *chronic* and *degenerative* diseases.

Some *palliative* treatments are available, producing *strong secondary effects* and not achieving the healing of the patient.

Ahead's platform has the potential to generate *curative treatments*.

Thanks to a biomimetic MoA, secondary effects will be avoided.

Ahead's core technology is leverageable across all diseases, at affordable development and treatment costs.

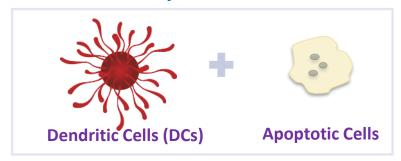
Our solution is to <u>REPROGRAM the Immune System</u>, "repairing the mistake", at an affordable cost. We "solve the problem", we don't mitigate it.





Bio-mimicry benefit is to avoid secondary effects and to activate both T and B-cell pathways

### **Normal immunity**



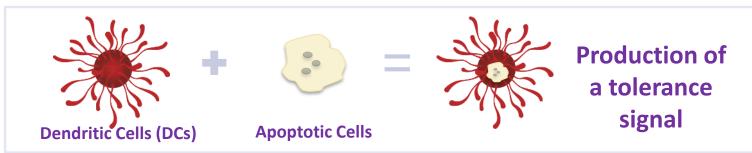
Ahead **PRODUCT** is a PS-Liposome containing auto-antigens.





Bio-mimicry benefit is to avoid secondary effects and to activate both T and B-cell pathways

### **Normal immunity**

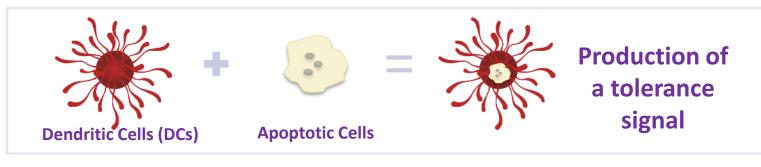


Ahead **PRODUCT** is a PS-Liposome containing auto-antigens.



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### **Normal immunity**



Platform



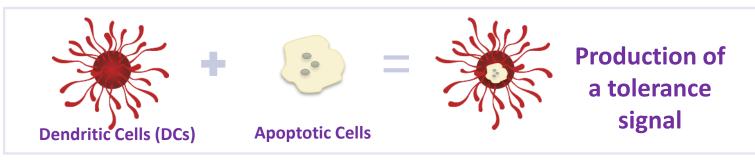


Ahead **PRODUCT** is a PS-Liposome containing auto-antigens.



Bio-mimicry benefit is to avoid secondary effects and to activate both T and B-cell pathways

### **Normal immunity**



AHEAD Platform

**BIOMIMETIC** 



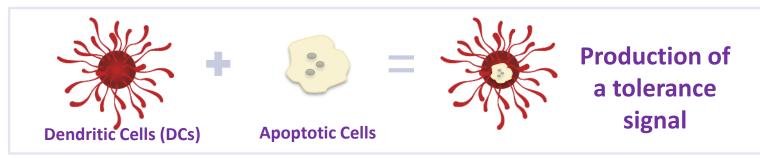


Ahead **PRODUCT** is a PS-Liposome containing auto-antigens.



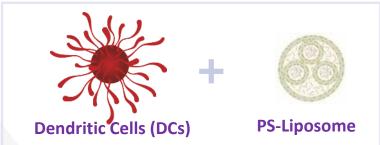
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### **Normal immunity**



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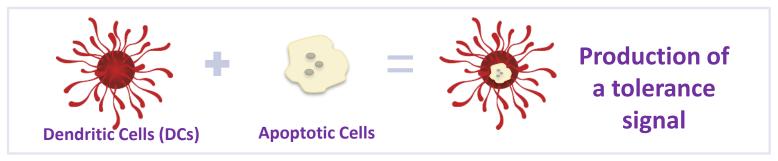


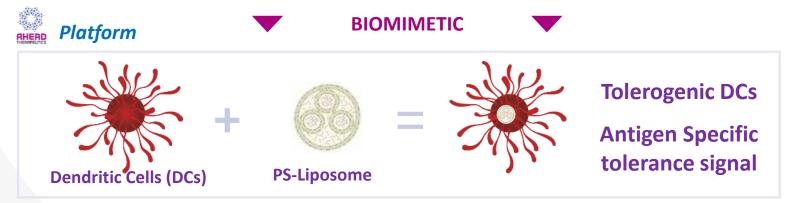




Bio-mimicry benefit is to avoid secondary effects and to activate both T and B-cell pathways

### **Normal immunity**



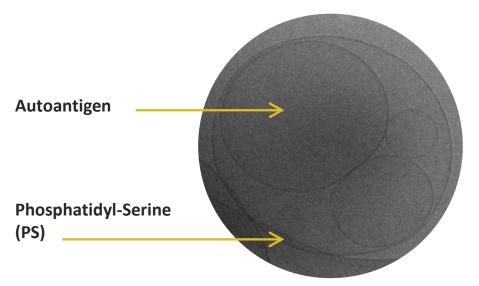


We STOP the Autoimmune Attack Reprograming our immune system.

# **Ahead's Technology Platform addresses several diseases**



### PS-Liposome encapsulating Auto-Antigen(s): a versatile platform addressing many diseases



Multi-antigen encapsulation capability

- Phosphatidylserine in the membrane identifies synthetic 'apoptotic cells', the signal for efferocytosis.
- Auto-antigens that trigger the autoimmune attack, are loaded into the liposomes to generate immuno-tolerance.
- Each disease has its own specific antigens.
- Liposomes are easy and cost effective to synthesize.

**Ready for Efferocytosis & Antigen Specific Tolerance Generation** 

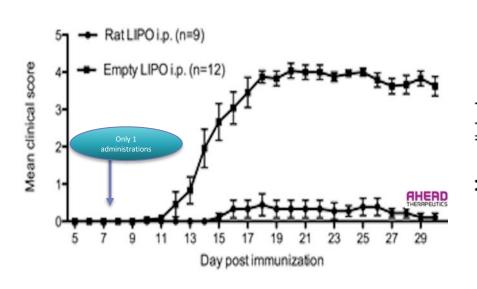


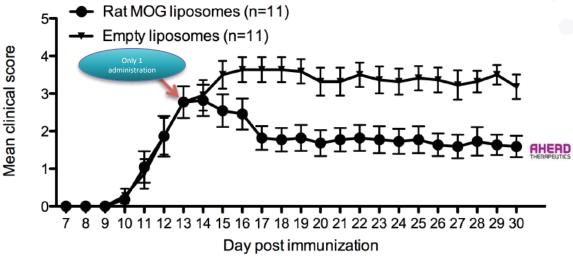
# **Ahead has a solid Technology Platform**



### **PREVENTIVE Approach**

### THERAPEUTIC Approach







- Multiple sclerosis was induced by the injection of MOG peptide. The 100% of the untreated mice display score 4 (full paralysis).
- When treated with Ahead's PS-liposome containing the Antigen MOG, clinical score of treated mice is between grade 0 and 1 (from non-symptoms to paralysis of the tail).

# **Ahead's Key Team**



### A Highly professional, experienced and balanced Team



Marta Vives Pi, PhD Chief Scientific Officer



Silvia Rodriguez

CMC Director



Marti Dalmases, MD, PhD, MBA
Chief Executive Officer



Raul Insa, MD, PhD, MBA

Business Advisor



Bruna Barneda, PhD, MBA
Pre & Clinical Dev. Director

Bernabé Zea, MSc Business Advisor - IP strategy



**Daniel Maspoch, PhD** *Liposome Technology Director* 





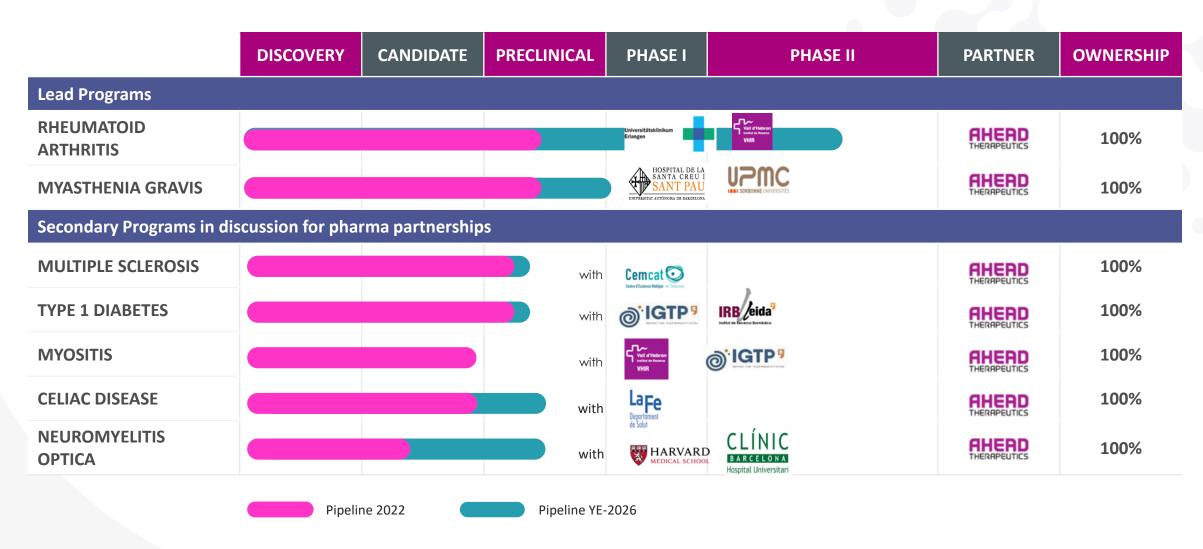




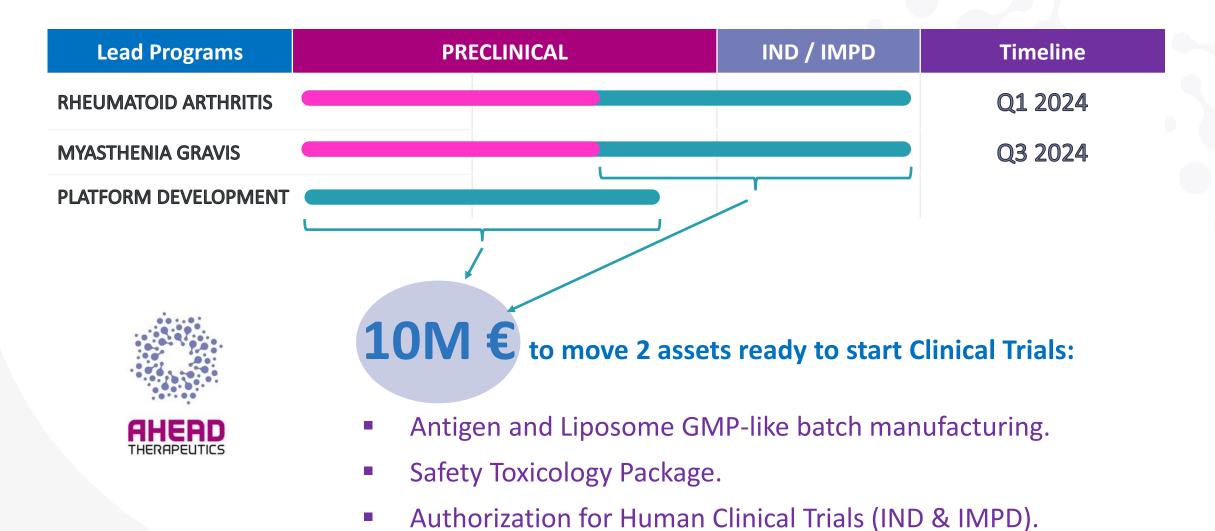




# 10M € to push 2 assets to IND/ 20M € adding Phase IIa for RA



# The investment needed to reach the next Key Inflection Point



# Lead Programs Stunning Efficacy Results

# Ahead shows efficiency in Rheumatoid Arthritis (1/4)



### Disease

1 Out of every 100,000 people, 41 are diagnosed with RA every year.

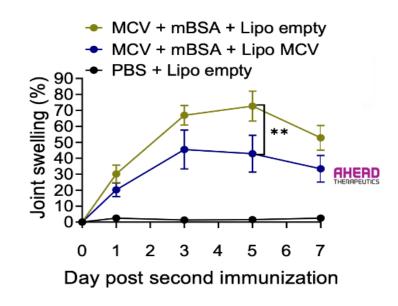
About 1.3M Americans have RA.

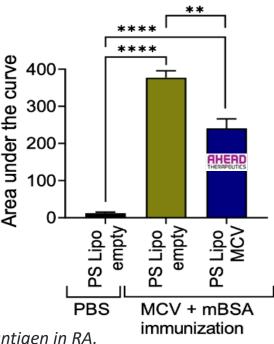


Joint's swelling is signing the disease

### Results

### **Control of the Joint Swelling**





- Mutated Citrulinated Vimentin (MCV) Relevant auto-antigen in RA.
- Rheumatoid Arthritis was induced by the injection of MCV/mBSA in mice joints.
- When treated with Ahead's PS-liposome containing the Antigen MCV, the joints swelling decreases.



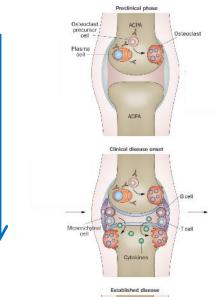
Erlangen University. Georg Schett, 2020

# Ahead shows efficiency in Rheumatoid Arthritis (3/4)



### Disease

i the over-activation of pre-osteoclasts degrades the bones of the joints

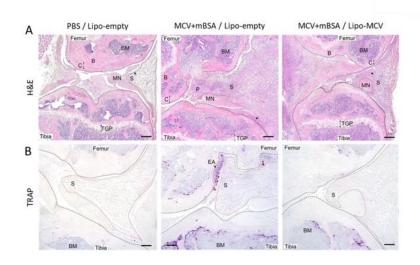




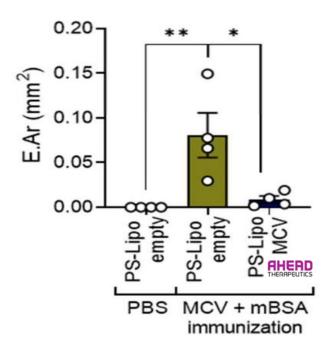
### Results



PS-Liposomes dramatically reduce the eroded area and covers an *unmet medical need* in RA: the BONE DESTRUCTION.



Erlangen University. Georg Schett, 2020



# Ahead shows efficiency in Rheumatoid Arthritis (4/4)



### Disease

i the over-activation of pre-osteoclasts degrades the bones of the joints





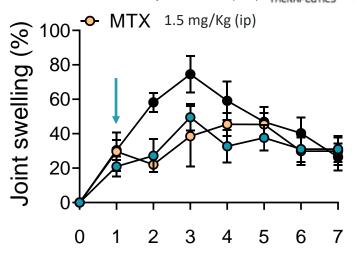


### Results

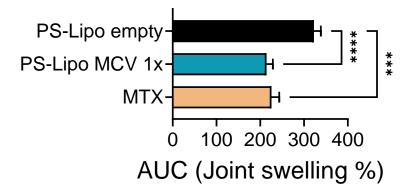


PS-Liposomes' obtain the same effect as the SoC Methotrexate, but having multiple advantages

- PS-Lipo empty
- → PS-Lipo MCV (1x) THERAPEUTICS

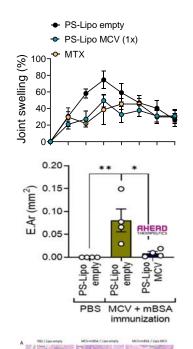


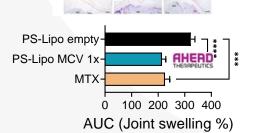
Day post second immunization





# RA: Added value and advantages compared to SoC (MTX)





# PS-Liposomes' value is clearly superior compared to Methotrexate SoC:

Beyond controlling the inflammation, Ahead's Therapy has three crucial COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES that make the difference:



**Antigen Specific,** BUT non-systemic immune suppression, avoiding MTX side effects.



**Non-chronic treatment** like other ASIT therapy approaches and RA SoC, BUT PS-Liposomes generate tolerance during the first month.



To address a crucial **unmet medical need** in RA: bone destruction, whereas Methotrexate does not.

# Ahead shows efficiency in Myasthenia Gravis (1/2)



### Disease

i) MG is a dishabilitating autoimmune disease involving muscular degeneration classified as a rare disease.



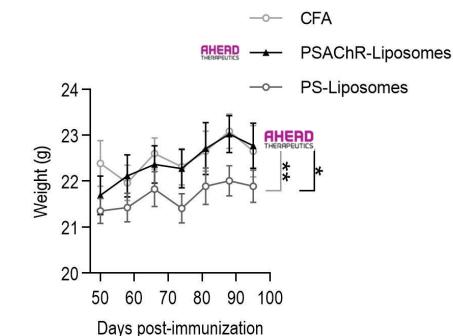




### Results



# PS-Liposomes' Improve Clinical Symptoms & Weight evolution is the same as Control Group



- 85% of MG patients has autoantibodies against the receptor of Acetylcholine (AChR).
- MG was induced by the injection of AChR +CFA. Day 30, a boost-immunization (AChR +CFA) is performed; treatment starts at day 35 (Therapeutic approach).

# Ahead shows efficiency in Myasthenia Gravis (1/2)



### Disease

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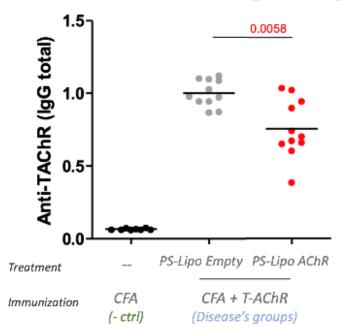


### Results



PS-Liposomes' DECREASE AchR Antibodies, which are the primary drivers of the disease.

### Anti T-AChR IgGs - Day 66



- 85% of MG patients has autoantibodies against the receptor of Acetylcholine (AChR).
- MG was induced by the injection of AChR +CFA. Day 30, a boost-immunization (AChR +CFA) is performed; treatment starts at day 35 (Therapeutic approach).

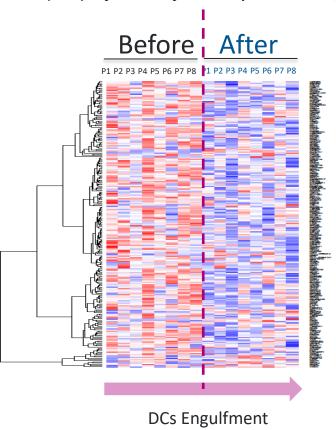
## Ahead's MoA is transferable to human

### Treatment with PS-Liposomes induce a tolerogenic profile in human Dendritic Cells

### Results

- Tolerogenic phenotype induced by PS-Liposomes was characterized.
- Impairment of Dendritic Cells mediated autologous T-cells proliferation also in humans.
- Tolerogenic cytokine profile was also characterized and resembles the previous observed in mice.
- Transcriptomic profile after the engulfment of PS-Liposomes by Dendritic Cells shows a clear induction of genes involved in tolerance induction.

Gene transcription profile of dendritic cells coming from patients (P1-8) before and after the exposure to Ahead's PS-Liposomes



- Red: genes over-expressed
- Blue: genes under-expressed

# Patent Competitive Advantages

# **Ahead's IP protection**

Ahead's technology is widely protected through patent family WO2015107140.

The protection requested was broad and protects the tech platform.

FTO analysis was performed with ZBM Patents, with positive result.

The international patent application was filed on 01/16/15. At the moment, there is protection in Canada, United States, Mexico, Brazil, Europe, China, India, and Australia.

The European patent was granted on 03/14/2018
The Japanese patent was granted on 21/05/2019
The Australian, Mexican and Chinese applications
have been intended to grant



### PRODUCT PATENT

#### Claim 1:

"A liposome encapsulating an autoantigen, wherein (i) the liposomes has a size comprised from 500 to 15000 nm; and (ii) the liposome membrane comprises phosphatydilserine (PS) in an amount comprised from 10 to 40% by weight with respect to the total membrane liposomal composition."



# **Ahead's Competitive Advantages**



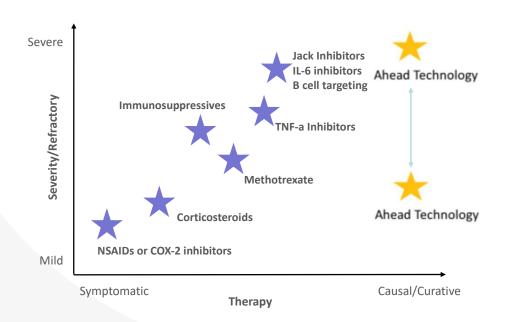
### **Biomimicry**

### **Antigen Specific Immune Suppression**

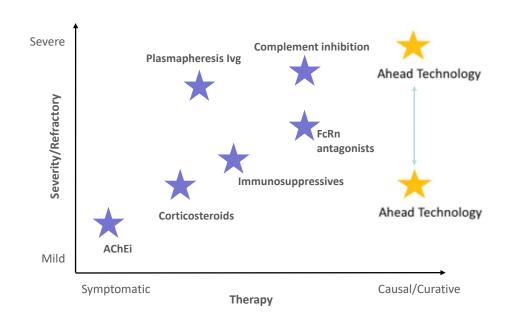
### **Unique Regime for Human Translation**

### **Tech-Platform Potential**

#### **Rheumatoid Arthritis: Potential positioning for Ahead Therapeutics**



### **Myasthenia Gravis: Potential positioning for Ahead Therapeutics**



# **Ahead's ressources & Strategic Alliances**



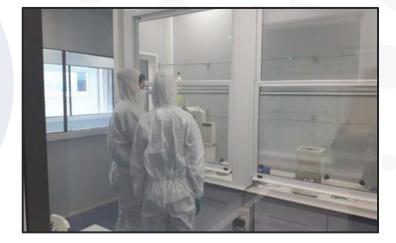
### Immunology unit (IGTP) - Dr Marta Vives Pi (CSO)

- T1D studies
- MoA and platform development (BIO assays)

### **Proof of Concept (PoC):**

- Rheumatoid Arthritis:
  - ex-vivo assay (Dr. Sara Marsal Vall d'Hebron and Dra. Vives-Pi at IGTP)
  - in vivo assay (Pr. Georg Schett Erlangen University)
- Myasthenia Gravis:
  - ex-vivo assay (Dra. Elena Cortes and Dr. Eduard Gallardo and Dra. Vives-Pi at IGTP)
  - in vivo assay (Dra. Rozen La Panse Institute of Mycology Paris)
- Multiple sclerosis:
  - ex-vivo and in vivo assays Dr. Carmen Espejo and Dr. Xavier MontalbanCEMCAT
- Celiac Disease:
  - ex-vivo assay (Dra. Carmen Ribes-Konick Hospital de la Fe de Valencia)
- Neuromyelitis Optica:
  - ex-vivo assay (Dr. Albert Saiz Hospital Clínic Barcelona and Dra. Vives-Pi at IGTP)
  - In vivo assay (Dr. Michael Levy Massachusetts Hospital)
- Histidyl-t-RNA synthetase syndrome:
  - ex-vivo assay (Dr. Mark Genovese Standford)
  - in vivo assay (Dr. Albert Selva Vall d'Hebron hospital and Carmen Espejo CEMCAT)





### **Clean room facility**

- Liposomes' scalability / lyophilization
- Liposomes' manufacturing

# Strategic alliance with the Analytics chemistry department University of Barcelona

- Liposomes' characterization
- Development of Analytical methods

# Investment case

10M € / 20M €

**To** Bring both leading assets to IND / IMPD

**To** perform first Human PoC with RA asset

# Ahead is raising 10M - 20M € series A to push MG to IND and RA to Phase IIA

### **Use of Proceeds**

### Resources needed x milestones

X	X Key Milestones (Inflection Points)		Year 1			Year 2			Year 3				Year 4				
Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) asset		T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	T3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4
1	GMP-like batch RA PS Liposome completed	2.662.656 X															
2	Toxicology ended / IND enabling phase		2.027.525 X														
3	Human PoC Clinical Trial IIab succeed (80 patients)							8.	125.53	39			Х				
	Total asset develp. timeline & costs	es es				12.815.721							Х				

		Year 1			Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
Му	asthenia Gravis (MG) asset	T1 T2 T3 T4		T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4	
4	GMP-like batch MG PS Liposome completed	1.891.908			X											
5	Toxicology ended / IND enabling phase	2.3		2.344	1.855			Х								
· <u>-</u>	Total asset develp. timeline & costs	4.236		5.763				X								

			Yea	ar 1			Yea	ır 2			Yea	ar 3			Yea	ar 4	
Tech-platform continuous development		T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4	T1	T2	Т3	T4
	6	Tot costs for continous Platf. Develop.	pp. <b>3.158.958</b>					Х									

TOTAL Business Case Costs	20.211.441	Х
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	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Total funds needed x year	5.155.312	4.502.834	5.541.017	5.012.277
Cummulated funds needed	5.155.312	9.658.146	15.199.164	20.211.441

# **Existing deals in the field**

A disclosed deal for \$800M, for an asset in early stage of development

### **COMPANIES**









### **ACQUIRERS**











### **DEAL DETAILS**

Single asset licensing deal, T1D, \$800M

Undisclosed

Single asset licensing deal, celiac disease, undisclosed

Single asset licensing deal, T1D, undisclosed

# Ahead's potential acquirers

## Status: periodic updates/MTA/co-development programs agreements

Company	RA	MG	T1D	MS	CEL	NMO	ОТН
Novartis	*		*		*		
Grifols		*				*	
Roche/Genentech	*			*	*		*
Amgen	*		*		*		
Eli Lilly	*		*		*		
J & J	*		*		*		
Pfizer	*		*				
MERK	*						
JT Pharma			*	*			
Asahi Kasei Pharma	*		*	*	*		
ARGEN-X		*				*	
SANOFI			*	*	*		
TAKEDA		*				*	
Mitsubishi Tanabe	*			*			*

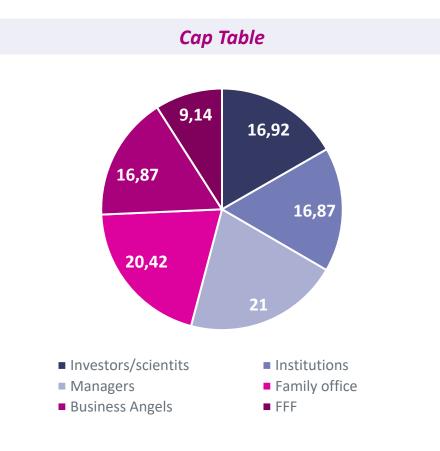
# **Business Model - Strategy**



- First Assets Dev.; financed by leading Investor (+ followers):
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Key-Value Inflection Point for the two assets: until IND: 10 M €.
  - Full Program: + First Clinical Trial Phase IIa for first asset: 20 M €.

- Collaborations for co-development / sub-license; candidates:
  - Large Market Indications: TD1 / MS / Rheumatoid Arthritis / Cel. Disease
  - Orphan Drug / Rare Diseases: MG / NMO / A-Synt. Syndr. (MYO).

# **Cap Table and Previous Investments**



### **Previous investments**

Type of funds		Amounts
Private Capital		4.213 M €
Grants from Government & UE		2.142 K €
Debt (loans without guaranties)		325 K €
	TOTAL =	6.680 M €



HELP PEOPLE SUFFERING from autoimmune diseases,
offering them something BEYOND a palliative treatment,
that is, a potential treatment for
PREVENTION or HEALING