



Single-dose GLP-1-based Pancreatic Gene Therapy Maintains Weight Loss After Semaglutide Withdrawal in a Murine Model of Obesity

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Disclosure Statement

Authors

Harith Rajagopalan, Alice Liou Fitzpatrick, Suya Wang, Emily Cozzi, Timothy Kieffer and Jay Caplan are employees and shareholders of Fractyl Health, Inc. Randy Seeley is a paid consultant for and received research support from Novo Nordisk, Fractyl Health, Congruence, and Eli Lilly; is a paid consultant for CinRx and Crinetics; and received research support from Amgen, Astra Zeneca, and Bullfrog AI.

Pancreatic Gene Therapy (PGTx) is in early development and has not been assessed by any regulatory body for investigational or commercial use.

Incretin Therapies: T2D, Obesity, and Beyond

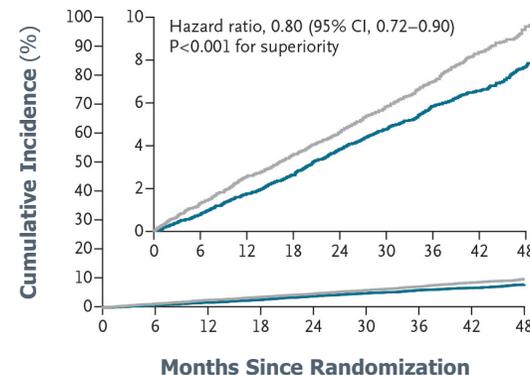
Broad-based benefit on surrogate biomarkers and hard endpoints

GLP-1RAs can reduce mortality

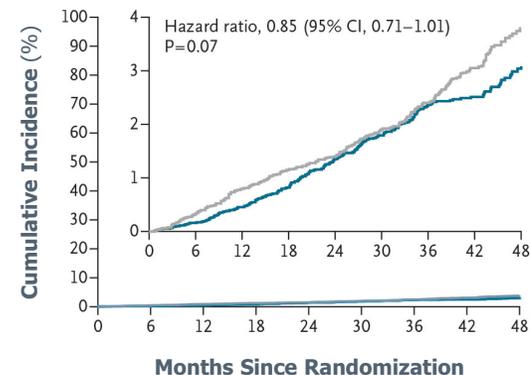
in individuals with obesity and a history of cardiovascular disease

Compounding effect from cumulative exposure in up to 4 years of follow up

A) Primary Cardiovascular Composite End Point

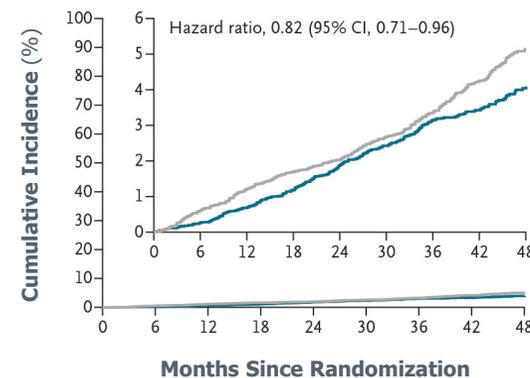


B) Death from Cardiovascular Causes

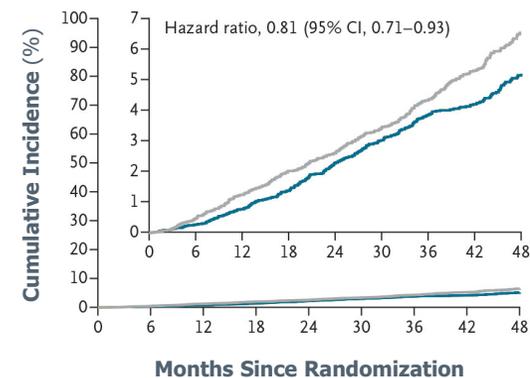


Placebo
Semaglutide

C) Heart Failure Composite End Point



D) Death from Any Cause



Incretin Therapies: Real-world Discontinuation Rates are High

Majority of patients discontinue therapy within first year

Despite proven clinical efficacy in obesity and T2D,^{1,2} **up to 2/3^{rds} of patients discontinue** weekly GLP-1RA therapy within 1 year³⁻⁶

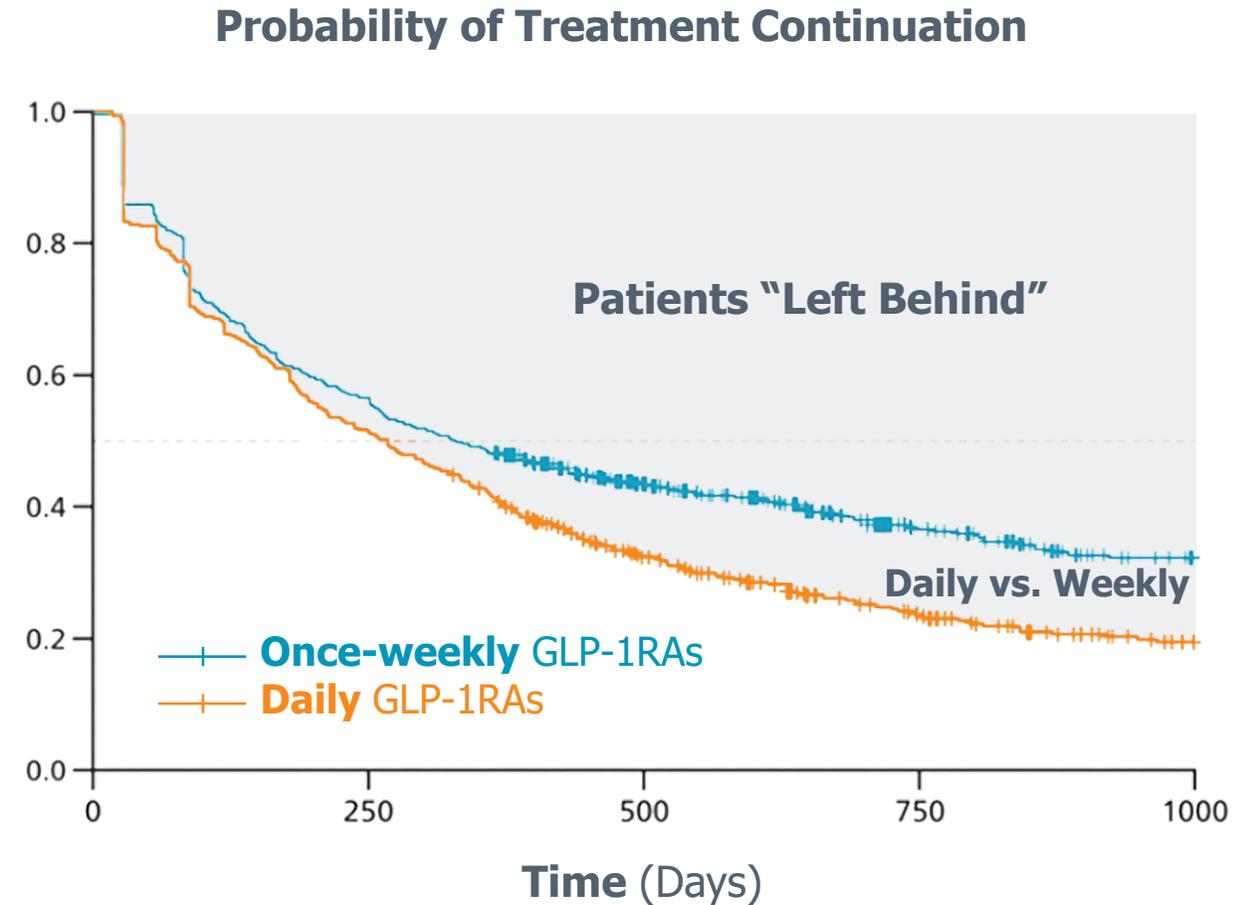


Figure adapted from Polonsky et al. Diabetes Ther. 2022 13:175–1871. 1. Nauck et al. Mol Metab. 2021 46:101102. 2. Campbell and Drucker. Cell Metab. 2013 17:819-837. 3. Polonsky et al. Diabetes Ther. 2022 13:175–1871. 4. Weiss. Patient Prefer Adherence. 2020 14:2337-2345. 5. Polonsky et al. Diabetes Spectr. 2021 34:175-183. 6. Terhune. Reuters. 2023 July 11. GLP-1=glucagon-like peptide 1, GLP-1RA=GLP-1R agonist

Incretin Therapies: Metabolic Rebound Now Well Described

Current GLP-1RAs do not durably alter metabolic setpoint

Discontinuation of therapy leads to **near total loss of metabolic benefit**¹

GLP-1RA therapies support weight loss and glucose control, **but how do we maintain these effects?**

STEP-1 Trial Extension – Semaglutide 2.4 mg

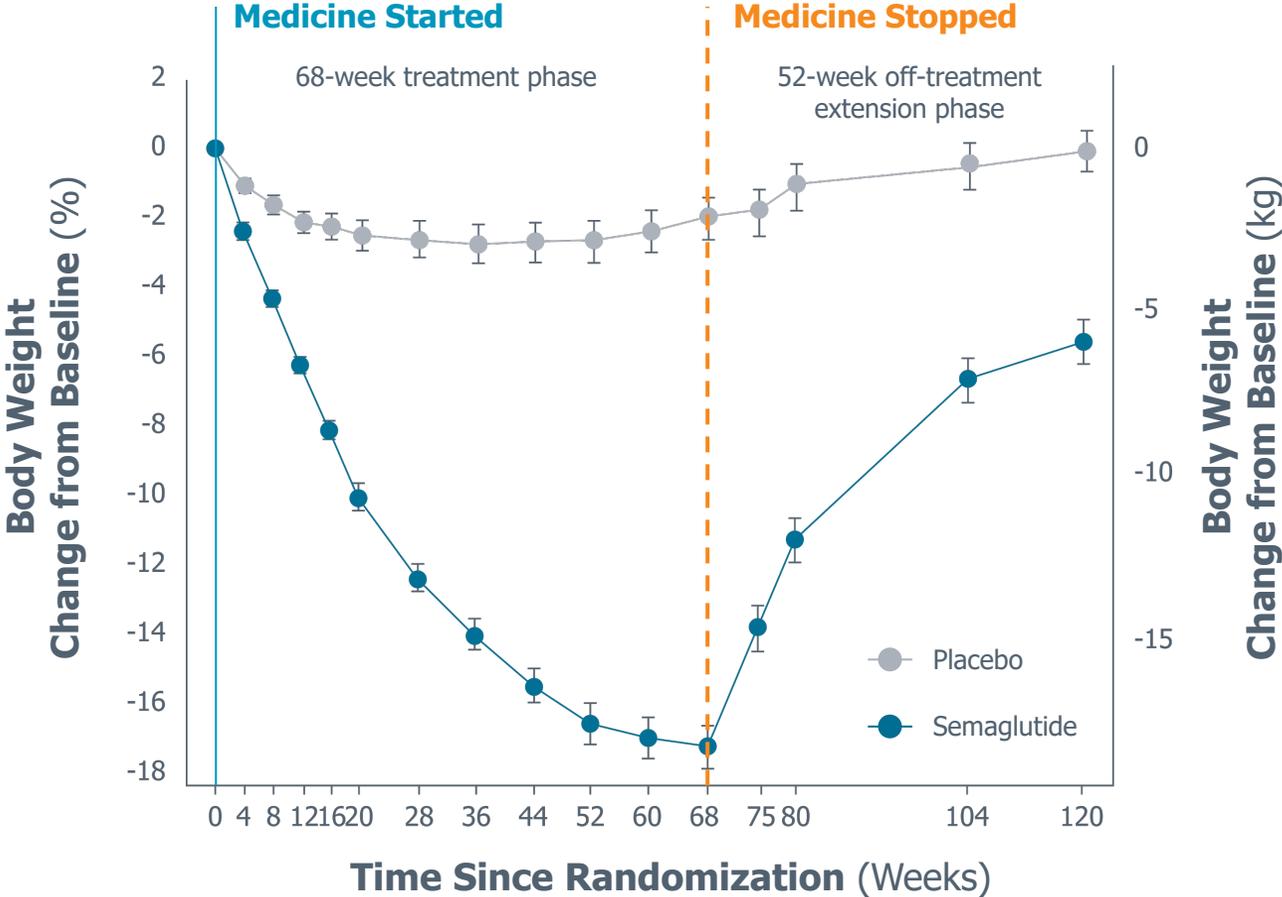


Figure adapted from Wilding et al. Diabetes Obes Metab. 2022 24:1553-1564. 1. Wilding et al. Diabetes Obes Metab. 2022 24:1553-1564. GLP-1RA=glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonist

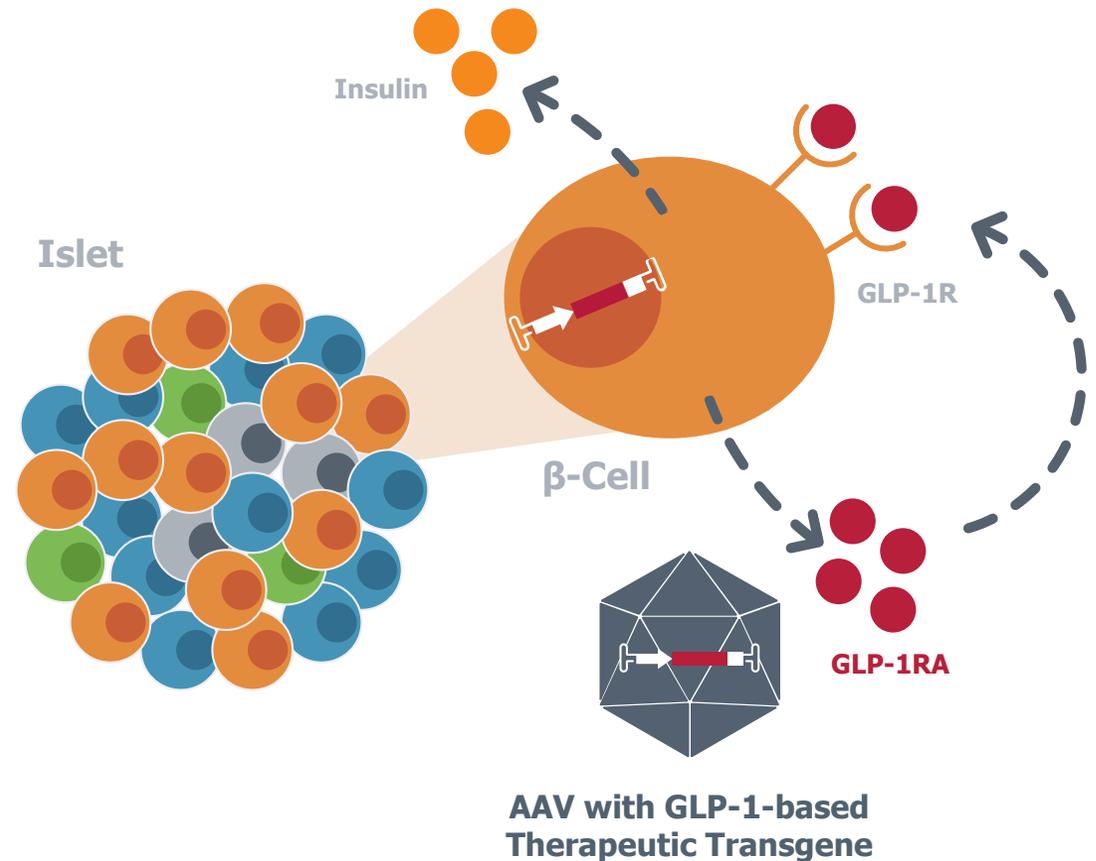
Pancreatic Gene Therapy (PGTx) to Modify Islet Function

Potential for durable improvement in metabolic health

Islet cells terminally differentiated,¹ making adeno-associated virus (AAV) a suitable means of durable genetic modification

β -cell machinery can be leveraged to produce nutrient-stimulated hormones that modify systemic metabolic function^{2,3}

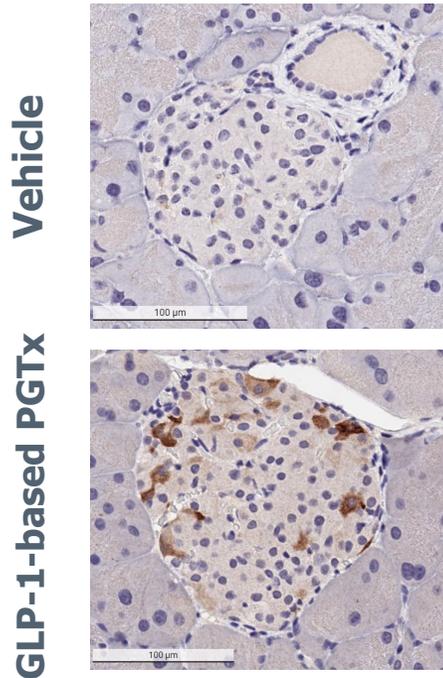
GLP-1-based PGTx, driven by the insulin promoter, may offer differentiated benefit via durable local production of GLP-1RA



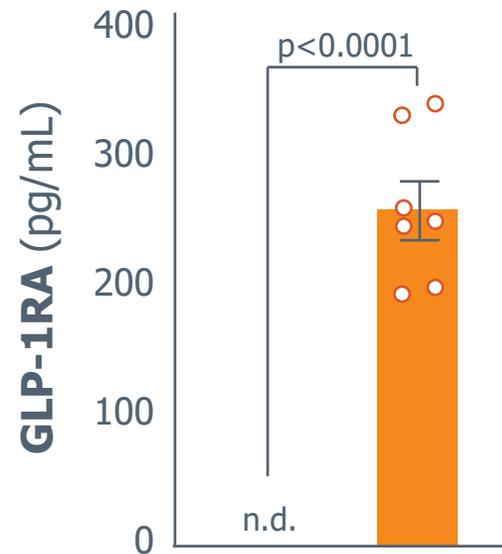
GLP-1-based PGTx Improves Insulin Production and GSIS in Islets

Metabolic improvements in isolated *db/db* islets 10 weeks after PGTx

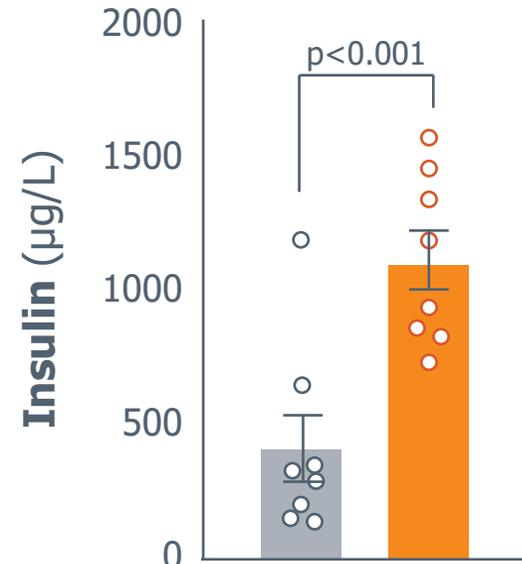
A) Islet Transduction



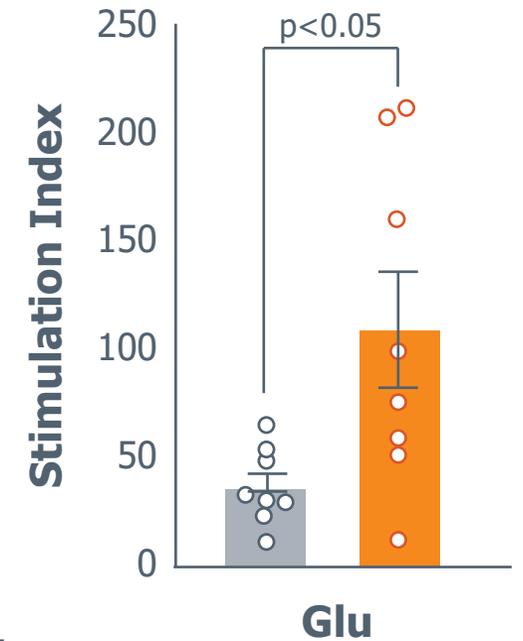
B) GLP-1RA Protein Content



C) Insulin Content



D) Glucose-Stimulated Insulin Secretion (GSIS)



Vehicle GLP-1-based PGTx

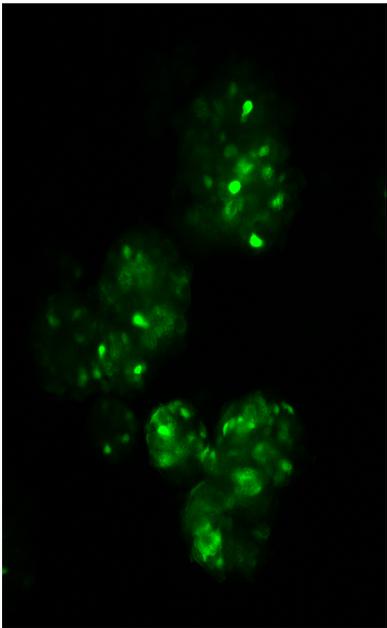


Mean ± SD shown; n=8 per group. D) Glucose stimulation of 16.7 mM +/- IBMX from 2.8 mM baseline. Rajagopalan et al. ADA 2023 oral presentation. Abstract no. 181-OR. GLP-1=glucagon-like peptide 1, GLP-1RA=GLP-1 receptor agonist, Glu=glucose, GSIS=glucose-stimulated insulin secretion, n.d.=not detectable, PGTx=pancreatic gene therapy

GLP-1-based PGTx Improves GSIS in Human Islets and β -cell Line

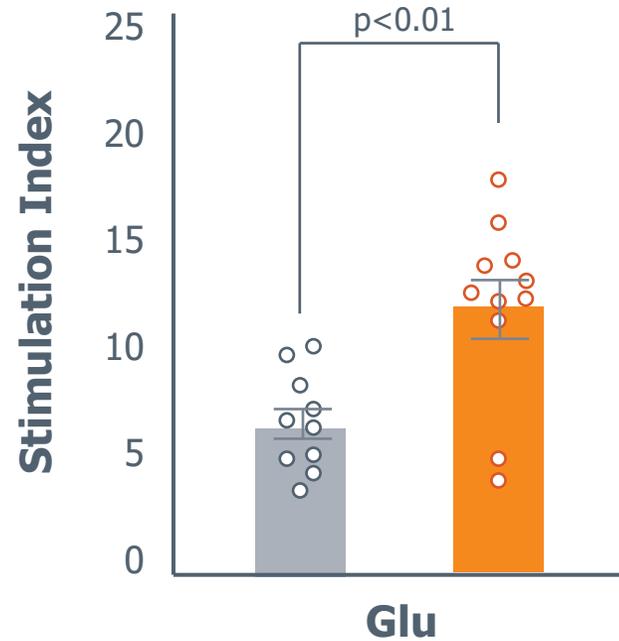
Improved GSIS mediated by GLP-1R activation

A) Human Islet Transduction



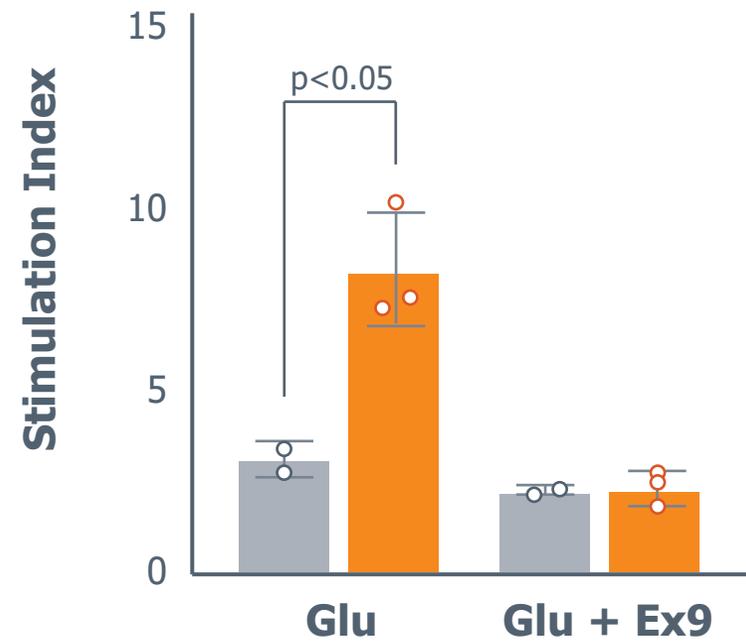
GFP Expression

B) Human Islet GSIS



■ Untransduced ■ GLP-1-based PGTx

C) Human β -cell Line GSIS \pm Ex9 (GLP-1R Antagonist)



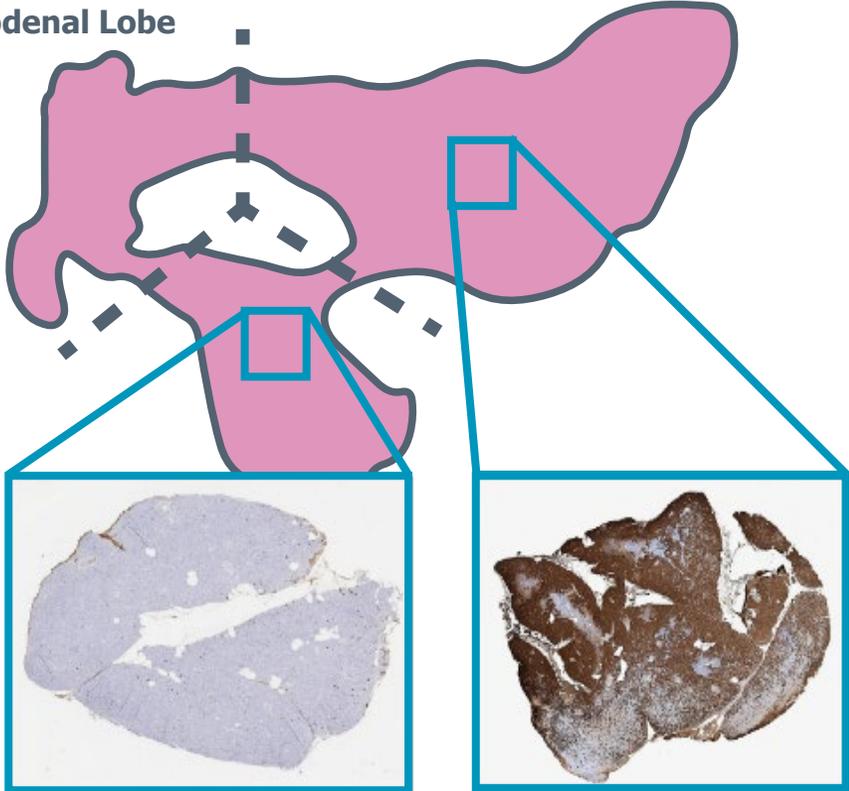
Mean \pm SEM shown; n=2-11 per group. B) Glucose stimulation of 16.7 mM from 2.8 mM baseline, C) Glucose stimulation of 11 mM from 0 mM baseline. Rajagopalan et al. ADA 2023 oral presentation. Abstract no. 181-OR. Ex9=Exendin-9, GFP=green fluorescent protein, GLP-1=glucagon-like peptide 1, GLP-1R=GLP-1 receptor, Glu=glucose, GSIS=glucose-stimulated insulin secretion, PGTx=pancreatic gene therapy

Proprietary Local Endoscopic Delivery System Extensively Tested

Dose-dependent transduction throughout porcine splenic lobe

A) Extensive GFP in Splenic Lobe

Duodenal Lobe

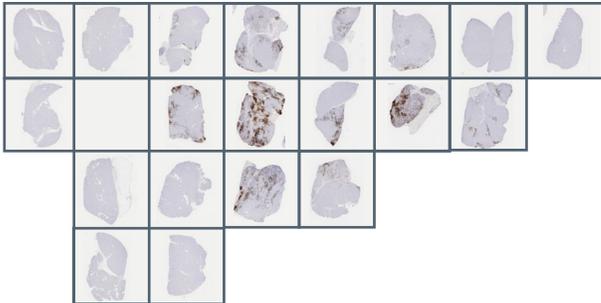


Connecting Lobe

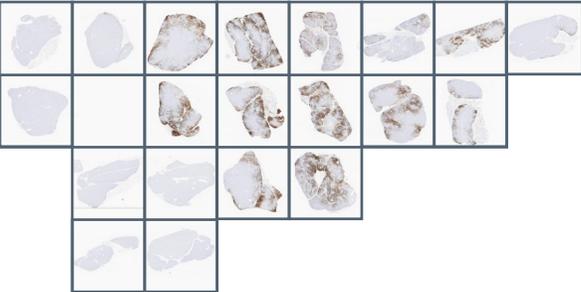
Splenic Lobe

B) VG Dose-dependent GFP in Pancreas

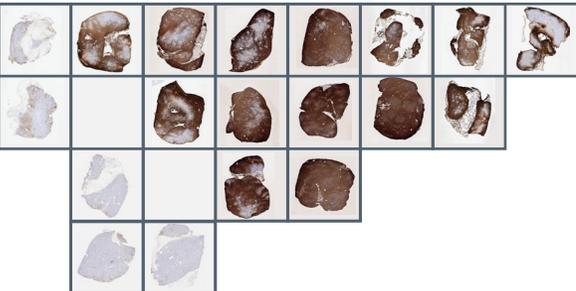
5e12 VG



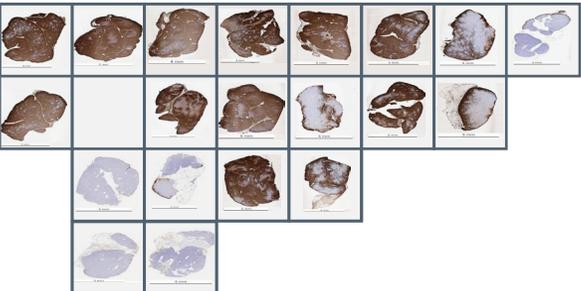
1e13 VG



5e13 VG



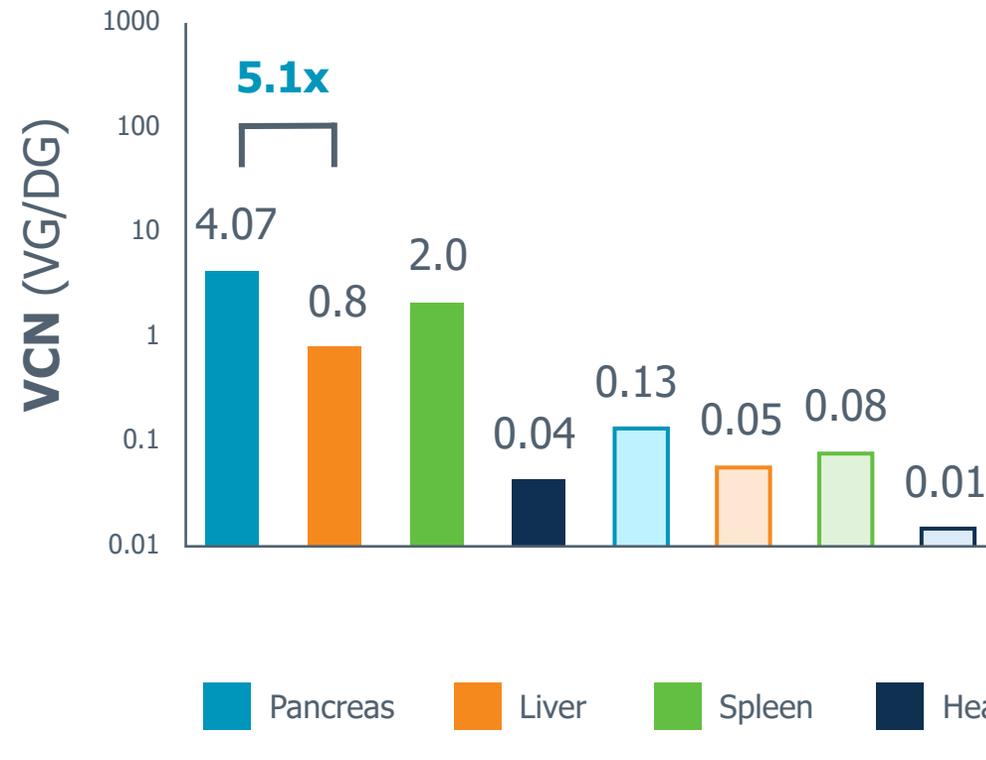
1.5e14 VG



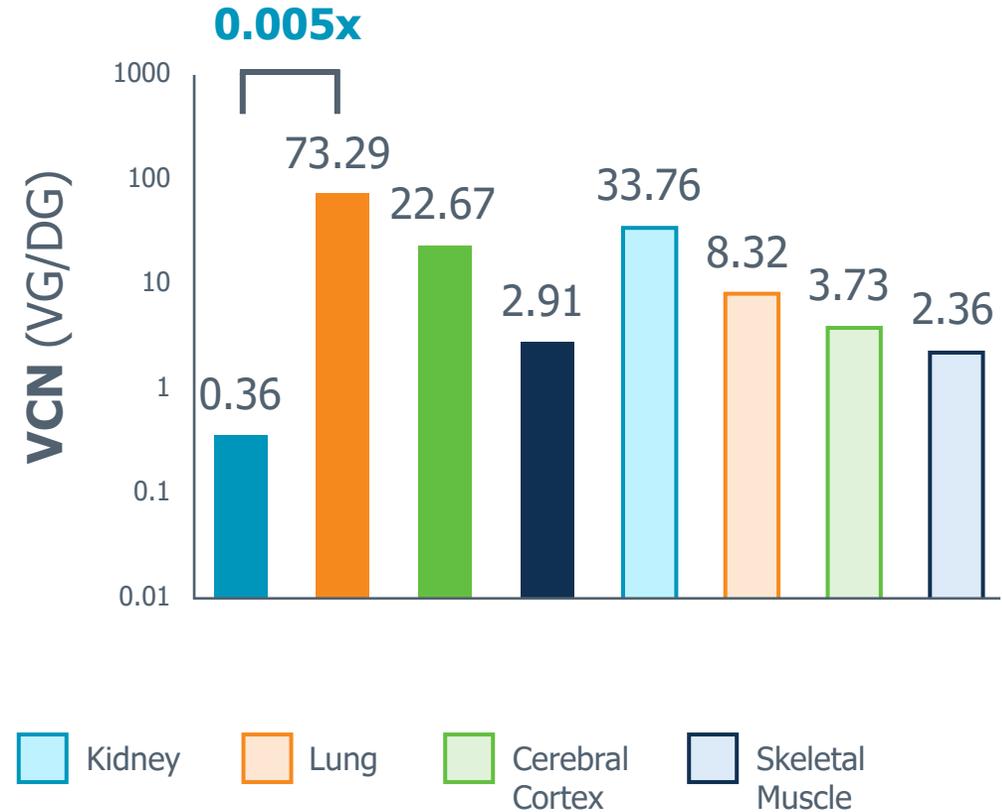
Local Endoscopic Delivery Allows High Expression

Dramatically limits systemic exposure to AAV in porcine model

A) Local Delivery (4.2e12 VG/kg)



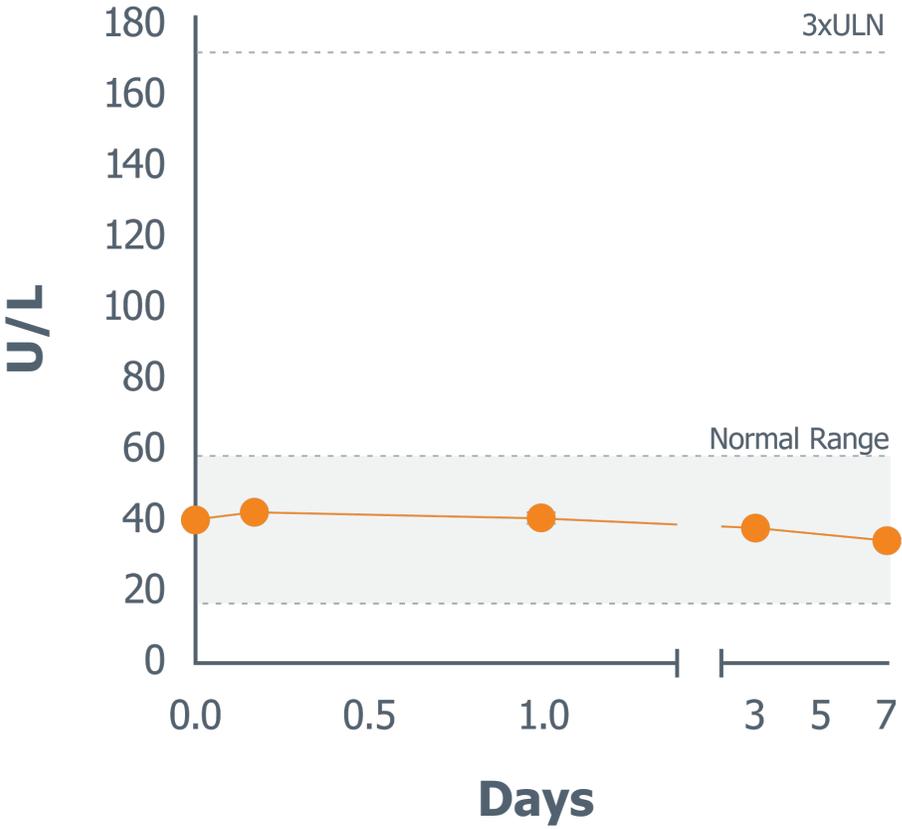
B) I.V. (8.3e12 VG/kg)²



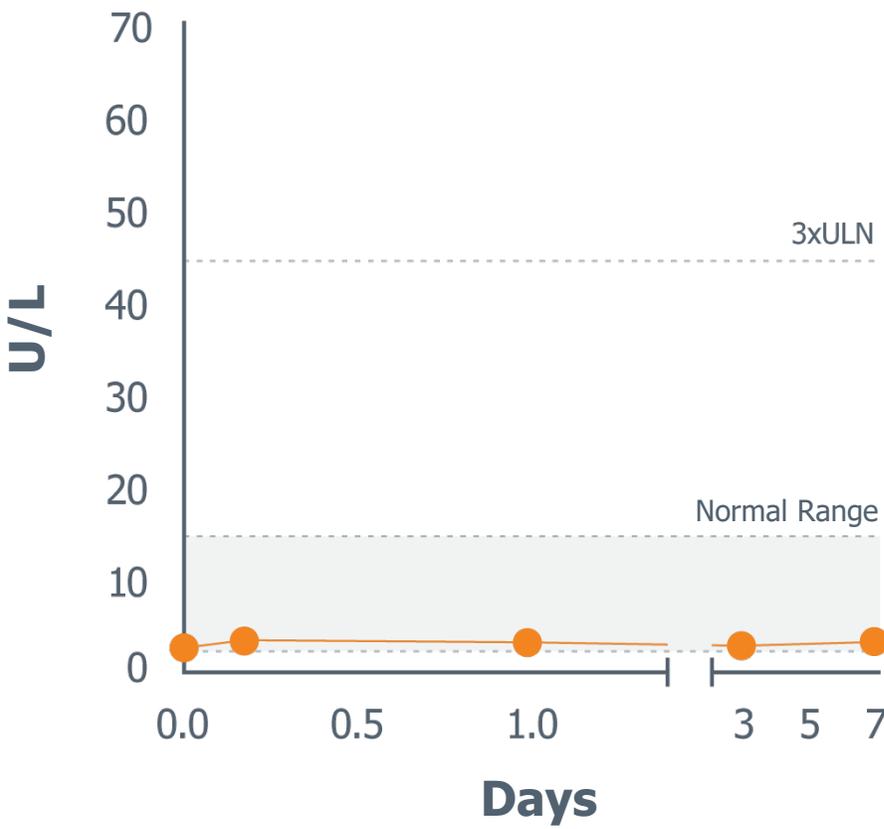
Proof-of-principle Safety with Local Endoscopic Delivery System

ALT and lipase levels remained within normal range across all timepoints

A) 7-day ALT



B) 7-day Lipase

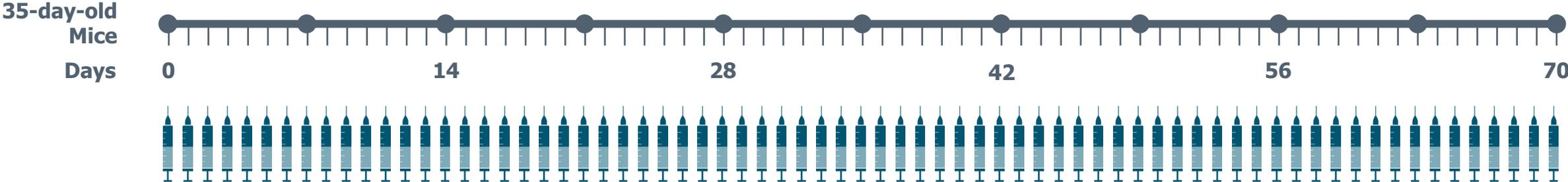


GLP-1-based PGTx T2D Efficacy Study: Head-to-head vs. Semaglutide

db/db murine model is *de facto* standard for T2D development



Single I.P. Injection
 (1e13 or 5e12 VG GLP-1-based PGTx or Vehicle)



Daily S.C. Injections
 Semaglutide (10 nmol/kg/d)
 or Vehicle

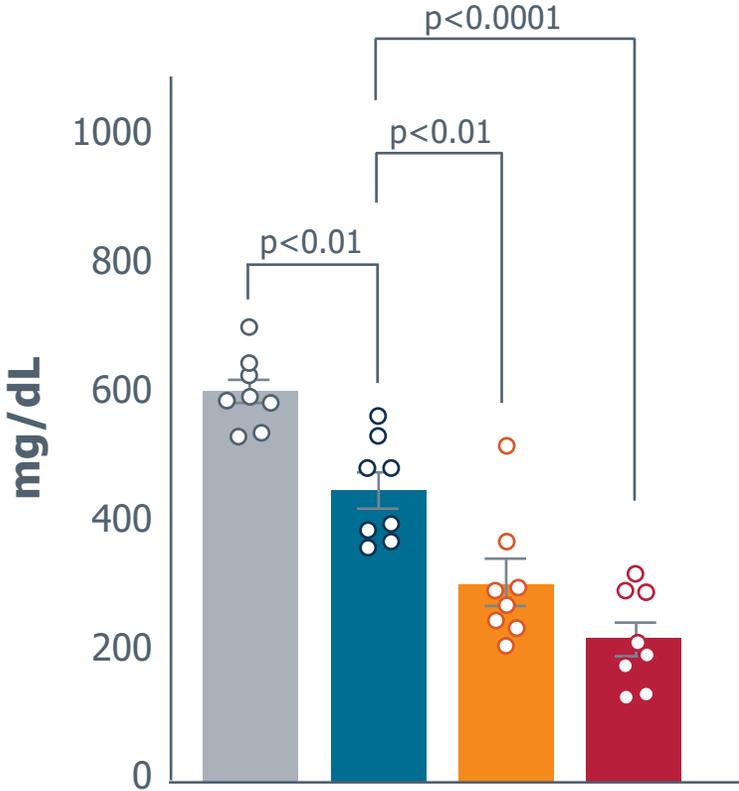
Efficacy/MOA (Day 0-70)
 Weekly Fasting Blood Glucose
 Biweekly Insulin
 Weight

Sacrifice (Days 58-70)
 Organ Histology
 Pancreatic GLP-1RA Protein
 Serum GLP-1RA Protein

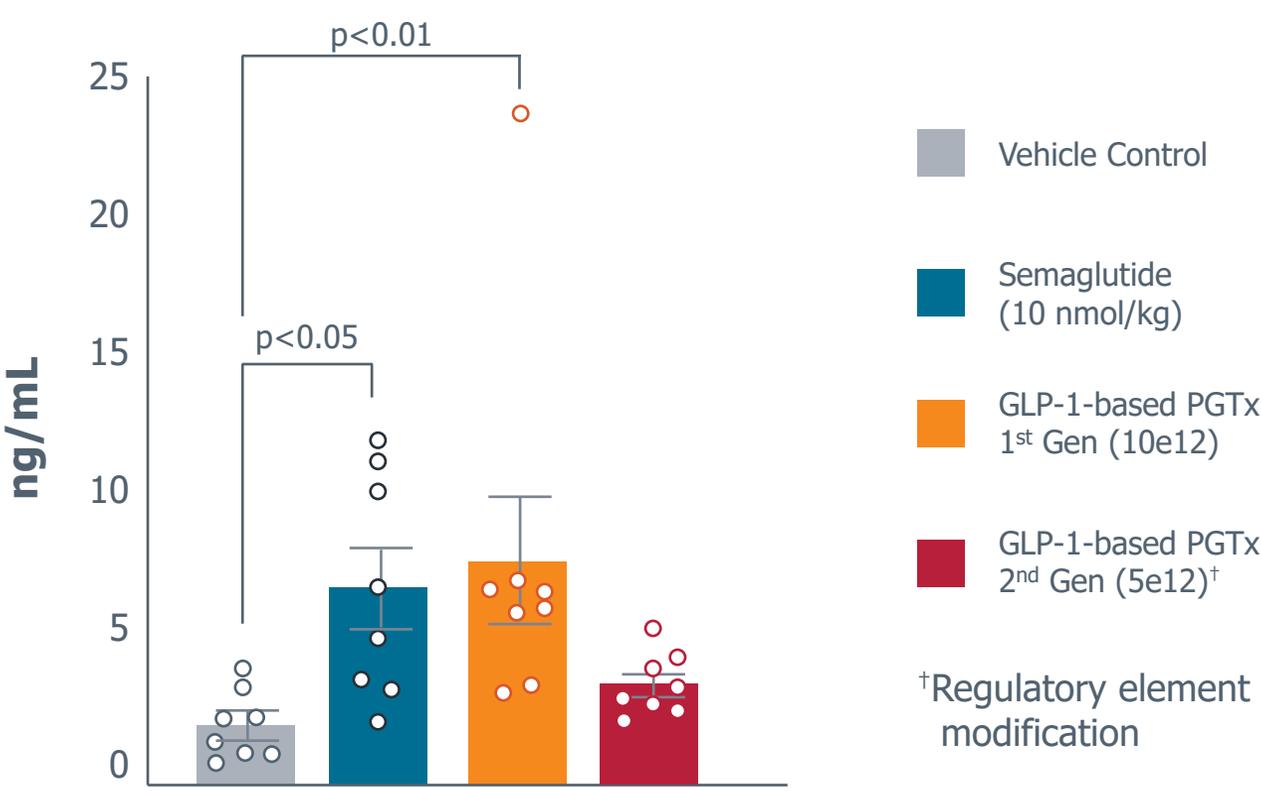
Glucose-lowering Efficacy in *db/db* Murine Model

GLP-1-based PGTx improves fasting glucose vs. daily semaglutide

A) Fasting Blood Glucose
(Week 8, 4-6 Hours Fasted)



B) Fasting Insulin
(Week 8, 4-6 Hours Fasted)



- Vehicle Control
- Semaglutide (10 nmol/kg)
- GLP-1-based PGTx 1st Gen (10e12)
- GLP-1-based PGTx 2nd Gen (5e12)[†]

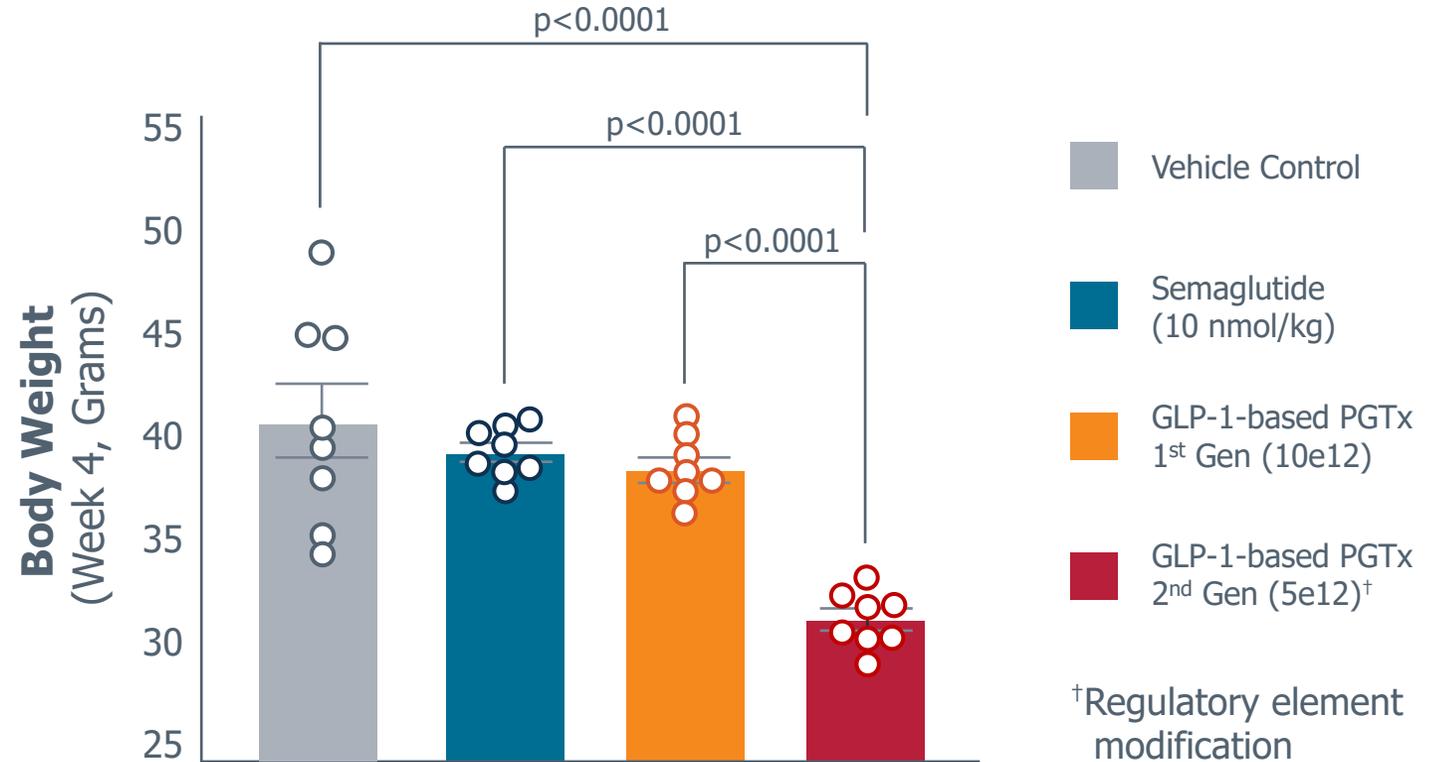
[†]Regulatory element modification

Body Weight Change in *db/db* Murine Model

GLP-1-based PGTx prevents weight gain vs. daily semaglutide

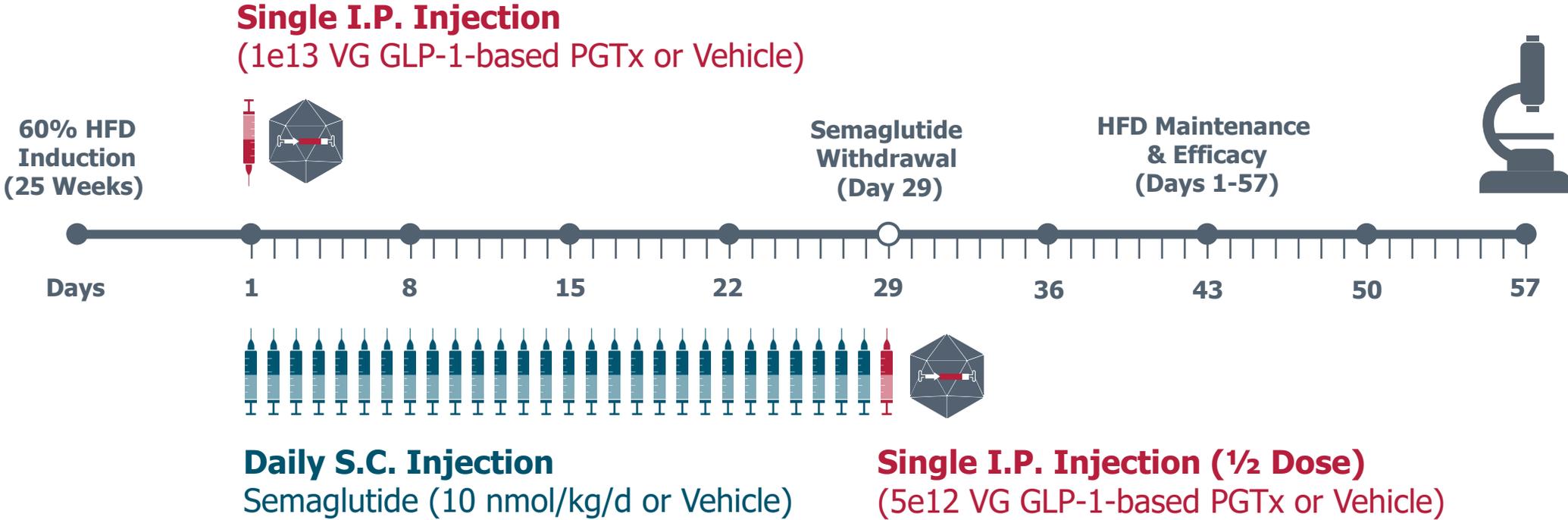
23% lower total body weight with PGTx compared to vehicle

20% lower total body weight with PGTx compared to semaglutide



GLP-1-based PGTx T2D Efficacy Study: Head-to-head vs. Semaglutide

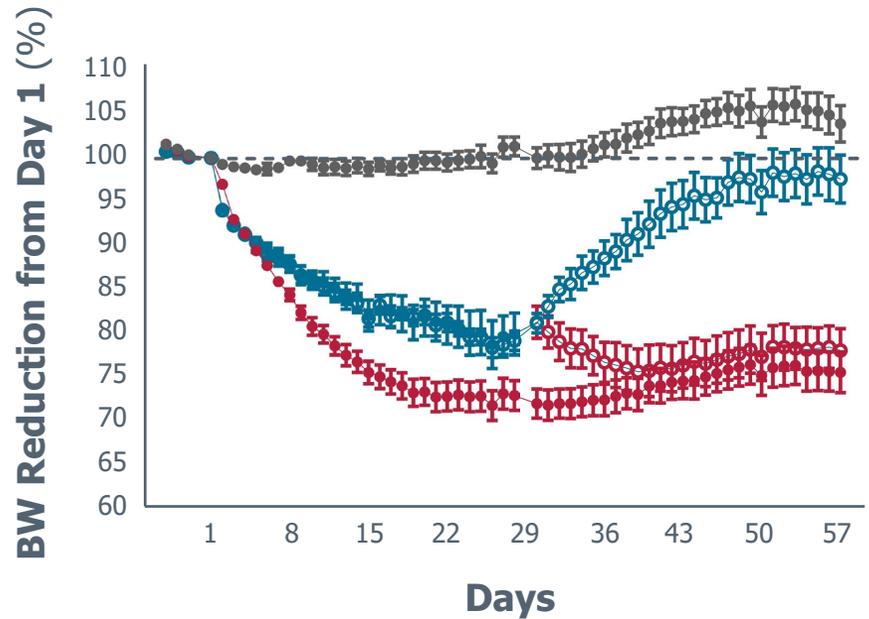
DIO murine model is *de facto* standard for obesity development



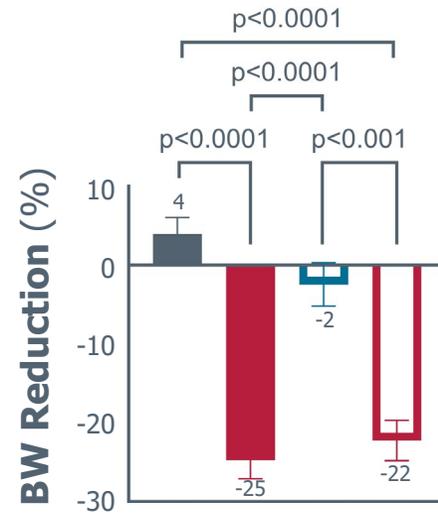
Body Weight and Food Intake Change in DIO Murine Model

Single-dose GLP-1-based PGTx sustains weight loss after semaglutide withdrawal

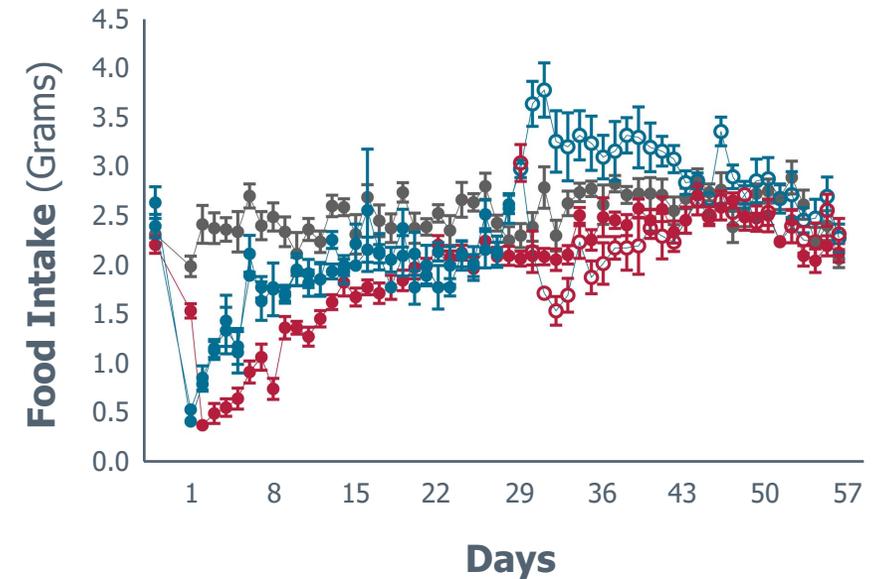
A) Change in BW Over Time



B) End of Study BW Change



C) Food Intake Over Time



GLP-1-based PGTx Safety and Feasibility Studies in Model Systems

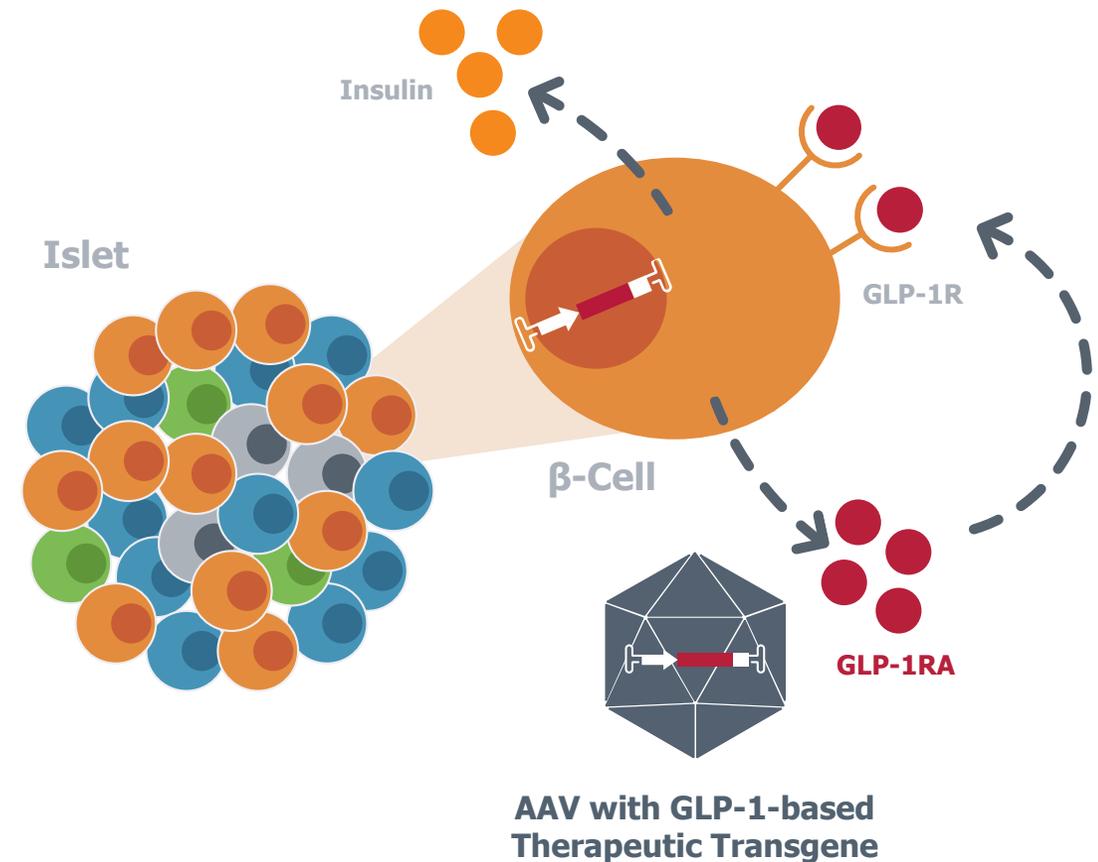
Conclusions to date

Early safety and feasibility observations in *db/db* and DIO mice and Yucatan pigs are encouraging

Compared to chronic semaglutide, single-dose PGTx **improves fasting glucose and prevents weight gain in *db/db* model of T2D**

Single-dose PGTx can lead to **durable weight loss and maintenance of weight loss** after semaglutide withdrawal in DIO mice

PGTx lead optimization demonstrates **potential for superior potency in T2D and obesity with low pancreatic dose**



Thank You

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