

## **Corporate Presentation**

August 2024



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The ACT-AD trial and the related open-label extension for ACT-AD participants was supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number R01AG06268. The information presented in this press release is solely the responsibility of Athira and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

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## OUR MISSION

Harnessing the power of the neurotrophic HGF system for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases



# Investment highlights

Leveraging deep knowledge, broad IP, and HGF biology to develop potential first-in-class and next-generation small molecules to protect and repair neuronal networks

Leadership team with significant CNS product development and approval experience

# Neurotrophic HGF system is critical to normal brain function and plays a key role in neurodegenerative diseases

# Fully enrolled late-stage clinical trial of fosgonimeton in Alzheimer's disease (AD) with data targeted in September 2024

- Factors that support the potential success of the Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD trial
  - Exploratory ACT-AD trial showed improvement across key AD indicators and informed LIFT-AD design
  - Independent unblinded interim analysis of LIFT-AD trial cleared stringent go/no go criteria; DMC recommended that the study continue
  - Ongoing open label extension trial shows high participation rate and long duration of investigational treatment
  - Exploratory SHAPE trial showed potential improvements in cognition in a different patient population treated with the same dose as being tested in the LIFT-AD trial
  - Well-tolerated with a favorable safety profile
- Targeting the mild-to-moderate patient population representing an enormous opportunity likely >3M in US alone

#### Robust pipeline of proprietary small molecules targeting HGF biology

- Restoring the impaired HGF system in disease states has the potential to treat Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, ALS, neuropathic pain, and other neurological diseases
- We own or in-license worldwide IP rights to all of our drug candidates



# Neurotrophic factors, including HGF, are a less appreciated approach to addressing neurodegenerative disease

- We have developed a series of **small molecules** designed to enhance the activity of the neurotrophic HGF system
  - Our small molecule approach overcomes a major hurdle in evaluating the potential of therapies targeting neurotrophic factors
  - ATH small molecules can cross the BBB and distribute to relevant nervous system tissue







# HGF is a critical neuroprotective system

THE ROLE OF HGF IN THE NERVOUS SYSTEM HAS BEEN EXPLORED THROUGH 30 YEARS OF RESEARCH\*

HGF signaling has pleiotropic downstream signaling effects

- Activation of MET (HGF receptor) leads to activation of multiple signaling cascades
- These signaling events influence the ability of the cell to counteract neurodegenerative hallmarks and undergo repair

Positive modulation of HGF signaling has the potential to promote neuronal health and repair by activating a range of pathways that alleviate key components of neurodegeneration



Promotion of neuronal health, maintenance, and repair



# HGF system impacts several of the complex pathologies that lead to neurodegeneration





# Therapeutic potential across a broad range of clinical indications





Fosgonimeton for the treatment of mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD Trial Fully Enrolled with Topline Data Targeted In September 2024



Fosgonimeton exploratory phase 2 trial in mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease\* RANDOMIZED PLACEBO-CONTROLLED SIX-MONTH TRIAL (N=77)



**ENDPOINTS** Primary: Change in ERP P300 latency, safety and tolerability Secondary: ADAS-Cog11, ADCS-CGIC, ADCS-ADL23 Exploratory: Plasma biomarkers



#### **Key Learnings from ACT-AD**

- Fosgonimeton was well-tolerated with a favorable safety profile
- Unexpected potential pharmacodynamic interaction with AChEIs
- Greater than 85% enrollment into OLEX from both ACT-AD and LIFT-AD studies
- Congruent clinical effects and biological signals
- P300 not appropriate endpoint given variability



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**Functional improvements:** Potential benefits in cognition and function from fosgonimeton treatment

SUPPORTS POTENTIAL TO BE A SAFE AND DIFFERENTIATED FUTURE THERAPY



#### **IMPROVED COGNITION**

Improvement over placebo over 6 months as measured by ADAS-Cog11 in patients without background therapy



#### **IMPROVED FUNCTION**

Improvement over placebo over 6 months as measured by ADCS-ADL23 in full study population

Favorable safety and tolerability profile, injection site reactions are most frequent AE





Data from mITT population without background therapy and presented as unadjusted mean ± SEM; n.s., not statistically significant. AD, Alzheimer's disease; ADAS-Cog11, Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale–Cognitive Subscale; ADCS-ADL23, Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study–Activities of Daily Living; AE, adverse event; mITT, modified intent-to-treat; W, week.



# Fosgonimeton induces directional improvements in hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease

- Decreased Aβ 42/40 ratio and increased absolute p-Tau values are hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease
- NfL is an established, objective biomarker of neurodegeneration, and GFAP is a marker of neuroinflammation
- Changes support relevance of the HGF/MET pathway to Alzheimer's disease pathology
- Supports disease modifying potential of fosgonimeton





Data are least square means from an ANOVA model with change from baselines as the dependent variable with the following in the model: treatment group, AChEI use, baseline biomarker value and the interaction of treatment and AChEI use. Error bars are  $\pm$  SE. N=5 for placebo treatment; N=12 for fosgonimeton treatment without concomitant AChEI.

Aβ, amyloid beta; CFB, change from baseline; GFAP, glial fibrillary acidic protein; HGF, hepatocyte growth factor; NfL, neurofilament light chain; p-Tau181, tau phosphorylated at threonine-181; SE, standard error



# **Neuroprotective -** Fosgonimeton reduces neurofilament light, an established marker of neurodegeneration

NfL is released into the blood following neuronal injury and neurodegeneration

Release

NfL Enters Blood





Aβ, amyloid-beta; CFB, change from baseline; NfL, neurofilament light chain.

For in vitro assays, fosgonimeton was administered as the active metabolite, fosgo-AM; One-way ANOVA with Fisher's LSD; \*\*\*p<0.001, \*\*\*p<0.0001 vs. A $\beta$ 1-42 control; N = 3 biological replicates (n = 4-6 technical replicates). In vivo: NfL measured in CSF from intrahippocampal A $\beta$ 1-42 aged mouse model following 28-day fosgonimeton treatment. One-way ANOVA with Fisher's LSD; \*\*p<0.01 vs. A $\beta$ 1-42 control; n = 12 mice per group mean + SEM.

For clinical data, NfL data are least squares means from an ANOVA model with CFB as the dependent variable with the following in the model: treatment group, AChEI use, baseline biomarker value, and the interaction of treatment and AChEI use. Error bars are ± SE. n = 5 (placebo); n= 12 (fosgonimeton – AChEIs).

# **Anti-inflammatory -** Fosgonimeton reduces markers of neuroinflammation



CFB, change from baseline; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; GFAP, glial fibrillary acidic protein; TNFα, tumor necrosis factor alpha

For in vitro assays, fosgonimeton was administered as the active metabolite, fosgo-AM; One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test; \*\*\*\*p<0.001, \*\*\*\*p<0.0001 vs. LPS control; n = 3 technical replicates. In vivo: TNFα measured in brain homogenates 1.5h post LPS intraperitoneal administration. Fosgonimeton was administered 20 minute prior to LPS administration. One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test; \*\*\*p<0.001 vs. LPS control; n = 10 mice per group mean + SEM.

For clinical data, data are least squares means from an ANOVA model with CFB as the dependent variable with the following in the model: treatment group, AChEI use, baseline biomarker value, and the interaction of treatment and AChEI use. Error bars are ± SE. n = 5 (placebo); n= 12 (fosgonimeton – AChEIs),

# **Protein Pathology -** Fosgonimeton reduces tau phosphorylation (pTau)



Aβ, amyloid-beta; CFB, change from baseline; P-Tau, phospho-Tau; p-Tau181, tau phosphorylated at threonine-181

For in vitro assays, fosgonimeton was administered as the active metabolite, fosgo-ÅM; One-way ANOVA with Fisher's LSD; \*\*\*\*p<0.0001 vs. Aβ1-42 control; N = 3 biological replicates (n = 4-6 technical replicates). In vivo: P-Tau measured in hippocampal slices from intrahippocampal Aβ1-42 aged mouse model following 28-day fosgonimeton treatment One-way ANOVA with Fisher's LSD; \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01 vs. Aβ1-42 control; n = 12 mice per group mean + SEM.

For clinical data, data are least squares means from an ANOVA model with CFB as the dependent variable with the following in the model: treatment group, AChEI use, baseline biomarker value, and the interaction of treatment and AChEI use. Error bars are ± SE. n = 5 (placebo); n = 12 (fosgonimeton – AChEIs), n = 22 (fosgonimeton + AChEI).

Fosgonimeton phase 2/3 LIFT-AD trial after amendments



#### LEARNINGS FROM ACT-AD INFORM TRIAL DESIGN OPTIMIZATION



TIMELINE: Enrollment Complete; Topline results targeted for end of September 2024

#### **ENDPOINTS**

#### PRIMARY

- GST, which combines results of co-key secondary endpoints of cognition and function
- Safety

#### SECONDARY

- Cognition: ADAS-Cog11
- Function: ADCS-ADL23

#### EXPLORATORY

 Additional clinical endpoints and plasma biomarkers



AD, Alzheimer's disease; ADAS-Cog11, Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale–Cognitive Subscale; ADCS-ADL23, Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study–Activities of Daily Living; ADCS-CGIC, Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study–Clinical Global Impression of Change; CDR, clinical dementia rating; MMSA, Mini Mental State Examination

# Independent unblinded analysis by DMC supports the potential clinically meaningful activity of fosgonimeton



ADCS-ADL23

## **DMC ANALYSIS**

- Efficacy and futility analysis performed on first 100 patients who completed the six-month trial of fosgonimeton compared with placebo
- DMC Recommendation (Oct 2022): Continue LIFT-AD Study



#### DMC analysis suggests greater potential of LIFT-AD success



<sup>1</sup>Conducted by DMC: Chair neurologist (MD) and two biostatisticians (PhD); <sup>2</sup>Primary endpoint is the global statistical test, an unweighted composite of ADAS-Cog11 and ADCS-ADL23. AD, Alzheimer's disease; ADAS-Cog11, Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale–Cognitive Subscale; ADCS-ADL23, Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study–Activities of Daily Living; DMC, data monitoring committee.

In a different disease setting\* fosgo improved cognition with 40mg dose compared to placebo



ADAS-COG13 SCORE CHANGE FROM BASELINE MEAN AND 95% CI – MODIFIED INTENT TO TREAT POPULATION



ADAS-Cog13 Score CFB

\* The SHAPE trial investigated fosgonimeton in Parkinson's disease dementia and dementia with Lewy bodies; trial did not meet its primary endpoint



ADAS-Cog13: Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale - Cognitive Subscale 13-item version; CI: Confidence Interval; Baseline is defined as the mean of the pre-dose measurements. Multiple efficacy assessments are averaged if they fall at the same visit. P-value is one-sided

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# New Treatment Options Needed for Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

#### **Medical need:**

The point of most accelerated disease progression<sup>1,2</sup>

Few treatment options with only modest effects<sup>3</sup>

Higher financial burden than pre-dementia<sup>4</sup>



Time

## **Reduced development risk:**

Clinical, syndromal diagnosis is possible<sup>5</sup>

Increased likelihood of tangible placebo decline



Ower et al, *Eur J Epidemiol* 2018
Caroli et al, *Neurobiol Aging* 2010
Fink et al, *Ann Intern Med* 2020

4. Cerejeira et al, *Front Neurol* 2012
5. de Aquino et al, *Front Neurol* 2021

# Significant opportunity in Alzheimer's disease



# 81% of all patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease are mild-to-moderate

2.1 million mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's patients diagnosed in 2021 in the US

#### Few available options

75% of patients in the US move to a second-line treatment in less than a year



Data sources: Decision Resources Group, accessed 2H2022; National Institute on Aging; Yuan et al., *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease* 2021. AChEI, acetylcholinesterase inhibitor; AD, Alzheimer's disease; mAbs, monoclonal antibodies; MCI, mild cognitive impairment; NANT, non-amyloid, non-tau; NMDA, N-methyl-aspartate.

# Significant opportunity in Alzheimer's disease



#### **55 million** People living with

Alzheimer's dementia today<sup>1</sup>



Multi-Billion \$ Market Despite generic entries



**Only Two** New drugs launched since 2003 - two anti-amyloid antibodies

# Over 100 million globally by 2050

~900,000 new patients diagnosed annually in the US alone<sup>1,2</sup>

6.2 million treatment eligible patients in the US in 2021 based on prevalence data

Growing at 3% per year<sup>2</sup>

Mild to Moderate comprises 81% of all patients with Alzheimer's Disease

78.5% of these patients receive Rx therapies<sup>3</sup>

# Significant opportunity for fosgonimeton

Market research suggests favorable reaction and receptivity to fosgonimeton base case target product profile<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> https://www.alzint.org/about/dementia-facts-figures/

- <sup>2</sup> https://www.alz.org/media/documents/alzheimers-facts-and-figures.pdf
- <sup>3</sup> https://www.nia.nih.gov/news/half-alzheimers-disease-cases-may-be-mild

<sup>4</sup> ClearView Healthcare Partners Market Research Analysis



## Strong rationale to advance fosgonimeton

SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSFORM THE TREATMENT PARADIGM FOR NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

**Disease modifying** 

**Improves cognition** 

**Improves function** 

**Reduces inflammation** 

Prevents nerve cell death

Favorable safety and tolerability profile

**Risk mitigated Ph 2/3 LIFT-AD following interim analysis** 

High unmet need

**Enormous potential market** 

Differentiated and Risk Mitigated

## Favorable external landscape

+







# Positive modulation of HGF as a potential treatment for ALS

#### ALS is a devastating progressive neurodegenerative disease

 Characterized by degradation of motor neurons due to several factors including glutamate excitotoxicity, TDP-43 protein pathology, and systemic inflammation

#### Approximately 97% of ALS patients have TDP-43 pathology<sup>1</sup>

- TDP-43 is a nuclear protein under normal conditions but in ALS forms toxic aggregates in the cytoplasm of motor neurons
- TDP-43 mouse models have been developed that exhibit TDP-43 pathology and ALS-like symptoms

# Promotion of HGF/MET activity has been reported to have beneficial effects in preclinical models of ALS

- HGF delays disease progression in ALS animal models<sup>2,3</sup>
- HGF reduces muscle impairment and motor neuron loss in an ALS mouse model<sup>4</sup>





# **Neuroprotection and protein pathology:** ATH-1105 reduces extranuclear TDP-43 accumulation and enhances neuron survival

#### **GLUTAMATE CHALLENGE MODEL IN MOTOR NEURON CULTURES**

# Image: Point of the point o

## Motor neuron survival following glutamate challenge



Primary rat spinal motor neurons. Cultures treated with vehicle control or 5 µM glutamate.

Data presented as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Statistics applied: 1-way ANOVA with Fisher least significant difference test. \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01, \*\*\*p < 0.001 versus Glutamate Control; n = 6.

Scale bar: 100 µm, applies to all images.

MAP-2, microtubule-associated protein-2; TDP-43, TAR DNA-binding protein 43.

**Anti-inflammatory and neuroprotective:** ATH-1105 reduces markers of inflammation and neurodegeneration

**TDP-43 MOUSE MODEL OF ALS** 





Data shown is from plasma collected following 2 months of ATH-1105 or vehicle treatment. Data presented as mean ± SEM. Statistical significance was determined by 1-way ANOVA with Dunnett's test versus ALS + vehicle. \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001. ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; IL-6, interleukin 6; NfL, neurofilament light chain; TDP-43, TAR DNA-binding protein 43;

TNF-α, tumor necrosis factor alpha; WT, wild-type.

# **Neuroprotective:** ATH-1105 protects against axon degeneration and demyelination, and reduces pTDP-43

#### **TDP-43 MOUSE MODEL OF ALS**



0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2 -

0.0

g-ratio



hira

Axonal diameters

6

4

2

Axonal diameters, μm







Graphical representation of the number of axons (per 100  $\mu$ m2), axonal diameter (in micrometers), and mean of myelin g-ratio, defined as the ratio of the inner axonal diameter to the total axonal diameter, following 2 months of treatment. Data presented as mean + SEM. Statistical significance was determined by 1-way ANOVA with Dunnett's test versus ALS + vehicle. \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001.

Scale bar: 10 µm, applies to all images.

ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; pTDP-43, phosphorylated TDP-43; TDP-43, TAR DNA-binding protein 43; WT, wild-type.

# **Function:** ATH-1105 prevents nerve and motor function decline



Model: Prp-TDP43A315T mouse model of ALS

Data presented as mean ± SEM

Statistics applied: 2-way ANOVA with the Dunnett test versus ALS + vehicle. \*p < 0.05 ,\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*\*p < 0.0001. n = 10 mice per group

ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; CMAP, compound muscle action potential; NCV, nerve conduction velocity;

TDP-43, TAR DNA-binding protein 43; WT, wild-type.

# **Survival:** ATH-1105 prolongs survival and delays time to first mortality TDP-43 MOUSE MODEL OF ALS

#### Time to first mortality

- Day 57 in ALS + vehicle group
- Day 101 in ALS + ATH-1105 20 mg/kg

#### Percent survival at 5 months of age

- 35% in ALS + vehicle group
- 75% in ALS + ATH-1105 20 mg/kg







Data presented as Kaplan-Meier survival curves Statistical significance was determined by log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test. n = 20 mice per group. ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; TDP-43, TAR DNA-binding protein 43; WT, wild-type.

# ATH-1105 preclinical data summary

#### In the TDP-43 mouse model of ALS, daily oral treatment of ATH-1105 resulted in:

- Improvement in motor function and protection against body weight reduction
- Preservation of nerve function and structure
- Reduction of plasma biomarkers of systemic inflammation and neurodegeneration
- Prolonged survival and delayed time to first mortality

These results highlight the therapeutic potential of ATH-1105 in ALS and support further development



# Significant unmet need: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)



## ~**75,000**<sup>1</sup>

People globally affected by ALS with 40% of those cases in the US

## 

Six<sup>1</sup>

Approved drugs specifically indicated for the treatment of ALS

## Zero<sup>1</sup>



ALS drugs targeting neurotrophic factor systems with a multimodal mechanism of action

## Global Market Size for ALS<sup>1</sup>

2019: **\$197M**  2029 Projected: **\$781 M** 

# Significant Opportunity for ATH-1105

Limited approved treatment options exist for ALS patients

## **Drugs in Development**<sup>1,2</sup>

Limited differentiated and multifactorial approaches

Tofersen addresses a familial form of ALS accounting for <3% of all cases (recently received accelerated approval on the basis of NfL) Multimodal mechanism of action – neuroprotective, anti-inflammatory and potentially disease modifying

Positive modulation of a naturally occurring repair mechanism







Athira management team with significant CNS product development and approval experience

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# Moving forward

- Independent, unblinded interim analysis of fosgonimeton Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD
- ✓ LIFT-AD completed enrollment

Topline results targeted in September 2024

 First-in human, dose-escalation Phase 1 clinical trial underway of ATH-1105 in development for potential treatment of ALS Trial completion expected by year end 2024

 Enrolled 28 patients in exploratory fosgonimeton SHAPE trial in PD and dementia with Lewy bodies

 Topline results reported 4Q2023; evaluating next steps



# Well positioned to lead with innovative approach to battling neurodegenerative diseases

## Consistent and correlative preclinical, clinical and biomarker data

showing that enhancing HGF neurotrophic system has potential to be neuroprotective, anti-inflammatory and disease modifying in a number of neurodegenerative diseases

Mitigated development risk through independent, unblinded interim analysis of Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD trial Evolving regulatory environment and favorable competitive landscape Strong track record of execution and leadership team with significant CNS product development and approval experience **Cash Position** \$91.8M at the end of 2Q2024





