# TransCon CNP: A Once Weekly Novel C-type Natriuretic Peptide Therapy in Children with Achondroplasia

Sho Ota, PharmD

Ascendis Pharma, A/S

Sho Ota, Eva D Christoffersen, Per Mygind, Jill Gianettoni, Zhengning Lin, Will Charlton, Dorthe Viuff, David B. Karpf, Michael Beckert, Vibeke Miller Breinholt, and Jonathan A. Leff

ISDS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 2019, OSLO

### Disclaimer

 TransCon CNP is an investigational medicinal product currently in development for treatment of skeletal dysplasias. TransCon CNP has not been approved by any Competent Authority for any medical use.

## **CNPs Action in Growth Plate is Well Understood**

- Achondroplasia results from a mutation in FGFR3 which leaves the receptor constitutively activated
- CNP inhibits the FGFR3 signaling pathway and thereby restores bone growth



# TransCon CNP Design



- TransCon technology is designed to provide effective shielding of CNP:
  - From neutral endopeptidase degradation in subcutaneous tissue and blood compartment and from clearance by the NPR-C receptor
  - Minimize binding of TransCon CNP to the NPR-B and NPR-C receptors in vasculature to avoid hypotension
- CNP liberated from TransCon CNP maintains small enough size to allow penetration into growth plates<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Breinholt V et al. TransCon CNP, a sustained-release C-Type Natriuretic Peptide prodrug, a potentially safe and efficacious new therapeutic modality for the treatment of comorbidities associated with FGFR3-related skeletal dysplasias. *JPET*, 2019

## Juvenile Healthy Monkey Growth Study



- Demonstrated dose-proportional tibial linear growth; ulnar growth consistent
- TransCon CNP induced a more robust growth response compared to daily administration of CNP, despite being administered at a 40% lower dose

\*Refers to a synthesized molecule with a half-life of ~20 mins prepared by Ascendis Pharma

5 Breinholt V et al. TransCon CNP, a sustained-release C-Type Natriuretic Peptide prodrug, a potentially safe and efficacious new therapeutic modality for the treatment of comorbidities associated with FGFR3-related skeletal dysplasias. *JPET*, 2019

# Phase 1 Trial Design

### 45 healthy adult male subjects TransCon CNP vs. placebo (4:1 randomization)

Each dose tested sequentially starting at lowest dose <sup>1</sup>	Up to 10 subjects randomized in each dose cohort in a blinded manner	Dosing assignments unblinded after DSMB review				
	3 µg/kg 🛧 10 µg/kg 🛧 25 µg/kg 🛧 75 µg/kg 🛧 150 µg/kg					
	Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) reviews blinded data after each dose cohort and approves escalation to next dose					
	Primary Endpoint					
	<ul> <li>Frequency of adverse events (AEs) reported after administration of TransCon CNP</li> </ul>					
	O sea su de mal Escal e not e ma Escala e in te					

### Secondary/Exploratory Endpoints

- Safety parameters and local tolerability assessment
- Pharmacokinetic parameters
- Other exploratory endpoints

## Sustained CNP Exposure Over One Week



A single dose of TransCon CNP provided continuous CNP exposure over one week

Continuous CNP exposure results in better efficacy<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> CNP measured as CNP-38

<sup>2</sup> N Morozoumi et al. ASB:201123: A novel C-type natriuretic peptide derivative for treatment of growth failure and dwarfism. PLoS One.2019

7 <sup>3</sup>Breinholt V et al. TransCon CNP, a sustained-release C-Type Natriuretic Peptide prodrug, a potentially safe and efficacious new therapeutic modality for the treatment of comorbidities associated with FGFR3-related skeletal dysplasias. JPET, 2019

## **Dose Proportional CNP Exposure For 1 Week**



- Dose proportional increase in CNP exposure suggests ability to titrate dosing
- Phase 1 showed effective CNP  $t_{1/2}$  of approximately 120 hours (native CNP  $t_{1/2}$  of 2-3 minutes)

# Mean Resting Blood Pressure Unchanged from Predose<sup>1</sup>



Change in systolic blood pressure

Change in diastolic blood pressure

9 1 3.0, 10, and 25 µg/kg dose levels are not represented. Data from these cohorts are consistent with placebo

### Adverse Event Summary

	Treatment Group						
Type of AE	3 μg CNP/kg (N=6)	10 μg CNP/kg (N=6)	25 μg CNP/kg (N=8)	75 μg CNP/kg (N=8)	150 μg CNP/kg (N=8)	Placebo (N=9)	
Any AE	5 (83%)	4 (67%)	5 (63%)	8 (100%)	6 (75%)	7 (78%)	
Related AE	3 (50.0%)	3 (50.0%)	2 (25%)	6 (75%)	6 (75%)	2 (22%)	
Moderate AE	2 (33.3%)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (62.5%)	3 (37.5%)	2 (22.2%)	
Severe AE	0	0	0	1 (12.5%)	0	0	
AE leading to discontinuation from study	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Serious AE	0	0	0	0	0	0	



# TransCon CNP: Well-tolerated Safety Profile



No serious AEs were reported



TransCon CNP dosed as high as 150 µg CNP/kg



No anti-CNP antibodies detected



Mean resting blood pressure and heart rate were unchanged from predose at all time points, in all cohorts



Mean orthostatic changes in vital signs appear unrelated to TransCon CNP exposure; consistent between placebo and TransCon CNP cohorts

# **ACHieve Natural History Study Enrolling**

- A global natural history study of ~200 children <8 years with achondroplasia (ACH)</li>
- Evaluates height velocity, body proportionality and comorbidities
  - Sites selected in Australia, Austria, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK, and US
  - Study open and enrolling





# **ACcomplisH Phase 2 Trial Design**



#### **Primary Endpoint**

 Annualized height velocity, as measured after 12 months of weekly TransCon CNP treatment

### **Key Secondary Endpoints**

- After 12 months of weekly TransCon CNP treatment:
  - Change in body proportionality (upper to lower body segment ratio)
  - Change in body mass index (BMI)
- Patient-reported outcome (PRO) measures

# TransCon CNP: Highlights

- TransCon CNP provided continuous CNP exposure over seven days with a single subcutaneous administration
  - No changes in NTproCNP levels were observed
  - Plasma cGMP levels suggest continuous receptor engagement
  - Continuous CNP exposure may be important for balancing the CNP/FGFR3 pathways and normalizing growth
- Generally well-tolerated across all cohorts
- ACHÍČVE (natural history study) ongoing; initiation of phase 2 ACcomplised underway
- Potential for a meaningful impact on patients' lives, not only affecting height but also addressing many comorbidities associated with achondroplasia

### Thank You



**Ongoing Natural History Study** 

Phase 2 Study in 2-10 year old children with Achondroplasia starting in Q3 2019

 Bay Area, California
 Copenhagen, Denmark
 Heidelberg, Germany