

# BHV-1400 TARGETS THE NON-IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE, SELECTIVE DEPLETION OF CIRCULATING GALACTOSE-DEFICIENT IGA1 IN IGA NEPHROPATHY

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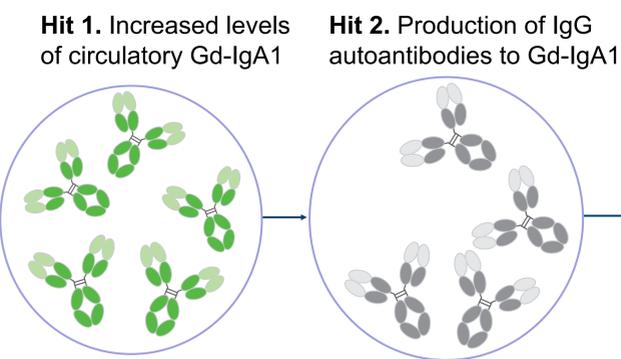
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## CONCLUSIONS

- BHV-1400 is a novel, antibody-based, bifunctional conjugate designed to selectively bind and degrade pathogenic circulating Gd-IgA1 and Gd-IgA1-IgG immune complexes via ASGPR-mediated hepatocyte internalization
- BHV-1400 has demonstrated compelling preclinical evidence for rapid and robust degradation of deglycosylated IgA and related protein aggregates in cellular and rodent experiments
- BHV-1400 recognizes pathogenic Gd-IgA1 in human IgAN and kidney disease patient plasma samples
- BHV-1400 holds therapeutic potential as a transformative, non-immunosuppressive, disease-modifying treatment for patients with IgAN

## OBJECTIVE

To share biophysical target engagement data, protein of interest cellular internalization data, and rodent pharmacokinetic (PK) and pharmacodynamic (PD) data related to the degradation of exogenous deglycosylated IgA (dg-IgA) by the preclinical development candidate BHV-1400



## INTRODUCTION

- IgA nephropathy (IgAN) is the most prevalent primary glomerulonephritis, with an annual incidence of 2-10 cases per 100,000 person-years<sup>1,2</sup>
- Individuals with IgAN present with a range of symptoms, including hematuria, proteinuria, nephrotic syndrome, and severe hypertension<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately 30-40% of individuals diagnosed with IgAN will develop end-stage kidney disease<sup>1,3</sup>
- Currently, there are no approved disease-modifying, IgAN-specific therapies. Only symptomatic treatments are available<sup>2</sup>

### IgAN Pathophysiology

- IgAN is a heterogeneous autoimmune disorder characterized by deposition of IgA1-containing immune complexes in the glomerular mesangium<sup>2</sup> (Figure 1)
- Overproduction of galactose-deficient IgA1 (Gd-IgA1) and the formation of Gd-IgA1-IgG immune complexes are key drivers of a proposed 4-hit pathogenic cascade<sup>1</sup>
- Lowering levels of circulatory Gd-IgA1 and associated immune complexes has potential to decrease mesangial deposition and improve kidney function
- Reduction of circulatory Gd-IgA1 has been achieved using investigational immunomodulatory drugs, with potential improvements in proteinuria and kidney function, but with concurrent reduction of other antibodies such as IgM<sup>4</sup>
- Selective protein degradation of circulatory Gd-IgA1 and its complexes with BHV-1400 has the potential to stabilize or reverse the progression of IgAN, without broad immunosuppression

### Molecular Degradors of Extracellular Proteins (MoDE)<sup>TM</sup> and BHV-1400

- The MoDE platform discovers and develops bifunctional molecules that degrade extracellular protein targets, such as Gd-IgA1, via the asialoglycoprotein receptor (ASGPR)-mediated endosome/lysosome pathway
- Biohaven engineered a novel anti-human Gd-IgA1 chimeric antibody (BH5305) with human constant regions, using a human IgG1 Fc with reduced effector function
- The ASGPR-binding bifunctional conjugate BHV-1400 was assembled from BH5305 in 1 step, using proprietary FcIII-directed MATE<sup>TM</sup> technology<sup>5</sup>
  - Linker and ASGPR binder were attached via a stable amide connection
  - BHV-1400 was isolated with good yield and excellent homogeneity (binder-to-antibody ratio = 2)
  - Site-specific conjugation of dual Lys248 residues was confirmed by peptide mapping

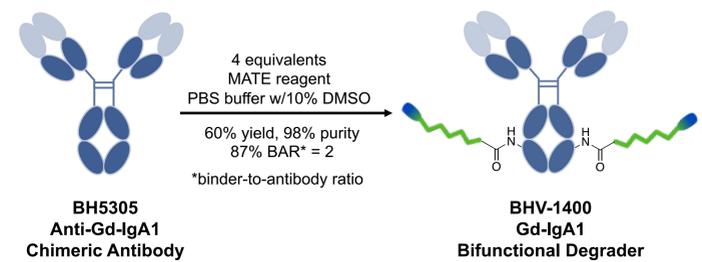
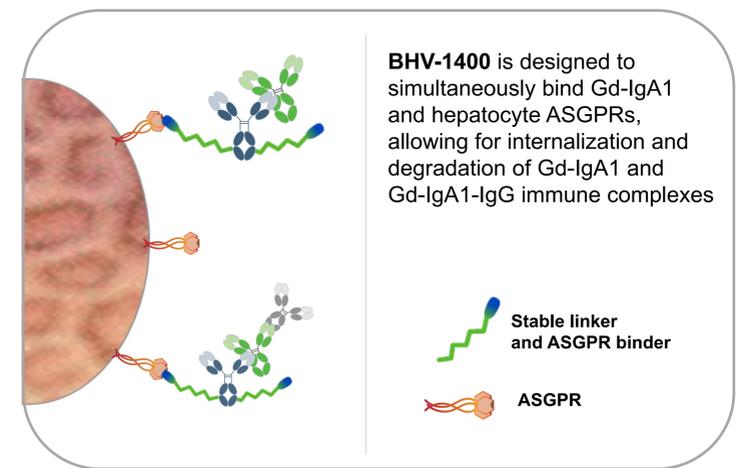


Figure 1. Pathogenesis of IgAN



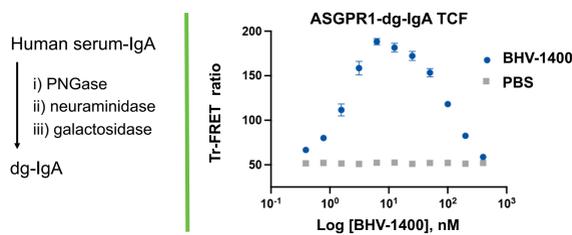
BHV-1400 is designed to simultaneously bind Gd-IgA1 and hepatocyte ASGPRs, allowing for internalization and degradation of Gd-IgA1 and Gd-IgA1-IgG immune complexes

Stable linker and ASGPR binder  
ASGPR

## METHODS AND RESULTS

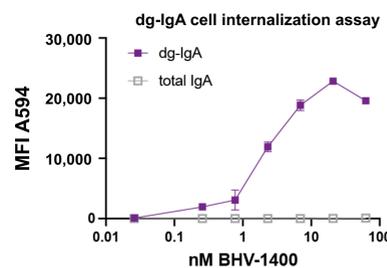
### 1) BHV-1400 Demonstrates Ability to Simultaneously Engage ASGPR and Protein of Interest (POI)

- dg-IgA is a semi-synthetic Gd-IgA1 surrogate prepared from pooled human serum IgA in 3 enzymatic steps
- BHV-1400 demonstrated strong affinity for dg-IgA (KD = 4 nM) and the carbohydrate recognition domain of ASGPR1 (148-291) (KD = 9 nM)
- Evidence for the formation of a viable ternary complex with hook effect was provided by a proximity-based time-resolved fluorescence resonance energy transfer assay



### 3) In Vitro Cellular Internalization of dg-IgA with BHV-1400

- Dose-dependent, selective endocytosis of dg-IgA vs IgA was observed with BHV-1400 in human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells transfected with human ASGPR1 (hASGPR1)
- Low-nanomolar half-maximal effective concentration and robust mean fluorescence were observed at 12 hours for internalization of dg-IgA conjugated to Alexa Fluor 594
- BHV-1400 internalized POI for lysosomal degradation but spared normal IgA

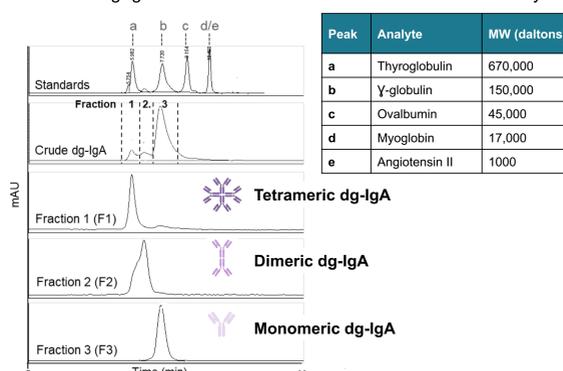


|                       | dg-IgA | Total IgA |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------|
| Max MFI               | 22,824 | 91.4      |
| EC <sub>50</sub> (nM) | 1.75   | 27.5      |
| S/N                   | 201    | 101       |
| Z prime               | 0.96   | 0.65      |

HEK293 cells transfected with ASGPR1 were used to measure endocytosis of 1 µg/mL dg-IgA and total IgA conjugated to Alexa Fluor 594. MFI = mean fluorescence intensity, S/N = signal-to-noise ratio.

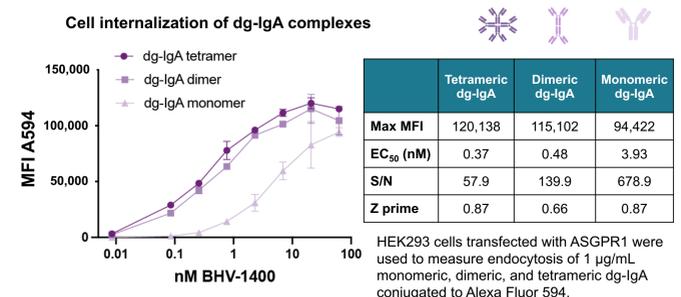
### 4) Isolation of dg-IgA Aggregates by Size Exclusion Chromatography

- dg-IgA conjugated to Alexa Fluor 594 was separated into 3 fractions corresponding to tetrameric, dimeric, and monomeric forms
- All 3 forms of dg-IgA were advanced into the cell internalization assay



### 5) Cellular Internalization of Surrogate Gd-IgA1 Antibody Complexes

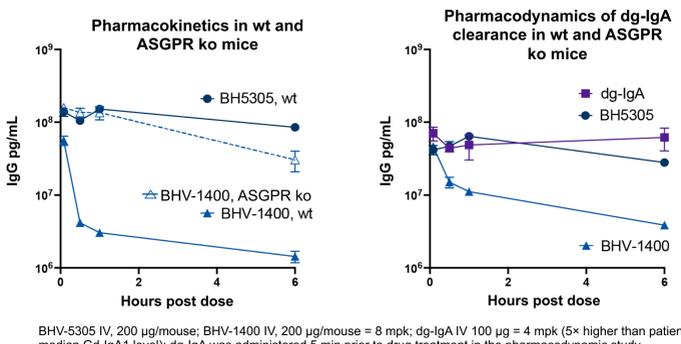
- BHV-1400 demonstrated efficient internalization of dimeric and tetrameric dg-IgA complexes in HEK (hASGPR1) cells at 12 hours
- BHV-1400 can internalize and degrade large IgA antibody complexes



HEK293 cells transfected with ASGPR1 were used to measure endocytosis of 1 µg/mL monomeric, dimeric, and tetrameric dg-IgA conjugated to Alexa Fluor 594.

### 6) BHV-1400 Achieves Robust Degradation of Exogenous dg-IgA in Mice

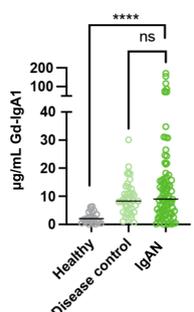
- BHV-1400 demonstrated ASGPR-dependent clearance in wild-type (wt) mice vs ASGPR1 knockout (ko) mice after intravenous (IV) administration. Results were consistent with BHV-1400 mechanism of action
- BHV-1400 depleted exogenous dg-IgA in wt mice to 58% area under the curve of control at 2:1 (drug:target) ratio after sequential IV administration
- Parent control antibody, BH5305, had no effect on degradation of exogenous dg-IgA in wt mice, as anticipated
- BHV-1400 rapidly and robustly degraded dg-IgA administered to mice



BHV-5305 IV, 200 µg/mouse; BHV-1400 IV, 200 µg/mouse = 8 mpk; dg-IgA IV 100 µg = 4 mpk (5x higher than patient's median Gd-IgA1 level); dg-IgA was administered 5 min prior to drug treatment in the pharmacodynamic study.

### 2) Detection of Gd-IgA1 Levels in Human Plasma Samples

- Gd-IgA1 antibody concentrations in patient plasma samples were measured using Meso Scale Discovery with immobilized BHV-1400 and SULFO-TAG anti-IgA antibody
- Gd-IgA1 median levels in samples from patients with kidney disease and IgAN were ~4-fold higher than median levels in healthy volunteers
- Results were consistent with the literature reports using KM55 diagnostic and confirm that BHV-1400 recognizes significant levels of circulating human Gd-IgA1 and corresponding immune complexes



|                  | Healthy participants (n = 26) | Participants with kidney disease (n = 40) | Participants with IgAN (n = 95) |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Gd-IgA1 (µg/mL)* | 2 ± 2                         | 8 ± 6                                     | 9 ± 30                          |

\*median levels reported

References: 1. Lai KN, Tang SC, Schena FP, et al. IgA nephropathy. *Nat Rev Dis Primers*. 2016;2:16001. 2. Rajasekaran A, Julian BA, Rizk DV. IgA nephropathy: an interesting autoimmune kidney disease. *Am J Med Sci*. 2021;361(2):176-194. 3. Knoppova B, Reily C, King RG, Julian BA, Novak J, Green TJ. Pathogenesis of IgA nephropathy: current understanding and implications for development of disease-specific treatment. *J Clin Med*. 2021;10(19):4501. 4. Barratt J, Tumlin J, Suzuki Y, et al. Randomized phase II JANUS study of atacept in patients with IgA nephropathy and persistent proteinuria. *Kidney Int Rep*. 2022;7(8):1831-1841. 5. Rastelli L, Spiegel DA, Welsch ME, et al, inventors; Kleo Pharmaceuticals, Inc., assignee. Directed conjugation technologies. International application PCT/US2020/061127. May 27, 2021. 6. Data on file.

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