

### ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE®

JULY 27-31 > TORONTO, CANADA, AND ONLINE



Protein misfolding-specific epitope identification for passive and active immunotherapy of neurodegeneration





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# Dr Cashman is Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of ProMIS Neurosciences





ProMIS Neurosciences Inc. is a **clinical stage** biotech company focused on developing novel therapies for **neurodegenerative diseases** 



Leveraging its **proprietary**, **Al-based platform**, **EpiSelect**<sup>™</sup>, to engineer disease specific antibodies that selectively bind to toxic misfolded proteins to **slow or halt disease progression**, with minimal off-target effects





**Lead candidate (PMN310) is a humanized mAb** selectively targeting toxic Aβ oligomers driving **Alzheimer's Disease**; Ph1b POC study ongoing, **interim data expected 1H26**, **top-line data expected 2H26** 



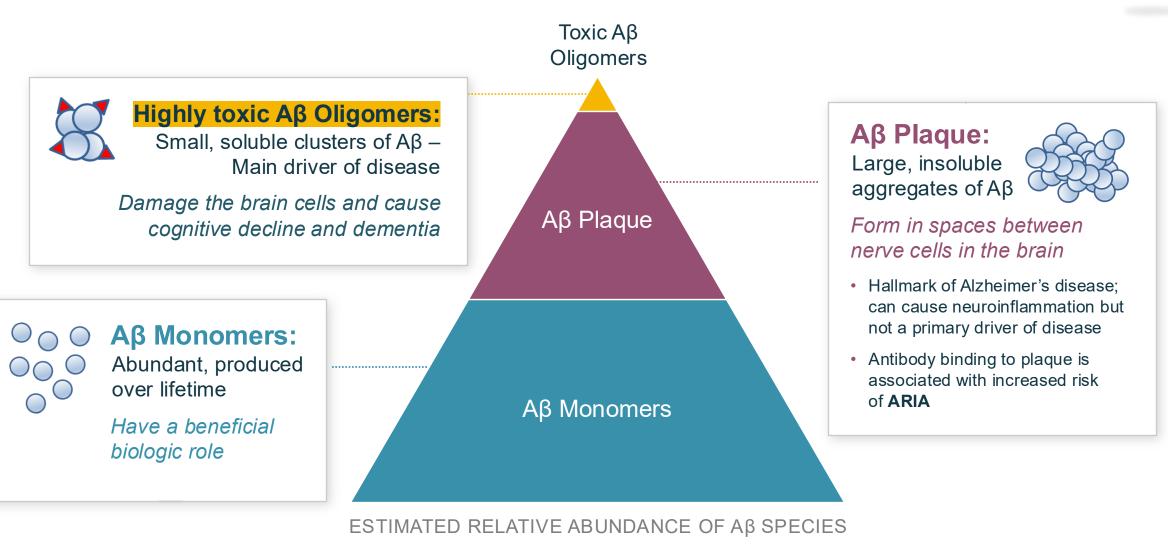
PMN310 is designed to be **differentiated** in its ability to selectively target only the toxic oligomers, avoiding plaque, potentially **reducing or eliminating ARIA liability**; **FDA Fast Track designation** granted for treatment of Alzheimer's disease



Multiple preclinical pipeline candidates in neurodegenerative diseases, including ALS, FTD, MSA, PD, and Aβ and α-synuclein vaccines; additional co-development opportunities available leveraging EpiSelect™ platform

### Amyloid-beta protein exists in different forms and different concentrations





Goure et al, 2014, Alz Res & Ther

## Importance of selectivity for toxic amyloid-β oligomers (AβOs)











#### **Monomers**

Abundant, produced over lifetime

Have a beneficial biologic role

#### **Oligomers**

Small, soluble clusters of Aβ – Main driver of disease

Damage the brain cells and cause cognitive decline and dementia

#### **Plaque**

Large, insoluble aggregates of Aβ

Form in spaces between nerve cells in the brain

#### **Clinical Benefit**

solanezumab

gantenerumab

crenezumab

lecanemab

aducanumab

donanemab

**Ideal Specificity?** 

None

None

None

Modest

Modest

Modest

**Potentially high** 

Note: No head-to-head clinical studies have been conducted

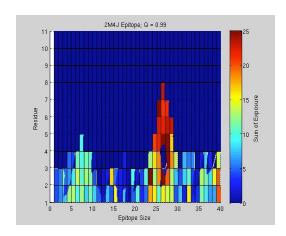
## The ProMIS Platform: EpiSelect™



EpiSelect<sup>™</sup> is a patented target discovery platform that applies a proprietary thermodynamic, computational algorithm to predict disease-specific epitopes on the molecular surface of misfolded proteins

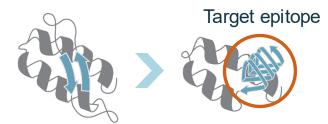
Can potentially be applied across a range of neurodegenerative diseases and other therapeutic areas given the broad presence of naturally occurring misfolded proteins causing debilitating disease

#### **Computational Modeling**



Proprietary algorithms are used to identify the parts of a protein that are likely to become exposed and misfolded

#### **Predictive Analysis**



Normal protein

Toxic misfolded protein

Protein structures are analyzed, allowing the platform to predict which regions are likely to misfold and form toxic aggregates

#### **Target Epitope Construct**





Target epitope construct

Conformational epitope is replicated as a cyclic peptide

### The ProMIS Platform: EpiSelect™



### Selective Antibody Development Driven by EpiSelect™

EpiSelect™ output enables
efficient generation of selective
antibodies that strongly bind
disease-associated epitopes

**Epitope Construct & Antibody Candidate Generation** 



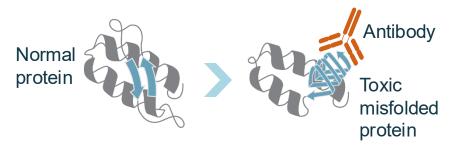
Humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibodies with high effector function

**Antibody** 



Antibodies screened for selective neutralization of toxic misfolded form creating potential to slow or halt disease progression

Screening for selectivity and protective activity



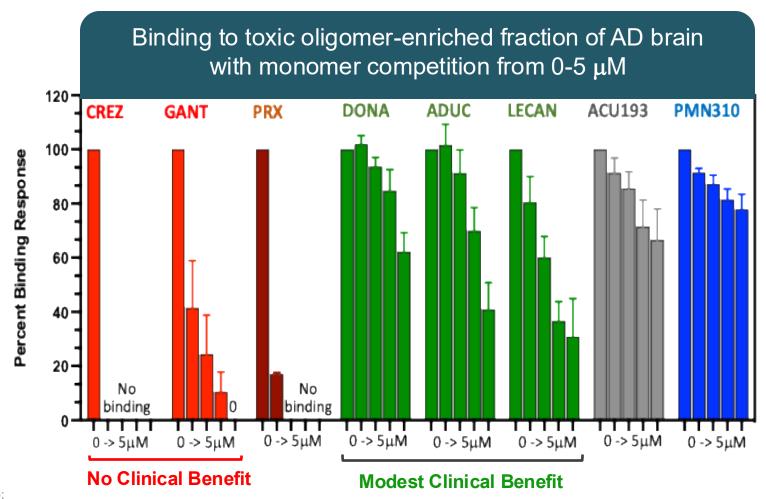
Potential to eliminate disease-causing toxic proteins without affecting the normal protein

construct

# PMN310 – Demonstrated best-in-class resistance to Aβ monomer competition



- Antibodies that failed in the clinic had toxic oligomer binding abrogated by monomer exposure
- Antibodies with positive clinical trial data were more resistant to monomer competition and retained significant binding to toxic oligomers
- PMN310 targeting of toxic Aβ oligomers least impacted by monomer competition to date



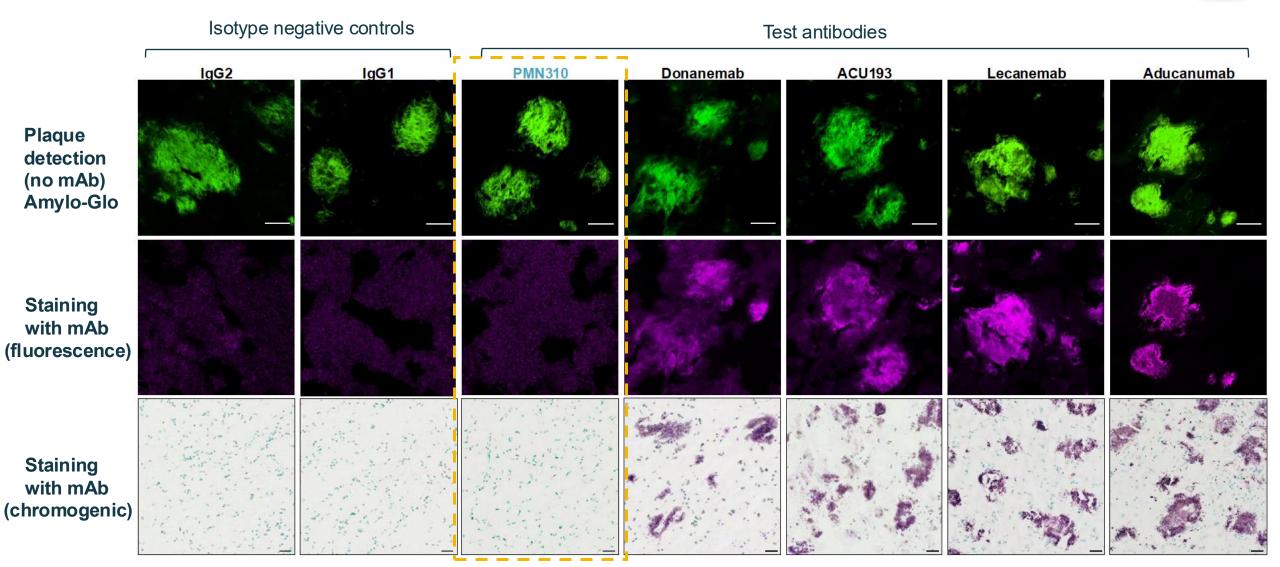
CREZ: crenezumab; GANT: gantenerumab; PRX: Prothena; DONA: donanemab; ADUC: aducanumab; LECAN: lecanemab; ACU193: Acumen mAb

COMPETING MONOMER CONCENTRATION

Kaplan et al, 2024, bioRxiv, https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.04.20.590412v2

# Quantitative immunofluorescence indicates PMN310 as the only antibody Tx with no plaque binding

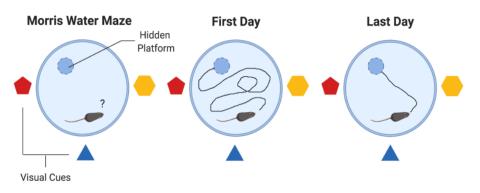




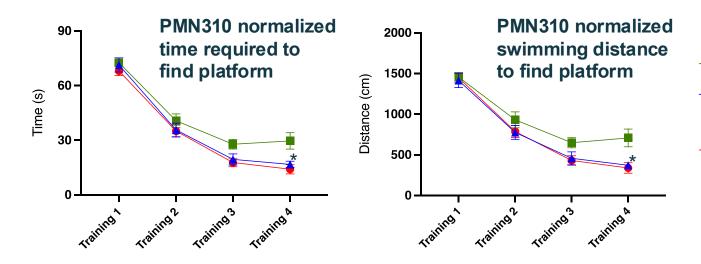
## PMN310 preserves memory and learning in AD mouse model



PMN310 delivered systemically corrected the cognitive defect of hAPP/L transgenic mice in the Morris Water Maze task



- Morris Water Maze test: Over successive training days, mice learn and remember where a hidden platform is located in a pool of water, reducing the time and swimming distance required to reach the platform.
- Mice transgenic for human APP-L have cognitive deficits and do not perform as well (more time, longer swimming distance needed)



- hAPP-Tg, Vehicle
- hAPP-Tg, PMN310 (30 mg/kg/week)
- Non-Tg, Vehicle

Transgenic AD mice treated with PMN310 were completely protected and performed as well as normal mice.

Kaplan et al, 2024, bioRxiv, https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.04.20.590412v2

<sup>\*</sup>p<0.05 vs vehicle-treated hAPP-Tg for both vehicle-treated non-Tg and PMN310-treated Tg mice

### PMN310 Is Differentiated From other AD Antibody Therapies



#### **Potential for Improved Efficacy**

- Designed to selectively target <u>toxic oligomers that drive disease</u>
- No sink effect from off-target binding to plaque or monomers
- Lower doses required to achieve and sustain efficacy

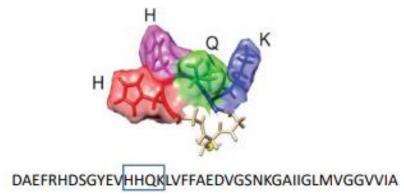
#### **Potential for Improved Safety**

- Avoidance of plaque expected to carry a <u>reduced risk of ARIA</u>
- No impact on efficacy anticipated since <u>elimination of plaque is not</u>
   <u>required</u> for significant clinical benefit

#### **Potential for Improved Compliance**

- Monthly dosing (half life in CNS = 27 days)
- Currently IV
- <u>Potential for SC dosing</u> if able to maximize efficacy at lower doses, given no sink effect (entire dose delivered to clinically relevant target - oligomers)

Conformational epitope of PMN310



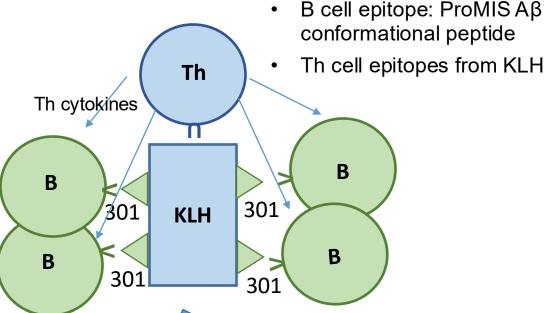
Expected to yield **more favorable benefit:risk profile** than recently approved amyloid-β disease modifying therapies (DMTs)\*

#### First generation Aβ vaccine (Elan)

# Both Th and B cell epitopes come from Aβ protein Th Th cytokines Αβ1-42 В В B

- Aβ B cell epitopes -> Non-selective antibody response to all forms of Aβ
- Aβ T helper epitopes -> Th1-driven meningoencephalitis upon recognition of epitope in the brain

Second generation ProMIS Aβ vaccine
 B cell epitope: Proloconformational per



Aβ conformational B cell epitope -> Antibody response selective for toxic Aβ oligomers

No Aβ Th epitopes – KLH T helper epitopes not present in the brain, no meningoencephalitis

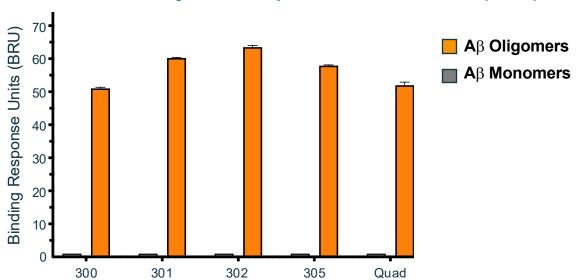
Note: T helper epitopes are presented on the surface of antigen-presenting cells in association with MHC Class II after uptake and processing of the vaccine. B cell epitopes in the vaccine are presented directly to B cells.

## PMN311: Positive early results presented at AAIC 2024



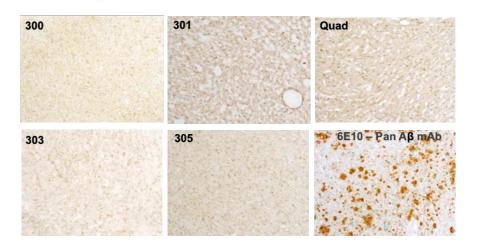
- Testing of 15 possible combinations of 1 to 4 conformational Aβ oligomer epitopes in mouse vaccination studies led to the selection of PMN311 as the lead vaccine candidate for further development.
- PMN311 is composed of a single epitope, the target of PMN310. It elicited maximal antibody binding
  to a toxic oligomer-enriched low molecular weight fraction of soluble AD brain extracts.
   No advantage of combination with additional epitopes.

# Antibodies in immune sera bind Aβ oligomers and not monomers by surface plasmon resonance (SPR)



# The antibodies induced by conformational AβO epitopes do not bind plaque in AD brain

> Oligomer-selective antibody response



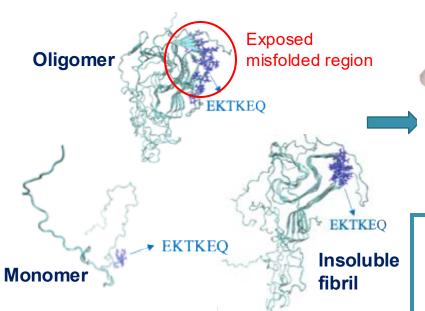
## ProMIS platform applied to alpha-synuclein vaccine design



# **Computational Modeling**

Vaccination with conformational alpha-synuclein epitopes

**Read-outs** 



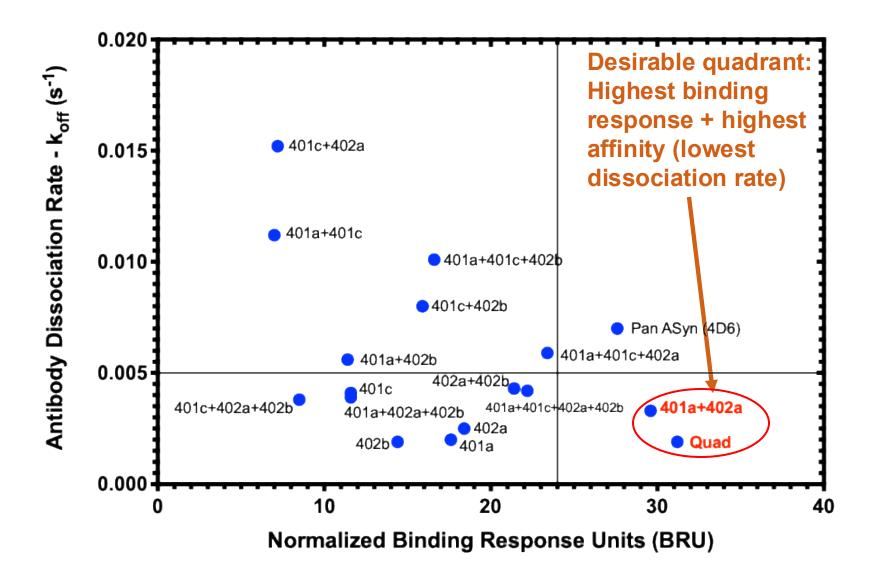
Identification of regions
(conformational epitopes) likely
to be exposed in toxic ASyn
oligomers and small seeding
fibrils but not in monomers or
insoluble fibrils (Lewy bodies)

- Conformation of exposed, misfolded epitopes reproduced with cyclized peptides
- Coupled to KLH for T cell help
- QS-21 adjuvant

- ELISA IgG titers
- Selectivity profile
  - Pathogenic alpha-synuclein vs monomers (SPR)
  - Lewy bodies/neurites (IHC)
- Selection of optimal vaccine design
  - Reactivity of immune IgG with soluble toxic species from dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) brains (SPR)

# Maximal reactivity and highest affinity for DLB brain oligomers with immune IgG elicited by vaccination with two select conformational epitopes or a combination of all four





# **Active Immunotherapy Summary**



- Vaccination with conformational B cell epitopes elicited antibodies with the desired selectivity for pathogenic AβOs and ASyn.
- The advantage of this approach, as opposed to inducing pan-Aβeta and pan-ASyn reactivity, is the potential to preserve normal Aβeta and ASyn function(s), and minimize the diversion of active antibody by the more abundant non-toxic forms of AβO and ASyn in blood and CNS.
- For AβO vaccine, lack of ARIA is anticipated.

# The EpiSelect<sup>™</sup> Platform generates a robust pipeline for targeting toxic misfolded proteins in neurodegenerative diseases



	Product Candidate	Target Protein	Disease Indication(s)	Discovery	Pre-Clinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
ANTIBODY	PMN310	Amyloid-Beta	AD					
	PMN267	TDP-43	ALS					
-	PMN442	Alpha-Synuclein	MSA <sup>1</sup>					
VACCINE	PMN440	Alpha-Synuclein Vaccine	Multiple synucleinopathies					
	PMN311	Amyloid-Beta Vaccine	Alzheimer's Prevention					
DISCOVERY		Tau	Alzheimer's², FTLD, PSP, CBD					
		RACK1	ALS <sup>2</sup> , HD					
		DISC1+Interactome	Schizophrenia					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The company plans to investigate additional synucleinopathies, including PD: Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies <sup>2</sup>Initial indication AD: Alzheimer's disease, ALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, MSA: Multiple system atrophy, HD: Huntington's disease, FTLD: Frontotemporal lobar degeneration, PSP: Progressive supranuclear palsy, CBD: Corticobasal degeneration



#### **ProMIS Neurosciences**

- -Gene Williams Co-Founder, BoD Chair
- -Johanne Kaplan CDO
- -Larry Altstiel CMO
- -Neil Warma CEO

#### **University of British Columbia**

- -Steve Plotkin
- -Ebrima Gibbs
- -Beibei Zhao
- -Juliane Coutts

#### **Weston Foundation Collaborations**

- -Marco Prado (Western U)
- -Joel Watts (U Toronto)
- -Scott Napper (U Saskatchewan)

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