

**ASX: ALA**

Arovella Therapeutics Limited  
ACN 090 987 250



**ASX Release**

22 June 2023

**AROVELLA INVESTOR WEBINAR PRESENTATION**

- **Investor webinar to be held at 11 AM AEST today**
- **Discussing next steps for Arovella and its opportunity in developing the iNKT cell platform**

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 22 June 2023:** Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is pleased to provide the presentation to be delivered at its webinar scheduled for today at 11:00 AM (AEST).

Following the Company's recent capital raising, the webinar will discuss the next steps for Arovella and its opportunities in developing the iNKT cell platform.

Presenting on the webinar will be CEO and MD Dr Michael Baker.

Details of the Investor Webinar are below:

**Time:** 11:00 AM (AEST)

**Date:** Today, Thursday, the 22nd of June 2023.

**Registration:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_D86Vu\\_gkR6CbU11jJgHCg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D86Vu_gkR6CbU11jJgHCg)

Further details on how to attend will be provided by email following registration.

A webinar recording will be made available via the Company's website and social media channels following the event.

Questions can be submitted during the webinar or sent in advance to [investor@arovella.com](mailto:investor@arovella.com).

*Release authorised by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Arovella Therapeutics Limited.*

**Dr Michael Baker**

**Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director**

**Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:****About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella is also expanding its DKK1-peptide targeting technology licenced from MD Anderson and used in conjunction with its iNKT cell therapy platform. Arovella's lead product is ALA-101. ALA-101 consists of CAR19-iNKT cells that have been modified to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) that targets CD19. CD19 is an antigen found on the surface of numerous cancer types. iNKT cells also contain an invariant T cell receptor (iTCR) that targets  $\alpha$ -GalCer bound CD1d, another antigen found on the surface of several cancer types. ALA-101 is being developed as an allogeneic cell therapy, which means it can be given from a healthy donor to a patient. For more information, visit [www.arovella.com](http://www.arovella.com)

**Glossary:** **iNKT cell** – invariant Natural Killer T cells; **CAR** – Chimeric Antigen Receptor that can be introduced into immune cells to target cancer cells; **TCR** – T cell receptors are a group of proteins found on immune cells that recognise fragments of antigens as peptides bound to MHC complexes; **B-cell lymphoma** – A type of cancer that forms in B cells (a type of immune system cell); **CD1d** – Cluster of differentiation 1, which is expressed on some immune cells and cancer cells;  **$\alpha$ GalCer** – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

The Company is also commercialising ZolpiMist™ to treat short-term insomnia.

This announcement contains certain statements which may constitute forward-looking statements or information ("forward-looking statements"), including statements regarding negotiations with third parties and regulatory approvals. These forward-looking statements are based on certain key expectations and assumptions, including assumptions regarding actions of third parties and financial terms. These factors and assumptions are based upon currently available information and the forward-looking statements contained herein speak only as of the date hereof. Although the expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable in the view of the Company's directors and management, reliance should not be placed on such statements as there is no assurance that they will prove correct. This is because forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could influence actual results or events and cause actual results or events to differ materially from those stated, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. These risks include, but are not limited to: uncertainties and other factors that are beyond the control of the Company; global economic conditions; risk associated with foreign currencies; and risk associated with securities market volatility. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements, except as required by Australian securities laws and ASX Listing Rules.

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T H E R A P E U T I C S

ASX:ALA

**Investor Webinar**  
June 2023

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# Arovella Therapeutics Highlights



## Off-the-Shelf iNKT Cell Platform

Arovella is developing off-the-shelf iNKT cell therapies to target blood cancers and solid tumour cancers



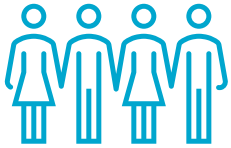
## Lead Product Advancing to Clinic

ALA-101, a potential treatment for CD19-expressing blood cancers, is being progressed to phase I clinical trials, expected to commence in 2024



## Addressing Key Unmet Need

Arovella's iNKT cell platform is well positioned to solve key challenges that hamper the cell therapy sector



## Strong Leadership Group

Arovella's leadership team and its Board have proven experience in drug development, particularly cell therapies



## Strategic Acquisitions

Arovella is focused on acquiring innovative technologies that strengthen its cell therapy platform and align with its focus areas



## Unique Value Proposition

Arovella is among few companies globally developing an iNKT cell therapy platform



# Arovella Financial Overview

## Financial Snapshot

ASX CODE	ALA
Market capitalisation <sup>1</sup>	\$42.5 million
Shares on issue	849.9 million
52-week low / high <sup>1</sup>	\$0.020 / \$0.105
Pro Forma Cash (March 31, 2023) <sup>2</sup>	\$7.1 million

## Major Shareholders

Shareholder	Ownership (%) <sup>1</sup>
MERCHANT FUNDS MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	86,210,282 (11.36%)
RICHARD JOHN MANN	54,458,288 (6.40%)
UBS NOMINEES PTY LTD	20,620,196 (2.45%)
BLACKBURNE CAPITAL PTY LTD	18,250,000 (2.17%)
DYLIDE PTY LTD	15,000,000 (1.78%)

1. As of 20 June 2023

2. Includes the proceeds from the Placement announced 7 June 2023, net of transaction costs

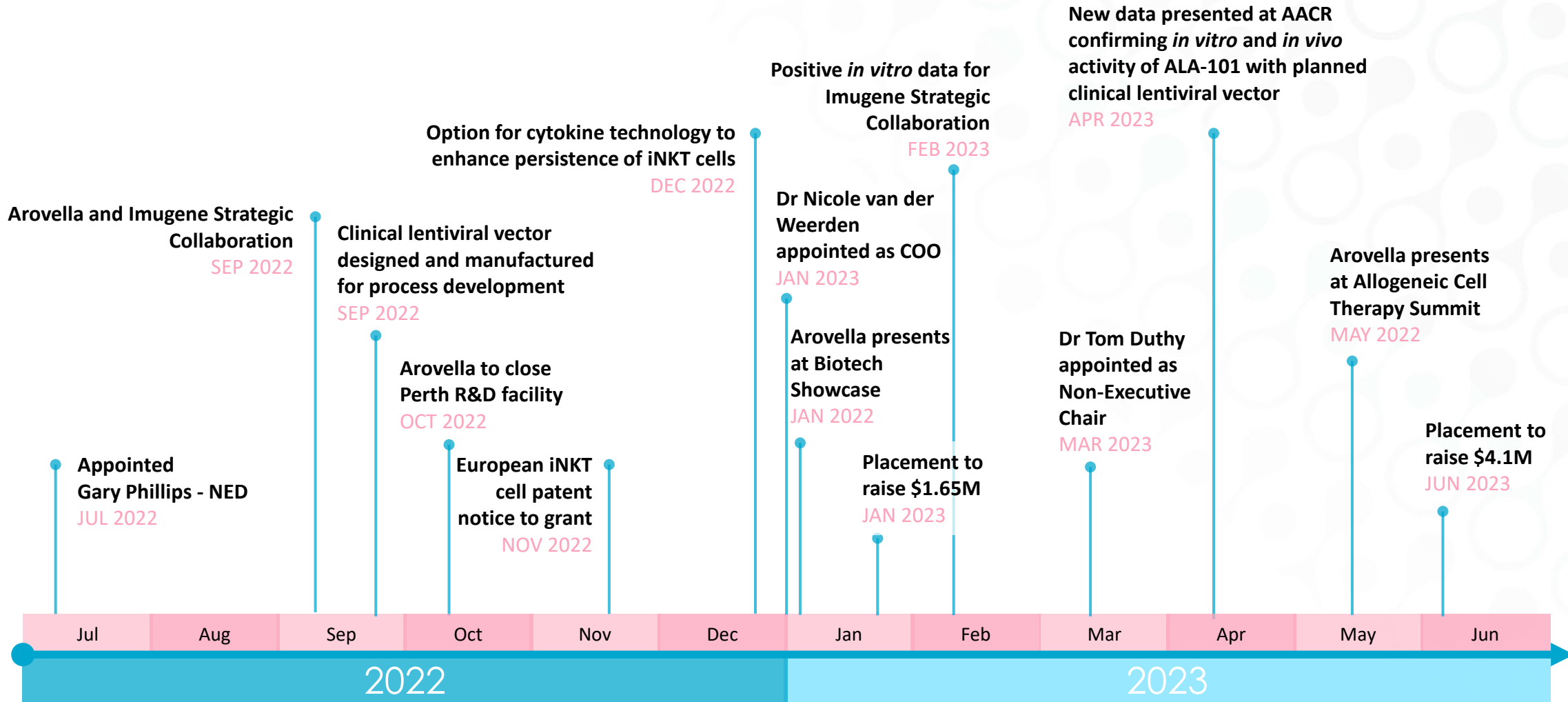
## ALA Price and Volume - 12 Months<sup>1</sup>



- Share Purchase Plan currently underway to raise an additional \$1m

# Recent Milestones

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# Recent Cell Therapy Transactions

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Date	Type of deal	Acquirer/Licensee	Target/Licensor	Stage	Upfront (\$M)	Milestones (\$M)	Total deal value (\$M)
May-23	License			Phase Ib	\$245	undisclosed	
Jan-23	Acquisition			Phase I	\$200	\$120	\$320
Oct-22	Development collaboration			Phase II	\$225*	undisclosed	
Sep-22	Research collaboration			Preclinical	\$70	undisclosed	
Aug-22	Licence and strategic collaboration			Phase I	\$110	\$110	\$220
Sep-21	Development collaboration			Preclinical	\$150	\$150	\$300
Aug-21	Research collaboration			Preclinical	undisclosed	undisclosed	\$875
May-21	Acquisition			Phase I	\$70	\$115	\$185
Jun-21	Acquisition			Preclinical	\$125	\$0	\$125
Dec-19	Acquisition			Preclinical	\$120	\$545	\$665
<b>Mean</b>					<b>\$146</b>	<b>\$208</b>	<b>\$364</b>

\*Arcellx also received a \$100m equity investment from Gilead



# What are “CAR-T Cells”?

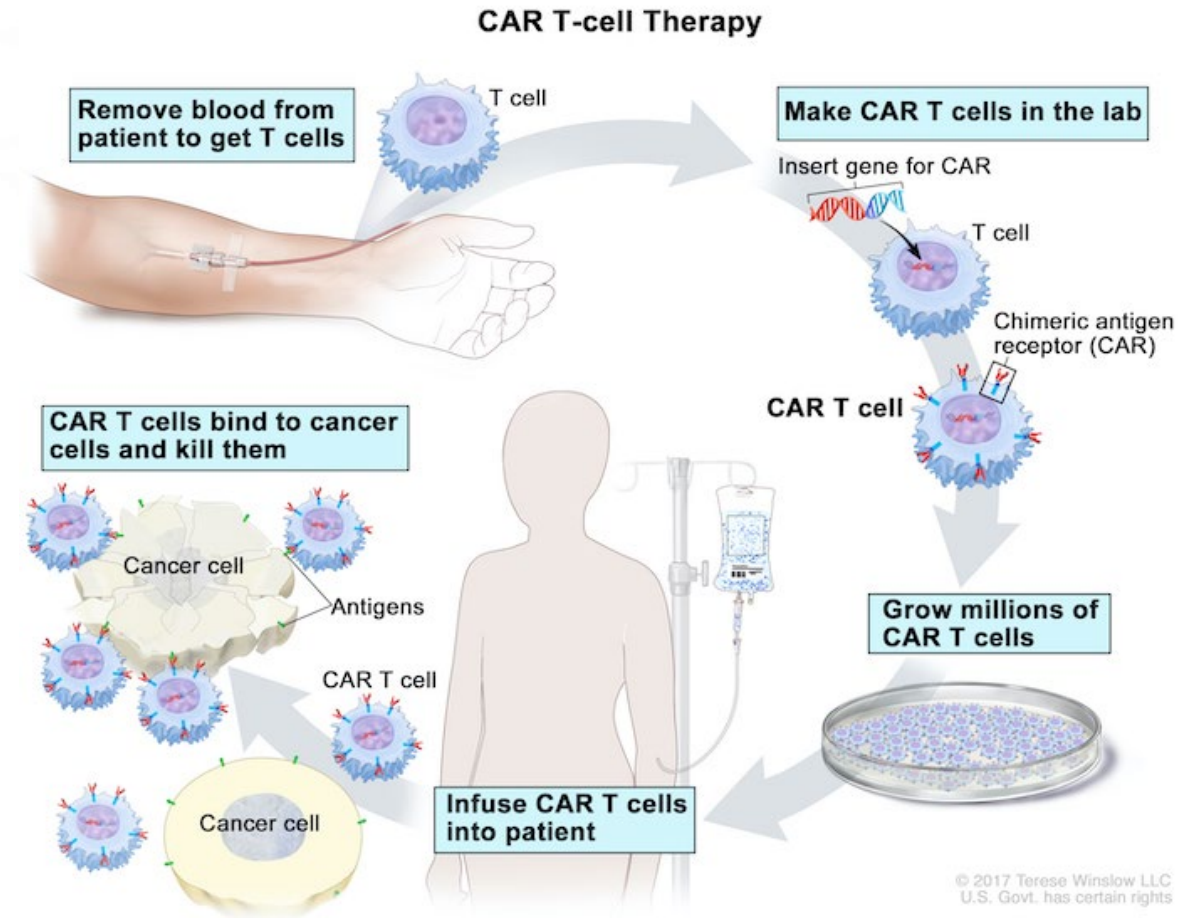
- T cells are a common type of immune cell that fight infections and can help fight cancer

- To generate autologous CAR-T cells, T cells are taken from a patient with blood cancer and ‘reprogrammed’ to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR)

- The CAR is able to specifically recognise cancer cells through a target antigen

CAR-T cells are administered to the patient to find and kill the tumour cells

- Once the CAR binds to a tumour cell, the CAR-T cell is activated to kill the tumour cell

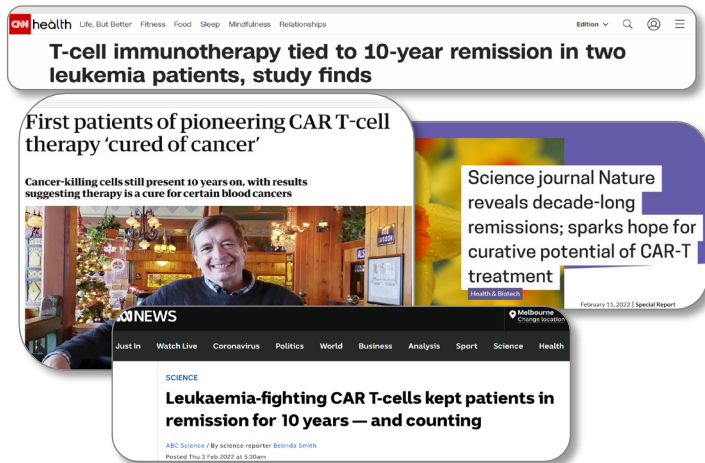


<https://www.ohsu.edu/sites/default/files/2021-04/CAR%20TcellTherapy7-700px.jpg>

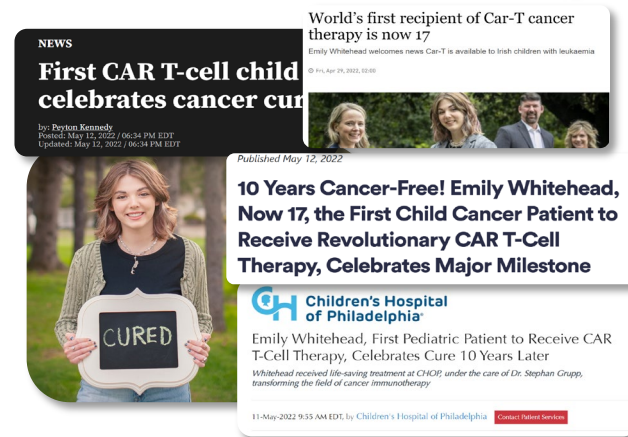
# Cell Therapy Has Revolutionized Blood Cancer Treatment

- CAR-T cells have demonstrated ability to **cure** haematological cancers and have generated strong sales
- The Cell Therapy market is expected to reach \$61.2 billion by 2030<sup>1</sup>

## February 2022



## May 2022



Product	Approval Year	2022 Revenue
YESCARTA <sup>®</sup> (axicabtagene ciloleucel) Suspension for IV infusion	2017	US\$1160m <sup>2</sup>
KYMRIAH <sup>®</sup> (tisagenlecleucel) Suspension for IV infusion	2017	US\$536m <sup>3</sup>
Abecma <sup>®</sup> (idecabtagene vicleucel) Suspension for IV infusion	2021	US\$388m <sup>4</sup>

1. <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230529005130/en/Global-Cell-Therapy-Market-Report-2023-Advancements-in-Biotechnology-Drives-Growth---ResearchAndMarkets.com>
2. [https://s29.q4cdn.com/585078350/files/doc\\_financials/2022/q4/GILD-Q4-FY22-Earnings-Press-Release-2-February-2023.pdf](https://s29.q4cdn.com/585078350/files/doc_financials/2022/q4/GILD-Q4-FY22-Earnings-Press-Release-2-February-2023.pdf)
3. [https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis\\_com/files/q4-2022-media-release-en.pdf](https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis_com/files/q4-2022-media-release-en.pdf)
4. <https://bioprocessintl.com/bioprocess-insider/therapeutic-class/bms-sees-car-t-sales-rocket-in-line-with-increased-capacity/#:~:text=For%20the%20full%20year%202022,%2487%20million%20the%20year%20prior.>

# But...Manufacturing and Logistics Pose Major Challenges

- **T cells must originate from the patient to be treated** so each manufacturing batch is patient-specific
  - **High manufacturing and supply chain costs** lead to high drug costs (>\$500k per patient)
  - Starting material (T cells) can be compromised due to disease, **reducing efficacy**
  - Limited number of centres able to collect cells and manufacture the therapy so **not all eligible patients can be treated**

Arovella's allogeneic CAR-iNKT cell platform has the potential to address the manufacturing and logistics challenges of CAR-T cells and the potential for improved efficacy

## ■ **Manufacturing CAR-T takes 4-6 weeks** for each patient

- Patients with aggressive disease sometimes **die while waiting for treatment**
- **Manufacturing run failures can occur**, further increasing the time to treatment (and cost)



Autologous CAR-T 4-6 weeks



Allogeneic CAR-iNKT ~1 week



# Advantages of iNKT Cells

Cells from a healthy donor can be used to treat patients (no GvHD)

Naturally target tumour cells through invariant TCR (CD1d); dual targeting with CAR

Directly kill tumour cells via T-cell and NK-cell-like mechanisms

**iNKT cells**  
subpopulation of T cells with properties of NK cells

Modify the tumour microenvironment and kill cells that promote tumour growth

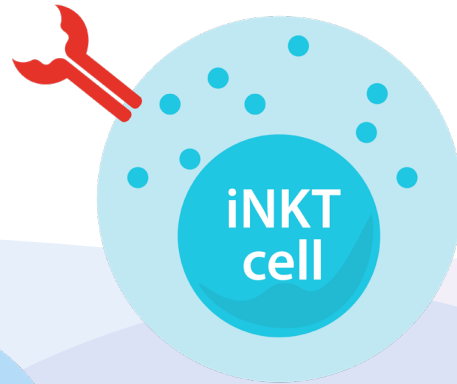
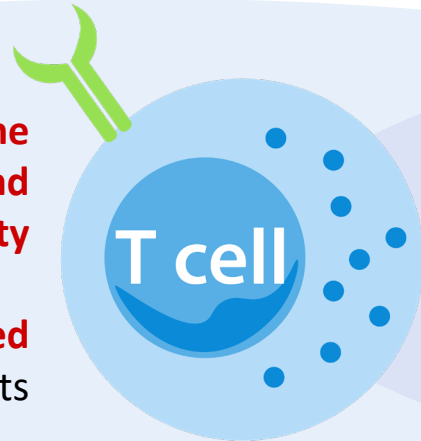
Infiltrate tumours and once activated, secrete signaling molecules to activate other immune cells to kill tumour cells

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## ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY

Can cause severe cytokine release syndrome and neurotoxicity

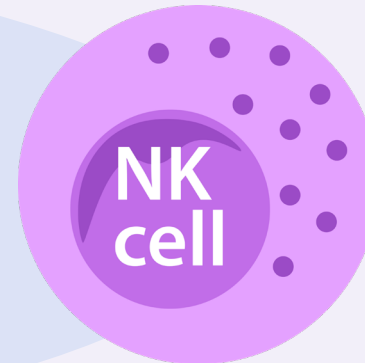
Complex gene editing required for allogeneic products



## INNATE IMMUNITY

Limited persistence in an allogeneic setting

Limited durability of response



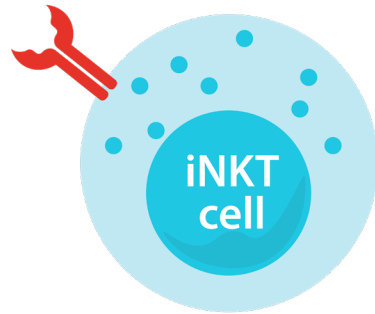


# The Potential of CAR-iNKT Cells is Untapped

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EUREKA THERAPEUTICS, ARCELLX, Allogene THERAPEUTICS, janssen, Kite A GILEAD Company, anixa BIOSCIENCES, agios, ATARA BIO, BIONTECH, CRISPR THERAPEUTICS, Bio4t2, iCell Gene Therapeutics, celectis EDITING LIFE, bluebirdbio, CBMG Cellular Biomedicine Group, carina biotech, Autolus, Beam THERAPEUTICS, Bristol Myers Squibb, ALAUNOS THERAPEUTICS, anixa BIOSCIENCES, CytoMed Therapeutics 新细胞医学, Roche, EXUMA Biotech, CAR Therics, CARSGEN THERAPEUTICS, Allogene THERAPEUTICS, Adaptimmune, JUVENTAS 合源生物, celularity, Celyad Oncology

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THERAPEUTICS



Athenex, Akesobio, MiNK Therapeutics, APPIA BIO

CARIBOU BIOSCIENCES, iCell Gene Therapeutics, INDAPTA THERAPEUTICS, CHIMERIC THERAPEUTICS, ONK THERAPEUTICS, VAXCELL, CENTURY THERAPEUTICS, artiva, SENTI BIO, Acepodia, Fcete THERAPEUTICS, SHORELINE biosciences, GC Cell, Takeda, nkarta, sanofi, AFFIMED, celularity, gamida Cell, ImmunityBio, CAR Therics, glycostem, CytoImmune Therapeutics, catamaranBIO, Cytovia Therapeutics, CYTEA|BIO

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Companies with T cell, NK cell, or iNKT cell therapy programs. Source: Company analysis based on public information



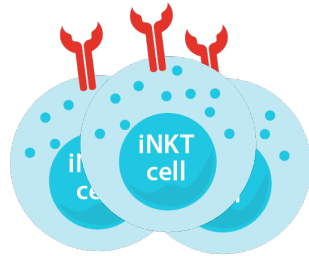
# CAR-iNKT Cell Therapy Production Advantages

## MANUFACTURING

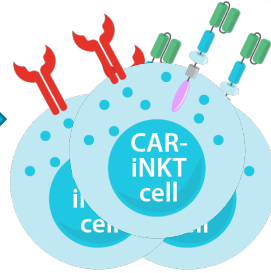
Collect Healthy Donor Blood



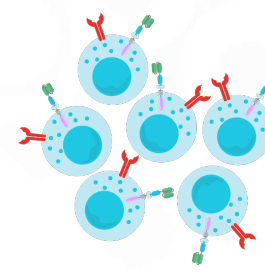
Isolate iNKT cells



Engineer iNKT cells to produce a CAR



Expand to grow billions of CAR-iNKT cells



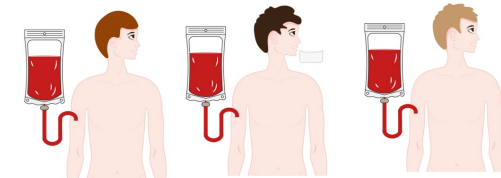
Vial and freeze CAR-iNKT cells



Thaw CAR-iNKT cells



Dose eligible patients



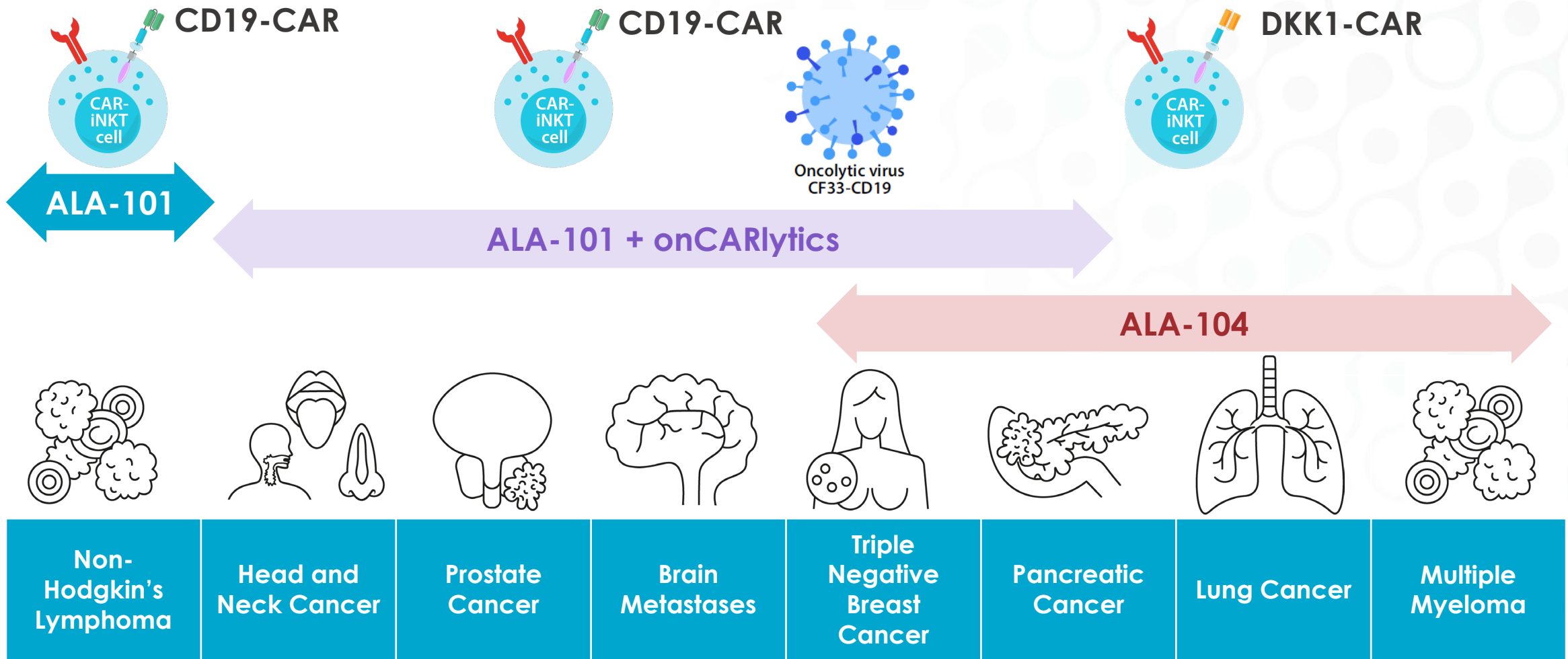
TREATMENT

## Allogeneic Manufacturing Advantages

1. Healthier starting material
  - Potentially better efficacy
2. Scalable manufacturing with reduced costs
  - Reach more patients
3. Faster access to treatment
  - Improved outcomes for aggressive cancers
4. Removes risk of manufacturing run failure

# Arovella's Potential Cancer Targets

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- Additional CARs can be used to target different cancer types:
  - Blood Cancers** - CD20, CD22, CD79b; **Solid tumours** – mesothelin, EGFRvIII, IL13α32, GPC3, HEPG2, GD2

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# CAR19-iNKT (**ALA-101**)

An off-the-shelf cell therapy for  
CD19-expressing cancers



# CD19-expressing Blood Cancers

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## Incidence



- CD19 is commonly expressed on B cell blood cells, including:
- **B cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas**  
Annual incidence of ~65,000 in the US<sup>1</sup> and ~95,000 in Europe<sup>2</sup>
- More than 60% of patients do not achieve long-term remission with first-line approved therapies
- **B cell Leukaemias**  
Annual incidence of ~23,000 in the US (~5,500 deaths)<sup>1</sup>

## Current Treatments



- Four approved autologous CAR-T products target CD19
- **Autologous CAR-T recently elevated to 2<sup>nd</sup>-line therapy**
- 6-month complete response rates for auto-CAR-T in relapsed and refractory DLBCL is only 30-35%
- Substantial safety risk with high rates of CRS, ICANS and infection
- **Significant unmet need remains**

## ALA-101 solution



- ALA-101 is an off-the-shelf iNKT cell therapy that targets CD19-expressing cancer cells
- **ALA-101 is an attractive potential treatment for B cell Lymphomas and Leukaemias**
- Phase I clinical trial in Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma expected to commence in 2024

NHL = Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma; DLBCL = Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma; CRS = Cytokine Release Syndrome; ICANS = Immune Effector Cell Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome

1. American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts and Figures 2023, 2. IHE, Comparator Report on Cancer in Europe 2019, 3. <https://www.targetedonc.com/view/epidemiology-in-b-cell-malignancies>

# ALA-101: Superior Activity Over CAR-T Cells

## ALA-101 significantly increased survival in mice versus treatment with CAR19-T cells

Tumour cells expressing CD19 and CD1d were intravenously delivered into mice

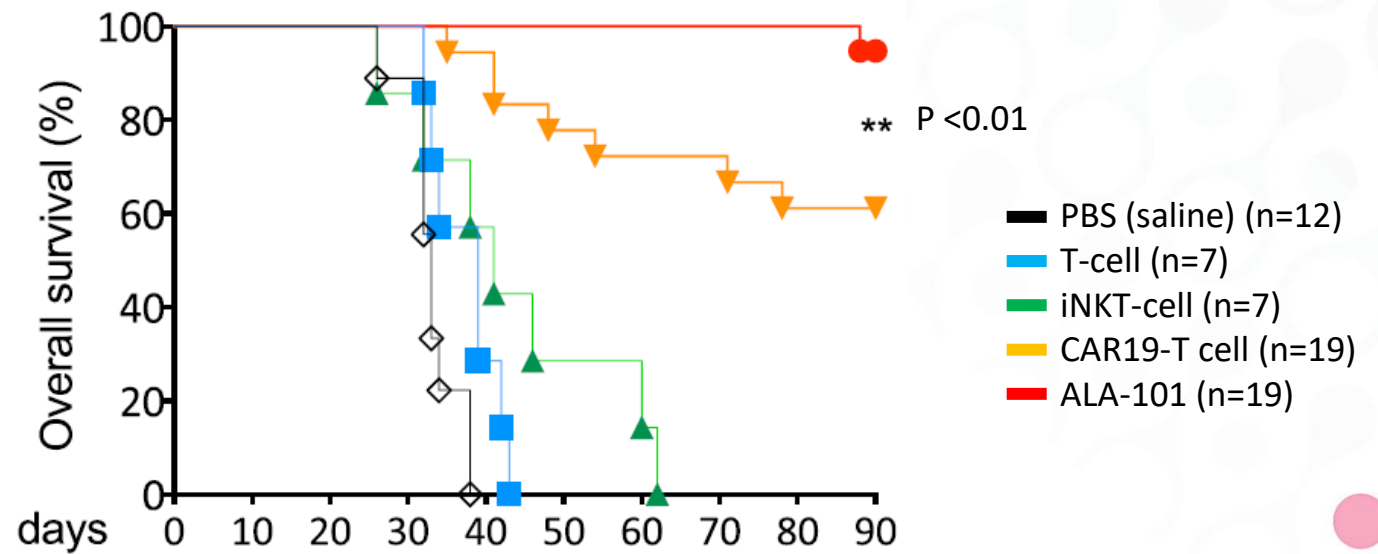
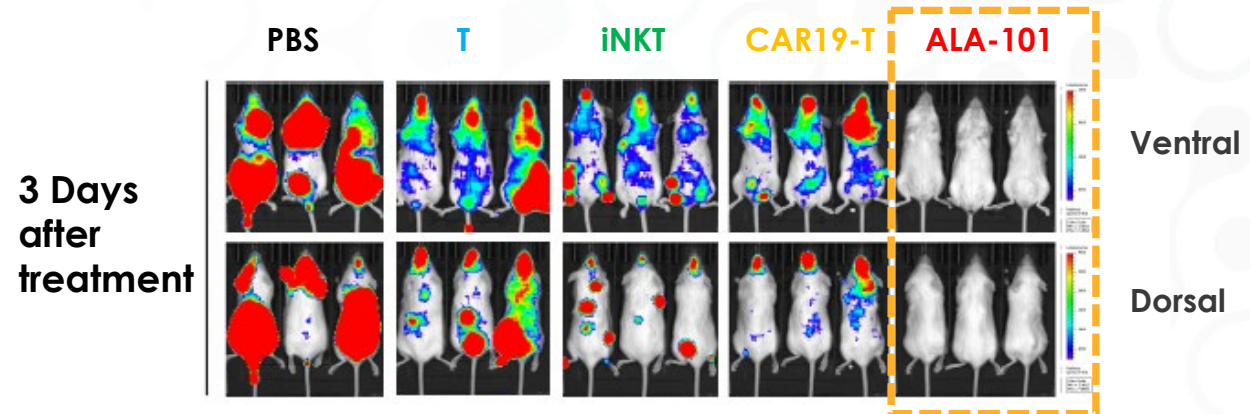
Mice were treated with:

- PBS (saline)
- Unmodified T cells (T)
- Unmodified iNKT cells (iNKT)
- CAR19-T cells
- ALA-101

After 90 days, only mice treated with CAR19-T cells or ALA-101 remained alive

1.5x more mice treated with ALA-101 remained alive after 90 days relative to CAR19-T cells

**ALA-101 has the potential to be an effective, off-the-shelf cell therapy for the treatment of CD19-expressing cancers**



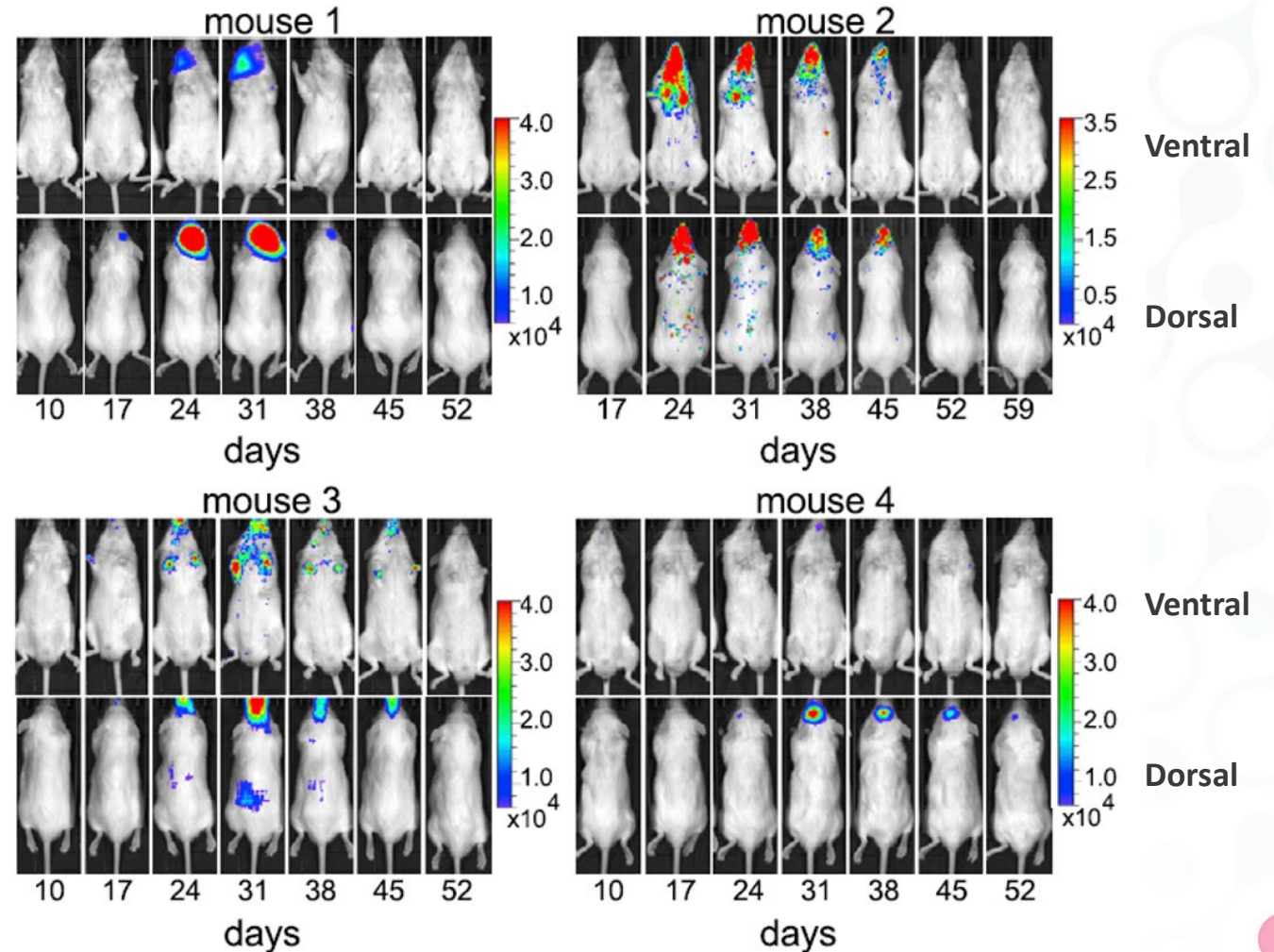
Rotolo *et al.*, Cancer Cell (2018)



# ALA-101: Spontaneous Secondary Remission

## ALA-101 activity may persist to eradicate tumour cells following relapse

- Four mice treated with ALA-101 had the cancer return to the brain
- In all four mice, the cancer was eliminated a second time with no additional dosing
- This provides evidence that ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells) can survive and continue to protect against cancer cells *in vivo*
- Potential to use ALA-101 to treat central nervous system lymphoma or brain metastases



Rotolo et al., *Cancer Cell* (2018)

# New Data Presented at AACR 2023



## Key Highlights:

- iNKT cells could be **well expanded**
- Following expansion, ALA-101 cells **retained the ability to multiply further when exposed to tumour cells** that express CD19
- Once stimulated, ALA-101 cells **express anti-cancer cytokines**
- ALA-101 **killed tumour cells that express CD19**, including primary patient tumour cells
- ALA-101 **significantly extended the lifespan of mice** with aggressive human B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (B-ALL) that does not express CD1d

# ALA-101 Overview

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- Arovella's proprietary manufacturing process allows for efficient expansion of iNKT cells while retaining functionality
  - *Essential to produce multiple doses from a single batch and address the manufacturing costs and logistical challenges of current autologous therapies*



- Arovella has produced ALA-101 using a 3rd-generation lentiviral vector in preparation for the manufacture of clinical material
  - *Lentiviral vector and genetic elements with a proven safety profile*



- ALA-101 conferred significant anti-tumour effect and significantly extended lifespan in an aggressive model of human B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (B-ALL)
  - *Confirming the potential of ALA-101 as an effective treatment for CD19+ leukemias and lymphomas*

Arovella continues to progress ALA-101 towards first-in-human clinical trials



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# ALA-101 + CF33-CD19

An off-the-shelf cell therapy and oncolytic virus combination to mark and destroy solid tumours

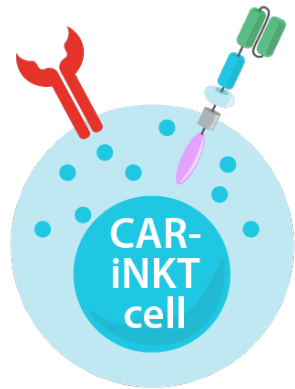




# Combining ALA-101 and CF33-CD19 (onCARlytics)

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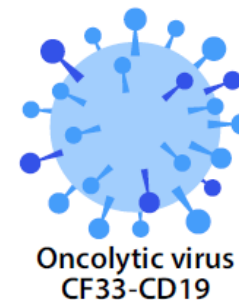
- ALA-101 is very potent and is rapidly activated to kill CD19 expressing cancers<sup>1</sup>
- The product is being developed as an off-the-shelf product for cancer treatment



- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30300581/>
- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32032721/>
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9126033/>



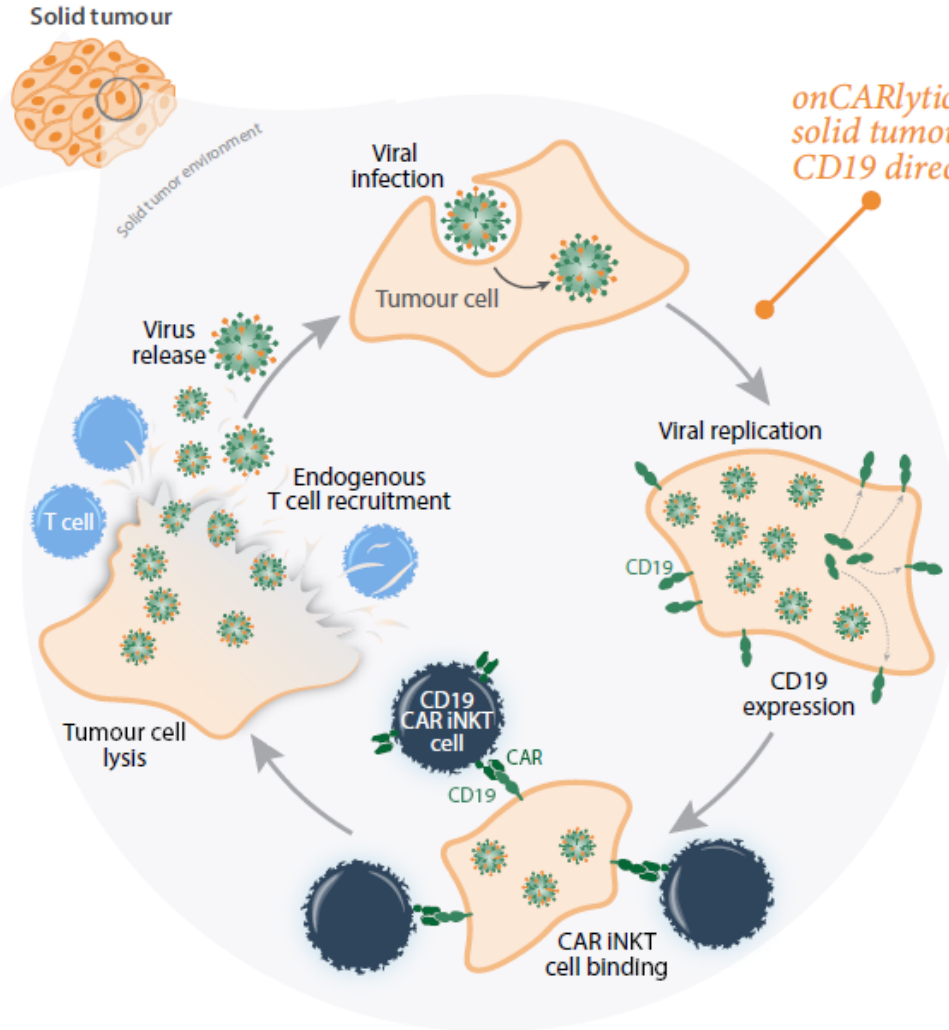
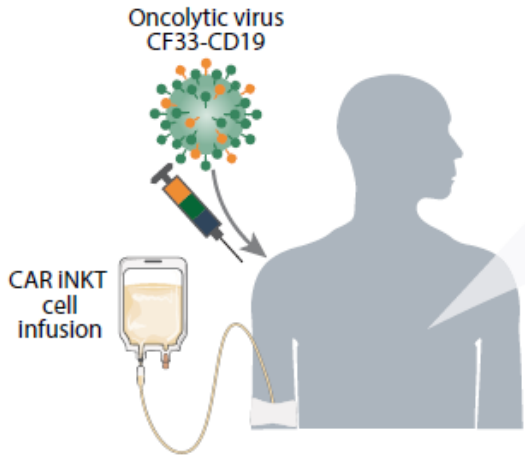
- CF33 is an oncolytic virus that targets tumour cells<sup>2</sup>
- CF33 has been engineered to induce CD19 expression after tumour cells have been infected – onCARlytics<sup>3</sup>
- Phase 1 trials for CF33 commenced October 2021 with CHECKvacc and May 2022 with VAXINIA
- FDA cleared IND for onCARlytics and Blincyto combination study in May 2023





# ALA-101 + onCARlytics Mechanism of Action

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*onCARlytics makes solid tumours "seen" by CD19 directed therapies*

The research collaboration progressed to *in vivo* testing based on promising *in vitro* results

1. OnCARlytics infects tumour cells
2. Virus replication and production of CF33-CD19 on the cell surface enabling CD19 targeting
3. Tumour cell lysis leads to viral particle release and the combination promotes endogenous immune cell recruitment to tumours
4. Released viral particles re-initiate virus infection of surrounding tumour cells.

# Milestones FY2024

- Arovella expects to advance ALA-101 into a phase I first-in-human clinical trial during 2024
- Arovella also continues to assess novel complimentary technologies to expand the use of the iNKT platform to treat solid tumours

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**June**  
2023



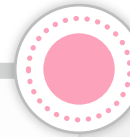
**ALA-101**

**iNKT Cell  
Therapy  
Platform**

- Complete process optimisation and scale-up in preparation for cGMP manufacture
- Complete production of cGMP lentiviral vector
- Finalise clinical trial plan for phase I study

- Confirm the activity of CAR19-iNKT cells when combined with Imugene's onCARlytics to target solid tumours in animal model
- Analyse additional CARs to add to the platform
- In-licence cytokine technology currently under option (pending positive data)

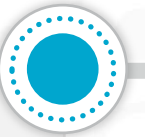
**December**  
2023



- Complete cGMP manufacture for phase I clinical trials
- Complete preparatory activities for phase I study, including submission of regulatory dossier.

- Initiate proof-of-concept testing for novel CARs and/or cytokine technology to expand iNKT platform for treatment of solid tumours

**June**  
2024



# Arovella Has a Strong Leadership Team

## LEADERSHIP



Dr. Michael Baker  
CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR



Dr. Nicole van der Weerden  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



Dr. Mini Bharathan  
SENIOR VP DEVELOPMENT &  
TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE



Dr. Robson Dossa  
SENIOR DIRECTOR  
MANUFACTURING & QUALITY



Ana Radeljevic  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. Tom Duthy  
BOARD CHAIR



Dr. Elizabeth Stoner  
DIRECTOR



Dr. Debora Barton  
DIRECTOR



Mr. Gary Phillips  
DIRECTOR



Mr. David Simmonds  
DIRECTOR



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# Summary – Arovella’s CAR-iNKT Cell Platform

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**A novel allogeneic CAR-iNKT cell platform**  
iNKT cells serve as an excellent platform to develop allogeneic, or “off-the-shelf”, cell therapies to treat cancer



**Lead product progressing to clinical trials**  
ALA-101, a potential treatment for CD19-expressing blood cancers, is being progressed to phase I clinical trials, expected to commence in 2024



**CAR-iNKT cells have multiple anticancer properties**  
CAR-iNKT cells are dual-targeting with enhanced cancer killing ability



**Arovella has an expanding pipeline**  
Arovella continues to enter collaborations and licence agreements to expand use of the iNKT platform to treat solid tumours



**Improved manufacturing logistics**  
Allogeneic CAR-iNKT cells will significantly improve logistics and increase patient access



**Arovella is poised for growth**  
Arovella is developing a cutting-edge CAR-iNKT cell therapy platform, with an expanding pipeline and a strong leadership team

# Share Purchase Plan (SPP) Details

- Oversubscribed Placement raised \$4.1 million (before costs)
- The SPP Offer price is the same as the Placement price at \$0.045 per share
- The Offer price represents a 10% discount to the last closing share price prior to the announcement of the Placement on 2 June 2023
- The SPP is open from 15 June 2023, closing date is **29 June 2023**
- Minimum of \$2,500 and up to \$30,000 for current eligible shareholders
- There are no transaction or brokerage costs to participating shareholders
- The funds raised under the SPP will be used to:
  - progress Arovella's lead product, ALA-101, towards a phase 1 clinical trial for patients with CD19-positive haematological cancers;
  - strengthen Arovella's iNKT cell therapy pipeline;
  - pay for the costs of the SPP; and
  - general working capital purposes.

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# Thank You

**Dr. Michael Baker**  
CEO & Managing Director

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