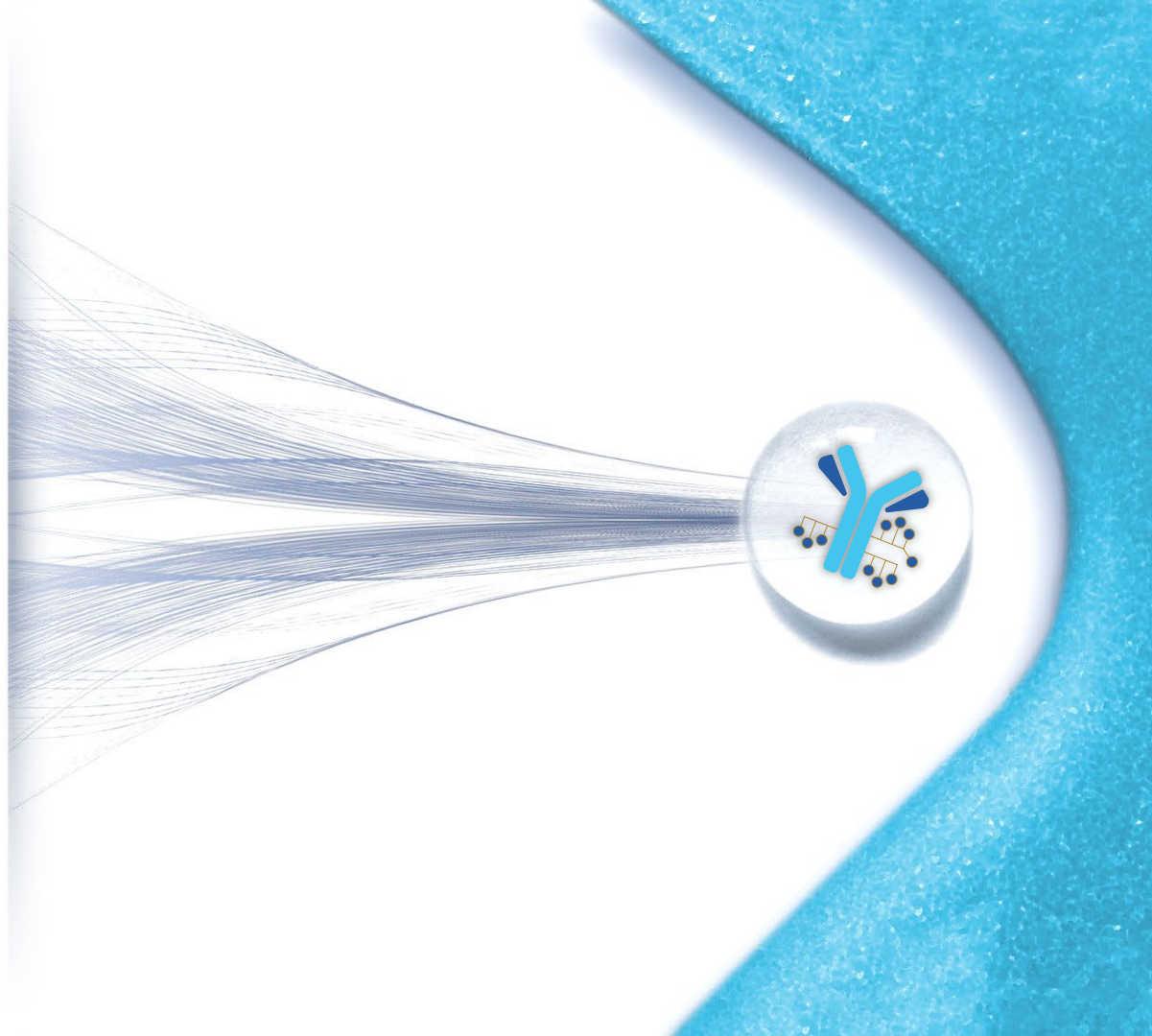




**XMT-2056:**  
**A Her-2 Targeted**  
**Immunosynthen**  
**STING agonist**  
**antibody drug conjugate**

Timothy B. Lowinger, PhD  
Chief Science & Technology Officer

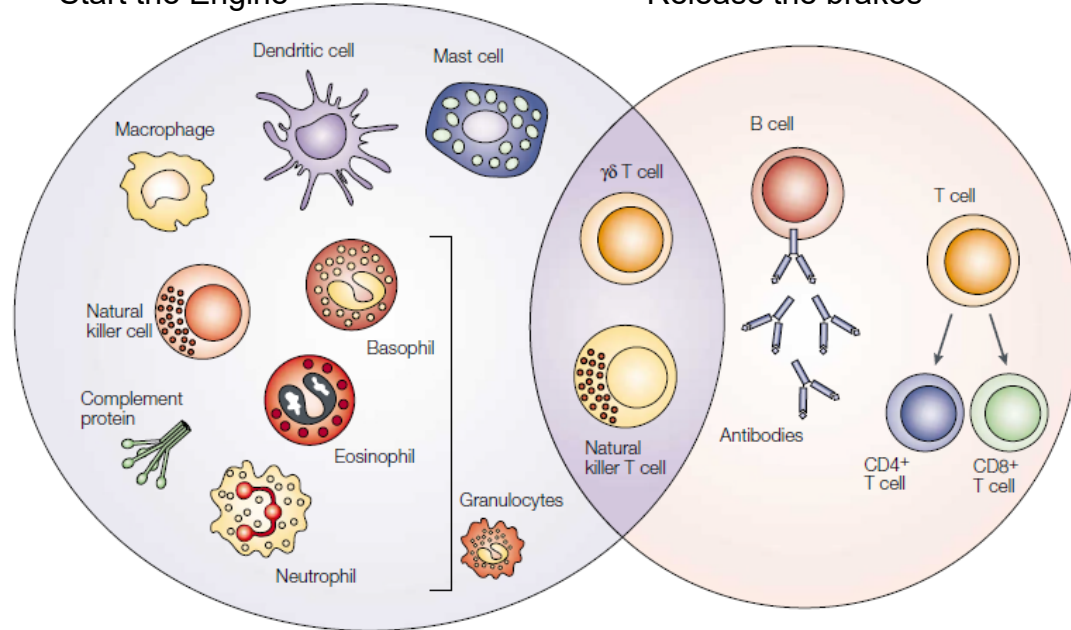
World ADC Summit 2022  
September 7, 2022  
San Diego, CA



# Targeted Stimulation of Innate Immunity has the Potential to Deliver Breakthroughs

## Innate Immunity

- Includes STING
- “Start the Engine”



## Adaptive Immunity

- Includes CTLA4, PD1/PD-L1
- “Release the brakes”

- The immunotherapy revolution has focused on adaptive immunity
- Innate immune stimulation could address unmet medical needs in
  - Checkpoint refractory tumors
  - Checkpoint relapsed tumors
  - Tumor types where checkpoints have minimal activity

# STING Is a Fundamental Immune Pathway

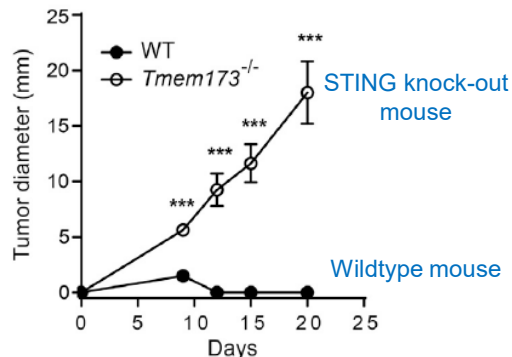
## Human Genetics



Liu et al, NEJM, 2014

Ligand-independent gain-of-function mutation in STING leading to pediatric STING-associated vasculopathy with onset in infancy (SAVI) - severe auto-inflammatory disease

## Mouse Genetics



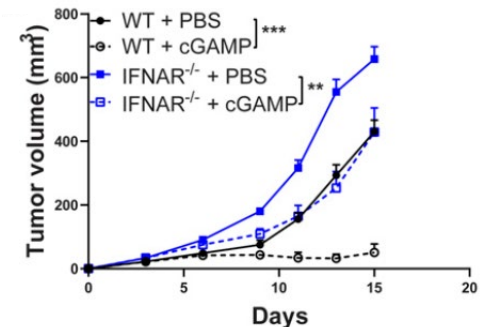
Woo et al, Immunity, 2014

STING knock-out (KO) mouse (*Tmem173*<sup>-/-</sup>)

- Unable to mount immune-mediated anti-tumor response
- Sensitivity to HSV-1 virus infection

(Ishikawa et al, 2009, Nature)

## Cancer Pharmacology

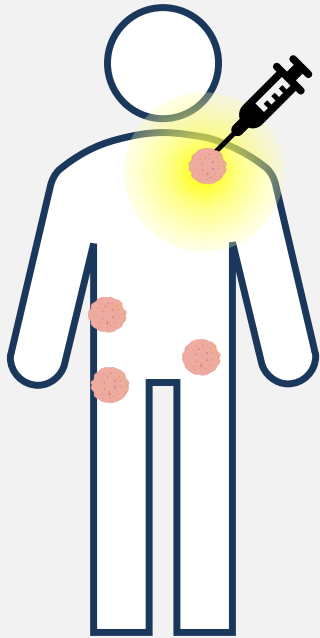


Yum et al, PNAS, 2021

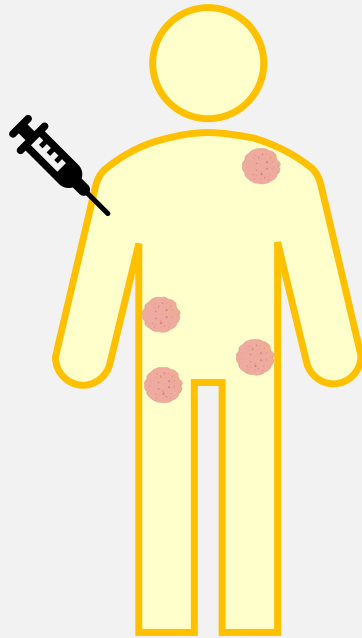
STING agonist (cGAMP) inhibits tumor growth via an interferon response

# An ADC is an Ideal Approach for Targeted Innate Immune Activation with STING

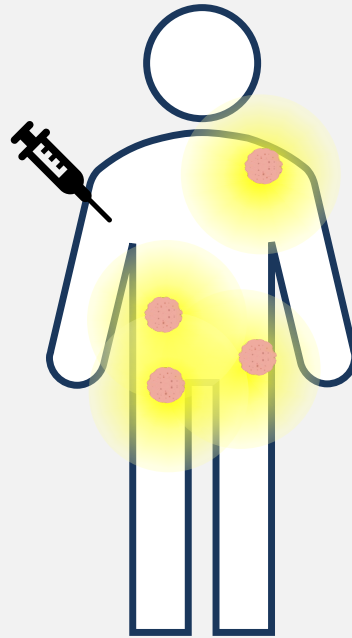
## Intratumoral STING Agonist



## Systemic Free STING Agonist



## STING-Agonist ADC



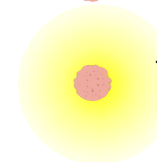
- Systemic administration with targeted delivery to all tumor lesions while avoiding healthy tissues
- Improved anti-tumor activity compared to free agonist
- Improved tolerability compared to free agonist



Systemic immune activation



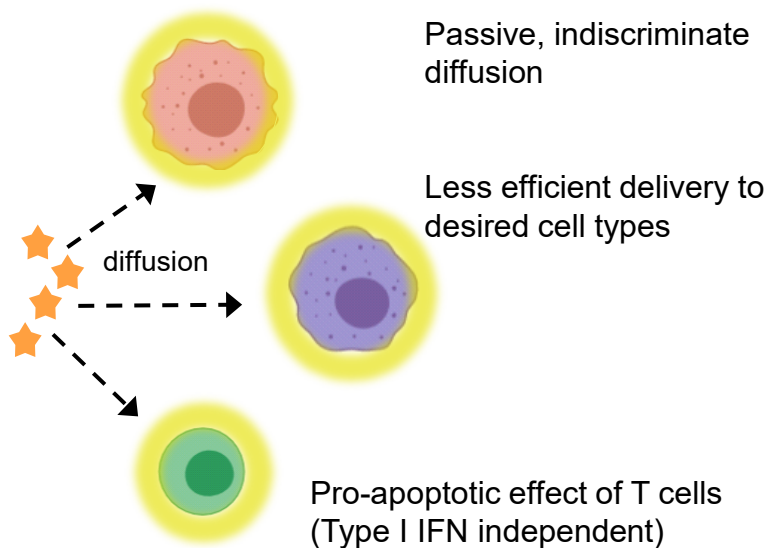
Tumor, no immune activation



Tumor with STING-Mediated Innate Immune Activation

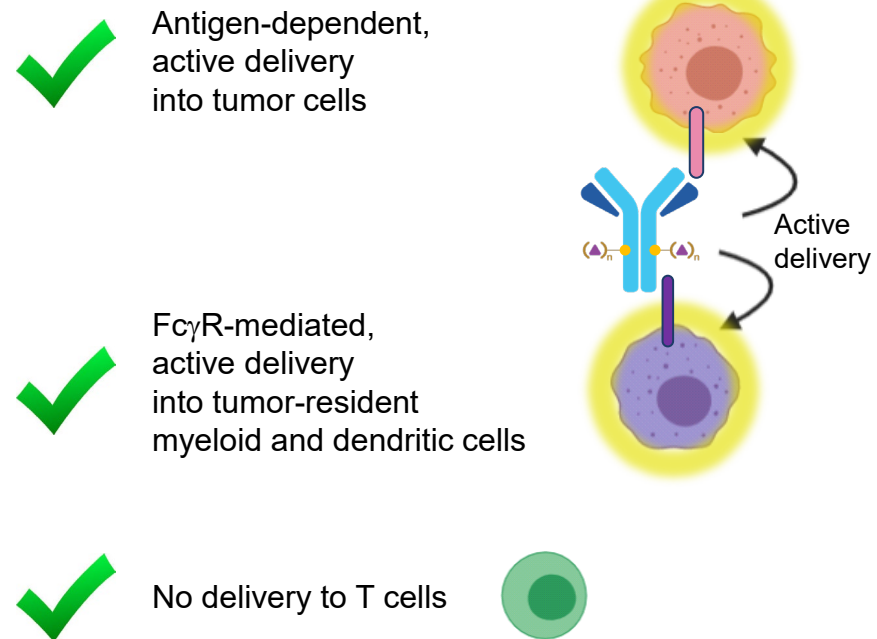
# How and Where You Deliver STING is Key to Maximizing the Therapeutic Index – a Major Advantage of an ADC

## Free STING Agonist



Gulen et al. *Nature Comm.* 2017  
Wu et al. *Immunity* 2020

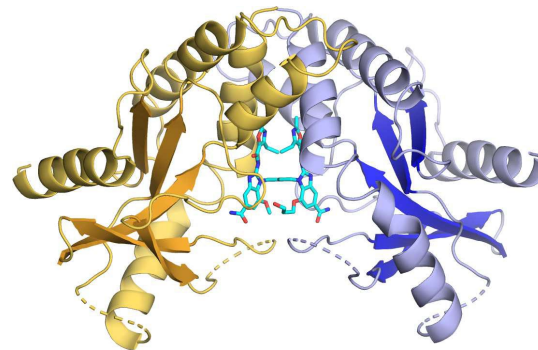
## Immunosynthen ADC



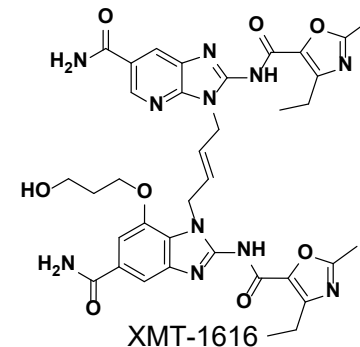
# Proprietary STING Payload Specifically Designed for an ADC

## Extensive Structure-based Medicinal Chemistry Effort

- Highly potent STING agonist
  - $K_D = 271 \text{ pM}$  (SPR)
  - $EC_{50} = 4.4 \text{ nM}$  (IRF3 reporter, WT haplotype)
  - Active against all major haplotypes
  - Active vs. mouse, rat, NHP, human
- Very low cell permeability
  - $P_{app} < 0.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm/s}$
  - ADC >100-fold more active than free payload
- Short half-life
  - In vitro  $\frac{1}{2}$  life (human microsomes) = 28 minutes
  - In vivo  $\frac{1}{2}$  life (mouse) < 0.5 hour
- Physicochemical properties suitable for an ADC
  - Low cLogP, high tPSA



Co-crystal structure confirms agonist binds in an active, “closed” conformation of the protein



# Linker-Scaffold Specifically Optimized for the STING Agonist

Antibody

Bioconjugation

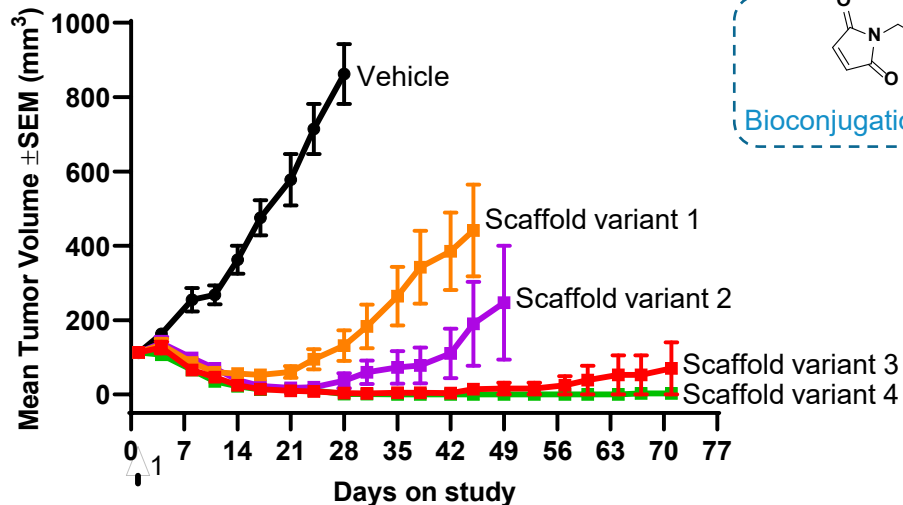
Aqueous  
solubility

Charge  
balance

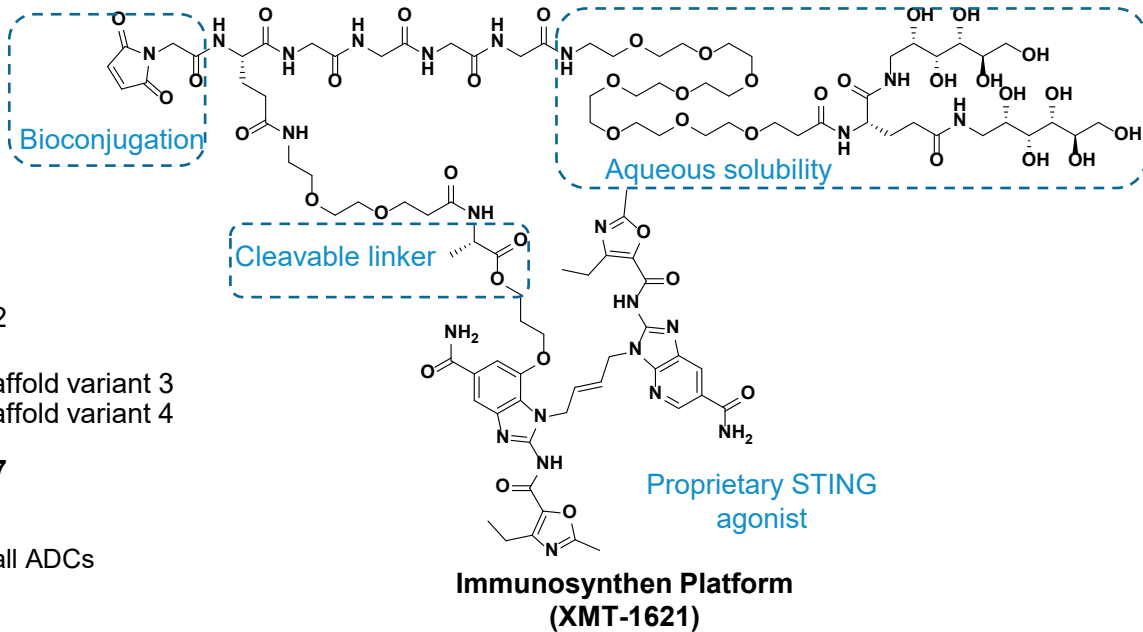
Drug load per  
scaffold

Proprietary  
STING agonist

## ADC Optimization via Modular Approach

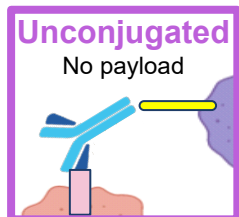
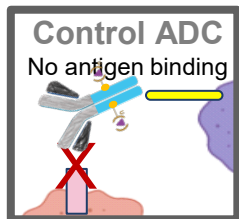
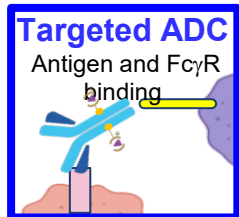


- Used same antibody and same STING agonist for all ADCs
- Single, equivalent IV dose for all ADCs

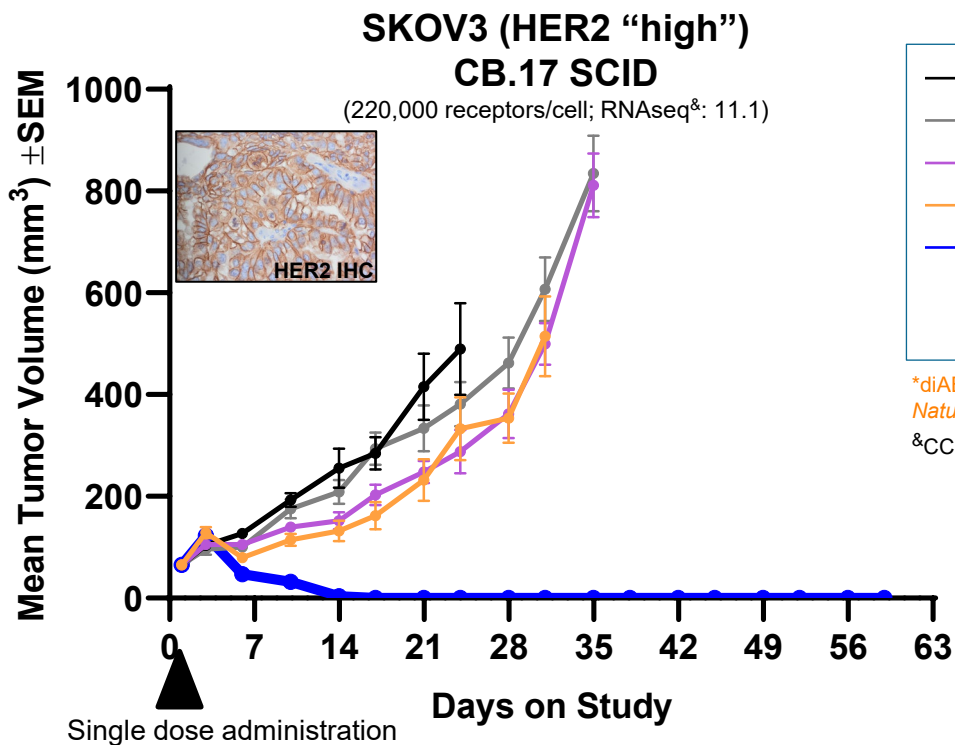


# Single, Low Dose of Prototype Trastuzumab-STING ADC Outperforms Comparators

Vehicle



Free IV Agonist

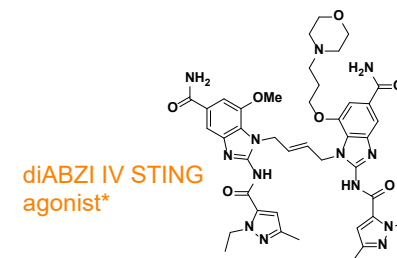


Legend

- Vehicle
  - Non-binding Control STING ADC (3 / 0.09 mg/kg)
  - Trastuzumab (3 mg/kg)
  - diABZI IV STING agonist (5 mg/kg)\*
  - Trastuzumab-STING ADC (3 / 0.09 mg/kg)
- All groups dosed IV
  - ADC doses reflect mAb / payload mg/kg

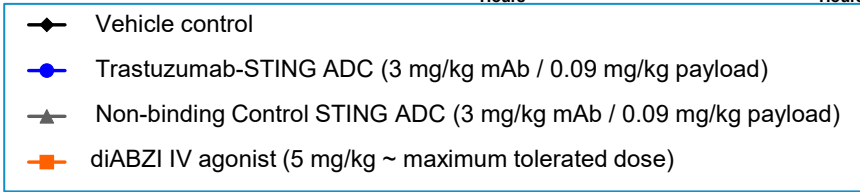
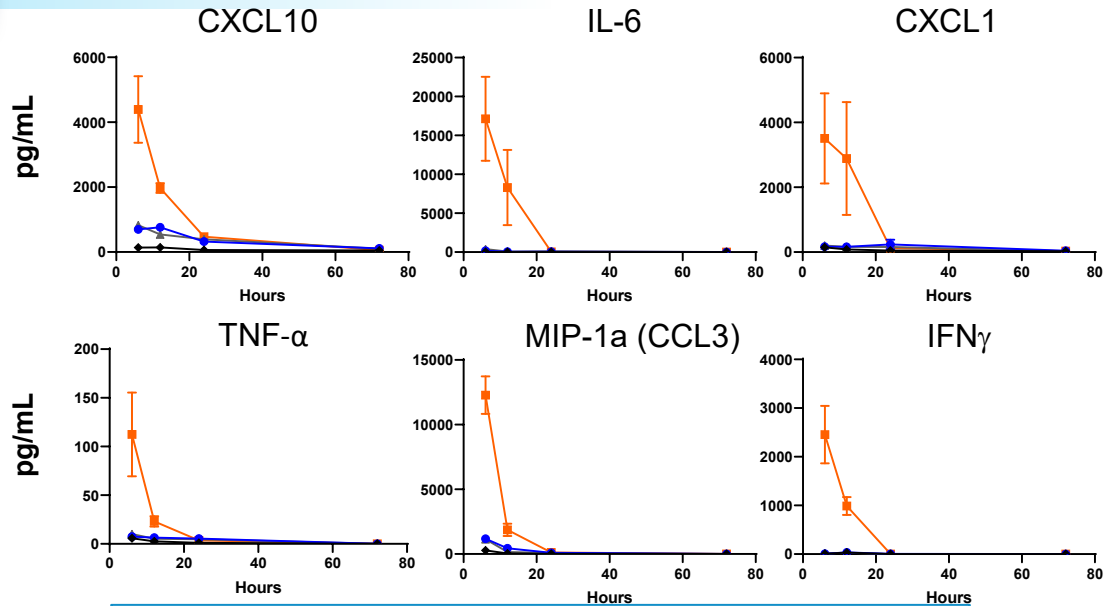
\*diABZI IV STING agonist described in J.M. Ramanjulu *et al.* (2018) *Nature* (compound 3 in reference)

&CCLE RNAseq data from DepMap, Broad (2021): DepMap 21Q3 Public

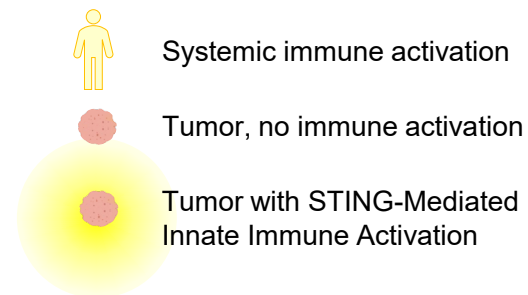
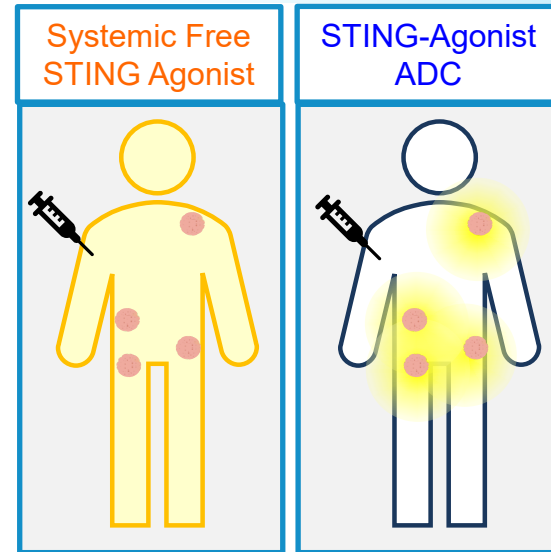




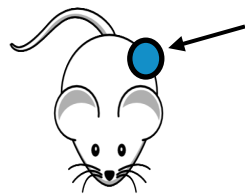
# Dramatically Lower Systemic Cytokine Levels After IV Dosing of Prototype Trastuzumab-STING ADC Compared to diABZI Small Molecule STING Agonist



Serum cytokines measured with Luminex assay



# Prototype Trastuzumab-STING ADC Induces STING Pathway Cytokines in Tumor-Resident Mouse Cells and Human Tumor Cells *In Vivo* in a Target-Dependent Manner



SKOV3 human tumor excised for analysis

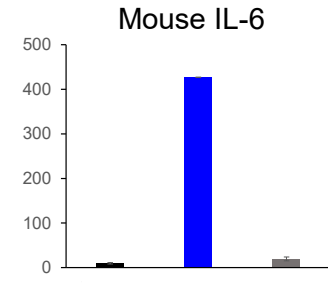
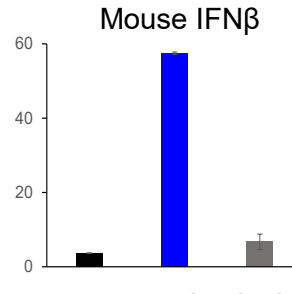
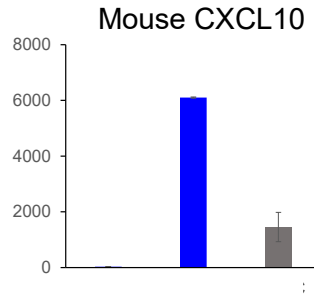
## Cytokine Induction in the Tumor Microenvironment

**Vehicle**

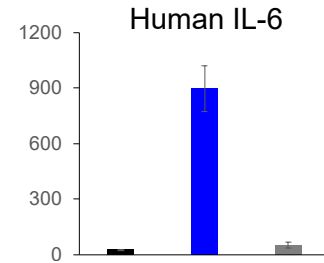
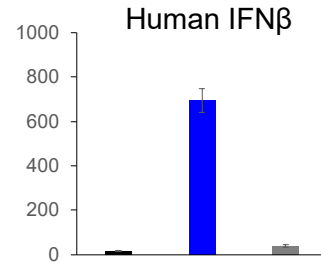
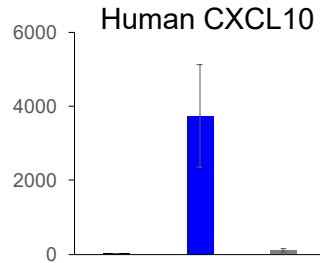
**Targeted ADC**  
Antigen and Fc $\gamma$ R binding

**Control ADC**  
No antigen binding

Murine Cytokines



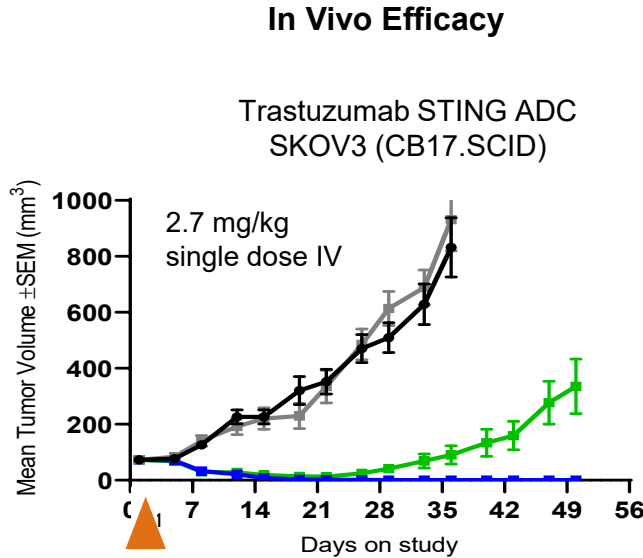
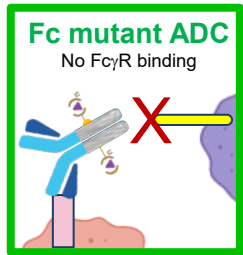
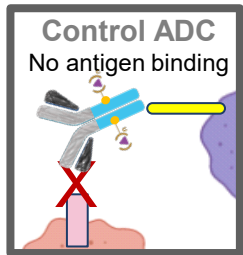
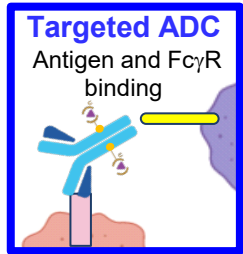
Human Cytokines  
(produced by human tumor cells)



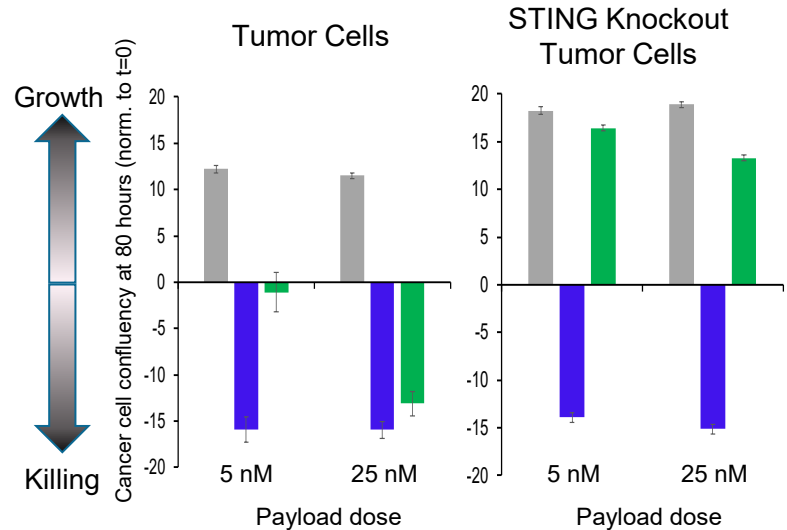
Normalized mRNA Counts by Nanostring

# Fc-Blocking Experiment Further Confirms Tumor Cell Contribution and Fc-mediated Uptake to Immune cells

## Vehicle



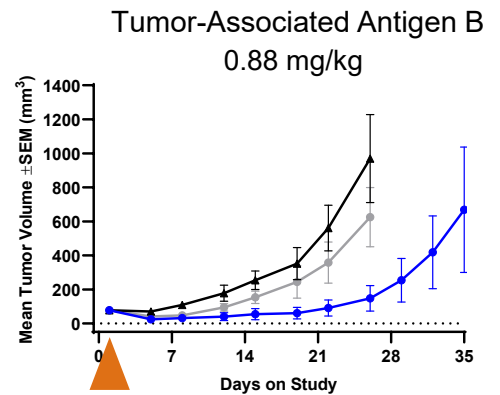
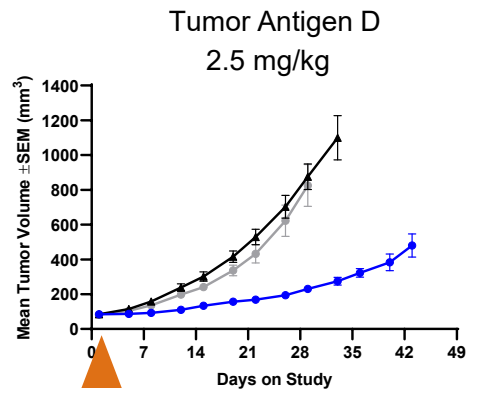
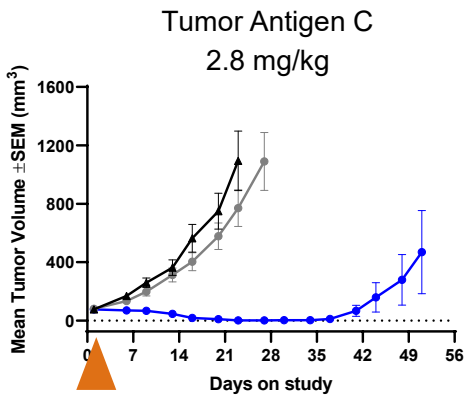
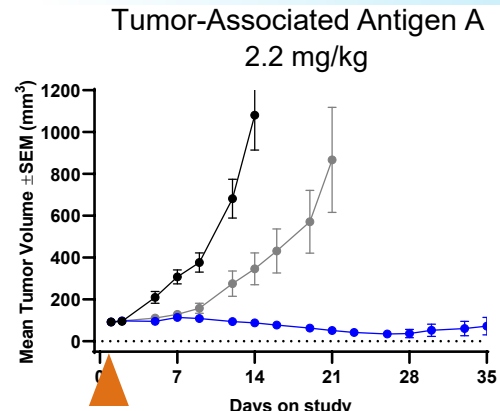
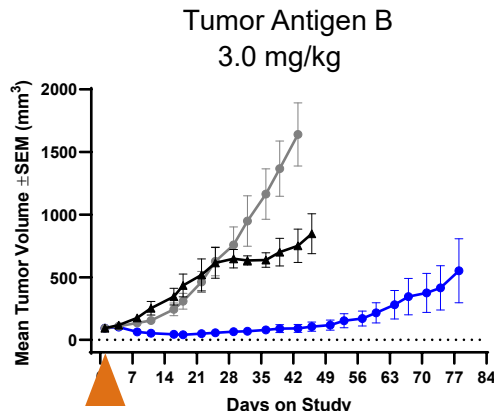
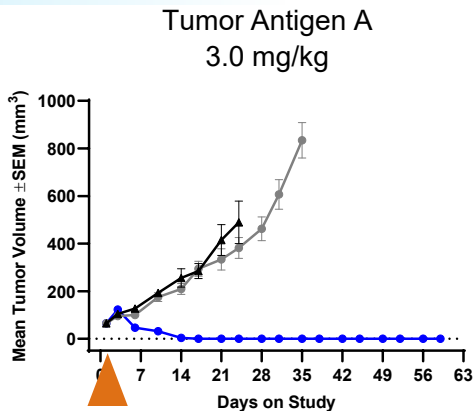
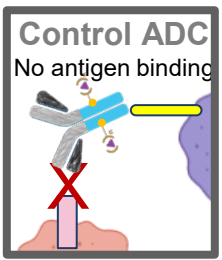
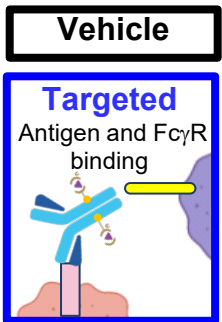
## Tumor Cell Killing in PBMC Co-Culture



Significant anti-tumor activity in vivo & tumor cell killing in vitro is maintained by the Fc-mutant ADC, which cannot internalize into the immune cells

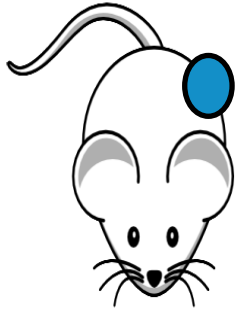
- Demonstrates the contribution of immune cell STING to activity
- Demonstrates the direct contribution of tumor-intrinsic STING activation

# Immunosynthen ADCs Active Against Diverse Tumor Antigens and Tumor-Associated Antigens in Multiple Models After Single, Low IV Dose

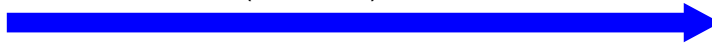


# Immunosynthen ADC Triggers Tumor-Specific Immunological Memory

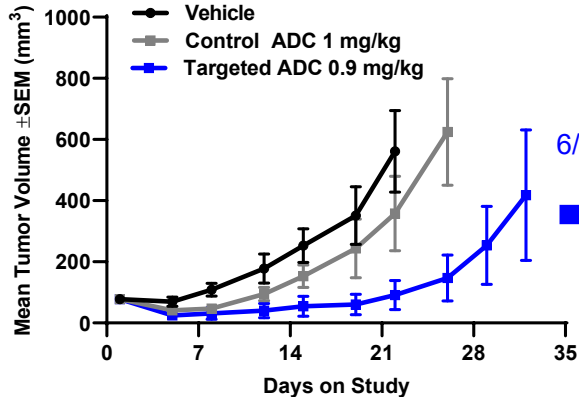
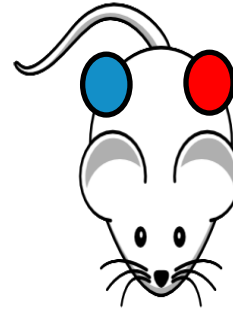
## Tumor Growth Inhibition Study



- Tumor free mice re-implanted with targeted tumor on one flank (blue) and a non targeted tumor on the other flank (red).
- Untreated age matched mice also implanted as a control (black line).



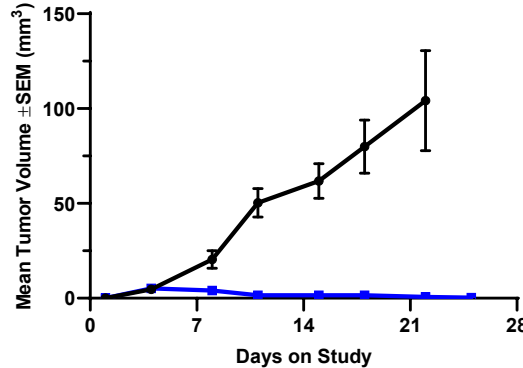
## Tumor Rechallenge Study (Dual Flank)



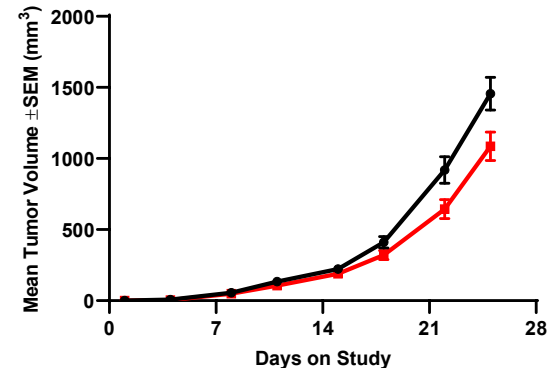
6/9 tumor-free animals



### Targeted-tumor



### Non-targeted tumor



single IV dose

● Untreated Control Mouse (age matched)  
■ Previously Treated with Targeted ADC

● Untreated Control Mouse (age matched)  
■ Previously Treated with Targeted ADC

# Targeting HER2:

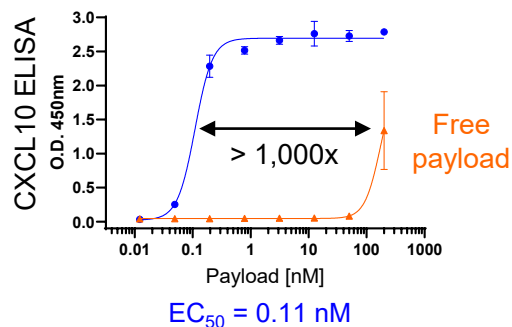
## XMT-2056 Provides a Differentiated Approach to a Well-validated Target

- HER2 is a well-validated target with multiple potential indications
  - Breast cancer, gastric cancer, NSCLC, colorectal cancer
  - Patient selection assays readily available
- Mersana developed a differentiated anti-HER2 antibody with Adimab
  - Specifically optimized for use in an ADC
  - Does not compete with trastuzumab or pertuzumab for HER2 binding
    - Rationale and opportunity for therapeutic combinations
- STING pathway is differentiated from other innate immune pathways
  - Activation in tumor cells and tumor-resident immune cells

# XMT-2056: Mersana's First Immunosynthen Development Candidate

## In Vitro – Tumor cells with PBMCs

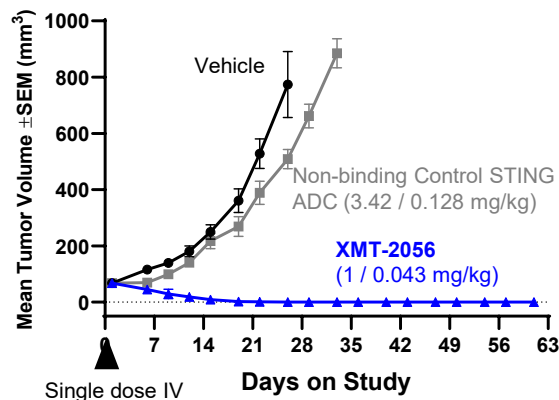
Greater than 1000 fold increase in potency of ADC vs. free payload



- ADC-mediated active delivery of STING payload to HER2 expressing tumor cells and PBMCs

## In Vivo – Mouse

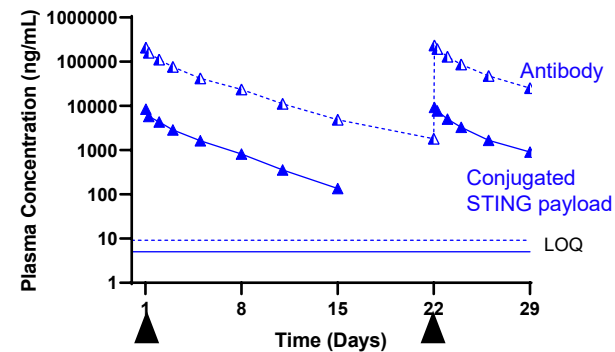
Highly efficacious in various human xenograft models



- Target dependent anti-tumor activity after a single dose of 1 mg/kg ADC

## In Vivo – Non-Human Primate (NHP)

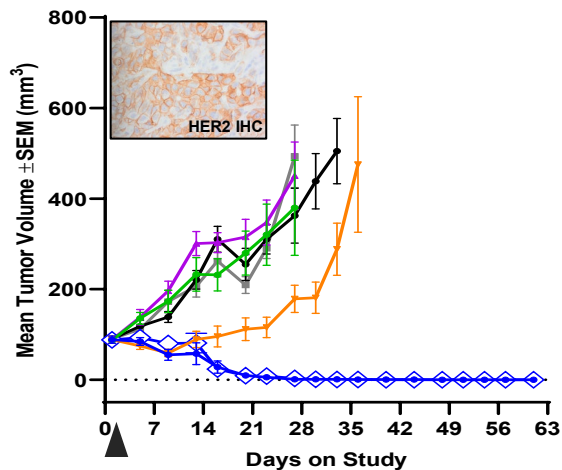
High, consistent exposures after repeat IV doses



- High stability as indicated by parallel curves of antibody and conjugated drug
- Comparable PK profiles after 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose

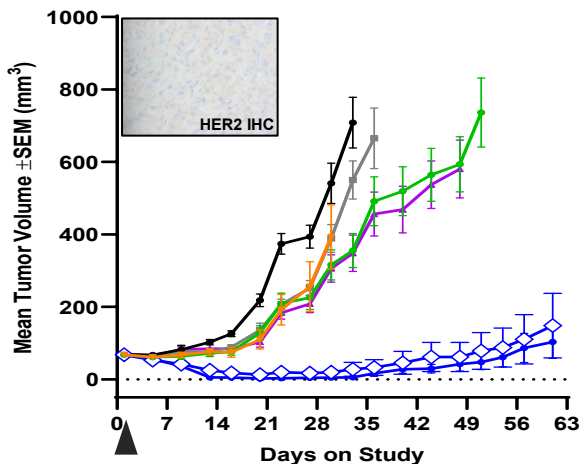
# XMT-2056 Outperforms diABZI IV STING Agonist and Trastuzumab TLR7/8 ISAC in Her2<sup>high</sup> and HER2<sup>low</sup> Models

**HCC1954 (HER2 "high")**  
**SCID Beige**  
 (RNAseq<sup>®</sup>: 11.90)



**SNU-5 (HER2 "low")**  
**CB.17 SCID**

(~22,000 receptors/cell; RNAseq<sup>®</sup>: 5.30)



**Vehicle**

diABZI IV STING agonist (1.5 mg/kg; q3dx3, IV)\*

Trastuzumab (10 mg/kg; qdx1, IP)

Non-binding Control STING ADC (3 / 0.112 mg/kg; qdx1, IV)

Trastuzumab TLR7/8 ISAC (5 / 0.033 mg/kg; q5dx6, IP)#

**XMT-2056**

● (1 / 0.043 mg/kg; qdx1, IV)

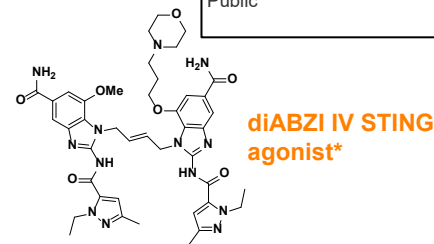
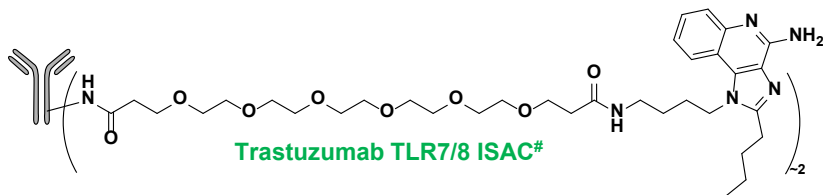
◇ (0.3 / 0.013 mg/kg; q5dx6, IP)

(Doses reflect mAb / payload mg/kg)

\*agonist described in Ramanjulu *et al.* (2018) *Nature* (compd 3 in reference)

#TLR7/8 ISAC described in Ackerman *et al.*, (2020) *Nature Cancer*

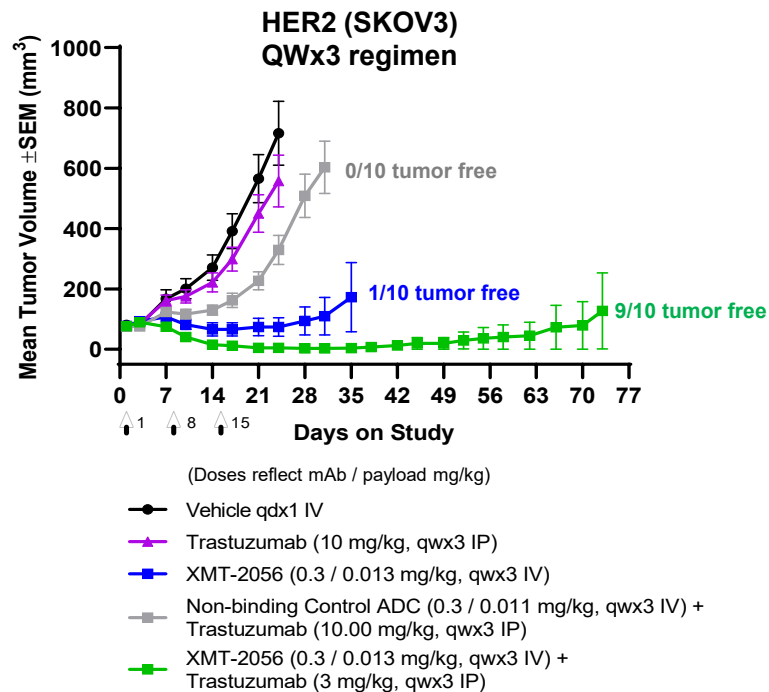
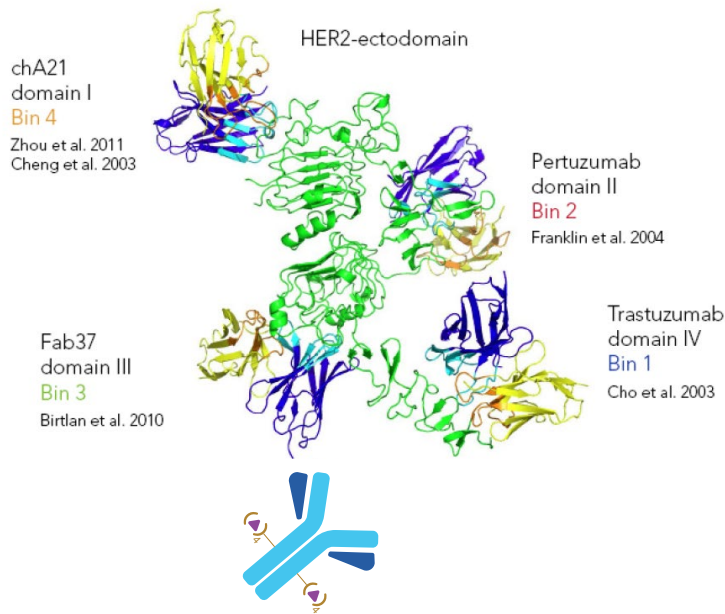
&CCLE RNAseq data from DepMap, Broad (2021): DepMap 21Q3 Public





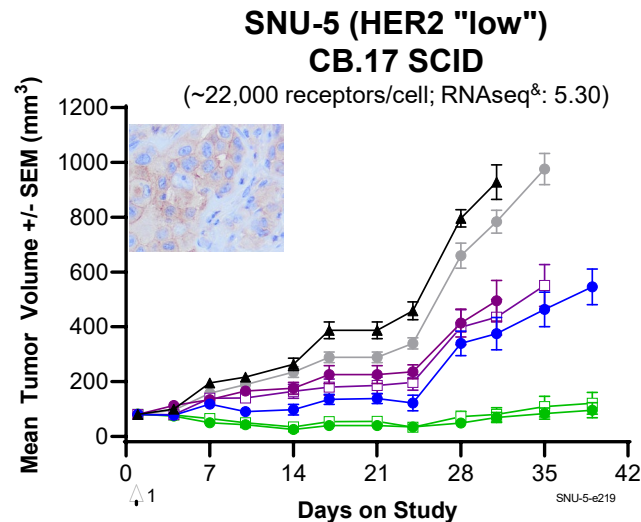
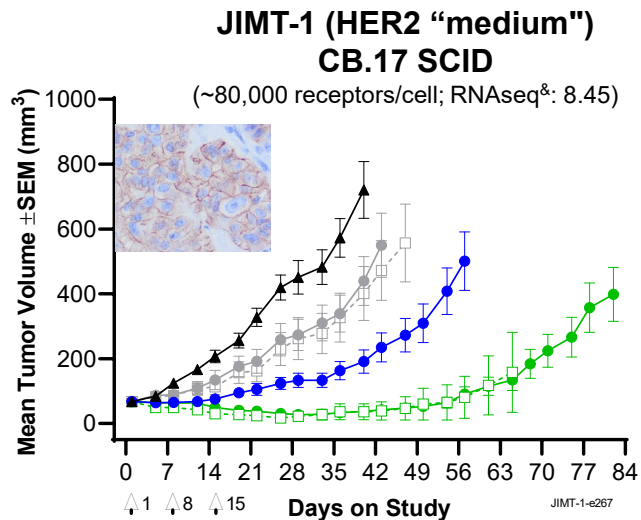
# XMT-2056 Targets a Novel HER2 Epitope Distinct from Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab Allowing for Combinability

## XMT-2056 Binds to a Novel Epitope



**XMT-2056 Offers a Potentially Differentiated and Complementary Approach to the Treatment of HER2-Expressing Tumors**

# Combination of XMT-2056 with Trastuzumab Or Pertuzumab Shows Benefit *In Vivo*



Vehicle  
 XMT-2056 (0.3 / 0.013 mg/kg, IV)  
 Non-binding control ADC (0.3 / 0.011 mg/kg, IV) +  
 Tras or Pert (3 mg/kg, IP)  
 XMT-2056 (0.3 / 0.013 mg/kg, IV) +  
 Tras or Pert (3 mg/kg, IP)

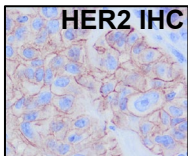
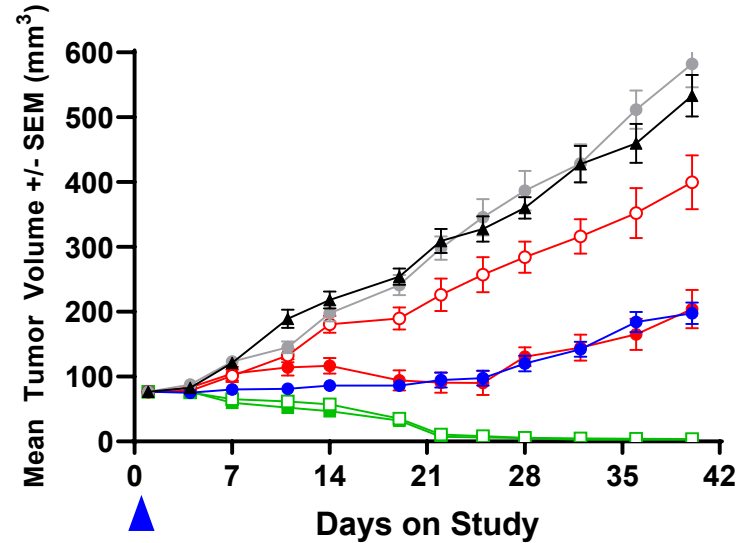
(ADC doses by mAb / payload mg/kg)

● Trastuzumab  
 □ Pertuzumab

Vehicle  
 Trastuzumab or Pertuzumab (2 mg/kg, IP)  
 Non-binding control ADC (0.2 / 0.007 mg/kg, IV)  
 XMT-2056 (0.2 / 0.009 mg/kg, IV)  
 XMT-2056 (0.2 / 0.009 mg/kg, IV) +  
 Tras or Pert (2 mg/kg, IP)

# Benefit from Combination of XMT-2056 with Enhertu (Trastuzumab deruxtecan) in a Tras<sup>R</sup> Model

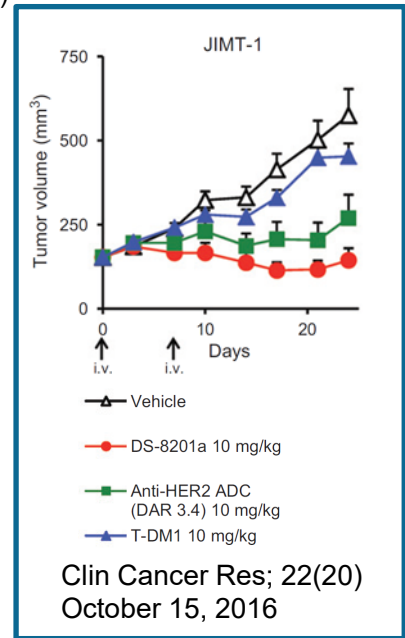
JIMT-1 (HER2 “med”)  
XMT-2056 + Enhertu



- ▲ Vehicle (qwx2 IV)
- Non-binding Control ADC (1.00 / 0.037 mg/kg, qdx1 IV)
- XMT-2056 (1.00 / 0.043 mg/kg, qdx1 IV)
- Enhertu (3.00 / 0.078 mg/kg, qwx2 IV)
- **Enhertu (10.00 / 0.261 mg/kg, qwx2 IV) - Published regimen**
- XMT-2056 (1.00 / 0.043 mg/kg, qdx1 IV) + Enhertu (3.00 / 0.078 mg/kg, qwx2 IV)
- XMT-2056 (1.00 / 0.043 mg/kg, qdx1 IV) + Enhertu (10.00 / 0.261 mg/kg, qwx2 IV)

(Doses by mAb / payload mg/kg)

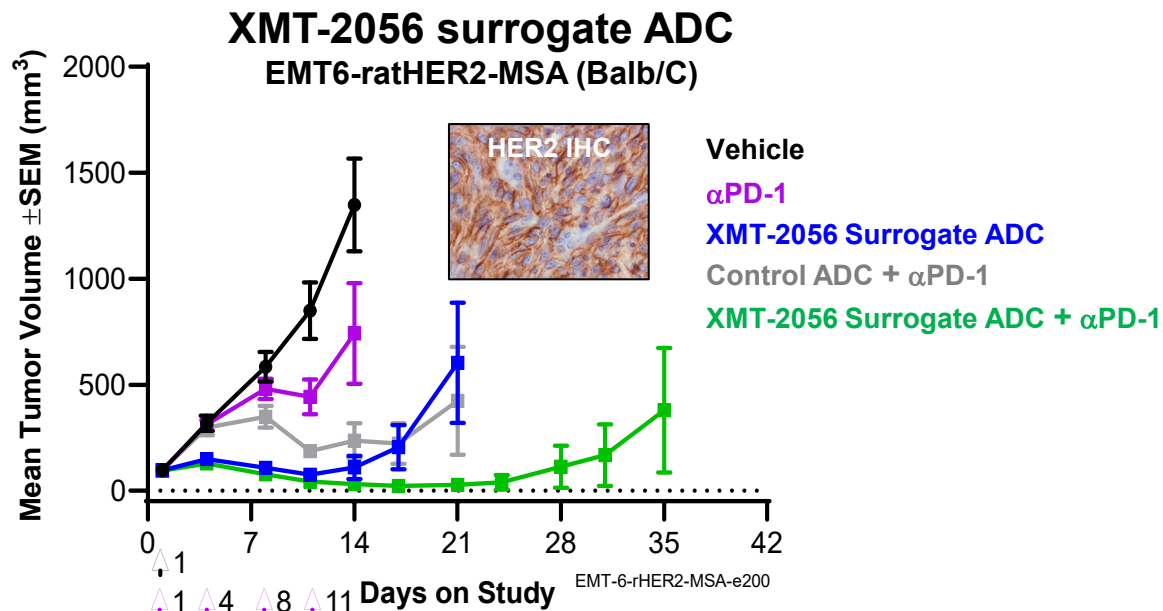
Enhertu published data



Clin Cancer Res; 22(20)  
October 15, 2016

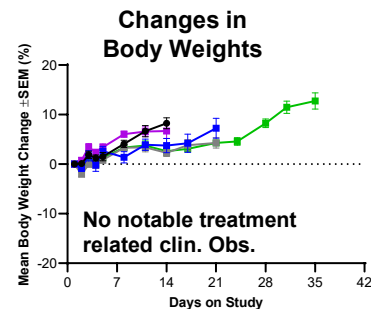
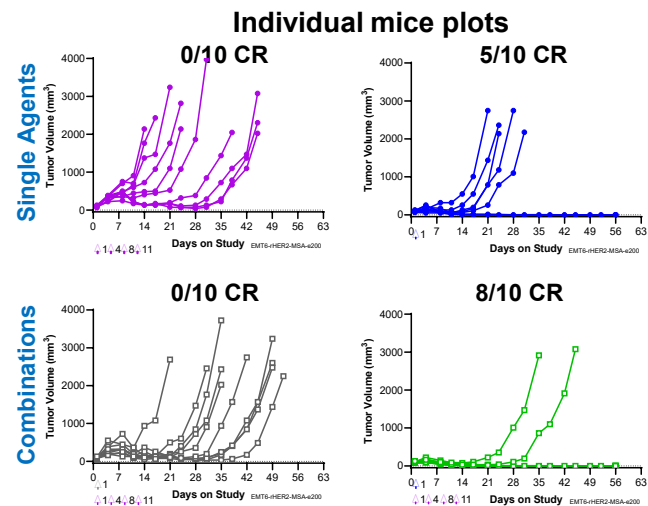
# Benefit from Combining XMT-2056 Surrogate with $\alpha$ PD1, and No Adverse Clinical Signs, in a ratHER2 Engineered Syngeneic Tumor

Rat HER2 expressed in EMT-6 mouse breast cancer model



$\alpha$ PD1 (5 mg/kg), biwx2, IP  
 Control ADC (0.3 / 0.012 mg/kg), single IV dose  
 XMT-2056 Surrogate ADC (0.3 / 0.01 mg/kg), single IV dose  
 (mAb = murine IgG2a targeting ratHER2)

**Additional study planned in a ratHER2 GEMM derived tumor model**



# XMT-2056 Displays a Therapeutic Index Based on Exposure in Relevant Pre-clinical Species

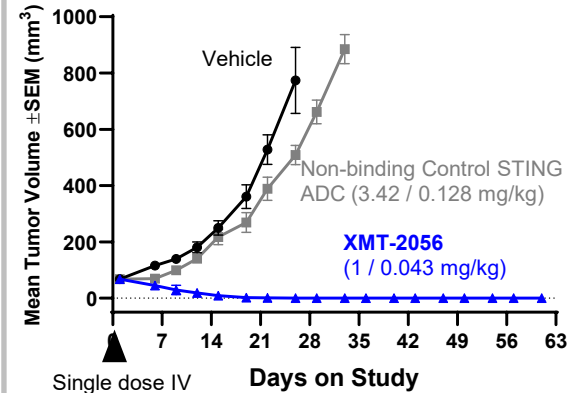
## NHP Results

Repeat dose studies at 36 mg/kg antibody intravenous administration

- No clinical signs, no mortality (considered a NOAEL)
- High exposure, high ADC stability in circulation
- Transient elevation of 5 cytokines out of 24 tested
- No adverse changes in clinical pathology
- No adverse findings in histopathology

## In Vivo – Mouse

Highly efficacious in various human xenograft models



- Target dependent anti-tumor activity after a single dose of 1 mg/kg ADC

- XMT-2056 offers a novel approach to the treatment of HER2-expressing tumors.
- Preclinical data to date shows it:
  - Utilizes a novel antibody that is non-competitive with trastuzumab and pertuzumab
  - Demonstrates target-dependent STING activation of tumor cells and tumor-resident immune cells, both of which can contribute to the anti-tumor effect
  - Is highly efficacious as single agent and in combination with trastuzumab, pertuzumab, CPIs and trastuzumab deruxtecan (Enhertu)
  - Is well-tolerated with no adverse events in NHPs after repeat doses at exposures far exceeding those required for efficacy in mouse

# Mersana Pipeline

Platform	ADC Program	Target	Indication	Discovery	Preclinical	P1 Dose Escalation	P1 Dose Expansion	P2/Pivotal	P3	
Dolaflexin	Upifitamab Rilsodotin (UpRi)*	NaPi2b	Platinum-Resistant Ovarian Cancer	UPLIFT Single-Arm Registrational Trial						
			Platinum-Sensitive Ovarian Cancer	UPGRADE Phase 1-2 Combo						
			Recurrent Platinum-Sensitive Ovarian Cancer Maintenance	UP-NEXT Phase 3 Trial						
Dolasynten	XMT-1660	B7-H4	Multiple Solid Tumors							
Immunosynten	XMT-2056	Novel HER2 Epitope	Multiple Solid Tumors				GSK**			
	XMT-2068	Tumor-Associated Antigen	Undisclosed							
	XMT-2175	Tumor-Associated Antigen	Undisclosed							
<b>Collaborators:</b>										
Dolasynten		Multiple	Undisclosed							
Dolaflexin		Multiple	Undisclosed							
		5T4	Undisclosed							

\*NaPi2b antibody used in UpRi (formerly XMT-1536) is in-licensed from Recepta Biopharma. Recepta has rights to commercialize UpRi in Brazil.

\*\*XMT-2056 is wholly owned by Mersana, with GSK having an exclusive global license option to co-develop and commercialize the candidate.

\*\*\*EMD Serono is an affiliate of Merck KGaA.

# Acknowledgements

I would very much like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the multi-disciplinary team at Mersana, including Research, CMC, Clinical Development, Regulatory, and many others, for the tremendous effort to bring XMT-2056 to the clinic, as well as our collaborators as we continue to advance it for the potential benefit to patients