

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 22, 2024

SAGIMET BIOSCIENCES INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-41742
(Commission
File Number)

20-5991472
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Sagimet Biosciences Inc.
155 Bovet Road, Suite 303,
San Mateo, California 94402
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(650) 561-8600
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class
Series A Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share

Trade
Symbol(s)
SGMT

Name of each exchange on which registered
The Nasdaq Global Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On January 22, 2024, Sagimet Biosciences Inc. (the “Company”) updated information reflected in a slide presentation, which is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. Representatives of the Company will use the updated presentation in various meetings with investors from time to time.

The information contained in this Item 7.01 (including Exhibit 99.1) is being furnished and shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On January 22, 2024, the Company issued a press release announcing positive topline results from its Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 clinical trial of denifanstat in biopsy-confirmed F2/F3 non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) patients. A copy of this press release is attached as Exhibit 99.2 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

As described in the press release, representatives of the Company will host a live webcast to discuss the results from this clinical trial at 8:00 a.m. ET on January 22, 2024. A copy of the presentation to be used during the webcast is filed as Exhibit 99.3 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Document</u>
99.1	Investor Presentation of Sagimet Biosciences Inc., dated January 22, 2024.
99.2	Press Release of Sagimet Biosciences Inc., dated January 22, 2024.
99.3	Sagimet Biosciences Announces Topline Results from Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 Clinical Trial.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Sagimet Biosciences Inc.

Date: January 22, 2024

By: /s/ David Happel
David Happel
Chief Executive Officer



SAGIMET

BIOSCIENCES

*Targeting Metabolic Dysfunction with
Novel Therapies to Treat NASH, Acne and Cancer*

January 2024

Forward Looking Statements

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of, and made pursuant to the safe harbor of, The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements contained in this document, other than stated historical facts or statements that relate to present facts or current conditions, including but not limited to, statements of possible or assumed future results of operations, business strategies, research and development plans, regulatory presentation of data from clinical trials, Sagimet's clinical development plans and related anticipated clinical development milestones, market opportunity, competitive position and potential growth opportunities are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause our actual performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expected or implied by the forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "will," "should," "would," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "could," "intend," "target," "project," "believe," "estimate," "potential," or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions. The forward-looking statements in this presentation are only predictions. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this presentation and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified and some of which are beyond our control, including, among others: the clinical development and therapeutic potential of denifanstat or other candidates we may develop; our ability to advance drug candidates into and successfully complete clinical trials, including topline clinical trials may not be predictive of, and may differ from final clinical data and later-stage clinical trials; that new clinical trial data may emerge in other clinical trials of denifanstat, including Phase 3 clinical trials; that clinical data may be subject to differing interpretations and assessments, including by regulatory authorities; our relationship with Ascendis and the success of its development efforts for denifanstat; the accuracy of our estimates regarding our capital requirements; our ability to maintain and successfully enforce adequate intellectual property protection. These and other risks and uncertainties are described more fully in the "Risk Factors" section of our most recent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available at www.sec.gov. You should not rely on these forward-looking statements as predictions of future events or as a guarantee of circumstances reflected in our forward-looking statements may not be achieved or occur, and actual results could differ from those projected in the forward-looking statements.

Moreover, we operate in a dynamic industry and economy. New risk factors and uncertainties may emerge from time to time and it is not possible for management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties that we may face. Except as required by law, we do not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

Proven Team with Development and Commercialization Experience / Hepatology, Metabolic Disease and Oncology



Dave Happel
President & CEO

- Cognoa: President & CEO
Chrono Therapeutics: President & CEO
Senior Executive and Commercial roles at Horizon, Raptor, Dynavax, Chiron
- M.B.A. – Indiana State University; B.A. Chemistry – Indiana University



George Kemble
Executive Chairman

- AstraZeneca (formerly MedImmune, Aviron): SVP Research for Biologics & General Manager of California operations, VP Vaccine Research & Development for Vaccines
- Ph.D. – Stanford University, Dept of Microbiology & Immunology



Eduardo Martins
CMO

- Abbvie (formerly Allergan), Eiger BioPharmaceuticals, Gilead, Genentech, Dynavax, Intermune, SciClone
- D.Phil. – University of Oxford
M.D. – Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Anthony Rimac
CFO

- Cognoa, ESCAPE Bio, Chrono Therapeutics, Aldea Pharmaceuticals, Adamas Pharmaceuticals, Aerovance
- M.B.A. – Santa Clara University; B.A. – University of California Santa Barbara



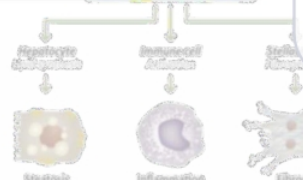
Elizabeth Rozek
General Counsel

- Cognoa, Basilea Pharmaceutica, US Department of Justice
- J.D. – University of California Berkeley
M.A. – University of California San Diego
B.A. – Brown University




Sagimet Investment Highlights

Critical role of FASN enzyme in NASH




- ✓ Key enzyme in de novo lipogenesis – responsible for excess liver fat in NASH
- ✓ FASN inhibition directly improves the 3 key drivers of NASH – liver fat, inflammation, fibrosis
- ✓ Differentiated MOA to treat growing underserved patient population

Precision medicine is key differentiator




- ✓ Blood test confirms drug
- ✓ Predictive biomarkers identify responders
- ✓ Opportunity to personalize and optimize outcomes

Denifanstat: FASN inhibitor with compelling clinical data



- ✓ FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b positive topline results
 - NASH resolution without worsening of fibrosis with ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS ($p=0.002$)
 - ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS without worsening of fibrosis ($p=0.0001$)
 - Fibrosis improvement by ≥ 1 stage with no worsening of NASH ($p=0.005$)

Strong rationale for FASN in acne and cancer

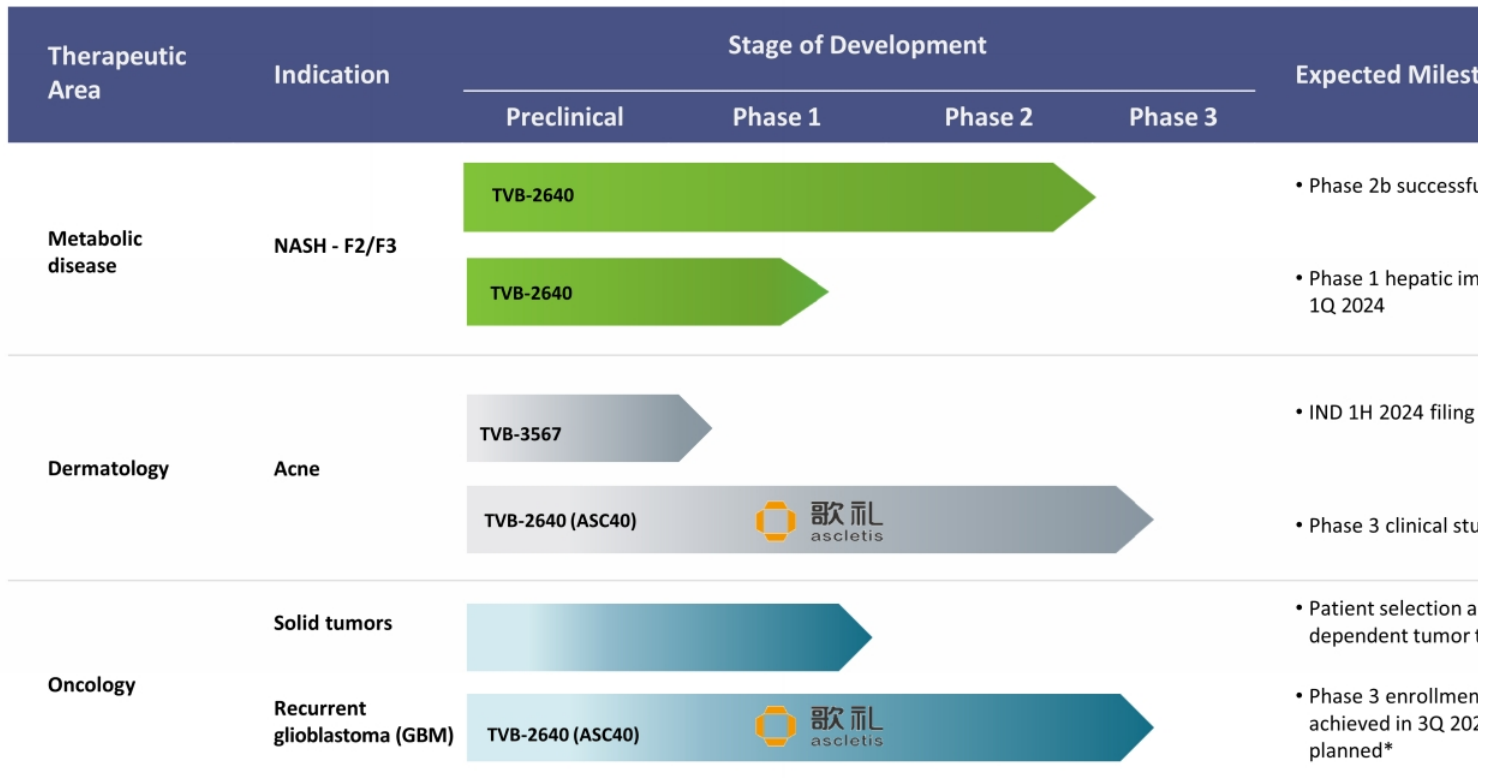


- Acne
 - ✓ Clinical proof of concept established
 - Positive Phase 2 topline results in May 2023 by Ascleptis
- Cancer
 - ✓ Clinical proof of concept established
 - Phase 3 rGBM trial enrollment analysis completed in Sept 2023 by Ascleptis

Strong financial position

- ✓ Upsized IPO completed in July 2023, resulting in \$1.2 billion of gross proceeds
- ✓ Cash and equivalents expected to support operations through into the first half of 2025

Development Pipeline: Indications and Clinical Milestones



5 * Trials conducted in China by Ascleto, who has licensed development and commercialization rights to all indications in Greater China

NASH: A Burgeoning Epidemic

Patients in 2016¹
United States

85.3 million



NAFL
non-alcoholic
fatty liver

17.3 million



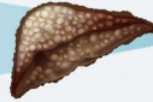
NASH
non-alcoholic
steatohepatitis

5.7 million



**NASH
mod-adv
fibrosis**
F2-F3

1.4 million
compensated and
decompensated



Cirrhosis
F4

11 thousand
annual cases among
NAFLD population



**Hepatocellular
carcinoma**

Disease challenges

- No approved drugs in U.S. or Europe
- Complex disease, heterogeneous patient population
- Improving regulatory clarity, but liver biopsy still required

Drug development challenges

- Many molecules moved forward on weak mechanism and data
- Inappropriate biomarkers for mechanism that did not translate to clinical benefit
- Safety: triglyceride elevations, LDL elevations, liver injury

Denifans

- ✓ Designed for once-daily dosing
- ✓ Rigorous and detailed development strategy
- ✓ Direct DNL inhibition demonstrated in preclinical models
- ✓ Improvements observed across biomarkers
- ✓ Phase 2b fully-erased biopsy results expected
- ✓ Precision medicine approach to improve patient outcomes

DNL = de novo lipogenesis

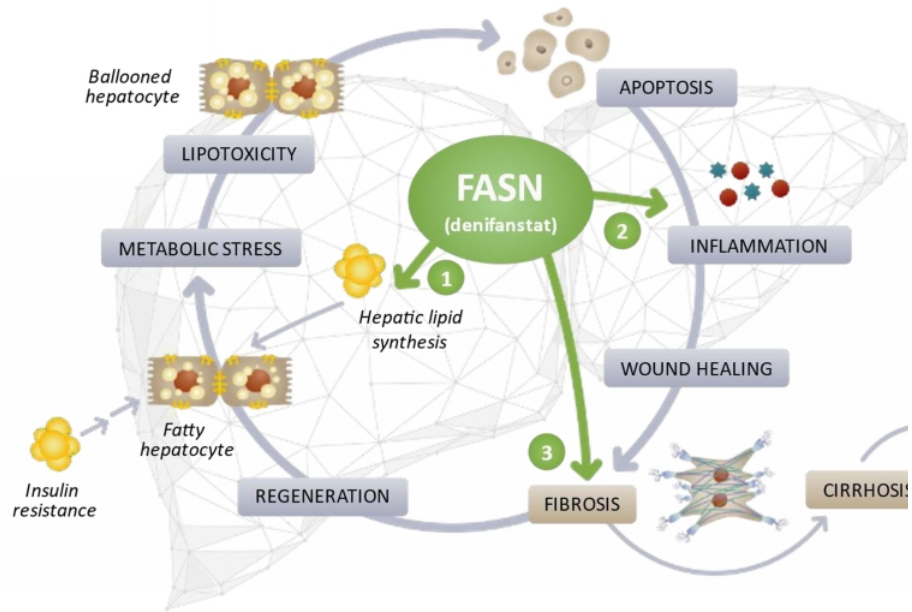
A microscopic image of liver tissue, likely a hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stained section. The image shows a dense field of hepatocytes with prominent nuclei and some cytoplasmic detail. A central, irregularly shaped area is highlighted in a lighter shade, possibly representing a lesion or a specific area of interest. The overall texture is granular and cellular.

Denifanstat in NASH

Denifanstat: Differentiated Mechanism Believed to Target Key Driver

Denifanstat has independent mechanisms designed to:

- 1 Block **steatosis** via inhibiting de novo lipogenesis in hepatocytes
- 2 Reduce **inflammation** via preventing immune cell activation
- 3 Blunt **fibrosis** via inhibiting stellate cell activation



Denifanstat: Well Tolerated at 25/50mg Doses in FASCINATE-1

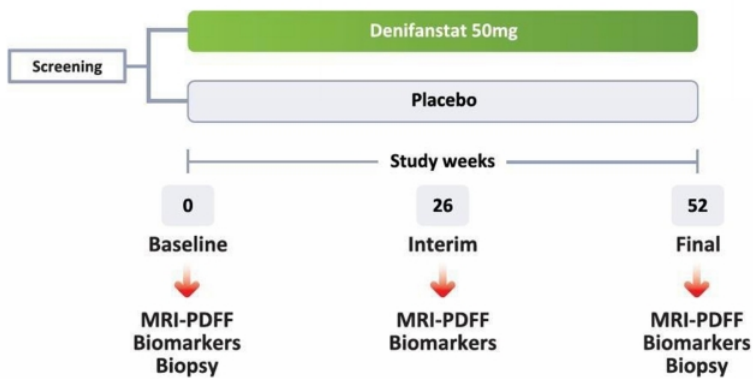
- No dose-related significant adverse events relative to placebo
- No serious AEs
- Majority of AEs were Grade 1; no Grade ≥ 3 drug-related AEs

Treatment Emergent Adverse Event (TEAE) Classification	Cohort 1			Cohort 2		Cohort 3
	US Placebo N=31	US 25mg N=33	US 50 mg N=35	China Placebo N=9	China 50 mg N=21	US 75mg N=10
Any TEAE	Gr 1: 12 (38.7%) Gr 2: 7 (22.6%)	Gr 1: 18 (54.5%) Gr 2: 7 (21.2%)	Gr 1: 12 (34.3%) Gr 2: 6 (17.1%)	Gr 1: 3 (33%) Gr 2: 2 (22%)	Gr 1: 11 (52%) Gr 2: 4 (19%) Gr 3: 2 (10%)	Gr 1: 3 (30%) Gr 2: 6 (60%)
TEAE leading to drug withdrawal	0	2 (6.1%)	0	0	0	4 (31%)
Treatment Emergent Serious Adverse Event (SAE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug related TEAE	Gr 1: 3 (9.7%) Gr 2: 1 (3.2%)	Gr 1: 10 (30.3%) Gr 2: 2 (6.1%)	Gr 1: 9 (25.7%) Gr 2: 1 (2.9%)	0	Gr 1: 9 (43%) Gr 2: 4 (19%)	Gr 1: 1 (10%) Gr 2: 6 (60%)

FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b Biopsy Trial Design

Measuring Histological Improvement

FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b trial design



- Biopsy confirmed F2-F3 NASH patients
- 52 weeks, 2:1 50mg or placebo, double-blind

Primary endpoints

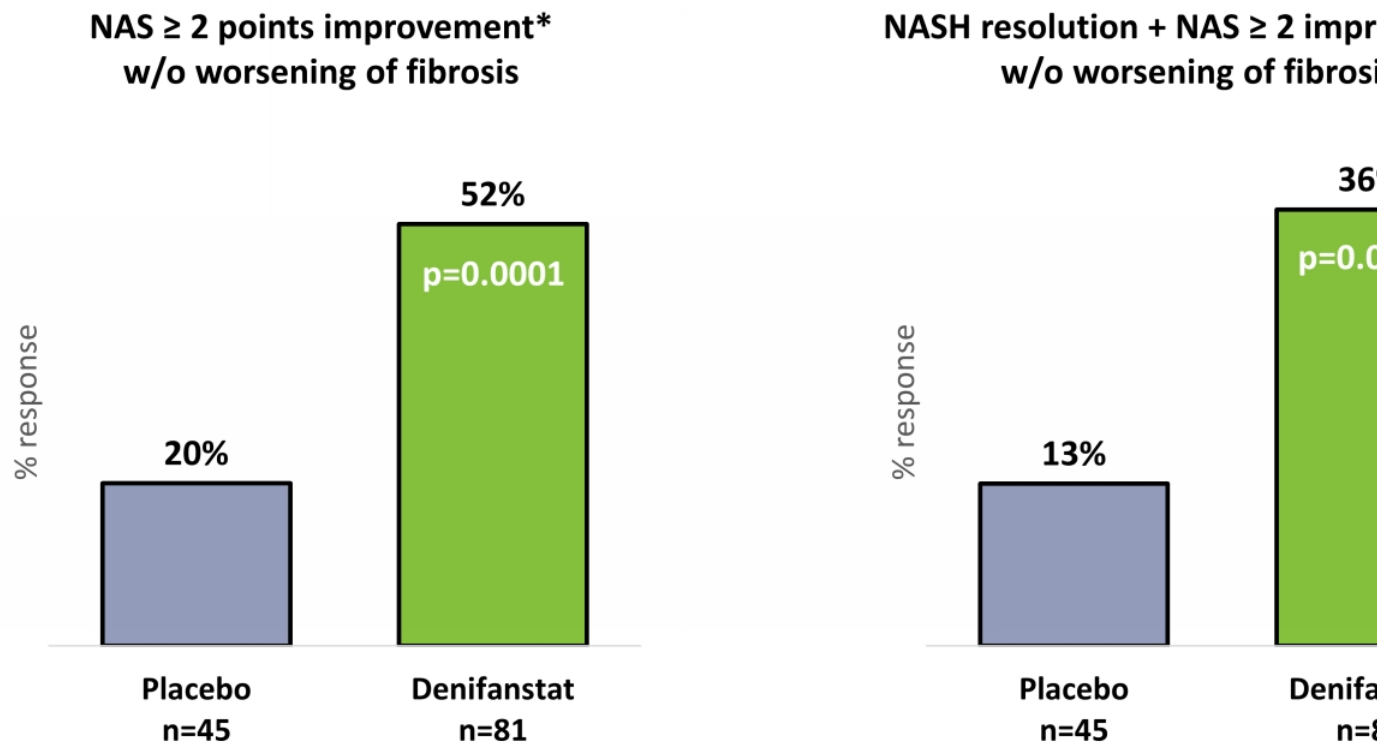
- NAS ≥ 2 points improvement w/o worsening of fibrosis OR
- NASH resolution + NAS ≥ 2 improvement w/ worsening of fibrosis

Other selected endpoints

- Improvement in liver fibrosis ≥ 1 stage with worsening of NASH (Bx)
- Digital AI pathology
- MRI-PDFF: absolute decrease, % change from baseline, % pts $\geq 30\%$ reduction from baseline (responders)

Primary Endpoints: Liver Biopsy

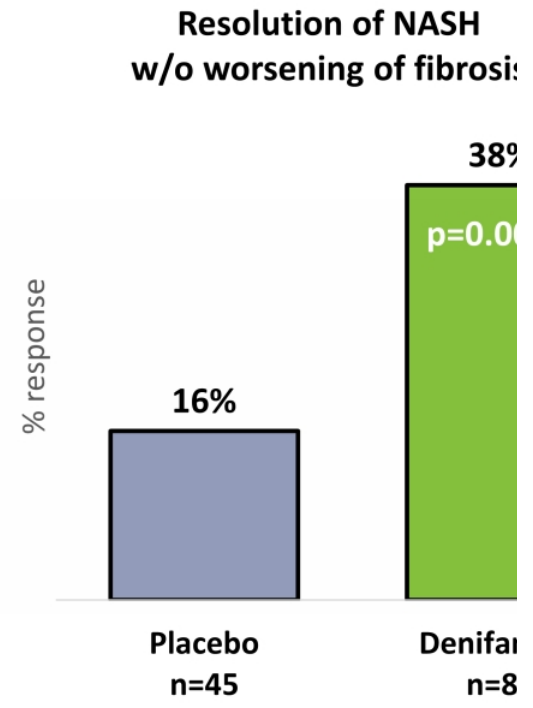
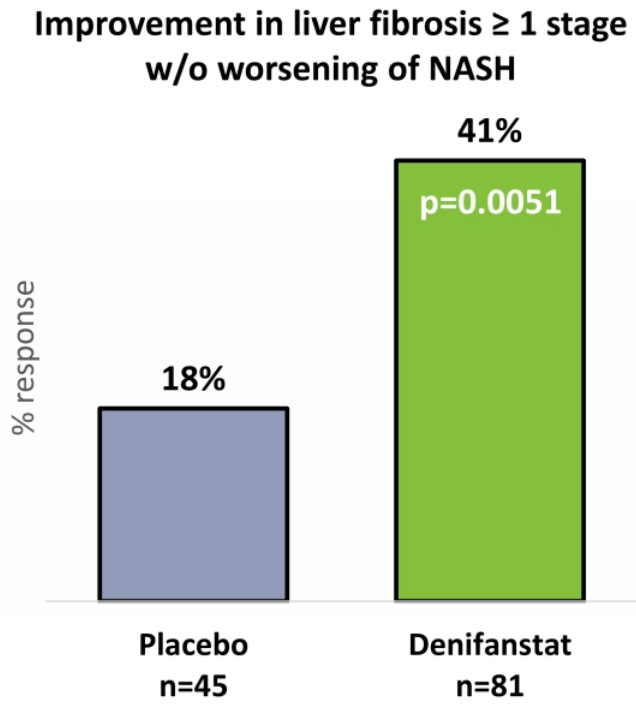
Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance



11 Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Test – One sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population. * \geq 1-point improvement in ballooning or inflammation.

Secondary Endpoints: Liver Biopsy

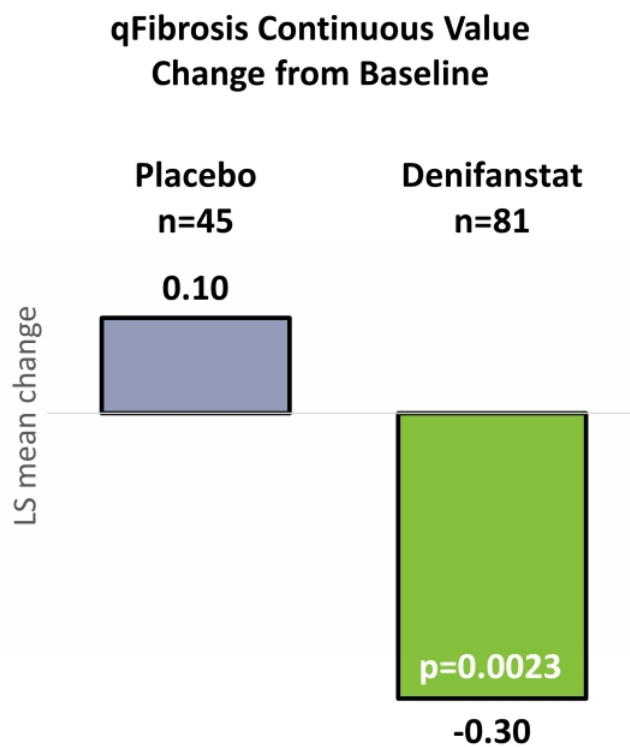
Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance



12 Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Test – One sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population

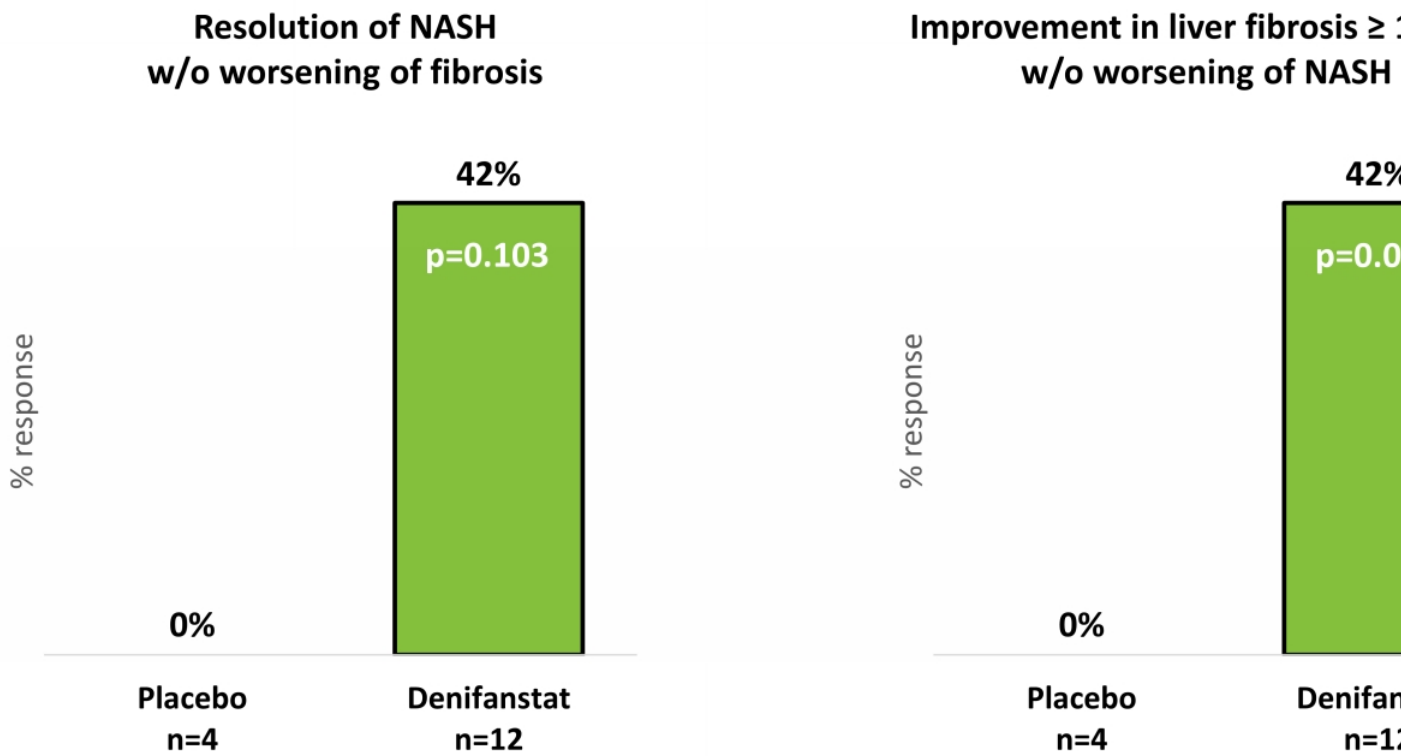
Independent Fibrosis Analysis by AI-based Digital Pathology

Supporting Evidence that Denifanstat Significantly Reduced Fibrosis



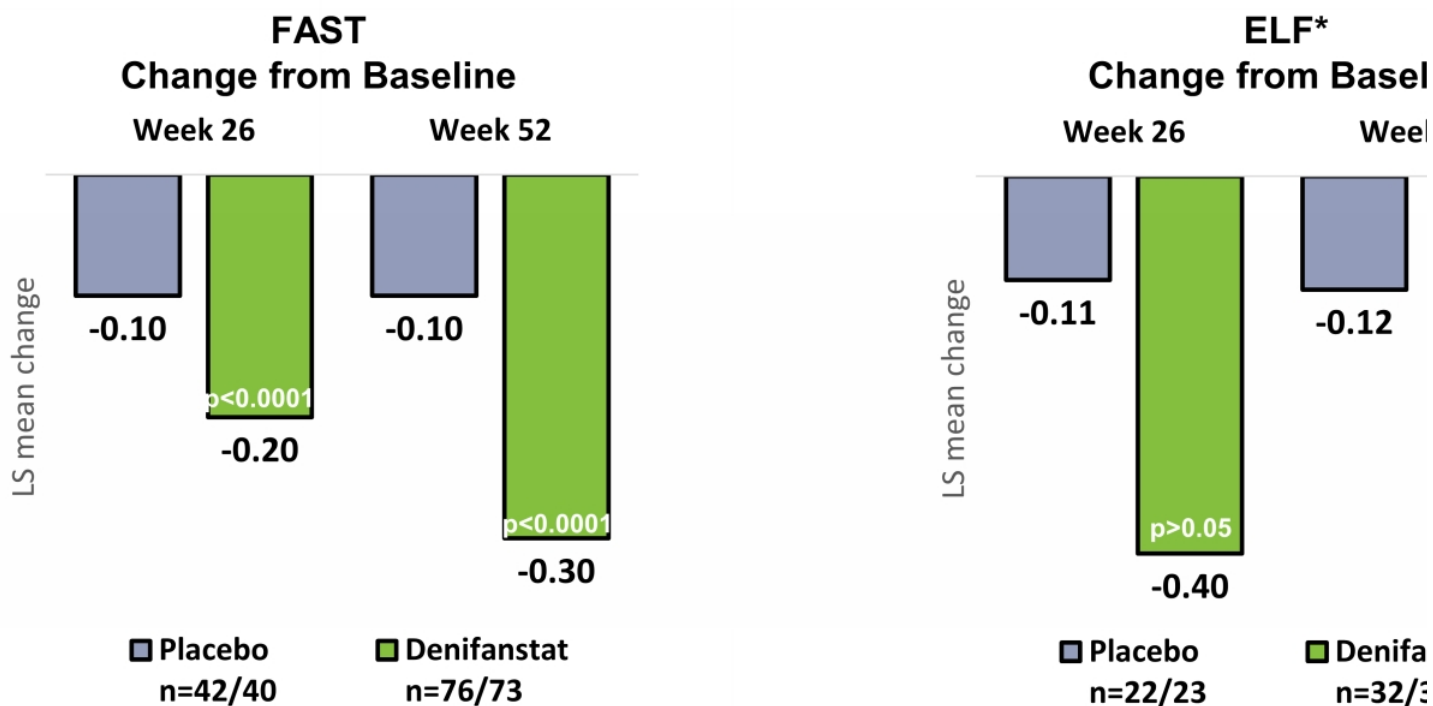
Patient Subset on Stable GLP1-RA at Baseline: Liver Biopsy

Denifanstat Improves NASH Resolution and Fibrosis



Biomarkers of Fibrosis

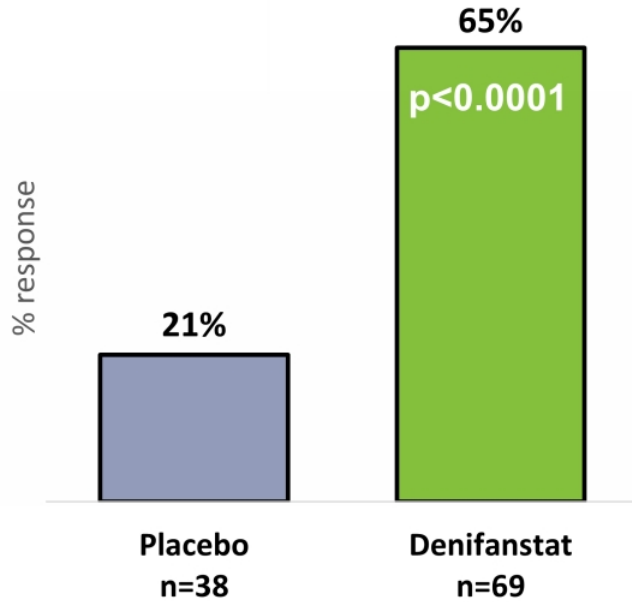
Denifanstat Decreased FAST Score and ELF



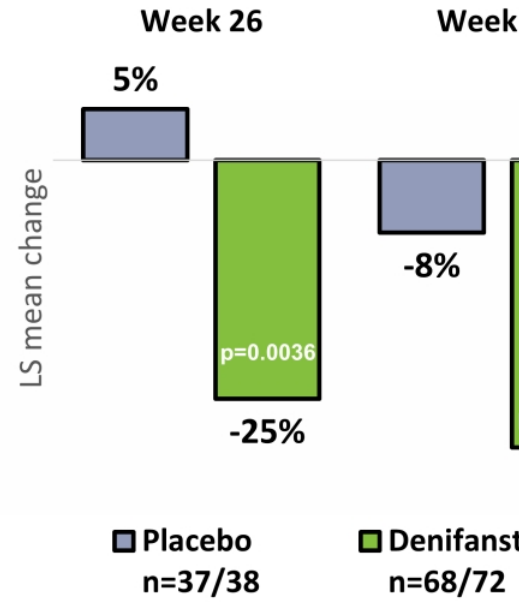
15 Mixed-effects Model for Repeated Measures – Two sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population. *Baseline ELF > 9.8 (mean).

Secondary Endpoint: Liver Fat by MRI-PDFF *Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance*

MRI-PDFF ≥ 30% Relative Reduction, Week 52

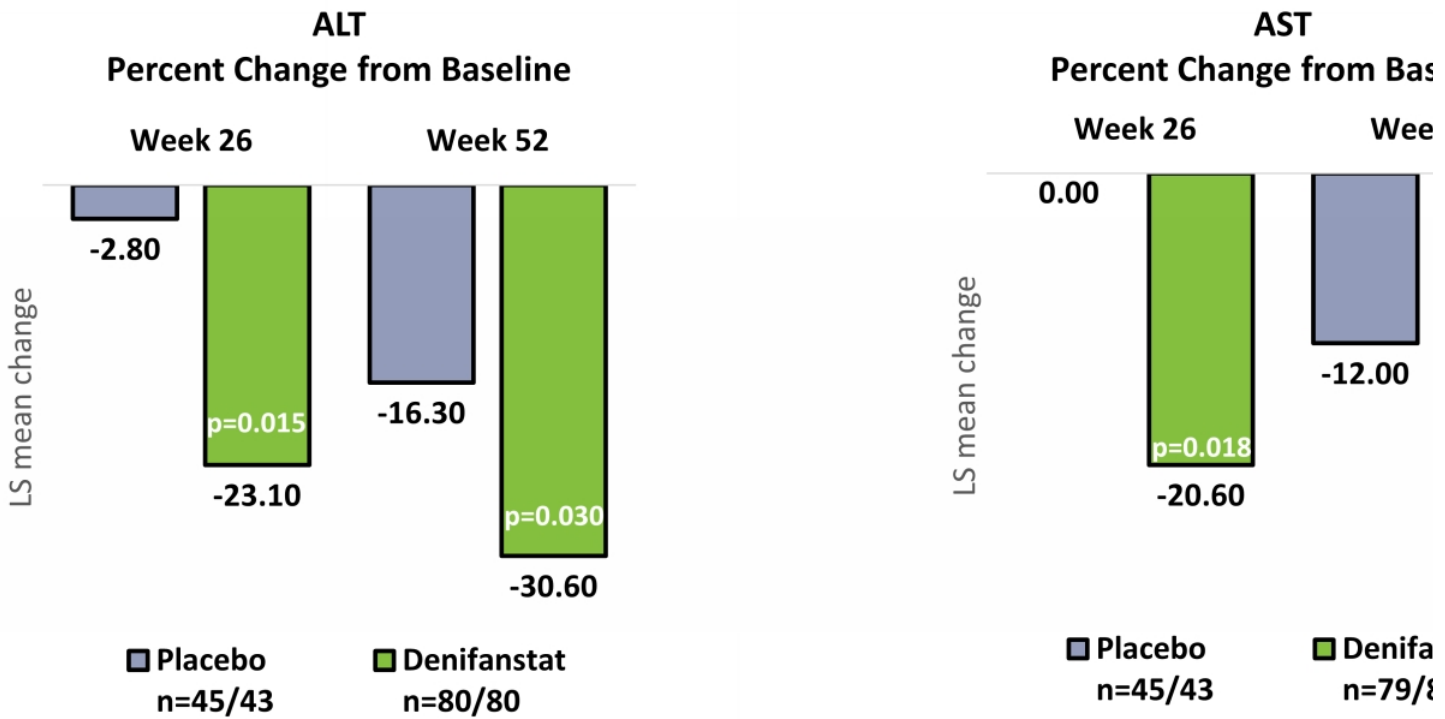


MRI-PDFF Relative Change from Baseline



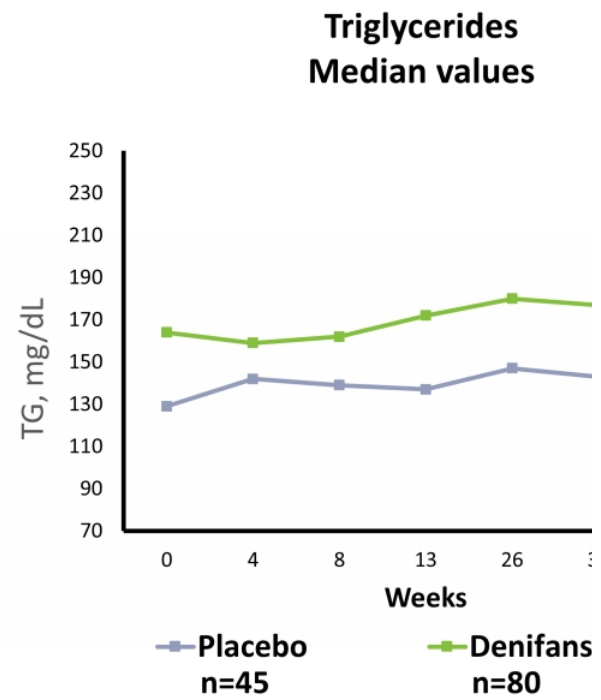
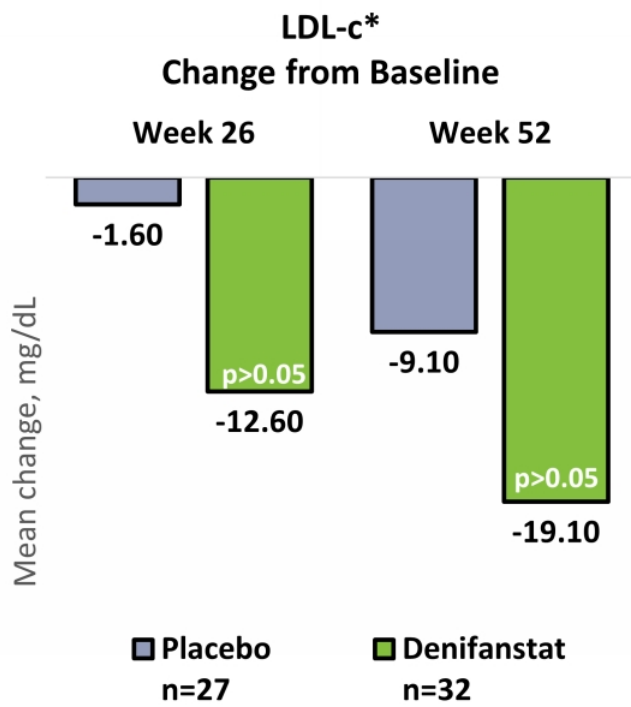
Secondary Endpoints: Liver Enzymes

Denifanstat Decreased ALT and AST Levels



Cardiometabolic health

Denifanstat Decreased LDL-c Levels



FASCINATE-2: Safety

Denifanstat was Generally Well Tolerated



Parameter	Placebo n=56	Denifanstat N=117
Any TEAE (treatment emergent adverse event)	45 (80.4%)	96 (85.7%)
TEAE related to study drug	20 (35.7%)	51 (45.5%)
Most common TEAE related to study drug in ≥5% of patients by system organ class		
eye disorders	9 (16.1%)	17 (15.2%)
gastrointestinal disorders	5 (8.9%)	13 (11.6%)
skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	4 (7.1%)	25 (22.3%)
TEAE leading to study drug discontinuation	3 (5.4%)	22 (19.6%)
TEAE with CTCAE Grade 3 (Severe) or higher*	3 (5.4%)	13 (11.6%)
SAE (none related to treatment)	3 (5.4%)	13 (11.6%)
Fatal TEAE	0	0

* No treatment-related AE was Grade 3 or higher



NASH Development Program

Progression from Phase 2b to Phase 3

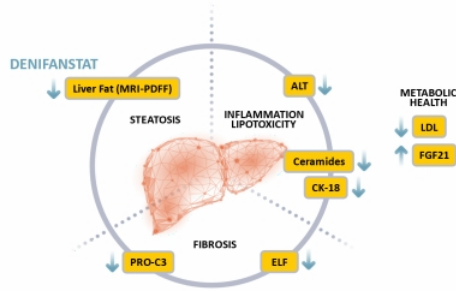
**Phase 2b – baseline
Fibrosis stage**

**Phase 2b – 26 weeks
Non-invasive interim**

**Phase 2b – 52 weeks
Histology**

**Phase 3
Fibrosis endpoints**

Interim cohort
F2 – 46.2%
F3 – 53.8%



Primary endpoints

- NAS ≥ 2 improvement w/o worsening of fibrosis; or NASH resolution + NAS ≥ 2 improvement w/o worsening of fibrosis

Secondary endpoints

- Fibrosis ≥ 1 stage improvement w/o worsening of NASH
- Digital AI pathology

Will use results in pathology design a Phase 3



*Enrollment completed
Sep 2022*

*Interim results released
Nov 2022*

*Topline data released
Jan 2024*

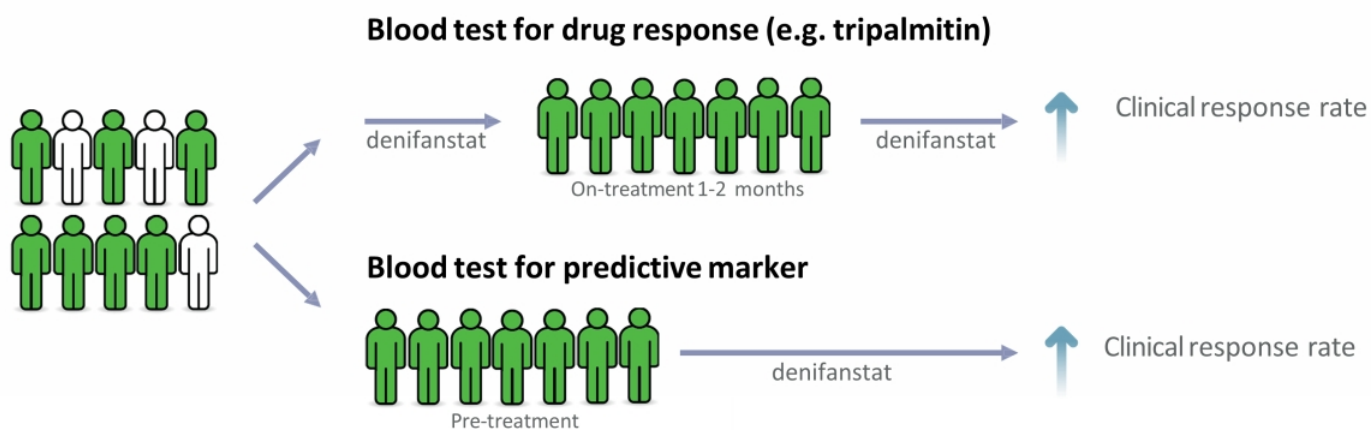
Startup act

We Believe Denifanstat is Differentiated in the Evolving NASH Landsc

Mechanism	FASN inhibitors	THR β Agonists	FGF-21	GLP-1 agonists	PPAR agonists	ACC inhibitors
Category	DNL pathway	Nuclear receptor	Growth factor	GLP-1	Nuclear receptor	DNL pathway
Route	Oral	Oral			Oral	Oral
Status	Phase 2 complete	Phase 3 complete	Phase 2 complete	Phase 2 complete	Phase 3 ongoing	Phase 2 complete
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pivotal Phase 3 clinical study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectivity for beta isoform critical to avoid potential heart and bone safety issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injectable • Nausea and diarrhea • Potential neutralizing antibodies • Higher expected COGS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GI side effects including nausea • Lack of fibrosis improvement to date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weight gain, edema, GI side effects, anemia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combinations only • MOA causes triglyceride increases • Lack of fibrosis improvement as monotherapy

Precision Medicine: Blood Tests May Lead to Improved Patient Outcomes

- NASH is a multi-faceted disease and patients may benefit from being matched with optimal treatment
- Two approaches using blood tests are undergoing further evaluation
 - Drug response: 1-2 months after taking drug, tripalmitin identifies patients responding to drug treatment
 - Predictive marker: before taking drug, signature of 6 blood metabolites enriches for responders¹



¹Signature has 6 metabolites: ursodeoxycholic acid, DL-2-aminocaprylic acid, sarcosine, glycooursodeoxycholic acid, D(-)-2-aminobutyric acid, PC(0-18:0/22:4). Accuracy 79%, PPV 88%, NPV 63%.

Strong Monotherapy Opportunity for Denifanstat in NASH

Expansion as backbone of combinations

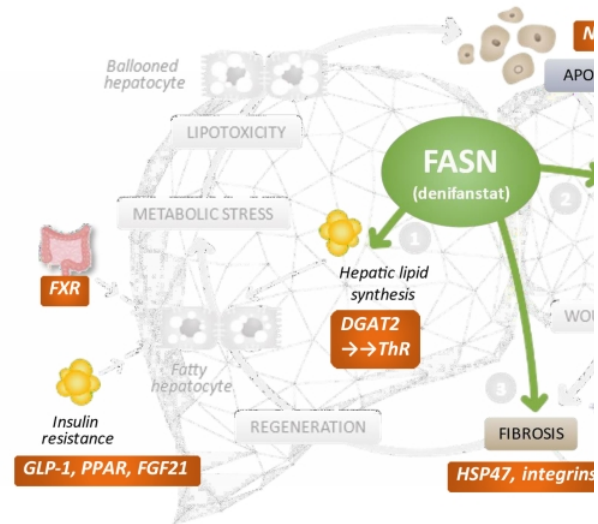
Denifanstat data support success as first line monotherapy

- ✓ Oral, once-daily tablet ideal for chronic administration
 - Tablets generally more affordable than complex biologics
- ✓ Potential to treat broad patient population
 - Including those with thyroid challenges
- ✓ Novel mechanism that acts directly upon liver
- ✓ Encouraging safety profile to date

Broaden market opportunity through combinations with denifanstat as backbone

- Denifanstat's potential
 - ✓ Complementary to other mechanisms
 - ✓ Potential for fixed dose combinations with other oral medications
- ✓ Preclinical combination studies ongoing
 - NASH agents: anti-fibrotic, other metabolic agents
 - Co-morbidities: diabetes and other cardiovascular agents

Illustrative potential combo mech



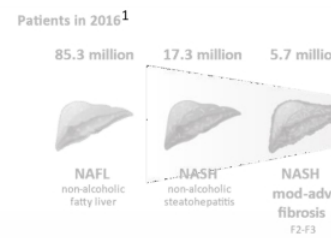
Additional Expansion Opportunities in NASH

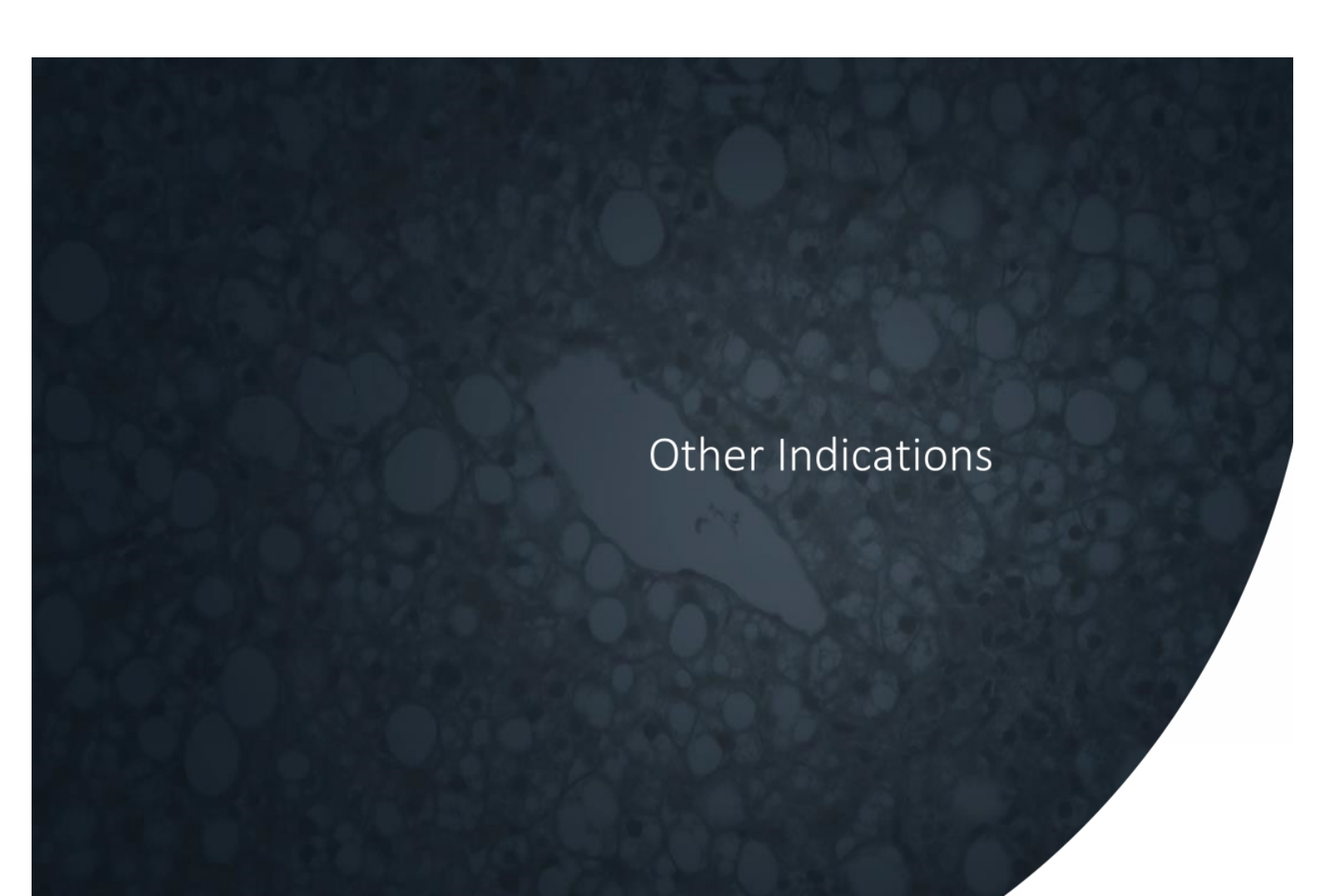
- **Compensated cirrhotic patients (NASH F4)**

- Denifanstat directly targets stellate cells
- Hepatocytes continue to be functional, and patients frequently have increased liver fat
- Next steps
 - Characterize PK profile in patients with impaired hepatic function – Phase 1 results in 1Q 24
 - Positive impact on fibrosis in FASCINATE-2
 - Phase 2b/3 trial in NASH-F4

- **Pediatric NASH**

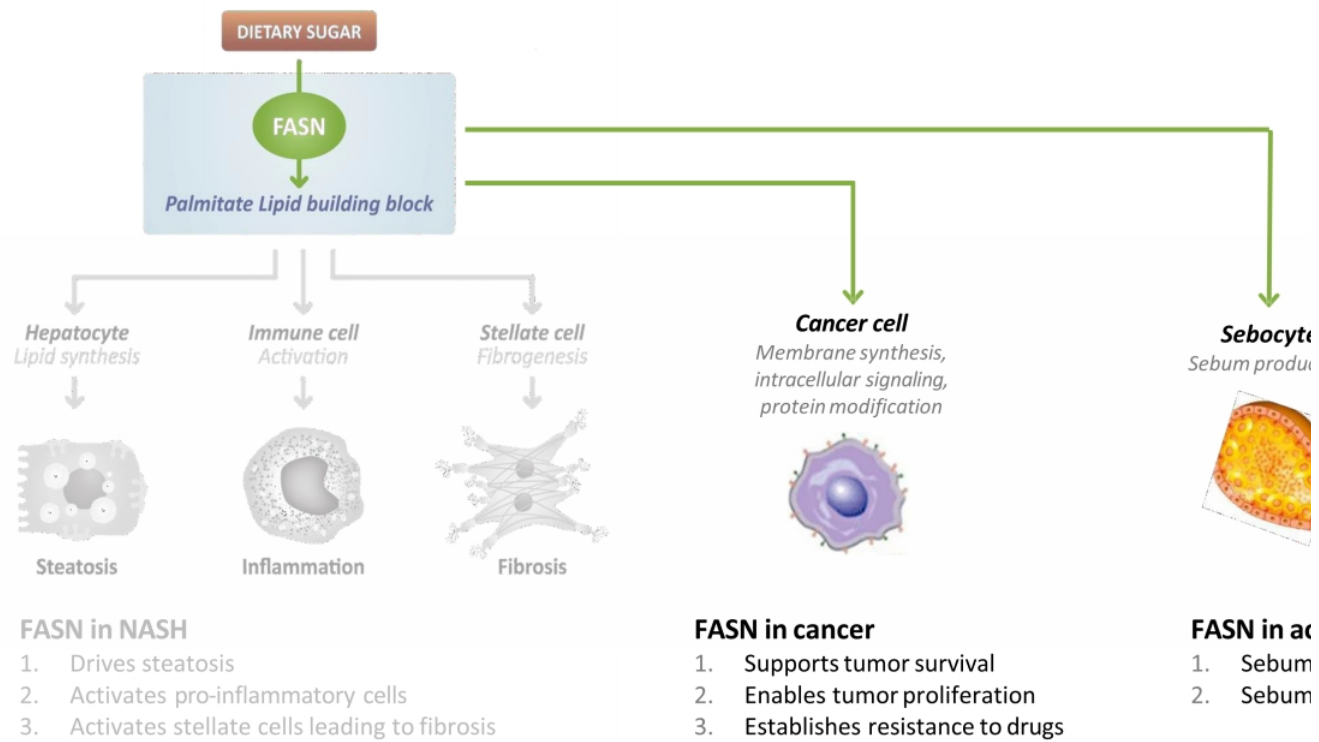
- 23% of children with NAFLD have NASH at the time of diagnosis
- Next steps
 - Compile safety data across all denifanstat studies in young adults including FASCINATE-2
 - Nonclinical toxicology study in juvenile animals – plan to initiate in 2024
 - Phase 2 trial in pediatric NASH





Other Indications

FASN Hyper-Activity Plays a Key Role in Multiple Diseases Beyond NAFLD



DNL Pathway Plays a Role in the Pathogenesis of Acne

- Acne is associated with excess sebum production by sebocyte cells in the skin
 - Acne resolution is associated with reduced sebum production
 - Sebocytes upregulate and rely on DNL/FASN to make sebum
 - >80% of key sebum lipids such as palmitate and sapienic acid produced by DNL/FASN
- => FASN inhibition has potential therapeutic application

Phase 1 – sebum analysis by Sagimet

- Denifanstat inhibited lipogenesis in skin
- Dose-dependent
- Proof of mechanism

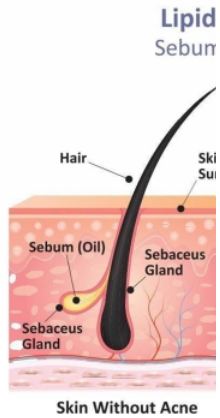
Phase 2 – acne by Asclepis in China



- 12-week trial in moderate to severe acne
- 179 pts randomized to 25/50/75 mg denifanstat and placebo
- Endpoints: % change from baseline in lesion count and/or IGA score decreased by ≥ 2
 - Phase 3 study commenced in Q4 2023

Positive topline results announced May 2023

- Met primary and secondary endpoints
- Well-tolerated
- IND 1H 2024 filing planned



FASN is Integral to Tumor Cell Proliferation and Survival

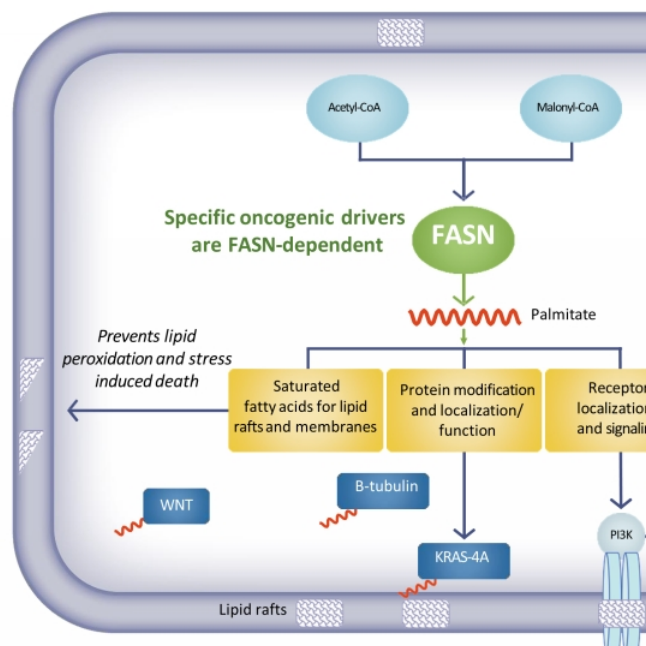
Reprogramed metabolism is one of the hallmarks of cancer

FASN-dependence

- Certain cancers are dependent on DNL/FASN for proliferation especially downstream of driver oncogenes
 - eg. KRAS in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
- Strategy → exploit this vulnerability using FASN inhibition in the combination setting to cause death

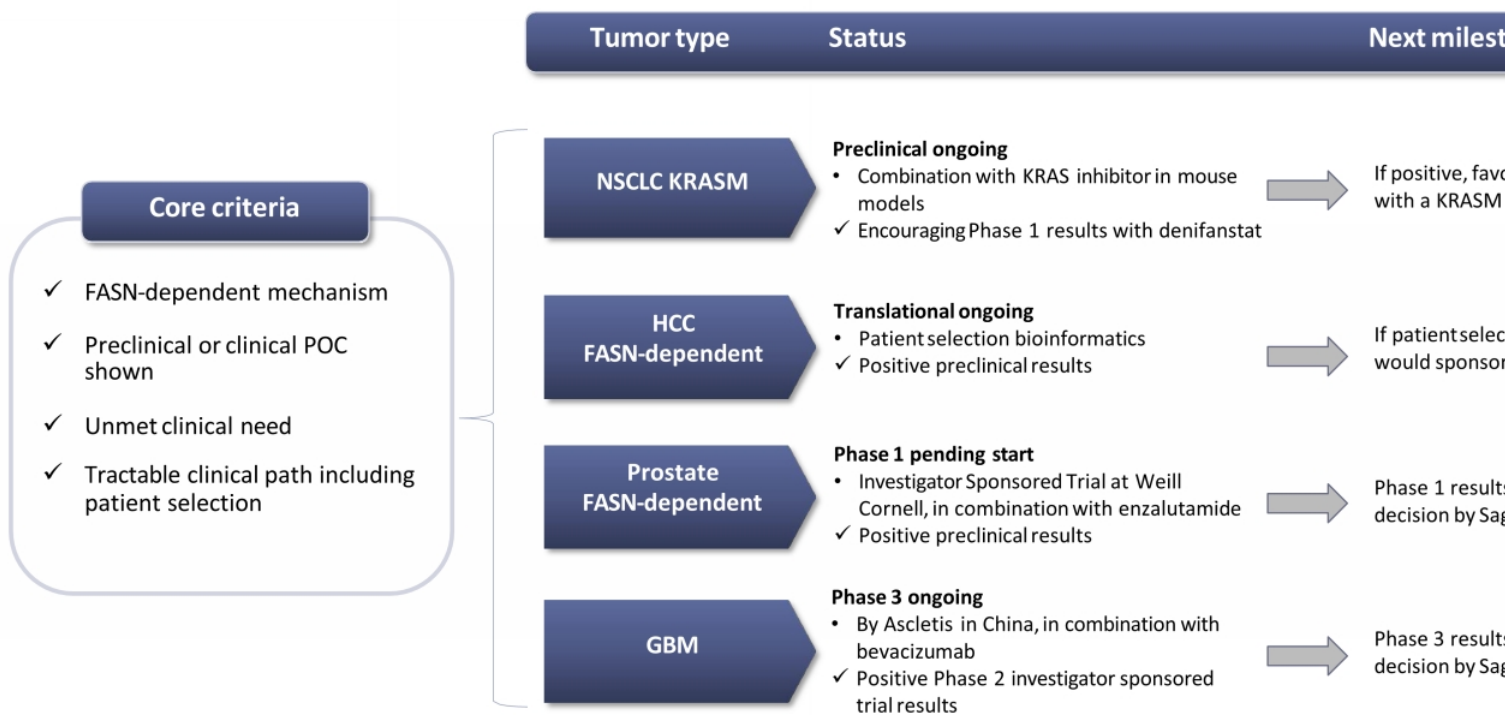
Completed Phase 1 provides foundation

- 136 patients received denifanstat
- Heavily pretreated Phase 1 population
- Recommended Phase 2 dose defined
- Promising clinical activity consistent with proposed mechanism
 - KRAS NSCLC patients had significantly longer duration on study with denifanstat than KRASWT ($p < 0.02$), and 91% KRAS had stable disease



FASN-Dependent Tumor Types Identified that Meet Core Criteria

Program focused on 4 selected tumor types



Strong Financial Position and Intellectual Property Portfolio

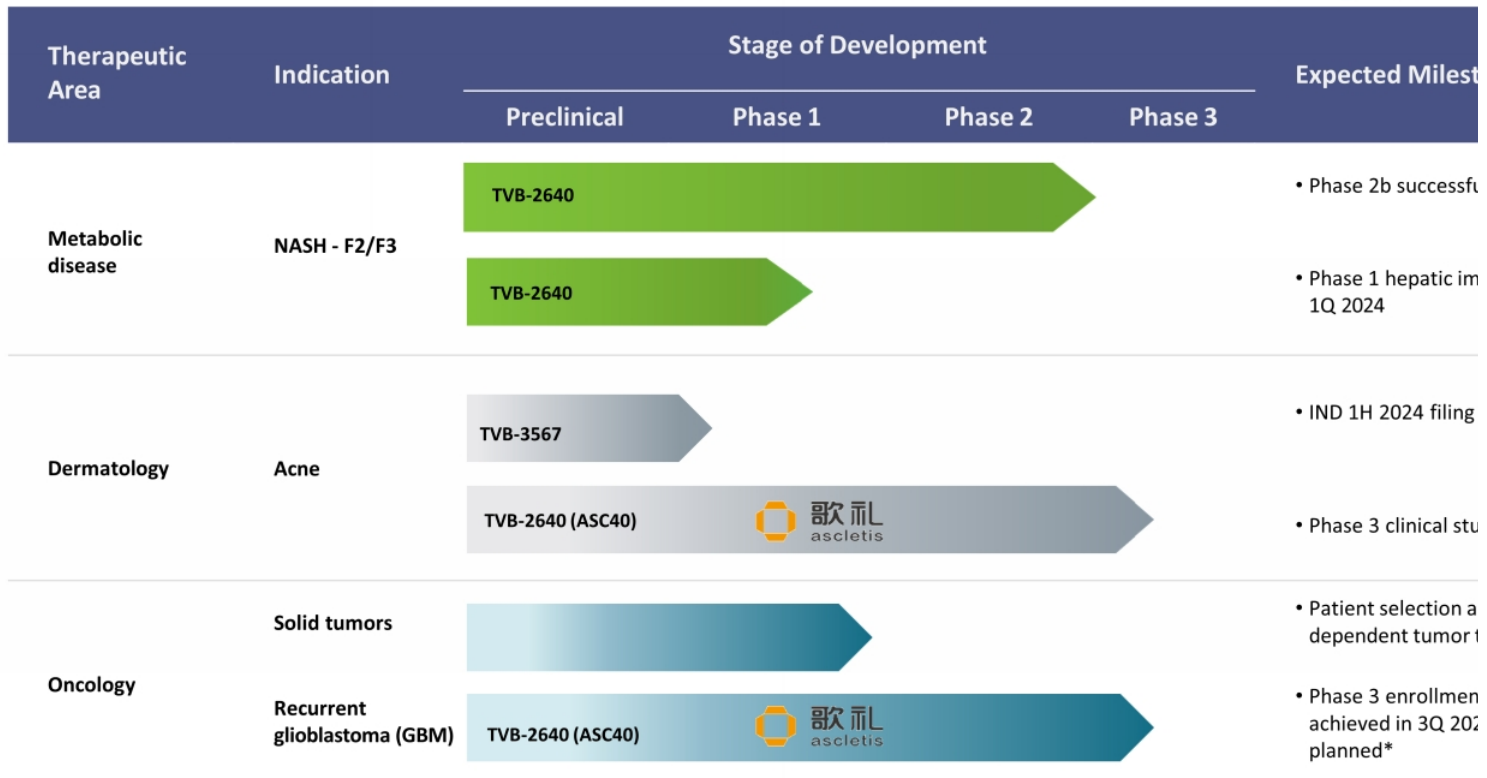
Financial highlights Nasdaq: SGMT

- ✓ Upsized IPO completed in July 2023 raised \$96.4 million of gross proceeds
- ✓ Cash and equivalents expected to fund current operations into the first quarter of 2025

Strong patent estate

- ✓ Composition of matter for denifanstat: 2032
- ✓ Issued in all key commercial territories
- ✓ Opportunities to lengthen exclusivity via Hatch-Waxman and synthesis/formulation applications

Development Pipeline: Indications and Clinical Milestones



32 * Trials conducted in China by Ascleto, who has licensed development and commercialization rights to all indications in Greater China



**Sagimet Biosciences Announces Positive Topline Results
from Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 Clinical Trial of Denifanstat in
Biopsy-Confirmed F2/F3 NASH**

Denifanstat achieved statistically significant results on primary and multiple secondary endpoints in a 52-week clinical trial of 168 NASH patients with stage 2 or 3 fibrosis

- *Primary efficacy endpoints:*
 - o *NASH resolution without worsening of fibrosis with ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS (NAFLD Activity Score) in 36% of denifanstat-treated patients vs 13% with placebo ($p=0.0022$)*
 - o *≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS (with ≥ 1 -point improvement in ballooning or inflammation) and without worsening of fibrosis in 52% of denifanstat-treated patients vs 20% with placebo ($p=0.0001$)*
- *Multiple secondary endpoints:*
 - o *Fibrosis improvement by ≥ 1 stage with no worsening of NASH in 41% of denifanstat-treated patients vs 18% with placebo ($p=0.0051$)*
 - o *NASH resolution with no worsening of fibrosis in 38% of denifanstat-treated patients vs 16% with placebo ($p=0.0021$)*
 - o *MRI-PDFF decline from baseline $\geq 30\%$ (responders) in 65% of denifanstat-treated patients vs 21% with placebo ($p<0.0001$)*

Statistically significant improvements in additional markers of liver health, including artificial intelligence (AI) digital pathology-based fibrosis assessment, FAST Score, and ALT, and numerical improvements in LDL

Denifanstat was generally well-tolerated

Management to host live webcast at 8:00 a.m. ET on Monday, January 22, 2024

San Mateo, Calif., January 22, 2024 – Sagimet Biosciences Inc. (Sagimet, Nasdaq: SGMT), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing novel fatty acid synthase (FASN) inhibitors designed to target dysfunctional metabolic and fibrotic pathways, today announced positive topline results from its FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b clinical trial of denifanstat versus placebo in biopsy-confirmed non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) patients with stage 2 or stage 3 fibrosis (F2/F3) at week 52. In this trial, denifanstat, an oral, selective FASN inhibitor, showed statistically significant improvements relative to placebo on both of the primary endpoints of NASH resolution without worsening of fibrosis with ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS, and ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS without worsening of fibrosis. Denifanstat-treated patients also showed statistically significant fibrosis improvement by ≥ 1 stage with no worsening of NASH, and a greater proportion of MRI-derived proton density fat fraction (MRI-PDFF) $\geq 30\%$ responders relative to placebo.

“Denifanstat is designed to reduce the three main drivers of NASH, including fat accumulation, inflammation, and fibrosis, both independently and in parallel. The week 52 biopsy results showed that denifanstat achieved statistical superiority over placebo in reduction of fibrosis, via two independent processes of traditional histopathology and AI digital pathology,” said Dave Happel, Chief Executive Officer of Sagimet. “Sagimet is committed to creating novel approaches to target dysfunctional metabolic pathways, and we believe these positive results represent a major advancement in that endeavor. Our next step will be holding an End-of-Phase 2 meeting with the FDA and starting our Phase 3 program for development of denifanstat in NASH with related fibrosis, which we anticipate to begin in the second half of 2024.”

“The over-activity of fatty acid synthase and increased de-novo lipogenesis or DNL plays a critical role in the development of NASH and its progression to cirrhosis,” commented Rohit Loomba, M.D., M.H.Sc., Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and Director, MASLD Research Center, University of California San Diego, who serves as a scientific advisor for Sagimet on its ongoing development of denifanstat. “Denifanstat is the only FASN inhibitor currently in clinical development for the treatment of NASH with related fibrosis. These data show that blocking fatty acid synthesis in the liver and DNL is a critical approach for NASH resolution and improvements in fibrosis. These results support denifanstat’s mechanism of action and the impact of addressing these multiple pathways simultaneously. Moreover, the safety profile supports the further development of denifanstat in NASH patients.”

Statistical Significance Achieved in Primary Endpoints and Improvements Across Other Endpoints at Week 52 of Denifanstat Treatment

	Denifanstat 50 mg (n=81)	Placebo (n=45)	P-value vs placebo
Primary Endpoints			
NASH resolution without worsening of fibrosis with ≥ 2 -point reduction in NAS	36%	13%	0.0022
≥ 2 -point decrease in NAS without worsening of fibrosis	52%	20%	0.0001
Other Endpoints			
Improvement of fibrosis by ≥ 1 stage with no worsening of NASH	41%	18%	0.0051
NASH resolution with no worsening of fibrosis	38%	16%	0.0021
AI digital pathology (qFibrosis)*	-0.3	0.1	0.0023
ALT % change from baseline	-30.5%	-17.2%	0.0300
MRI-PDFP responder rate**	65%	21%	<0.0001
FibroScan AST (FAST) score	-0.3	-0.1	<0.0001
LDL cholesterol (mg/dL)***	-19.1	-9.1	--

Modified intent-to-treat population (mITT) includes all patients with paired biopsies; includes Secondary Endpoints for which analysis has been completed as of the date of this press release.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) digital pathology assessed by second harmonic generation (SHG, HistoIndex)*

*** MRI-PDFF responders are patients with $\geq 8\%$ liver fat content at baseline who achieve a $\geq 30\%$ relative reduction of liver fat at the end of treatment*

**** In study subjects with baseline LDL-C greater than 100 mg/dL; n=32 and n=27 denifanstat and placebo patients, respectively*

Safety and Tolerability

As in prior studies, no treatment-related serious adverse events (SAEs) were observed, and the majority of adverse events (AEs) were mild to moderate in nature (Grades 1 and 2). There were no Grade ≥ 3 treatment-related AEs. The most common treatment-related AEs by system organ class (observed in $\geq 5\%$ of patients in the study) were eye disorders (denifanstat 15.2%, placebo 16.1%), gastrointestinal disorders (denifanstat 11.6%, placebo 8.9%), and skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders (denifanstat 22.3%, placebo 7.1%). The incidence of treatment emergent adverse events (TEAEs) leading to treatment discontinuation was 19.6% in the denifanstat group compared to 5.4% in placebo.

Webcast Information

Management will host a live webcast at 8:00 a.m. ET on Monday, January 22, 2024 to discuss the data; participants will have the opportunity to participate in a chat-based Q&A session. The webcast will be available here and in the Events & Presentation section of Sagimet's website at www.sagimet.com, with an archived replay available for approximately 90 days following the event.

About Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 Clinical Trial

The Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 clinical trial was a 52-week randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial that evaluated the safety and histological impact of denifanstat compared to placebo in 168 biopsy-confirmed NASH patients with moderate-to-severe fibrosis (stage F2 or F3) with NAS ≥ 4 .

Patients were randomized 2:1 to receive 50 mg denifanstat or placebo, taken orally once daily. An end-of-trial biopsy was assessed by a central pathologist for histological endpoints. Liver biopsies were also analyzed using AI-based digital pathology.

About Sagimet Biosciences

Sagimet is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing novel fatty acid synthase (FASN) inhibitors that are designed to target dysfunctional metabolic pathways in diseases resulting from the overproduction of the fatty acid, palmitate. Sagimet's lead drug candidate, denifanstat, is an oral, once-daily pill and selective FASN inhibitor in development for the treatment of NASH, for which there are no treatments currently approved in the United States or Europe. FASCINATE-2, a Phase 2b clinical trial of denifanstat in NASH with liver biopsy-based primary endpoints, was successfully completed with positive results. For additional information about Sagimet, please visit www.sagimet.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of, and made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of, The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements contained in this press release, other than statements of historical facts or statements that relate to present facts or current conditions, including but not limited to, statements regarding: the presentation of data from clinical trials, Sagimet's clinical development plans and related anticipated development milestones, Sagimet's cash and financial resources and expected cash runway. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause Sagimet's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. In some cases, these statements can be identified by terms such as "may," "might," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "aim," "seek," "anticipate," "could," "intend," "target," "project," "contemplate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "forecast," "potential" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions.

The forward-looking statements in this press release are only predictions. Sagimet has based these forward-looking statements largely on its current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends that Sagimet believes may affect its business, financial condition and results of operations. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified and some of which are beyond Sagimet's control, including, among others: the risks that top-line clinical trial results may not be predictive of, and may differ from, final clinical data and later-stage clinical trials; that unfavorable new clinical trial data may emerge in other clinical trials of denifanstat, including Phase 3 clinical trials; that clinical trial data are subject to differing interpretations and assessments, including by regulatory authorities; the clinical development and therapeutic potential of denifanstat or any other drug candidates Sagimet may develop; Sagimet's ability to advance drug candidates into and successfully complete clinical trials; Sagimet's relationship with Asclethis, and the success of its development efforts for denifanstat; the accuracy of Sagimet's estimates regarding its capital requirements; and Sagimet's ability to maintain and successfully enforce adequate intellectual property protection. These and other risks and uncertainties are described more fully in the "Risk Factors" section of Sagimet's most recent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and available at www.sec.gov. You should not rely on these forward-looking statements as predictions of future events. The events and circumstances reflected in these forward-looking statements may not be achieved or occur, and actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Moreover, Sagimet operates in a dynamic industry and economy. New risk factors and uncertainties may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties that Sagimet may face. Except as required by applicable law, Sagimet does not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

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Announces Topline Results from Phase 2b FASCINATE-2 Clinical Trial

**Webcast on Monday, January 22, 2024 at
8:00 a.m. ET / 5:00 a.m. PT**

Proven Team with Development and Commercialization Experience *A* Hepatology, Metabolic Disease and Oncology



Dave Happel
President & CEO

- Cognoa: President & CEO
Chrono Therapeutics: President & CEO
Senior Executive and Commercial roles at Horizon, Raptor, Dynavax, Chiron
- M.B.A. – Indiana State University; B.A. Chemistry – Indiana University



George Kemble
Executive Chairman

- AstraZeneca (formerly MedImmune, Aviron): SVP Research for Biologics & General Manager of California operations, VP Vaccine Research & Development for Vaccines
- Ph.D. – Stanford University, Dept of Microbiology & Immunology



Eduardo Martins
CMO

- Abbvie (formerly Allergan), Eiger BioPharmaceuticals, Gilead, Genentech, Dynavax, Intermune, SciClone
- D.Phil. – University of Oxford
M.D. – Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Anthony Rimal
CFO

- Cognoa, ESCAPE Bio, Chrono Therapeutics, Aldea Pharmaceuticals, Adamas Pharmaceuticals, Aerovance
- M.B.A. – Santa Clara University; B.A. – University of California Santa Barbara



Elizabeth Rozek
General Counsel

- Cognoa, Basilea Pharmaceutica, US Department of Justice
- J.D. – University of California Berkeley
M.A. – University of California San Diego
B.A. – Brown University



Forward Looking Statements

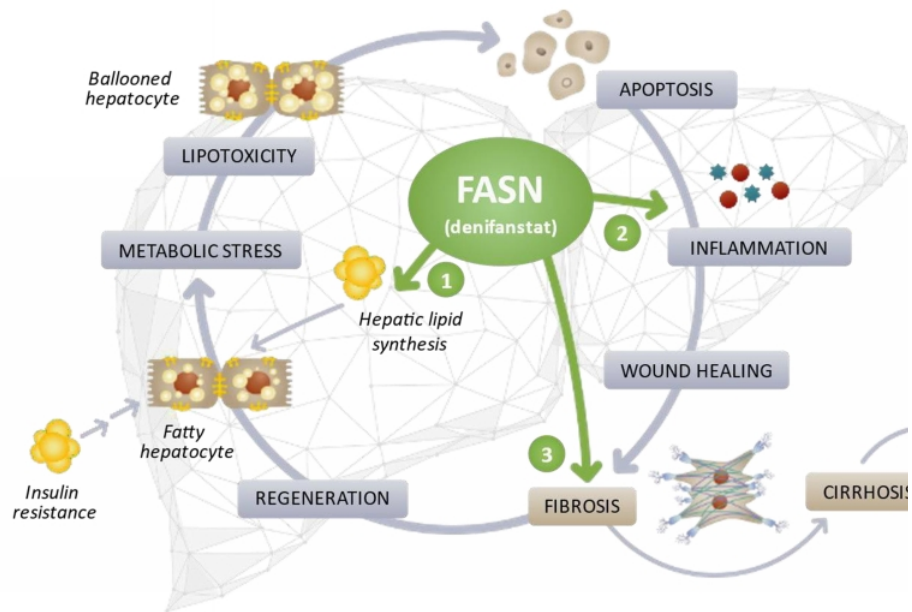
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Moreover, we operate in a dynamic industry and economy. New risk factors and uncertainties may emerge from time to time and it is not possible for management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties that we may face. Except as required by law, we do not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

Denifanstat: Differentiated Mechanism Believed to Target Key Drivers

Denifanstat has independent mechanisms designed to:

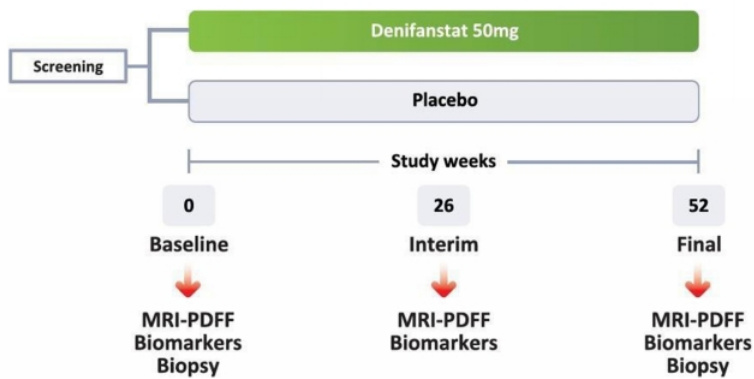
- 1 Block **steatosis** via inhibiting de novo lipogenesis in hepatocytes
- 2 Reduce **inflammation** via preventing immune cell activation
- 3 Blunt **fibrosis** via inhibiting stellate cell activation



FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b Biopsy Trial Design

Measuring Histological Improvement

FASCINATE-2 Phase 2b trial design



- Biopsy confirmed F2-F3 NASH patients
- 52 weeks, 2:1 50mg or placebo, double-blind

Primary endpoints

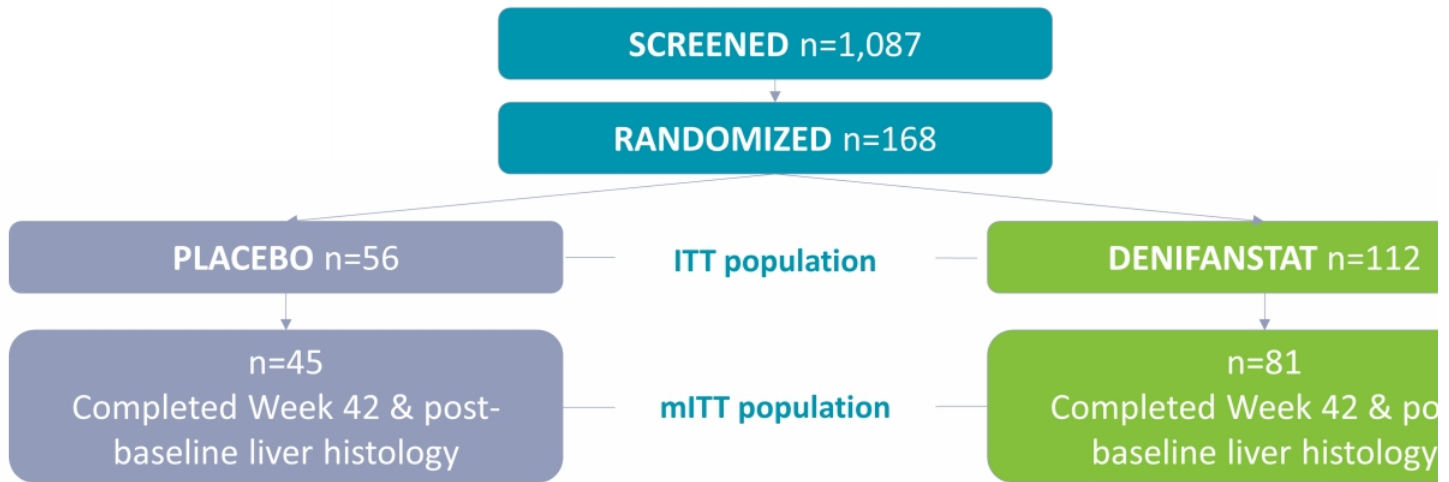
- NAS ≥ 2 points improvement w/o worsening of OR
- NASH resolution + NAS ≥ 2 improvement w/ worsening of fibrosis

Other selected endpoints

- Improvement in liver fibrosis ≥ 1 stage with worsening of NASH (Bx)
- Digital AI pathology
- MRI-PDFF: absolute decrease, % change from baseline, % pts $\geq 30\%$ reduction from baseline (responders)

⁵ AI: Artificial Intelligence, Bx; biopsy, MRI-PDFF; magnetic resonance imaging derived proton density fat fraction, NAS; NAFLD Activity S

FASCINATE-2: Patient Disposition



FASCINATE-2 Baseline Characteristics

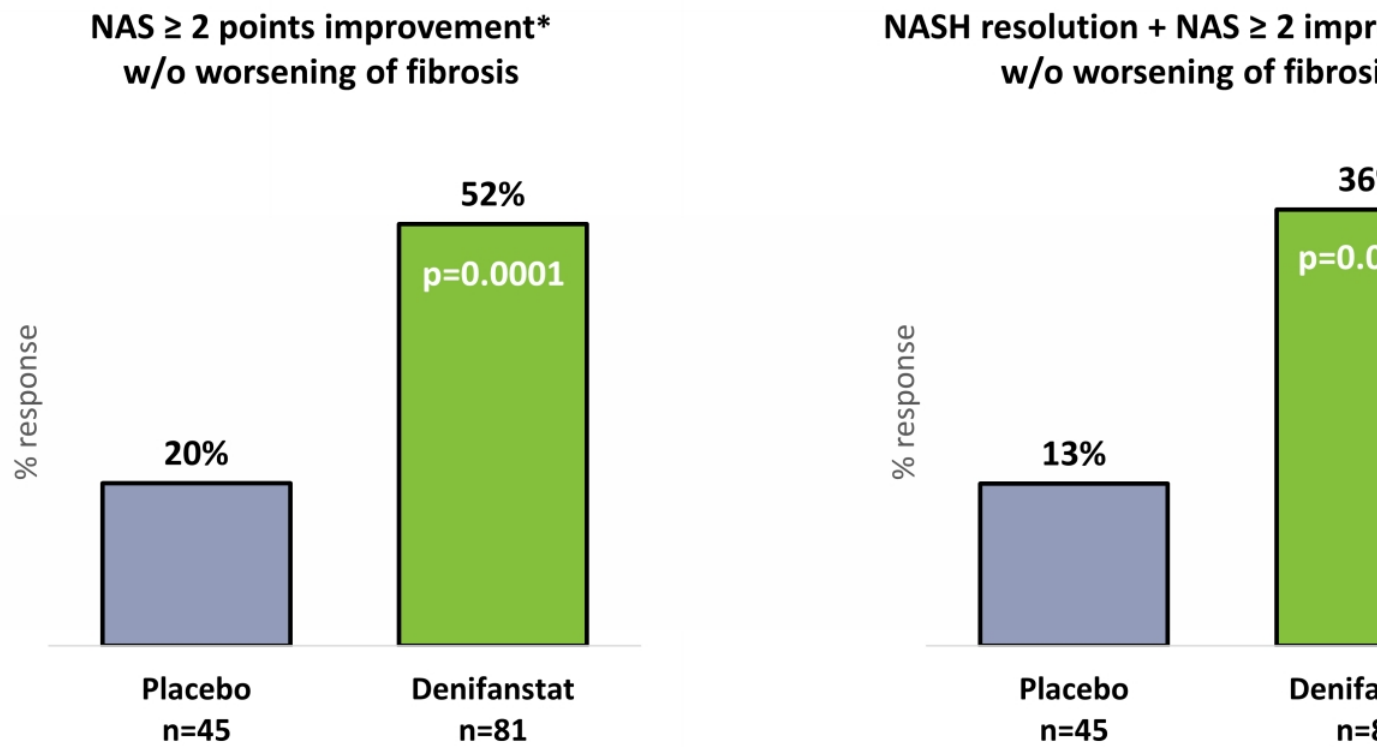
Typical F2/F3 NASH Population

Parameter	Placebo, n=45	Denifanstat, n=81
Age, years	59.6 (+/- 10.9)	56.1 (+/- 10.8)
Sex, female	27 (60%)	48 (59%)
Race, White	41 (91%)	73 (90%)
Ethnicity, Hispanic or Latino	15 (33%)	27 (33%)
BMI, kg/m ²	36.5 (+/- 6.7)	34.6 (+/- 6.1)
Type 2 diabetes	27 (60%)	55 (68%)
ALT (alanine aminotransferase) U/L	67 (+/- 33)	57 (+/- 29)
AST (aspartate aminotransferase) U/L	52 (+/- 27)	48 (+/- 29)
Liver Fat Content (MRI-PDFF), %	19.0 (+/- 7.0)	16.6 (+/- 7.1)
Baseline liver biopsy NAS ≥ 5	34 (76%)	63 (78%)
Baseline liver biopsy F2/F3	22 (49%) / 23 (51%)	34 (42%) / 47 (58%)
Statin (at baseline)	21 (47%)	38 (47%)
GLP1-RA (at baseline)	4 (9%)	12 (15%)
LDL, mg/dL	103 (+/- 39)	96 (+/- 34)
Triglycerides, mg/dL	153 (+/- 67)	173 (+/- 79)
ELF (Enhanced Liver Fibrosis) Score	9.8 (+/- 0.8)	9.6 (+/- 0.8)
FAST (Fibroscan AST) Score	0.6 (0.19)	0.6 (0.20)

7 Modified intent-to-treat population (mITT) includes all patients with paired biopsies. Data are mean (SD) or n (%).

Primary Endpoints: Liver Biopsy

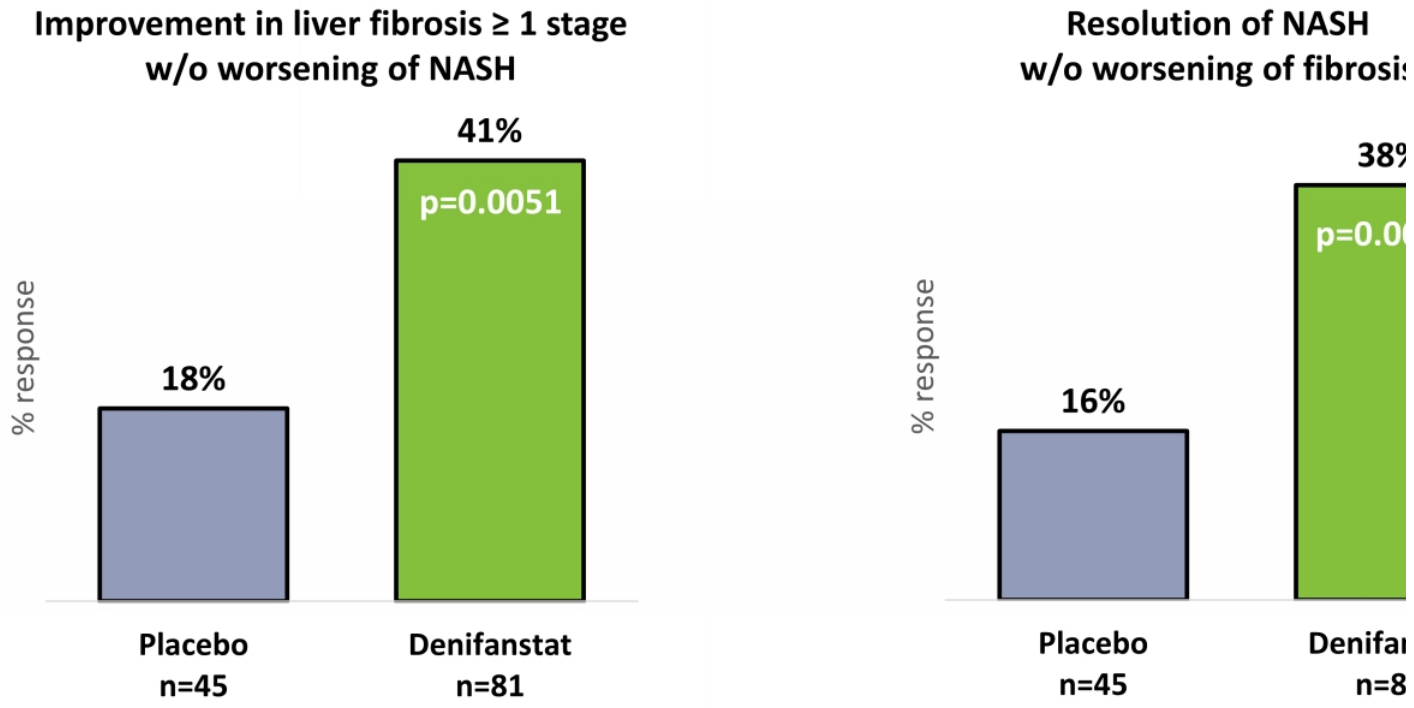
Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance



8 Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Test – One sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population. * ≥1-point improvement in ballooning or inflammation.

Secondary Endpoints: Liver Biopsy

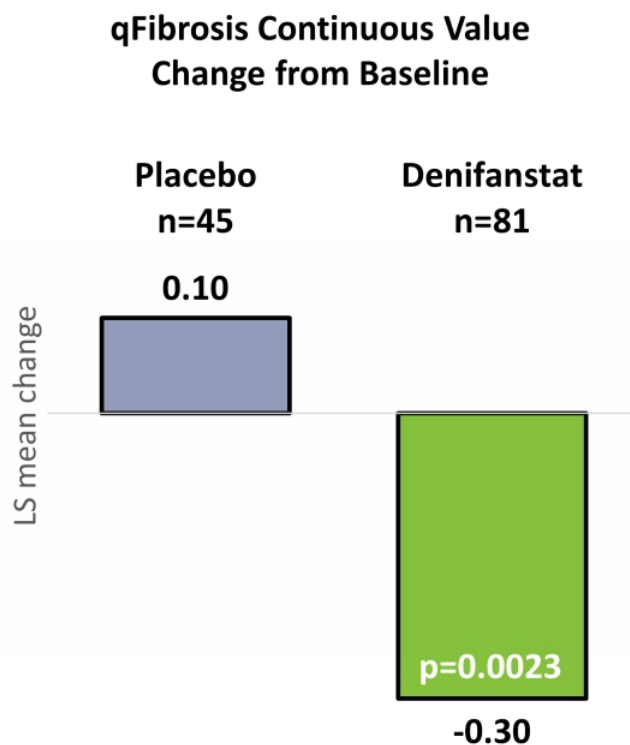
Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance



9 Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Test – One sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population

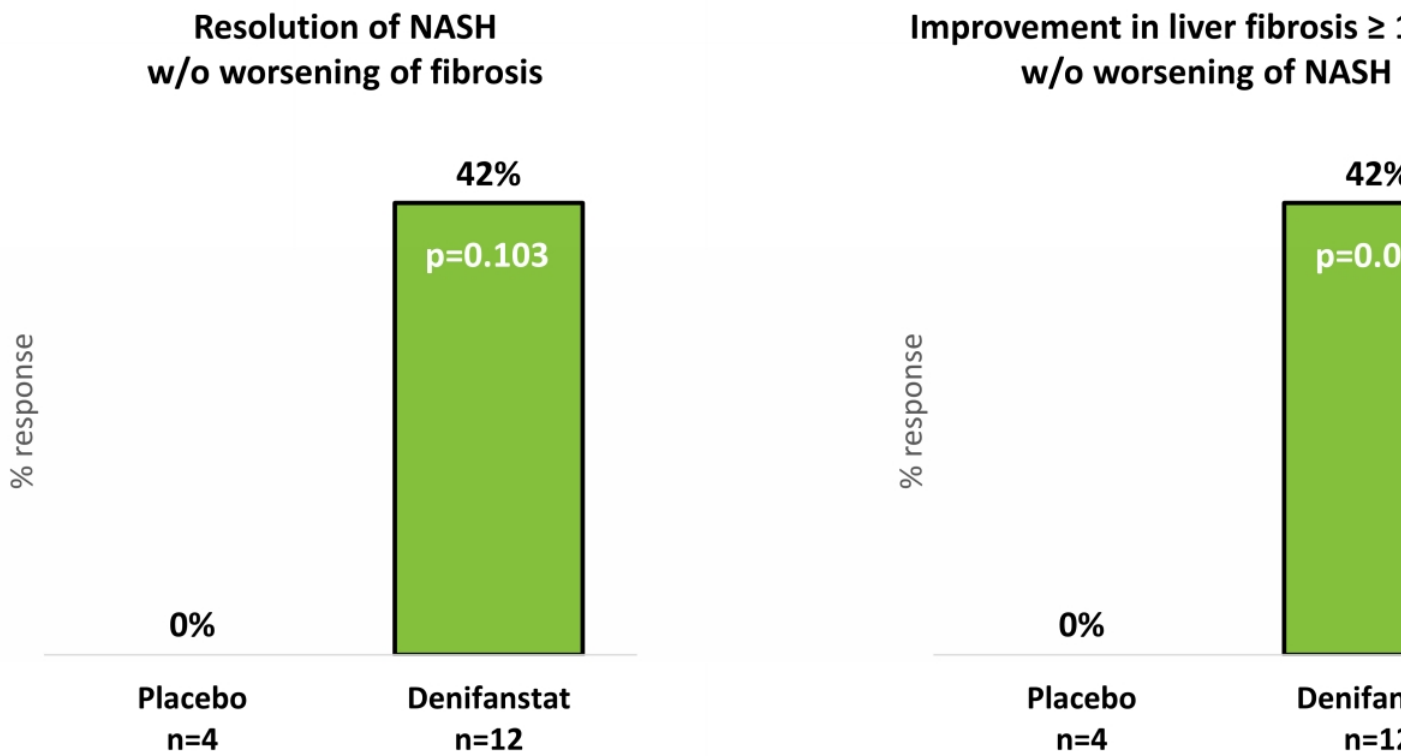
Independent Fibrosis Analysis by AI-based Digital Pathology

Supporting Evidence that Denifanstat Significantly Reduced Fibrosis



Patient Subset on Stable GLP1-RA at Baseline: Liver Biopsy

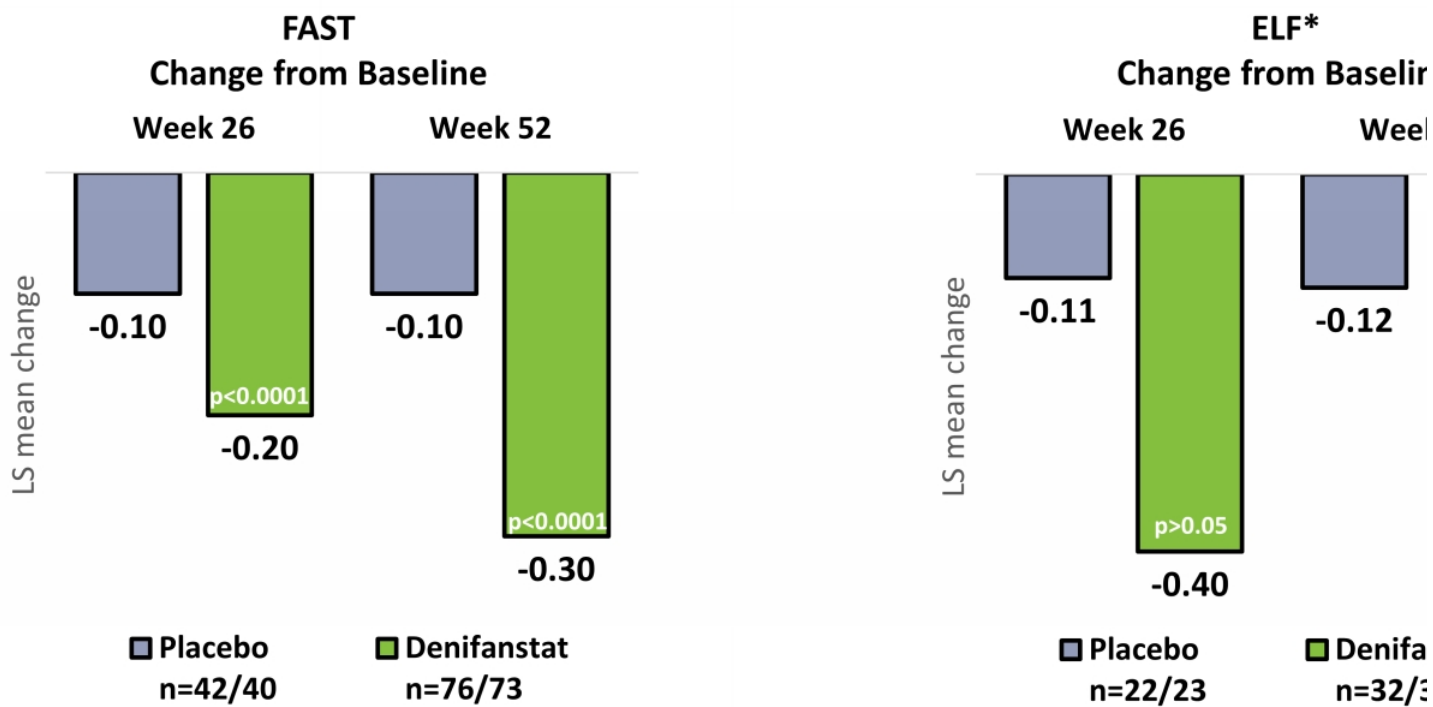
Denifanstat Improves NASH Resolution and Fibrosis



11 Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Test – One sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population

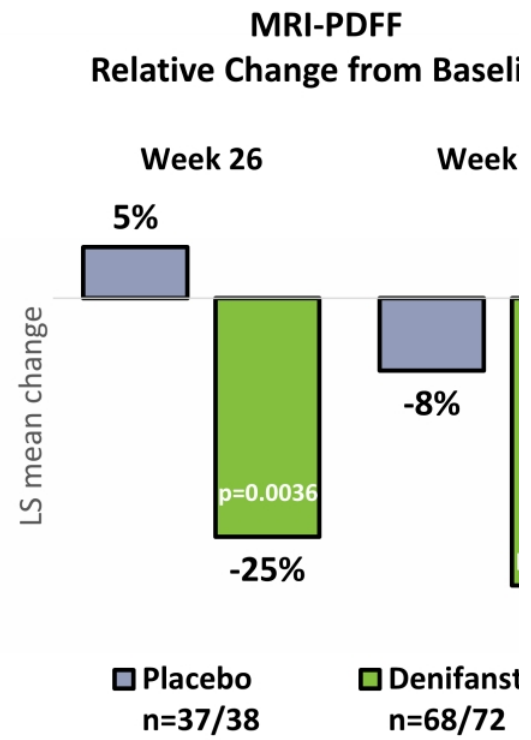
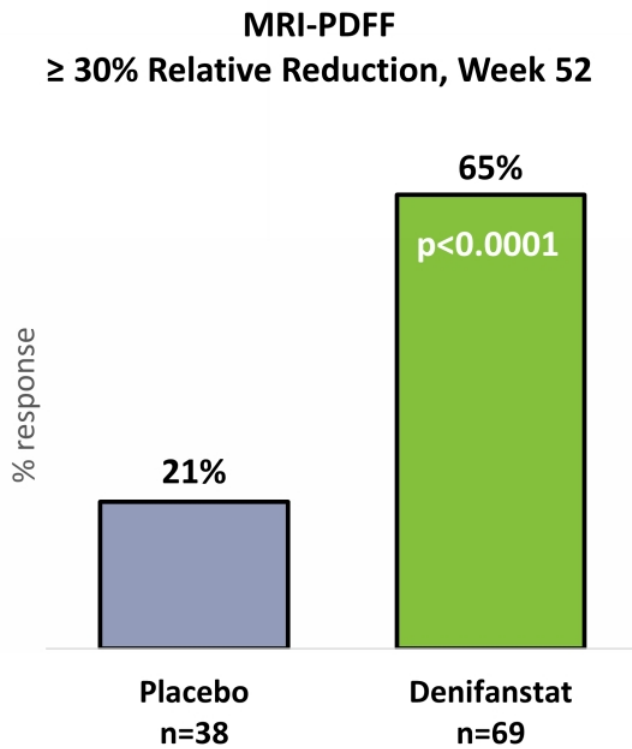
Biomarkers of Fibrosis

Denifanstat Decreased FAST Score and ELF



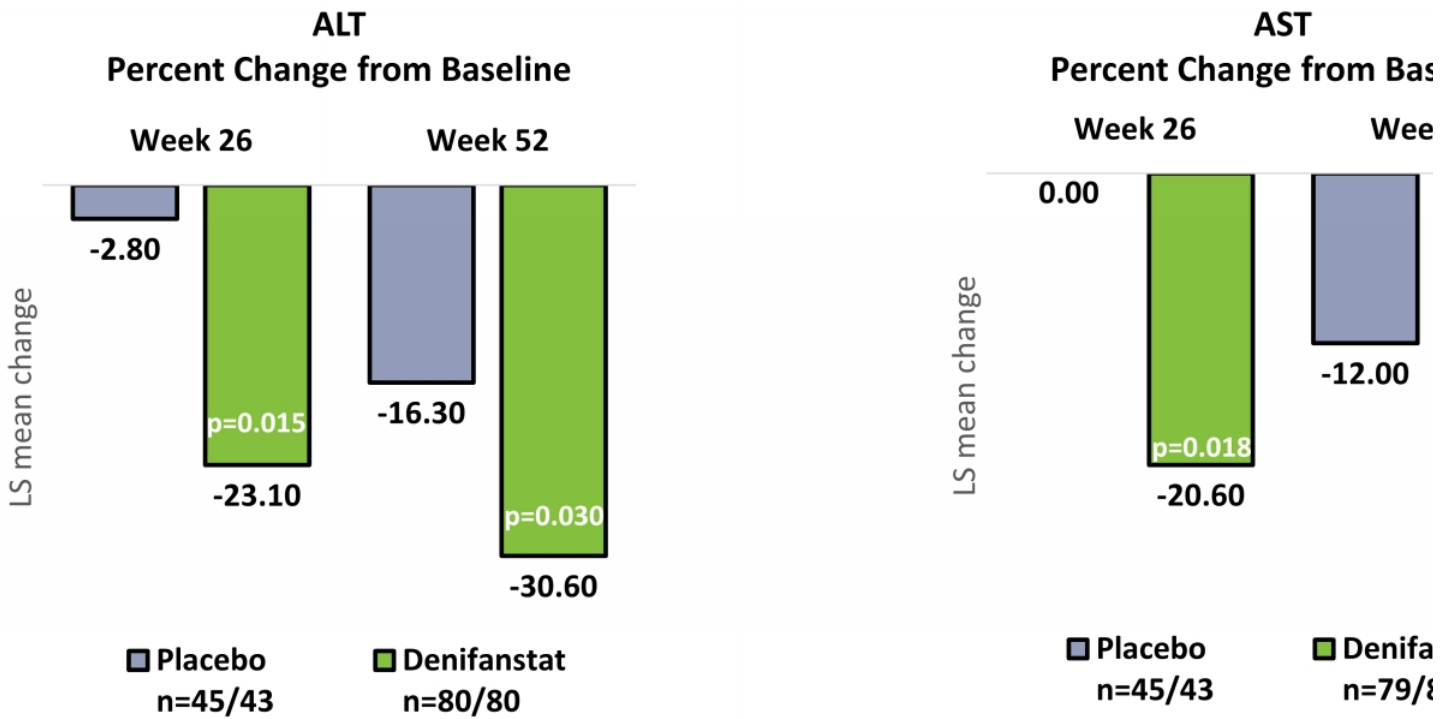
12 Mixed-effects Model for Repeated Measures – Two sided at the 0.05 significance level. mITT population. *Baseline ELF > 9.8 (mean).

Secondary Endpoint: Liver Fat by MRI-PDFF *Denifanstat Achieved Statistical Significance*



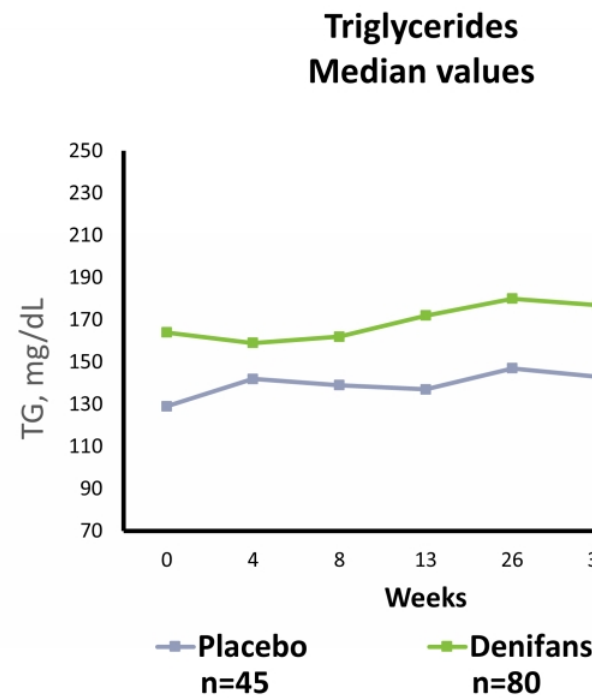
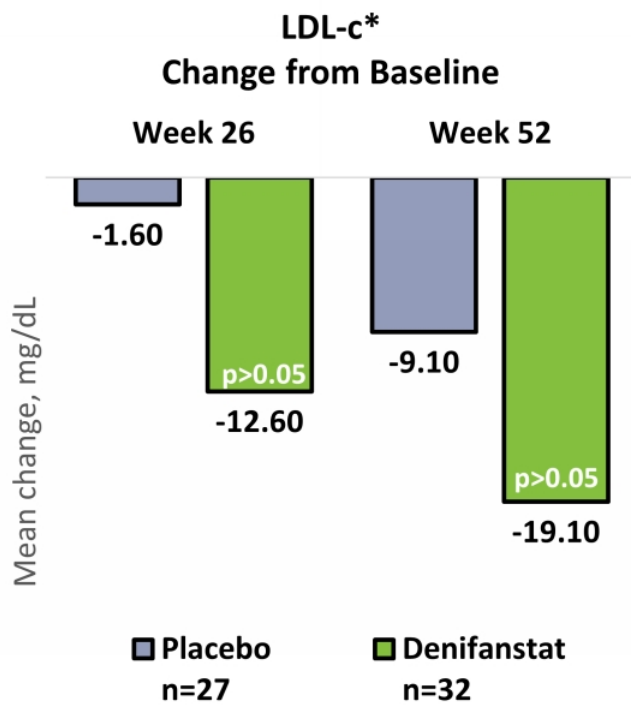
Secondary Endpoints: Liver Enzymes

Denifanstat Decreased ALT and AST Levels



Cardiometabolic health

Denifanstat Decreased LDL-c Levels



FASCINATE-2: Safety

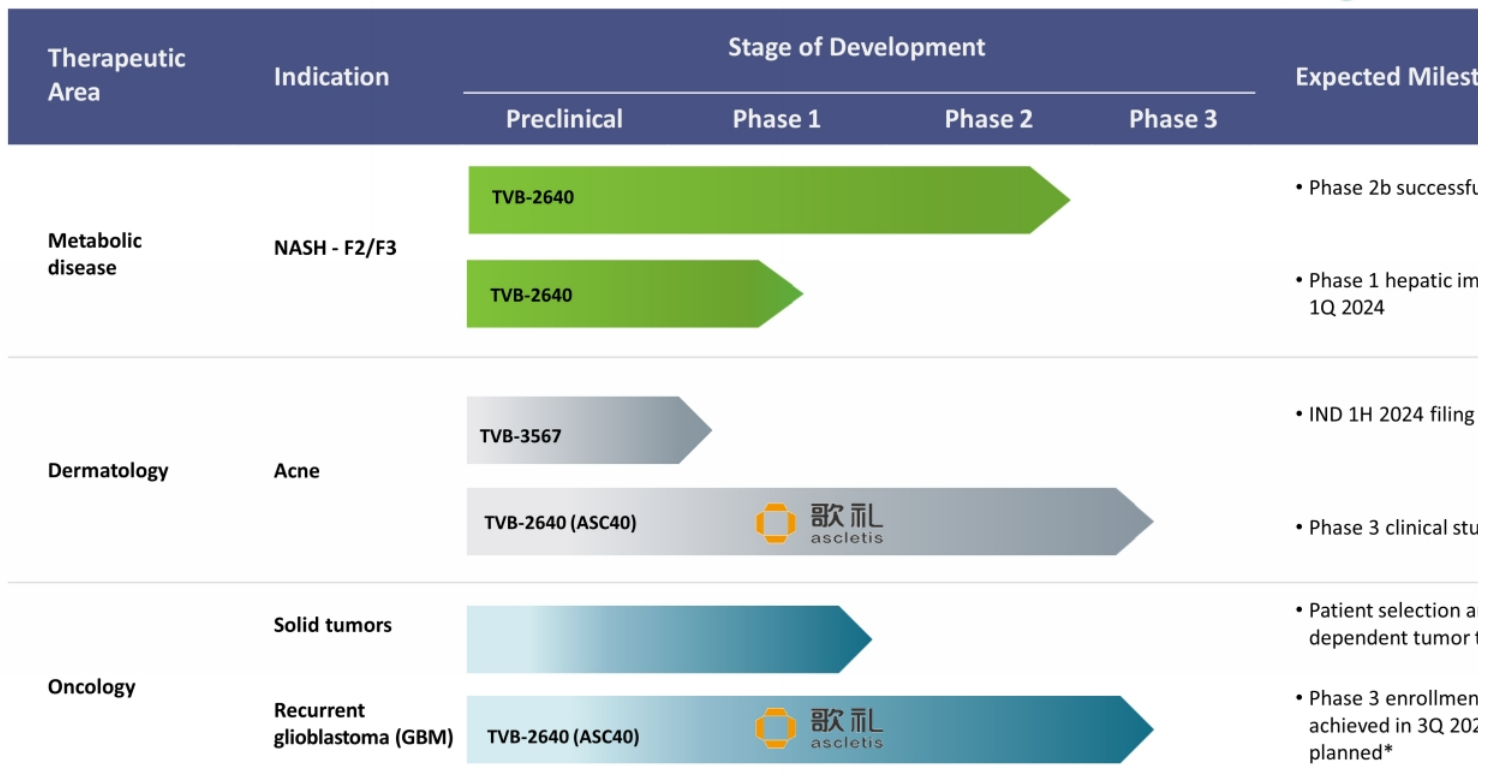
Denifanstat was Generally Well Tolerated




Parameter	Placebo n=56	Denifanstat N=117
Any TEAE (treatment emergent adverse event)	45 (80.4%)	96 (85.7%)
TEAE related to study drug	20 (35.7%)	51 (45.5%)
Most common TEAE related to study drug in ≥5% of patients by system organ class		
eye disorders	9 (16.1%)	17 (15.2%)
gastrointestinal disorders	5 (8.9%)	13 (11.6%)
skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	4 (7.1%)	25 (22.3%)
TEAE leading to study drug discontinuation	3 (5.4%)	22 (19.6%)
TEAE with CTCAE Grade 3 (Severe) or higher*	3 (5.4%)	13 (11.6%)
SAE (none related to treatment)	3 (5.4%)	13 (11.6%)
Fatal TEAE	0	0

* No treatment-related AE was Grade 3 or higher

Development Pipeline: Indications and Clinical Milestones



17 * Trials conducted in China by Ascleto, who has licensed development and commercialization rights to all indications in Greater China



End
