

## Beyond VEGF-A: Targeting VEGF-C/D for Wet AMD and DME

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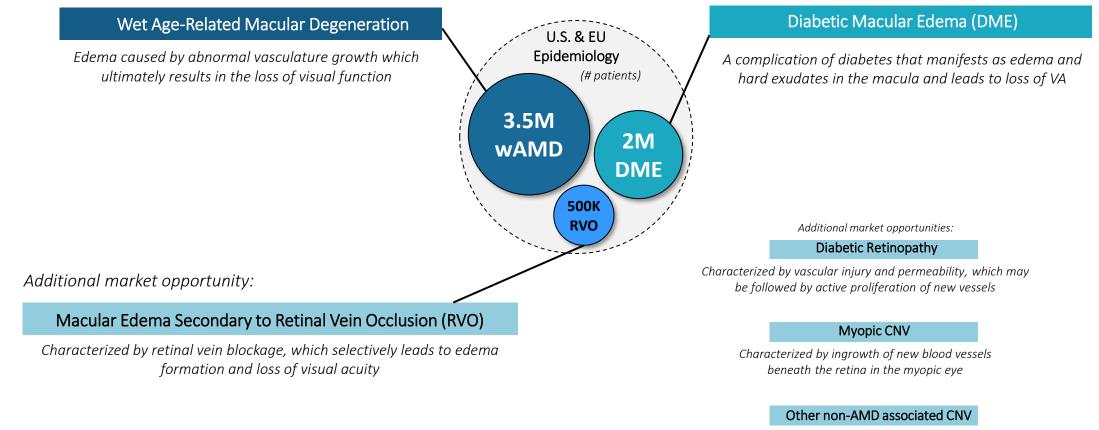
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#### Wet AMD & DME are the leading causes of vision loss in the elderly & diabetics

Increasing prevalence; large unmet medical need

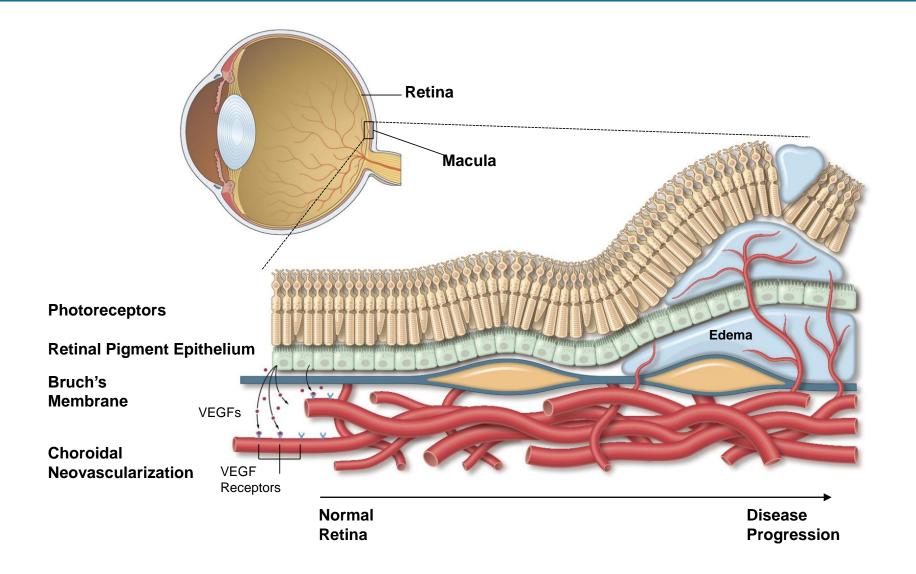


May occur secondary to other ophthalmic conditions



#### **Retinal Eye Diseases – Angiogenesis and Vascular Permeability**

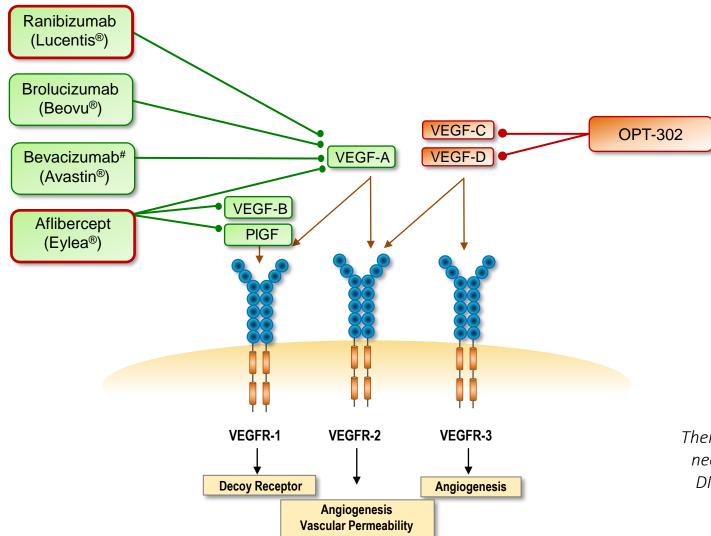
Lead to lesion formation, edema & vision loss





#### The VEGF/VEGFR Pathway & Disease Progression

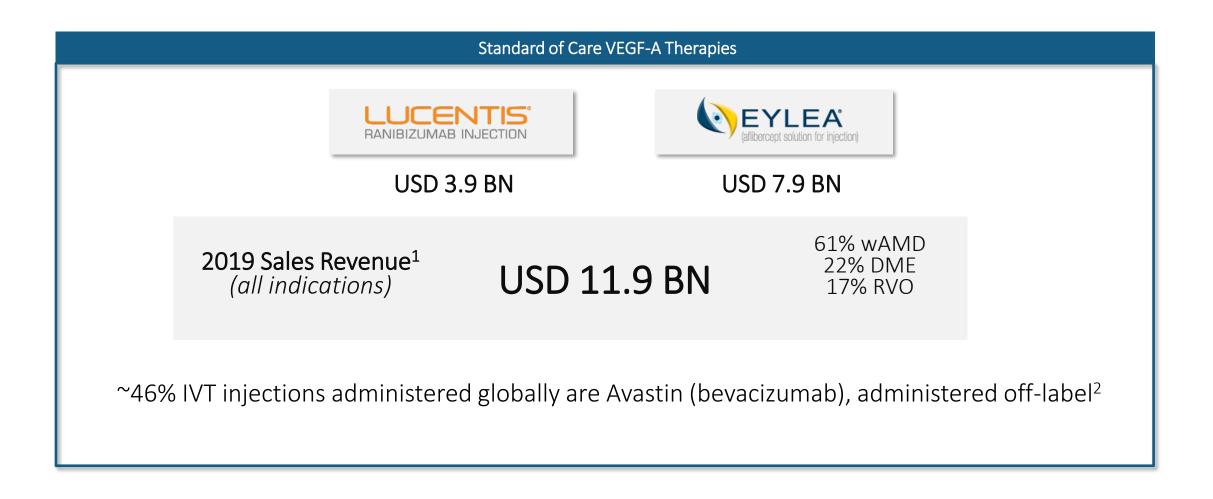
OPT-302 has potential to improve clinical EFFICACY by targeting VEGF-C/D



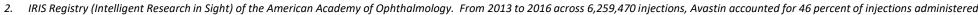
There remains a significant unmet medical need for the treatment of wet AMD and DME despite the availability of VEGF-A inhibitors



#### Large Market Opportunity for New Retinal Disease Therapies



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#### The OPPORTUNITY for OPT-302

*Objective:* To develop OPT-302 for use in combination with any VEGF-A inhibitor

A commercial assessment of OPT-302, conducted by an Independent Research Firm, forecasts worldwide annual peak sales of OPT-302 for wet AMD and DME alone to be  $US 5.3 BN^{1}$ 



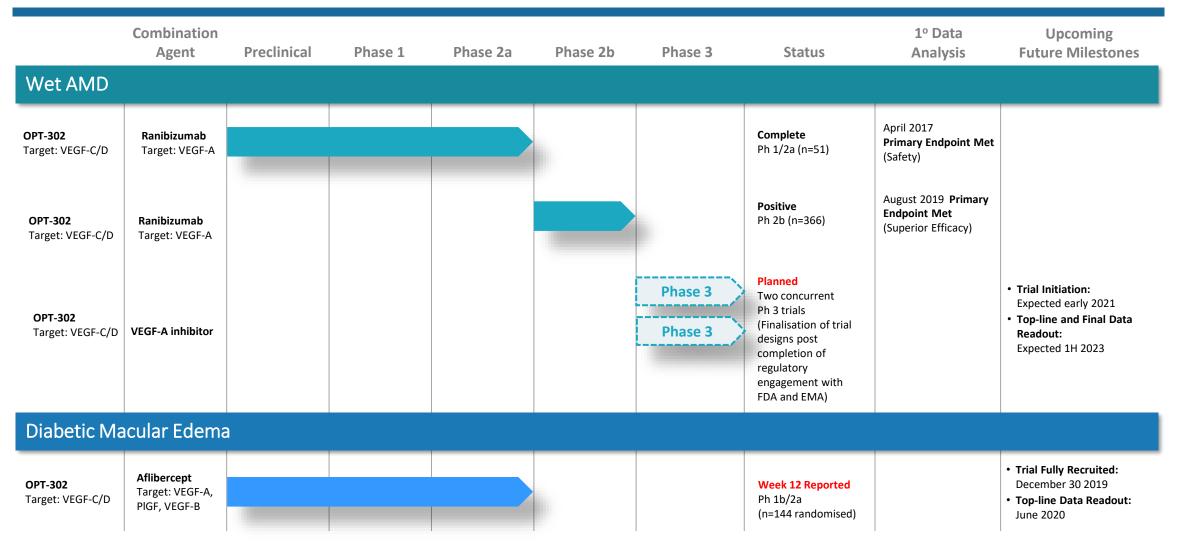
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# Majority of Agents in Development Seeking to Improve Durability of VEGF-A Inhibition

Therapeutic Landscape of Companies with Ophthalmic Pipeline Assets							
Company	Market Cap US \$M	Product		ΜΟΑ	Stage	Disease Focus	Treatment Effect
	\$5,970	Conbercept	ų.	Anti-VEGF-A	Phase III	wAMD, DME,	Durability
KODIAK	\$2,100	KSI-301	A CONSTRUCTION OF CONSTRUCTION	Anti-VEGF-A	Phase I – III	wAMD, DME, RVO	Durability
	\$1,440	ADVM-022		Anti-VEGF-A VEGF-B, PIGF	Phase I/II	DME, DR, wAMD	Durability
	<b>3</b> \$1,280	RGX-314		Anti-VEGF-A	Phase II	wAMD	Durability
GLAUKCS Transforming Blaucame Therepy	\$2,070	Bioerodible, drug delivery		Sustained Release	Early Stage	Glaucoma, wAMD, DME	Durability
Apellis	\$2,100	APL-2		Complement C3	Phase III	Dry AMD	Efficacy
aerie	\$552	ROCKi/PKCi implant		Rho kinase, Inflammation	Phase I/II	Glaucoma, wAMD, Dry Eye, Dry AMD	Durability
	\$380	Zimura		Complement C5	Phase III	GA Dry AMD	Efficacy
O U R I O N°	\$124	THR-687 THR-149		Kallikrein, Pan-RGD integrin	Phase III	DME	Durability



#### **OPT-302 Clinical Program**







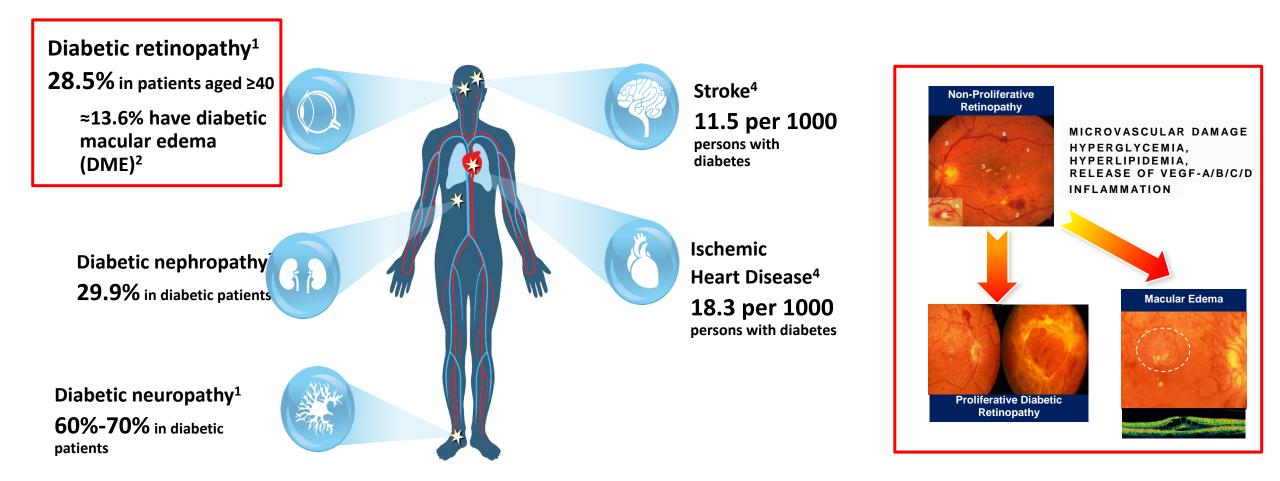
## **Diabetic Macular Edema**

Review & Opthea's Phase 1b/2a DME Trial

Arshad M. Khanani, MD, MA Managing Partner, Director of Clinical Research, Sierra Eye Associates, Reno, NV

- Private office-based practice
- Multispecialty with 3 retinal physicians
- 75 employees total
- 8 technicians, 6 research coordinators
- 40+ active clinical trials
- 80 patients a day on average
- Approximately 600 anti-VEGF-A Intravitreal injections a month

#### **Diabetes Associated With Serious Comorbidities: Retinopathy & DME**

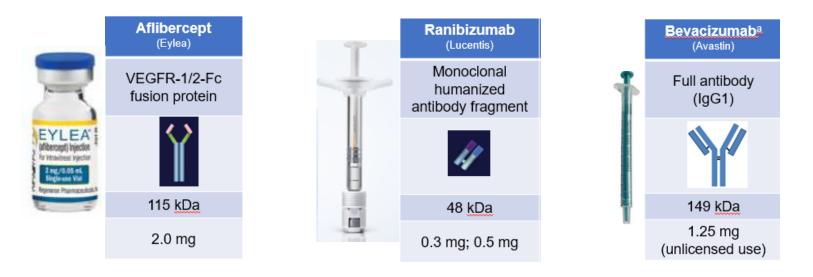


1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2011. http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pubs/pdf/ndfs\_2011.pdf. Accessed June 11, 2018. 2. Varma, et al. 2012 Joint Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology; November 10-13, 2012; Chicago, IL. Poster PO252. 3. United States Renal Data System. 2012 atlas of CKD and ESRD. Bethesda, MD: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; 2012. http://www.usrds.org/atlas.aspx. Accessed February 7, 2013.

4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2017 National Diabetes Statistics Report. https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/pdfs/data/statistics/national-diabetes-statistics-report.pdf. Accessed July 10, 2018.

#### Current First-line DME treatments primarily target VEGF-A Second-line treatment includes corticosteroids

#### Current approved and off-label first-line standard of care therapy primarily targeting VEGF-A inhibition:



#### Steroid treatments mostly used as second-line therapy:

Fluocinolone acetonide



Dexamethasone

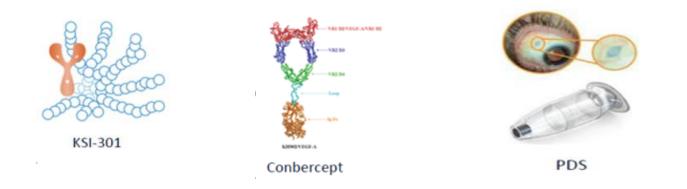


Triamcinolone



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# Investigational Treatments in DME Pipeline also Mostly Targeting VEGF-A and/or are Aimed at Durability

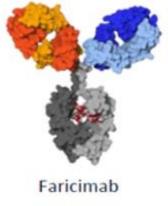


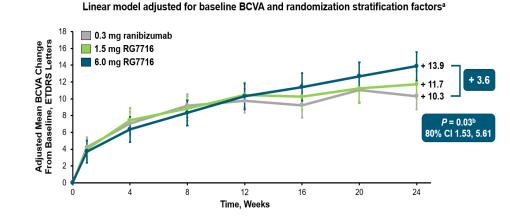
Anti-VEGF-A/Ang-2 Bispecific Antibody Faricimab in DME. Results of Phase 2 BOULEVARD trial

**Treatment-Naïve** 

#### Mean BCVA Change From Baseline

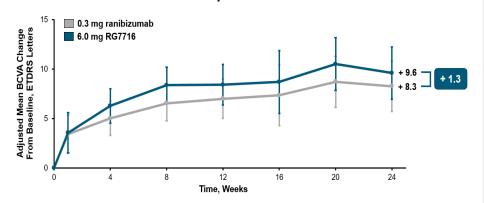
RG7716 met its prespecified primary endpoint of efficacy





#### Mean BCVA Gains From Baseline

BCVA outcome directionally supports primary outcome



Linear model adjusted for baseline BCVA<sup>a</sup>

Previously anti-VEGF-treated patients only, intent-to-treat population. Error bars represent 80% Cl. \* Least squares means from Inter-model analysis of study eye BCVA change from baseline, BCULEVARD clinical trial (NCT02699450), BCVA, best-corrected visual acuity; ETDRS, Early Treatment Totabete ReferenceM Study



**Previously-Treated** 

Anti-LCECF breatment-naive galanets only. Error bars represent 80% C1. \* Lineer model adjusted for baseline BCVA, previous macular laser treatment status at randomization, and BCVA calegory (> 64 letters vs = 63 letters) at baseline. \* P = 0.03 for 6.0 mg RG7716 vs 0.3 mg antiburnumb. Proceeding significance levell, P < 0.2 OULEVARD clinical trial (NCT02699450), BCVA, best-corrected visual acuity, ETDRS, Early Treatment Dabetic Retinopathy Study.

### Patients With Persistent DME Are a Significant Unmet Need

There is a need for novel therapeutic approaches to improve clinical outcomes

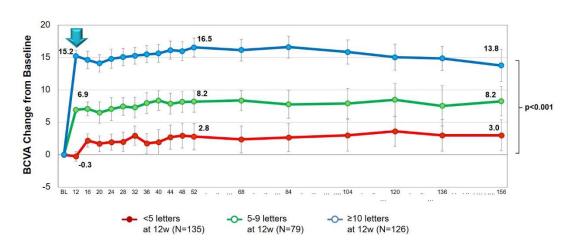
Many patients have limited BCVA gains despite regular anti-VEGF-A monotherapy

In Protocol I:

- 40% patients gained < 5 letters by week 12
- 23% patients gained 5-9 letters by week 12
  - $\circ$  Only ~25-30% patients show a further ≥ 5 letter gain from 12 weeks to 1 year
  - $\circ$  Mean BCVA from 12 weeks to 1 year only improved by ~1.3 to 3.1 letters

#### **DRCR Protocol I**

#### Sub-optimal responders identified as early as 12 weeks



- Therapeutic options are limited for patients with persistent DME
  - Switching of anti-VEGF-A therapy
  - IVT corticosteroids associated with cataracts & IOP increase

Combination therapy targeting alternative mediators of the disease such VEGF-C/-D may lead to improved outcomes

\*Based on randomized, controlled clinical trial data; <sup>#</sup> Fail to achieve ≥ 2 lines gain in BCVA; ^ SD-OCT CST ≥ 300 µM or Time-Domain OCT CST ≥ 250 µM Nguyen QD et al. Ophthalmology 2012; 119:789-801; Do DV, et al, JAMA Ophthalmol 2013; 131:139-45; Gonzalez VH et al, Am J Ophthalmol. 2016; Spooner K, et al, Clin Ophthalmol. 2017; 11: 161-177.; Regillo CD, et al, Ophthalmic Surg Lasers Imaging Retina 2017; 48:291-301. BCVA, best-corrected visual acuity; DME, diabetic macular edema; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor.

#### **Role of VEGF-C and -D in the Pathophysiology of DR and DME** Rationale for inhibition of VEGF-C/D in DME

- VEGFR-2 expression is greater in diabetic retina than non-diabetics <sup>1,2,3</sup>
- Elevations of VEGF-C in diabetic retinopathy and VEGF-D in vitreous of diabetics<sup>3,4</sup>
- VEGF-C expression is elevated by glucose & pro-inflammatory cytokines <sup>5,6</sup>
- Advanced glycation end products accumulate faster in diabetics and stimulate VEGF-C expression and secretion from the RPE<sup>7</sup>
- Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in diabetic patients indicate that genetic variation in the VEGF-C gene is associated with DR and DME<sup>8</sup>

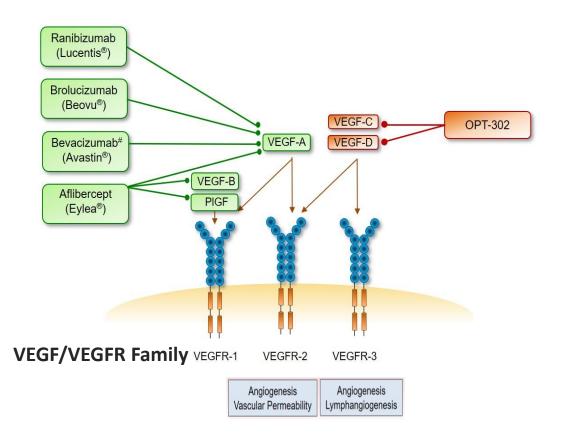
#### VEGF-C/D Signaling Pathway plays a functional role in the Pathogenesis of DME

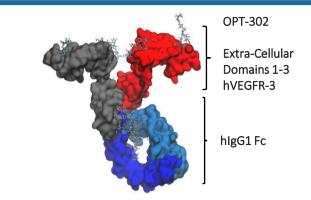
1. Sun et al., 2014; 2. Witmer et al., 2002; 3. Zhao et al., 2007; 4. Kovacs et al., 2015; 5. Puddu et al., 2012; 6. Nagineni et al., 2011; 7. Karaman et al., 2014; 8. Kaidonis et al., 2015 DME, diabetic macular edema; DR, diabetic retinopathy; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

### **OPT-302: Inhibitor of VEGF-C and -D**

Intravitreal OPT-302 combination therapy may improve outcomes in DME

- OPT-302 is a soluble VEGFR-3 'trap' fusion protein
  - Potent inhibitor of VEGF-C/-D interaction with VEGFR-2 & VEGFR-3
- Existing therapies target VEGF-A but not VEGF-C or VEGF-D





- VEGF-C is elevated in diabetic retinopathy and vitreous levels of VEGF-D are elevated in diabetes
- VEGF-C/-D are upregulated in response to VEGF-A suppression
- OPT-302 combination therapy targets this escape mechanism with broad inhibition of the VEGF/VEGFR pathway
- OPT-302 combination therapy demonstrated superiority in BCVA gains from baseline to week 24 over anti-VEGF-A monotherapy in treatment naïve patients with nAMD\*

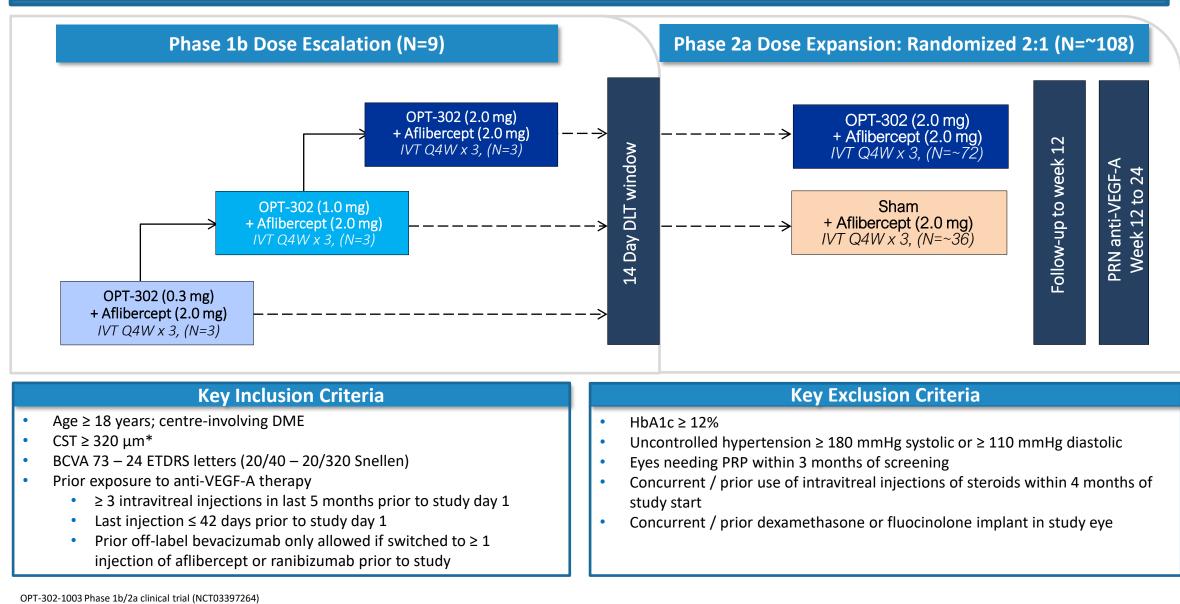
Dugel PU et al, 2020; Zhao B, et al. 2007; Kovacs K, et al. 2015; Lieu C, et al. 2013; Li D, et al. 2014; Rose S and Aghi M. 2010; Fan F, et al. 2011; Cabral T, et al. 2018

\*Based on Phase 2b randomized, controlled clinical trial data in 366 patients ; Jackson, T, Euretina 2019.

BCVA, best-corrected visual acuity; DME, diabetic macular edema; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor.

### **OPT-302 DME Trial Design**

Previously anti-VEGF-A-treated patients with persistent DME, a difficult-to-treat population



<sup>\*</sup>CST as measured by Spectralis (Heidelberg) at screening,  $\geq$  305  $\mu m$  for Cirrus.

DLT, Dose Limiting Toxicity; Q4W, once every 4 weeks; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor;

### Phase 2a Clinical Analyses of OPT-302 Combination Therapy

All patients enrolled had persistent center-involved DME despite prior anti-VEGF-A treatment

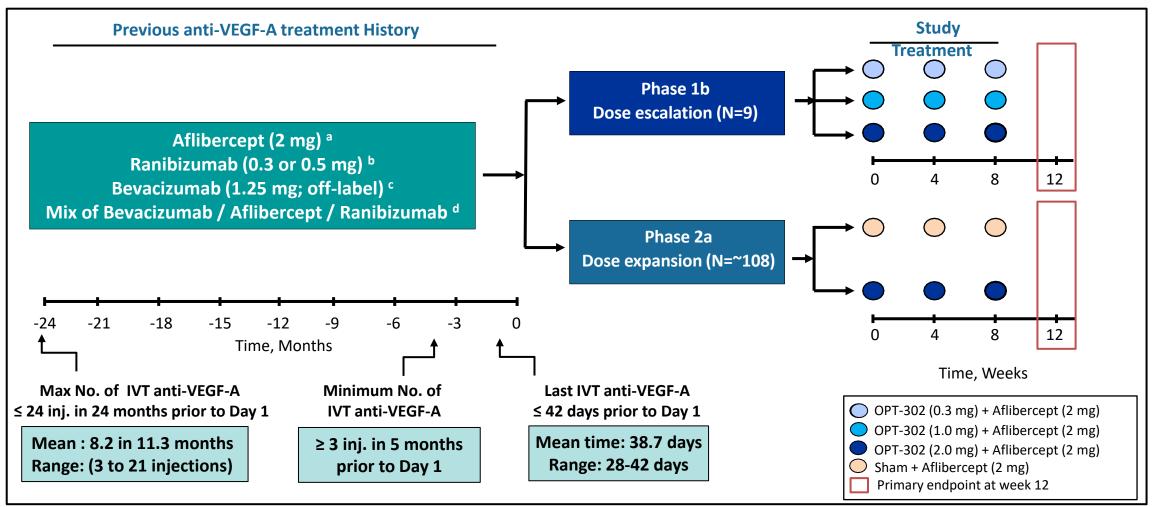
Clinical Analyses:

- All patients in the Per Protocol Population
  - Heterogeneous all comer's population for prior anti-VEGF-A history
    - (aflibercept / ranibizumab / bevacizumab)
  - Variable prior-treatment history
    - number and frequency of previous intravitreal anti-VEGF-A injections
- Patients who had received prior aflibercept therapy (exploratory subgroup)
  - More homogenous population for prior anti-VEGF-A history
  - Less variable prior treatment history & greater VEGF-A suppression at baseline
  - Most stringent and least variable patient population to test the ability of OPT-302 to provide additional benefit over VEGF-A inhibition

#### OPT-302 Phase 1b/2a

Phase 1b dose escalation and Phase 2a randomised, controlled, double masked, proof-of-concept study

- Heterogeneous all comer's population for prior anti-VEGF-A history (aflibercept / ranibizumab / bevacizumab) in patients with persistent DME
  - Variable treatment history including number and frequency of prior intravitreal injections of anti-VEGF-A monotherapy



a Includes patients receiving only all Aflibercept or last 3 injections of Aflibercept prior to study entry

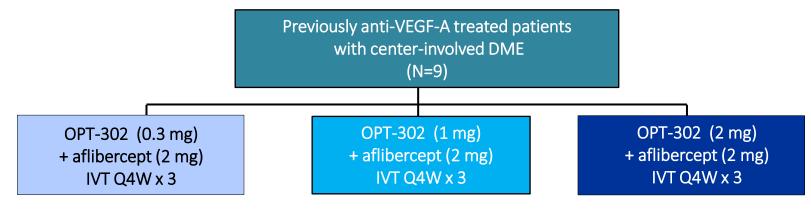
b Includes patients receiving only all Ranibizumab or last 3 injections of Ranibizumab prior to study entry

c Includes patients receiving only all off-label Bevacizumab. For last injection prior to study entry patients must be switched to 1 injection of either Aflibercept or Ranibizumab

d Includes patients receiving multiple switching of anti-VEGF-A therapy. For last injection prior to study entry patients must be switched to 1 injection of either Aflibercept or Ranibizumab

### Phase 1b Dose Escalation of OPT-302 Combination Therapy

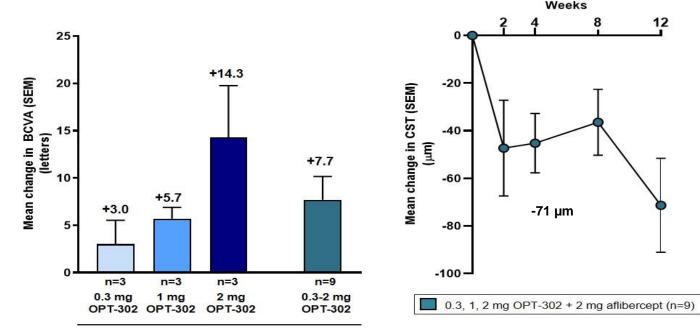
#### Summary of results



• OPT-302 + Aflibercept showed a dose-response for BCVA gains to Week 12 with a corresponding decrease in CST

#### Safety / Tolerability:

- IVT OPT-302 up to 2 mg in combination with aflibercept (2 mg) was well tolerated
- No dose limiting toxicities
- Maximum Tolerated Dose not reached
- No study drug related adverse events



+ 2 mg Aflibercept

### **Baseline Demographics**

Well balanced across treatment groups in Phase 2a

Characteristic	Aflibercept (2mg) + Sham (N = 48)	Aflibercept (2mg) + OPT-302 (2 mg) (N = 96)
Mean age, years (SD)	61.2 (9.40)	61.8 (10.07)
Male, n (%)	30 (62.5%)	60 (62.5%)
Race, n (%) American Indian or Alaska native Asian Black or AfricanAmerican White Other	0 (0%) 1 (2.1%) 8 (16.7%) 37 (77.1%) 2 (4.2%)	0 (0%) 1 (1.0%) 8 (8.3%) 87 (90.6%) 0 (0%)
Mean duration of diabetes, years (SD)	15 (9.23)	14.5 (8.97)
Diabetes Type n (%)		
Туре І	3 (6.3%)	5 (5.2%)
Туре II	45 (93.8%)	87 (90.6%)
Type not reported	0 (0%)	4 (4.2%)
Mean HbA1c, % (SD)	8.1 (1.27)	7.5 (1.37)

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# **Baseline Demographics** Well balanced across treatment groups in Phase 2a

Characteristic	2.0 mg aflibercept + Sham (N=48)	2.0 mg aflibercept + 2.0 mg OPT-302 (N=96)
Vision		
Mean best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) – letters (±SD)	63.9 (9.44)	63.3 (8.31)
>55 letters vision - n (%)	41 (85.4%)	81 (84.4%)
≤55 letters vision - n (%)	7 (14.6%)	15 (15.6%)
Anatomic		
Mean central subfield thickness (CST) - $\mu$ m (±SD)	427.3 (99.7)	433.8 (104.5)
CST >450 μm - n (%)	17 (35.4)%	30 (31.3)%
CST ≤450 μm - n (%)	31 (64.6)%	66 (68.8)%
Diabetic Retinopathy Severity Score		
Absent or mild NPDR (level 10-20)	4 (8.4%)	4 (4.4%)
Mild-moderate NPDR (level 35)	4 (8.3%)	13 (14.2%)
Moderate NPDR (level 43)	11 (22.9%)	15 (16.5%)
Moderately Severe NPDR (level 47)	20 (41.7%)	46 (50.5%)
Severe NPDR (level 53)	7 (14.6%)	13 (14.3%)
Mild PDR (level 61)	2 (4.2%)	0 (0.0%)

### **Prior Treatment History Study Eye**

Characteristic	2.0 mg aflibercept + Sham (N=40)	2.0 mg aflibercept + 2.0 mg OPT-302 (N=75)		
Mean Duration of Diabetic Macular Edema – years (±SD)	1.6 (1.70)	1.3 (1.30)		
Mean Number of Prior IVT Anti-VEGF-A Injections for CI-DME (±SD)	8.4 (4.56)	8.0 (4.35)		
Mean Duration of Prior IVT Anti-VEGF-A injections – months (±SD)	12.4 (6.43)	10.7 (5.95)		
Mean time from Prior Treatment to Day 1 – days (±SD)	38.4 (3.59)	38.8 (3.87)		
Prior Anti-VEGF-A Therapies n (%)				
3 injections	4 (10.0%)	6 (8.0%)		
4-6 injections	13 (32.5%)	33 (44.0%)		
7-12 injections	15 (37.5%)	24 (32.0%)		
13-24 injections	8 (20.0%)	12 (16.0%)		
Prior Anti-VEGF-A Treatment n (%)				
Aflibercept <sup>a</sup>	13 (32.5%)	22 (29.3%)		
Ranibizumab <sup>b</sup>	4 (10.0%)	9 (12.0%)		
Bevacizumab <sup>c</sup>	19 (47.5%)	35 (46.7%)		
Multiple switching of anti-VEGF-A therapy (aflibercept, ranibizumab, bevacizumab) <sup>d</sup>	4 (10.0%)	9 (12%)		

Per Protocol population (n=115), must have received all 3 intravitreal study treatments and evaluable at Baseline through Week 12 and sufficiently compliant with the protocol.

a Includes patients receiving only all Aflibercept or last 3 injections of Aflibercept prior to study entry

b Includes patients receiving only all Ranibizumab or last 3 injections of Ranibizumab prior to study entry

c Includes patients receiving only all Bevacizumab. For last injection prior to study entry patients must be switched to 1 injection of either Aflibercept or Ranibizumab

d Includes patients receiving multiple switching of anti-VEGF-A therapy. For last injection prior to study entry patients must be switched to 1 injection of either Aflibercept or Ranibizumab

### Safety

#### Well tolerated & consistent with previous OPT-302 Phase 1 and Phase 2b clinical trials in wet AMD

Selected Adverse Events Study Eye or Systemic, n (%)	Aflibercept (2mg) + Sham (N = 49)	Aflibercept (2mg) + OPT-302 (2 mg) (N =95)	
Intraocular inflammation	1 (2.0%)	1 (1.1%)	
Endophthalmitis	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Retinal detachment	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Cataract	1 (2.0%)	3 (3.2%)	
Intraocular Pressure Increased <sup>^</sup>	3 (6.1%)	14 (14.7%)	
Non-fatal myocardial infarction	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Non-fatal stroke*	0 (0%)	1 (1.1%)	
Vascular death	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Any other death	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	

• A total of 299 intravitreal injections of OPT-302 (any dose) were co-administered with aflibercept (2 mg) in the Phase 1b/2a DME trial

Safety population (n=144); TEAEs reported through Week 12.

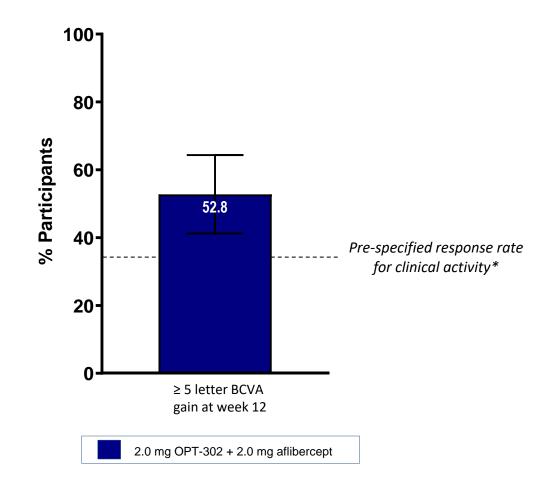
^Changes in IOP were transient and there were no sustained changes to post-treatment mean IOP values compared to baseline.

\*Grade 3 cerebrovascular accident, 21 days following the second dosing of study products, participant was hospitalized. No evidence of occlusion of the great vessels.

It was concluded that a CVA could not be ruled out however its location is unclear. The event was assessed as possibly related as it was confounded by the underlying diabetes mellitus, which is a risk factor for the event, as well as underlying Bladder cancer as having potential to induce thrombotic events. Participant withdrew consent and was discontinued due to the event

#### **Primary Efficacy Endpoint:** Response Rate of ≥ 5 letter gain to Week 12

Previously anti-VEGF-A treated DME patients after switching to OPT-302 + aflibercept combination therapy

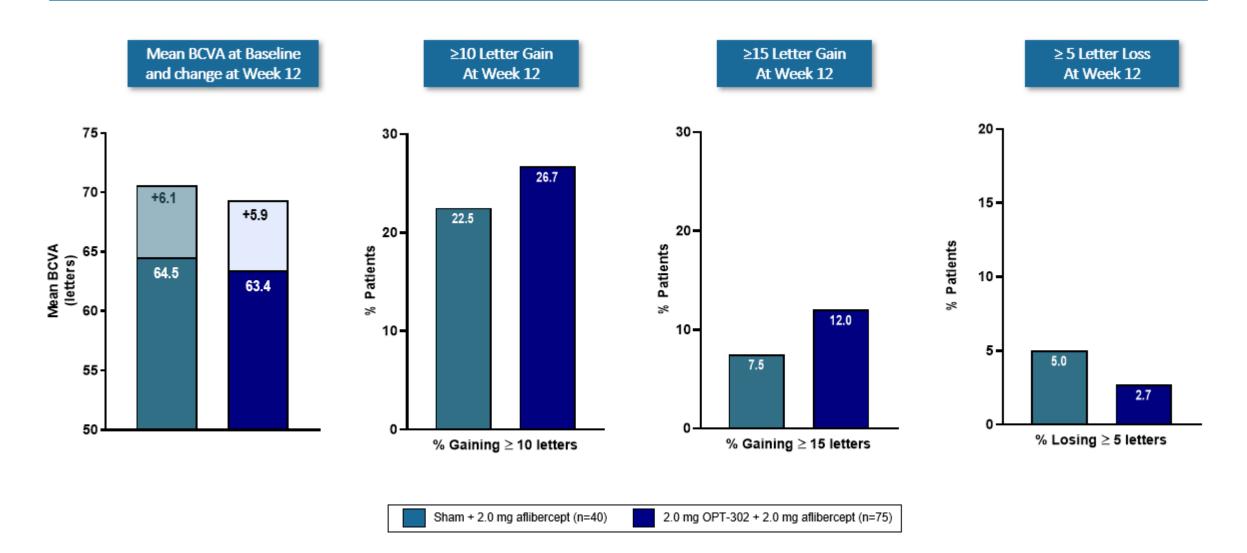


\* A one stage design was used (Sargent, Control Clin Trials 2001;22:117–125) based on the pre-specified response rate primary outcome of a total of 72 evaluable patients receiving aflibercept + OPT-302, in Per Protocol population, must have received all 3 intravitreal study treatments and evaluable at Baseline through Week 12, and sufficiently compliant with the protocol.

- Clinical activity if ≥ 27 of 72 patients have a ≥ 5 letter gain in BCVA from baseline to week 12; Type I and II error rates set to 5% and with probability of at least 90%
- Bars represent 95% Confidence Intervals
- Based on previous studies that show limited scope to achieve a further 5 letter or more improvement gain in visual acuity following an initial loading dose period and ongoing anti-VEGF-A monotherapy, and historical anti-VEGF-A response rate (Gonzalez VH, et al. Am J Ophthalmol 2016; 172:72-79.; Chatziralli I, et al. Eye. 2017; 31: 1594-1599; Maturi RK, et al. JAMA Ophthalmology. 2018; 136: 29-38; Based on (Gonzalez VH et al, Am J Ophthalmol. 2016).

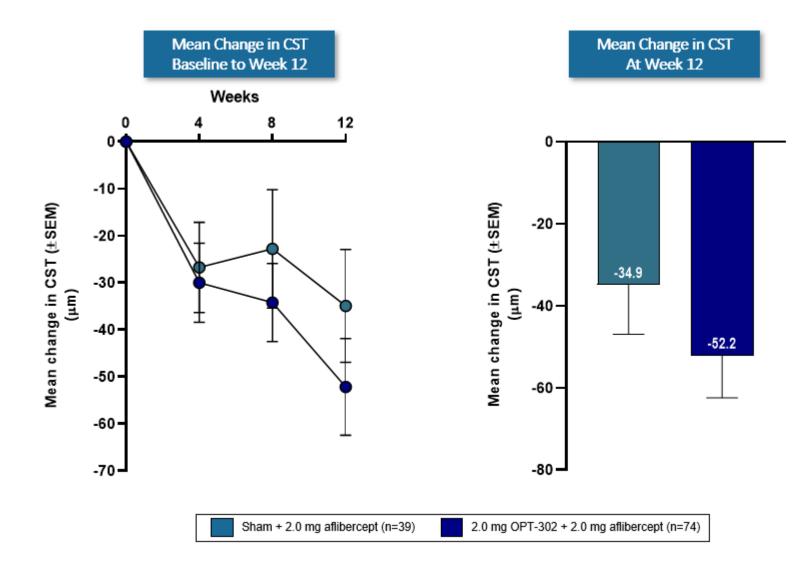
#### Mean Change in BCVA and % Vision Gains & Loss - Baseline to Week 12

Persistent DME patients: Prior anti-VEGF-A therapy of aflibercept /ranibizumab / bevacizumab



#### Mean Change in Central Subfield Thickness - Baseline to Week 12

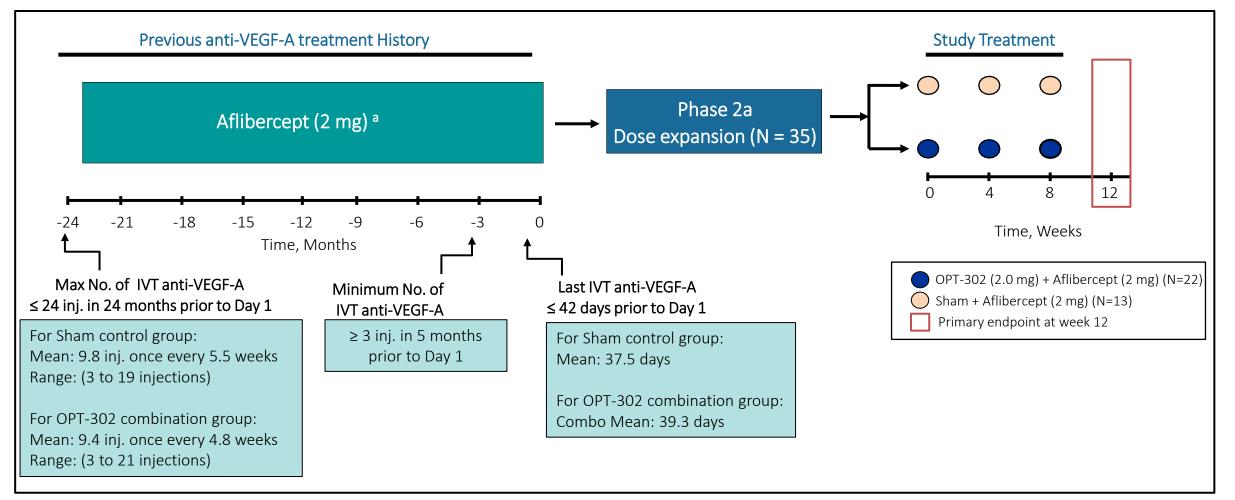
Persistent DME patients: Prior anti-VEGF-A therapy of aflibercept /ranibizumab / bevacizumab



### **OPT-302** Phase 2a DME Study

Exploratory subgroup analysis in patient population receiving previous aflibercept

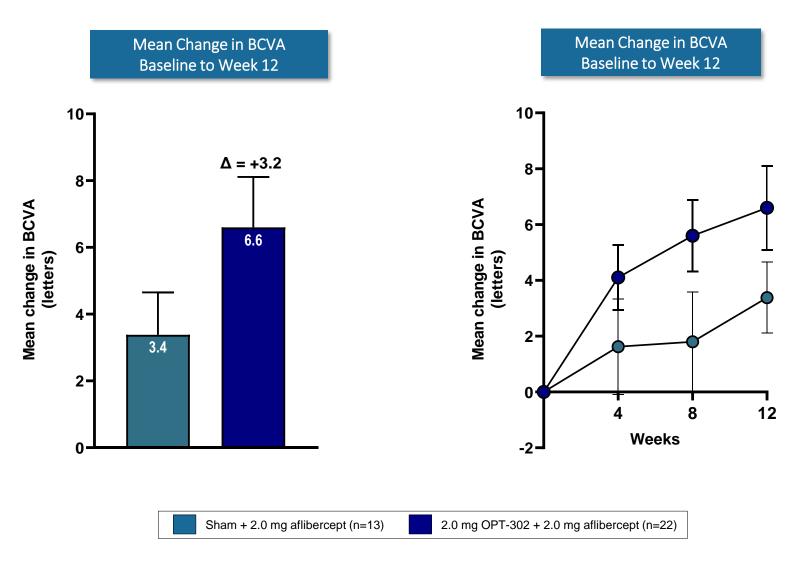
- More homogeneous population of anti-VEGF-A prior treatment history of previous aflibercept in patients with persistent DME
  - Less variable prior treatment history & greater VEGF-A suppression at baseline
  - Most stringent and least variable patient population to test the ability of OPT-302 to provide additional benefit over VEGF-A inhibition



a Includes patients receiving only all Aflibercept or last 3 injections of Aflibercept prior to study entry Sham = Sham + Aflibercept (2 mg); Combo = OPT-302 (2 mg) + Aflibercept (2 mg); inj. = injections;

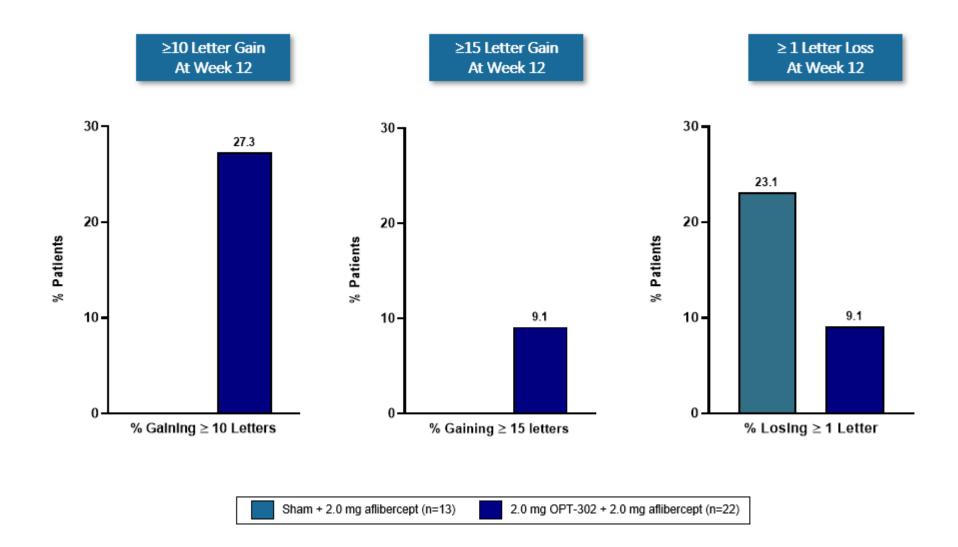
### Visual Acuity Gain following OPT-302 combination therapy

Exploratory Subgroup Analysis in patient population with a prior treatment history of previous aflibercept



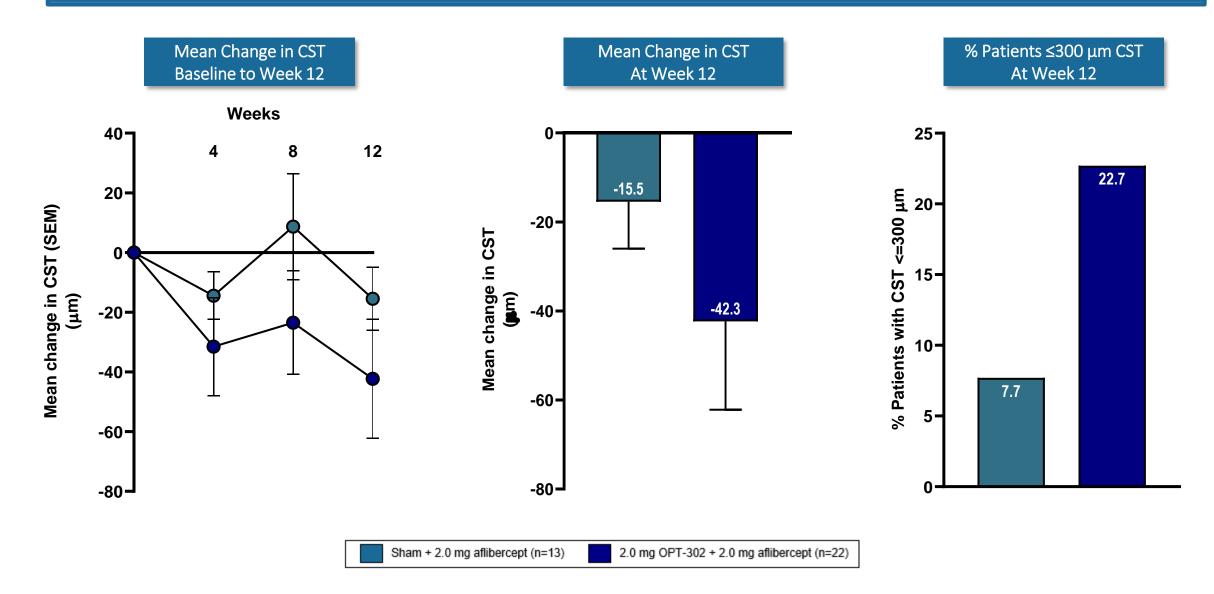
### Gains in Visual Function, Reduced Vision Loss with OPT-302

Exploratory Subgroup Analysis in patient population with a prior treatment history of previous aflibercept



#### **Reduced Retinal Thickness with OPT-302 Combination Therapy**

Exploratory Subgroup Analysis in patient population with a prior treatment history of previous aflibercept



Per Protocol population prior aflibercept subgroup (n=35), must have received all 3 intravitreal study treatments and evaluable at Baseline through Week 12 and sufficiently compliant with the protocol. Error bars (± SEM)

### Conclusions

**OPT-302** Combination therapy in Previously Treated Patients with Persistent DME

- Primary safety endpoint met:
  - The safety profile of OPT-302 combination therapy is favorable and consistent across two eye indications where a total of >1850 intravitreal injections have been administered to patients with nAMD and DME
- Efficacy outcomes were assessed in a heterogenous previously treated all-comer's population with variable treatment history including number and frequency of prior intravitreal injections of anti-VEGF-A monotherapy
- The primary efficacy endpoint was achieved:
  - Totality of secondary functional and anatomical responses indicate biological effects for OPT-302 combination therapy
- Exploratory subgroup analysis in a difficult to treat patient population with a more homogenous prior treatment history of previous aflibercept indicates VEGF-C/D blockade with OPT-302 showed positive improvements and additive benefit to aflibercept anti-VEGF-A monotherapy
- These results in previously-treated patients warrant further evaluation of OPT-302 combination therapy in larger patient populations with DME



## Wet AMD

Review & Opthea's Phase 2b wet AMD Trial

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### **Practice Setting: Vitreous Retina Macula Consultants, New York**

- Practice encompasses 3 Locations in Brooklyn, Manhattan & Westchester
- Multispecialty with 11 retinal physicians
- Strong research focus on the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic strategies
- Approximately 1500 anti-VEGF-A Intravitreal injections a month

Medical Director – Digital Angiography Reading Center

#### Most commonly used wet AMD therapies primarily target VEGF-A

	<b>Bevacizumab</b> <sup>a</sup> (Avastin)	Ranibizumab (Lucentis)	Aflibercept (Eylea)	Brolucizumab <sup>b</sup> (Beovu)
Format	Full antibody (IgG1)	Monoclonal humanized antibody fragment	VEGFR-1/2-Fc fusion protein	Single-chain antibody fragment (scFv)
Molecular structure		1	Ŷ	<b>*</b>
Molecular weight	149 kDa	48 kDa	115 kDa	26 kDa
Clinical dose for nAMD	1.25 mg (unlicensed use)	0.5 mg	2.0 mg	6.0 mg

### **Current Management of wet AMD and Major Unmet Medical Need**

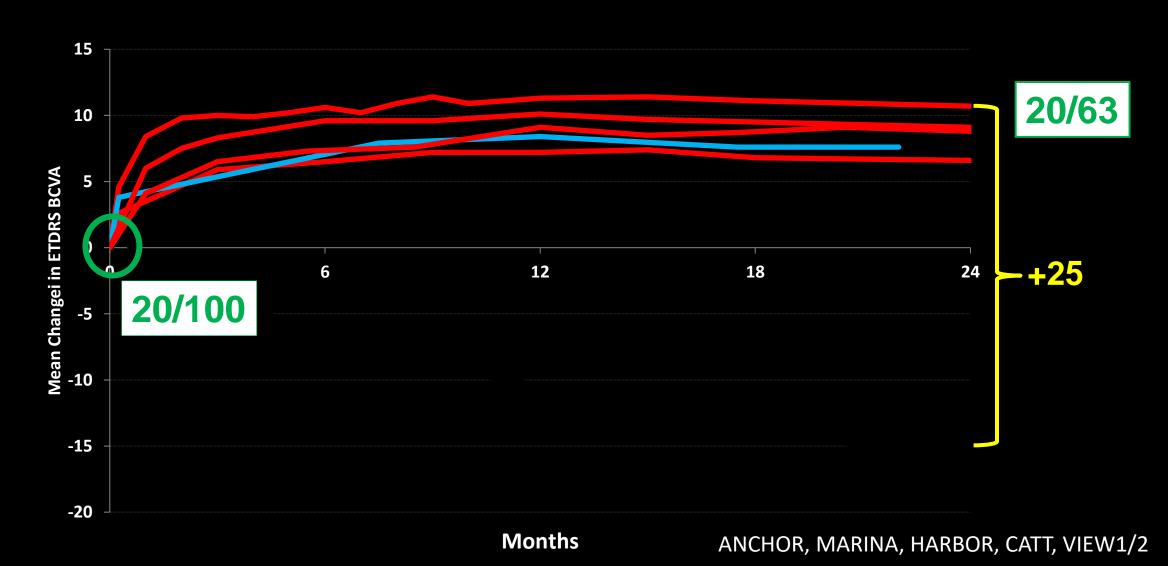
#### Current management: Anti-VEGF-A therapy individualized for patients:

- Most commonly used are ranibizumab, aflibercept and bevacizumab
  - Each have similar efficacy and safety
  - Mean gain in visual acuity is ~9 letters for wet AMD
  - Only a ~third of patients achieve 3 or more lines of vision improvement
  - Best outcomes with frequent dosing regimens
  - Treat and extend is often utilized in attempt to reduce treatment burden
  - "Real World" experience: Undertreatment = suboptimal outcomes > 2 years

#### Major unmet need:

- Need for **better efficacy** resulting in improved visual outcomes
  - Immediate and long-term VA gains to help with patient interest and compliance
  - Decreased burden
- New treatment modalities including **combination therapy** are needed to improve vision outcomes and/or durability of responses

#### **Further Vision Gains Possible with VEGF- A Blockade in wet AMD**



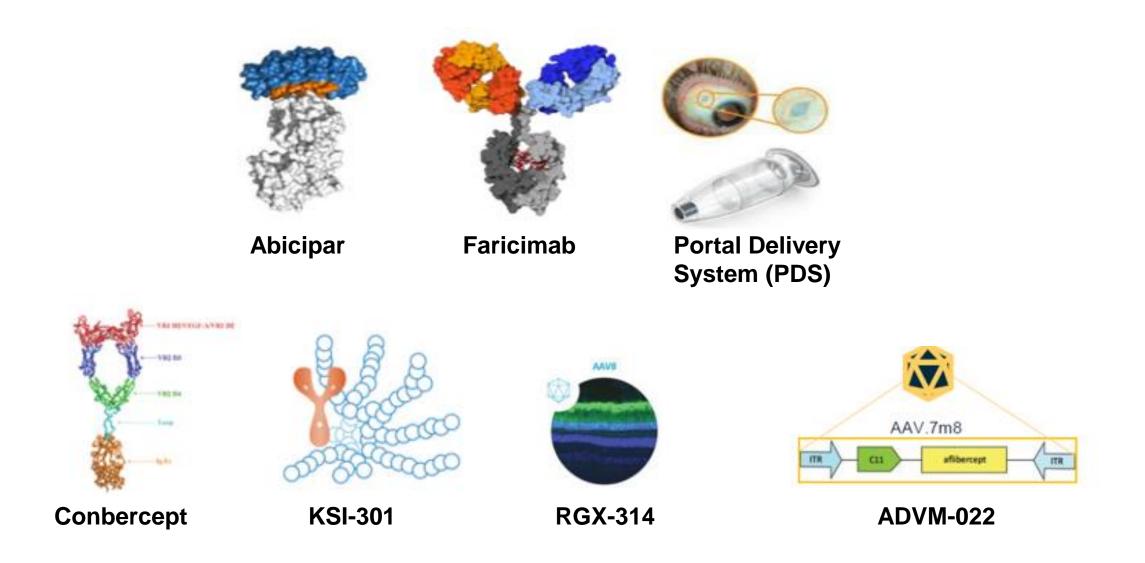
Brown DM, et al. Ophthalmology. 2009 Jan;116(1):57-65.e5; Rosenfeld PJ, et al; N Engl J Med. 2006;355:1419-1431; Ho AC, et al. Ophthalmology. 2014 Nov;121(11):2181-92; Martin DF, et al. Ophthalmology. 2012; 119(7):1388-98; Heier JS, et al. Ophthalmology. 2012 Dec;119(12):2537-48

#### Wet AMD – Shortcomings of VEGF-A Blockade



Brown DM, et al. Ophthalmology. 2009 Jan;116(1):57-65.e5; Rosenfeld PJ, et al; N Engl J Med. 2006;355:1419-1431; Ho AC, et al. Ophthalmology. 2014 Nov;121(11):2181-92; Martin DF, et al. Ophthalmology. 2012; 119(7):1388-98; Heier JS, et al. Ophthalmology. 2012 Dec;119(12):2537-48

Investigational treatments in pipeline also mostly targeting VEGF-A and aimed at improving durability



#### Intraocular Safety of Newer Longer-acting anti-VEGF-A agents

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use BEOVU safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for BEOVU.

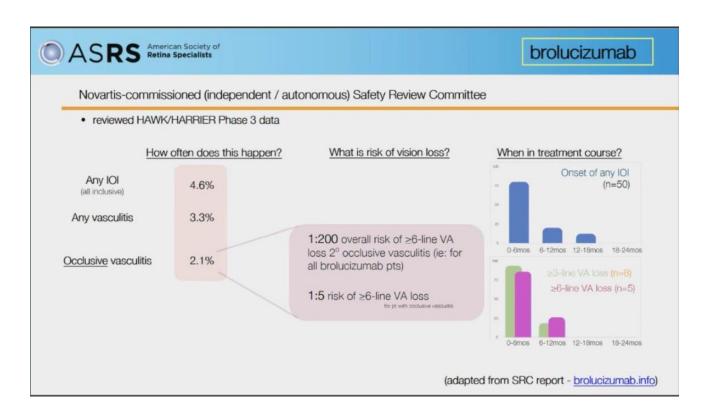
#### BEOVU® (brolucizumab-dbll) injection, for intravitreal use Initial U.S. Approval: 2019

#### -----WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS------

- Endophthalmitis and retinal detachment may occur following intravitreal injections. Patients should be instructed to report any symptoms suggestive of endophthalmitis or retinal detachment without delay (5.1).
- Retinal vasculitis and/or retinal vascular occlusion, typically in the presence of intraocular inflammation, have been reported following BEOVU injections. Patients should be instructed to report any change in vision without delay (5.2).
- Increases in intraocular pressure (IOP) have been seen within 30 minutes of an intravitreal injection (5.3).
- There is a potential risk of arterial thromboembolic events (ATE) following intravitreal use of VEGF inhibitors (5.4).

#### -----ADVERSE REACTIONS------

The most common adverse reactions ( $\geq$  5%) reported in patients receiving BEOVU are vision blurred (10%), cataract (7%), conjunctival hemorrhage (6%), eye pain (5%), and vitreous floaters (5%) (6.1).



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#### Intraocular Safety of Newer Longer-Acting anti-VEGF-A agents

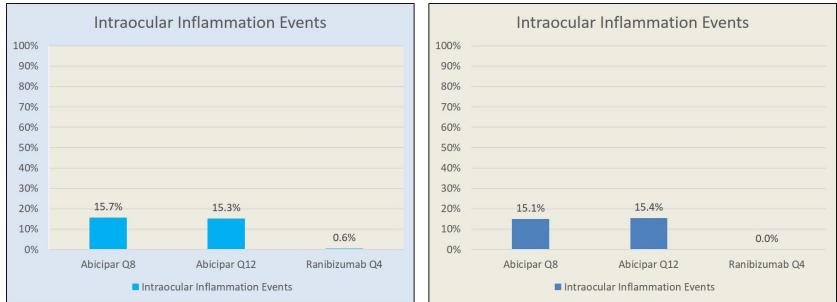
June 26, 2020

Allergan, an AbbVie Company, and Molecular Partners Receive Complete Response Letter from FDA on Biologics License Application for Abicipar pegol

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NORTH CHICAGO, III., June 26, 2020 /PRNewswire/ – Allergan, an AbbVie Company (NYSE: ABBV), and Molecular Partners (SIX: MOLN), a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing a new class of custom-built protein therapeutics known as DARPin® therapeutics, today announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a Complete Response Letter to the Biologics License Application (BLA) for Abicipar pegol, a novel, investigational DARPin® therapy for patients with neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).

The letter from the FDA indicates that the rate of intraocular inflammation observed following administration of Abicipar pegol 2mg/0.05 mL results in an unfavorable benefit-risk ratio in the treatment of neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (AMD). AbbVie plans to meet with the FDA to discuss their comments and determine next steps.



#### SEQUOIA STUDY

#### **CEDAR STUDY**

42 https://news.abbvie.com/news/press-releases/allergan-an-abbvie-company-and-molecular-partners-receive-complete-response-letter-from-fda-on-biologics-license-application-for-abicipar-pegol.htm

# Phase 2b

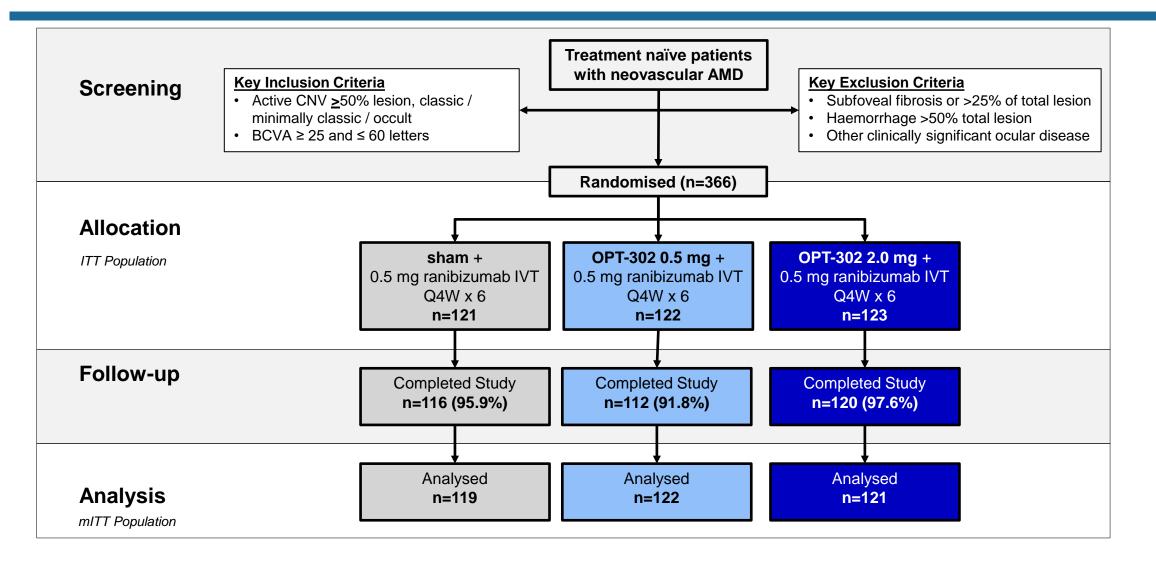
A multicenter, randomized, double-masked, sham controlled study of intravitreal OPT-302 in combination with ranibizumab, in participants with neovascular (wet) AMD

Conducted at 113 sites across 10 countries: US, EU, Israel

OPT-302-1002; NCT ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03345082

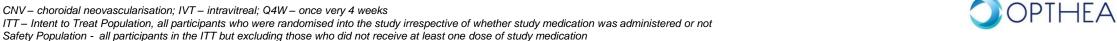


#### **Study Overview**





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Safety Population - all participants in the ITT but excluding those who did not receive at least one dose of study medication mITT - Modified ITT Population, all participants in the Safety Population but excludes any participant without a Baseline VA score and/or any participant who did not return for at least one post-baseline visit

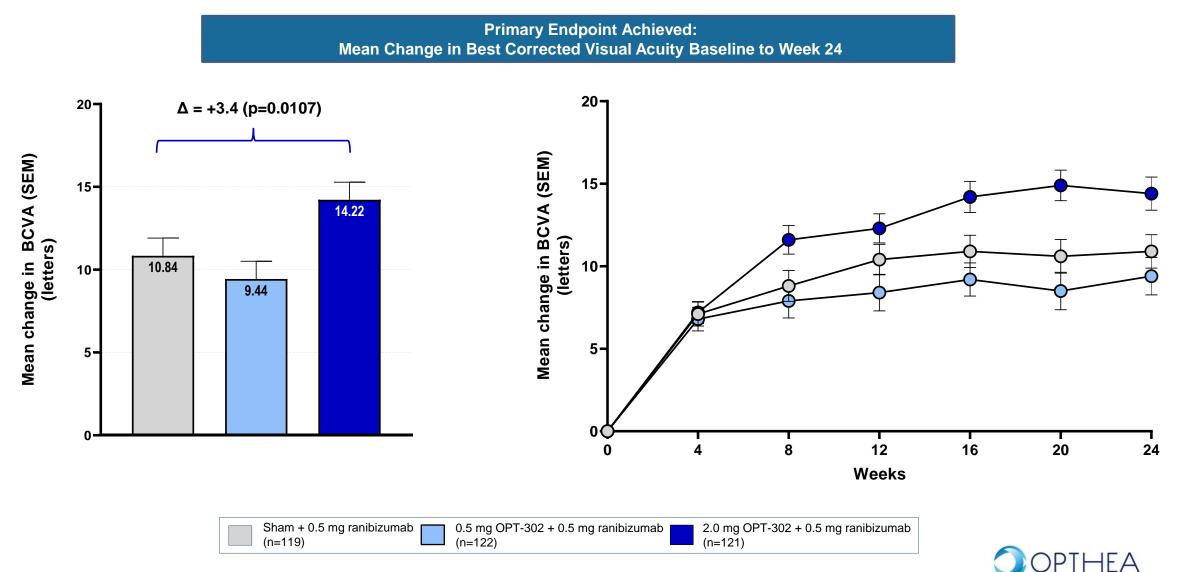
### **Study Demographics and Baseline Characteristics**

Demographic / Baseline Disease Characteristic Mean Age – years ± SD		Sham + ranibizumab N=121	<b>0.5 mg OPT-302 +</b> ranibizumab N=122 78.8 ± 8.16	2.0 mg OPT-302 + ranibizumab N=123 77.8 ± 8.82	
		76.1 ± 9.48			
Sex – n (%)	Male	48 (39.7%)	49 (40.2%)	45 (36.6%)	
	Female	73 (60.3%)	73 (59.8%)	78 (63.4%)	
Caucasian Race – n (%)		117 (99.2%)	119 (99.2%)	117 (97.5%)	
Mean Visual Acuity (BCVA) – letters ± SD		50.7 ± 10.21	51.1 ± 8.96	49.5 ± 10.26	
Mean Total Lesion Area - mm <sup>2</sup> ± SD		6.08 ± 3.21	6.48 ± 3.30	6.62 ± 3.39	
Lesion Type	Predominantly classic – n (%)	15 (12.4%)	15 (12.3%)	16 (13.0%)	
	Minimally classic – n (%)	53 (43.8%)	51 (41.8%)	53 (43.1%)	
	Occult - n (%)	53 (43.8%)	56 (45.9%)	54 (43.9%)	
	PCV detected <sup>1</sup> – n (%)	20 (16.5%)	24 (19.7%)	22 (17.9%)	
	RAP detected <sup>2</sup> – n (%)	15 (12.7%)	22 (18.5%)	14 (11.8%)	
Mean central subfield thickness (CST) - mm ±SD		412.10 ± 110.62	425.18 ± 120.45	414.12 ± 123.25	
Sub-retinal fluid (SRF) present – % participants		89.3%	84.4%	87.8%	
Intra-retinal cysts present – % participants		57.9%	63.9%	56.1%	



45 Intent-to-Treat (ITT) population; SD: standard deviation; BCVA: Best Corrected Visual Acuity <sup>1</sup>PCV - polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy, detected by SD-OCT, FA and fundus photography <sup>2</sup>RAP - retinal angiomatous proliferation, detected by SD-OCT, FA and fundus photography

#### Superior Vision Gain at Week 24 with OPT-302 (2mg) Combination Therapy



mITT; BCVA – best corrected visual acuity

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Left: Difference in Least Square Means, using Model for Repeated Measures (MRM) analysis. Right: Graph represents "as observed" data and SEM

#### **Greater Reduction in Retinal Thickness with OPT-302 Combination Therapy**

Mean Change in CST – **Baseline to Week 24** -100--120--133.80 -140--146.70 -160

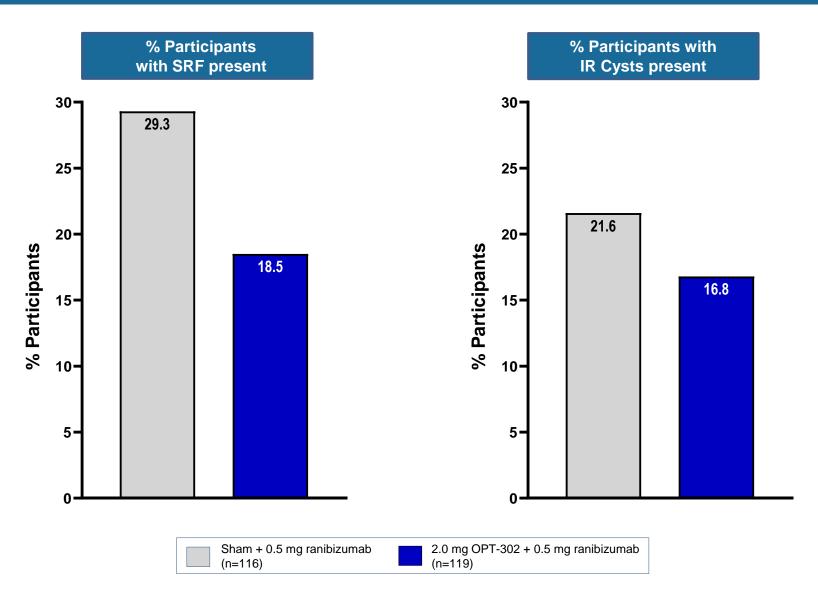




Modified Intent-to-Treat (mITT) population; as observed; CST – central subfield thickness

Mean change in CST (SEM)

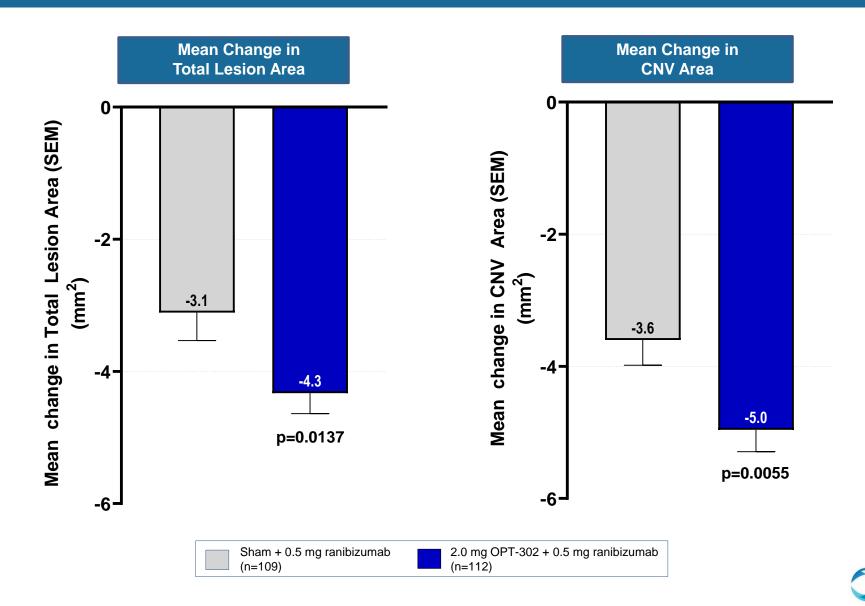
#### **Better 'Retinal Drying' with OPT-302 Combination Therapy**





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#### **Greater Reduction in Total Lesion and CNV Area**



PTHEA

Modified Intent-to-Treat (mITT) population; as observed; CNV – choroidal neovascularisation; Difference in Least Square Means

## Phase 2b

A multicenter, randomized, double-masked, sham controlled study of intravitreal OPT-302 in combination with ranibizumab, in participants with neovascular (wet) AMD

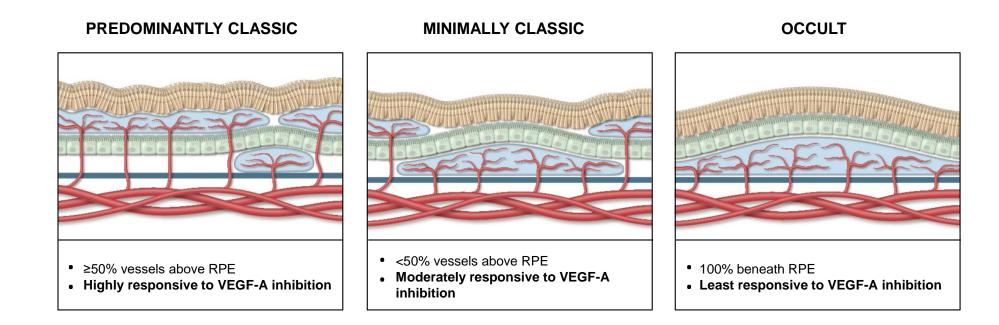
# **Pre-Specified Subgroup Analyses**

OPT-302-1002; NCT ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03345082



### **Neovascular (wet) AMD Lesion Types**

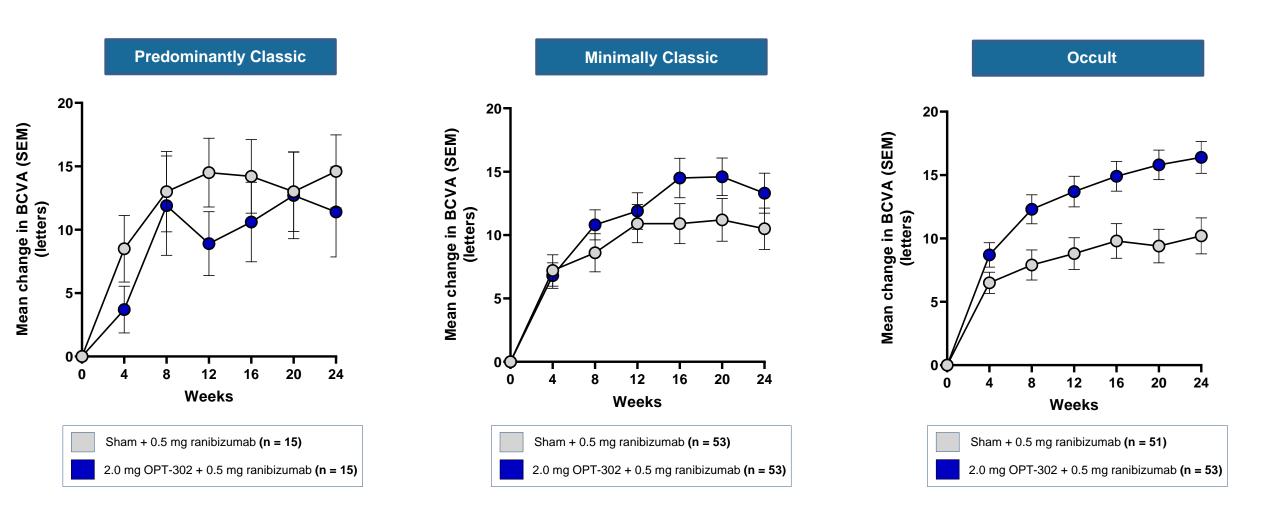
Differ in vessel location, leakiness and responsiveness to VEGF-A inhibitors





### Mean Change in BCVA Over Time by Lesion Type

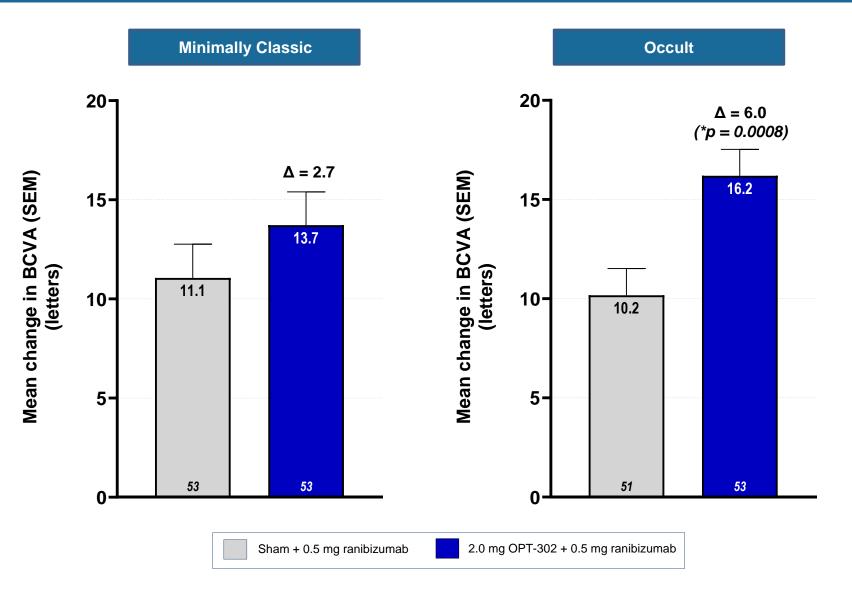
Small number of predominantly classic patients





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#### **Greater Vision Gains in Minimally Classic and Occult lesions**



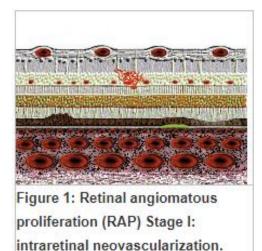
PTHEA

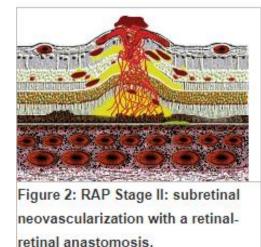
53

mITT; Least square means determined using Model for Repeated Measures (MRM) analysis (adjusted for baseline vision and lesion type (randomisation) as covariates).

### **Retinal Angiomatous Proliferation (RAP) Lesions**

Have a distinct biology and vessel proliferation occurs within the retina (not the choroid)





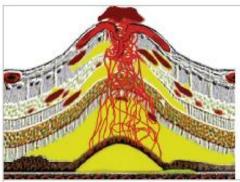


Figure 3: RAP Stage II: subretinal neovascularization with a serous pigment epithelial detachment.



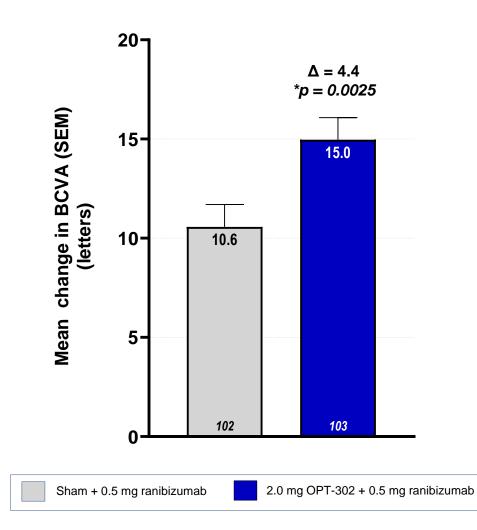
Figure 4: RAP Stage III: Choroidal neovascularization with a vascularized pigment epithelial detachment and a retinal-retinal anastomosis.

- No consensus of which treatment is optimal for RAP lesions\*
- Favorable short-term results with anti-VEGF-A treatments but long-term results are conflicting



#### Improved Visual Acuity in OPT-302 + ranibizumab treated patients

In participants without RAP at baseline (>86% study participants)





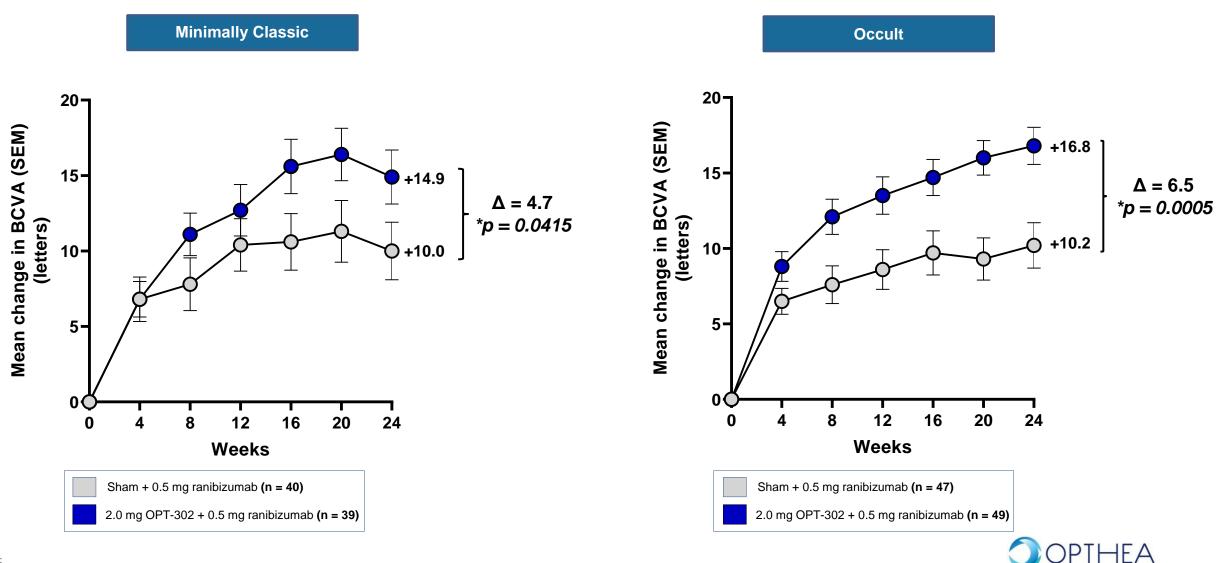
mITT; RAP – retinal angiomatous proliferation;

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Least square means (LSM) determined using Model for Repeated Measures (MRM) analysis (adjusted for baseline vision and lesion type as used in the randomisation as covariates).

### Mean Change in BCVA Over Time by Lesion Type (RAP Absent)

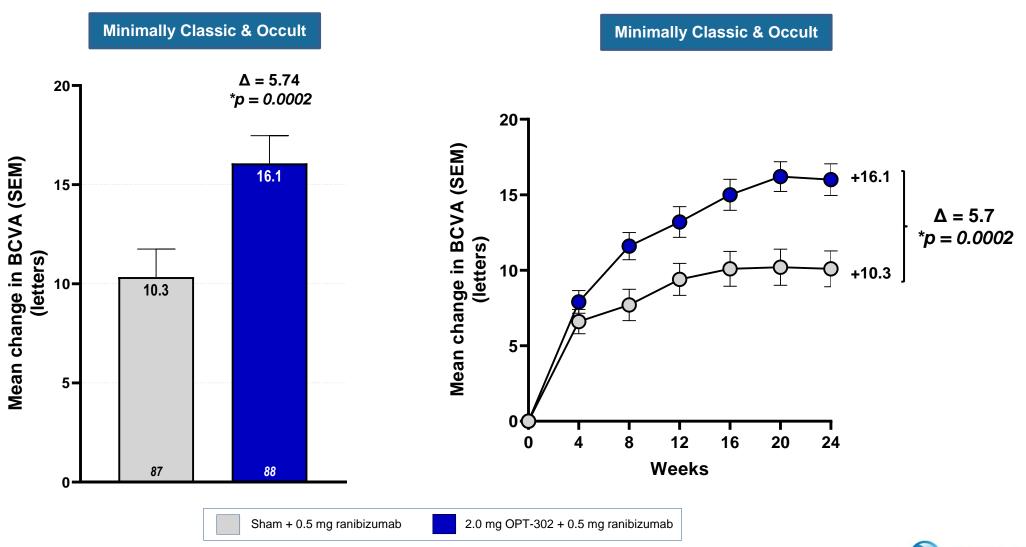
In participants without RAP at baseline, +4.7 letter gain in minimally classic and +6.5 letter gain in occult participants treated with OPT-302 combination therapy compared to sham + ranibizumab



mITT, as observed, Δ based on least square means determined using Model for Repeated Measures (MRM) analysis (adjusted for baseline vision and lesion type (randomisation) as covariates).

#### Improved Visual Acuity in patients with Min-Classic & Occult lesions (RAP Absent)

71% study participants had occult-containing lesions with RAP absent at baseline



mITT; Least square means (LSM) determined using Model for Repeated Measures (MRM) analysis (adjusted for baseline vision and lesion type as used in the randomisation as covariates).

#### Safety

OPT-302 well tolerated with very low incidence of ocular inflammation

N Participants (%)	Sham + ranibizumab N=121	0.5 mg OPT-302 + ranibizumab N=120	2.0 mg OPT-302 + ranibizumab N=124
Treatment emergent AEs (TEAEs)	84 (69.4%)	87 (72.5%)	93 (75.0%)
Ocular AEs - Study Eye – related to study product(s) <sup>1</sup>	17 (14.0%)	17 (14.2%)	19 (15.3%)
Ocular AEs - Study Eye – Severe <sup>2</sup>	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.7%)	1 (0.8%)
Serious AEs	10 (8.3%)	16 (13.3%)	7 (5.6%)
Ocular SAEs in Study Eye	0 (0.0%)	2 <sup>3</sup> (1.7%)	0 (0.0%)
Intraocular inflammation <sup>4</sup> – Study Eye	2 <sup>5,6</sup> (1.7%)	2 <sup>3</sup> (1.7%)	1 <sup>5</sup> (0.8%)
Participants with AEs leading to study IP discontinuation only	2 (1.7%)	3 (2.5%)	0 (0.0%)
Participants with AEs leading to study discontinuation	17 (0.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Any APTC event	0 (0.0%)	1 <sup>8</sup> (0.8%)	0 (0.0%)
Deaths	2 <sup>9</sup> (1.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

Safety population analysed according to medication received

<sup>1</sup> Assessed by investigator to be "possibly related", "probably related" or "definitely related" to administration of study drug(s)

<sup>2</sup> Assessed by Investigator to be National Institutes of Health (NIH) Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE) grade 3 or above, or, if CTCAE grade is unavailable, an AE assessed as "causing an inability to perform normal daily activities"

<sup>3</sup> SAE of endophthalmitis, with AEs of hypopyon and anterior chamber cell (n=1), SAE of vitritis (n=1)

<sup>4</sup> AEs considered to be indicative of intraocular inflammation, defined prior to database lock as: Endophthalmitis, iritis, vitritis, iridocyclitis, uveitis, hypopyon, viral iritis, or anterior chamber inflammation

<sup>5</sup> Transient anterior chamber cell (trace 1-4 cells)

<sup>6</sup> Not reported as a TEAE

<sup>7</sup>Squamous cell carcinoma of the lung diagnosed shortly after Baseline visit

<sup>8</sup> Non-fatal myocardial infarction



<sup>9</sup> Pneumonia (n=1), infective endocarditis (n=1)

## Safety – Intraocular Inflammation – Study Eye (All OPT-302 Trials)

Incidence of intraocular inflammation similar to control

Study Eye N Participants (%)	OPT-302 Any dose N=399 Inj=1,842	2.0 mg OPT-302 N=263 Inj=1,121	Sham + anti- VEGF-A control N=169 Inj=854
Intraocular inflammation <sup>1</sup>	7 (1.8%)	3 (1.1%)	3 (1.8%)
OPT-302-1001	2	0	0
Uveitis with anterior chamber cell 1+ (6-10)	1	0	0
Uveitis with anterior chamber cell 2+ (11-20)	1	0	0
OPT-302-1002	3	1	2²
Endophthalmitis with anterior chamber cell 1+ (5-10) and hypopyon	1	0	0
Vitritis	1	0	0
Anterior chamber cell, trace (1-4 cells)	1	1	2²
OPT-302-1003	2	2	1
Iritis with keratic precipitates and anterior chamber cell 2+ (11-20)	1	1	0
Iritis with anterior chamber cell 2+ (11-20)	0	0	1
Anterior chamber cell, 4+ (>50 cells) associated with cataract extraction/intraocular lens implant and hyphema	1	1	0

Safety population; TEAEs reported to Week 12 for OPT-302-1003

<sup>1</sup> AEs and considered to be indicative of intraocular inflammation, defined prior to database lock : Iritis, anterior uveitis/Iritis, anterior chamber cells, endophthalmitis, vitritis and mutton fat keratic precipitate on endothelium

 $_{\rm 59}\,$   $^2$  Observed during ophthalmic examination, but not reported as TEAEs



### **Conclusions – OPT-302 Phase 2b wet AMD Trial**

#### Phase 2b trial met primary endpoint

- OPT-302 (2.0 mg) combination therapy demonstrated superiority in visual acuity over ranibizumab + sham
- Vision gain of 3.4 letters
- Statistically significant (p=0.0107)
- High ranibizumab control arm
- Secondary outcomes were supportive of the primary endpoint:
  - Vision
    - More patients gained  $\geq$  15 letters of vision
    - Fewer patients lost  $\geq$  15 letters of vision
  - Retinal anatomical improvements
    - Reductions in CST, subretinal and intraretinal fluid
    - Greater decreases in Total Lesion Area and CNV Area
- Exploratory & pre-specified subgroup analyses
  - Suggest greater activity of OPT-302 in lesion-types considered more difficult to treat with anti-VEGF-A therapy & highest unmet need
  - Promising evidence of activity in polypoidal AMD (PCV) and minimally classic/occult lesions that are less responsive to VEGF-A inhibitors
- Favourable safety profile similar to ranibizumab alone





Authorised for release to the ASX by Megan Baldwin, PhD CEO & Managing Director

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