



Vobarilizumab, a novel best-in-class anti-IL-6R drug candidate for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis





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# Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)



#### **Treatment goals**

- Remission little or no signs and symptoms of disease
- Administration with no impact on daily life and easy to comply with
- Safe and well-tolerated



VOBARILIZUMAB: a novel anti-IL-6R drug candidate for RA		
Key differentiating features	Potential benefits	
Small (26kD) anti-IL-6R anti-HSA	Better penetration into tissues	
Preferential binding to <b>soluble</b> vs membrane bound <b>IL-6R</b> (2,500 fold higher affinity to sIL-6R vs tocilizumab)	Superior efficacy/tolerability profile	

# Vobarilizumab (225mg every 2 weeks)



#### **Excellent Phase IIb study results reported in July/August 2016**

Combination therapy (+MTX) 24 weeks (across studies)	DAS28 <sub>CRP</sub> remission	ACR 70
vobarilizumab	49%	43%
tocilizumab	32%	20%
adalimumab	23%	21%
Monotherapy 12 weeks (head-to-head study)	DAS28 <sub>CRP</sub> remission	ACR 70
vobarilizumab (6 doses)	41%	21%
tocilizumab (~ 12 doses) open-label	27%	23%



Vobarilizumab Phase IIb clinical development

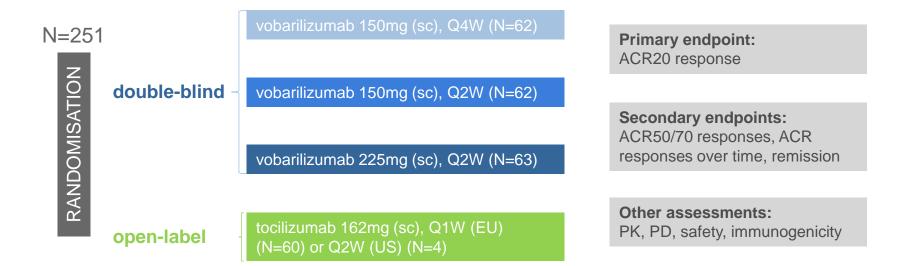
Additional compelling data





#### 12 week Phase IIb RA monotherapy study in 251 patients

- Adults with moderate to severe RA who are intolerant to MTX or for whom continued MTX is inappropriate
- 12 week study in the US, Europe, and Latin America
- Recruitment from April 2015 to February 2016

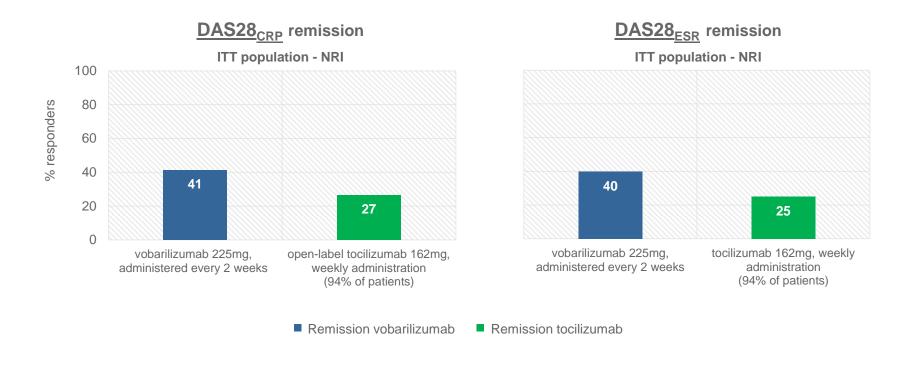


# Vobarilizumab (every 2 weeks) as a monotherapy



### Up to 60% more patients in clinical remission versus weekly tocilizumab

Head-to-head Phase IIb study – responses at week 12

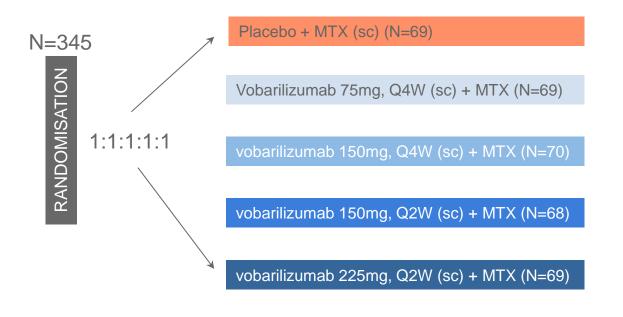


DAS28<sub>CRP</sub> is a RA disease activity score based on C-reactive protein (CRP), tender and swollen joint counts of 28 defined joints and patient's global assessment of disease activity; DAS28<sub>ESR</sub>, is a RA disease activity score based on erythrocyte sedimentation rate, tender and swollen joint counts of 28 defined joints and patient's global assessment of disease activity. Remission: DAS28< 2.6; low disease activity:  $2.6 \le DAS28 \le 3.2$ 



#### Phase IIb RA combination study with methotrexate (MTX) in 345 patients

- Adults with moderate to severe RA despite MTX therapy
- Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled 24 week dose ranging study in EU, USA and LATAM
- Forced discontinuation based on less than 20% improvement in both swollen and tender joint counts at weeks 12, 16 and 20
- Recruitment from March 2015 to December 2015



#### **Primary endpoint:**

ACR20 response

#### **Secondary endpoints:**

ACR50/70 responses, ACR responses over time, remission

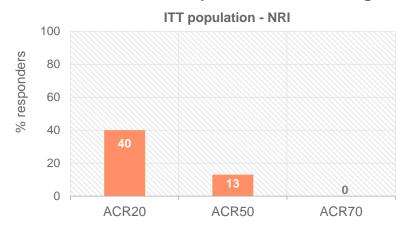
#### Other assessments:

PK, PD, safety, immunogenicity

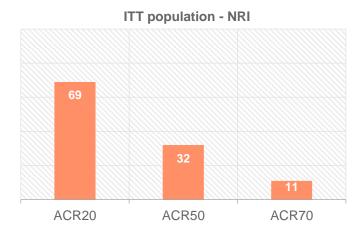


#### Regional differences in placebo effect – ACR20/50/70 scores at week 12

#### Countries with widespread access to biologicals<sup>1</sup>



#### Countries with limited access to biologicals<sup>2</sup>



■placebo + MTX

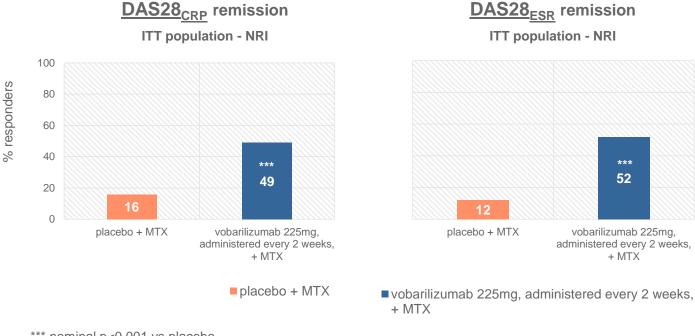
Placebo effect clearly related to trial design and location

<sup>1:</sup> Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Spain, USA (vobarilizumab all doses N=62; placebo N=15)

<sup>2:</sup> Bulgaria, Georgia, Macedonia, Mexico, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia (vobarilizumab all doses N=214; placebo N=54)



#### Up to 52% of patients in clinical remission at week 24



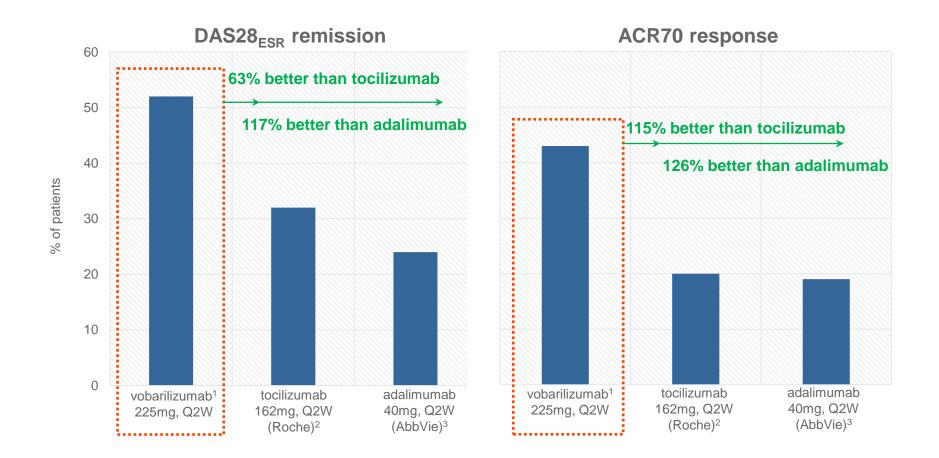
\*\*\* nominal p<0.001 vs placebo

#### Highly statistically significant difference in remission scores versus placebo

DAS28<sub>CRP</sub> is a RA disease activity score based on C-reactive protein (CRP), tender and swollen joint counts of 28 defined joints and patient's global assessment of disease activity; DAS28<sub>ESR</sub>, is a RA disease activity score based on erythrocyte sedimentation rate, tender and swollen joint counts of 28 defined joints and patient's global assessment of disease activity. Remission: DAS28< 2.6; low disease activity:  $2.6 \le DAS28 \le 3.2$ 



#### Dramatically better efficacy\* than leading commercial biologicals



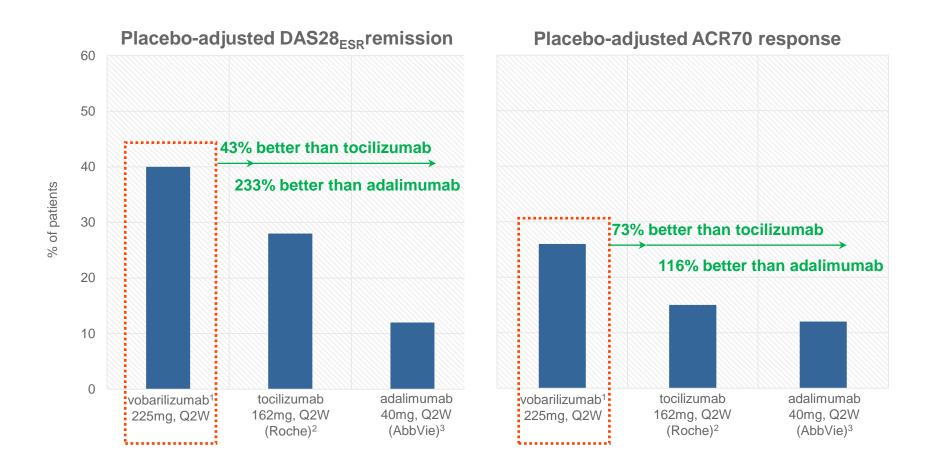
<sup>\* 24-</sup>week data from combination therapy studies reported in listed publications, not resulting from head-to-head studies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Phase IIb + MTX (Oct 2016); <sup>2</sup> BREVACTA Phase III + MTX (Kivitz et al., Arthritis Care & Research, Nov 2014) <sup>3</sup> Phase IIb (Weinblatt et al., Arthritis & Rheumatology, Sept 2015) (note: remission based on CRP; no data on ESR available)

# Vobarilizumab + MTX (placebo-adjusted scores)



#### Dramatically better efficacy\* than leading commercial biologicals



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#### Favourable safety and immunogenicity profile

	% pts with ≥ 1 SAEs	% pts with grade 3 toxicity for neutrophils
vobarilizumab, 225mg Q2W1	1.4%	0.0%
tocilizumab, 162mg Q2W <sup>2</sup>	4.6%	3.5%
adalimumab, 40mg Q2W <sup>3</sup>	5.1%	1.9%

- Anti-vobarilizumab antibodies
  - develop in up to 31% of patients
  - BUT have no effect on PK, efficacy or safety
- Anti-adalimumab antibodies<sup>4</sup>
  - develop in ~30% of patients
  - AND are associated with loss of efficacy and an increased risk of adverse events
  - 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of patients become resistant to adalimumab as a result of ADAs (with a strong signal occurring early in the treatment cycle)

#### A Nanobody class advantage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Phase IIb RA study + MTX, Ablynx August 2016; <sup>2</sup> Kivitz et al., 2014, Arthr. Care & Res., 66, 1653-61; <sup>3</sup> Weinblatt et al., Arthritis Rheumatol., 67, 2591-600

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ogrič M et al., Immunol Res. July 2016; Jani M et al., Lancet Feb 2015; Schaeverbeke T, Rheumatology (Oxford) Feb 2016; Gerrit Jan Wolbink et al., J. of the Amer. Med. Ass., April 2011

# Compliance of prescribed treatment regimen



#### Advantage of biologicals versus oral drugs

vobarilizumab Q2W	vobarilizumab Q4W	oral JAKs
26 sc doses per year	13 sc doses per year	365 oral doses per year

- Subcutaneous injections every two to four weeks are considered much easier to comply with as compared to taking a pill daily
- Based on non-compliance of oral medication in other chronic indications, one might expect compliance rates for JAKs to range from 30-80% or anything from 73-256 missed doses per year – as well as an important impact on efficacy this might have a very negative impact on sales
- We are not aware of any studies on JAKs showing the effect of non-compliance



#### Novel best-in-class drug candidate for the treatment of RA

- Rapid, strong and sustained effect on signs and symptoms of disease
- Much greater efficacy as a monotherapy with up to 60% more patients in clinical remission as compared to tocilizumab
- Superior effect as a combination therapy on most stringent efficacy parameters compared to leading commercial biologicals and oral anti-RA drugs in development
- Potential for monthly effective administration
- Class advantage of vobarilizumab vs antibodies demonstrated: anti-Nanobody antibodies had no effect on PK, efficacy or safety
- Superior safety profile compared to other biological anti-RA drugs

Advancing the development of vobarilizumab in RA is a top priority for Ablynx



# Vobarilizumab next steps





#### What's next

- Phase III programme in RA
  - regulatory consultations expected in H1 2017
  - first Phase III study expected to start by end 2017
  - partnering discussions
- RA Phase II open-label extension study
  - ongoing
  - results expected in 2018
- Phase II study in 300 SLE patients
  - ongoing
  - recruitment ahead of schedule
  - results expected in H1 2018

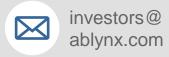


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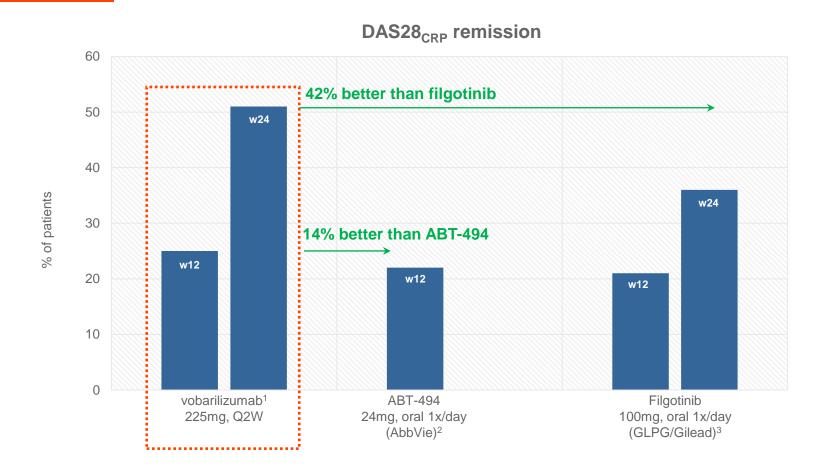








### Superior efficacy compared to oral anti-RA drugs in development\*



<sup>\*</sup> Data reported in listed publications, not resulting from head-to-head studies

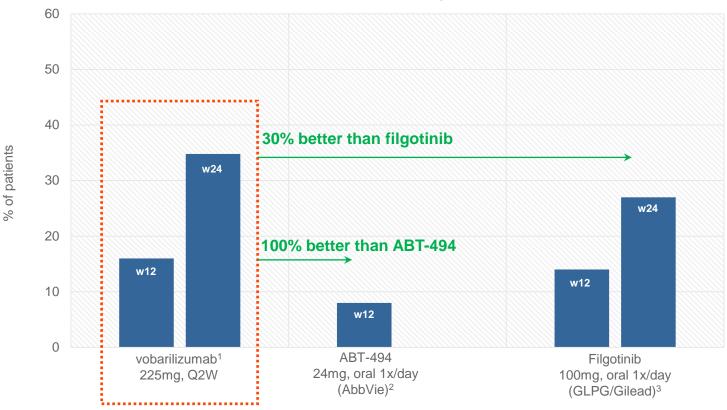
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Phase IIb + MTX at week 12 and 24 (August 2016; LOCF imputation); <sup>2</sup> Phase IIb + MTX at week 12 (EULAR 2016 – NRI imputation) <sup>3</sup> Phase IIb + MTX (LOCF imputation) at week 12 and 24 (April 2015; July 2015)

# Vobarilizumab + MTX (placebo-adjusted scores)



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