

# Galápagos

## First selective JAK1 inhibitor: GLPG0634 from hit to Proof of Concept

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Protein Kinase 2012  
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# GLPG0634

## The 1<sup>st</sup> selective JAK1 inhibitor

- Introduction
- Target identification
- Hit finding to PCC
- Clinical development
  - Phase I
  - Phase II Proof of Concept

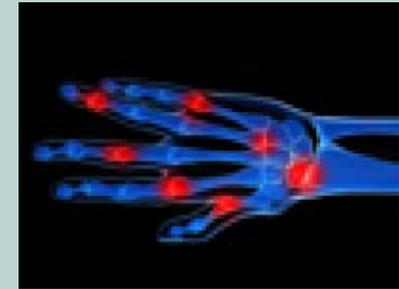


# Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)

## A global health issue

### Disease facts

- Inflammation & destruction of joints
- Affects ~1% of population
- Typically diagnosed age 40-60
- 2-3 times more prevalent in women



### Current treatments

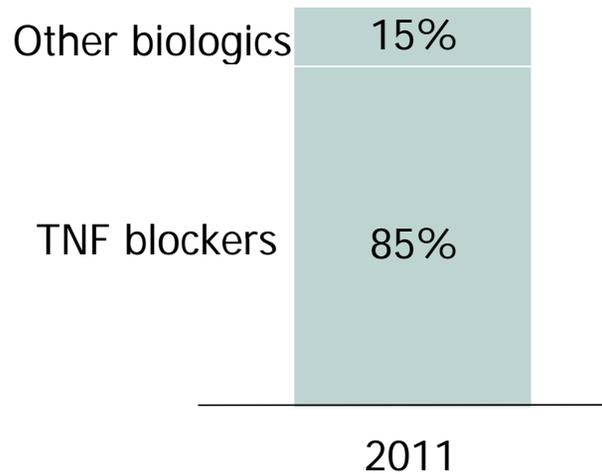
- First line: steroids, methotrexate (MTX)
- Second line: disease-modifying biologics
  - TNF $\alpha$  blockers (Enbrel<sup>®</sup>, Remicade<sup>®</sup>, Humira<sup>®</sup>)
  - IL-6 (Actemra<sup>®</sup>), B & T-cells (Rituxan<sup>®</sup>, Orencia<sup>®</sup>)
  - effective in 50-60% of MTX non-responders



# New wave of RA oral therapies

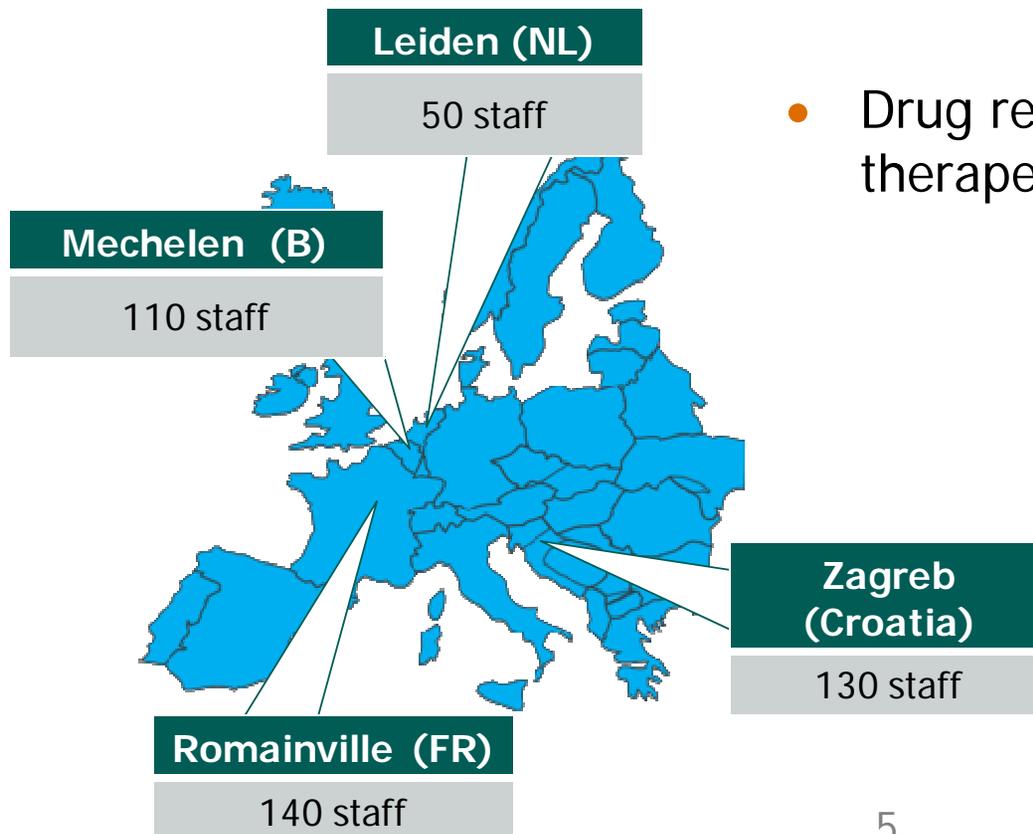
## Small molecule drugs in development for RA

- Easier to use (oral administration)
- Lower cost of goods
- Comparable efficacy & safety profile to biologics



# Galapagos: a leader in European biotech

- One of the largest biotech pipelines in Europe
- > 800 staff in pharmacology/biology, chemistry and drug development
- 400 staff fee-for-service organization in UK: discovery research activities



- Drug research & development in various therapeutic areas throughout Europe



# Galapagos approach

## From protein to drug





# GLPG0634

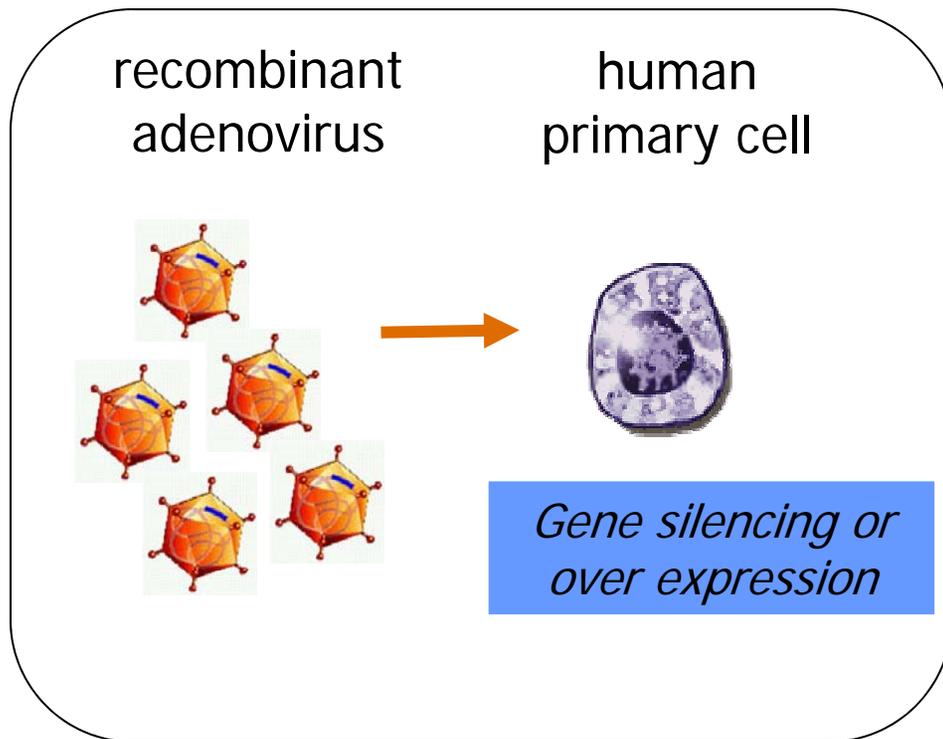
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# Technology

## Adenoviral technology

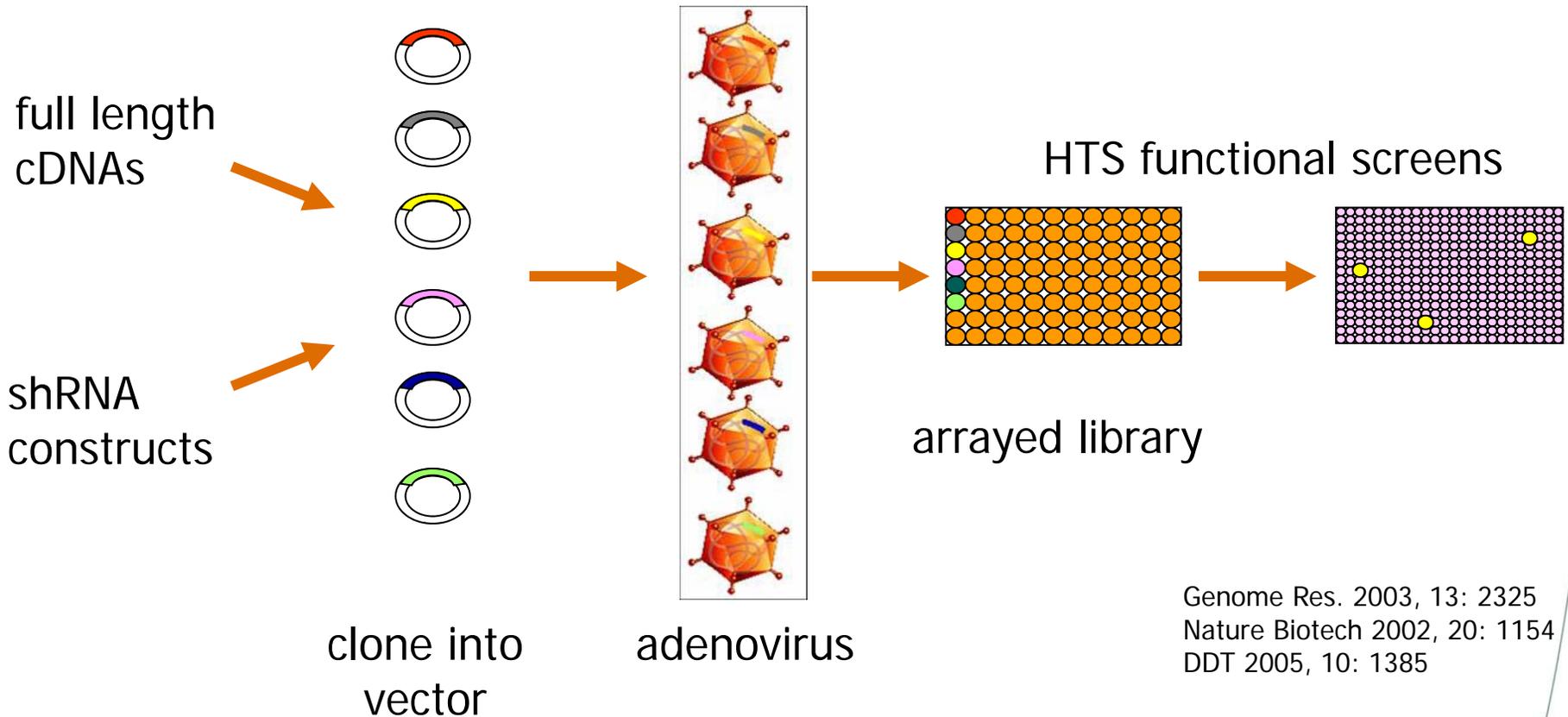


- Changes in cell health monitored via functional readouts
- 20-25 validated targets per screen
- IP on target and compound



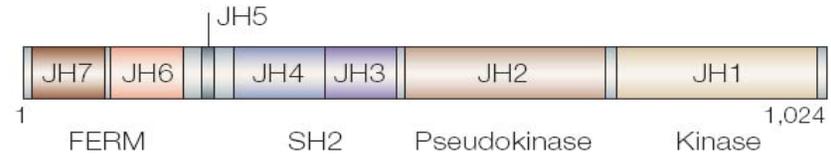
# Technology

## Arrayed adenoviral libraries for KI and KD



JAK1 was identified using this technology

# JAK family

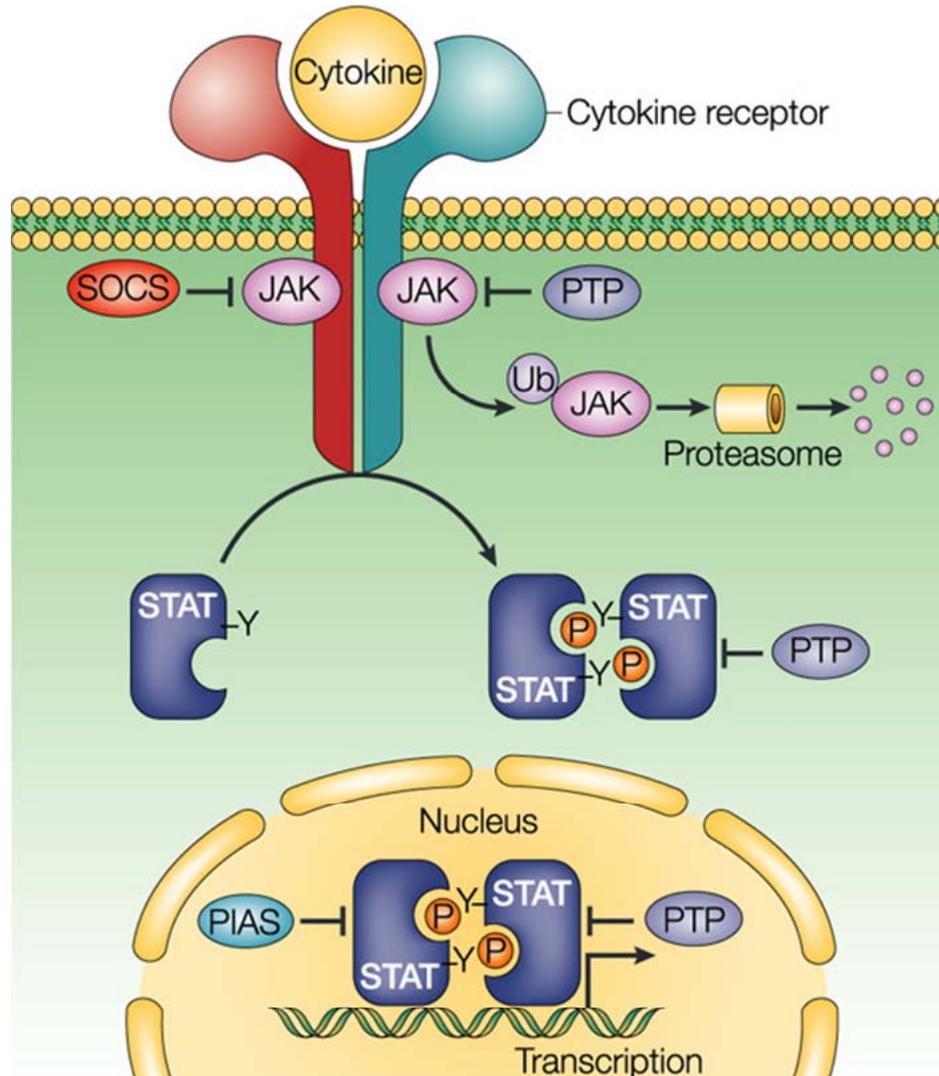


O'Shea JJ et al., 2004; Nat Rev Drug Discov 3, 555

- 4 family members: JAK1, JAK2, JAK3, TYK2
- Cytoplasmic tyrosine kinases
- Serve as intracellular signal transducers for many cytokines, hormones
  - interleukins, interferons, EPO, GH, OSM, LIF,...

JAK	Cytokines	Phenotype of mouse knockout
JAK1	Gp130 cytokine, type I IFN, IFN- $\gamma$ , and $\beta$ c cytokines, $\gamma$ c cytokines	Perinatally lethal; neurological defects and SCID
JAK2	EPO, TPO, PRL, GH, IFN- $\gamma$ and IL-12	Embryonically lethal; defective erythropoiesis
JAK3	$\gamma$ c cytokines	SCID
TYK2	Gp130 cytokines, type I IFNs, IL-12 and IL-23	Modest viral susceptibility, reduced IL-12 response and resistance to arthritis induction

# JAK-STAT signalling





# JAK inhibitors in development for RA

Three JAK inhibitors have shown clinical efficacy in RA

- rapid onset, 30-50% improvement in ACR20 over placebo
- *tofacitinib* and VX-509 administered twice-daily

RA clinical candidate	JAK inhibition profile	Phase
<i>tofacitinib</i>	JAK3>JAK1>JAK2	Filed
INCB28050 <i>baricitinib</i>	JAK1=JAK2	Phase II
VX-509	JAK3	Phase II

Different selectivity profile = opportunity to differentiate JAK inhibitors

# Balancing safety and efficacy

## Lessons from 24 weeks of *tofacitinib* in Phase II

	placebo	5 mg bid	10 mg bid	15 mg bid
N=	59	49	61	57
ACR20 (%)	25.4	51.0	65.6	66.7
ACR50 (%)	10.2	34.7	44.3	54.4
ACR70 (%)	6.8	20.4	37.7	33.3

### *tofacitinib* 24-week Phase II study

- significant, dose-dependent improvements in ACR20/50/70 response rates<sup>1</sup>
- dose selection (5 mg, 10 mg bid) for Phase III studies based on efficacy data and safety: incidence of (severe) anemia, at doses of 10 mg bid and higher<sup>2</sup>
- anemia is JAK2-driven side effect, apparent within 2 weeks<sup>1</sup>

Potential to increase efficacy by minimizing JAK2 side effects

<sup>1</sup> Fleischmann et al/Kremer et al. ACR presentation (2009).  
<sup>2</sup> Riese et al. Best Pract & Res Clin Rheum 24 (2010) 513-526.



# GLPG0634

## The 1<sup>st</sup> selective JAK1 inhibitor

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# Hit finding overview

## JAK1 biochemical assay

Primary screen: 9,510 compounds (10  $\mu$ M, single dose)  
90%: focused kinase collection



Overall hit rate: 5.6%

Rescreen, D/R testing



161 actives

Spec panel – Cell tox



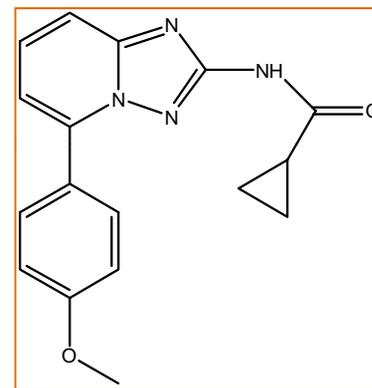
Cpd QC

JAK/STAT cellular assays



SAR identified > H2L

## Best hit:



hJAK1  $IC_{50}$  =  $65 \pm 18$  nM

hJAK2  $IC_{50}$  =  $168 \pm 7$  nM

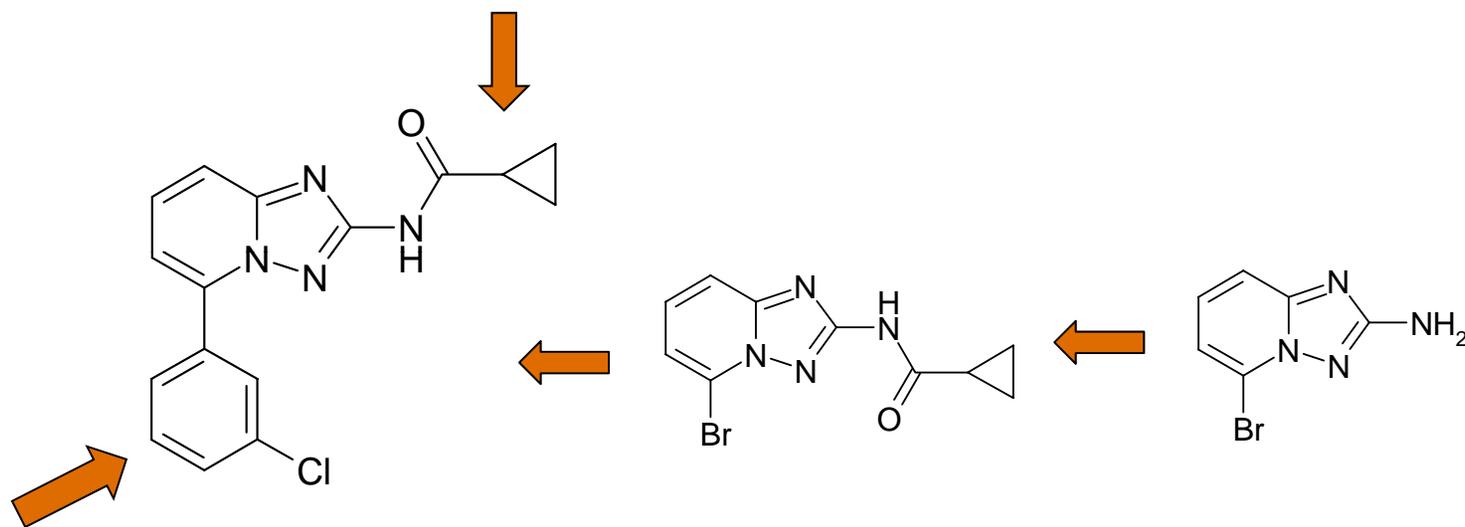
hJAK3  $IC_{50}$  =  $675 \pm 174$  nM

hTYK2  $IC_{50}$  =  $783 \pm 148$  nM

# From H2L to LO

Hit

Investigation on  
position 2

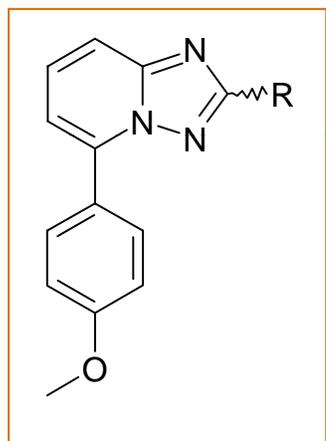


SAR of the phenyl  
was developed

**hJAK1 IC<sub>50</sub>, 110 nM**

Start at easy point, diversify to large variety of compounds  
to understand the SAR of the series

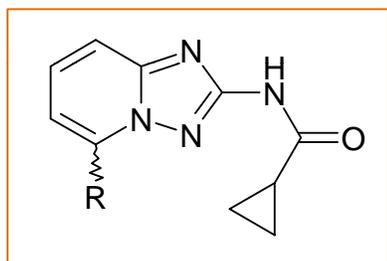
# Exploration in position 2



R	JAK1 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	R	JAK1 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
	> 10,000		5,740
	> 10,000		> 10,000
	> 10,000		2,270
	> 10,000		> 10,000

Replacement of the cyclopropyl-amide on the 2-position was not tolerated

# Phenyl substitution improvement



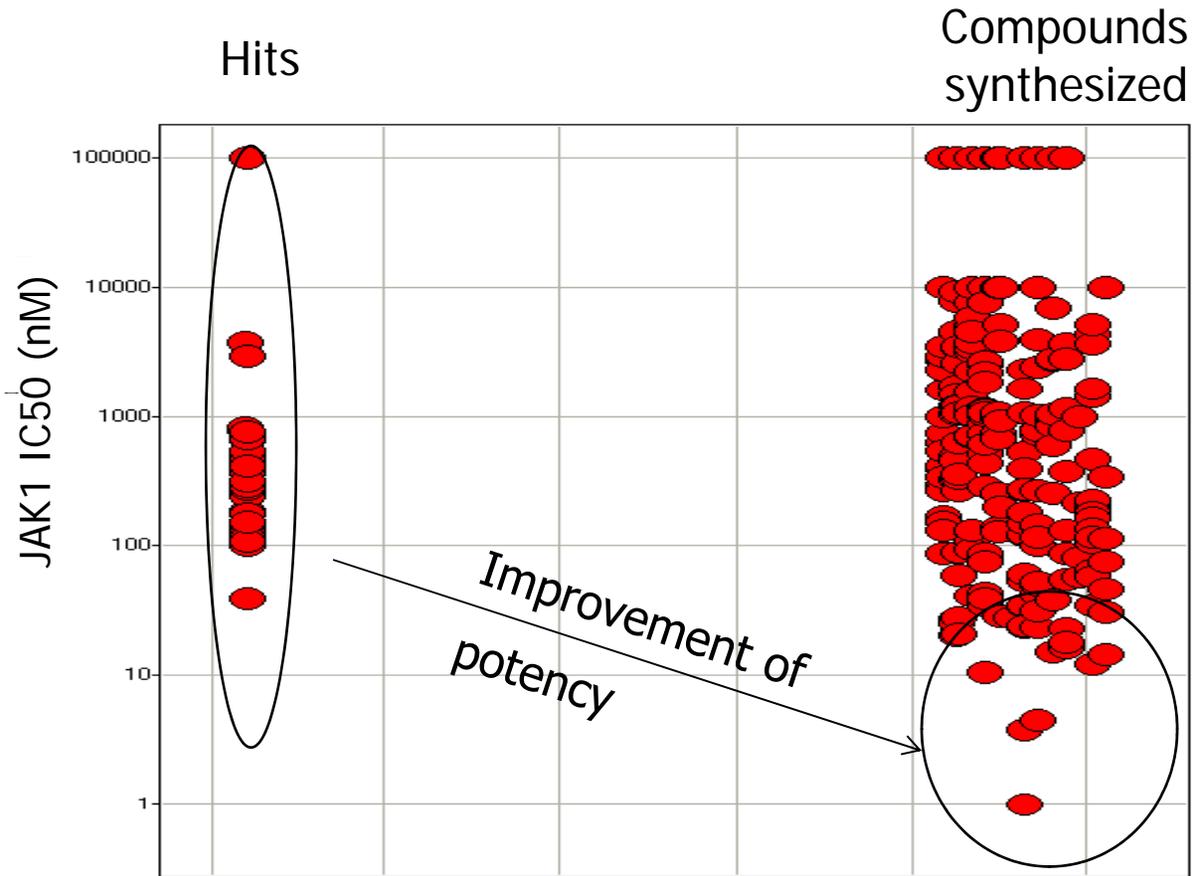
Substitution R	JAK1 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	JAK2 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	JAK3 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	TYK2 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
	180	564	1,790	1,767
	361	925	1,142	3,877
	110	188	1,155	587
	65	168	675	783
	528	980	2,857	7,049

The *para*-position of the phenyl was tolerant to wide range of substitutions



# Lead optimisation

## SAR

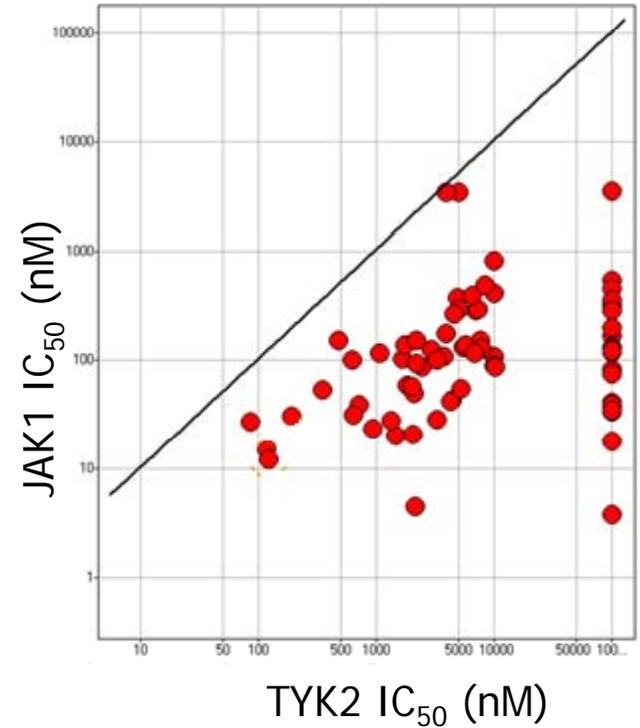
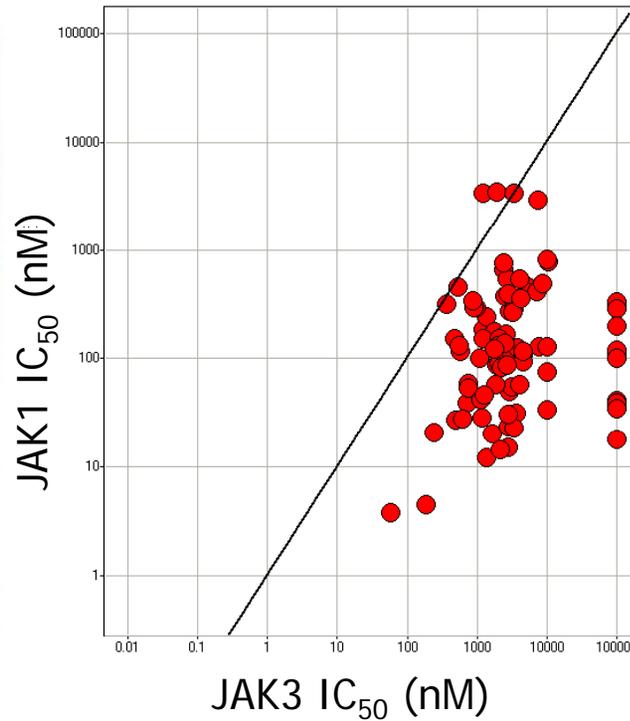
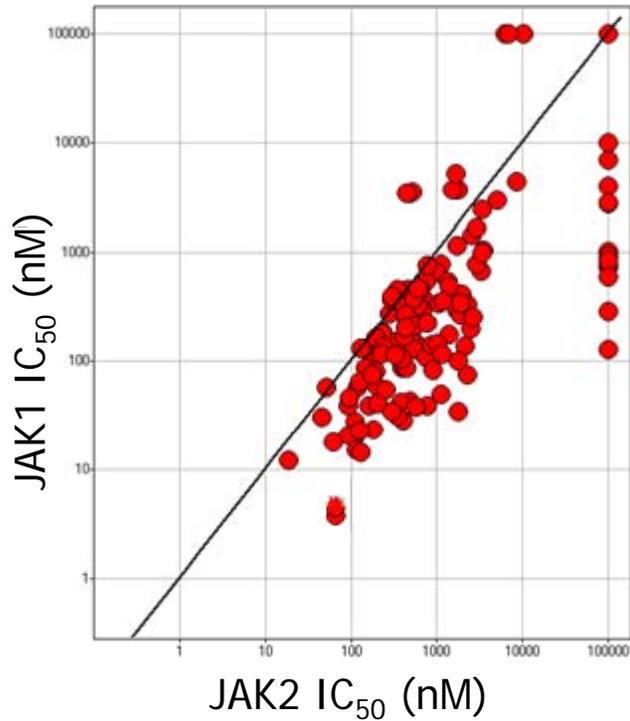


Drive towards potent JAK1 compounds



# Lead optimisation

## Biochemical selectivity

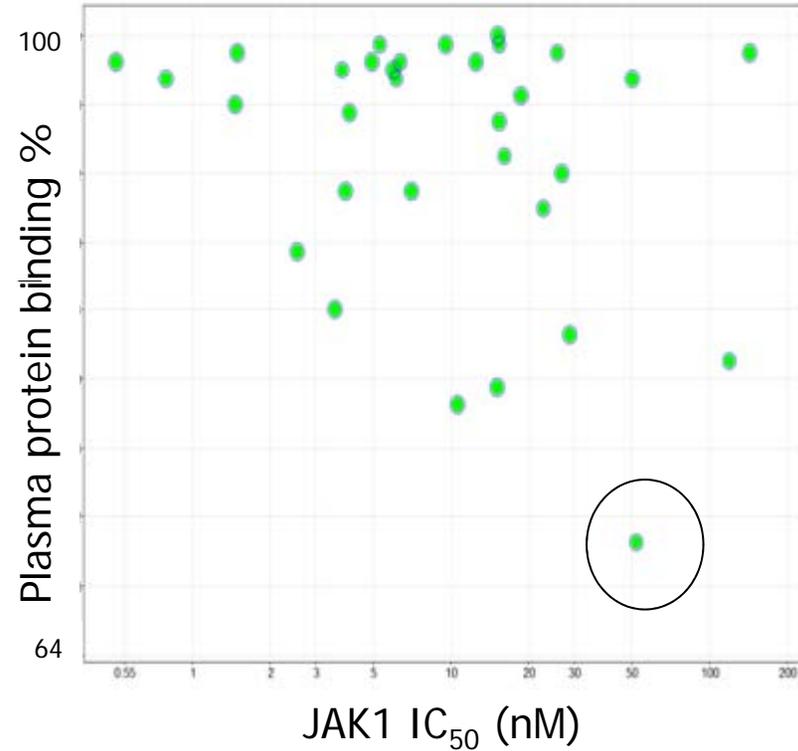
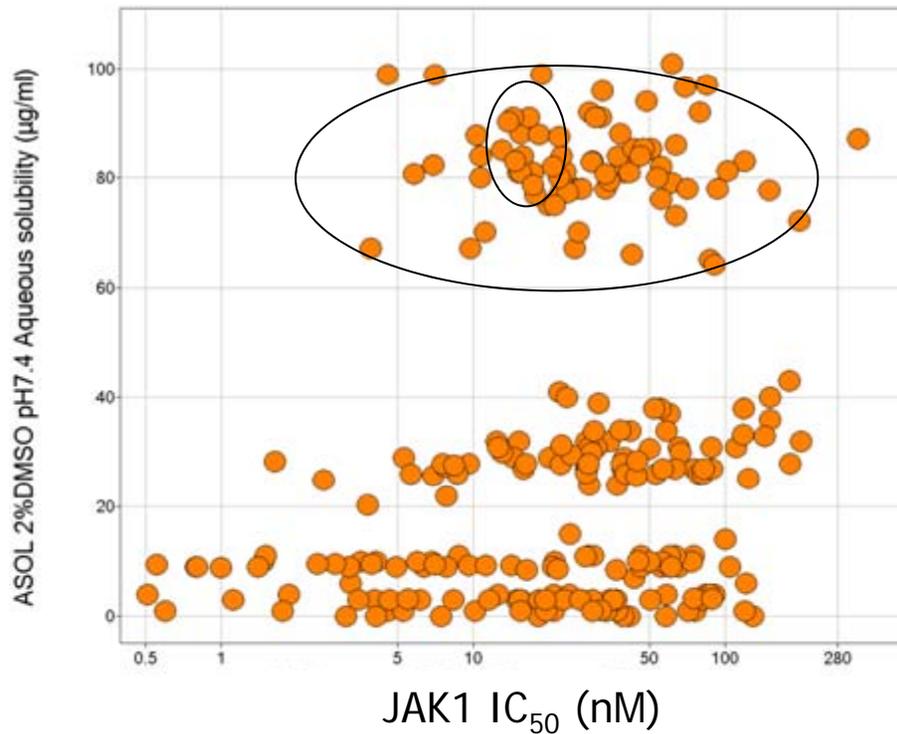


The series was made selective towards JAK1



# Lead optimization

## ADME analysis

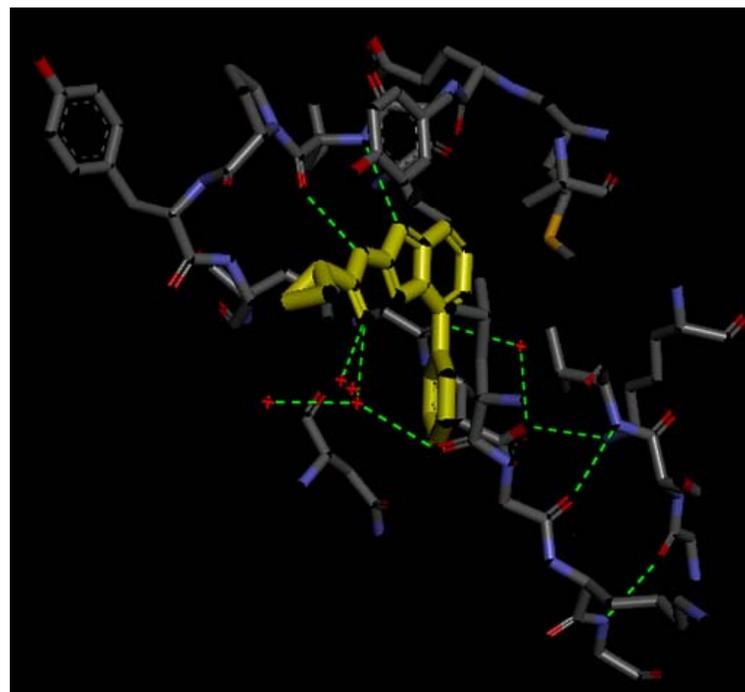
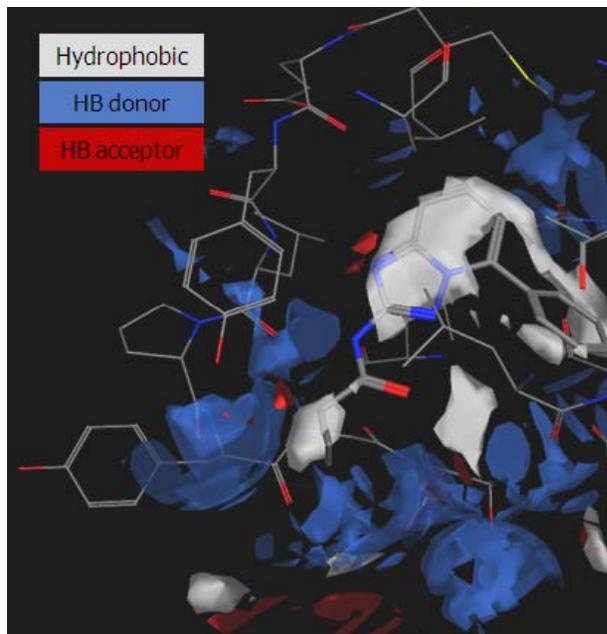


ADME analysis of main series led to sub-series: good solubility, low PPB  
Further optimization resulted in GLPG0634

# Crystal structure of JAK2

Triazolo-pyridine series docked in JAK2 crystal structure

Nitrogen atom of the scaffold and of cyclopropylamide of the series interact with the hinge



Cyclopropyl group locates in favorable hydrophobic pocket



# GLPG0634 inhibits JAK1

## JAK selectivity

Potencies of compounds in biochemical assays\*

Compound	JAK1 IC <sub>50</sub> , nM	JAK2 IC <sub>50</sub> , nM	JAK3 IC <sub>50</sub> , nM	TYK2 IC <sub>50</sub> , nM
GLPG0634	10	28	810	116
<i>tofacitinib</i>	1.3	1.9	0.2	23
INCB28050	5.9	5.7	>400	53

\* Biochemical assays by fluorescence read-out show higher potencies than prior radioactive assays.

JAK1 selectivity ratios of compounds in biochemical assays

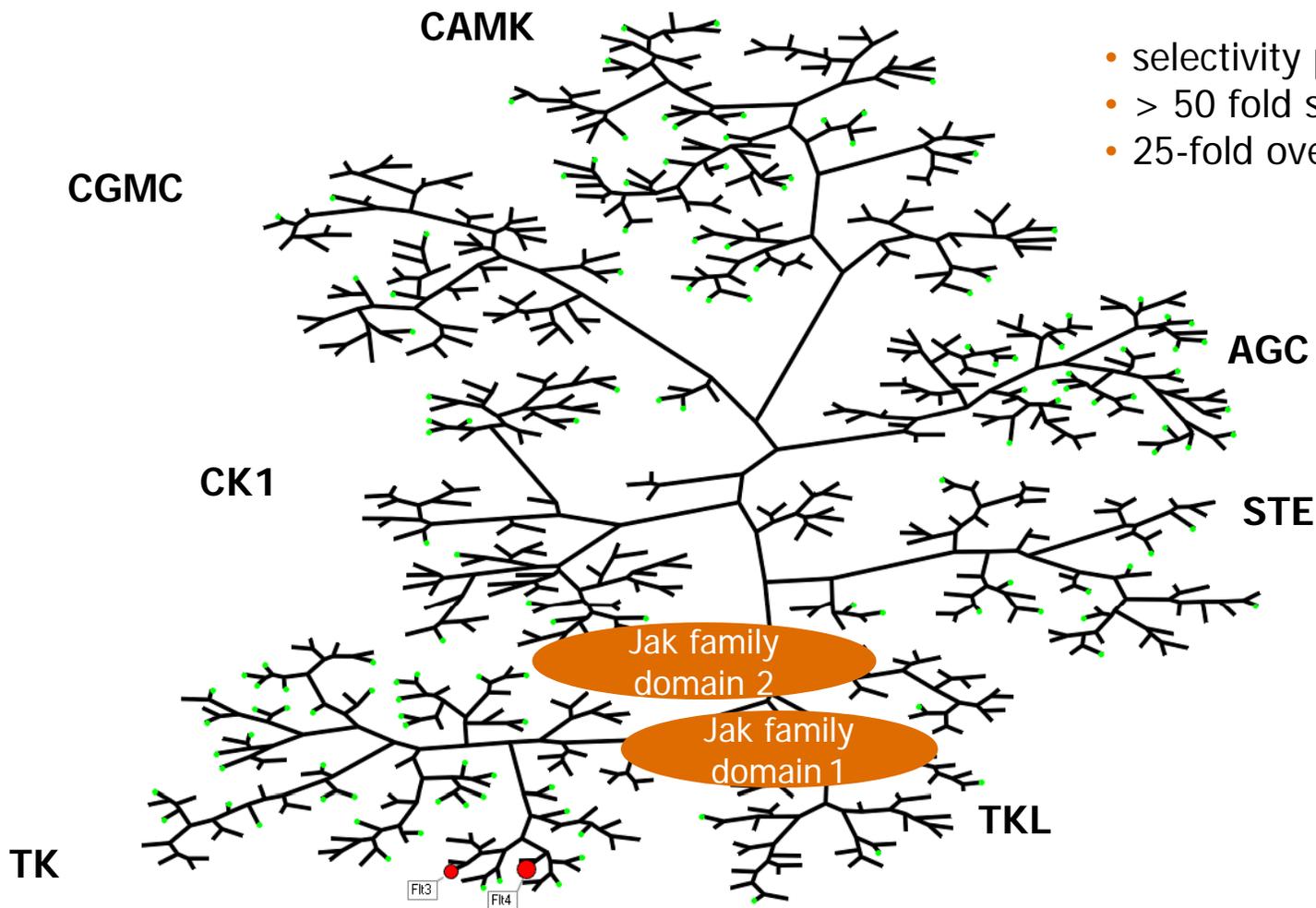
Compound	JAK2/JAK1 ratio	JAK3/JAK1 ratio	TYK2/JAK1 ratio
GLPG0634	2.8	81	11.6
<i>tofacitinib</i>	1.5	0.2	17.7
INCB28050	1.0	60	9.0

GLPG0634 shows good selectivity over JAK3 and TYK2



# GLPG0634 inhibits JAK1

## High selectivity towards 150 kinase-panel





# GLPG0634 inhibits JAK1

High selectivity for JAK1 over JAK2 in cellular assays

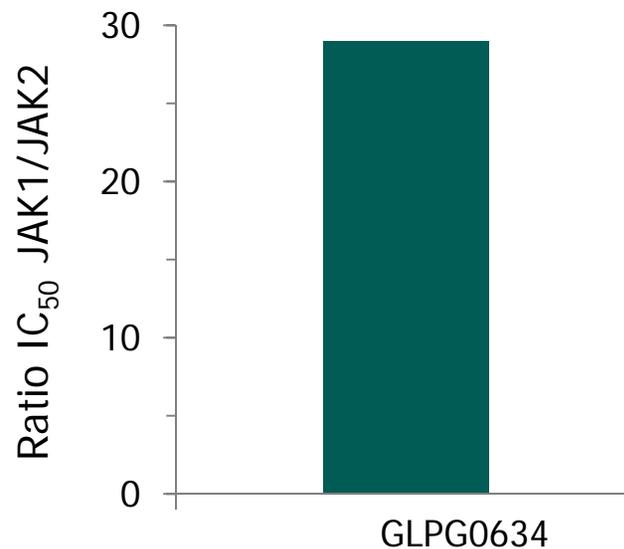
JAKs involved	Cell type	Trigger	Read-out	pIC <sub>50</sub> ± SEM	IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	n
JAK1-JAK3	THP-1	IL-4	pSTAT6	6.75 ± 0.06	154; 203	2
JAK1-JAK3	NK-92	IL-2	pSTAT5	6.46 ± 0.12	148; 757; 367	3
TYK2-JAK1	U2OS	IFN $\alpha$ B2	pSTAT1	6.33 ± 0.03	494; 436	2
JAK1-JAK2	HeLa	OSM	STAT1 reporter	6.01 ± 0.07	1,045	4
JAK1-JAK2	U2OS	IFN $\gamma$	pSTAT1	5.45	3,364	1
JAK2	TF-1	IL-3	pSTAT5	5.45	3,524	1
JAK2	BaF3	IL-3	proliferation	5.34 ± 0.04	4,546	3
JAK2	UT7-EPO	EPO	pSTAT5	>5	>10,000	2
JAK2	22Rv1	PRL	pSTAT5	>5	>10,000	2

# GLPG0634 inhibits JAK1

## High selectivity for JAK1 over JAK2 in human blood

Preclinical JAK profiling in human whole blood assay

Selectivity for JAK1 over JAK2  
(ratio  $IC_{50}$  values)



	Assay	$IC_{50}$ (nM)
JAK1	IL6/pSTAT1	600
JAK2	GM-CSF/pSTAT5	17,500

rhIL-6: 10 ng/mL; pSTAT1 in CD4<sup>+</sup> leucocytes by FACS  
rhGM-CSF: 20 pg/mL; pSTAT5 in CD33<sup>+</sup> leucocytes

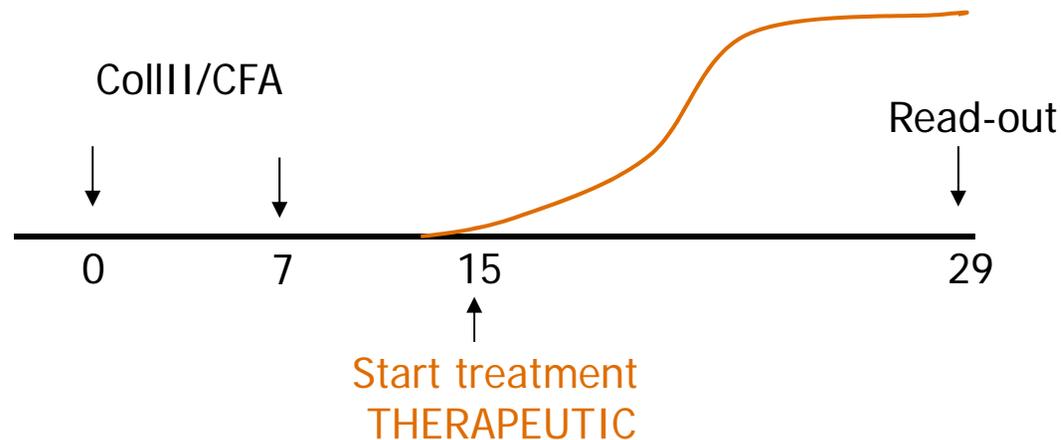
# Animal pharmacokinetics for GLPG0634

Vehicle MC 0.5% (v/v)		$C_{max}$ (ng/mL)	T <sub>max</sub> (h)	AUC <sub>0-24h</sub> (ng.h/mL)	T <sub>1/2</sub> (h)	Cl (L/h/kg)	V <sub>ss</sub> (L/kg)	F (%)
rat	IV 1 mg/kg	1,407		739	1.6	1.4	1.8	
	PO 5 mg/kg	310	2.2	1,681	3.9			45
dog	IV 1 mg/kg	1,143		4,098	7.5	0.25	1.7	
	PO 5 mg/kg	1,807	1.5	13,908	5.2			67

GLPG0634 was well exposed in rodent and non-rodent species using 0.5% methylcellulose as vehicle

# Collagen-induced arthritis rat model

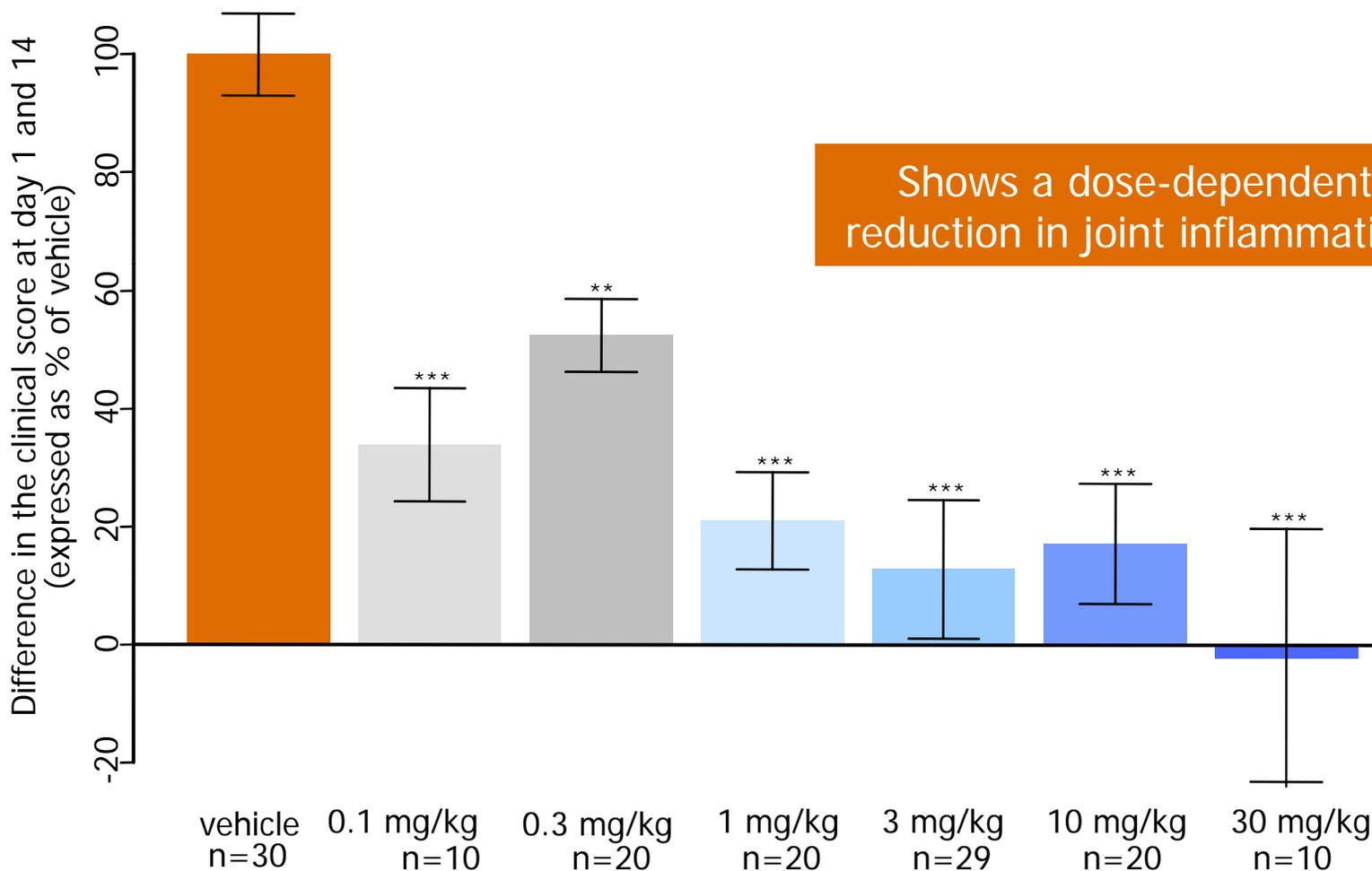
- Injection of heterologous type II collagen in susceptible rat strain
- Boost injection with Coll II at day 0 and 7
- Treatment day 15
- Read-out until day 29





# Therapeutic CIA rat model

## GLPG0634





# Conclusion lead optimization

- GLPG0634 is a selective JAK1 inhibitor
  - JAK1 biochemical potency  $IC_{50} \sim 10$  nM
  - human whole blood assay and cellular models show selectivity for JAK1 over JAK2
- Highly potent in therapeutic CIA animal model



# GLPG0634

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- Introduction
- Target identification
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  - Phase I
  - Phase II Proof of Concept



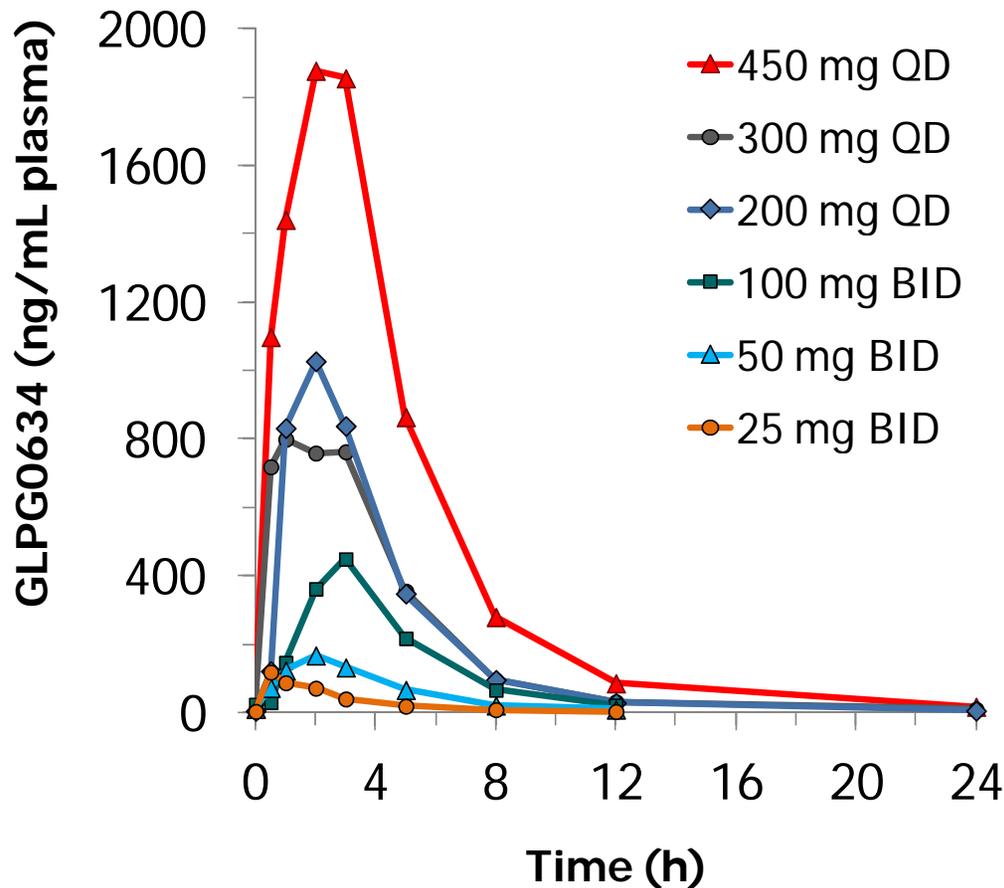
# Phase I

## Trial design and safety

- Ascending single dosing and Multiple dosing
  - 48 healthy volunteers: 6 subjects per groups received GLPG0634 and 2 placebo
- Safety: adverse events were mild and transient in nature.
  - headaches and abdominal discomfort (including loose stools) were reported in more than one subject, over all dose groups and including placebo
  - no changes in hematology parameters (including reticulocytes)
  - no changes in blood biochemistry (including cholesterol)
  - no signal in cardiovascular safety or vital signs

# GLPG0634 clinical pharmacokinetics

## Healthy volunteers

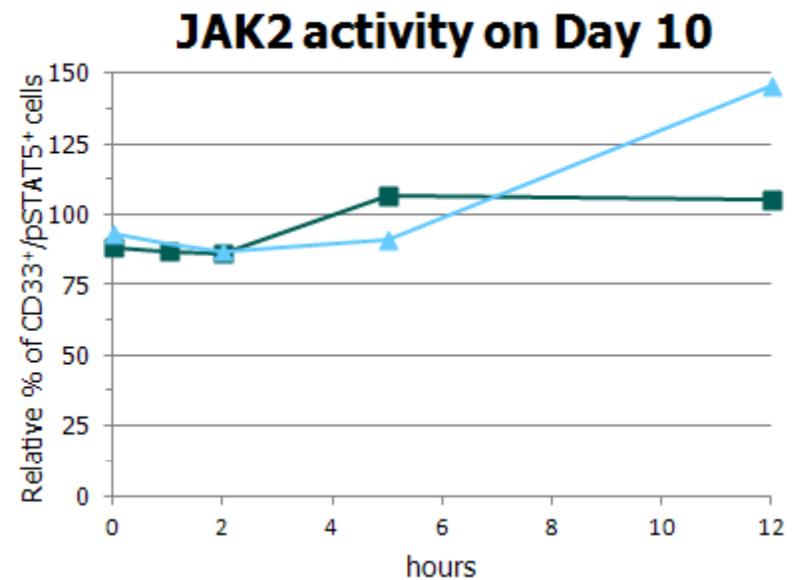
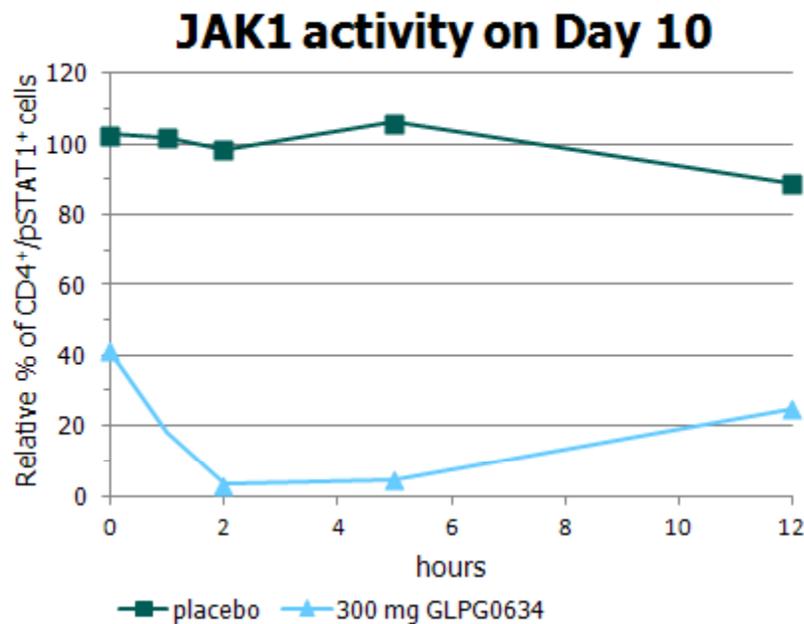


- Dose proportional PK
- Low variability (CV < 20%)
- Half life: 5-8 hours
- No food effect on capsule formulation
- Plasma exposure  $\geq$  50 mg
  - exceeds effective exposure in rat CIA
  - exceeds cellular IC<sub>50</sub>

# GLPG0634 has a unique JAK profile

JAK1 and JAK2 measured in whole blood from Phase I healthy volunteers

- JAK1 (IL-6/pSTAT1) compared to JAK2 (GM-CSF/pSTAT5)



GLPG0634 is a selective JAK1 inhibitor



# Conclusion Phase I

- GLPG0634 is well tolerated in the pharmacological active dose range, with no effects on hematology or other safety markers following 10 days dosing in healthy volunteers
- Good oral pharmacokinetics and biomarker PK/PD support a once-daily oral dosing regimen
- Results support the initiation of a Phase II trial in rheumatoid arthritis patients



# GLPG0634

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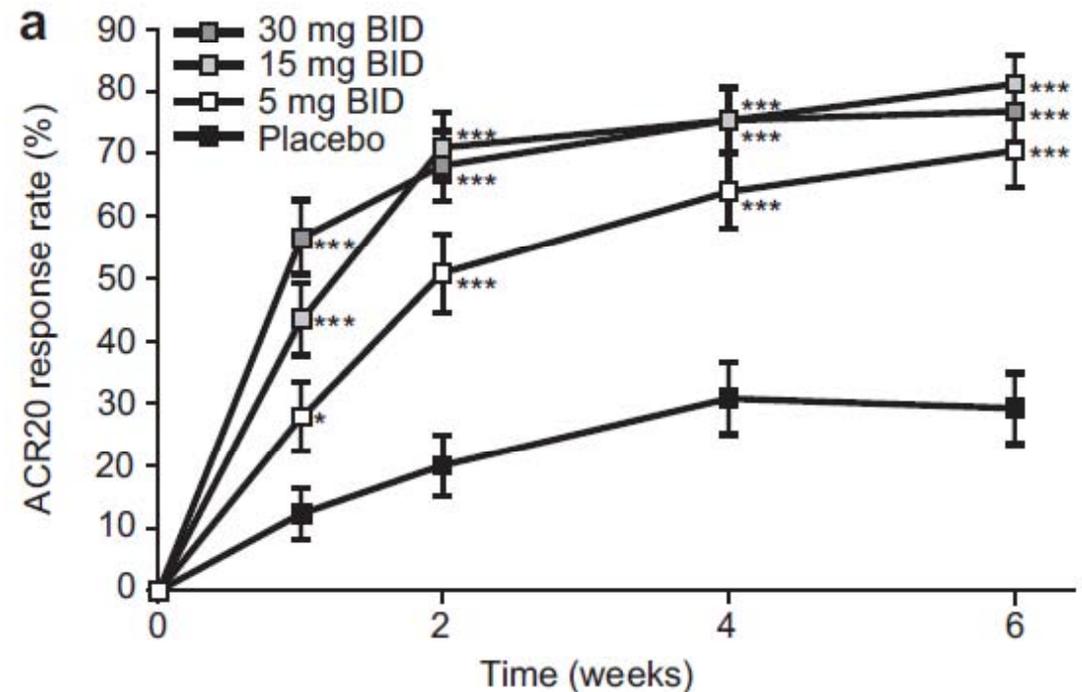
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# Phase II: Why only a 4 week trial?

## *tofacitinib* monotherapy in active RA

- Rheumatoid arthritis patients failing prior DMARD (n=264)
- Dose dependent efficacy
  - short-term efficacy (4 weeks) is maintained long-term (2 year)
- Safety and tolerability
  - infections
  - lipid elevations
  - transaminase increased
  - anemia
  - neutropenia





# GLPG0634 Phase II PoC

## Trial design

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in Moldova
- 36 RA patients with insufficient response to MTX, naïve to biologics
  - 4 week treatment, oral dosing
  - 200 mg QD *vs.* 100 mg BID *vs.* placebo
  - all on MTX (mean: 12 mg/week), with stable low-dose steroids/NSAIDs
  - patients randomized to 12 per group
    - similar demographics (mean age 49 years, 11 females per group)
- All 36 patients completed 4 weeks of treatment

Designed to give rapid evaluation of efficacy at high dose

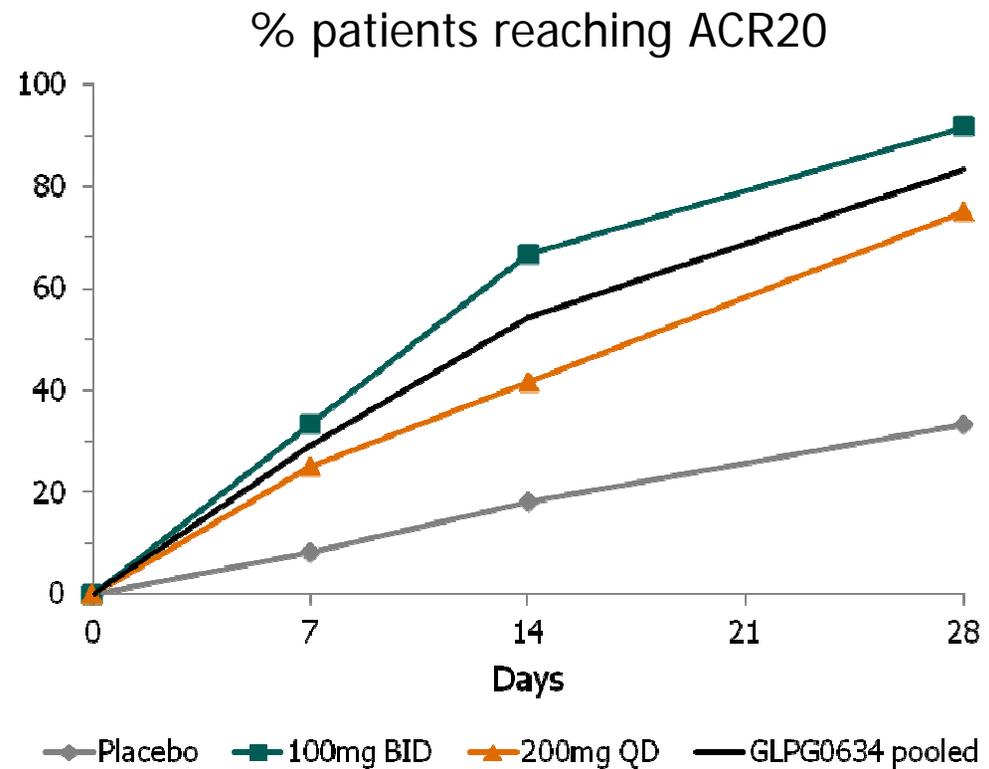


# Baseline patient characteristics

	Placebo n=12	GLPG0634 100 mg BID n=12	GLPG0634 200 mg QD n=12
RA diagnosis (years)	5.6	9.7	7.5
Use of steroids	2	4	4
Use of NSAIDS	11	10	6
CRP at baseline (mg/L)	34.9	21.3	40.5
DAS28	6.3	6.7	6.4

# GLPG0634 efficacy: ACR20

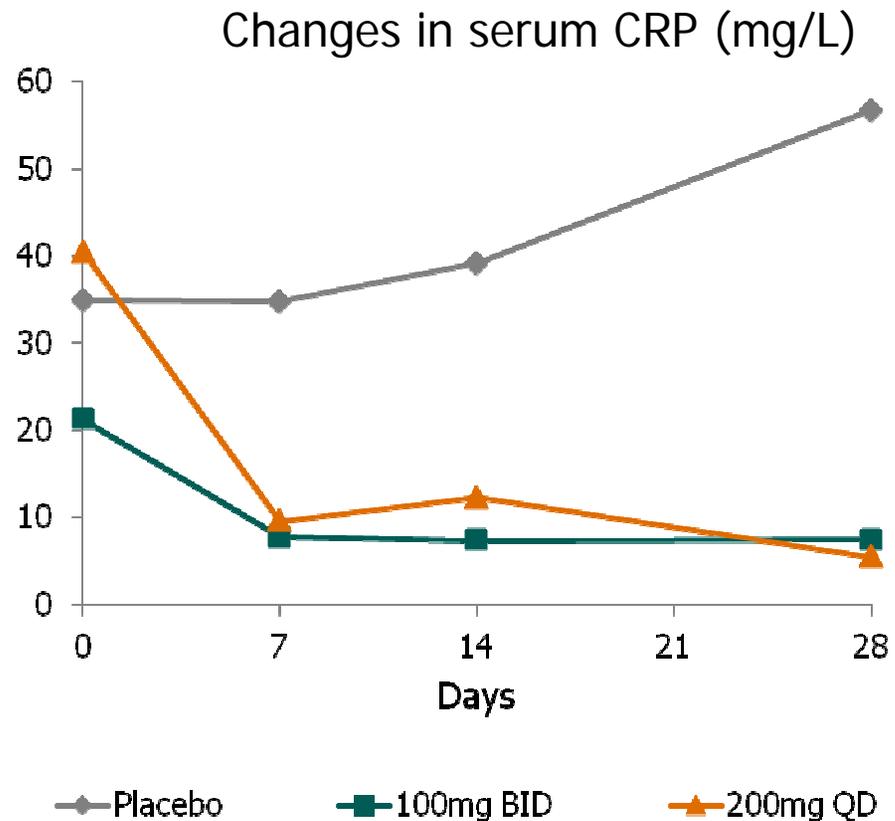
- Achieved primary endpoint
- ACR20 scores at Day 28: 42-58% improvement over placebo



GLPG0634 is highly efficacious with rapid onset of action

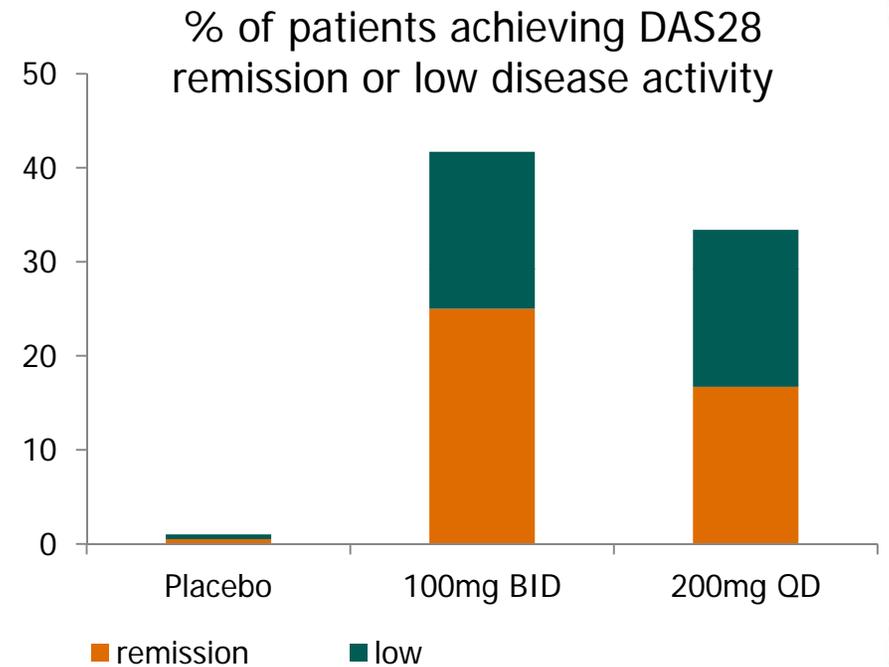
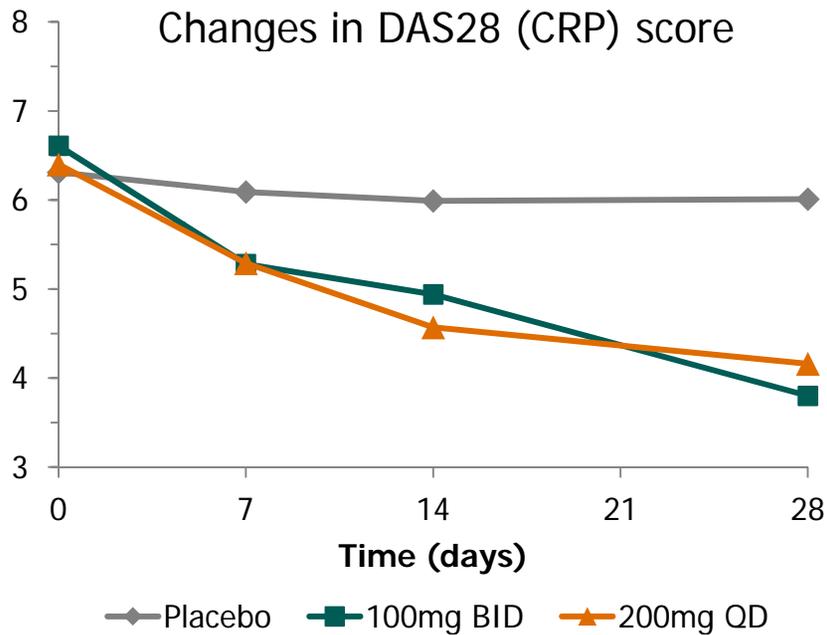
# GLPG0634 efficacy: C-reactive protein

- CRP: inflammation biomarker
- GLPG0634 treatment induces a rapid and lasting decrease in serum CRP to near-normal levels



GLPG0634 is highly efficacious with rapid onset of action

# GLPG0634 efficacy DAS28



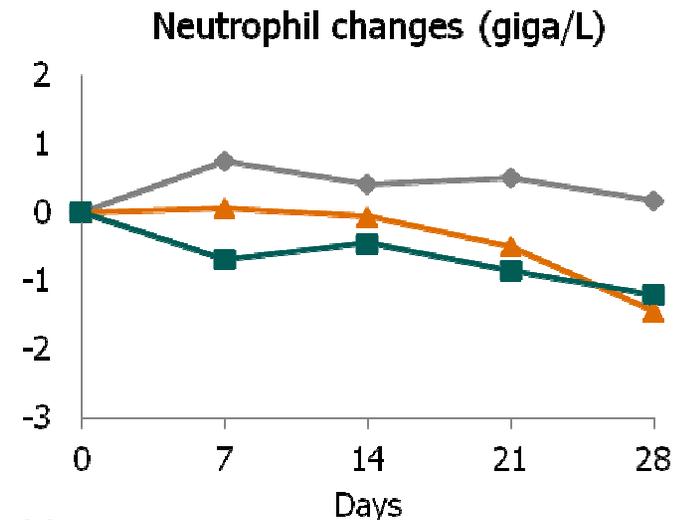
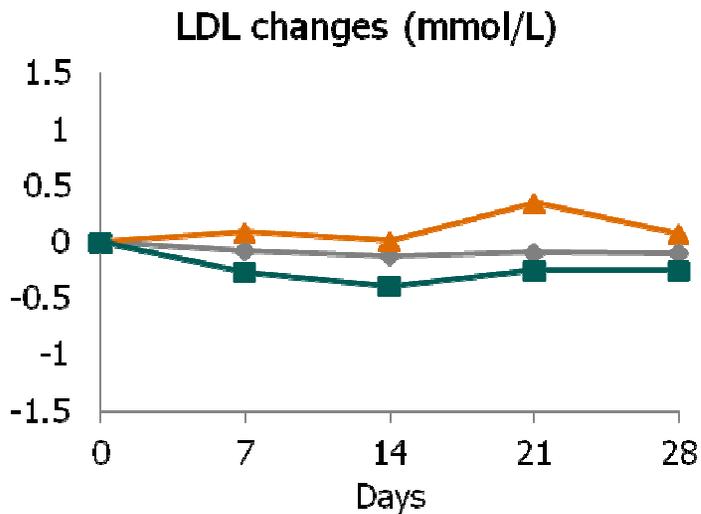
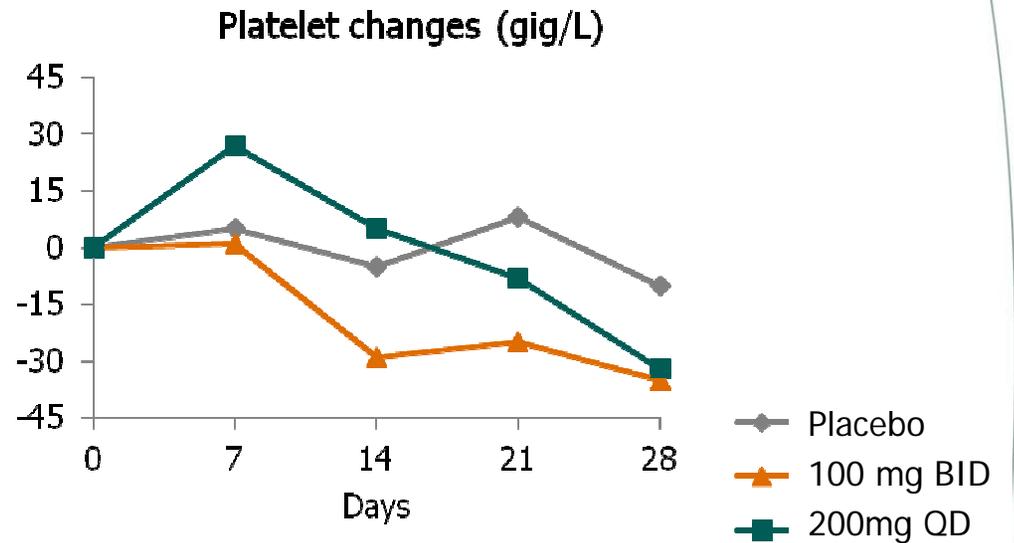
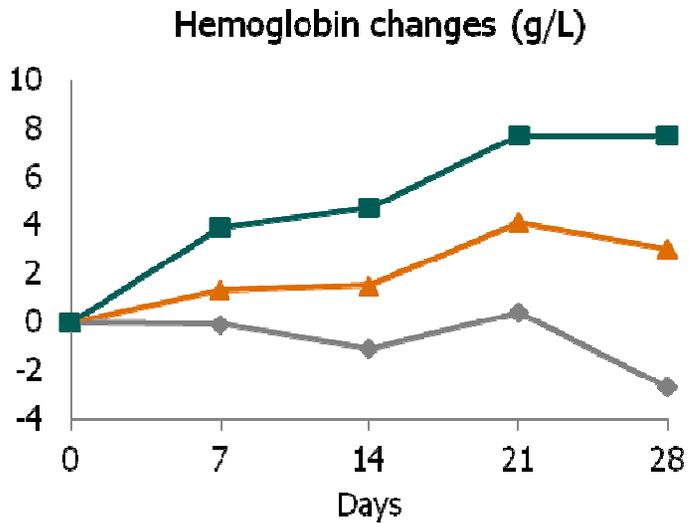
GLPG0634 is highly efficacious with rapid onset of action



# GLPG0634 safety findings

Any treatment-related AE	Placebo n=12	GLPG0634 100 mg BID n=12	GLPG0634 200 mg QD n=12
None	8	10	9
Nausea		2	2
Abdominal discomfort			1
Abdominal pain		1	
Asthenia (weakness)	2		
Fatigue	1		
Dysgeusia (abnormal taste)			1
Headache	1	1	
Somnolence (drowsiness)			1

# GLPG0634 safety





# GLPG0634 safety summary

- Safe and well-tolerated
  - no SAEs on GLPG0634 treatment
  - few patients reported side-effects
  - neither anemia nor increase in LDL
  - modest decrease in neutrophils and platelets
  - no effects on blood pressure



# Conclusion

## GLPG0634 a potential best in class

- Hit finding to PCC
  - Triazolopyridine identified as JAK1 inhibitors by HTS screening
  - Identification of subseries that offer a balance of ADME properties and potency
- GLPG0634 has a unique profile
  - a selective JAK1 inhibitor in biological systems
  - active in preclinical models of arthritis
  - well tolerated in a wide dose range in Phase I
  - PK/PD profile consistent with once daily dosing
- Proof-of-Concept in rheumatoid arthritis patients achieved
  - 4 weeks treatment at 200 mg/day on top of failing MTX



THANK YOU

Questions?