# Mucosal Assays in Rectal Microbicide Trials

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#### Overview

- A brief history of rectal microbicide research
- Integration of mucosal assays into rectal microbicide research
- Lessons learned about the performance and utility of mucosal assays in rectal microbicide trials



# A Brief History of Rectal Microbicide Research

#### **Rectal Microbicide Timeline**



#### HIVNET-008

- Phase 1 evaluation of Advantage 24
  - 52.5 mg of N-9 in 1.5 ml of gel
- Conducted in Seattle during 1996 / 1997
- □ 35 seroconcordant sexually active couples
  - 25 HIV negative
  - 10 HIV positive
- Cohort dose escalation design
- Maximum exposure QD for five weeks + BID for one week
- Anal sex three times weekly

Tabet S et al. Sex Trans Dis1999

#### RMP-01 (UC781)



Anton PA et al. PLoS ONE 2011

#### RMP-02/MTN-006



Anton PA et al. AIDS & Human Retroviruses 2012

#### MTN-007



McGowan I et al. PLoS ONE 2013

## DAIDS Integrated Preclinical Clinical Program for HIV Topical Microbicides

- Microbicide Development Program
- CHARM Program
- Dual compartment Program
- DREAM Program
- PREVENT Program

#### **MDP** Program

- First IPCP focusing on rectal microbicide development
- Provided proof of concept in the SIV NHP model and development of explant platform
- Phase 1 clinical trials of the <u>vaginal</u> formulation of tenofovir gel
  - UC781 (RMP-01)
  - Tenofovir (RMP-02/MTN-006)
- Behavioral correlates of RAI

Anton PA: IPCP U19 AI060614 / August 2004

## CHARM Program

- Combination HIV Antiretroviral Rectal Microbicide Program
- NIAID/DAIDS Integrated Preclinical Clinical Program
- Consortium
  - University of Pittsburgh
  - UCLA
  - Johns Hopkins
  - UNC
  - CONRAD / Gilead

McGowan I: IPCP U19 AI082637 / September 2009

#### CHARM-01

- Pre-Phase dose comparison of current formulations of tenofovir 1% gel
  - Vaginal formulation
  - Reduced glycerin formulation
  - Rectal specific formulation
- Endpoints
  - General and mucosal safety
  - PK/PD
- Current status
  - Completed

McGowan I et al. PLoS ONE 2015

#### CHARM-02

- Pre-Phase 1 single dose comparison of current formulations of tenofovir 1% gel with and without simulated RAI
- Endpoints
  - Pharmacokinetics
  - Drug distribution using SPECT/CT imaging
- Current status
  - Completed

Hiruy H et al. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2015

#### CHARM-03

- Pre-Phase 1 single dose comparison of oral and topical maraviroc
  - Rectal
  - Vaginal
- Endpoints
  - General and mucosal safety
  - PK/PD
- Current status
  - Enrolling

#### **Dual Compartment Program**

- Development and Evaluation of Dual Compartment Combination Microbicides
- Macaque, and human studies proposed
- Dual compartment and suppository formulations of IQP-0528 and tenofovir



Dezzutti CS et al. Antiviral Research 2012

## **DREAM Program**

- Development of Rectal Enema As Microbicide
- Murine, macaque, and three human studies proposed
- Candidates include
  - Tenofovir
  - TFV alafenamide fumarate
  - CMX157



PI: Craig Hendrix Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, MD Project start: July 2014 Project end: June 2019

## **PREVENT Program**

- Griffithsin-based Rectal Microbicides for PREvention of Viral ENTry
- To develop an antiviral lectin
  Griffithsin rectal gel
- Macaque, and one human study proposed



PI: Kenneth Palmer University of Louisville Louisville, KY Project start: July 2014 Project end: June 2019

#### **Project Gel**

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Microbicide Safety and Acceptability in Young Men

#### **Project Gel**

#### NICHD R01

- Pittsburgh, Boston, Puerto Rico
- Phase 1 safety and acceptability of tenofovir 1% gel
  - Ethnically diverse MSM (18-30)
  - Consensual RAI in last month
  - Unprotected RAI in last year

Carballo-Diéguez A et al. AIDS Behav 2014

#### MTN-017



#### Integration of Mucosal Assays

|                    | HIV<br>NET<br>008 | RMP<br>01 | RMP<br>02 | MTN<br>007 | Project<br>Gel | MTN<br>017 | CHARM<br>01 | CHARM<br>03 |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Histology          | Х                 | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Sloughing          |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          |                |            |             |             |
| Immunoglobulins    |                   | Х         |           |            |                |            |             |             |
| Microflora         |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Fecal calprotectin |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          |                |            |             |             |
| Cytokine (P)       |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Cytokine (GE)      |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| GALT Flow          |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Tissue PK          |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Tissue PD          |                   | Х         | Х         | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Transcriptomics    |                   |           |           | Х          | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |
| Proteomics         |                   |           |           | (X)        | Х              | Х          | Х           | Х           |

## Lessons Learned

#### **Epithelial Sloughing**



#### Fecal Calprotectin



#### Microarray Data



No Treatment



HEC placebo gel

Hladik F et al. Elife 2015



#### Nonoxynol-9 gel

#### Tenofovir gel

#### Summary

- Rectal microbicides have moved from preclinical to Phase 2 clinical evaluation
- The current design of rectal microbicide Phase 1/2 trials commonly includes
  - Mucosal safety assays
  - Compartmental PK
  - Intestinal explant PD
- New assays under evaluation include transcriptomic and proteomic platforms

#### Acknowledgements

The Microbicide Trials Network is funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (UM1AI068633, UM1AI068615, UM1AI106707), with co-funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute of Mental Health, all components of the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

