## Suprachoroidal Delivery of RGX-314 for Diabetic Retinopathy Without CI-DME: Results from the Phase II ALTITUDE<sup>™</sup> Study

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### **Disclosures**

- Genentech S, C
- Regeneron S
- Allergan S
- REGENXBIO C

### **Diabetic Retinopathy is a Global Public Health Problem**



Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) is the Leading Cause of Blindness Among Working-Age Adults Globally<sup>1</sup>

• Over 25 million patients are affected with DR in the US, Europe and Japan, including 10 million in the US alone



Chronic, frequent treatment with anti-VEGF agents has been shown to improve DR severity and reduce risk of progression to vision threatening complications (VTCs) by > 70%<sup>2</sup>

 Q8 weeks EYLEA<sup>®</sup> (aflibercept) and Q4 weeks LUCENTIS<sup>®</sup> (ranibizumab) are FDA approved for the treatment of DR without VTCs<sup>3</sup>



Majority of DR patients without VTCs are not treated with anti-VEGF in the real world due to the unsustainable treatment burden of frequent injections in the eye<sup>4</sup>



One time, in-office injection of gene therapy could potentially provide long-lasting improvement in DR severity and reduce risk of vision threatening complications

# A 2-step Improvement in Diabetic Retinopathy Severity Scale (DRSS) Has Been Accepted as a Pivotal Endpoint by the FDA for DR Clinical Trials<sup>1</sup>



#### ► INCREASING RISK OF DEVELOPING VISION THREATENING COMPLICATIONS ►

#### DR disease severity is measured using the Diabetic Retinopathy Severity Scale<sup>2</sup>

DR, diabetic retinopathy. CI-DME can occur at any stage of severity.

1. Used in the approval of EYLEA® (aflibercept) and LUCENTIS® (ranibizumab) Source: AAO PPP 2019; 2. DRSS score categorizes severity of disease in DR. ETDRS report number 12. Ophthalmology 1991; Images: Bakri, 2021

### **RGX–314 for the Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy (DR)**

#### **RGX–314 PRODUCT CANDIDATE**

Vector: AAV8

Gene: anti-VEGF fab

+

**Route of administration:** Subretinal (nAMD) or

Suprachoroidal (nAMD/DR)



#### **Mechanism of action:**

Reducing leaky blood vessel formation by giving ocular cells the ability to produce an anti-VEGF fab



More efficient gene delivery to the RPE<sup>1</sup>

Leveraging current standard of care in transgene

- FDA-approved mAbs and mAb fragments that inhibit VEGF are used for the prevention of DR complications
- RGX–314 gene encodes an anti-VEGF mAb fragment (fab)

**RGX–314**: AAV8 encoding anti–VEGF fab

Potential for long-term therapeutic anti-VEGF expression

### **ALTITUDE™: RGX-314 Phase II Clinical Trial in Diabetic Retinopathy**

#### **Primary Objective**

 Evaluate proportion of patients with ≥2 step improvement in severity on the Diabetic Retinopathy Severity Scale (DRSS) at one year

#### **Route of Administration**

In-office SCS Microinjector<sup>™</sup> delivers RGX-314 to the suprachoroidal space

#### **Secondary Objectives**

- Safety and tolerability of RGX-314
- Development of DR-related ocular complications
- Need for additional standard of care interventions

#### Subjects: Up to 60 total

18 study sites across the United States

### Key Inclusion Criteria

- Male or female ≥ 25 to 89 years of age with DR secondary to diabetes mellitus Type 1 or Type 2
- Moderately Severe NPDR, Severe NPDR, or Mild PDR (DRSS levels 47-61)
- No active CI-DME, CST < 320 μm</p>
- Vision of 20/40 or better (≥ 69 Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study [ETDRS] letters) in the study eye
- No anti-VEGF injection(s) in prior 6 months

### **RGX-314 ALTITUDE™ Study Design**



#### No prophylactic steroids given throughout the study



1. Dose escalation safety review to occur two weeks after final subject in each cohort has been dosed. NAb+ = AAV8 neutralizing antibody positive. Y1= 48 weeks.

**Fully Enrolled** 

**IDMC Safety Review** 

### **ALTITUDE Baseline Characteristics (Cohort 1)**

Variable		Observational Control (N=5)	RGX-314 (N=15)	Total (N=20)
BASELINE <sup>1</sup>	Mean Age (Years)	51.0	50.7	50.8
	Gender – Female	1 (20%)	9 (60%)	10 (50%)
	Hemoglobin A1c	6.4	8.2	7.8
	Baseline DRSS score			
	47 (Moderately Severe, NPDR)	5 (100%)	5 (33.3%)	10 (50.0%)
	53 (Severe, NPDR)		2 (13.3%)	2 (10.0%)
	61 (Mild, PDR)		7 (46.7%)	7 (35%)
	65 <sup>2</sup> (Moderate, PDR)		1(6.7%)	1 (5%)
	Screening BCVA (Snellen equivalents)	87.6 (20/20)	78.1 (20/32)	80.5 (20/25)
	Screening OCT CRT (μm)	259.2	259.5	259.5
	Lens Status – Phakic n (%)	4 (80%)	13 (86.7%)	17 (85%)
DISEASE HISTORY	Study Eye with anti-VEGF Injections in the Past 36-months n (%)	0	5 (33.3%)	5 (25%)
	Months Since DR Diagnosis <sup>3</sup> – Mean	31.9	27.8	28.8

1. Ocular variables refer to study eye only.

2. After randomization, central reading center DRSS was scored as Grade 65 on final masked adjudication.

3. Based on randomization date.

### **ALTITUDE Safety Summary: Cohort 1**

- RGX–314 was well-tolerated (n=15)
  - 2 SAEs: not considered drug-related
    - Vitreous hemorrhage in an untreated *fellow eye*
    - Femur fracture
- Common ocular TEAEs<sup>1</sup> in the study eye were not considered drug-related and were predominantly mild:
  - Conjunctival hyperemia (3/15, 20%)
  - Conjunctival hemorrhage (2/15, 13%)
- One case of mild episcleritis reported 2-weeks post-dosing and resolved with topical corticosteroids

#### No intraocular inflammation observed

No prophylactic corticosteroids administered

Stable BCVA		Observational Control (N=5)	Cohort 1 2.5x10 <sup>11</sup> GC/eye (N=15)
	Mean change in BCVA at M6	-2.0 letters	+0.3 letters

Data cut: January 18, 2022

1. Ocular TEAEs through 6-month visit, with common ocular TEAEs defined as  $\geq$  10% of RGX-314 treated study eyes.

SAE: Serious Adverse Event; TEAE: Treatment Emergent Adverse Event

#### **Cohort 1: Change in DRSS at Month 6**



#### A 2-step improvement in DRSS has been accepted as a pivotal endpoint by the FDA for DR clinical trials<sup>3</sup>

Data cut: January 18, 2022

1. One study eye (DRSS 61 at baseline) received a single Lucentis injection 8 days after RGX-314 dosing for trace vitreous hemorrhage, which was 10 weeks prior to their 3 month visit when DRSS was assessed.

2. One patient had a 4-step improvement.

3. Used in the approval of EYLEA® (aflibercept) and LUCENTIS® (ranibizumab) Source: AAO PPP 2019

### **Cohort 1: Change in DRSS at Months 3 and 6**

#### Patients Treated with RGX-314 Demonstrated Improvement in Disease Severity Over Time



Data cut: January 18, 2022

1. One study eye (DRSS 61 at baseline) received a single Lucentis injection 8 days after RGX-314 dosing for trace vitreous hemorrhage, which was 10 weeks prior to their 3 month visit when DRSS was assessed. 2. One patient had a 4-step improvement.

### Patients with ≥2 Step Improvement in Disease Severity at Months 3 and 6



Data cut: January 18, 2022.

\*One patient had a 4-step improvement. Another patient received a single Lucentis injection in the study eye (DRSS 61 at baseline) 8 days after RGX-314 dosing for trace vitreous hemorrhage, which was 10 weeks prior to their 3 month visit when DRSS was assessed.

### How Do ALTITUDE Cohort 1 DRSS Outcomes at 6 Months Compare to Frequent Injections of FDA-Approved Anti-VEGF?



Data cut: January 18, 2022

\*One patient had a 4-step improvement. Another patient received a single Lucentis injection in the study eye (DRSS 61 at baseline) 8 days after RGX-314 dosing for trace vitreous hemorrhage, which was 10 weeks prior to their 3 month visit when DRSS was assessed.

1. Patients initially received 5 Q4 weeks loading doses followed thereafter by Q8 weeks dosing, per U.S. label instructions; EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection full U.S. Prescribing Information. Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. March 2021.

2. Patients received Q4 weeks dosing of ranibizumab (RBZ), per U.S. label instructions; Wykoff CC et al. Ophthalmology Retina. 2018 DOI: (10.1016/j.oret.2018.06.005).

### How Do DRSS Outcomes After a Single Injection of RGX-314 Compare to FDA-Approved Anti-VEGF Dosing Regimens?



**Baseline DR Severity Level: 47/53** 

**Baseline DR Severity Level: 47-65** 

Data cut: January 18, 2022

- \*One patient had a 4-step improvement. Another patient received a single Lucentis injection in the study eye (DRSS 61 at baseline) 8 days after RGX-314 dosing for trace vitreous hemorrhage, which was 10 weeks prior to their 3 month visit when DRSS was assessed.
- 1. Patients initially received 5 Q4 weeks loading doses followed thereafter by Q8 weeks dosing, per U.S. label instructions; EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection full U.S. Prescribing Information. Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. March 2021.
- 2. Patients received Q4 weeks dosing of ranibizumab (RBZ), per U.S. label instructions; Wykoff CC et al. Ophthalmology Retina. 2018 DOI: (10.1016/j.oret.2018.06.005).

### Summary of Results from the Phase II ALTITUDE<sup>™</sup> DR Study

- Suprachoroidal RGX-314 continues to be well-tolerated in Cohort 1 (2.5x10<sup>11</sup> GC/eye; n=15)
- No intraocular inflammation observed over 6 months
  - No prophylactic corticosteroids administered
- With a single injection of RGX-314, patients demonstrate clinically meaningful improvements in disease severity over time
  - 33% achieved a ≥2 step improvement at 3 months
  - 47% achieved a ≥2 step improvement at 6 months



Video: M. Klufas

A one time, in-office injection of gene therapy could potentially provide long-lasting improvement in DR severity and reduce risk of vision threatening complications

ALTITUDE study is currently enrolling Dose level 2 (5.0x10<sup>11</sup> GC/eye) in Cohorts 2 and 3: NAb- and NAb+ patients