## **VX15 (pepinemab) Antibody Treatment for Cancer and Neurodegenerative Disease**

Unique Targets Novel Mechanisms <u>New Medicines</u>



### **Forward Looking Statements**

To the extent that statements contained in this presentation are not descriptions of historical facts regarding Vaccinex, Inc. ("Vaccinex," "we," "us," or "our"), they are forward-looking statements reflecting management's current beliefs and expectations. Words such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend" and similar expressions or their negatives (as well as other words and expressions referencing future events, conditions, or circumstances) are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements in this presentation include, among others, statements regarding: (i) the timing and success of the commencement, progress and receipt of data from preclinical and clinical trials; (ii) our expectations regarding the potential safety, efficacy or clinical utility of our product candidates; (iii) the expected results of any clinical trial and the impact on the likelihood or timing of any regulatory approval; (iv) financial and financing expectations and opportunities and (v) the performance of third parties.

Forward-looking statements in this presentation involve substantial risks and uncertainties that could cause our research and pre-clinical development programs, clinical development programs, future results, performance, or achievements to differ significantly from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, uncertainties inherent in the execution, cost and completion of preclinical and clinical trials, risks related to our dependence on third parties, uncertainties related to regulatory approval, risks related to our dependence on our lead product candidate VX15 (pepinemab), risks related to competition, other matters that could affect our development plans or the commercial potential of our product candidates, expectations regarding the use of proceeds from our initial public offering, changes in costs and operations, and other risks regarding our capital requirements and results of operations. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, or to update the reasons why actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future. For a further discussion of these and other factors that could cause future results to differ materially from any forward-looking statement, see the section titled "Risk Factors" in our quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the other risks and uncertainties described in our prospectus for our initial public offering dated August 9, 2018, filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended,.

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# Novel antibody therapeutics target unmet needs

#### ✓ Novel Mechanistic Approach

Lead product: Pepinemab Humanized IgG4 monoclonal antibody, first in class Blocks a unique target, Semaphorin 4D (SEMA4D)

 Advanced clinical programs with near term opportunities for monetization by partnering

Proprietary Drug
 Discovery Platform



SEMA4D signals through receptors (PLXNB1/B2) to trigger collapse of cell's cytoskeleton

The cell cytoskeleton regulates process extensions which enable cellular movement and direct cell to cell interactions

SEMA4D/PLXN pathways are activated in immune and central nervous systems in response to stress/injury

#### Cancer Immunotherapy

In cancer, tumors utilize these pathways to restrict movement of immune cells into the tumor microenvironment

#### Neurodegenerative Disease

In brain, this pathway is upregulated in response to damage and triggers loss of normal functions and transition to chronic neuroinflammation, which is believed to aggravate neurodegeneration



## **Clinical Pipeline**

ICCÍNEX



## ASSET: PEPINEMAB NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE

Pepinemab Mechanism of Action

- SEMA4D is upregulated in response to stress/disease to trigger neuroinflammatory gliosis
- Pepinemab blocks chronic glial activation and restores their normal support functions.

Broadly applicable approach - does not target disease-specific insult, instead targets common trigger of neuroinflammation which contributes to and amplifies neurodegeneration

STATUS		SUMMARY	
Phase 2 Huntington's Disease Complete 2020 Double-blind, Placebo-controlled	Sponsored by: ACCINEX Granted Orphan Disease and Fast Track Designation by FDA	<ul> <li>Huntington's Disease (SIGNAL)</li> <li>Well tolerated</li> <li>Cognitive benefit to patients</li> <li>Reduced brain atrophy (vMRI) and resemetabolic activity (FDG-PET)</li> <li>Phase 3-ready asset</li> </ul>	<b>SIGNAL</b> tored loss of
Phase 1b/2a Alzheimer's Disease Initiated Q2 2021 Data expected late 2022/early 2023 Double-blind, Placebo-controlled	Sponsored by: CONSISTENT OF THE SPONSOR OF THE SPO	Alzheimer's Disease (SIGNAL-AD) <ul> <li>Primary endpoint: Safety</li> <li>Key efficacy endpoints: Cognition and</li> </ul>	<b>Signal-AD</b> metabolic activity

Currently exploring pharma collaboration in HD and AD



Initiated Q2 2021

Data expected mid 2022

Pepinemab Combination with Keytruda ™

## ASSET: PEPINEMAB IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY

Pepinemab Mechanism of Action

Overcome Immune resistance

• neutralizes the SEMA4D barrier at the tumor boundary to facilitate movement of anti-tumor immune cells

Drug provided by: Merck, MSD

• Inhibits immune suppressor cells

Novel and independent mechanism  $\rightarrow$  Synergy with immune checkpoint therapy Well tolerated

**STATUS SUMMARY** Sponsored by: **CLASSICAL-Lung** Phase 1b/2 Non Small Cell Lung Cancer ACCÍNEX Well tolerated (NSCLC) Anti-tumor activity in some patients whose cancer was resistant to Complete 2020 Co-funded by: EMD Serono/Merck KGaA, Darmstadt prior therapy with single-agent checkpoint inhibitors Data published in Clinical Cancer Research, 2021 Anti-tumor activity in some patients with challenging PD-L1 Merck negative or low tumors Pepinemab Combination with Bavencio ™ Increased penetration of cytotoxic T cells following treatment Sponsored by: Phase 1b/2 Head and Neck Cancer ACCÍNFX Head and Neck Cancer (Keynote B84) (R/M HNSCC)

• High levels of myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSC) that are induced by SEMA4D and a source of resistance to immune checkpoint therapy



#### ASSET: ActivMab Discovery Solutions



Unique capability for selection of high value antibodies against hard-to-target multi-pass membrane receptors (i.e. GPCRs, ion channels)

Sustainable engine for value creation through pipeline expansion and strategic collaborations

Active collaborations with two major pharma and multiple biotech partners

Poxvirus based antibody and protein engineering solutions

## Pepinemab Antibody Neurodegenerative Disease



Science in the Service of Medicine



# Glial cells respond to damage in the brain



SEMA4D is upregulated on damaged neurons
SEMA4D binding to Plexin receptors on glial cells to triggers collapse of cytoskeleton and transformation to reactive inflammatory state

Chronic activation contributes to and exacerbates neurodegeneration

Smith et al. 2014 Neurobiology of Disease Southwell et al. 2015. Neurobiology of Disease Schematics created with BioRender.com



#### SEMA4D is upregulated in neurons during Human AD and HD disease progression



#### Alzheimer's Disease



#### Huntington's Disease



Human autopsy sections of frontal lobe



## Huntington's is a Genetically Inherited Disease

HD is caused by dominant mutation in a single gene.

There are currently no approved treatments to alter the course of Huntington's Disease.

Estimated patient population in the US is ~40,000 individuals with manifest disease and >150,000 at risk of having inherited the HD mutation.

Neuronal degeneration, neuroinflammation, and severe atrophy is observed in multiple brain regions affecting cognition, emotion, and motor function. When I grow up, my mind and body will slowly deteriorate until I choke to death trying to swallow. Every child born to a parent with Huntington disease % chance of sharing the same fate



## Clinical Trial Design – Group B1, Early Manifest HD



**Orphan Disease and Fast Track designations** 



#### **Study Objectives**

- Safety and tolerability
- Cognitive Function and Clinical global impression of change (CGIC)
- Brain imaging measures



### Abbreviated Baseline Characteristics and Safety – Cohort B1, ITT population



Pepinemab (PEPI) SEMA4D blocking antibody is well tolerated.

		Cohort B1 (N=179)		
		PBO (NI-88)	PEPI	
		Placebo	Pepinemab	
Discontinued	Treatment Early	10	13	
Had Any SAE	(*)	8	4	
Had Any Grad	de 3+ AE (*)	14	17	
CAG repeat le	ength	44.1 (3.8)	43.5 (3.1)	
CAP score (**	*)	470 (96)	466 (85)	
UHDRS-DCL a	it screening, n(%)			
DCL-4, Unequi (>99% confider	vocal HD nt)	88 (100%)	91 (100%)	

\*pre-COVID era; \*\*CAP score = age × (CAG repeat length – 33.66)



#### **Cognitive Assessment Battery (HD-CAB) Prespecified exploratory analysis – Early Manifest HD**



HD-CAB Composite Index of 6 Cognitive Assessments

Early manifest HD



One- sided p- value	Favors PEPI	Critical value
0.007	Yes	Yes [0.025]



### **Clinical Global Impression of Change (CGIC) Post-hoc Subgroup Analysis – Early Manifest HD**



Subjects were less likely to experience decline in CGIC following treatment with pepinemab compared to placebo.

This difference was evident in subjects with somewhat more advanced disease (TFC 11).



\*nominal one-sided p-value, Fisher's exact test for worsening score

#### FDG-PET at 18 Months – Early Manifest HD: Pepinemab treatment reverses loss of metabolic activity





#### FDG-PET Difference in % Change SUVR (PEPI-PBO) Early Manifest at Visit18







#### volumetric MRI analysis – Boundary Shift Integral Pre-specified exploratory endpoint

#### CBSI (caudate atrophy) Early Manifest (B1)

#### PBO 87 73 52 PEPI 73 54 90 8 Percent Caudate Atrophy from Baseline p = 0.017 2 -Worser Baseline Month 6 Month 17

#### VBSI (ventricular expansion) Early Manifest (B1)



Treatment groups PBO -----

PEPI





#### Pepinemab and sSEMA4D levels in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

Most subjects dosed with pepinemab have ≥ saturating levels (100-300 ng/ml) in CSF









## SIGNAL: Early Manifest HD Results of Phase 2 trial



#### Orphan Disease and Fast Track designations



Mechanism of Action:



Safety and tolerability:

Well tolerated Intravenous administration



Clinical Efficacy (HD):

Target engagement:

Improved Cognitive Function and Clinical global impression of change (TFC 11) Reduced brain atrophy and increased metabolic activity Confirmed penetration into CNS at expected level Antigen-antibody complexes detected

Reduce neuroinflammation and restore normal glia function

Phase 3-ready asset for HD Initiated Phase 1b/2a trial for AD Broad application – targets common pathology in neurodegeneration



## Clinical Trial Design Alzheimer's Disease





#### **Study Objectives**

- Safety and tolerability
- Cognitive Function measures, CDR-SB, ADAS-Cog13
- Brain imaging measures, FDG-PET



Funding by



### Broad applications in neurological diseases

The mechanism of action of pepinemab has broad potential applications in neurological diseases that share common neuroinflammatory pathology, including HD, AD, FTD, PPMS.

Antibody blockade ameliorates neuropathology and symptoms of disease in multiple preclinical models

- Huntington's Disease YAC128 transgenic model
  - Southwell et al. 2015. Neurobiology of Disease
- Alzheimer's Disease CVN (APPSwDI/NOS2-/-) transgenic model
  - Available upon request
- Rett Syndrome Mecp2<sup>T158A/y</sup> mutant transgenic mice
  - Available upon request
- Multiple Sclerosis EAE models and lysolecithin-lesion model
  - Smith et al. 2014 Neurobiology of Disease



## Pepinemab Antibody Cancer Immunotherapy

Science in the Service of Medicine



## Pepinemab has a unique mechanism of action

Tumors have developed multiple resistance mechanisms to avoid destruction by immune system

- SEMA4D creates a barrier at tumor boundary to restrict movement of anti-tumor immune cells into the tumor
- SEMA4D also promotes recruitment and suppressive activity of myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSC)

Pepinemab is a SEMA4D blocking monoclonal antibody with a unique mechanism of action to overcome immune resistance:

- Neutralizes SEMA4D barrier at the tumor boundary to facilitate immune infiltration
- Increases cytotoxic T cells
- Inhibits immune suppressor cells

Pepinemab complements other immune-activating therapies

Immune Evasion Mechanisms	Therapy
Exclusion of anti-tumor immune cells	Pepinemab
Activation of suppressor immune cells	Pepinemab
Upregulation of immune checkpoint molecules (PD-1, CTLA-4)	Keytruda, Opdivo, Yervoy, etc

#### **Combination therapy: Preclinical Data**





## SEMA4D expression and immune exclusion in human biopsies

#### **Dissecting the tumor microenvironment with multiplex IHC**



**Pro-inflammatory cells are excluded from the metastatic CRC tumor and build up at the invasive edge** CD8 T cells align with Sema4D at the invasive edge of the tumor. Most of these excluded T-cells express Sema4D. Dendritic Cells can be seen within the tumor interior but is heavily excluded at the invasive edge.



## Phase 1b/2 CLASSICAL-Lung Highlights

CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH | CLINICAL TRIALS: IMMUNOTHERAPY

#### A Phase Ib/2 Study of Pepinemab in Combination with Avelumab in Advanced Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer



Rachel E. Sanborn<sup>13</sup>, Jonathan W. Goldman<sup>14</sup>, and Maurice Zauderer<sup>2</sup>

- Well tolerated 1.
- Antitumor activity in some patients whose cancer was resistant to 2. prior therapy with single-agent checkpoint inhibitors
  - Disease control rate: 59%, and 7/29 patients with durable responses  $\geq$  23 weeks
- 3. Antitumor activity in some patients with challenging PD-L1 negative or low tumors
  - Reported single agent anti-PDx: ORR ~10-15%
  - Combination with pepinemab: ORR 25-33%
- Increased penetration of cytotoxic T cells following treatment 4.











## Phase 1b/2 CLASSICAL-Lung Objective Response Rate by PDL-1 Status (IO Naïve)

**Combination therapy achieved a higher overall response rate in difficult to treat PD-L1-low population**, compared to historical data in IO naïve patients with avelumab





1. Calculated from data published in:

Gulley JL, Rajan A, Spigel DR, et al. Avelumab for patients with previously treated metastatic or recurrent non-small-cell lung cancer (JAVELIN Solid Tumor): dose-expansion cohort of a multicentre, open-label, phase 1b trial. *Lancet Oncol* 2017; published online March 31. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470- 2045(17)30240-1.

Gulley JL, Rajan A, Spigel DR, et al. Exposure Response and PD-L1 expression analysis of second-line avelumab in patients with advanced NSCLC: data from the JAVELIN Solid tumor trial: Abstract No. 9086. Presented at 53rd ASCO Annual Meeting; Jun 2-6, 2017

2. 27% (8/30) subjects did not have PD-L1 status reported and 9.5% (2/21) subjects were non-evaluable for post dose scans (included in ORR calculation) due to withdrawal prior to first scan. Note that a score of 80% in Merck KGaA 73-10 assay employed here is equivalent to a score of 50% in The 22C3 assay employed by US Merck.



## Pepinemab increases ratio of cytotoxic T cells to myeloid derived suppressor cells

**Research Article** 

#### Semaphorin4D Inhibition Improves Response to Immune-Checkpoint Blockade via Attenuation of MDSC Recruitment and Function

Paul E. Clavijo<sup>1</sup>, Jay Friedman<sup>1</sup>, Yvette Robbins<sup>1</sup>, Ellen C. Moore<sup>1</sup>, Ernest Smith<sup>2</sup>, Maurice Zauderer<sup>2</sup>, Elizabeth E. Evans<sup>2</sup>, and Clint T. Allen<sup>1,3</sup>



Patients received neoadjuvant chemotherapy before immunotherapy and surgery

MSS Colorectal cancer metastasis to liver – neoadjuvant/"window of opportunity" study Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University M-MDSC (S100A9+CD33+) CD8+ T cells Tumors (Cytokeratin+)

Cancer

Immunology Research



## NEXT STEPS: Head & Neck Cancer (HNSCC) Combination Immunotherapy with KEYTRUDA®

- We have entered into agreement with MSD to initiate a phase 2 study of pepinemab in combination with pembrolizumab in HNSCC, a tumor indication characterized by high levels of SEMA4D that induce and expand MDSC.
- NSCLC have low MDSC content relative to HNSCC, therefore, benefit from only 1 of 2 major pepinemab mechanisms of action.
- MDSC represent an important mechanism of resistance to immune checkpoint therapy





NSCLC: pre-treatment biopsies from CLASSICAL-Lung HNSCC: pre-treatment and no treatment biopsies from HNSCC integrated biomarker trial (collaboration at Emory University)



# Keynote B84 for front line treatment in patients with recurrent or metastatic Head & Neck Cancer

<u>Phase 1b</u> Safety Run-in <u>Phase 2</u> Efficacy (up to 65)

20 mg/kg Pepinemab +200 mg Pembrolizumab ~50% CPS<20 ~50% CPS≥ 20



Drug provided by: Merck, MSD



#### **Study Objectives**

- Safety, tolerability, RP2D (Phase 1b) and Objective Response Rate (Phase 2)
- Secondary objectives include firther evaluation of activity (PFS, OS, DOR)
- Additional objectives include immunogenicity, PK/PD, and candidate biomarkers of activity
- Data anticipated mid-2022



#### Pepinemab for Immuno-Oncology



Mechanism of Action:



Safety and tolerability:

Facilitate infiltration of T cells and dendritic cells Reduce immunosuppression

Well tolerated Does not enhance immune-related toxicities of partner drug



Clinical Efficacy (POC):

Appears to increases frequency and duration of objective responses Durable responses in some patients with PDx-resistant/refractory disease Apparent 2-3X increase in ORR in patients with PD-L1 negative/low tumors compared to single agent checkpoint inhibitor

Initiated Phase 2 trial in HNSCC Broad application in solid tumors – enhances activity of immunotherapies



**Corporate Summary** 

Unique Targets. Novel Mechanisms.

New Medicines.





## Anticipated Vaccinex 2021 Milestones

Final Clinical Data for SIGNAL Cohort B study in Huntington's Disease	H2 2020
Publish Clinical Data for SIGNAL study in Huntington's Disease	2021
Publish Clinical Data for Pepinemab in Combination with Avelumab in NSCLC Clinical Cancer Research, available online	April 5, 2021
Enrollment of first patient for phase 2 study of Pepinemab in Combination with Keytruda <sup>®</sup> in front line Head & Neck Cancer	Q2 2021
Expect interim data mid-2022	Mid-2022
Enrollment of first patient in Alzheimer's disease phase 1b/2a study	Q2 2021
Expect data from blinded placebo-control study	Q4 2022/Q1 2023



#### **Robust Patent Estate** VX15 (pepinemab) US Patents and Patent Applications

Key Composition of	US No. 8,496,938 issued 7/30/13)
Matter Claims	Expected Exclusivity to 2030 (before patent term extension)
Key Additional Method of Use Claims for Treatment of Cancer and Neurodegenerative Diseases	US No. 9,243,9068 issued 1/26/16 US No. 9,249,227 issued 2/2/16 Filed: 2014 – 2015 Expected Exclusivity to 2035 (before patent term extension)

Total Patent Franchise	US	International
Granted/allowed	26	11
Pending	15	13



Vaccinex, Inc. (Nasdaq: VCNX) is a publicly traded clinical-stage biotechnology company engaged in the discovery and development of targeted biotherapeutics to treat serious diseases with unmet medical needs, including cancer and neurodegenerative diseases.

VCNX (NASDAQ)		
Incorporated	2001	
Headquarters	Rochester, NY	
Employees	39	
IPO	August 2018	
February 2021 Capital Raise	\$32 M	
Cash balance*	\$29.4M	
Shares Outstanding*	28.4M	
Analysts	Oppenheimer (L. Gershell), BTIG (T. Shrader)	



#### **Vaccinex Board of Directors**

- Albert D. FriedbergChairman, President and CEO of Friedberg Mercantile Group, a Toronto-based<br/>commodities and investment management firm he founded in 1971. He served as<br/>Chairman of the Toronto Futures Exchange from March 1985 to June 1988.
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- Maurice Zauderer, Ph.D.Vaccinex Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer. Formerly, Professor at<br/>University of Rochester and at Columbia University.



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