ASX: ALA
Arovella Therapeutics Limited
ACN 090 987 250



#### **ASX Release**

2 July 2025

#### **INVESTOR PRESENTATION**

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 2 JULY 2025:** Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is pleased to provide an update to investors in the form of the attached presentation.

This presentation will be used at Arovella's non-deal roadshow being conducted this week.

Release authorised by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Offcier at Arovella Therapeutics Pty Ltd.

Dr Michael Baker Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director Arovella Therapeutics Ltd Tel +61 (0) 403 468 187 investor@arovella.com

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

#### **About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella is also expanding into solid tumour treatment through its CLDN18.2-targeting technology licensed from Sparx Group. Additional tumour targeting technologies are anticipated to be used in conjunction with Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform. Arovella's lead product is ALA-101. ALA-101 consists of CAR19-iNKT cells that have been modified to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) that targets CD19. CD19 is an antigen found on the surface of numerous cancer types. iNKT cells also contain an invariant T cell receptor (iTCR) that targets  $\alpha$ -GalCer bound CD1d, another antigen found on the surface of several cancer types. ALA-101 is being developed as an allogeneic cell therapy, which means it can be given from a healthy donor to a patient.

Glossary: iNKT cell – invariant Natural Killer T cells; CAR – Chimeric Antigen Receptor that can be introduced into immune cells to target cancer cells; TCR – T cell receptors are a group of proteins found on immune cells that recognise fragments of antigens as peptides bound to MHC complexes; B-cell lymphoma – A type of cancer that forms in B cells (a type of immune system cell); CD1d – Cluster of differentiation 1, which is expressed on some immune cells and cancer cells; aGalCer – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

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#### For more information, visit www.arovella.com

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# Non-deal roadshow July

2025



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# Arovella's strengths

# Off-the-Shelf iNKT Cell Platform

Developing off-the-shelf iNKT cell therapies to target blood cancers and solid tumour cancers

# Addressing Key Unmet Need

Our iNKT cell platform is well positioned to solve key challenges that hamper the cell therapy sector

#### Strategic Acquisitions

Focused on acquiring innovative technologies that strengthen its cell therapy platform and align with its focus areas

#### Strong Leadership Group

Leadership team and Board have proven experience in drug development, particularly cell therapies



# Clinic-ready Manufacturing Process

Arovella has successfully developed a proprietary clinic-ready manufacturing process to produce CAR-iNKT cells

# Lead Product Advancing to Clinic

ALA-101, potential treatment for CD19-positive blood cancers, progressing to phase 1 clinical trials, expected to commence in early 2026

## Arovella's strong leadership group

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#### Leadership



Dr Nicole van der Weerden
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



Dr Robson Dossa

HEAD MANUFACTURING & QUALITY



Dr Michelle Ferguson

HEAD RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



Jacqueline Cumming

SNR DIRECTOR CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Board of Directors**



Dr Elizabeth Stoner
INTERIM CHAIR



Dr Michael Baker
CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR



Dr Debora Barton **DIRECTOR** 



Mr Gary Phillips

DIRECTOR



# Recent cell therapy transactions<sup>1</sup>

Date	Type of deal	Acquirer/Licensee	Target/Licensor	Cell Type	Stage	Upfront (US\$M)	Milestones (US\$M)	Total deal value (US\$M)
Jun-25	Acqusition	abbvie	<b>€capstan</b> tx <sup>™</sup>	In vivo CAR	Phase 1	\$2,100	\$0	Up to \$2,100
Mar-25	Acquisition	AstraZeneca 🕏	EsoBiotec	In vivo CAR	Phase 1	\$425	\$575	\$1,000
Nov-24	Acquisition	Roche	POSEIDA THERAPEUTICS	Allo T cell	Phase 1	~\$1,038	~\$462	\$1,500
May-24	Research collaboration	▲ XYPHOS	POSEIDA THERAPEUTICS	T cell	TBD	\$50	\$550	\$600
Dec-23	Acquisition	AstraZeneca	GRACELL	T Cell	Phase 1b	\$1,000	\$200	\$1,200
Nov-23	Collaboration and investment <sup>2</sup>	AstraZeneca	<b>cellectis</b>	Not specified	Platform	\$25	\$70-220 per product	
Aug-23	Licence <sup>3</sup>	IMUGENE Developing Cancer Immunotherapies	PRECISION BIOSCIENCES	T Cell	Phase 1b	\$21	\$206	\$227
Aug-23	Strategic investment (ROFR) <sup>4</sup>	astellas	POSEIDA THERAPEUTICS	T Cell	Phase 1	\$25	\$0	\$25
May-23	Licence	Janssen <b>T</b>	CBMG Cellular Biomedicine Group	T Cell	Phase 1b	\$245	undisclosed	
Jan-23	Acquisition	AstraZeneca	neo gene	T Cell	Phase 1	\$200	\$120	\$320
Oct-22	Development collaboration <sup>5</sup>	<b>GILEAD</b>	ARCELLX	T Cell	Phase 2	\$225	undisclosed	
Aug-22	Licence & strategic collaboration	Roche	POSEIDA THERAPEUTICS	T Cell	Phase 1	\$110	\$110	\$220
Sep-21	Development collaboration	Genentech  A Member of the Roche Group	<b>%</b> Adaptimmune	T Cell	Preclinical	\$150	\$150	\$300
Aug-21	Research collaboration	<b>GILEAD</b>	APPIA BIO	iNKT Cell	Preclinical	undisclosed	undisclosed	\$875
May-21	Acquisition	Athenex	»kuur THERAPEUTICS	iNKT Cell	Phase 1	\$70	\$115	\$185



<sup>1.</sup> See the last slide for deal references; 2. Cellectis will receive a US\$220m equity investment from Astra Zeneca plus tiered royalties. Milestones are payable for 10 products; 3. Precision is eligible for double digit royalties on net sales and \$145 million in milestone payments and tiered royalties for additional programs; 4. Poseida also received a US\$25m equity investment from Astellas; 5. Arcellx also received a US\$100m equity investment from Gilead

#### **Financial overview**

#### **Financial Snapshot**

ASX CODE	ALA		
Market capitalisation <sup>1</sup>	\$130.2 million		
Shares on issue	1,183.9 million		
52-week low / high	\$0.068 / \$0.210		
Cash Balance (31 Mar, 2025)	\$23.5 million		

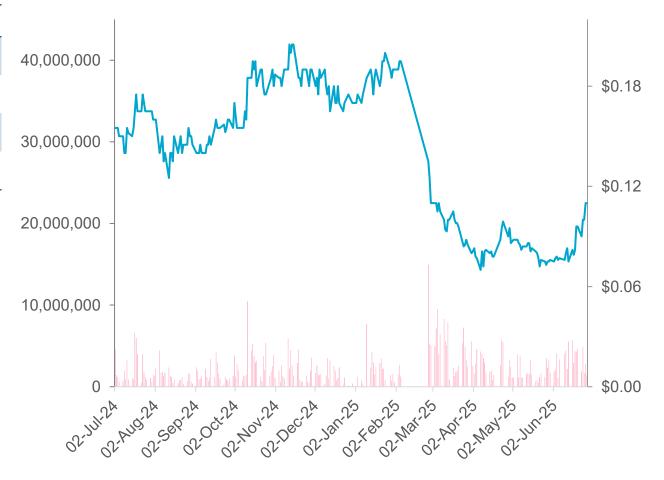
#### **Major Shareholders**

Shareholder	Ownership (%) <sup>2</sup>		
BIOTECH CAPITAL MANAGEMENT PTY LTD <sup>3</sup>	108,526,184 (9.17%)		
RICHARD JOHN MANN <sup>3</sup>	67,487,674 (5.70%)		
NETWEALTH INVESTMENTS LIMITED <sup>3</sup>	47,072,126 (3.98%)		
UBS NOMINEES PTY LTD	29,930,527 (2.53%)		
BLACKBURNE CAPITAL PTY LTD	23,008,988 (1.94%)		



<sup>2.</sup> As of 21 March 2025

#### ALA Price and Volume - 12 Months<sup>1</sup>





<sup>3.</sup> Holding includes associated entities and parties

# Highlights for CY 2025 to date...

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Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March, 2025 of

\$23.5 million



Completed \$15 million placement to fully fund enrolment and report initial safety and efficacy data for the phase 1 trial for ALA-101



Successfully transferred the ALA-101 manufacturing process into cGMP environment in readiness for clinical batches



Held the first meeting of the recently formed clinical advisory board



Entered into sponsored research agreement with University of North Carolina to advance solid tumour and IL-12-TM armouring programs



Generated functional Claudin 18.2-targeting chimeric antigen receptor



Signed an exclusive Option for two new CARs targeting neuroblastoma and hepatocellular carcinoma





Targeting cancer using cell therapies

#### Cell Therapy has revolutionised blood cancer treatment

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CAR-T cells have demonstrated their curative potential in blood cancers



The Cell Therapy market is expected to reach

**\$61.2** billion by 2030<sup>1</sup>



#### Cure

CAR-T cells have demonstrated ability to cure haematological cancers



#### **Strong Sales**



40-60%

Patients relapse post-CAR-T therapy<sup>2</sup>

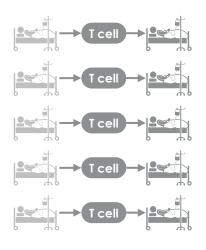
Product Ap	proval Year	2024 Revenue
YESCARTA* (axicabtagene ciloleucel) Supression	2017	US\$1570m <sup>3</sup>
KYMRIAH* (tisagenlecleucel) Suspension (for in infusion	2017	US\$442m <sup>4</sup>
Abecma (idecabtagene vicleucel)	2021	US\$242m <sup>5</sup>

- https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20230529005130/e n/Global-Cell-Therapy-Market-Report-2023-Advancements-in-Biotechnology-Drives-Growth---ResearchAndMarkets.com
- 2. Zinzi et al., 2023 Pharmacological Research 10.1016/j.phrs.2023.106742
- https://www.gilead.com/news/news-details/2025/gileadsciences-announces-fourth-quarter-and-full-year-2024financial-results.
- https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis\_com/files/2025-01interim-financial-report-en.pdf
- https://ir.2seventybio.com/news-releases/news-releasedetails/2seventy-bio-reports-preliminary-full-year-us-abecmasales-and



# **Current CAR-T technology challenges**

One CAR-T product **only** treats the patient who supplied the T cells



Each manufacturing batch is patient-specific

**3-4 weeks** for therapy



- Manufacturing & supply chain costs are high
- T cells <u>can be</u> <u>compromised</u> due to disease
- can collect and manufacture
- for patients with aggressive disease
- Manufacturing run failures can occur

# ALA's solution: One CAR-iNKT batch from a healthy donor treats multiple patients



**CAR-INKT** 

cell

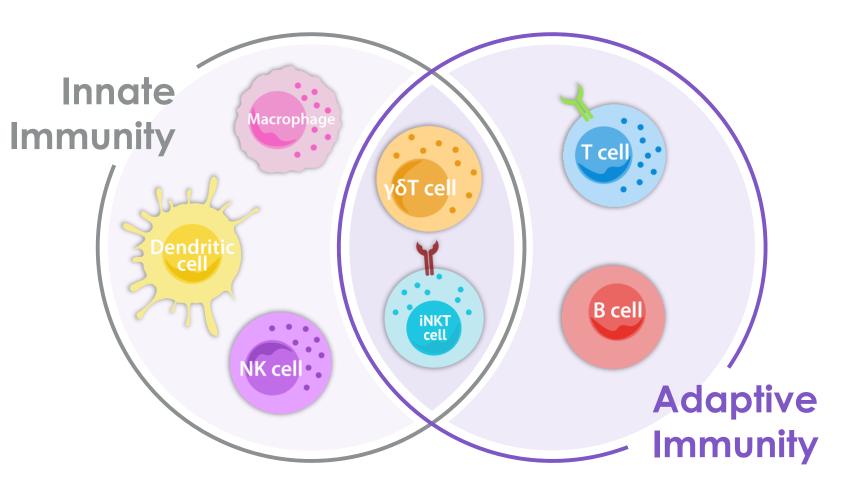
Patients ready to dose within 1 week



# Introducing invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cells

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Bridging the innate and adaptive immune system

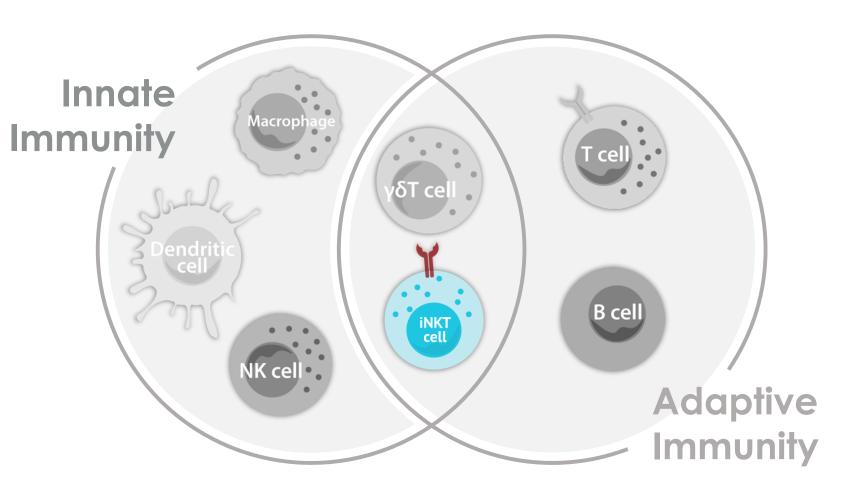




#### iNKT cells represent a next-generation cell therapy

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Properties make them ideal for use in cell therapy



#### Strong safety profile

 Don't cause graft versus host disease (GvHD)

# Front line of the human immune system

- Bridge innate & adaptive immune responses
- Contain both T cell & NK cell killing mechanisms
- Naturally target & kill cancers that express CD1d

# Multiple anti-cancer properties

- Shape the tumour microenvironment by blocking/killing pro tumour cells (TAMs/MDSCs)
- Infiltrate tumours & secrete signaling molecules to activate other immune cells to kill tumour cells



## A differentiated position

T cell and NK cell sectors are competitive



























































# ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)

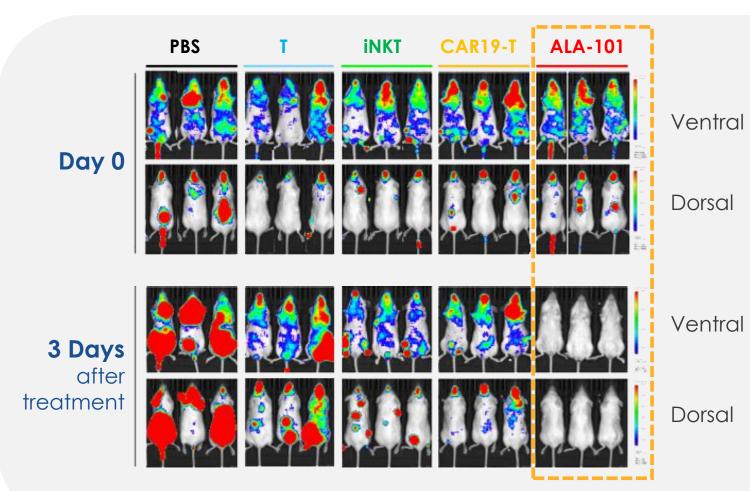
A next generation **off-the-shelf** cell therapy for CD19 expressing cancers

## ALA-101: enhanced tumour killing in vivo

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#### ALA-101 rapidly eradicates tumour cells in mice

- Tumour cells expressing CD19 and CD1d were intravenously delivered into mice
- Mice were treated with:
  - PBS (saline)
  - Unmodified T cells (T)
  - Unmodified iNKT cells (iNKT)
  - CAR19-T cells
  - ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)
- After three days, ALA-101 resulted in significant regression of tumour cells
- In all other treatments, there was strong tumour cell persistence
- ALA-101 displays swift action

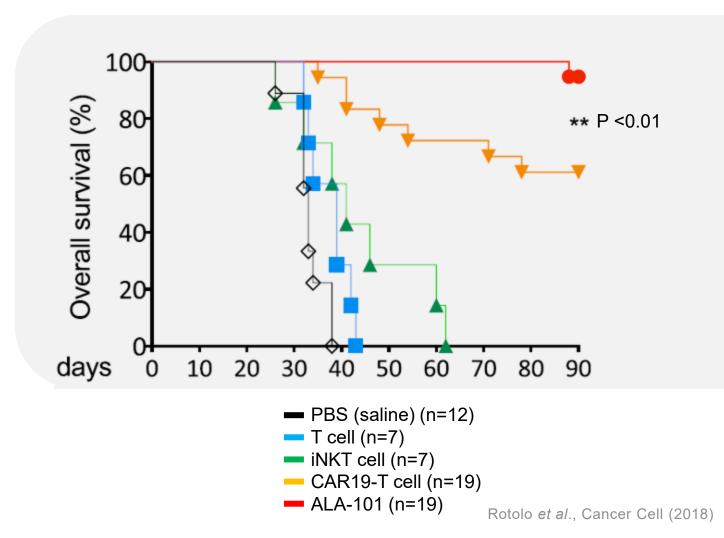


Rotolo et al., Cancer Cell (2018)

## ALA-101: next generation cell therapy

ALA-101 significantly increased survival in mice versus treatment with CAR19-T cells

- Tumour cells positive for CD19 and CD1d were intravenously delivered into mice
- Mice were treated with:
  - PBS (saline)
  - Unmodified T cells (T)
  - Unmodified iNKT cells (iNKT)
  - CAR19-T cells
  - ALA-101 (CAR19-iNKT cells)
- After 90 days, only mice treated with CAR19-T cells or ALA-101 remained alive
- 1.5x more mice treated with ALA-101 remained alive after 90 days relative to CAR19-T cells
- ALA-101 has the potential to be an effective, off-the-shelf cell therapy for the treatment of CD19-positive cancers

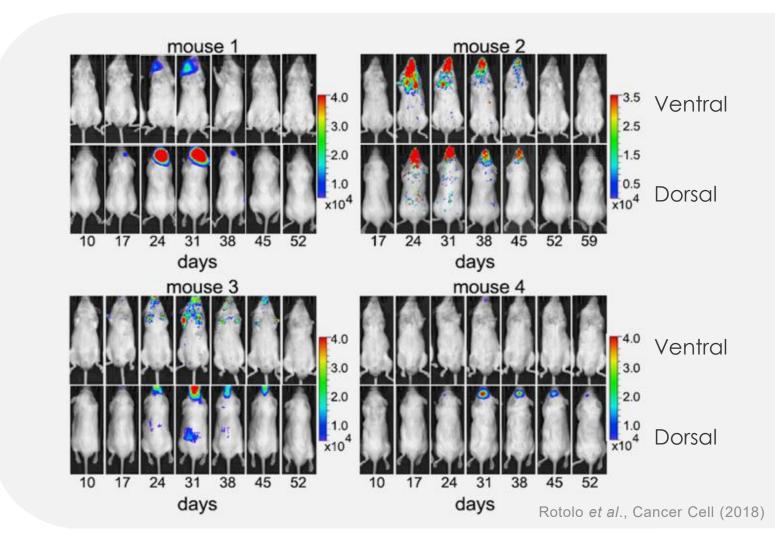


## ALA-101: spontaneous secondary remission



ALA-101 activity may persist to eradicate tumour cells following relapse

- Four mice treated with ALA-101 had the cancer return to the brain
- In all four mice, the cancer was eliminated a second time with no additional dosing
- This provides evidence that CAR19-iNKT cells can survive and continue to protect against cancer cells in vivo
- Potential to use ALA-101 to treat central nervous system lymphoma or brain metastases



## Clinic-ready manufacturing process developed

Semi-automated process suitable for large-scale and late-phase clinical development

TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION

PRE-CLINICAL CONFIRMATION

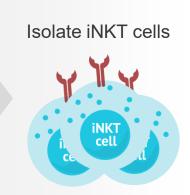
LENTIVIRUS MANUFACTURING

MANUFACTURING PLATFORM

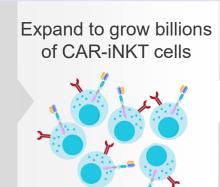
FDA (IND) / TGA (CTA) PHASE 1 CLINICAL TRIAL

PHASE 2 CLINICAL TRIAL





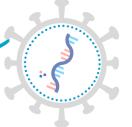






Progressed tech transfer to the GMP suites for clinical manufacturing

- High yield, >5,000-fold expansion of CAR-iNKT cells
- >99% purity of iNKT cells with a balance of CD4- and CD4+ cells
- Semi-automated, suitable for large-scale production
- Runs now being completed in the GMP suites using GMP reagents
- New knowledge becomes Arovella trade secret and IP
- New products can be created plug and play by substituting the lentivirus



Completed GMP manufacture of ALA-101 lentivirus

Lentivirus for any CAR

## Pathway to US FDA IND

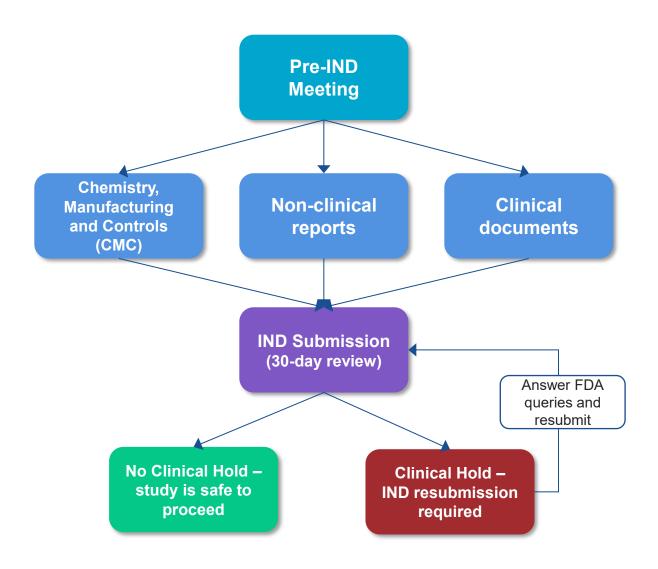
Arovella is working to have the highest chance of a successful IND submission

Early interactions with the FDA to discuss the proposed clinical program

Generation of data for manufacturing and nonclinical studies. Study reports generated and IND is prepared, including clinical documents

Investigational New Drug (IND) application submitted to the FDA

FDA outcome is reached, and the study is approved, or the IND receives a clinical hold



## Positioning the ALA-101 IND for success

IND filing is delayed to maximise the chance of acceptance



# Chemistry Manufacturing and controls (CMC)

- Process development complete
- Tech transfer to cGMP suites complete
- Analytical method development ongoing
   Development of assays requested by FDA during pre-IND meeting took longer than anticipated
- Release of key GMP reagents ongoing
   Arovella is considering additional consultation with
   the FDA prior to IND submission to align on testing
   requirements for a key reagent not incorporated in
   the final product
- Clinical batches manufactured



**Non-Clinical** 

- In vivo efficacy complete
- In vitro safety complete\*
- In vitro efficacy complete\*

\*Note Arovella intends to complete in vitro safety and efficacy studies on future ALA-101 clinical batches



- CRO selection ongoing
- Protocol development ongoing
- Site selection ongoing
- HREC submission post IND acceptance
- Site start-up

- Drafting of the IND submission documents is well underway
- We anticipate the IND will be submitted and accepted in CY2025



# ALA-101-001: phase 1 first-in-human study

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Dose escalation and dose expansion study in patients with CD19+ blood cancers

Patients with relapsed or refractory CD19+ non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL, including DLBCL, FL, MCL, MZL) and CD19+ leukemias (including B-ALL, CLL and HCL).

- Single dose of ALA-101 following lymphodepletion regimen
- Primary objectives
  - To evaluate the safety and tolerability of ALA-101 in adult patients with CD19+ NHL or leukemia
- Secondary objectives
  - To determine the most appropriate dose of ALA-101 for phase 2 clinical trials for adult patients with CD19+ NHL or leukemia
  - To evaluate the preliminary efficacy of ALA-101
  - To characterise the pharmacokinetic (PK) profile of ALA-101

#### Part 1: Dose Escalation

- 4 dose levels
- ~9-12 patients total
- CD19+ lymphoma

#### Part 2 (phase 1b): Dose Expansion

- Dose level selected from Part 1
- ~20 patients total
- Sub-indications selected from Part 1





## Arovella's strategies to combat solid tumours

Arovella is using three approaches to expand the iNKT cell platform into solid tumours



License novel cancer targets





Identify and license new targets that are expressed in multiple cancers to incorporate into Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform Enhance the performance of iNKT cells by equipping iNKT cells with novel armouring technologies

Create partnerships to use novel combination therapies with synergistic effects

# Solid tumours pose challenges to cell therapies

iNKT cells have features that may make them useful for treating solid tumours



Solid tumours are more

# difficult to treat with cell therapies



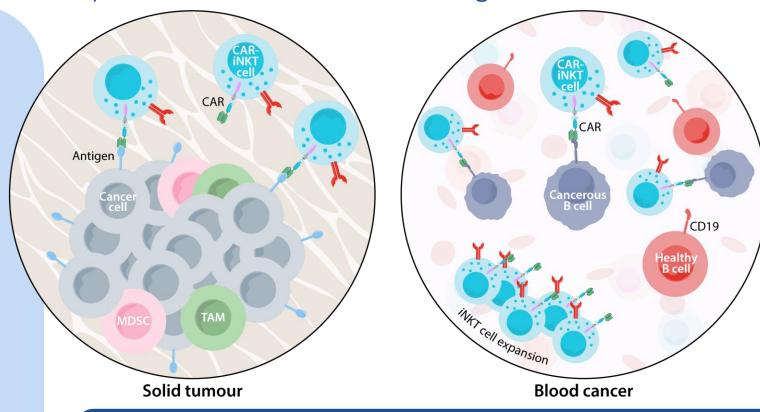
Access to tumour



Lack of antigen specificity and uniformity

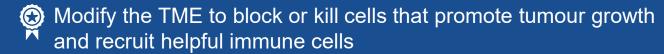


Tumour microenvironment contains cells that support cancer cell growth



#### **iNKT** cells:



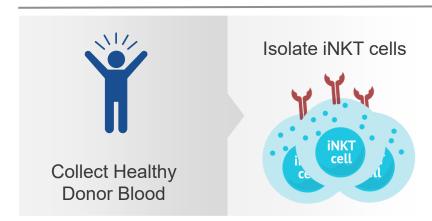


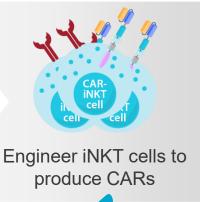
#### New CARs

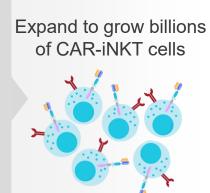
# Add additional CARs for novel targets

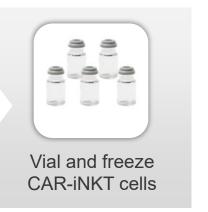
Arovella's manufacturing process can be leveraged for multiple cancer types

MANUFACTURING







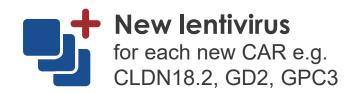


New CAR genetic material – e.g. CLDN18.2, IL-12-TM and others

Arovella has a clinic-ready manufacturing process to manufacture CAR-iNKT cells

which can be leveraged to create many CAR-iNKT

cell products to target multiple cancer types



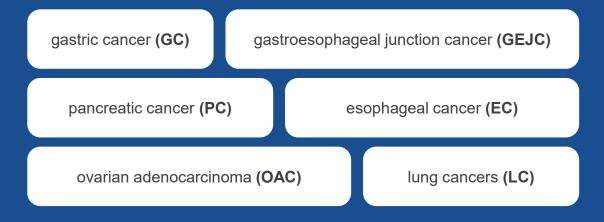
# Introducing Claudin 18.2 (CLDN18.2)

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A promising solid tumour target

CLDN18.2 overexpression has been

# identified in several types of cancers





#### Validated target

with first monoclonal antibody approved in Japan and the US in 2024



#### Gastric cancer

market alone expected to reach \$10.7 billion by 20311



# Successfully generated a functional CAR

that targets CLDN18.2

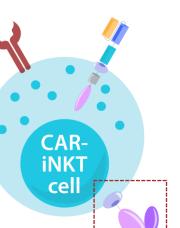
<sup>1.</sup> https://www.alliedmarketresearch.com/gastric-cancer-market-A74458#:~:text=The%20global%20gastric%20cancer%20market,cells%20lining%20of%20the%20stomach

#### ARMOURING

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## "Armouring" CAR-iNKT cells

IL-12-TM (cytokine technology) enhances CAR-iNKT cell activity in solid tumours



IL-12-TM

# **IL-12-TM**

# IL-12-TM is a modified version of IL-12

with a membrane anchor that links it to the surface of CAR-iNKT cells. We have designed it to be attached to the surface of iNKT cells so that it can enhance CAR-iNKT cells without being released into the blood stream, making it safer.

The IL-12-TM is incorporated into the lentiviral vector and system and

does not require changes to the manufacturing process

Discover how our IL-12-TM cytokine technology works in our new IL-12-TM explainer whiteboard video.

#### iNKT cells + IL-12-TM

Expand more and survive for longer

than CAR-iNKT cells lacking the cytokine

10x more circulating CAR-iNKT cells

4 weeks after treatment in a mouse model

Superior anti-tumour activity

compared to CAR-iNKT cells lacking the cytokine

Arovella has entered into a **Sponsored Research Agreement** with Prof. Dotti's group at the University of North Carolina

nature > nature communications > articles > article

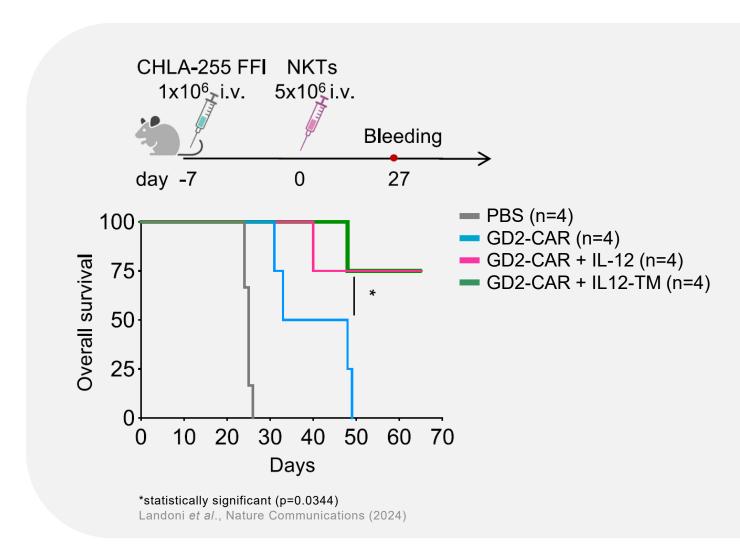
Article Open access Published: 02 January 2024

IL-12 reprograms CAR-expressing natural killer T cells to long-lived Th1-polarized cells with potent antitumor activity

## Key benefits of IL-12-TM for CAR-iNKT cells

#### IL-12-TM enhances antitumor activity of CAR-iNKT cells

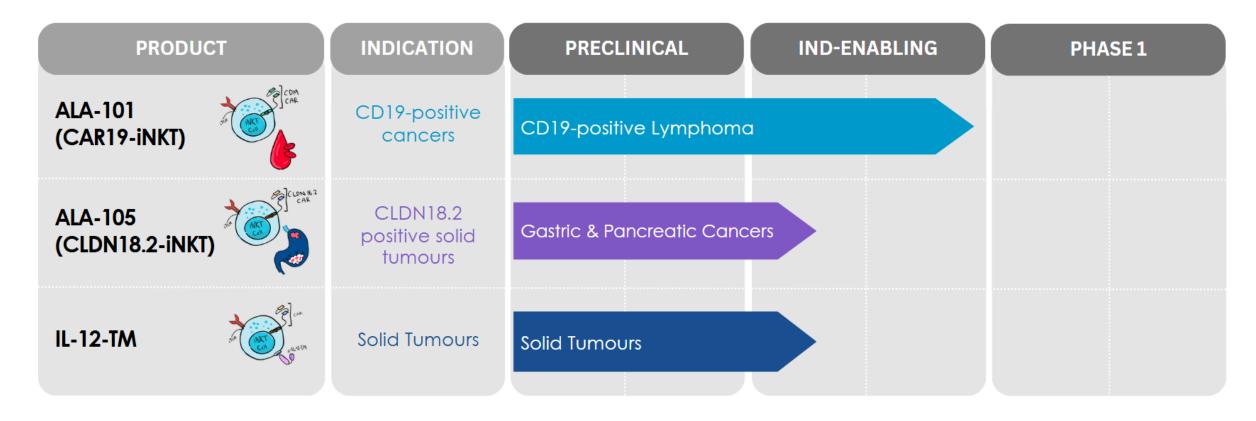
- Tumour cells positive for GD2 and were intravenously delivered into mice before treatment with CAR-iNKT cells
- Mice were treated with:
  - PBS (saline)
  - GD2-CAR
  - GD2-CAR + IL-12
  - GD2-CAR + IL-12-TM
- After 60 days, only mice treated with GD2-CAR + IL12 or IL-12-TM remained alive
- IL-12-TM enhances CAR-iNKT cell numbers and antitumour activity
- The GD2 CAR is under Option from Baylor College of Medicine





# Arovella's expanding pipeline







# **Upcoming milestones for FY2026**



Jul 2025

Dec **2025** 



ALA-101 (CD19)

- Complete cGMP manufacture and IND enabling studies and file an IND application with US FDA for phase 1
- Complete preparatory activities for a first-in-human phase 1 study for ALA-101 in patients with CD19+ blood cancers

 Commence phase 1 study and generate initial data from patients in early dose cohorts



Arovella is funded to obtain preliminary safety and efficacy readouts for its phase 1 study of ALA-101

ALA-105 (CLDN18.2)

- Integrate the CLDN18.2 CAR into iNKT cells, and optimise the CAR for solid tumours
- Test CLDN18.2 targeting CAR-iNKT cells in gastric cancer and/or pancreatic cancer animal models

 Commence activities to manufacture ALA-105 for clinical trials (e.g. lentiviral vector production)

IL-12-TM integration

• Integrate IL-12-TM into solid tumour programs and test its efficacy in anti-tumour models

Pipeline expansion

- Continue to identify and acquire novel technologies that enhance and expand Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform
- Option with Baylor College of Medicine to be exercised by Nov 2025



## Summary



iNKT cells serve as an excellent platform to develop allogeneic, or "off-the-shelf", cell therapies to treat cancer

#### **CAR-iNKT** cells have anticancer properties

CAR-iNKT cells have multiple anti-cancer properties that may support enhanced efficacy over other immune cell types, particularly against solid tumours



# Arovella's **Platform**

#### **Clinic-ready** manufacturing process

Arovella has successfully developed a proprietary clinic-ready manufacturing process to produce CAR-iNKT cells



**INKT** 

cell







**O** 

#### Lead product progressing to clinical trials

ALA-101, a potential treatment for CD19-expressing blood cancers, is being progressed to phase 1 clinical trials, expected to commence in early 2026

#### Arovella has an expanding pipeline

Arovella continues to expand the iNKT cell platform with the addition of a CLDN18.2 targeting CAR and its IL-12-TM armouring

#### Arovella is poised for growth

Arovella is developing a cutting-edge CAR-iNKT cell therapy platform, with an expanding pipeline and a strong leadership team







# Thank You Dr. Michael Baker CEO & Managing Director

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# Cell therapy deal references

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