

# Bench to Bedside, Clinical Trials

## TRACO-Translational Research : Bench to Bedside, Clinical Trials



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# Disclosure Disclosure



As a child I wanted to become a veterinarian but my guidance counselor told me 'girls can't do that.' So I told him I would become a doctor.

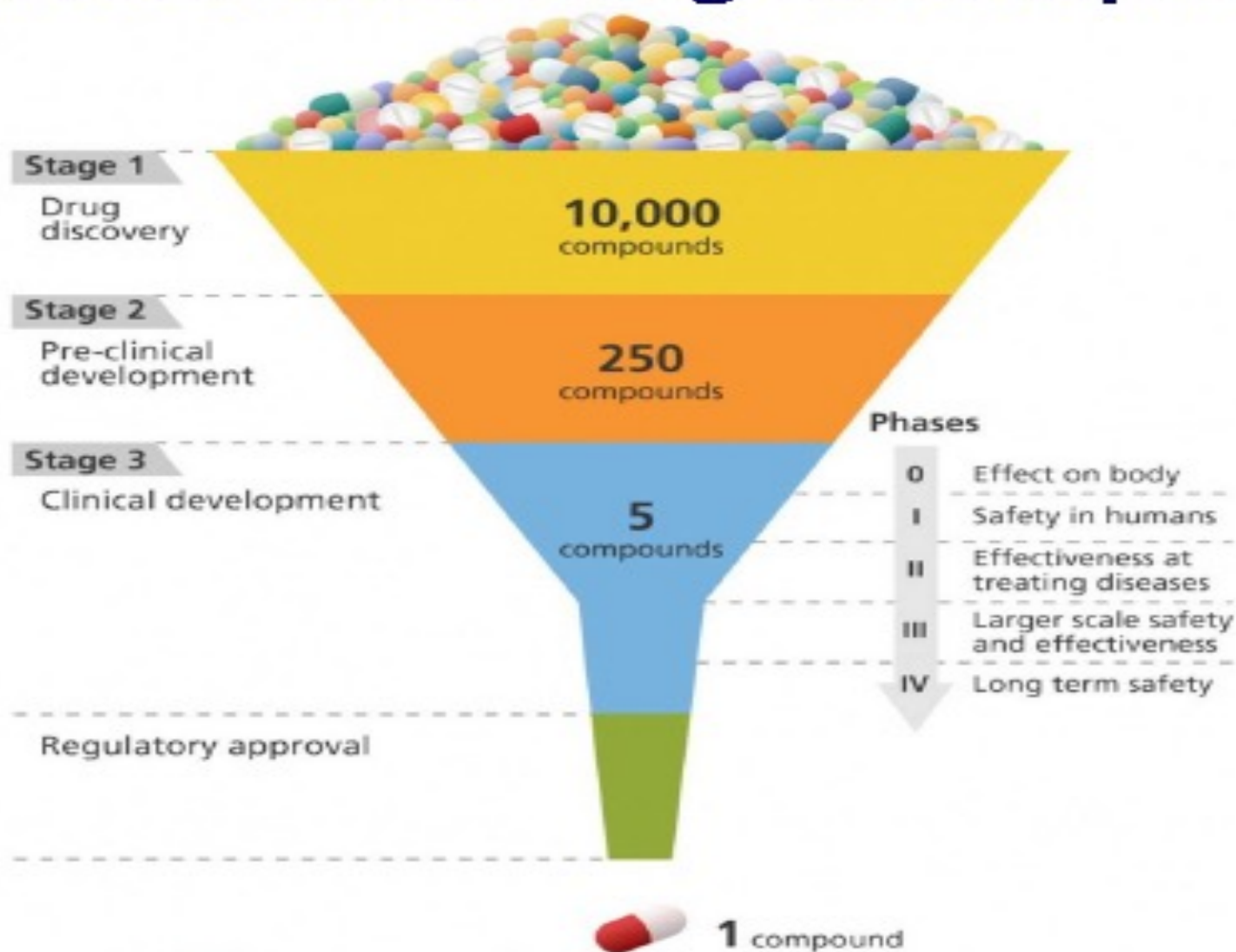
# **OBJECTIVES**

## **OBJECTIVES**

- **Understand how an idea is taken from the research lab to patient care.**
- **Learn the steps in conducting clinical trials**
- **Understand some of the obstacles to overcome in drug development?**
- **Examples of my translational projects**

# Research and drug development

## Research & Drug Development





# Drug development process

## The Drug Development Process



# Ideas

You need an Idea



**Hypothesis**

**Passion!!**

# Preclinical studies

## Preclinical Studies

Preclinical Testing: research lab conducts certain studies before the future drug is ever given to a human being. Laboratory and animal studies must be done to demonstrate the biological activity of the drug against the targeted disease. The drug must also be evaluated for safety. These tests take on the average 3 1/2 years.





# Calculating human dose

## Calculating human dose from animal study

Nair AB, Jacob S. Journal of Basic and Clinical Pharmacy. 2016;7(2):27-31.

Species	Reference body weight (kg)	Working weight range (kg)	Body surface area (m <sup>2</sup> )	To convert dose in mg/kg to dose in mg/m <sup>2</sup> , multiply by K <sub>a</sub>	To convert animal dose in mg/kg to HED in mg/kg, either	
					Divide animal dose by	Multiply animal dose by
Human	60	-	1.62	37	-	-
Mouse	0.02	0.011-0.034	0.007	3	12.3	0.081
Hamster	0.08	0.047-0.157	0.016	5	7.4	0.135
Rat	0.15	0.08-0.27	0.025	6	6.2	0.162
Ferret	0.30	0.16-0.54	0.043	7	5.3	0.188
Guinea pig	0.40	0.208-0.700	0.05	8	4.8	0.216
Rabbit	1.8	0.90-3.0	0.15	12	3.1	0.324
Dog	10	5-17	0.50	20	1.8	0.541
Monkeys (rhesus)	3	1.4-4.9	0.25	12	3.1	0.324
Marmoset	0.35	0.14-0.72	0.06	6	6.2	0.162
Squirrel monkey	0.60	0.29-0.97	0.09	7	5.3	0.188
Baboon	12	7-23	0.60	20	1.8	0.541
Micro pig	20	10-33	0.74	27	1.4	0.730
Mini pig	40	25-64	1.14	35	1.1	0.946

\*Data obtained from FDA draft guidelines.<sup>77</sup> FDA: Food and Drug Administration, HED: Human equivalent dose

The dose by factor method applies an exponent for body surface area (0.67), which account for difference in metabolic rate, to convert doses between animals and humans. Thus, HED is determined by the equation:

$$\text{HED (mg / kg)} = \text{Animal NOAEL mg/kg} \times (\text{Weight}_{\text{animal}} [\text{kg}] / \text{Weight}_{\text{human}} [\text{kg}])^{(1-0.67)}$$

[no observed adverse effect levels (NOAEL) from preclinical research]



# Phase 1

## Phase 1

- 15-30 people
- Determines
  - what dose is safe?
  - How the treatment should be given?
  - Pharmacokinetics?
  - How the treatment affects the body?
  - Safety & toxicity



How much?



What route of administration?

# Pilot Study



## Pilot Study

- A small study that helps develop a bigger study
- A first venture into a particular area
- Used to iron out possible difficulties, and help with design of the bigger, more pivotal study.
- Helps provide 'tentative response rate' to estimate the sample size needed in a Phase 2 trial to reach significance over control

# Phase 2

## Phase 2: Efficacy

- Less than 100 people
- Must have a primary endpoint
- Usually unbiased (blinded)
- Determines
  - Does it work?
  - Is it more effective than a placebo?
  - Does not compare with other treatments



# Phase 3

## Phase 3



- From 100 to thousands of people
- Equal chance to be assigned to one of two or more groups
- Determines
  - How the new treatment compares with the current standard
  - Or how it compares with placebo
  - Superiority or non-inferiority trials



# Phase 4

## Phase 4

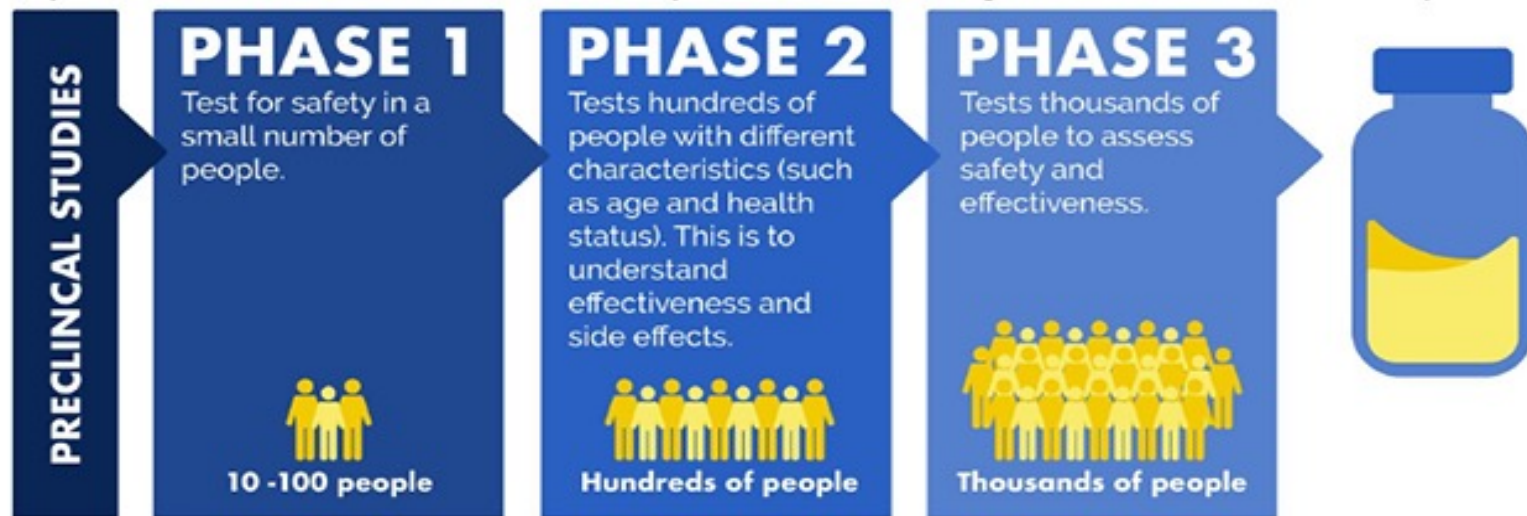
- From hundreds to thousands of people
- Usually takes place after drug is approved to provide additional information on the drug's risks, benefits and optimal use
- Called 'Post-marketing' or Or post-approval trials



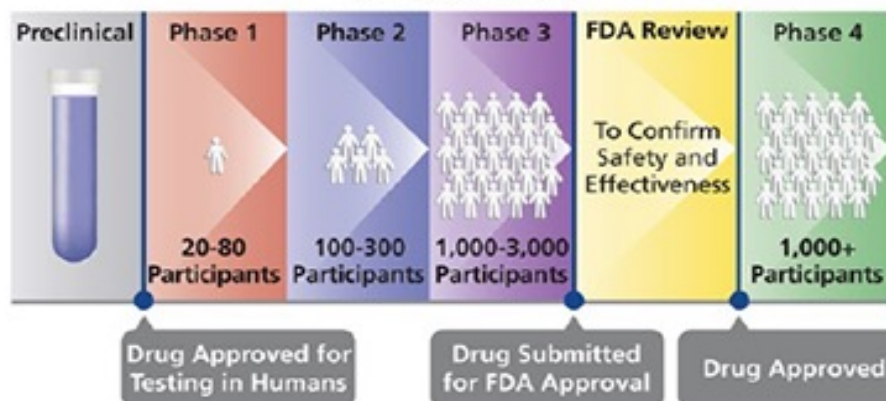
# COVID-19

## COVID-19 VACCINE TRIALS

Any vaccine we receive will have been authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and will have completed:

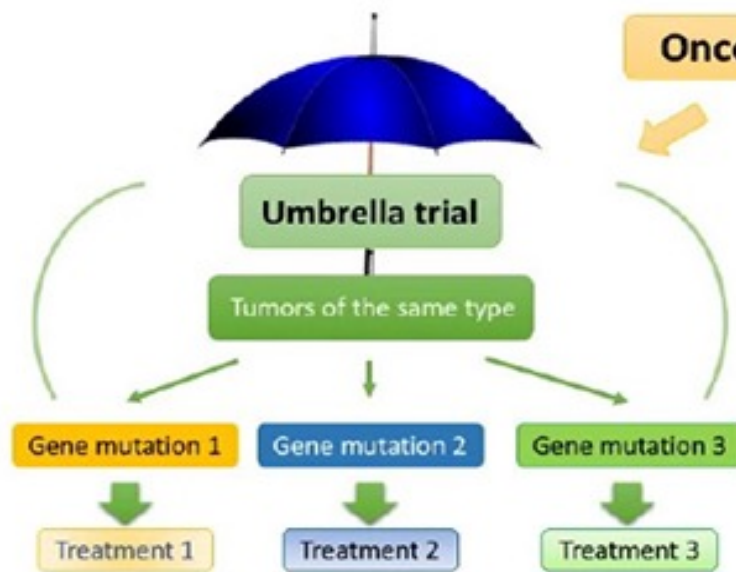


### Clinical Trials



# Oncology trials

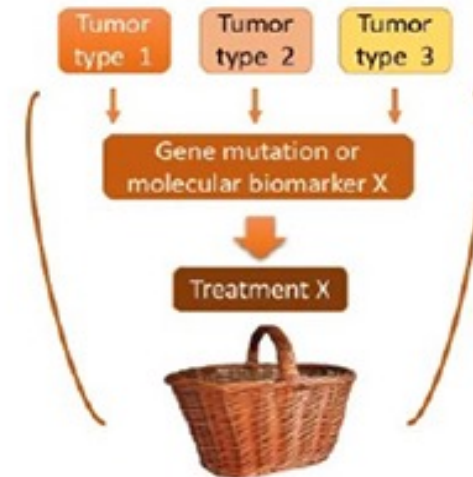
## Oncology Trials



Same tumor type  
Different mutations,  
ie., Her-2<sup>+</sup>

### Oncology clinical trials

#### Basket trial



Different tumor types with  
same molecular profiling:  
ie., MSI high tumors and  
Pembrolizumab

# Patient rights

## How Are Patients' Rights Protected?

- Ethical and legal codes that govern medical practice also apply to clinical trials
- Informed consent
- Review boards
  - Scientific review
  - Institutional review boards (IRBs)
  - Data safety and monitoring boards

**Genetic testing  
Add to consent**



# IND

## Investigational New Drug (IND) Application

- Need approval from FDA
  - Apply for and IND# (investigational new drug#)
  - 1571 and 1572

The IND becomes effective if the FDA does not disapprove it within 30 days.

The IND must include the following information: the results of previous experiments; how, where and by whom the new studies will be conducted; the chemical structure of the compound; how it is thought to work in the body; any toxic effects found in the animal studies; and how the compound is manufactured. The IND must also be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board where the studies will be conducted.

# FDA forms

## FDA 1571 and 1572 forms, info about sponsor & drug

INVESTIGATIONAL NEW DRUG APPLICATION (IND) (Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 312)		NOTE: No drug/biologic may be shipped or clinical investigation begun until an IND for that investigation is in effect (21 CFR 312.40)
1. Name of Sponsor		2. Date of Submission (mm/dd/yyyy)
3. Sponsor Address Address 1 (Street address, P.O. box, company name etc.) Address 2 (Apartment, suite, unit, building, floor, etc.) City State/Province/Region Country ZIP or Postal Code		4. Telephone Number (Include country code if applicable and area code)
5. Name(s) of Drug (Include all available names: Trade, Generic, Chemical, or Code)		6. IND Number (if previously assigned)
7. (Proposed) Indication for Use Is this indication for a rare disease (prevalence <200,000 in U.S.)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Does this product have an FDA Orphan Designation for this indication? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, provide the Orphan Designation number for this indication: _____		
8. Phase(s) of Clinical Investigation to be conducted <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Phase 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): _____		
9. List numbers of all Investigational New Drug Applications (21 CFR Part 312), New Drug Applications (21 CFR Part 314), Drug Master Files (21 CFR Part 314.420), and Biologics License Applications (21 CFR Part 601) referred to in this application.		
10. IND submission should be consecutively numbered. The initial IND should be numbered "Serial Number: 0001." The next submission (e.g., amendment, report, or correspondence) should be numbered "Serial Number: 0001." Subsequent submissions should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are submitted.		Serial Number 0001
11. This submission contains the following (Select all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Investigational New Drug Application (IND) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Clinical Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Response to FDA Request for Information <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Reevaluation or Reinstatement <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Report <input type="checkbox"/> General Correspondence <input type="checkbox"/> Development Safety Update Report (DSUR) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): _____		
12. Select the following only if applicable. (Justification statement must be submitted with application for any items selected below; refer to the cited CFR section for further information.) Emergency Research Exception From Informed Consent Requirements, 21 CFR 312.23 (f) Charge Request, 21 CFR 312.8 Individual Patient, Non-Emergency 21 CFR 312.310 Individual Patient, Emergency 21 CFR 312.310(a) Intermediate Size Patient Population, 21 CFR 312.315 Treatment IND or Protocol, 21 CFR 312.320		
For FDA Use Only		
CBER/DCC Receipt Stamp	DDR Receipt Stamp	Division Assignment
		IND Number Assigned

6. IND Number (if previously assigned)  
050987


Serial Number  
0001

What are you Submitting or requesting In this report

Must be submitted with every communication to FDA

# Intellectual property

## Intellectual Property

 US008821872B2	
(12) <b>United States Patent</b> Smith et al.	(10) <b>Patent No.:</b> <b>US 8,821,872 B2</b> (45) <b>Date of Patent:</b> <b>Sep. 2, 2014</b>
(54) <b>IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF A SPECIFIC CCK-C RECEPTOR ANTIBODY FOR HUMAN PANCREATIC CANCER AND ITS USE FOR EARLY DETECTION AND STAGING OF PANCREATIC CANCER</b>	(52) <b>U.S. CL</b> USPC ..... 424/141.1; 424/138.1; 424/143.1; 435/6.14; 435/7.1; 530/388.1; 530/388.22; 514/19.3; 977/773; 977/907; 977/920
(76) <b>Inventors:</b> <b>Jill P. Smith</b> , Camp Hill, PA (US); <b>Gail L. Matters</b> , Hummelstown, PA (US); <b>Neil D. Christensen</b> , Harrisburg, PA (US); <b>John F. Harms</b> , Mechanicsburg, PA (US)	(58) <b>Field of Classification Search</b> None See application file for complete search history.
(*) <b>Notice:</b> Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this	(56) <b>References Cited</b> <b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b> 2004/0209801 A1* 10/2004 Brad et al. .... 514/12

- Before you present your work publically -IP
- License the patent when it issues



# Clinical trials

## Other things to do for a Clinical Trial

- Write a protocol- study design with outcomes
- Write a consent form
- Obtain IRB approval
- Find a Sponsor - Get Funding support-\$
- Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator (CITI training)
- Research Nurse /Study coordinator
- Registration of clinical trial on [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)



# Cost

## Cost

- **The NIH will support Phase 1-2 clinical trials.**
- **Phase 3 Registration trials require an industry partner.**
- **A ‘registration trial’ is designed to get FDA approval.**
- **The cost of an FDA New Drug Application (NDA) is greater than \$3.0 million today.**
- **Orphan Drug Designation: a process to lower the cost for rare diseases (Prevalence <200,000). With Orphan Drug Designation the application fee is waived and sponsors receive additional exclusivity rights**

# Nuts and bolts

**How Do You Do It?**

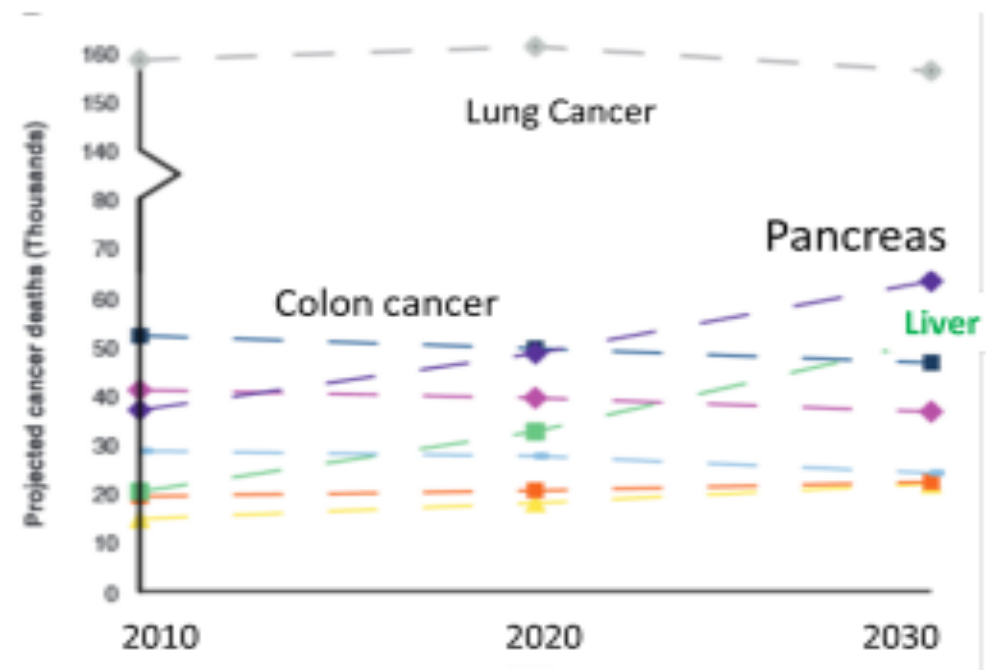


**Examples from my experience**

# Pancreatic cancer research

## My Research in Pancreatic cancer

- 2nd leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States; about 58,000/yr
- The median survival with Standard of Care therapy less than 1 year
- Five year survival is approximately 9.3%.
- Most cases are not diagnosed in the early stages- 90% are not resectable.
- 85-90% arise from Precursor PanIN lesions
- 90% have no family history





# CCK receptors

## Cholecystokinin Receptors: GPCRs

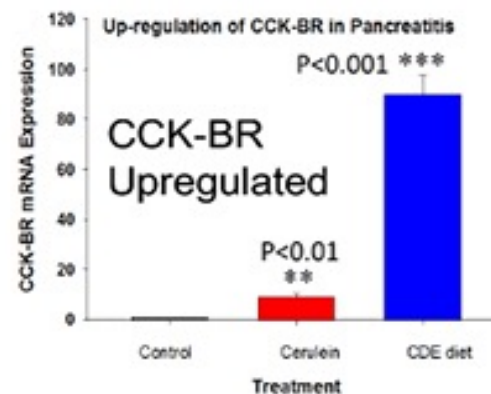
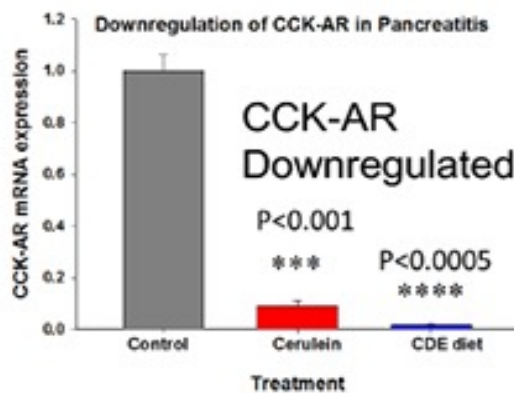
- **CCK-A**: Also called CCK-1R  
alimentary tract, gallbladder, pancreas.  
Binds CCK > Gastrin (1,000:1)
- **CCK-B**: Also called CCK-2R  
brain, stomach  
Binds CCK = Gastrin (1:1)
- **CCK-C**: pancreatic cancer, splice variant of CCK-BR; Only found in human cancer, not rodents. Binds Gastrin > CCK (10:1)



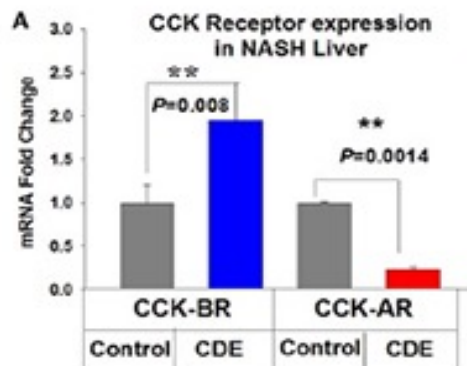
# CCK-B receptor

## CCK-B Receptor has low expression in normal tissues

Inflammation activates CCK-BR expression- Pancreatitis



The CCK-BR becomes upregulated in two different animal models of pancreatitis

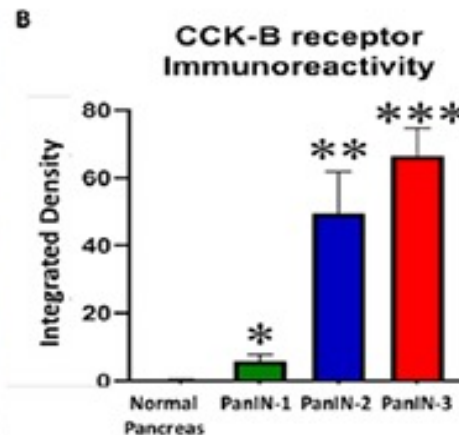
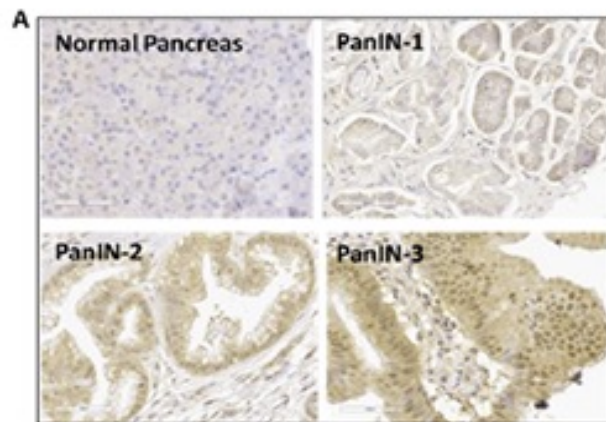


Inflammation activates CCK-BR expression- in hepatitis

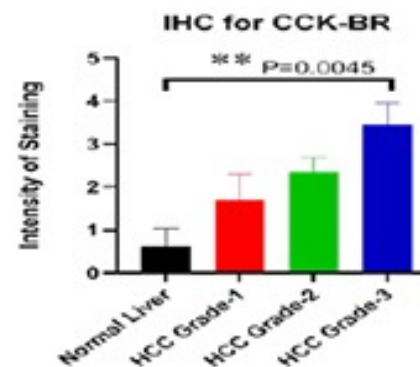
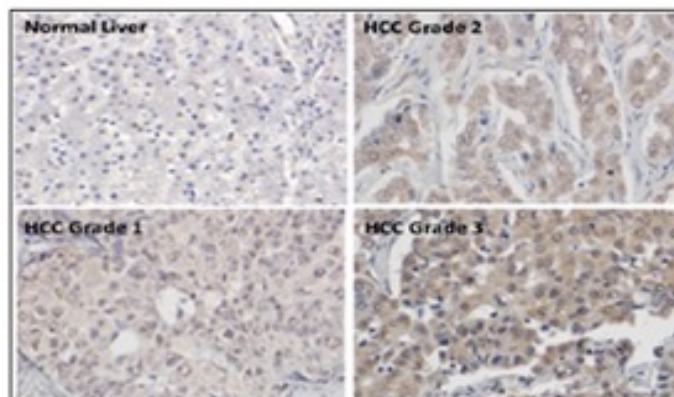
In Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) The CCK-BR is also upregulated and the CCK-AR is downregulated

# CCK-BR in cancer

The CCK-BR is over-expressed in HUMAN HCC and Pancreatic



Top: CCK-BR is absent in human pancreas but becomes expressed in precancerous pancreatic intraepithelial neoplasia (PanINs).  
Biomolecules, 2021  
PMID: 34944412



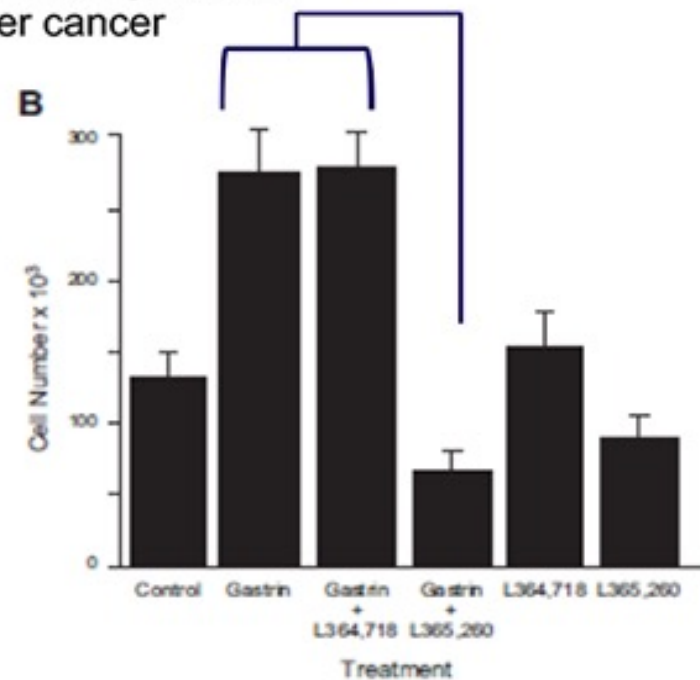
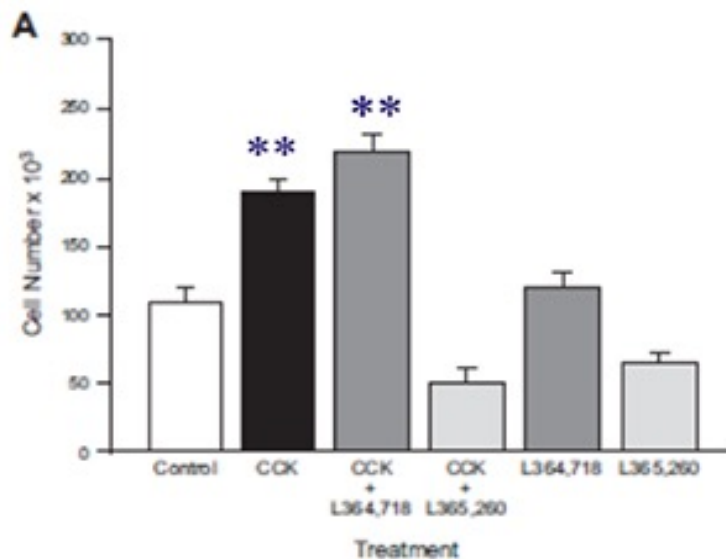
Bottom: CCK-BR is not detected in normal human liver, but is found in HCC and increases with grade of cancer

# CCK-BR ligands

## Ligands for the CCK-BR

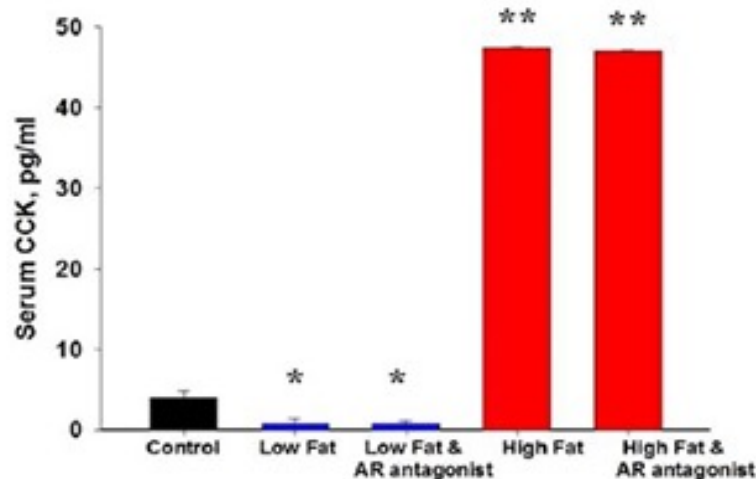
There are two major ligands for the CCK-BR:  
cholecystokinin (CCK) and gastrin

Both CCK and gastrin stimulate growth of  
pancreatic and liver cancer



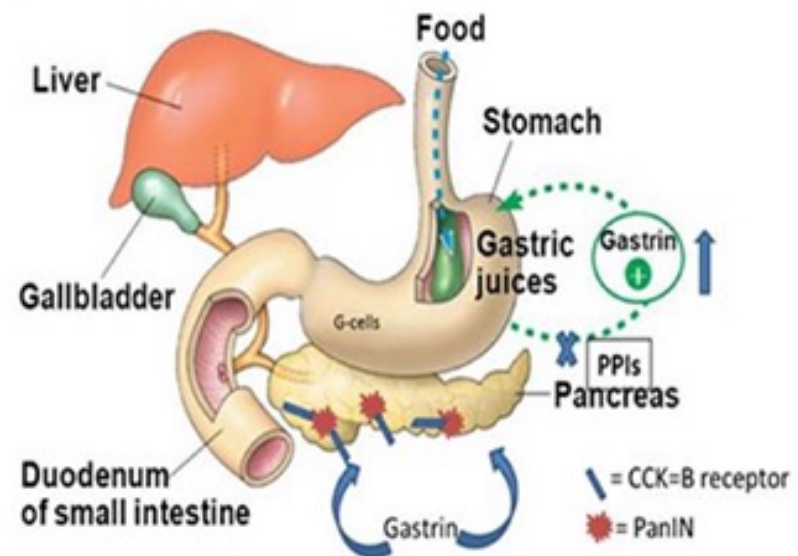
# CCK and gastrin

## Source of CCK and gastrin



CCK is increased by high fat diet

Am J Physiol 2018,  
PMID: 29927319



Gastrin is elevated with high dose PPIs  
And also becomes activated in PanIN

Pancreas 2019, PMID: 31268978



# Problems

## What is the problem?

Pancreatic cancer:

1. Dense fibrosis around the cancer prevents penetration of T-cells and chemotherapy.
2. There is no screening test to diagnose Pancreatic cancer in early stages

Liver cancer:

1. Fibrosis (cirrhosis) is the major risk factor
2. Can fibrosis be reversed to prevent cancer

# Strategy

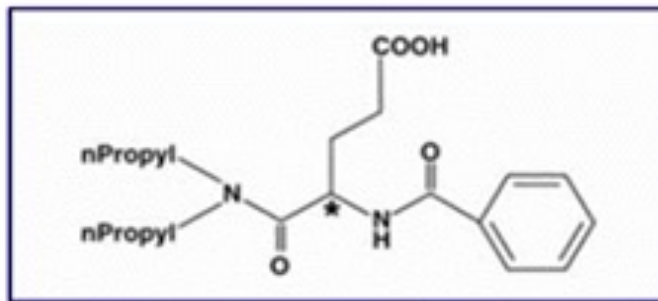
## Strategy

Since CCK-BRs are over-expressed in pancreas and liver cancer, these receptors are good targets for therapy and for imaging.

Furthermore, we have shown that CCK-B receptors are expressed in stellate cells & activated fibroblasts and blockade of CCK-BR decreases fibrosis

# Proglumide

Targeting the CCK-BR with small molecule- Proglumide



Older drug developed 30 years ago for ulcer disease.

Broad safety profile

Orally bioavailable

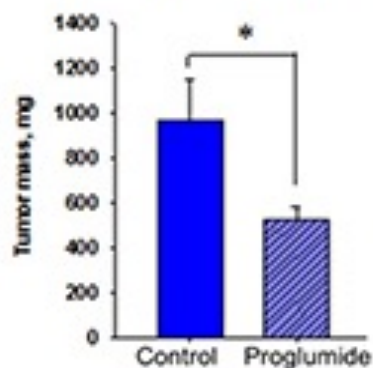
Minimal to no toxicity

Decreases growth of pancreas and liver cancer in mice, inhibits fibrosis, increases influx tumor CD8+ T-cells

# Proglumide

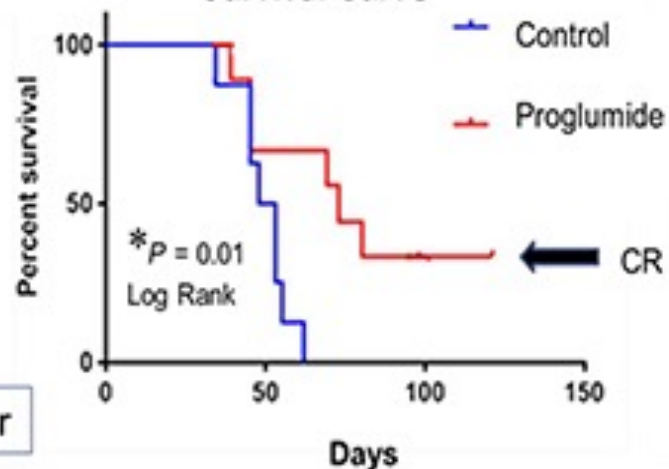
## Proglumide inhibits growth of pancreatic cancer and PanIN progression

Final Tumor Weights

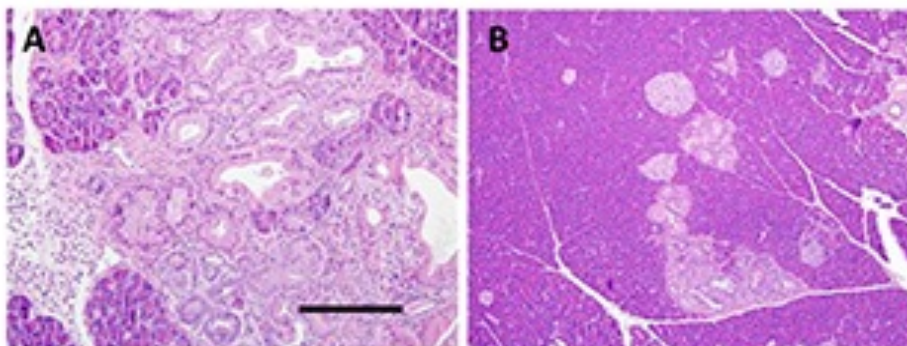


Mouse Pancreatic cancer

Survival Curve



Proglumide improves survival in immune competent mice



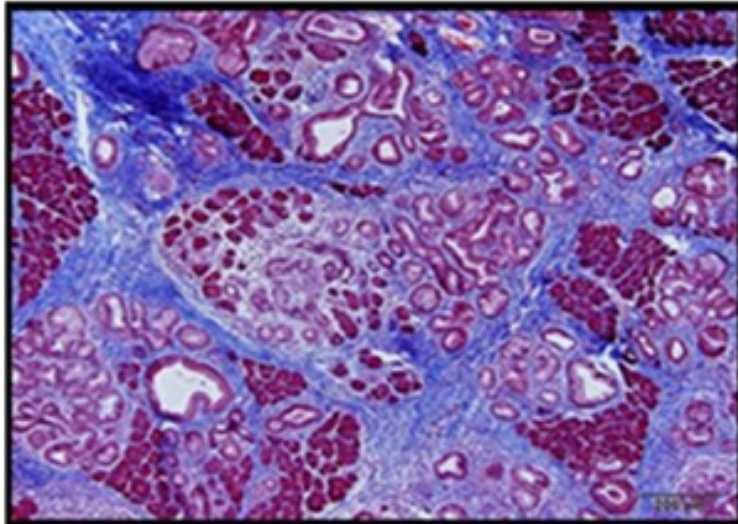
LSL-Kras<sup>G12D/+</sup>; P48-Cre (KC) mutant KRAS transgenic mice  
A. Control mouse untreated  
B. Mouse treated for 4 months with proglumide in drinking water



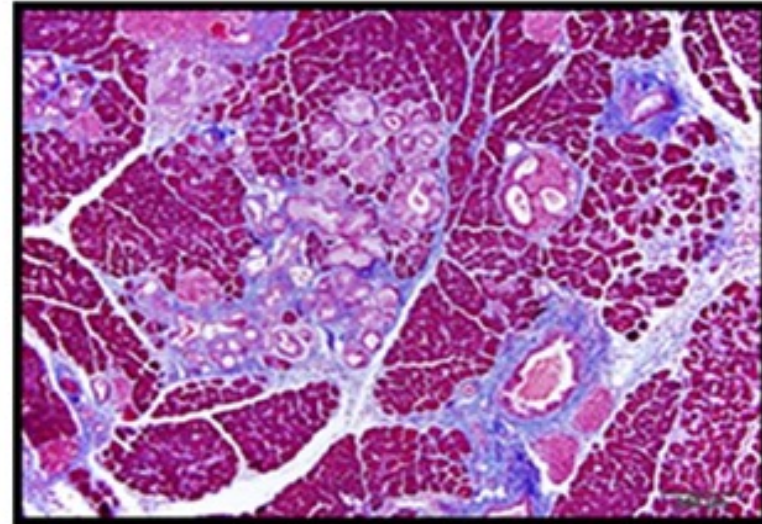
# Proglumide

Proglumide prevents pancreas PanIN progression and fibrosis, Kras mouse model

Vehicle control



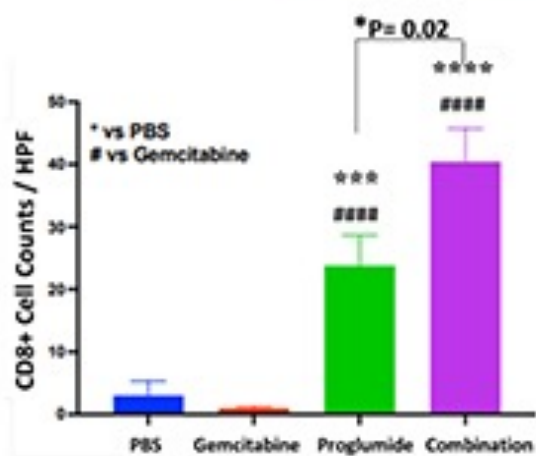
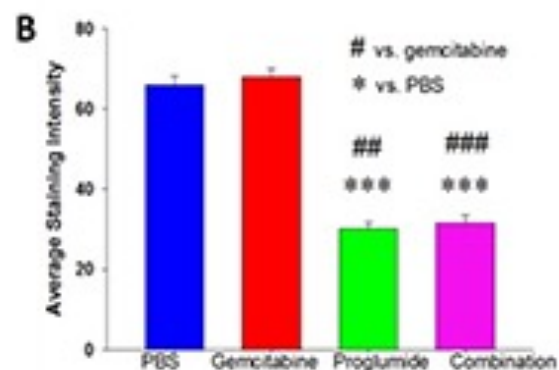
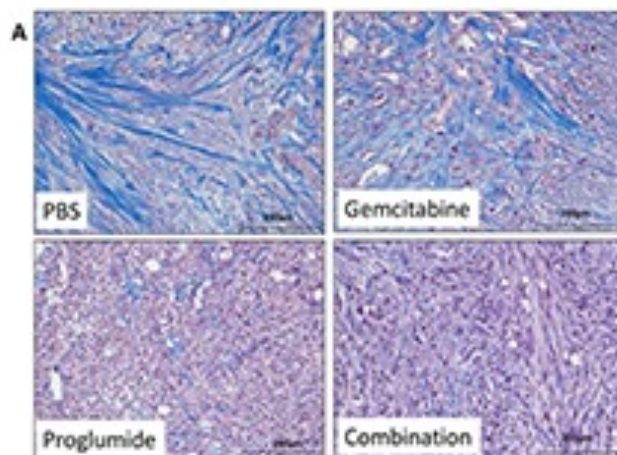
CCK receptor Blockade



Smith et al. *Pancreas* 2014; 43: 1050–1059

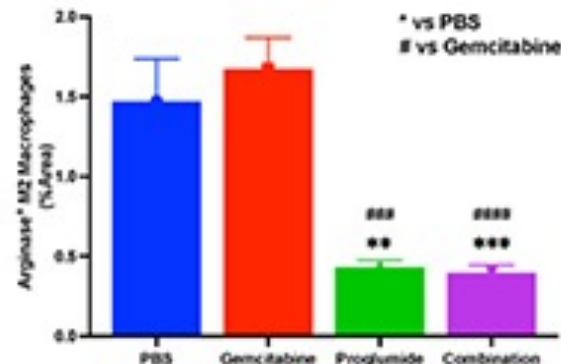
# Fibrosis

Proglumide decreases fibrosis & alters the immune signature in pancreatic cancer



Proglumide increases CD8+ T-cells

Proglumide decreases M2-polarized Macrophages

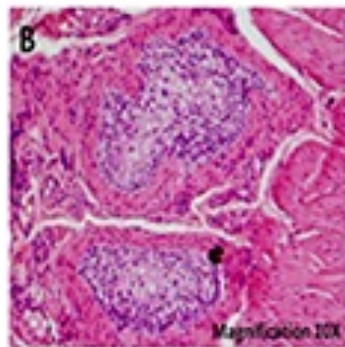




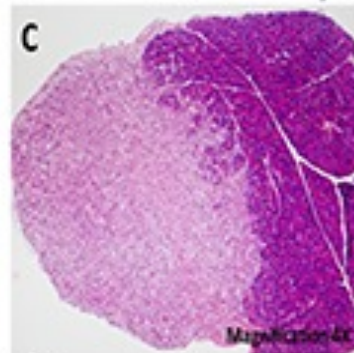
# Metastasis

Metastases were Significantly Decreased in Mice with PANC-1 Tumors Treated with the Proglumide & Gemcitabine

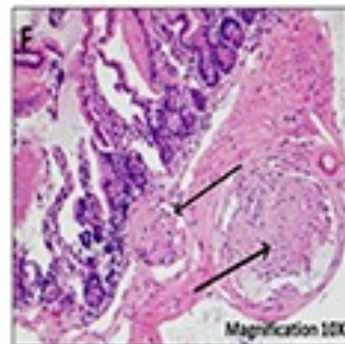
All metastases were confirmed by histology and read by our Pathologist



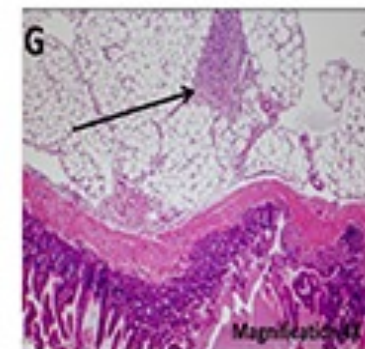
Tumor emboli muscle



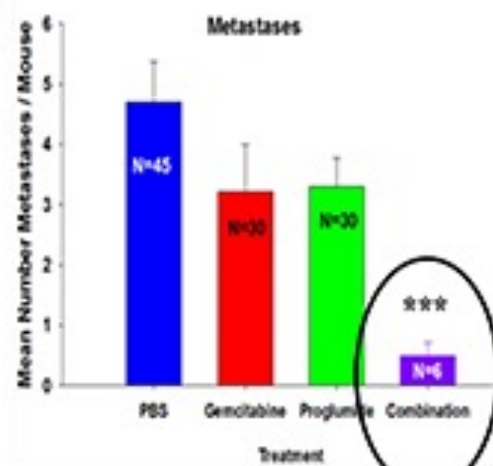
Liver Metastases



Mets to colon



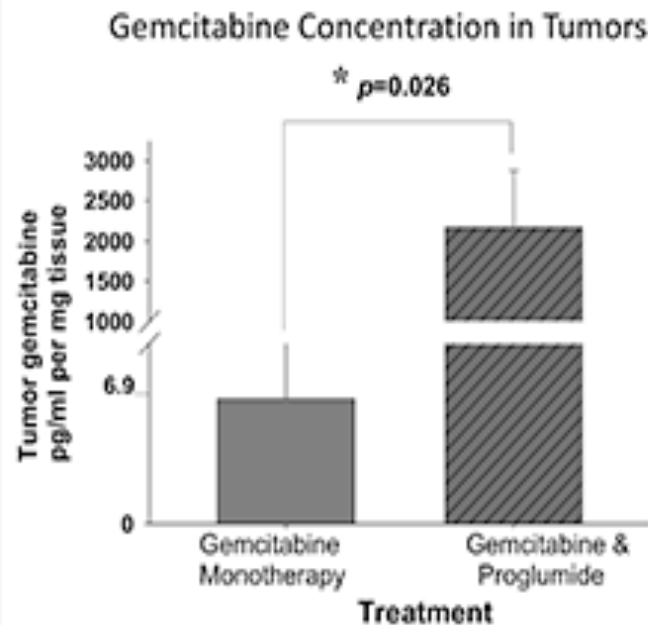
Mesentery mets



Group	Liver	Mesentery/ Peritoneum	Nodes	Spleen	Diaphragm	Abdominal Wall	Stomach	Colon
PBS	4	22	2	5	1	2	6	3
Gemcitabine	4	12	1	5	0	1	2	5
Proglumide	2	18	2	1	0	2	2	3
Combination	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	1

# Gemcitabine

## Measurement of Tumor Gemcitabine Levels by Mass Spectroscopy



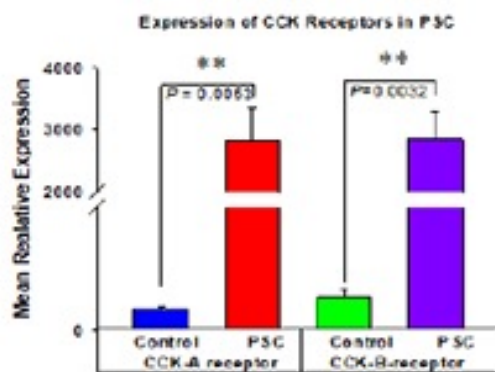
- A method was developed to measure tumor levels of gemcitabine using Mass Spectroscopy.
- Mean gemcitabine levels (pg/ml per mg of tumor tissue) were significantly higher in the tumors of mice treated with the combination therapy compared to gemcitabine monotherapy.
- These results indicate that proglumide therapy enhances the uptake of gemcitabine into pancreatic tumors possibly by decreasing the fibrosis in the pancreatic TME.



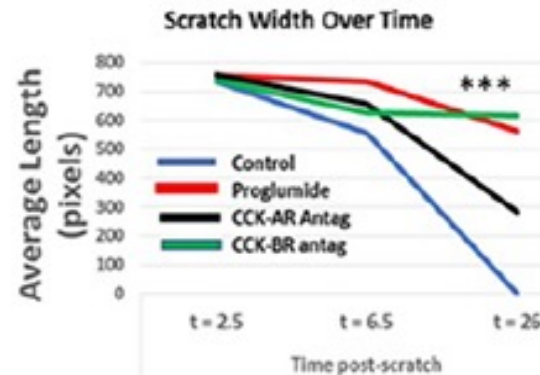
# Fibrosis

## Stellate Cells – Fibrosis - Proglumide

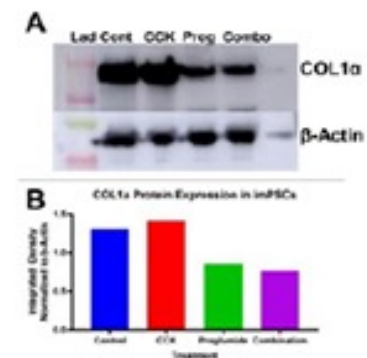
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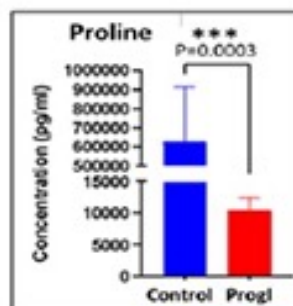
Pancreatic stellate cells express both CCK-AR and CCK-BRs (Unpublished).



Proglumide and the CCK-BR antagonist prevent PSC migration. \*\*\* P<0.0001.



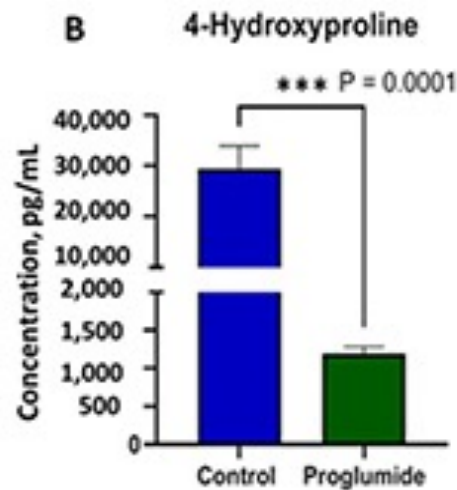
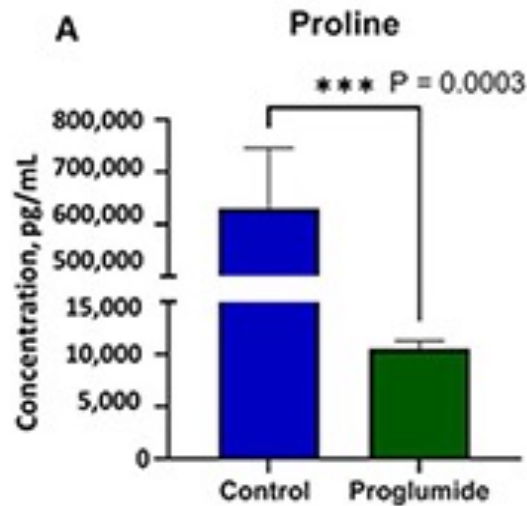
Collagen-1α protein is decreased by proglumide in PSCs.



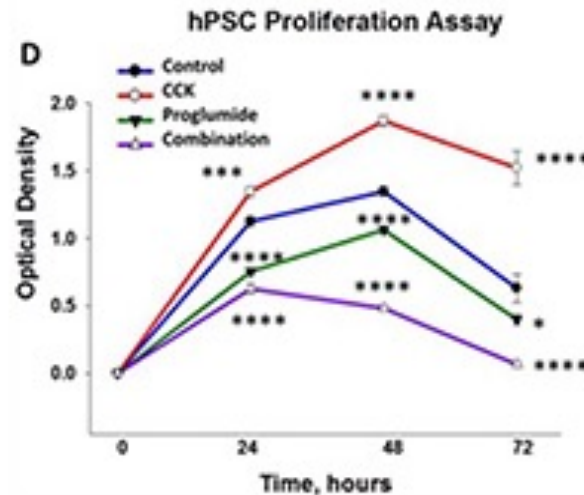
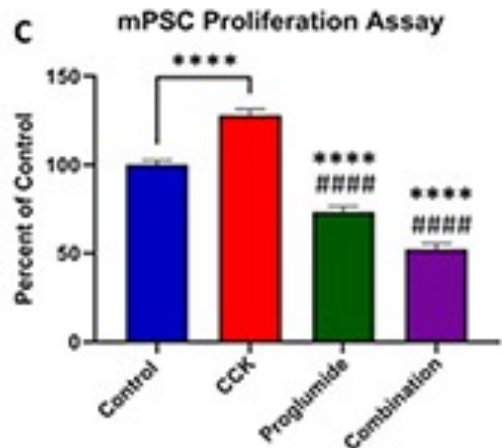
Proline is decreased in PSCs with proglumide.

Proglumide decreases collagen and motility of stellate cells: Mechanism of action how proglumide decreases tissue fibrosis.

# Proglumide



Effects of proglumide treatment on proline and 4-hydroxyproline levels, and proliferation of pancreatic stellate cells

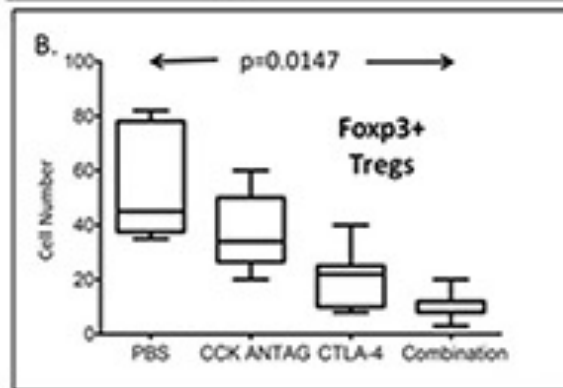
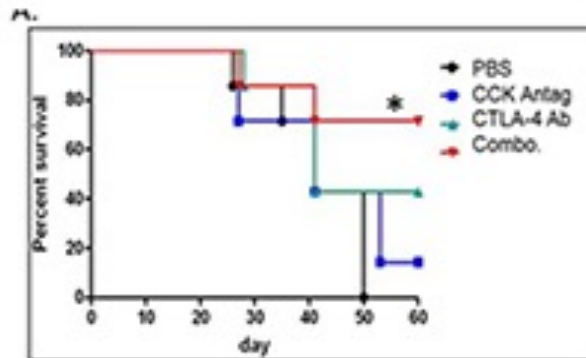


Proglumide blocks fibroblast proliferation in mouse (C) and human (D) Cells

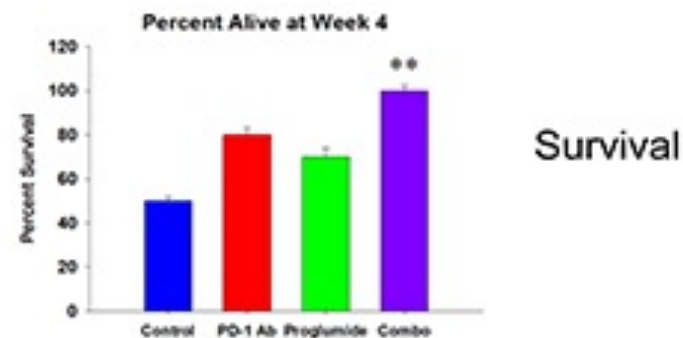
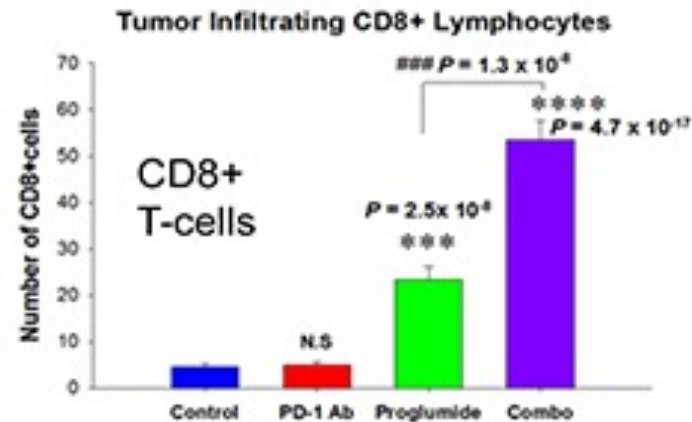
Published:  
Cancers 2023

# Immune checkpoint

## Proglumide Improves Efficacy of Immune Checkpoint Abs



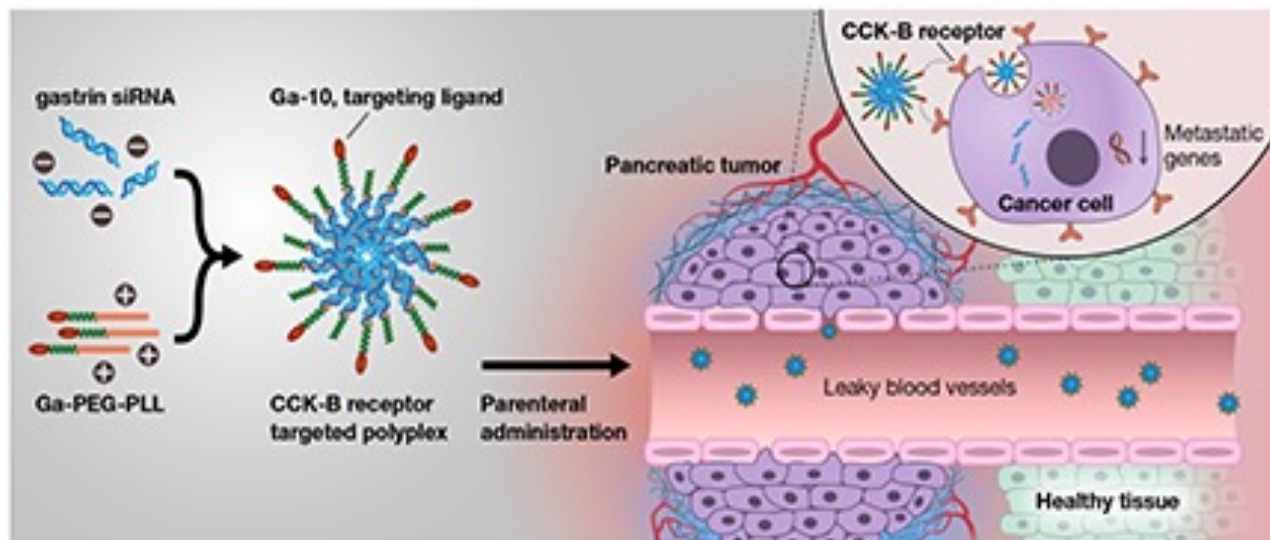
Pancreatic cancer  
Cancer Immunol Immunother. 2018  
PMID: 29043413



Liver cancer and PD-1 Ab  
ASCO GI, Abstract 2022

# Nanoparticles

## Targeting the CCK-BR with Nanoparticles



Nanoparticles were used for COVID-19 vaccines to deliver mRNA

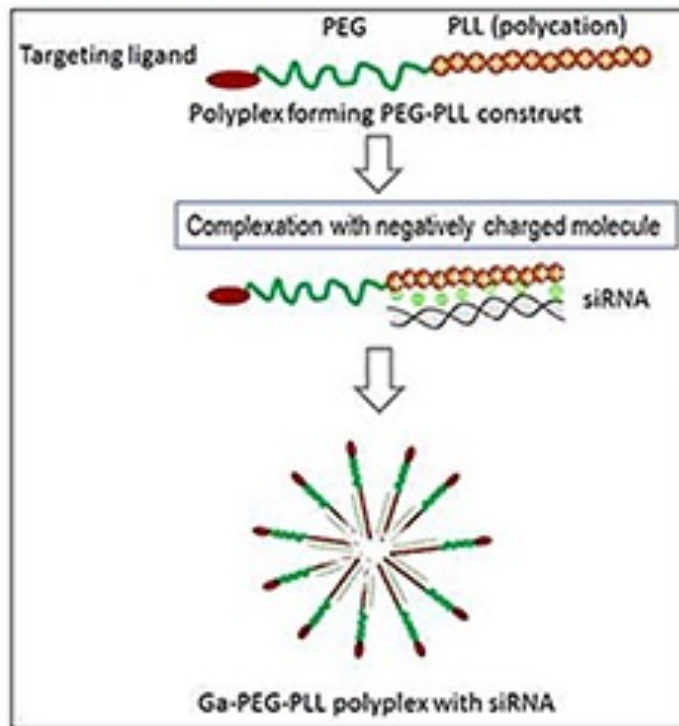
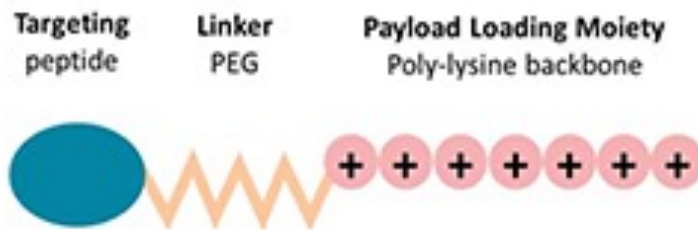
Our strategy is to use nanoparticles to deliver siRNA

To knockdown 2 Driver genes: Gastrin & mutant KRAS



# Nanoparticle construct

## Nanoparticle Construct



### 1) CCK-B Receptor Targeted NP

**Self-Assembly:** Poly-lysine backbone self-assembles into a micelle with negatively charged siRNA

**Specific Targeting:** CCK-BR is overexpressed in PC

**Protected Therapeutic Delivery:** 45-48 nm nanoparticle size allows for increased penetration into the highly desmoplastic pancreatic tumor microenvironment

### 2) Therapeutic Application

**Therapeutic Payload:** siRNA targeting gastrin slows cancer growth and metastasis

**Cancer Specificity:** CCK-BR + gastrin siRNA combo only effects tumor cells and reduces off-target toxicity

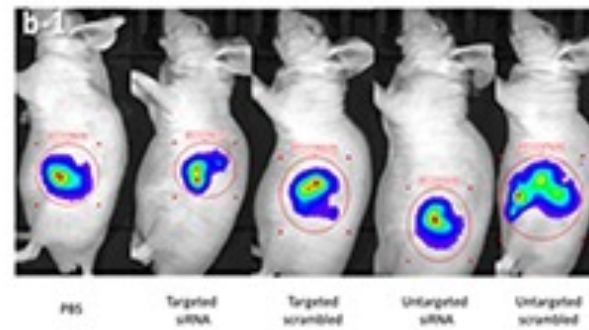
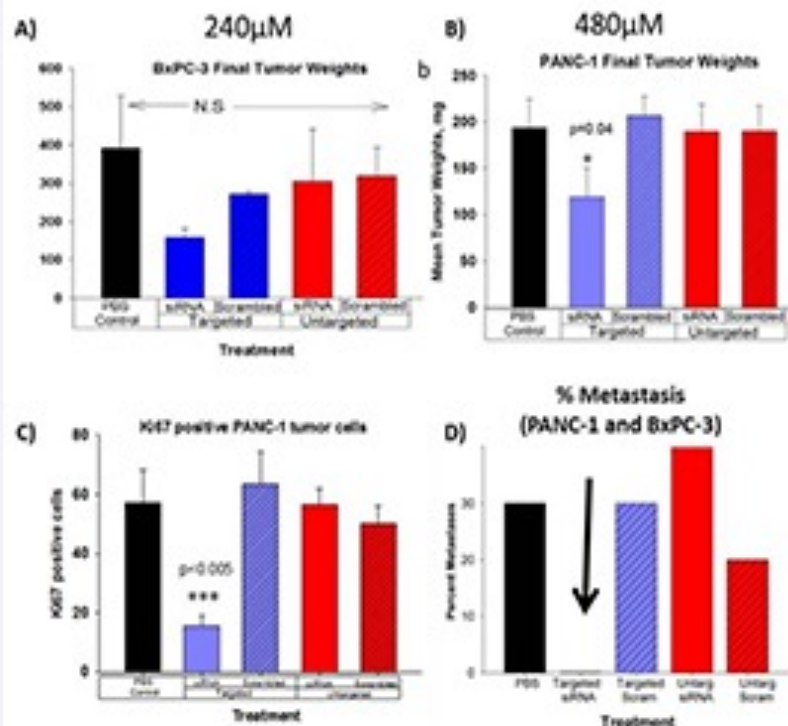
### 3) Imaging Diagnostic Application

**Imaging Payload:** siRNA conjugated to a fluorescent or PET radiotracer

**Pre-Cancerous Detection:** In PanIN-3 lesions

# CCK-BR nanoparticles

## CCK-BR targeted nanoparticles



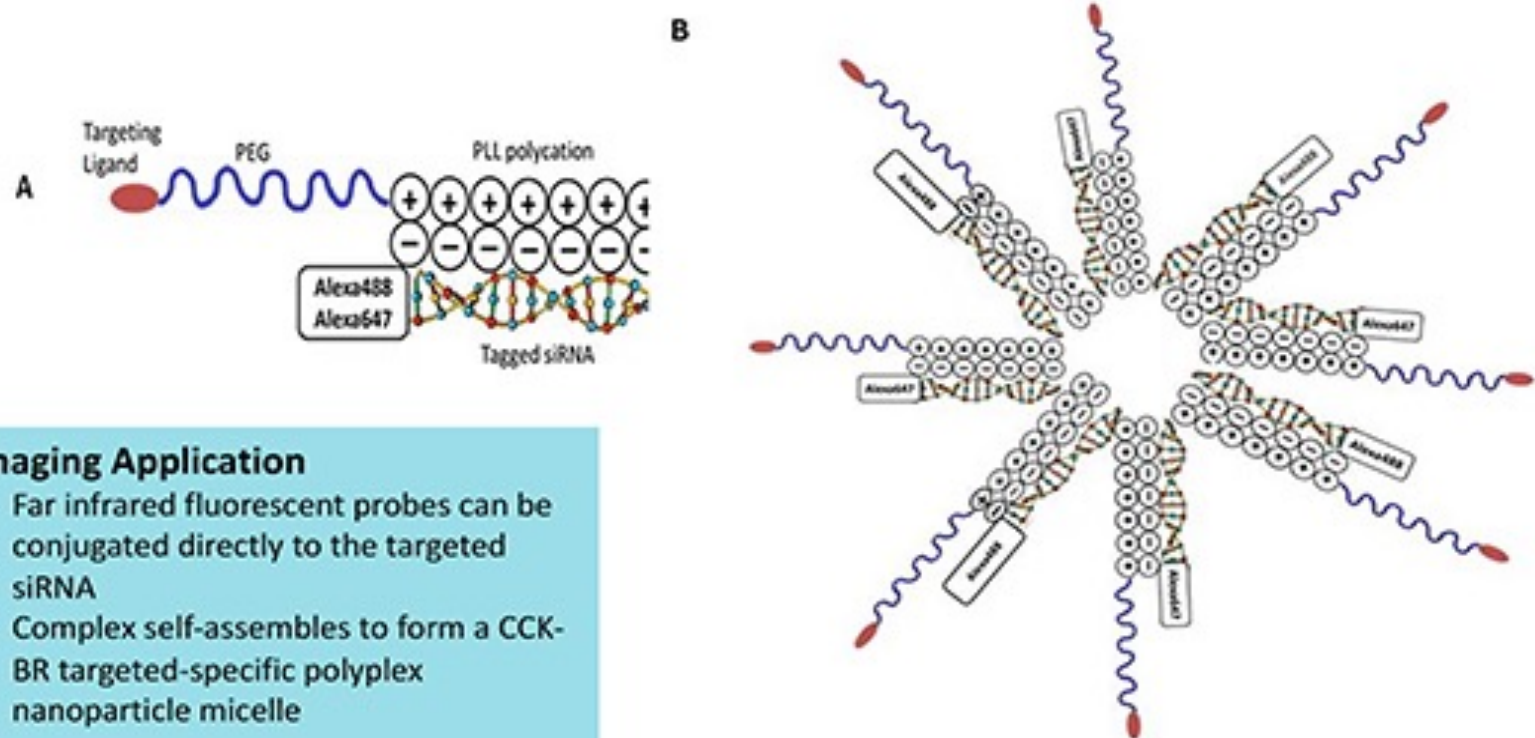
### CCK-BR-Targeted siRNA Delivery for Pancreatic Cancer Therapy

- **Reduced Tumor Weight:** Targeted gastrin siRNA treatment led to reduced tumor weight in BxPC-3 and PANC-1 orthotopic xenograft models- dose dependent fashion.
- **Ki67 Proliferation index:** Significantly decreased in tumors of mice treated only with targeted gastrin siRNA NPs
- **Gastrin Silencing in PC Prevented Metastasis:** Mice treated with targeted siRNA against gastrin prevented metastatic spread

# Diagnostic NP

## Early, Pre-cancer Diagnostic NP

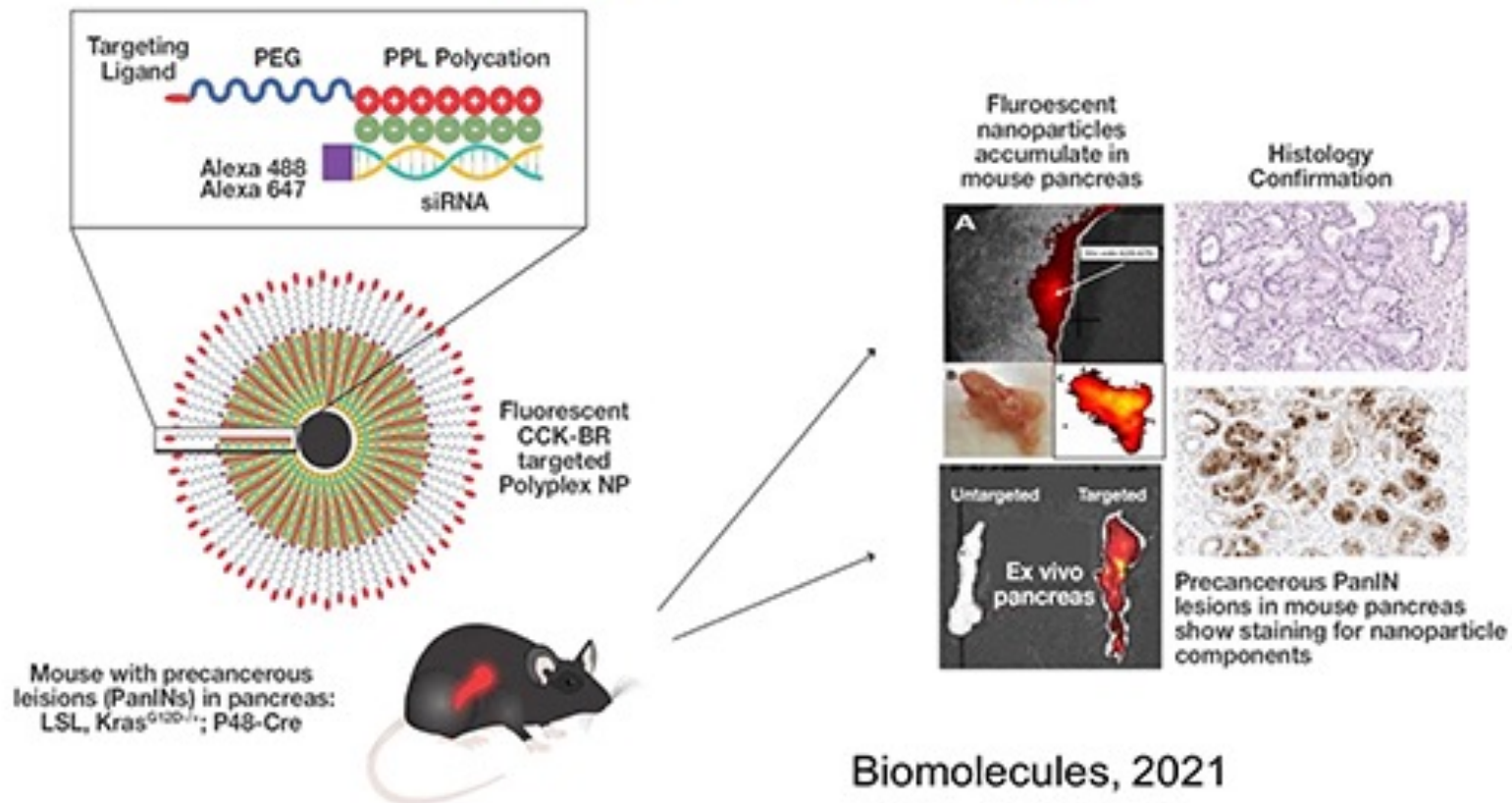
Since PanIN-3 express CCK-BR can we use it for imaging and precancer diagnosis?





# CCK-BR as a target

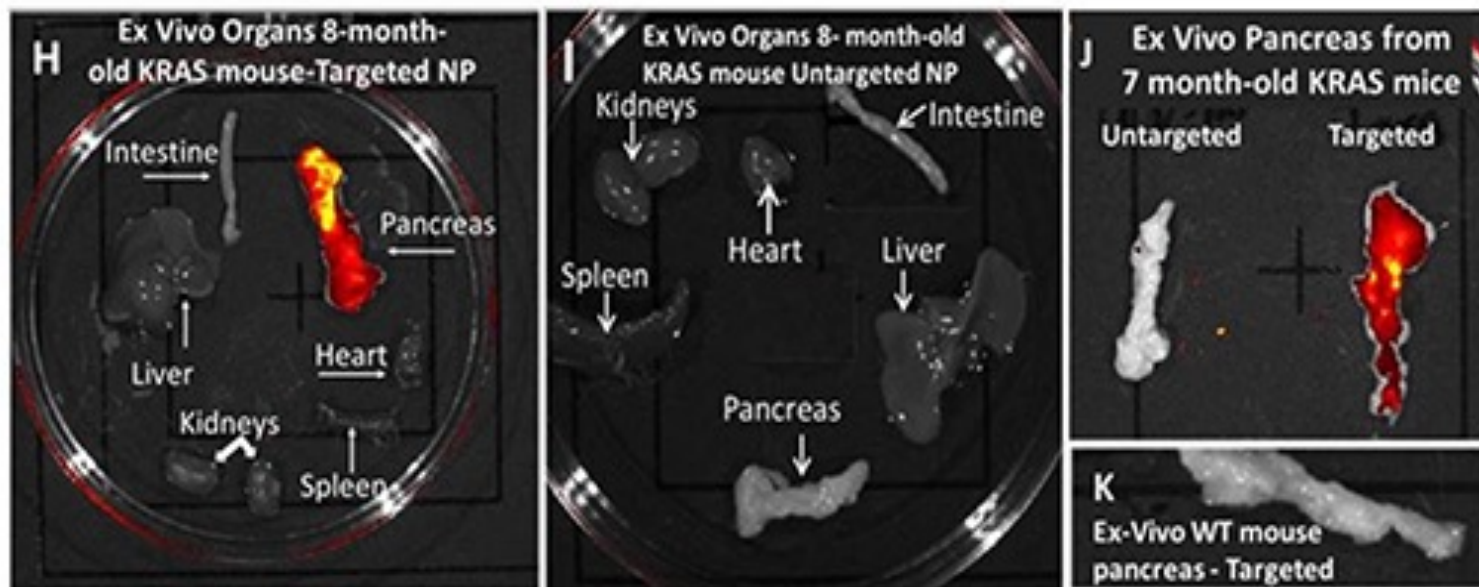
## Using the CCK-BR as a Target for imaging and therapy





# Nano imaging

## Nano-imaging Precancerous Pancreas Lesions



Targeted NP

Biomolecules, 2021  
PMID: 34944412

Untargeted NP

Developing a nanoparticle that targets the CCK-BR in early cancer or PanINs – An imaging tool PET scan.



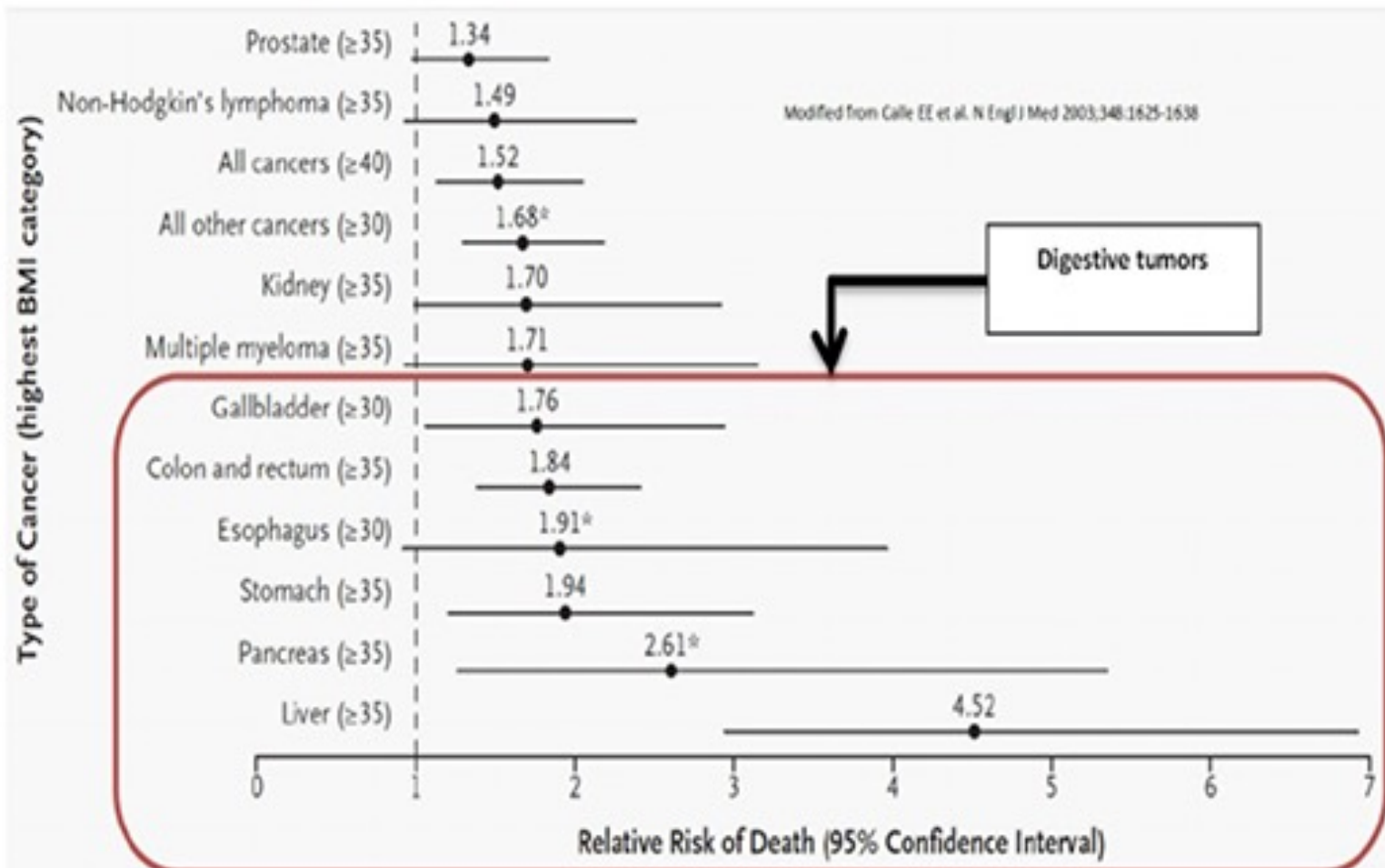
# SUMMARY

## Summary Targeting the CCK-BR in Pancreatic Cancer

1. Proglumide inhibits pancreatic & liver cancer growth by blocking signaling at the CCK-BR.
2. Proglumide therapy potentiates the efficacy of chemotherapy and immune checkpoint abs by decreasing fibrosis and changing the immune signature of the tumor microenvironment.
3. Our CCK-BR targeted biodegradable nanoparticle can image precancerous PanIN lesions in the pancreas and treat cancer without toxicity.

# Mortality and BMI

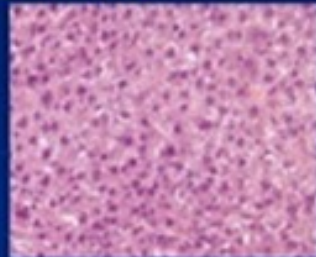
## Mortality from Cancer based on BMI



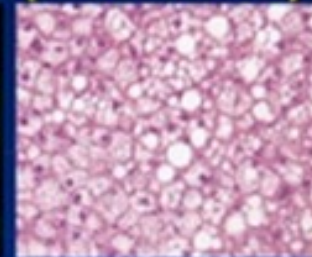
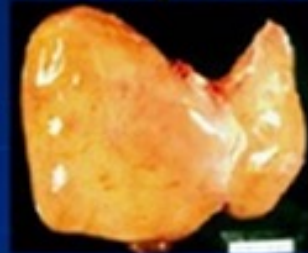
# NASH

## NASH- nonalcoholic steatohepatitis

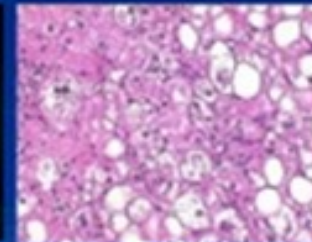
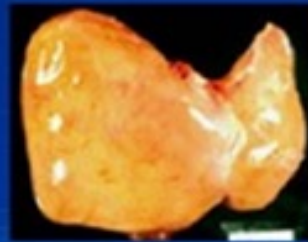
Normal liver



Fatty liver (Steatosis)



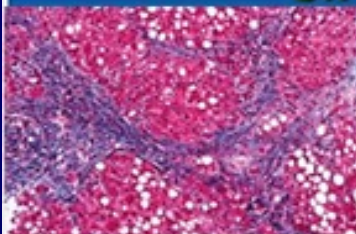
Cirrhosis



Steatohepatitis

- inflammation

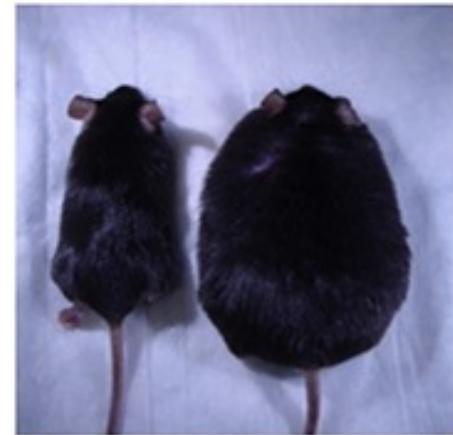
- fibrosis





# Animal Models

## High Fat Diet Animal Models



Low Fat



Control

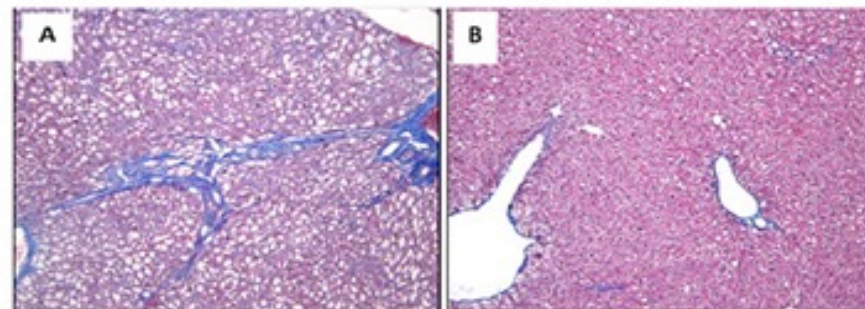
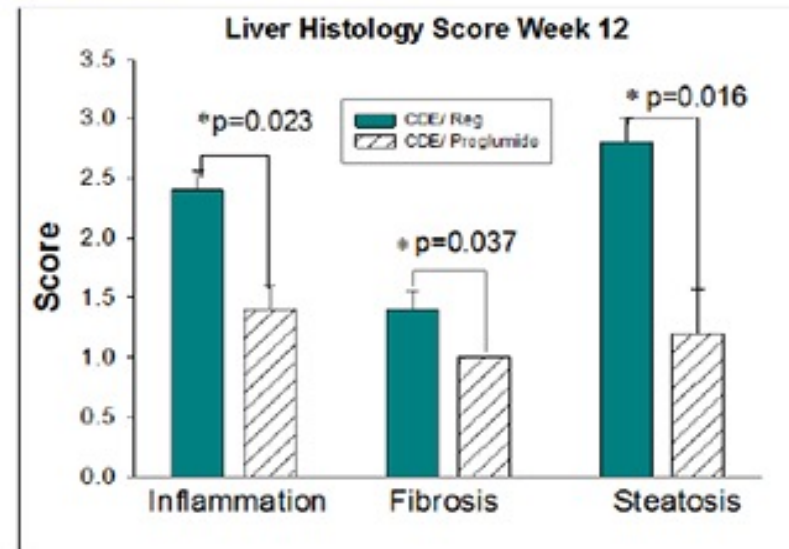
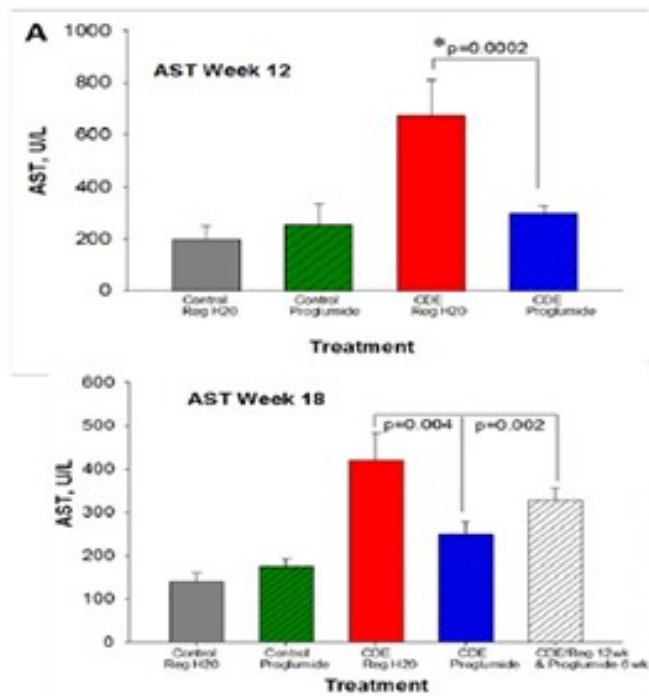


High Fat



# Proglumide reverses NASH

## Proglumide reverses NASH in High Fat CDE mouse model



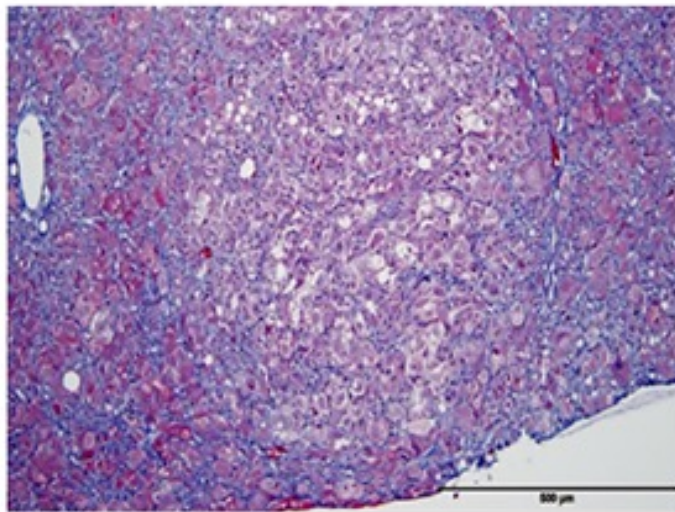
Control

Proglumide

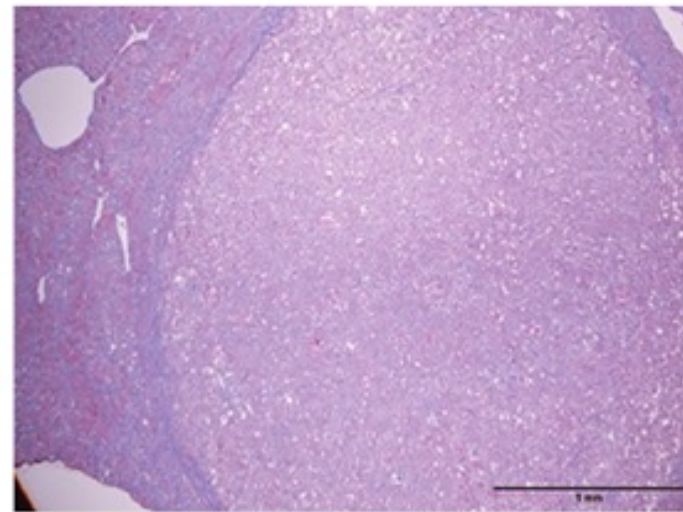
# HCC prevention

## Proglumide Prevented HCC

- *Dig Dis Sci.* 2020;65(1):189–203. PMID: 31297627



Week-18, CDE/Reg 10X  
Dysplastic Nodule



Week-18, CDE/Reg 4X  
Hepatocellular Cancer



Normal Mouse  
Liver



Mice on CDE diet show  
several foci of HCC



# Clinical studies

## Clinical studies Bench to Bedside Human Clinical Trials

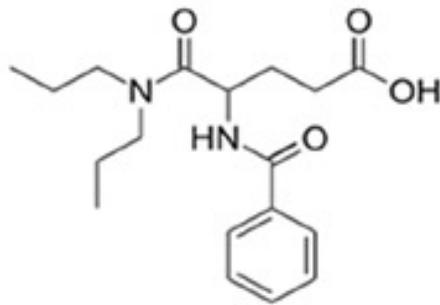
1. Treating NASH - nonalcoholic steatohepatitis to prevent liver cancer -Completed
2. Safety study in cirrhosis patients to reverse fibrosis- Completed
3. Pancreatic cancer study- proglumide with chemotherapy
4. Chronic pancreatitis study – ongoing
5. Liver cancer study- proposed



# Phase 1 Study

## Phase 1 Study in NASH

Published Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics



**Proglumide**

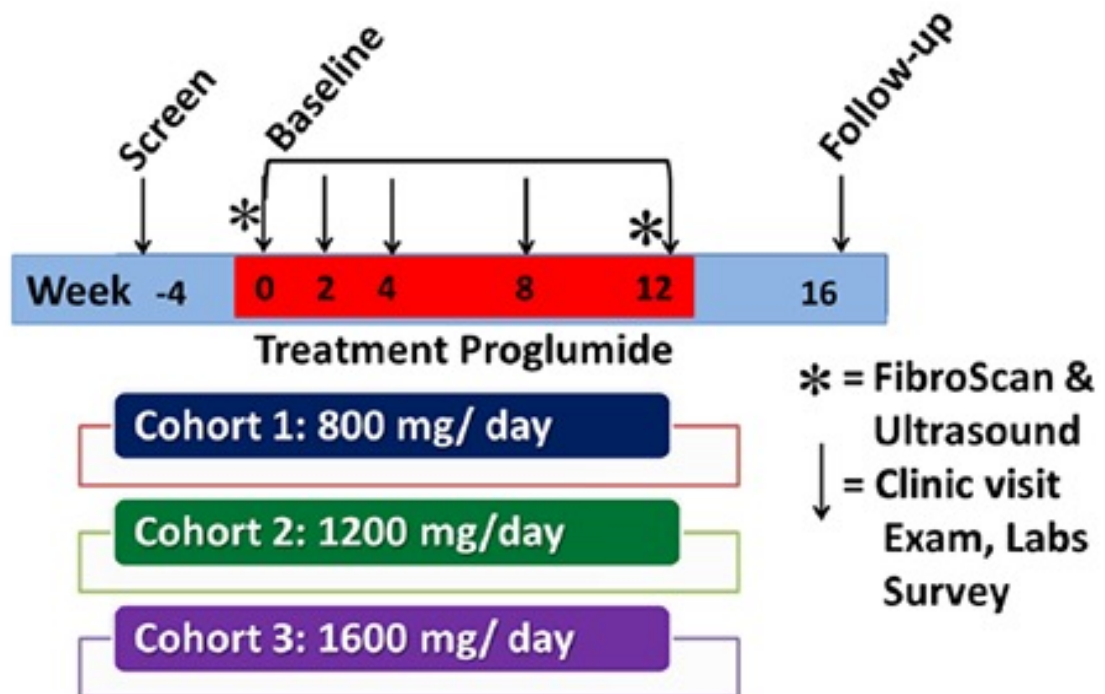
FDA IND#: 143696

[www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)

NCT # 04152473

Vegan capsules: 400 mg

Funded by NCI grant

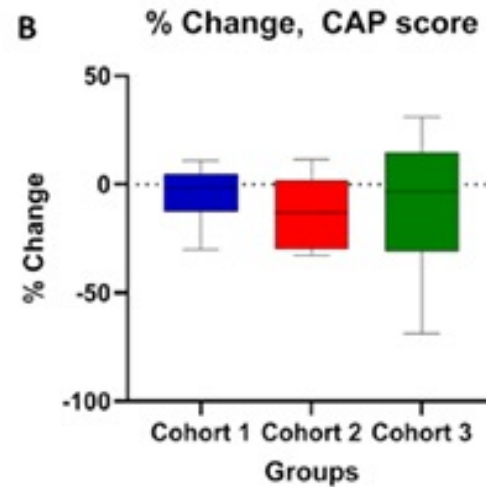
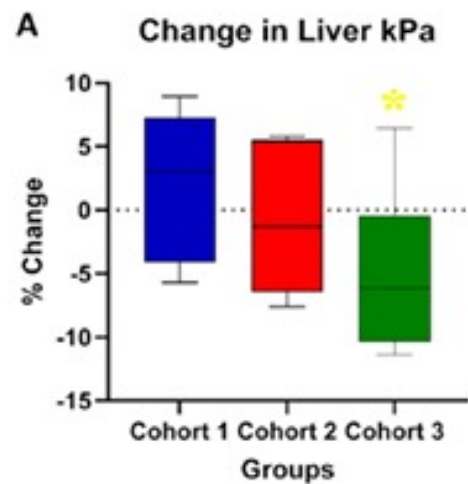
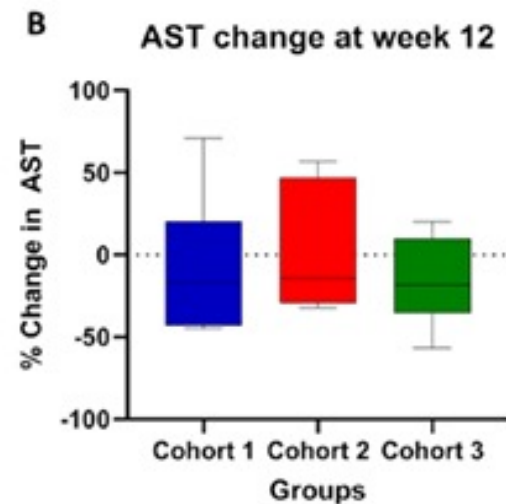
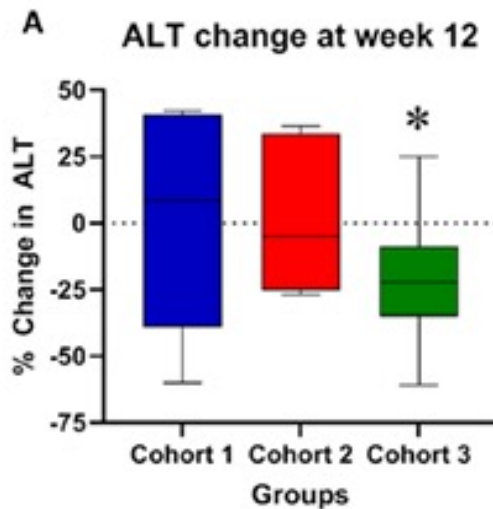


<https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.2745>

# Proglumide in NASH

## Proglumide in NASH

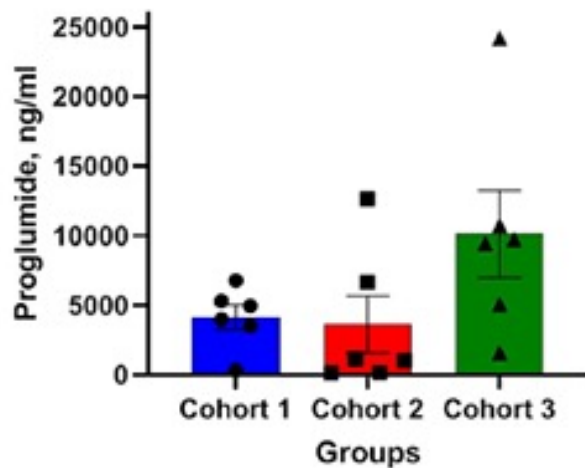
<https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.2745>



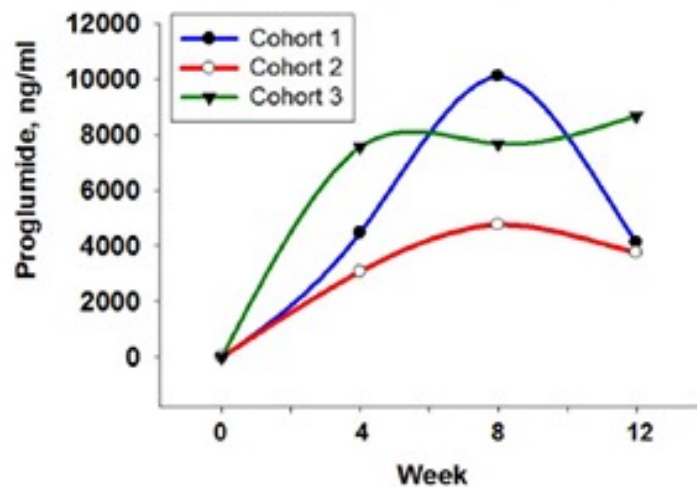
# Proglumide blood levels

Proglumide blood levels  
From Phase 1 study

**A** Week-12 Proglumide Blood Values



**B** Proglumide levels over time per cohort

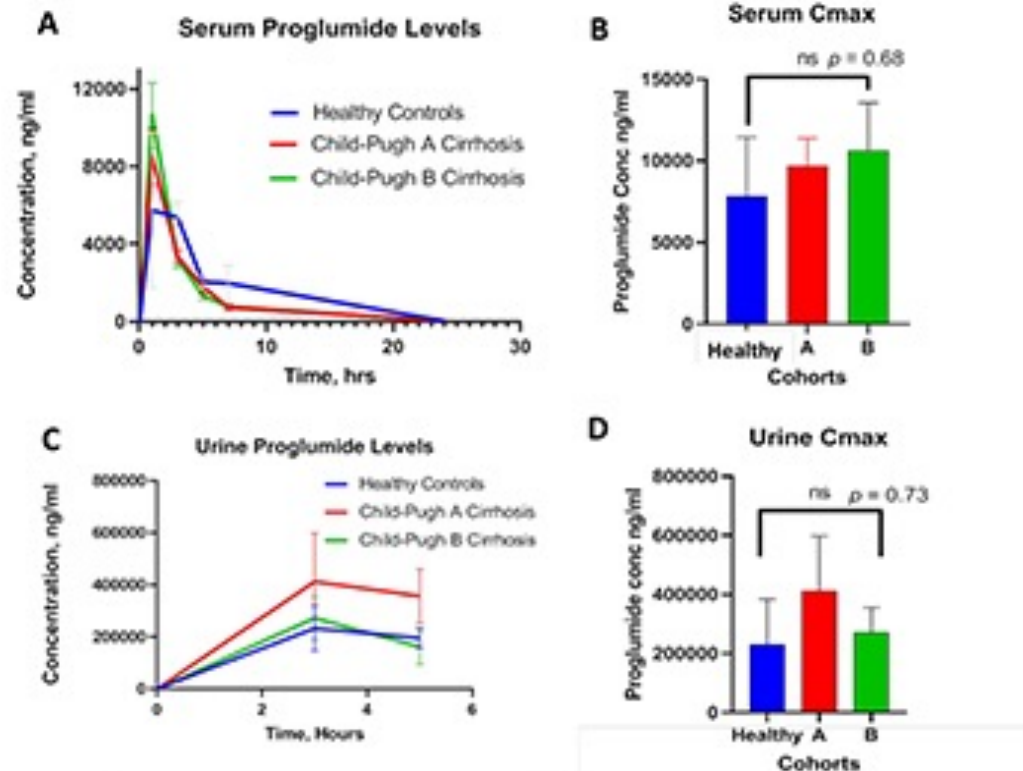


**AEs: Only mild, none in Cohort 3 and no one had to discontinue drug**

<https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.2745>

# Proglumide in hepatic impaired

## Proglumide in Hepatic Impaired; Child Pugh A& B Cirrhosis



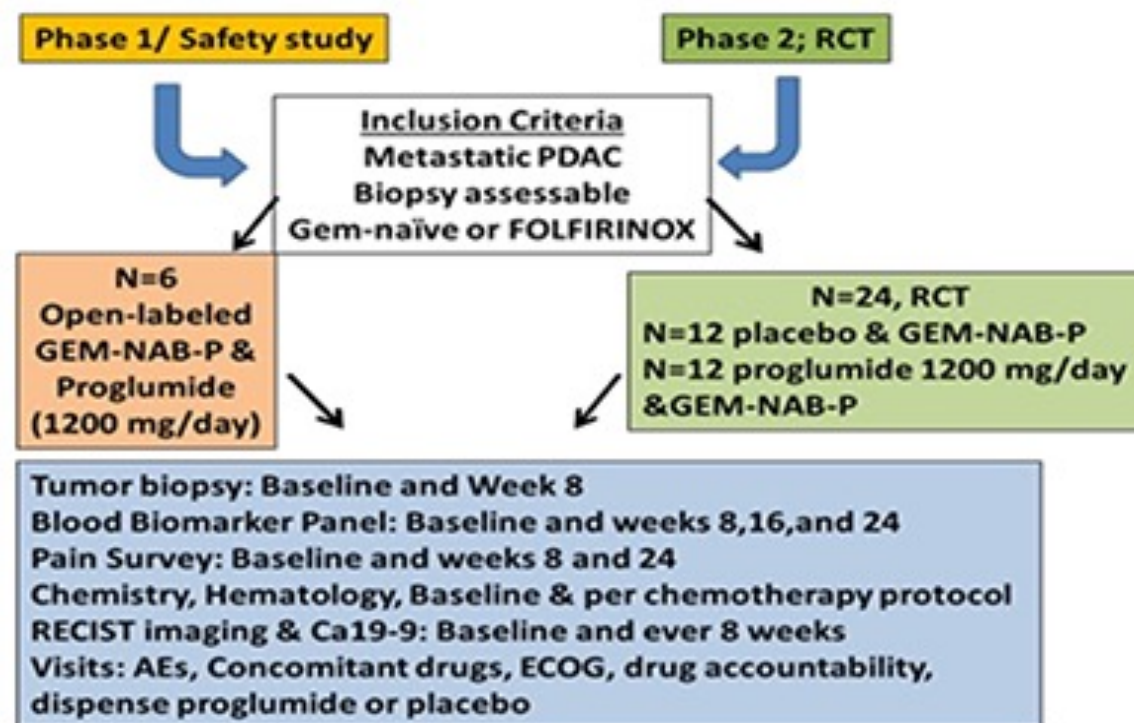
Pharmaceutics. 2022 Mar 12;14(3):627. PMID: 35336003;  
[www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) (NCT04814602)



# Pancreatic cancer clinical studies

## Current clinical studies

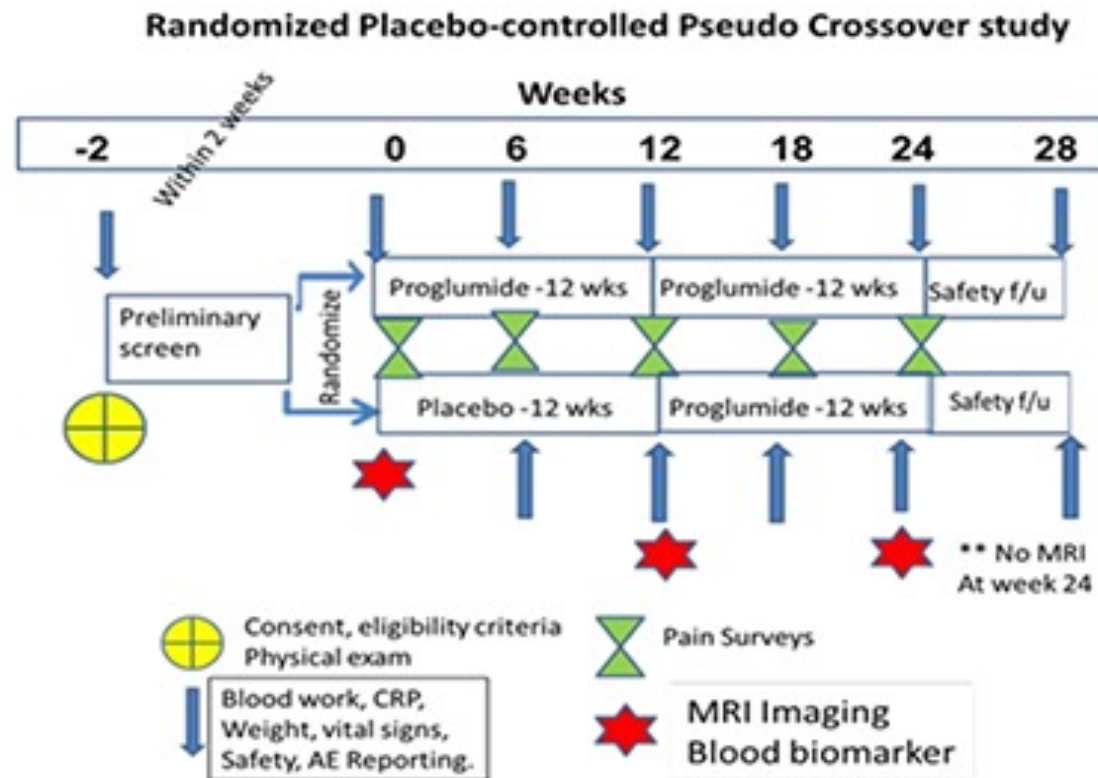
## Pancreatic cancer



Secured Orphan Drug designation for proglumide in pancreatic cancer.  
The drug has been licensed to a company for development.

# Current clinical studies

## Current Clinical Studies- Chronic pancreatitis



Chronic pancreatitis is a risk factor for pancreatic cancer

# Which way to go?

Which way to go?

Explore the anti-fibrotic effect in other diseases (cirrhosis, chronic pancreatitis)

Nanoparticle that targets the CCK-BR





# Pancreatic cancer patients

Pancreatic cancer patients  
(with permission)



**Bobbie**



**Michelle**



# Acknowledgements

## Acknowledgements: Funding

NCI- R01, Plasticity of the CCK-BR  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Gap Institutional Funding  
Harrington Discovery Scholar Award



Thanks to  
Our mouse  
volunteers

# Smith lab



**SMITH  
LAB  
&  
Team**

