

DEVELOPMENT OF AIM-104, A POTENTIAL BEST-IN-CLASS PAN-ALLELE ANTI-SIRP α ANTIBODY FOR ANTI-TUMOR THERAPY

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Background SIRP α is an innate immune checkpoint receptor that suppresses macrophage phagocytosis through interaction with its ligand CD47. Unlike CD47 which is ubiquitously expressed, SIRP α is expressed primarily on myeloid cells, and therefore targeting SIRP α is a promising approach for enhancing anti-cancer immunity without the safety and therapeutic index liabilities associated with targeting CD47.

Methods We have generated and characterized AIM-104, a highly selective and potent pan-allele anti-SIRP α monoclonal antibody that blocks the SIRP α -CD47 interaction and has minimal SIRP γ binding. Phagocytic activity was evaluated *in vitro* by co-cultured human macrophages with various human tumor cell lines. Effects on human T-cell function through SIRP γ binding were tested using an allogeneic mixed lymphocyte reaction. Additional safety criteria were addressed *in vitro* using a hemagglutination assay and a platelet binding assay. SIRP α /CD47-double-humanized mice and MC38-human CD47 knock-in cells were used for a syngeneic tumor model to evaluate the *in vivo* anti-tumor efficacy of AIM-104.

Results AIM-104 binds to the V1 and V2 alleles of SIRP α with picomolar range affinity and blocks CD47 binding to SIRP α . AIM-104 potently induces macrophage phagocytosis of tumor cells in the absence or presence of tumor-targeted opsonizing antibodies. AIM-104 induced the highest *in vitro* phagocytic activity amongst several anti-SIRP α antibodies currently in clinical development, particularly when macrophages were derived from donors heterozygous or homozygous for the V2 allelic variant of SIRP α . AIM-104 inhibited *in vivo* tumor growth in a mouse tumor model, and its phagocytotic activity appeared unaffected regardless of effector function in the Fc backbone. AIM-104 exhibits only very weak affinity to SIRP γ and did not compromise T cell IFN γ secretion in an allogeneic MLR, unlike anti-CD47 or anti-SIRP γ antibodies. In contrast to CD47-targeting antibodies which have experienced adverse events including acute anemia and thrombocytopenia, AIM-104 did not trigger hemagglutination or platelet binding *in vitro*.

Conclusions We have identified AIM-104 as a potentially best-in-class antagonistic anti-SIRP α antibody that is distinguished by its superior phagocytic activity on macrophages harboring the SIRP α V2 allelic variant. AIM-104 binds strongly to all major human SIRP α polymorphic alleles, potently induces macrophage phagocytosis of multiple tumor cell lines, and significantly inhibits *in vivo* tumor growth in mice without negatively affecting red blood cells, platelets, or T cell function. AIM-104 is currently undergoing IND-enabling studies.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/jitc-2023-SITC2023.0514>