

# Provid Pharmaceuticals Inc.

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# Provid Concept for Autoimmune Disease Therapeutics

#### Presentation Overview

- Autoimmune diseases are genetic diseases
- Association with MHC class II genes

## **Provid MS Drug Candidate**

- Blockade of disease-associated MHC HLA DRB1\*15:01
- Antagonist drug design and results
- Focus on second-generation drug candidates
- Clinical concept & development strategy
- Other DRB1\*15:01 targets

# Genetic Association with Specific MHC Class II

 Autoimmune diseases are genetically associated with specific MHC class II molecules

Multiple SclerosisHLA-DR2b (DRB1\*15:01)

Goodpasture's disease
 HLA-DR2b (DRB1\*15:01)

Lupus nephritis, PR3-ANCA HLA-DR2b (DRB1\*15:01)

Rheumatoid arthritisDR4 (DRB1\*04:01); DR1 (DRB1\*01:01)

Celiac disease
 DQ2.5 (DQB1\*02:01) and DQ8

(DQB1\*13:01)

Type 1 diabetesDQ2.5 and DQ8

Pemphigus vulgaris
 DR4 (DRB1\*0402)

#### Therapeutic Target, Biomarkers, Personalized Therapy

- Direct therapy to patients who carry disease-associated MHC II
- Treat with specific inhibitors of disease-associated MHC II

# MS Drugs-Current status

#### Current drugs: No genetic association. Widely used, seriously flawed

- First-line drugs modest effect in RRMS, acceptable safety
  - Interferons: Betaseron, Avonex, Rebif (flu-like side effects), Copaxone
- Second-line "Disease modifying" drugs (serious safety issues)
  - Tysabri (Biogen) PML infections; 192 deaths in US thru 12/1/2016)
  - Gilenya (Novartis) PML, heart; multiple other S1P drugs in development
  - Aubagio/teriflunomide (Genzyme) Incr. ALT
  - Tecfidera/dimethyl fumarate (Biogen) GI and flushing, lymphopenia, PML (5)
  - Lemtrada/alemtumzumab; campath (Genzyme); 3<sup>rd</sup> line; stroke risk

#### Recent Approvals

- Ocrevus/ocrelizumab (Genentech) (PPMS; RRMS B-cell immunosuppressive)
- Mavenclad/Cladribine (EMD Serono) (B cell immunosuppression)
- Mayzent/siponimod (Novartis) (S1P analog) heart, infections; efficacy in SPMS)
- Total Sales in 2018 \$20 Billion; Est. 1 million patients in US
- NONE OF THESE DRUGS BLOCK DRB1\*15:01

# Concept: Targeting MS Disease Mechanism

In MS, the myelin nerve insulation is attacked by the patient's own immune system by autoreactive T cells activated via myelin antigen binding to HLA-DRB1\*15:01

MHC – peptide antigen complex is recognized by autoreactive T cells, triggering downstream pathology

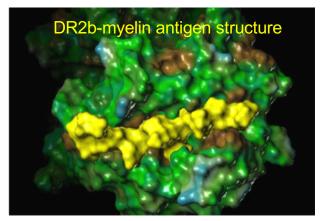
Association of MS with EBV (molecular mimicry)

- ⇒ BLOCK DRB1\*15:01 = INHIBIT MS
- ⇒ Selective DRB1\*15:01 blockade promises high efficacy without compromising normal

Provid has succeeded in blocking DRB1\*15:01 with small molecule peptide mimetic antagonists

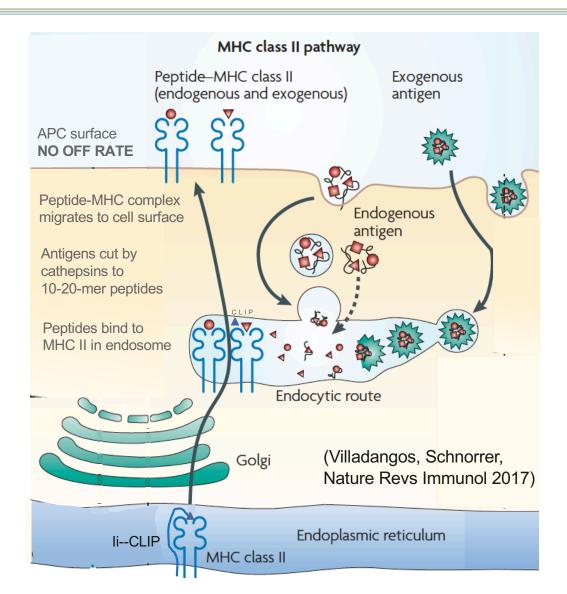


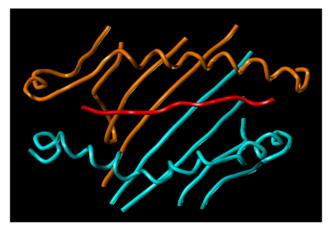
BruceBlaus [CC BY-SA 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0), from Wikimedia Commons



Wiley et al. JEM 1998

# Antigen Binding and Presentation





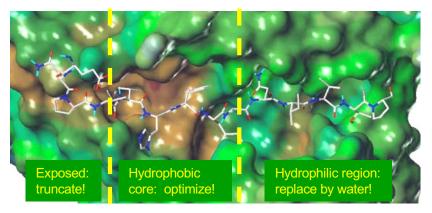
Stern, Wiley1994 Nature DRB1\*0101 - HA

# Critical features for successful antagonist

- High DRB1\*1501 affinity
- Competition in APC endosome
- Stability toward cathepsins
- High selectivity vs other MHCs
- Not antigenic

# PV-267 Design and Optimization

#### Truncation to P1 – P4 core

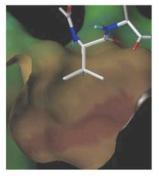


H2N-Asp-Glu-Asn-Pro-Val-Val-His-Phe-Lys-Asn-lle-Val-Thr-Pro-Arg-Thr-OH

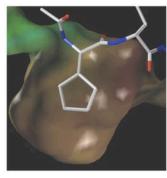
# Chg at P1 Optimize fit AcV at P(-1) Capping Tic at P3 Constraint, fit, & protease stability C-term amide (peptidase stability) Phe at P4 DR2 selectivity Affinity & solubility

#### **PV-267**

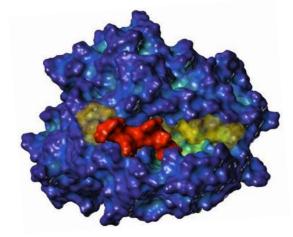
## Optimization of fit (P1)



707 nM Valine



16 nM Cyclopentylglycine



IC 50 = 2 nM DRB1\*15:01

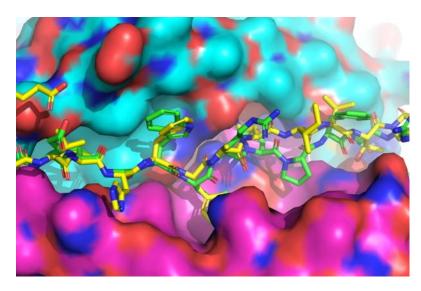
Highly selective for DRB1\*15:01

Stable to cathepsins

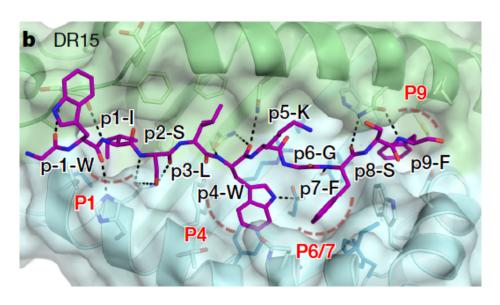
Stable in plasma

**MW 760** 

# Antigen binding: DRB1\*15:01 with MOG, MBP, $\alpha 3(IV)$ Common Binding Core



MOG 35-55 MEVGWYRSPFSRVVHLYRNGK MBP 85-99 ENPVVHFFKNIVTPR P1234



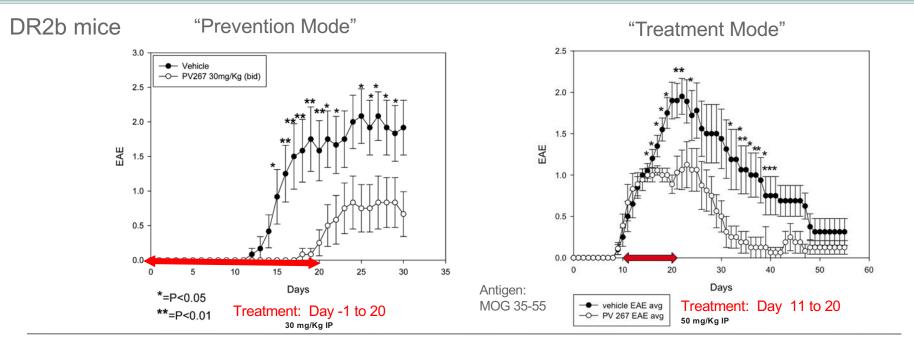
 $\alpha 3_{135-145}$  DWISLWKGFSF

Goodpasture's antigen:  $\alpha 3$  chain of type IV collagen ( $\alpha 3_{135-145}$ ) Ooi, Kitching, et al., Nature (2017), 545, 243-247.

Take-home: PV inhibitors block MHC DRB1\*15:01 regardless of antigen

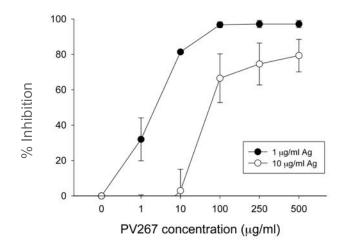
# High Efficacy of PV-267 in EAE and Human Cells

DRB1\*15:01 Transgenic Mice & Human Cells from DRB1\*15:01+ MS Patients



Inhibition of PV267 on IFN- $\gamma$  response of BC3 T cell to hMBP87-99 per 20,000 cells

Human Cells (Elispot)



N. Hayward, T. Forsthuber, et al.

PV-267 blocks DRB1\*15:01 responses but is otherwise immunologically inert

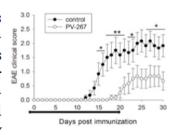
# Results Highlighted in Journal of Immunology

#### In This Issue

# The Journal of Immunology

#### A Small Molecule Step toward Treating MS

ultiple sclerosis (MS) is characterized by the presentation of autoantigens by MHC II molecules that trigger activation of and cytokine production by autoreactive T cells and subsequent destructive inflammatory



processes. Sixty percent of MS patients express the diseaseassociated MHC II allele HLA-DR2b (DRB1\*15:01) that presents various myelin Ags, leading to an immune response against the myelin nerve sheath and disease symptoms. Different therapeutic attempts, such as modifying downstream inflammation, specific immunotherapy, and T cell-targeted approaches, have been only modestly successful due to undesirable immune responses and safety concerns. In this study, Ji et al. (p. 5074) describe the development of PV-267, a small molecule inhibitor of peptide binding and presentation by HLA-DR2b. Using the crystal structure to visualize key interactions of HLA-DR2 with bound MBP85-99 peptide, the authors identified a five-residue sequence, PV-267, exhibiting high HLA-DR2 binding affinity and selectivity. PV-267 inhibited both Ag-induced cytokine production and proliferation of HLA-DR2b-restricted T cells from an MS patient. This

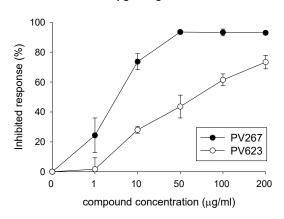
inhibitory effect did not affect anti-CD3-stimulated T cells, showing that inhibition was specific for MHC:peptide-mediated signaling. PV-267 specifically inhibited responses from HLA-DR2b-restricted T cells but not from nonspecific T cells or PBMCs from healthy donors expressing other MHC molecules. The authors evaluated the efficacy of PV-267 on experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) prevention and treatment using HLA-DR2b transgenic mice inoculated with MOG35-55 peptide. Treatment with PV-267 prior to induction of EAE significantly delayed disease onset and severity, whereas treatment with PV-267 after EAE onset ameliorated disease and led to a faster recovery. These results support the use of a small molecule inhibitor of HLA-DR2b as a promising therapeutic strategy for the treatment of MS with minimal risk of off-target effects.

Journal of Immunology, November 15, 2013

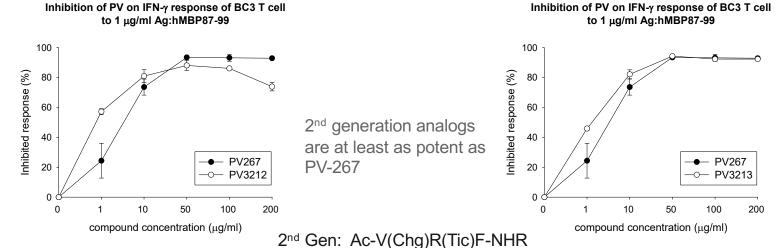
# 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Compounds High Potency, Superior Stability, 20+ yrs Patent Life

Inhibition of PV on IFN-γ response of BC3 T cell to 1 μg/ml Ag:hMBP87-99

PV-267 Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-NH<sub>2</sub> PV-623 Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-OH



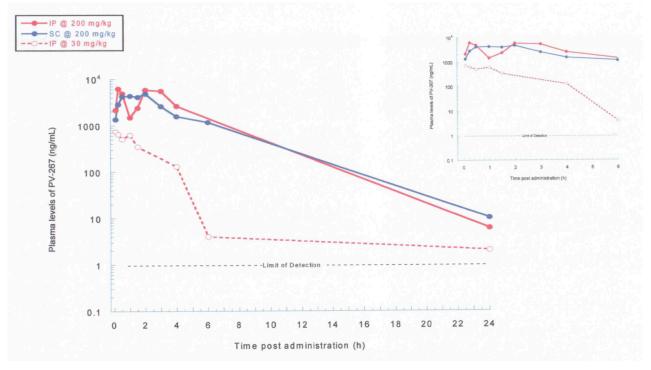
Acid metabolite PV-623 is active, but less potent (ca. 4-fold) than the amide



20,000 BC3 T cells +  $0.5x10^6$  autologous hPBMCs (Mean ± SEM)

## PK

- Initial mouse PK studies (CRL) for PV-267 showed good plasma levels after IP and SC administration
- Subsequent study (Absorption Systems) showed that PV-267 (Cterminal amide form) was partially converted to PV-623 (C-terminal acid form)
- 2nd generation compounds stabilized against deamidation



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation PK (PV-03212): High In Vivo Stability

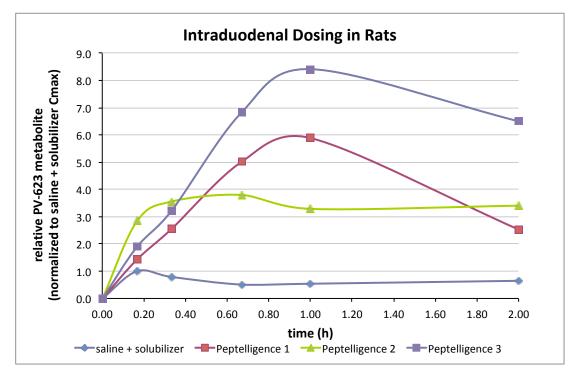
Mouse PK, 10 mg/Kg IP

| Compound  | Mean Conc. (μg/mL)<br>0.25 hr 0.5 hr |      |  |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|------|--|--|
| PV-267 (Amide) Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-NH <sub>2</sub>                             | 275                                  | 91.5 |  |  |
| <b>PV-623</b> (Acid metabolite)<br>Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-OH                      | 169                                  | 65.3 |  |  |
| PV-3212 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Gen) Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-NHR t <sub>1/2</sub> 3.23 hr | 741                                  | 195  |  |  |
| <b>PV-623</b> (Acid metabolite)<br>Ac-V(Chg)R(Tic)F-OH                      | 8.54                                 | 3.57 |  |  |

# Oral Bioavailability (Enteris Peptelligence™ Formulation)

#### PV-267/PV-623 ID, rat model (not optimized)

| Formulation                | $C_{max,}$ ng/mL | AUC (ng*hr)/dose (mg/Kg) |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| IV, (saline, solubilizer)  | 8900             | 2270                     |
| ID A (saline, solubilizer) | 2188             | 836                      |
| ID B (Peptelligence™ 1)    | 13883            | 4591                     |
| ID C (Peptelligence™ 2)    | 10678            | 4182                     |
| ID D (Peptelligence™ 3)    | 21833            | 10420                    |
|                            |                  |                          |



#### ClinicalTrial Plan

Unique Biomarker Strategy in Proof-of-Concept Trial

## Establish mechanistic POC and dose range in initial trial

- Screen for DRB1\*15:01 gene (blood test)
- Treat DRB1\*15:01+ individuals with PV-267 compounds and evaluate blockade of specific immune response ex vivo
- Establish dosage and frequency of administration needed to achieve blockade of DRB1\*15:01 response
- First line therapy for DRB1\*15:01 patients

## Efficacy trials

- Accelerated using phase I results
- Gd-enhanced MRI lesions as surrogate
- Establish efficacy (relapses, progression) in phase II/III and superior safety profile

# Intellectual Property

Inhibitors of antigen presentation by MHC class II molecules and methods of use thereof

- Issued US patent 7,439,231 (composition of matter)
- Issued US patent 8,222,215 (use)
- Issued US patent 8,598,312 (composition of matter)

Current US DR2 Patents valid through 2025 and extendable up to 5 yrs for FDA review Orphan/rare drug status for Goodpasture's, PR3 ANCA, etc.

**Oral formulation (not yet filed)** 

2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Compounds (not yet filed; 20+5 years patent life)

# Goodpasture's Disease Collaboration with Monash University

- Goodpasture's disease/anti-glomerular basement membrane disease (anti-GBM) is a rare, orphan autoimmune disease affecting the kidney and lung. Incidence is 1-2/million population.
- Disease is strongly associated with DRB1\*15:01

#### Results:

- PV-267 inhibits autoreactivity to the immunodominant T cell epitope antigen, α3<sub>135-145</sub>, and attenuates disease in experimental autoimmune anti-GBM disease in DRB1\*15:01 transgenic mice
- HLA-DR15-specific inhibition by PV-267 attenuates autoreactivity to the Goodpasture antigen

Megan Huynh, Peter J. Eggenhuizen, Gary L. Olson, N. Bhaskara Rao, Christopher R. Self, Yanjun Sun, Stephen R. Holdsworth, A. Richard Kitching, Joshua D. Ooi, <u>J. Autoimmunity</u> 2019 May 16. pii: S0896-8411(18)30665-6. doi: 10.1016/j.jaut.2019.05.004. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31104947.

## Preclinical Development

#### Completed for PV-267; Model for 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation

- Chemical Synthesis
  - Solid Phase (Provid; Bachem)
  - Solution Phase (ChemVeda)
- Formulation
  - Salts, excipients for PV-267 (Wolfe Labs)
  - Oral: Enteris Biopharma
- HLA binding, cathepsin stability
- ADME
- PK (PV-267; mouse)
- Exploratory toxicology (mouse, ip, acute and 2-week; CRL)
- Next steps: IND-enabling safety

# Summary Lead Drug Candidates for MS

## PV-267 (1<sup>st</sup> generation)

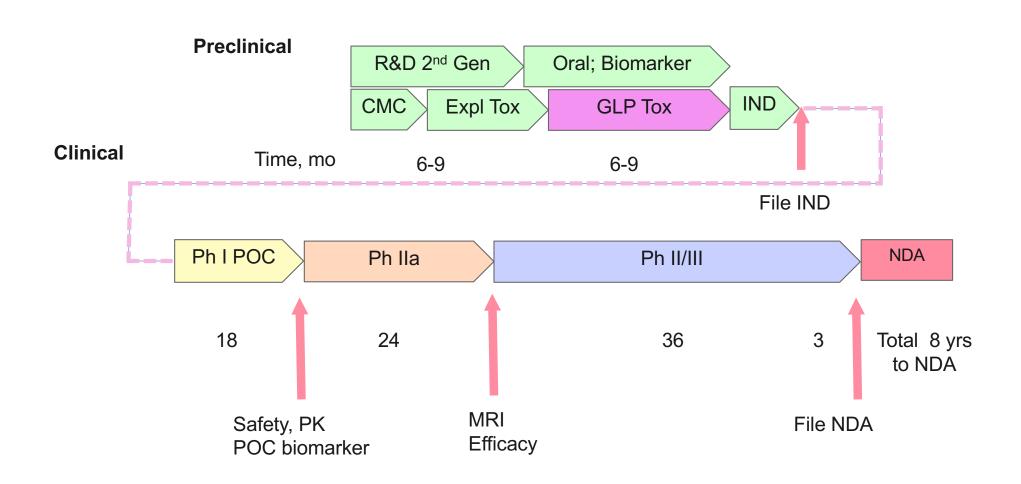
- PV-267 blocks MHC class II HLA DR2b (DRB1\*15:01)
- Active in human MS patient cells and Tg mouse models
- Doesn't otherwise affect the immune system. The unique DRB1\*15:01 inhibitory mechanism promises high efficacy and superior safety

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation, novel analogs

- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation analogs with 20+ yrs patent life
- At least equivalent potency to PV-267 in human MS patient cells
- Commercial value: First line therapy for DRB1\*15:01+ patients
- Oral formulation (Enteris)

Ready for IND-enabling studies leading to clinical POC trial

# Development Timeline (DRB1\*15:01 Inhibitor for MS) (2<sup>nd</sup> Generation)



# Provid Prior Funding

 To date: PV compounds developed primarily with non-dilutive financing (NIH, NJEDA, Fast Forward/NMSS, Daiamed)

| • | Founders | \$521, | 596 | 3 |
|---|----------|--------|-----|---|
|---|----------|--------|-----|---|

- Sequenom Inc. (\$1MM)
- Fast Forward/NMSS (\$310K)
- Investors: Wood, Tamarelli, Miller (\$500K)

| • | Daiamed collaboration | \$ 4,704,374 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|
|---|-----------------------|--------------|

- NJEDA Edison Venture loan \$1,275,000
- Non-dilutive grants/fees (all programs) \$750,000
- Revenues 2001-2018 from services \$12,602,318

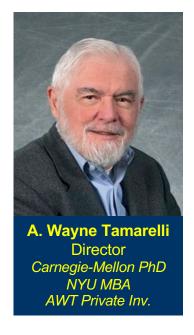
# Provid Team Management & Board of Directors

- Founded 2001 by leading scientist-executives (ex-Roche, Praecis)
- Pioneers in field of peptide mimetics technology
- Venture, finance, and operating expertise on Board of Directors











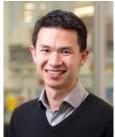
## Scientific Advisors and Collaborators



Thomas Forsthuber PhD MD (UT San Antonio, Immunology)

Lawrence Steinman MD PhD (Stanford, Immunology; Clinical Advisory Chair)





Joshua Ooi PhD (Monash U. Research Fellow)

Ann Welton PhD (Consultant, preclinical development)





A. Richard Kitching (Director, Monash U. Center for Digestive Disease)

Suhayl Dhib-Jalbut MD (Rutgers RWJ Center for MS, Neurology)





Amos B. Smith, III PhD (U. Penn, Chemistry; co-founder with Prof. Ralph Hirschmann)

Warren Strittmatter MD (Duke, Neurology)



#### Provid Collaborators & Advisors

#### Autoimmune Disease Therapeutics and Peptide Mimetics Platform

#### **Collaborators**

- Dr. Thomas Forsthuber (U. Texas San Antonio; immunology)
- Dr. Bernard Maillere (CEA, France; binding assays)
- Drs. Don Wiley, Kai Wucherpfennig, (Harvard; structural biology)
- Dr. Neil Hayward & colleagues (Daiamed)
- Dr. Ed Rosloniec (Memphis VA; DR4 assays)
- Drs. Joshua Ooi, Richard Kitching (Monash U; Goodpasture's)

#### **Provid SAB and Advisors**

- Dr. Lawrence Steinman (Stanford)
- Dr. Warren Strittmatter (Duke)
- Dr. Jeffery Kelly (Scripps)
- Dr. Ann Welton (J&J, ret.)
- Dr. Suhayl Dhib-Jalbut (UMDNJ)

#### **Co-founders**

- Dr. Christopher Self
- Dr. Charles Cook
- Dr. Amos B. Smith (U. Penn)
- Dr. Ralph Hirschmann (U. Penn)

In Partnership with Fast Forward-National Multiple Sclerosis Society External funding from NIH, Daiamed, NJEDA, Fast Forward