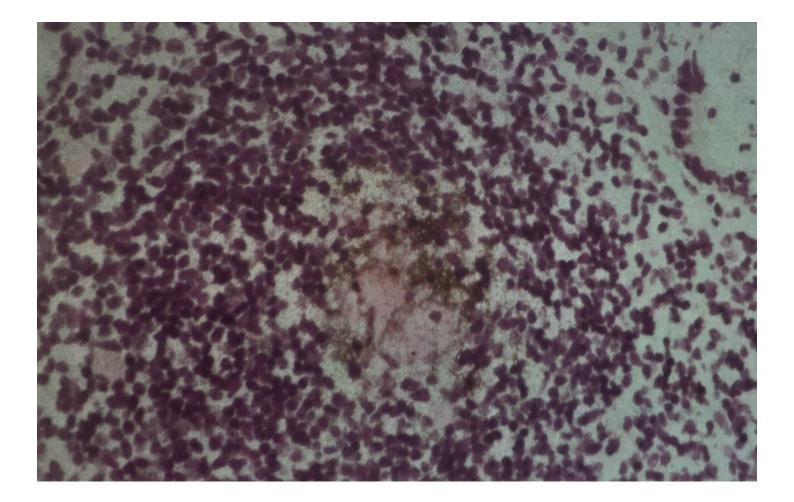
# Rectal Compartment Pharmacodynamics

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#### HIV and the Gut



McGowan I and Kotler DP unpublished data 1995

#### Introduction

- Rectal pharmacodynamics (PD) assays
- Rectal PD data from completed studies
  - HIV-1 p24
  - Molecular assays
- Lessons learned and questions for the future



## **Rectal Pharmacodynamic Assays**

#### Explant infection

- In vitro, ex vivo / in vitro infection
- Surgical tissue or endoscopic biopsies
- Polarized or non-polarized assays
- Choice of virus
- Supernatant HIV-1p24
- Supernatant RNA, explant RNA/DNA
- Rectal fluid PD

## **Explant Standardization**

- Multisite comparison of anti-human immunodeficiency virus microbicide activity in explant assays using a novel endpoint analysis
- Key recommendations
  - Use of standardized endpoints
  - Drugs and/or virus reagents are centrally sourced
  - The same explant tissue and method used

Richardson-Harman N et al. J Clinical Microbiol 2009

## Studies with Rectal PD

- RMP-01
  - UC781 gel (Phase 1)
- RMP-02 / MTN-006
  - TFV gel & oral (Phase 1)
- CHARM-01
  - TFV gel (Phase 1)
- □ MWRI-01
  - Rilpivirine LA
- Ipergay
  - Oral TDF/FTC

□ MTN-017

- TFV gel/oral (Phase 2)
- □ CHARM-03
  - Maraviroc gel & oral (Phase 1)
- □ HPTN-069
  - Oral TFV, MVC, FTC (Phase 2)



## **RMP-01**

- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=36)
- Center(s)
  - Single
- Sampling
  - Colon
  - 10 cm and 30 cm
  - BL, post single dose, and post seven doses

Anton PA et al. PLoS One 2011

Products (1:1:1)

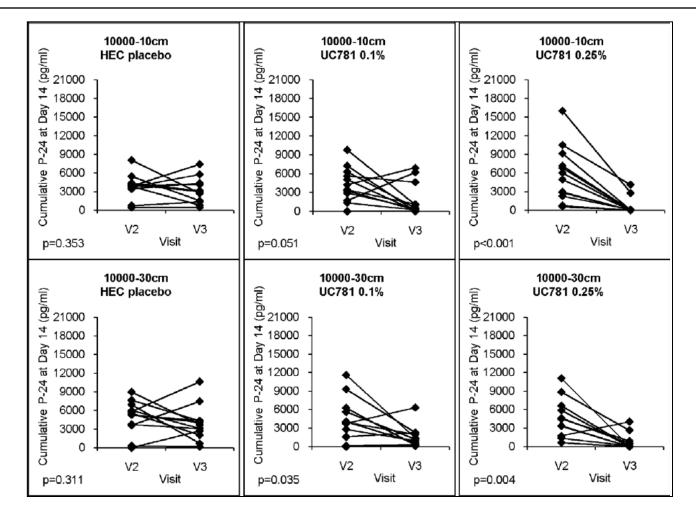
- UC781 gel (0.1%)
- UC781 gel (0.25%)
- HEC placebo
- Explant infection
  - 10 cm and 30 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> and 10<sup>2</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Cumulative D14 p24
  - No PK/PD data 😭



#### **RMP-01** Results

- Infection rates at Baseline
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub> (10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>): 35/36 (97%)
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub> (10<sup>2</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>): 22/36 (61%)
- No difference in infection rates between
  10 cm and 30 cm explants
- Significant suppression with single dose of UC781 0.25% gel
- No suppression seen with 7 daily (self administered) doses

#### **RMP-01**



Anton PA et al. PLoS One 2011



## RMP-02 / MTN-006

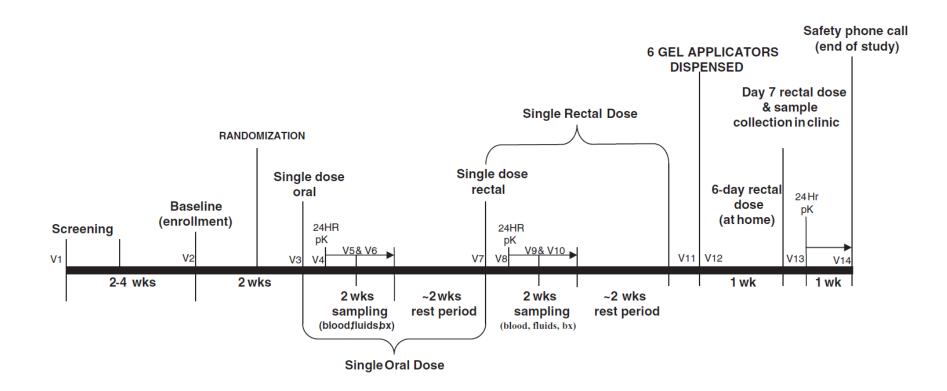
- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=18)
- Center(s)
  - 2 sites
  - Samples shipped to UCLA for analysis
- Sampling
  - Colon (15 cm)
  - BL, post single dose, and post seven doses; 30 min + Days 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

Anton PA et al. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2012

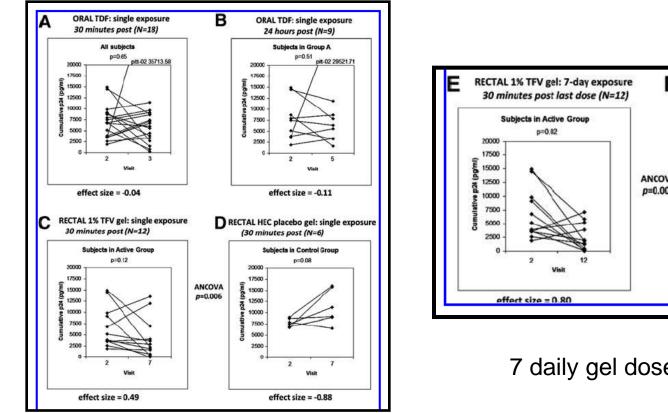
- Products (2:1)
  - TFV gel (1%)
  - HEC placebo
  - Explant infection
    - 10 cm and 30 cm
      - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
    - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
    - Cumulative D14 p24
    - PK/PD data



## RMP-02/MTN-006 Study Design

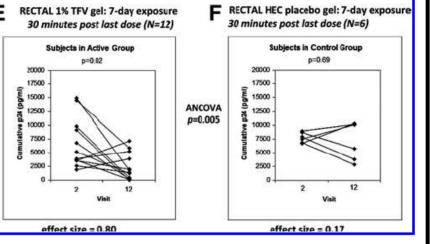


#### RMP-02 / MTN-006



Single dose data (p = NS)

Anton PA et al. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2012



7 daily gel doses data (p = 0.02)



## CHARM-01

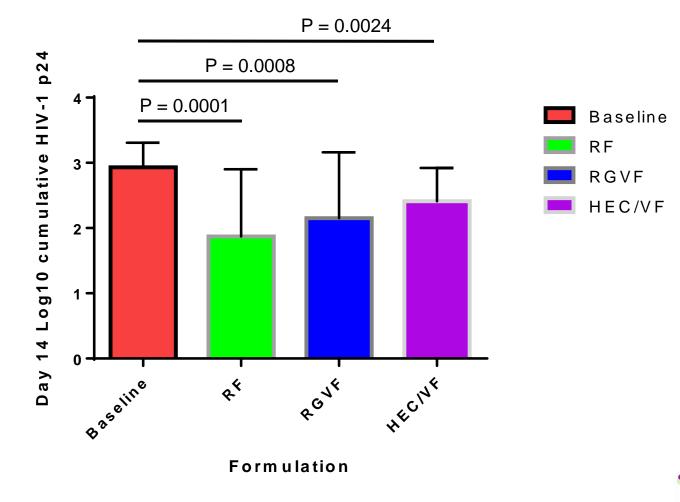
- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=14)
- Center(s)
  - 2 centers
  - Samples shipped to Pittsburgh
  - Sampling
    - Flex sig (15 cm)
    - BL, and post 7D of each formulation

McGowan I et al. PLoS One 2015

- Products (crossover)
  - TFV gel (1.0%)
  - RG TFV gel (1.0%)
  - RS TFV gel (1.0%)
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Weight adjusted cumulative D14 p24
  - PK/PD data



#### CHARM-01 Explant Data





McGowan I et al. PLoS One 2015

## MWRI-01 / Single Dose

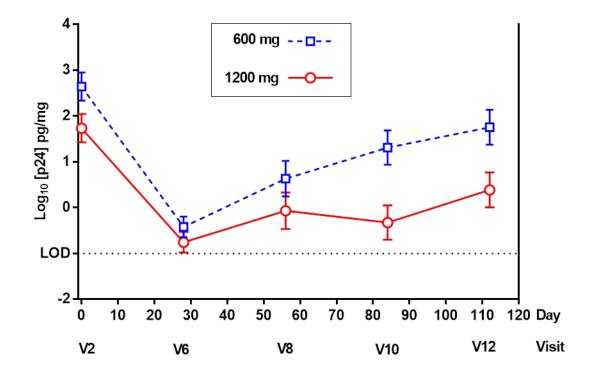
- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=36)
- Center(s)
  - 1 center
- Sampling
  - Flex sig (15 cm)
  - Cervicovaginal tissue
  - BL, and +1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 months after IM injection

- Products (1:1)
  - Rilpivirine LA 1200 mg
  - Rilpivirine LA 600 mg
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Weight adjusted cumulative D14 p24
  - PK/PD data



McGowan I et al. HIV R4P 2014

#### **MWRI-01 SD Explant Data**



Dose Effect P = 0.0009 Visit Effect P <0.0001 Dose\*Visit Interaction P = 0.2131

#### McGowan I et al. HIV R4P 2014



#### Ex Vivo HIV-1 Infection of Rectal Biopsies

- Four biopsies obtained prior and after treatment (30 min, 1h, 2h, 4h, 8h, and 24h) biopsies gently disrupted with a small disposable pestle.
- 50 ng p24 of the R5-tropic HIV-1 reference strain NL-AD8 were added. Twenty hours after exposure to virus, the cells were treated with trypsin-EDTA to inactivate residual extracellular virus.
- The cell pellet was resuspended in medium containing 100U IL-2 and 5x10<sup>5</sup> MT4-R5 cells and cultured over an 8 day period. Supernatants were collected every day between day 3 and day 8, and at days 9, 10 or 11. ELISA p24 (Innotest, Ingen)





#### Ex Vivo HIV-1 Infection of Rectal Biopsies

- 10 participants had biopsies assessable at both time points with 4 biopsies per time point and per participant
- Before drug intake all participants had at least 1 biopsy infected (10/10) vs 6/10 after drug intake (p<0.07, Mac Nemar test for clustered data)
- Using a quantitative infectivity score (0: no infection to 6: infection detected at D4) median difference of mean scores:
  1.38 (IQR: 0.25 -1.75), p<0.07, Wilcoxon sign rank test)</li>
- Trend towards partial protection of rectal biopsies from HIVinfection after intake of a double-dose of TDF/FTC
- Need for additional post-exposure doses



# **Ongoing Studies**

## MWRI-01 / Multiple Dose

- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=12)
- Center(s)
  - 1 center
- Sampling
  - Flex sig (15 cm)
  - Cervicovaginal tissue
  - BL, and +1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 months after IM injection

#### Product

- Rilpivirine LA 1200 mg
- IM x 3 every 2 months
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub> / Clade C
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Weight adjusted cumulative D14 p24
  - PK/PD data



McGowan I et al. HIV R4P 2014

## MTN-017

- Phase 2 expanded safety rectal microbicide study
- Crossover design with 8 week dosing periods
  - **Oral TDF**
  - Topical TFV gel daily
  - Topical TFV gel with sex
- Tissue substudy (N=36)
  - Bangkok
  - Pittsburgh

Assays

- **Compartmental PK**
- Explant infection
- Rectal fluid PD
- BL & end of each dosing period
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm / HIV-1<sub>Bal</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - WA D14 HIV-1 p24



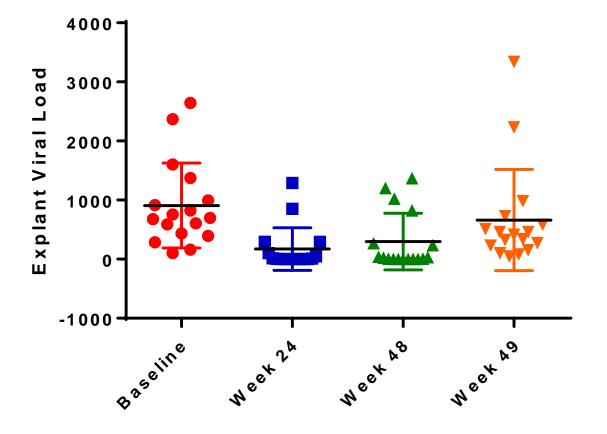
## **HPTN-069**

- Phase 2 comparison of four oral PrEP regimens
- □ N = 600
- 48 week exposure with 1 week washout period
- **Treatment arms:** 
  - MVC
  - MVC + FTC
  - MVC + TDF
  - FTC + TDF

- Sample collection
  - BL, +24, +48, +49
    weeks
- Tissue substudy
  - N = 120
  - Rectal and cervical
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm / HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - WA D14 HIV-1 p24



#### HPTN-069 Single Site Data



## CHARM-03

- Population
  - HIV-negative (N=19)
- Center(s)
  - Single center
- Sampling
  - Flex sig (15 cm)
  - BL, and post 7D of each formulation

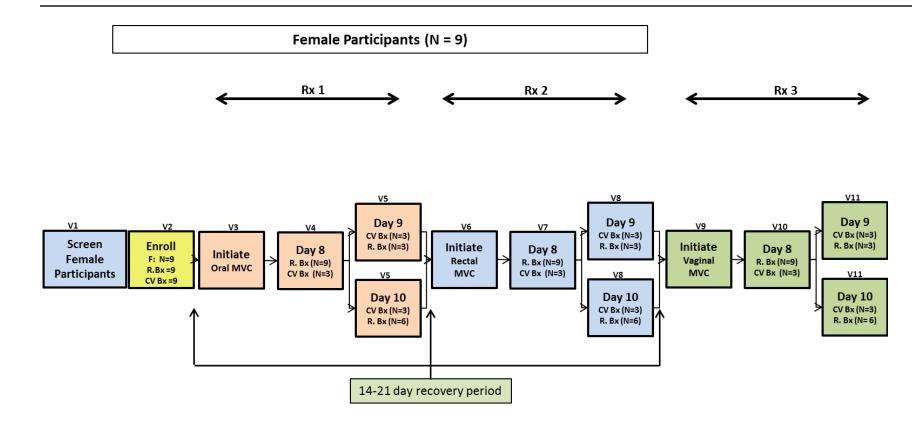
#### Products (crossover)

- Oral MVC
- Rectal MVC gel
- Vaginal MVC gel
- Explant infection
  - 15 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Weight adjusted cumulative D14 p24
  - PK/PD data



McGowan I et al. PLoS One 2015

#### CHARM-03 Design



Rx= Treatment; F= Female; R= Rectal; Bx= Biopsies & CV= Cervical; N = number of participants having rectal or cervical biopsies Participants will be randomized to product sequence and mucosal sampling schedule at Visit 2 (Enrollment)



## MTN-033 (Adonis) Study

- Phase 1 PK
  assessment of single
  dose TFV and
  dapivirine (DPV) gels
- □ N = 24
- Gels delivered by application or by digital/phallic insertion

- Compartmental PK
- Rectal fluid PD
- Explant infection
  - 5 cm & 15 cm
  - HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>
  - 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub>
  - Weight adjusted cumulative D14 p24



In Development

# Molecular Assays

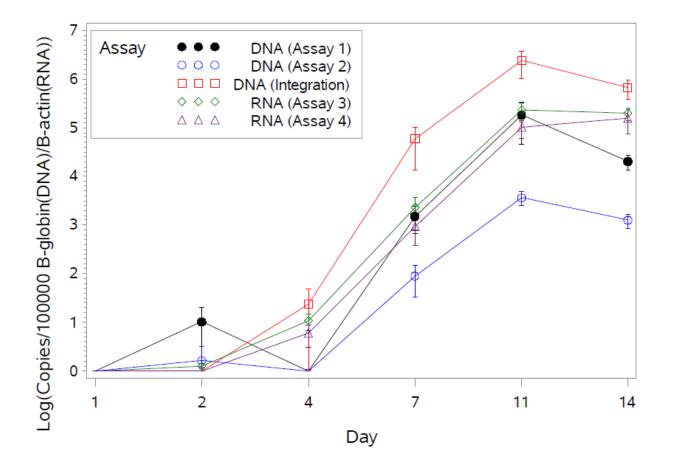
## Molecular Assays

- Cumulative Day 14 HIV-1 p24 routinely used to quantify explant infection but has some limitations
  - Explant need to be cultured for 2 weeks
  - Assay sensitivity limited
  - Samples may need to be diluted for quantification
- Quantification of HIV-1 nucleic acids in supernatant and tissue is an alternative

## Molecular Assay Study

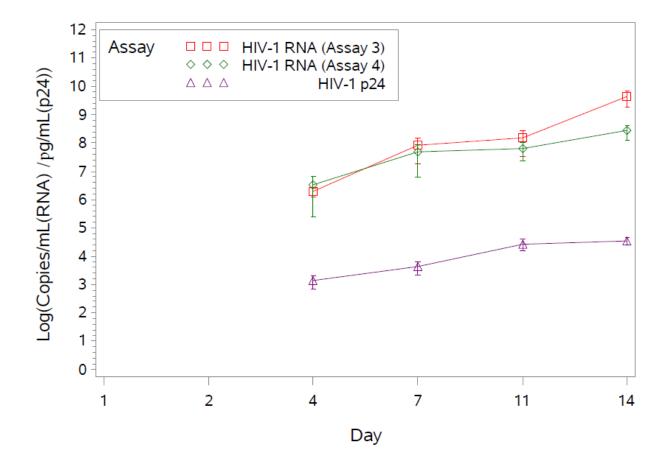
- Goal was to determine whether molecular assays provide a more sensitive approach to the quantification of explant infection
- Explants collected from 8 healthy volunteers and challenged with HIV-1<sub>BaL</sub>or HIV-1<sub>CHO77</sub>
- Supernatant and tissue harvested over 14 day period

#### **Tissue Viral Kinetics**



Janocko L et al. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2015

#### **Supernatant Viral Kinetics**



Janocko L et al. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses 2015

## Lessons Learned

#### Lessons Learned

- Ex-vivo / in vitro explant studies are now being used to characterize antiretroviral efficacy in multiple PrEP studies
- Assay performance improved by using standardized assays, endpoints, and viral stocks
- Explant viral kinetics vary according to the virus used



# **Future Questions**

## **Future Questions**

- What is the role (if any) of molecular assays in characterizing explant infection?
- What is the most relevant virus to use in explant infection studies?
- Can resistant virus replicate in explant tissue?
- Would MMC challenge studies diminish assay variability?



#### Acknowledgements

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