



**WNT**RESEARCH

Preventing the metastatic process

Non-confidential presentation, March 2022

# Disclaimer

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# Introduction to WntResearch

- The Company's drug candidate Foxy-5 is intended to prevent the metastatic process in cancer diseases. Foxy-5 is a peptide mimicking the protein WNT5A. In vitro and in pre-clinical studies with Foxy-5 has shown a radical prevention of tumour spread by reconstituting WNT5A signalling.
- WntResearch is initially focusing on stage II/III colon cancer, a patient population with a high medical unmet need with more than 280 000 potential patients annually eligible for Foxy-5 treatment.
- The Company is currently running a phase 2 study (NeoFox) with Foxy-5 in 27 hospitals in Spain and Hungary to evaluate safety and efficacy in stage II/III colon cancer patients.
- To date more than 105 patients have been randomised to the NeoFox study and initiated treatment. Based on the Company's updated study protocol and study plan a first readout from 120 evaluable patients through an interim analysis is expected late 2022.
- In parallel with running the NeoFox study, the Company has initiated commercial grade scale up of a novel and patented formulation and manufacturing method for Foxy-5.
- Also, activities are underway to understand and extend the clinical potential of Foxy-5.
- New patent applications strengthen and significantly extend the patent protection of the future commercial drug product.
- The Company's board and management team has successively been strengthened with competence to execute the Company's clinical development plan and exit strategy.

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Listing venue                          | Spotlight since 2010                  |
| Ticker                                 | WNT                                   |
| Cash position <sup>1)</sup>            | SEK ~46 millions<br>(~ €4,4 millions) |
| Company founded                        | 2007                                  |
| Headquarters                           | Malmö                                 |
| No. of employees<br>(incl.consultants) | 6                                     |
| Acting CEO                             | Gudrun Anstrén                        |
| Total investment to date               | SEK 262 millions                      |

1) As of December 31, 2021

# Colon cancer, unmet needs and Foxy-5

**18m**

Global cancer incidence

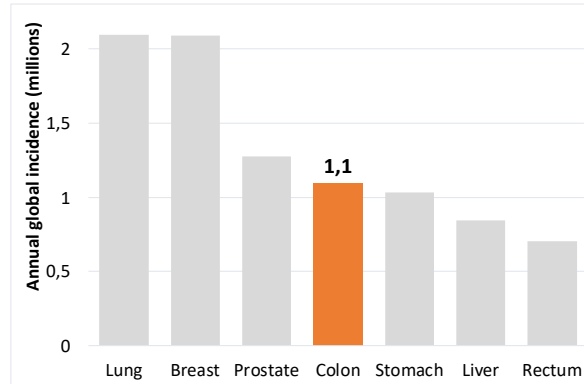
**10m**

Annual deaths

Colon cancer is the fourth most common cancer type<sup>1</sup>

**1.1m**

Colon cancer incidence



Survival rates drops drastically if metastases are formed

5-year relative survival rate in colon cancer<sup>2</sup>

regional stage **71 %**



metastatic stage **14 %**

Tumour metastasis is, largely, responsible for the mortality in colon cancer<sup>3</sup>

**Preventing the metastatic process is a major unmet need in cancer treatment to avoid relapse and death**

Foxy-5 represents a large sales opportunity in colon cancer alone

**1.1m (+2.6 % CAGR)**

Global colon cancer incidence<sup>1</sup>

**286.000**

Annual stage II and III treatment eligible pool<sup>1</sup>

**>\$500m**

Annual global sales in colon cancer indication

All data by year 2018

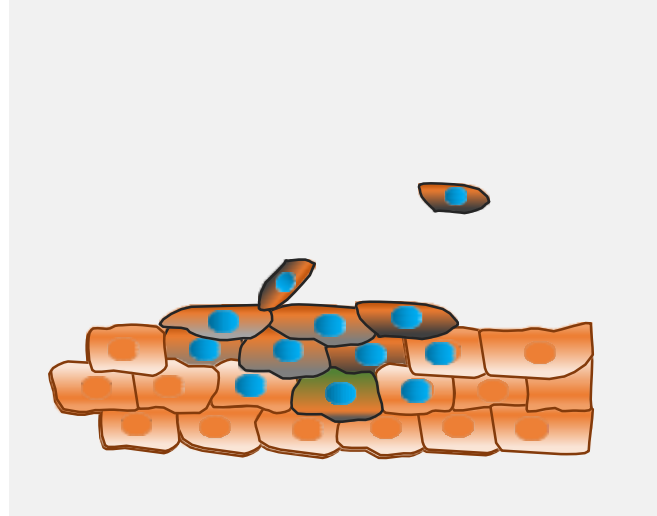
Source: (1) GLOBOCAN 2018; Global Cancer Observatory. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer.

(2) American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2020. Atlanta, Ga: American Cancer Society; 2020.

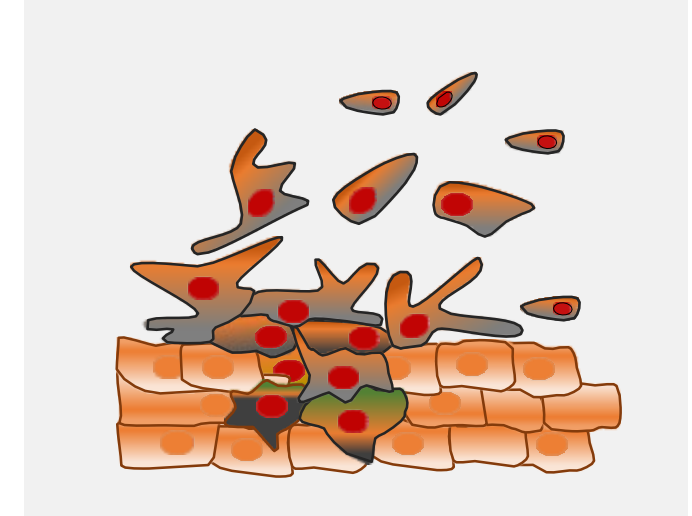
(3) Chaffer CL, Weinberg RA. A perspective on cancer cell metastasis. Science. 2011 Mar 25;331(6024):1559-64.

# WNT5A as a concept to prevent the metastatic process

- The major effect of WNT5A is to impair migration and invasion of tumour cells
- WNT5A-induced signalling events leads to:
  - increased adherence of a cell to its neighbouring cells
  - increased adhesion to the surrounding connective tissue components
- Results in a decreased ability of the cell to migrate



*A tumour with a lot of WNT5A releases few tumour cells which can metastasize*



*A tumour with little WNT5A releases many tumour cells which can metastasize*



However: WNT5A is not a candidate drug due to its limited distribution in the body



# WNT5A is deemed to have a prognostic factor for disease recurrence

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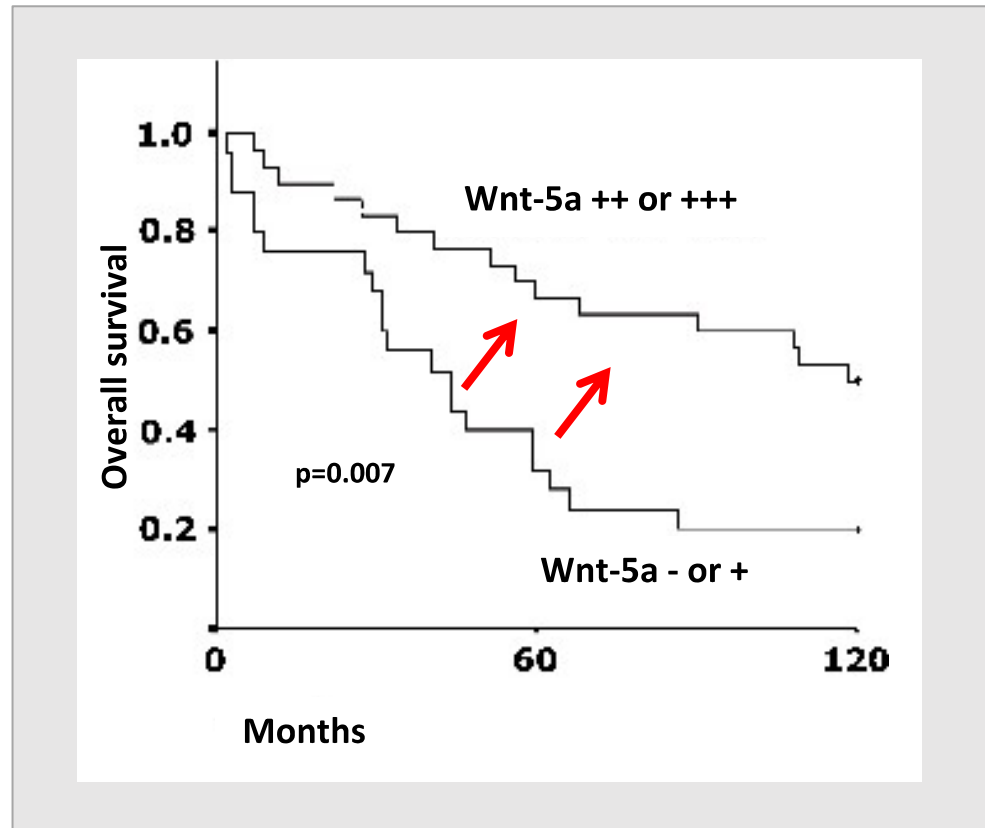
- Approximately 45 % of primary colon cancer stage II tumor tissues exhibits no or a reduced expression of the endogenous WNT5A protein <sup>1</sup>
- This percentage number is also found for primary breast cancer tissue<sup>2</sup>
- 70-75 % exhibit no or reduced WNT5A expression in triple-negative breast cancer<sup>3</sup>
- Based on these observations 70-75 % of stage III colon cancer patients are estimated to exhibit no or reduced WNT5A expression

(1) Dejmek J, Dejmek A, Säfholm A, Sjölander A, Andersson T. Wnt-5a protein expression in primary Dukes B colon cancers identifies a subgroup of patients with good prognosis. Cancer Res. 2005;65(20):9142-9146. doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-05-1710

(2) Jönsson M, Dejmek J, Bendahl PO, Andersson T. Loss of Wnt-5a protein is associated with early relapse in invasive ductal breast carcinomas. Cancer Res. 2002;62(2):409-416

(3) Prasad CP, Manchanda M, Mohapatra P, Andersson T. WNT5A as a therapeutic target in breast cancer. Cancer Metastasis Rev. 2018;37(4):767-778. doi:10.1007/s10555-018-9760-y.

# Low WNT5A correlates with disease progression in colon cancer



*Dejmek et al., Wnt-5a protein expression in primary Dukes B colon cancers identifies a subgroup of patients with good prognosis. Cancer Res. 2005*

- Patients with low expression of WNT5A in the tumour developed metastasis much earlier and faster than patients with tumours expressing WNT5A
- Consequently, patients with low WNT5A expression had a shorter cumulative survival
- Restoring WNT5A function may benefit colon cancer patients

# Discovery of Foxy-5

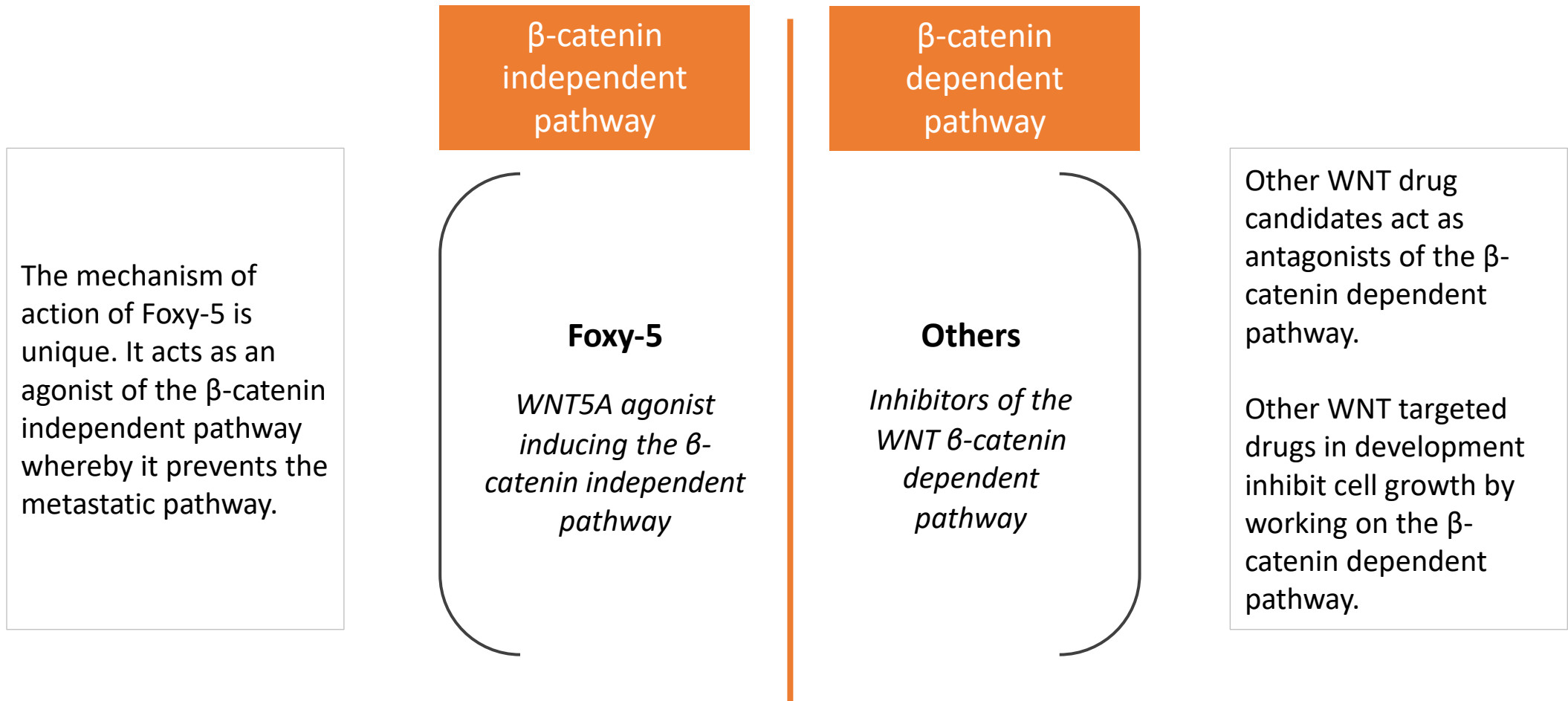
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- Recombinant WNT5A is a large protein with a MW of 38,000 Da that is post-translationally modified and possesses a high affinity domain for binding to heparin sulphate proteoglycans that are found on mammalian cell surfaces.
- Thus recombinant WNT5A will have a limited distribution once it enters the body and has only a small chance of reaching the tumour cells, making it unsuitable as a drug candidate.
- Foxy-5 was developed to circumvent the problems associated with administering WNT5A directly to patients and to identify a suitable drug candidate that mimics the signalling and functional effects of WNT5A.
- The 14 initial peptides originating from prediction of the WNT5A structure were screened for their ability to induce activation of the collagen-binding receptor called DDR1, increase adhesion and decrease migration of WNT5A-low breast cancer cells, all known effects of the WNT5A protein.
- These screenings identified a 12-amino-acid lead candidate which was then shortened by 2 amino acids from the N-terminal side to identify the smallest possible peptide with a WNT5A mimicking effect on adhesion. Peptides consisting of 10 and 8 amino acids remained effective, but the six-amino acid peptide which had an N-terminal methionine was ineffective.
- However, we found that formylation of the N-terminal methionine completely restored and increased the ability of the six-amino-acid peptide to induce adhesion of breast cancer cells to collagen.
- The peptide was named **Foxy-5**, which is a truncation of **FO**rmylated he**X**a peptide derived from WNT5A.



# In the WNT pathway Foxy-5 acts as an agonist of the $\beta$ -catenin independent pathway

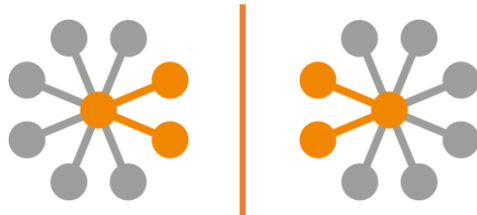
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# Foxy-5 mimics WNT5A functionality, reduces metastatic burden and number of colon cancer stem cells

## *In vitro – mimicking WNT5A functionality*

- Mimics the signalling and functional effects of the WNT5A protein<sup>1,2</sup>
- Significantly decreased the ability of WNT5A low-expressing cancer cells to migrate and invade<sup>1, 3, 4, 5, 6</sup>
- Foxy-5 increased adhesion of the cells to collagen in a dose-dependent manner<sup>1</sup>



## *In vivo – effects of Foxy-5*

### **Reduces metastatic burden**

- A 70 % reduction in liver metastasis and up to 90 % reduction in lung metastasis<sup>4</sup>
- A reduced metastatic spread to regional and distant lymph nodes by 90 % and 75 %<sup>4</sup>
- An anti-metastatic effect on circulating tumour cells with more than 50 % reduction in lung

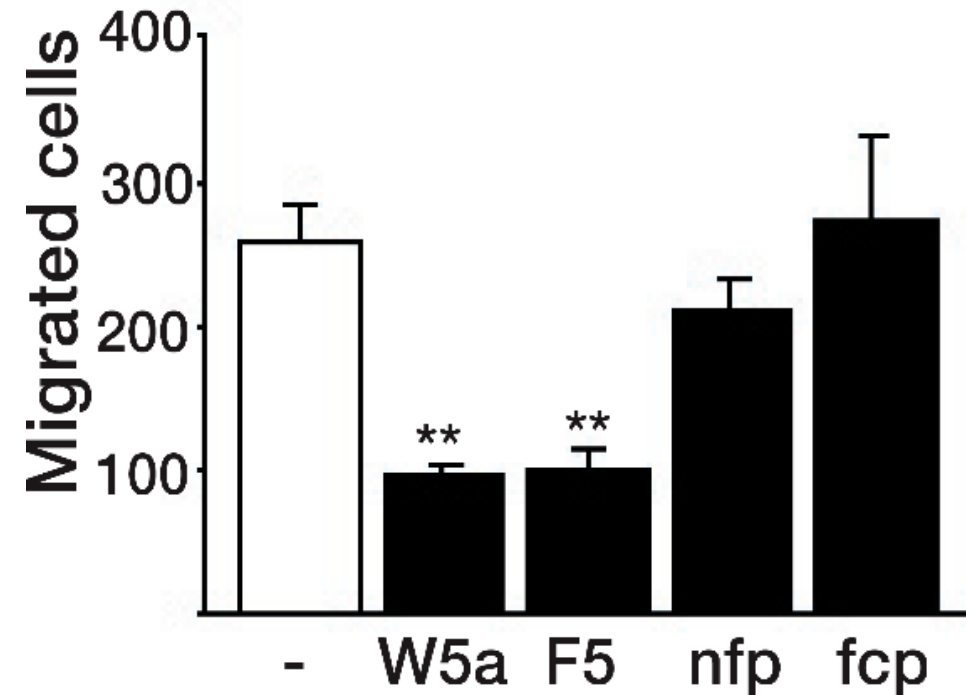
### **Reduces number of colon cancer stem cells**

- A 30% reduction in expression of the specific colon cancer stem cell marker DCLK-1<sup>8</sup>

- (1) Säfholm A, Leandersson K, Dejmek J, Nielsen CK, Villoutreix BO, Andersson T. A formylated hexapeptide ligand mimics the ability of Wnt-5a to impair migration of human breast epithelial cells. J Biol Chem. 2006;281(5):2740-2749. doi:10.1074/jbc.M508386200
- (2) Mehdawi LM, Prasad CP, Ehrnström R, Andersson T, Sjölander A. Non-canonical WNT5A signaling up-regulates the expression of the tumor suppressor 15-PGDH and induces differentiation of colon cancer cells. Mol Oncol. 2016;10(9):1415-1429. doi:10.1016/j.molonc.2016.07.011
- (3) Khaja AS, Helczynski L, Edsjö A, et al. Elevated level of wnt5a protein in localized prostate cancer tissue is associated with better outcome. PLoS One. 2011;6(10). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0026539
- (4) Säfholm A, Tuomela J, Rosenkvist J, Dejmek J, Härkönen P, Andersson T. The wnt-5a-derived hexapeptide Foxy-5 inhibits breast cancer metastasis in vivo by targeting cell motility. Clin Cancer Res. 2008;14(20):6556-6563. doi:10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-08-0711
- (5) Prasad CP, Södergren K, Andersson T. Reduced production and uptake of lactate are essential for WNT5A inhibition of breast cancer migration and invasion. 2017;8(42):71471-71488.
- (6) Canesin G, Evans-Axelsson S, Hellsten R, et al. Treatment with the WNT5A-mimicking peptide Foxy-5 effectively reduces the metastatic spread of WNT5A-low prostate cancer cells in an orthotopic mouse model. PLoS One. 2017;12(9):1-19. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0184418
- (7) Prasad CP, Manchanda M, Mohapatra P, Andersson T. WNT5A as a therapeutic target in breast cancer. Cancer Metastasis Rev. 2018;37(4):767-778. doi:10.1007/s10555-018-9760-y
- (8) Osman J, Bellamkonda K, Liu Q, Andersson T, Sjölander A. The WNT5a agonist FOXY5 reduces the number of colonic cancer stem cells in a xenograft mouse model of human colonic cancer. Anticancer Res. 2019;39(4):1719-1728. doi:10.21873/anticancerres.13278

# Foxy-5 significantly reduces the metastatic burden *in vitro*

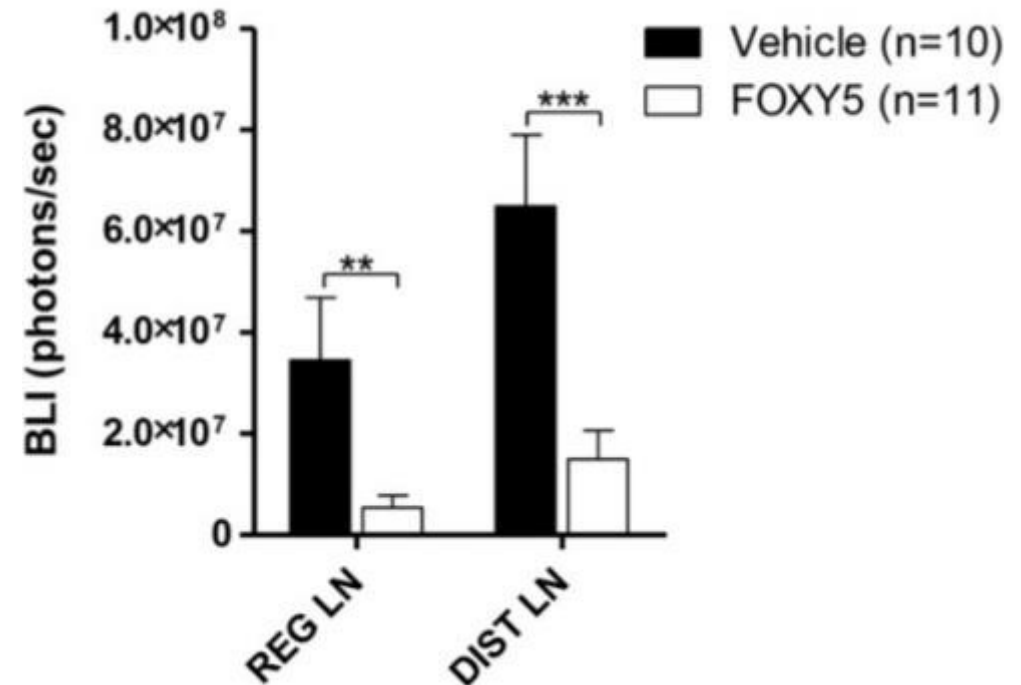
Foxy-5 inhibits cell motility in the same way as the endogenous protein WNT5A



Säfholm A, et al. (2006) A formylated hexapeptide ligand mimics the ability of WNT5A to impair migration of human breast epithelial cells. J. Biol. Chem. 281, 2740.

Foxy-5 significantly reduces the early metastatic spread of WNT5A-low DU145 prostate cancer cells

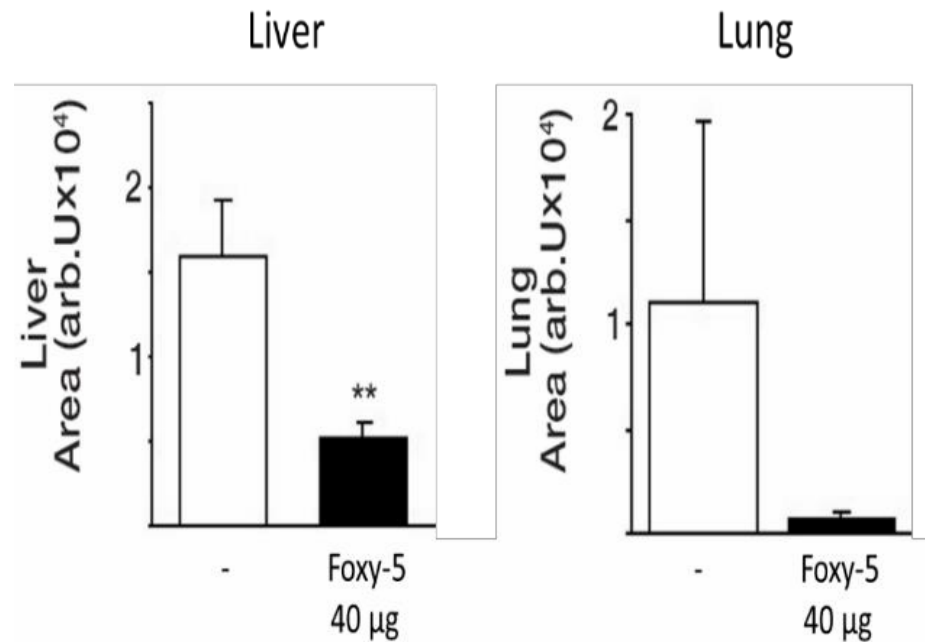
## Metastatic Burden



Canesin G, et al. (2017) Treatment with the WNT5A-mimicking peptide Foxy-5 effectively reduces the metastatic spread of WNT5A-low prostate cancer cells. PLoS ONE 12(9):e0184418

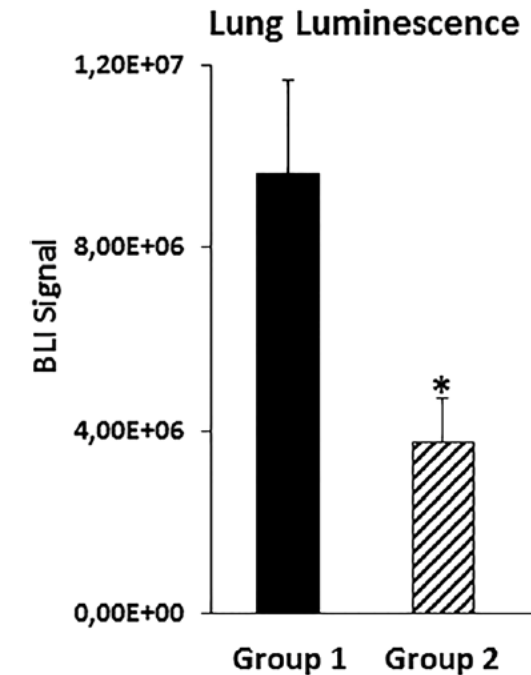
# Foxy-5 significantly reduces the metastatic burden *in vivo*

Foxy-5 reduces metastasis by 70 – 90% in a syngeneic mouse breast cancer model



Säfholm A, Tuomela J, Rosenkvist J, Dejmek J, Härkönen P, Andersson T. The wnt-5a-derived hexapeptide Foxy-5 inhibits breast cancer metastasis *in vivo* by targeting cell motility. Clin Cancer Res. 2008;14(20):6556-6563. doi:10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-08-0711

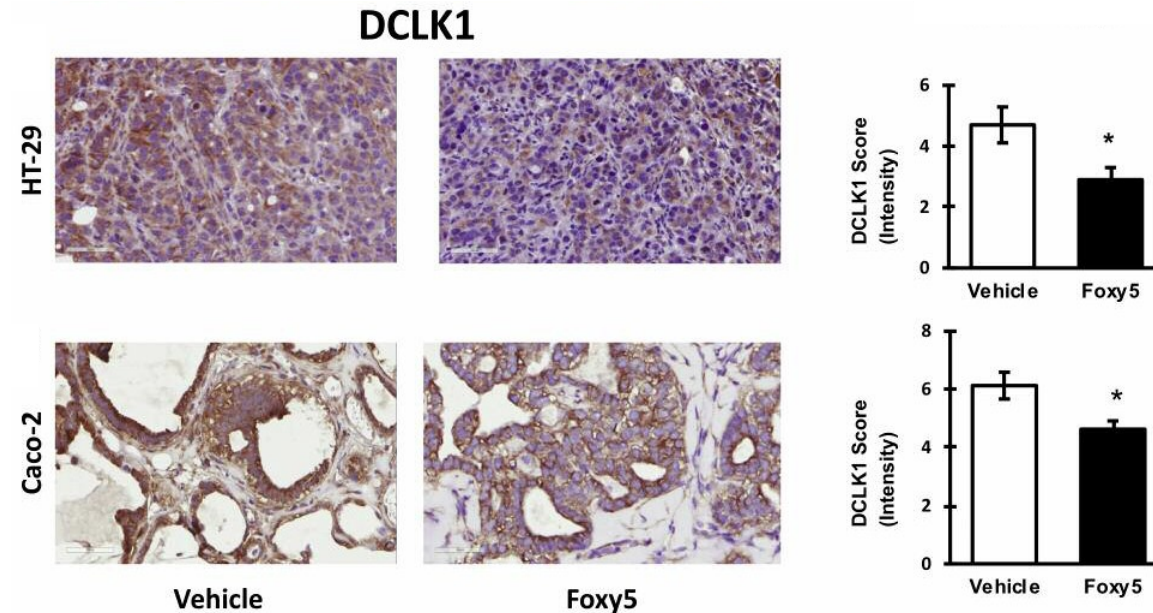
Foxy-5 reduces lung metastasis by more than 50% when injected into the tail vein - targets circulating tumour cells



Prasad CP, Manchanda M, Mohapatra P, Andersson T. WNT5A as a therapeutic target in breast cancer. Cancer Metastasis Rev. 2018;37(4):767-778. doi:10.1007/s10555-018-9760-y

# Foxy-5 reduces colon cancer stem cells

Foxy-5 reduces the number of colon cancer stem cells by approximately 30% as demonstrated by a reduced expression of the specific colon cancer stem cell marker DCLK-1 in two different human colon cancer cell lines



Osman J, Bellamkonda K, Liu Q, Andersson T, Sjölander A. The WNT5a agonist FOXY5 reduces the number of colonic cancer stem cells in a xenograft mouse model of human colonic cancer. *Anticancer Res.* 2019;39(4):1719-1728. doi:10.21873/anticancerres.13278

# Non-clinical program, non-GLP and GLP toxicology

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- All studies were done with daily i.v. administrations, rat (0.08-8 mg/kg) and dog (0.025- 2.5 mg/kg)
- 14 days and 4 weeks in dog & rat
  - 6 month in rat
  - 9 month in dog
- No relevant negative effects were observed
- Supplementary studies 14 days and 4 weeks with 8-72 mg/kg in rat showed no relevant negative effects
- Toxicokinetic demonstrate almost linear kinetics
- Genotoxicity studies (Ames' and micronucleus test) established no risk

# Foxy-5 has a an excellent safety profile and formulated for easy administration

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## ***Toxicology***

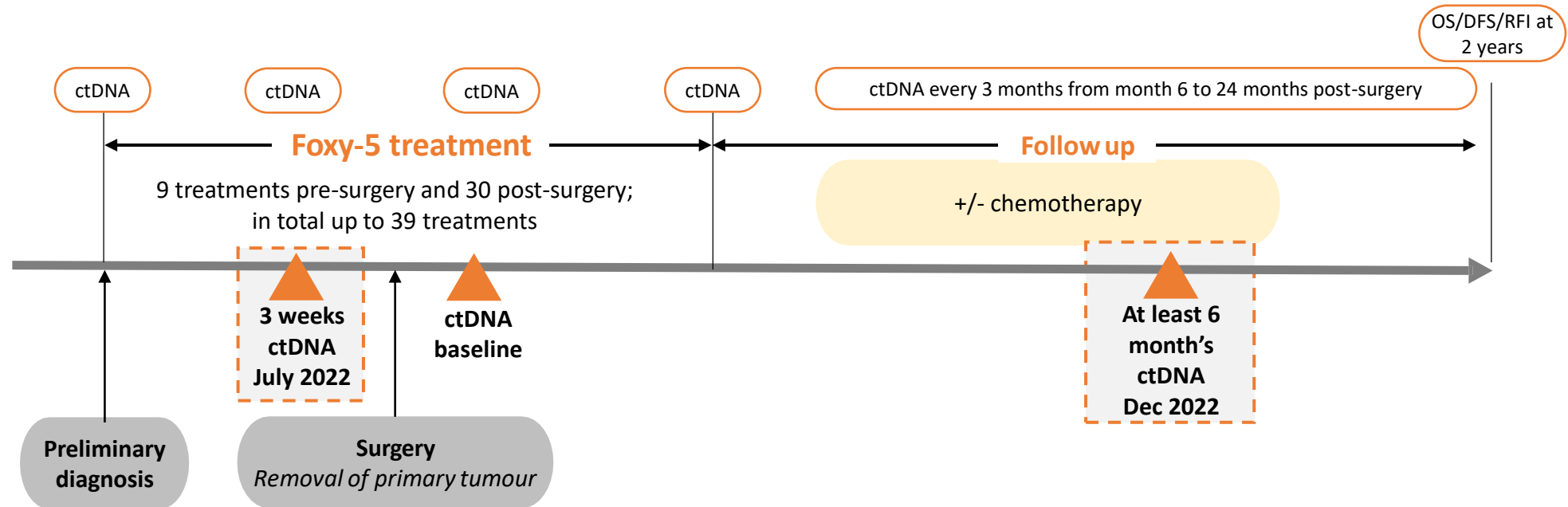
- Toxicological studies demonstrate no relevant negative effects
- Toxicokinetics displays almost linear kinetics with correlation between dose given and measured levels in plasma
- Genotoxicity studies established no risk and confirms Foxy-5 as safe

## ***Formulation & manufacturing***

- Foxy-5 is freeze-dried together with an lyoprotectant that allow for a stable product with long shelf life
- Manufactured according to GMP guidelines
- The product readily dissolves in saline for infusion



# NeoFox study to demonstrate proof of concept in colon cancer

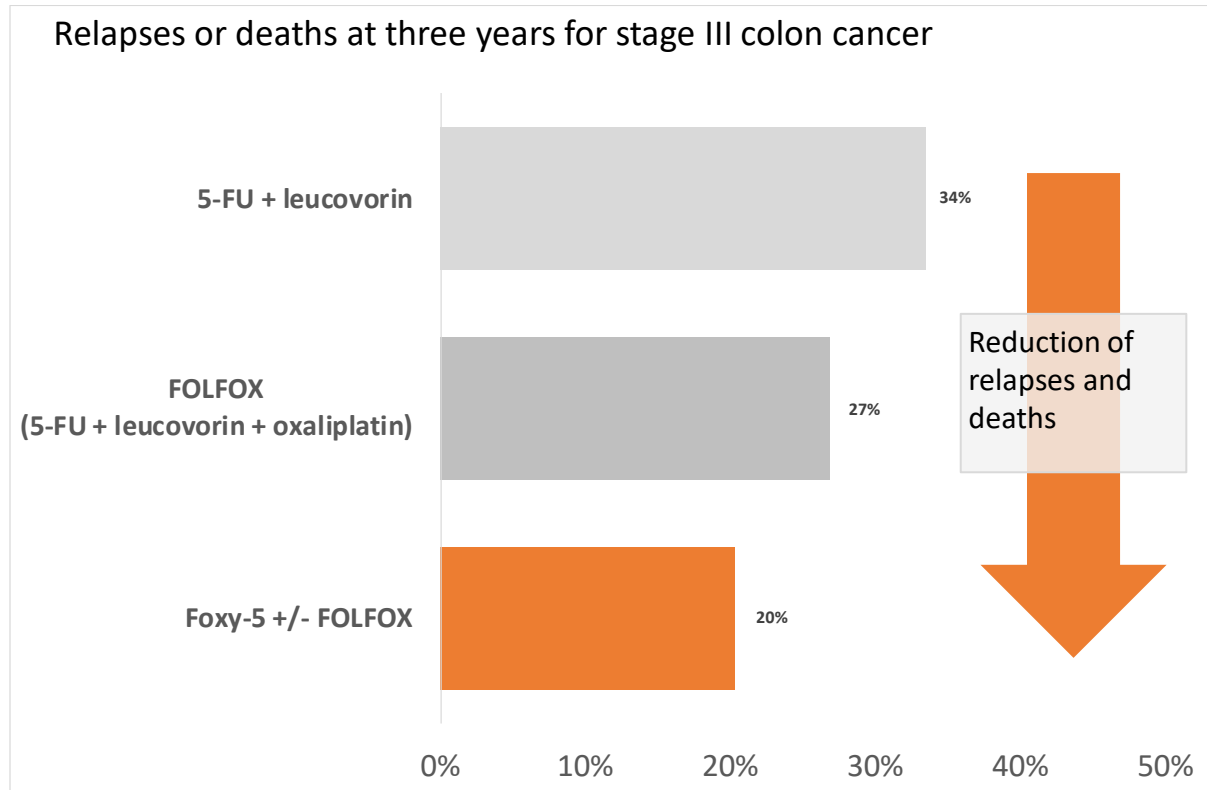


- Patients with stage II and III colon cancer
- Patients considered eligible for chemotherapy at preliminary diagnosis
- **First interim read outs** of Foxy-5 vs control group 1:1 with 60+60 patients, 120 evaluable patients in total, estimated to **second half of 2022**

- Interim analysis performed on (i) all-comers, (ii) high risk patients (iii) all patients based on WNT5A expression assessing;
  - ctDNA evaluated at 3 weeks follow up (est. July 2022)
  - ctDNA evaluated after at least 6 months follow up (est. Dec 2022)
- Interim analysis will indicate efficacy, guide on sample size and timelines for finalizing the NeoFox study



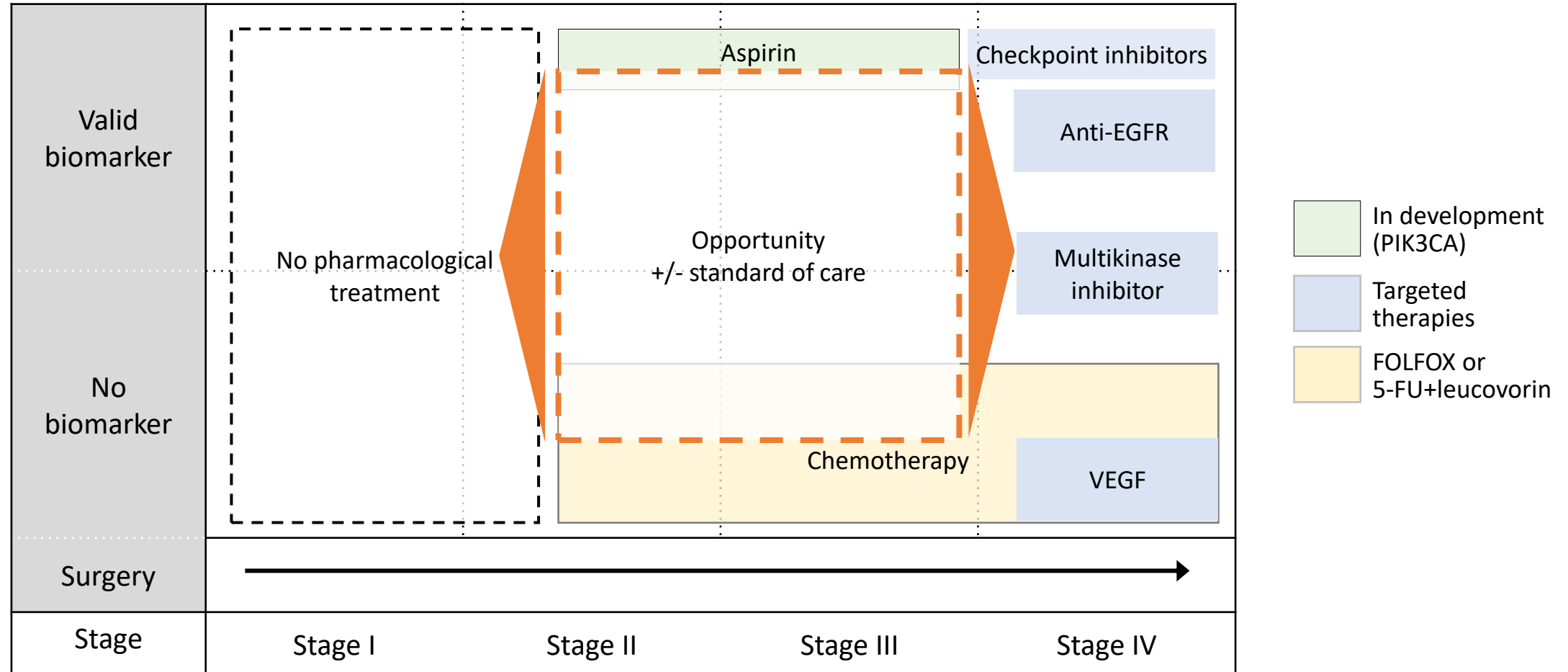
# Foxy-5 has potential to change outcomes in colon cancer



Source: DFS and relapse rates from MOSAIC study

| Foxy-5 Target Product Profile        |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Indication                           | Neoadjuvant treatment of patients carcinoma of the colon  |
| Patient population                   | Stage II and III colon cancer, planned to undergo complete resection of the primary tumour with or without FOLFOX |
| Disease-Free-Survival at three years | 20 % relapses or deaths - a 6.6 % absolute risk reduction when used on top of FOLFOX                              |
|                                      | 25 % reduction in the risk of progression   |
| Safety & Tolerability                | Safe and well-tolerated with no serious adverse effects   |

# Positioning of Foxy-5 in colon cancer represents a clear opportunity



# Competitive landscape: Foxy-5 is the only WNT targeted drug that prevents cell migration and invasion

## WNT pathway modulators, colon cancer

WNT pathway:  
230 projects

Clinical phase:  
30 WNT pathway  
projects

## 30 WNT pathway projects in clinical phase

$\beta$ -catenin independent  
pathway

1 project

Dissemination process  
of tumour cells

**Foxy-5**

*WNT5A agonist  
inducing the  $\beta$ -  
catenin independent  
pathway*

$\beta$ -catenin dependent  
pathway

29 projects

Growth and survival of  
tumour cells

**FGFR4, LGR5**

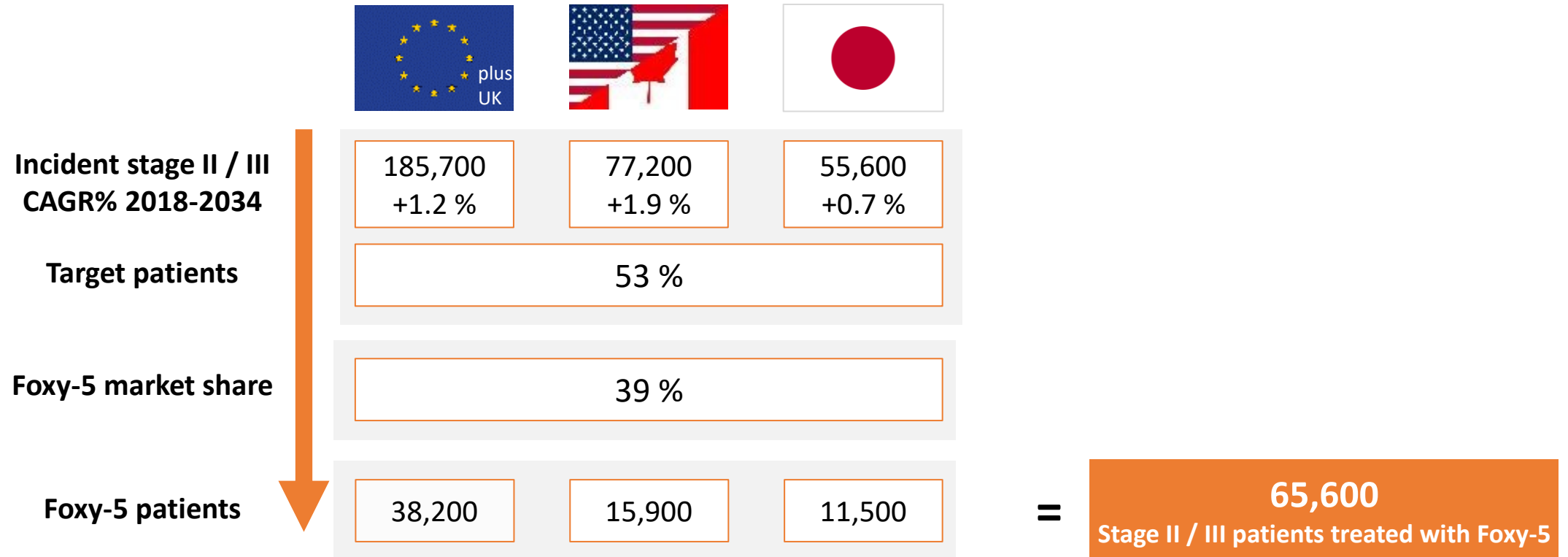
*Inhibitors of the WNT  
 $\beta$ -catenin dependent  
pathway*

**LRP5, LRP6,  
HDAC inhibitor**

*Activating casein  
kinase 1*

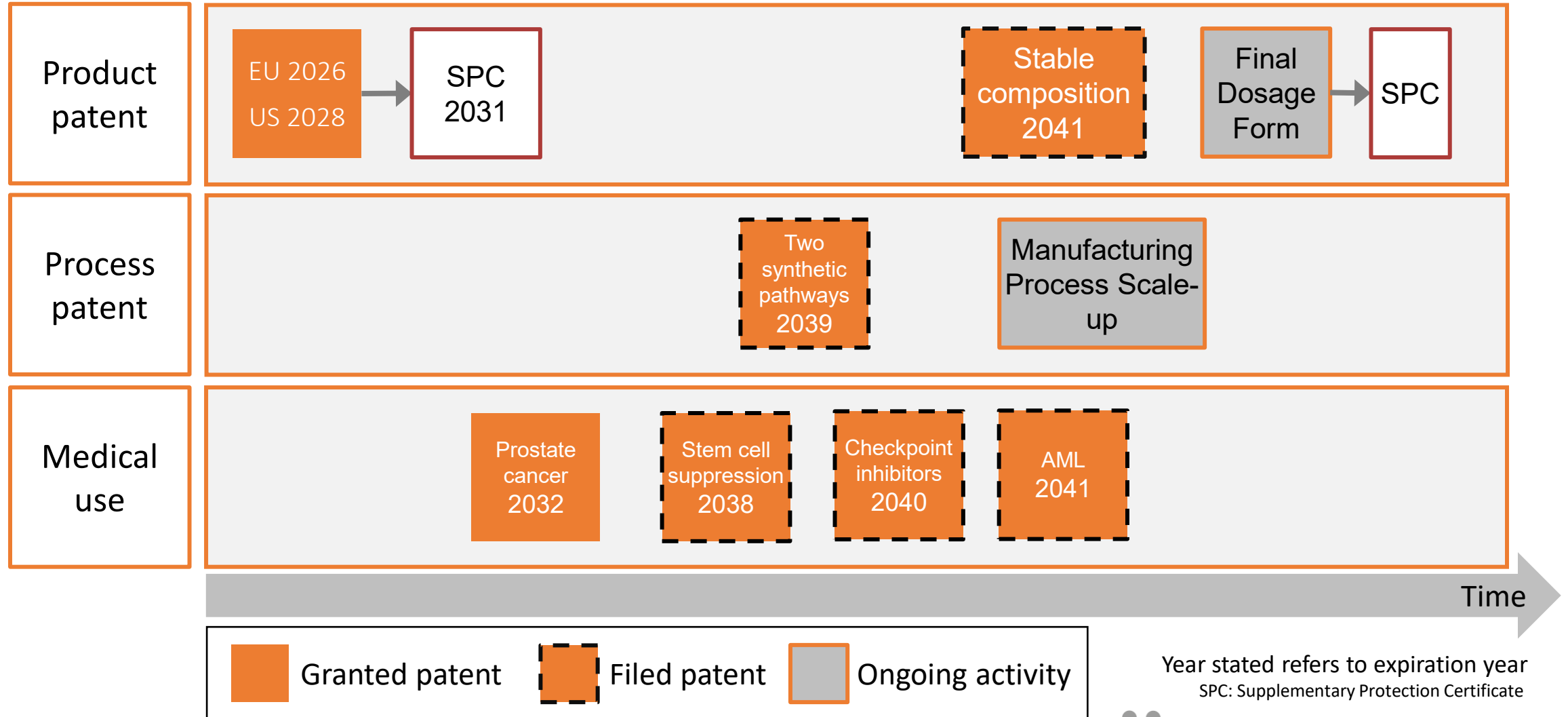
# Foxy-5 target patient populations and estimated market shares in colon cancer

Year 2033



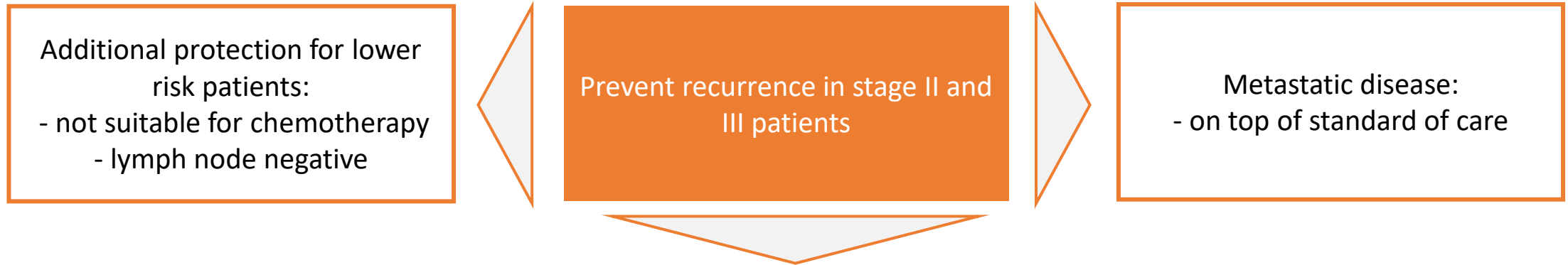
# Patent strategy relating to Foxy-5

Commercial drug substance expected to be covered by patents for an extended time period (until 2041)

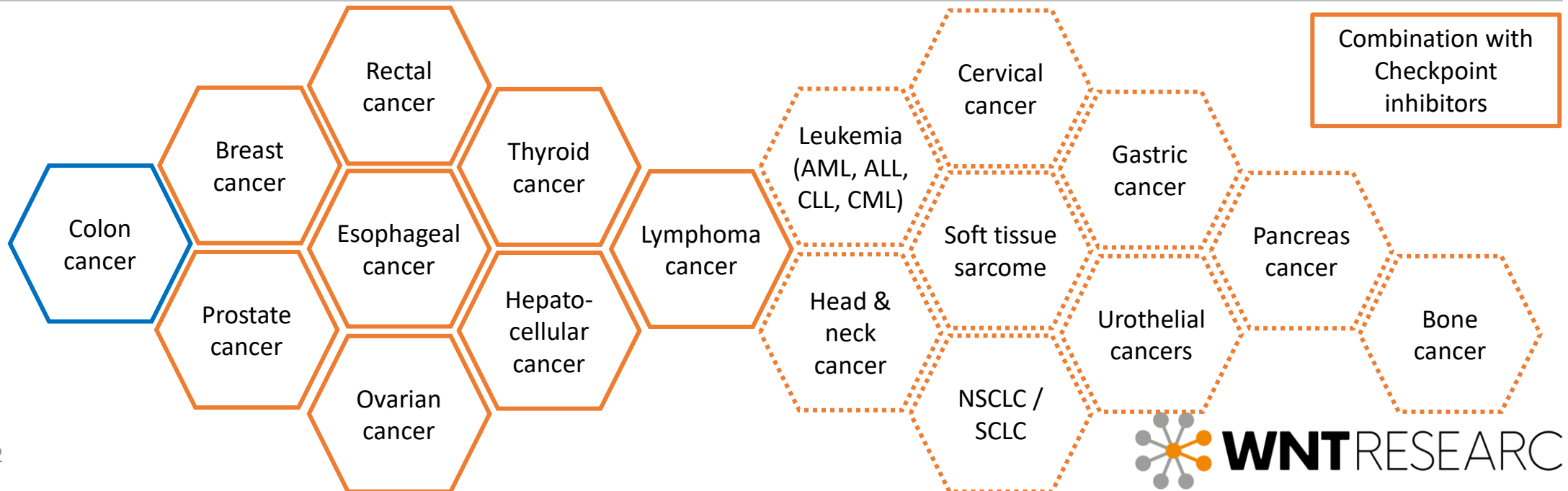


# Possible label expansions for Foxy-5

## Colon cancer



## Other cancers



# New data published for Foxy-5 in AML

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- Relapse is still a common scenario in the treatment of AML. It occurs in 40–50% of younger patients and in the vast majority of elderly.
- The global AML market is currently expected to grow sharply from \$ 1.4 billion in 2019 to \$ 5.1 billion in 2029.
- New properties has been identified indicating that Foxy-5 may be used in the treatment of AML.
- Foxy-5, by restoring WNT5a levels, could represent a strategy to counterbalance several oncogenic processes present in leukaemia by inhibiting cell growth.
- Thus, Foxy-5 treatment may be an important approach to impair AML growth and maintenance and arises as a promising therapeutic target.
- WntResearch is evaluating potential research collaborations with internationally recognized research groups to explore the opportunity.
- Read the full Abstract presented on American Society of Hematology Publications:  
<https://ashpublications.org/blood/article/138/Supplement%201/2949/478942>

802.CHEMICAL BIOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS | NOVEMBER 5, 2021

## **A Novel WNT5A-Mimicking Peptide Affects Leukemia Cell Survival in the Bone Marrow Microenvironment**

Fernanda Marconi Roversi, Maura Lima Pereira Bueno, Rafael Gonçalves Barbosa Gomes, Guilherme Rossi Assis-Mendonça, Paulo Latuf Filho, Adriana Silva Santos Duarte, Sara T Olalla Saad



*Blood* (2021) 138 (Supplement 1): 2949.

<https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2021-148744>



# Strengthening the platform for Foxy-5

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- Foxy-5 currently being evaluated in a phase 2 clinical trial in colon cancer
- Development path to market registration for Foxy-5 identified in colon cancer stage III
- New pre-clinical studies underway to explore and support Foxy-5's effects and dosing
- A Strategic Overview has identified a series of new indications of interest for Foxy-5
- New research collaborations underway during 2022 to explore options for:
  - Hematological cancers including acute myeloid leukaemia (AML)
  - Metastatic colorectal cancer on top of standard therapy for prolongation of PFS
  - Combination with checkpoint inhibitors
- WntResearch is seeking collaborative support to explore and expand the therapeutic applications of Foxy-5
- WntResearch would consider funded clinical stage collaborations in these additional indications to explore the effects of Foxy-5 in these areas of unmet need where Foxy-5 may have profound activity



# Prioritized Company targets for 2022-2023

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- To maximize patient inclusion in the NeoFox study to generate ctDNA data from 120 pts.
  - Perform an interim analysis to guide the Company in the completion of the NeoFox study with regards to sample size to reach the primary objectives of the study.
- Initiate scale up of **new manufacturing method** which indicates a considerably more cost-effective manufacturing process and to:
  - Increase solubility of reconstituted drug.
  - Further strengthening of IP.
- Continue driving **pre-clinical development** of Foxy-5 to explore **effects, dose frequency** and alternative ways of **administration**.
- **Accelerate our strategy** to develop and evaluate further clinical application of Foxy-5; including AML, metastatic colorectal cancer and combination with checkpoint inhibitors.
- **Continue business development**, commercial activities and initiate interactions with KOL and regulatory authorities.
- Intensify the Company's **search for a partner for the continued development of Foxy-5**.

# Management team



**Gudrun Anstrén**  
**Acting CEO**

Master of Science in Pharmacy  
35 years of experience within AstraZeneca/biotech  
Held senior global roles and local positions at AstraZeneca, ICI-Pharma and Zeneca  
Shares held: 19.068



**Anders Tidfors**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

BSc in Business Administration and Economics, School of Business, Economics and Law, Gothenburg University.  
Experience as a CFO and senior financial roles with national as well as international responsibilities.



**Kicki Johansson**  
**Chief Clinical Development Officer**

PhD in Medical microbiology and Immunology, University of Gothenburg. Retired from AstraZeneca 2017 as VP/senior project leader. Have worked in the biotech world as Head of Drug Development in Vicore Pharma and as a consultant. Have been directly responsible for the overall strategy and development of nearly 50 potential drug substances, with a focus on development phases from pre-clinical to end of phase 2.



**Dennis Henriksen**  
**Chief Technology Officer**

PhD Bioorganic chemistry, University of Copenhagen and MSc in Chemical Engineering with over 25 years of experience as VP R&D BioNebraska Inc., VP Nordic Bioscience A/S, COO Verigen Europe A/S, VP Osteometer Biotech, MD BION and CEO Sanos Biosciences.



**Klaus Christensen**  
**Chief Commercial Officer**

MSc in Business Administration & Economics, Copenhagen Business School, with more than 25 years' experience in global roles in Commercial, Business Development, and Pricing Market Access. Has provided commercial leadership spanning from early R&D to launched brands for several biotech, AstraZeneca and LEO Pharma.

# Board of Directors



**Peter Ström**  
*Acting Chairman of  
the Board*

- Master of Science in Business and Economics
- Member of several Boards with extensive experience with leading positions in biotech
- Shares held: 73.200



**Martin Olovsson**  
*Board member*

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- 35 years of experience within biotech with AstraZeneca
- Biotech experience in USA and Japan markets
- Shares held: 10.000



**Jan Nilsson**  
*Board member*

- MD, Professor Exp. Vascular Research at Lund University
- Visiting professor at UCLA
- Member of Swedish Academy of Science
- Chair of several scientific committees
- Extensive experience within biotech
- Shares held: 0



**Tommy Andersson**  
*Board member*

- Professor of Medicine at Lund University
- PhD, CSO and co-founder of WntResearch
- Has written over 100 scientific publications during a long career within pre-clinical research
- Shares held: 1.083.762



**Janna Sand-Dejmek**  
*Board member*

- MD, board certification in surgery, PhD in experimental pathology, Lund University
- Head of translational oncology for Novartis in China
- 10+ years experience in pharma
- Shares held: 3.963



**Bengt Gustavsson**  
*Board member*

- Pharmacist, PhD in pathology (tumor biology), Uppsala University
- Pharmaceutical medicine from the University of Basel
- 25+ years experience in pharma with Novartis, Sanofi-Aventis, Celgene and Oncopeptides
- Shares held:

# Scientific advisors in colon cancer



**Ramon Salazar**

- Professor of Medicine, Head of Medical Oncology Department at Duran Reynals Hospital in Barcelona, Spain
- Director of Corporate Research at the Catalan Institute of Oncology in Barcelona, Spain
- Approximately 200 scientific publications

*“This is going to be a revolutionary finding for the patients who desperately need an increased chance to be cured. It will also open a new avenue to change drug development in the adjuvant setting in general”*  
- Ramon Salazar



**Jan Vermoken**

- Professor of Oncology at the University of Antwerp, Belgium
- Jan has written over 700 scientific publications

*“As distant metastasis are the main cause of failure, it is obvious that every measure that will reduce the chance that distant metastases will occur in these high-risk patients is very interesting”*  
- Jan Vermoken



**Andrés Cervantes**

- Professor of Medicine and Head of Oncology Department at the University Hospital in Valencia, Spain
- Over 200 scientific publications

*“Foxy-5 represents a truly innovative breakthrough treatment paradigm to address metastasis, a significant unmet medical need”*  
- Andrés Cervantes



**Tommy Andersson**

- Professor of Medicine at Lund University
- PhD, CSO and co-founder of WntResearch
- Has written over 100 scientific publications during a long career within pre-clinical research

# WntResearch's Shareholders as per year-end 2021

| Shareholders                            | No. of<br>Shares   | Capital (%)    |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Försäkringsaktiebolaget, Avanza Pension | 13 919 159         | 10,45%         |
| Zhang, Linfan                           | 7 424 239          | 5,57%          |
| Nordnet Pensionsförsäkring AB           | 6 016 033          | 4,52%          |
| SIP 203, Youplus assurance              | 2 300 000          | 1,73%          |
| Thomas Mellqvist                        | 2 025 000          | 1,52%          |
| Stenberg, Kjell                         | 2 016 828          | 1,51%          |
| Evertsson, Niclas                       | 1 822 492          | 1,37%          |
| Wangel, Karl Gustav                     | 1 700 000          | 1,28%          |
| Forsgårdh, Lars Erik Georg              | 1 585 000          | 1,19%          |
| Claes Sjölund                           | 1 523 548          | 1,14%          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>40 332 299</b>  | <b>30,27%</b>  |
| Others                                  | 92 903 688         | 69,73%         |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>133 235 987</b> | <b>100,00%</b> |



Gudrun Anstrén, acting CEO

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**WNT**RESEARCH

Preventing the metastatic process