



# Next Generation Immuno-Oncology Medicines

John K. Celebi, MBA

President & Chief Executive Officer

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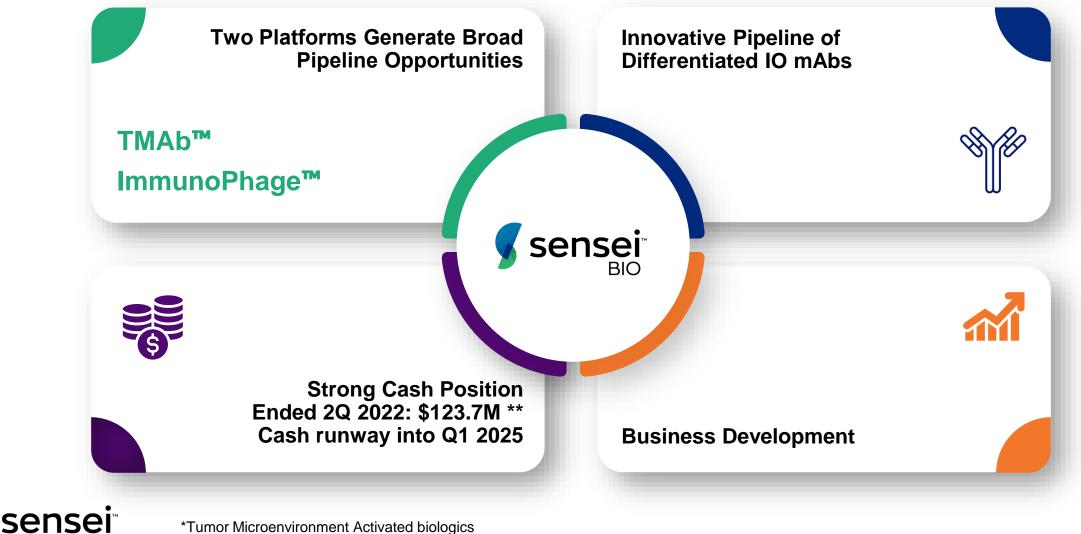
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### Positioned to Drive Value with Next Generation Product & Platform Development



\*\*Consists of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities

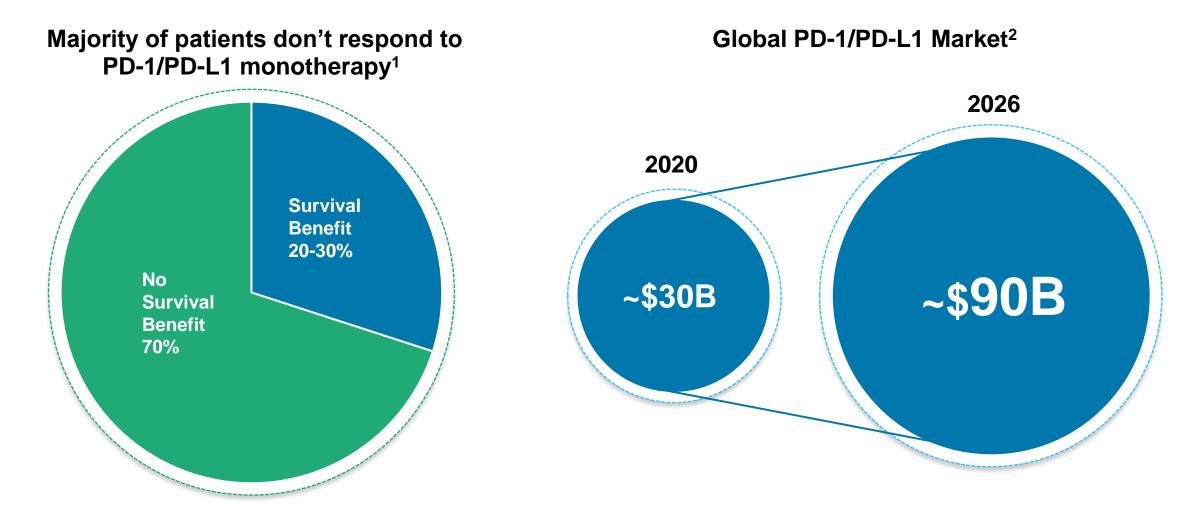
BIO

# **Innovative Pipeline of IO Drugs with Broad Commercial Potential**

	Program (Target)	Indication	Discovery	IND-enabling	Phase 1 / 2 Clinical
TMAb	SNS-101 (VISTA)	Solid Tumors			
	SNS-102 (VSIG4)	Solid Tumors			
	SNS-103 (ENTPDase1/C D39)	Solid Tumors			
ImmunoPhage	SNS-401-NG (Multiple Tumor Antigens)	Merkel Cell Carcinoma			
		Multiple Indications			



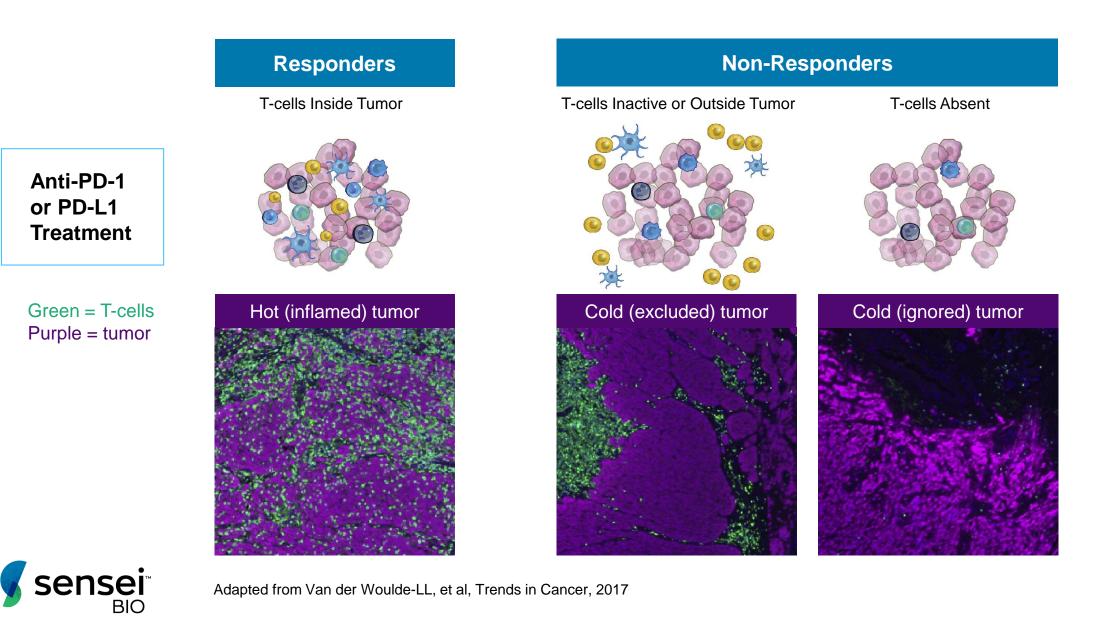
## The Modern-Day Challenge in Immuno-Oncology





Gerber et al., Biochemical Pharmacology 2016
 Market estimates from PD-1 and PDL-1 Inhibitors Market Size in 2021 – MarketWatch, 360 Research

# Two Major Types of Non-Responders to PD-1 Blockade



# **Two Platforms Designed to Unleash Anti-Cancer T-cell Activity**



#### TMAb<sup>™</sup> (Tumor Microenvironment Activated Biologics) Platform

- Next-generation tumor activated mAbs
- Designed to bind only in the lowpH tumor microenvironment
- Target checkpoints and/or other immune pathways
- Preclinical data have shown improved PK/PD and toxicity profiles





#### ImmunoPhage<sup>™</sup> Platform

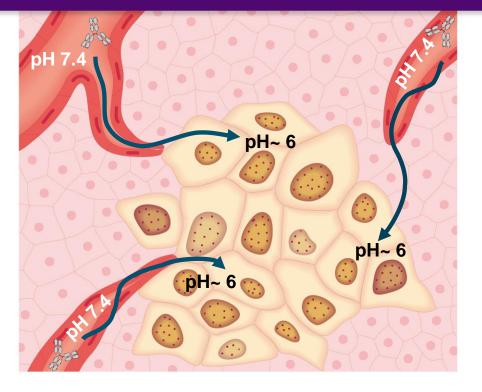
- Powerfully self-adjuvanted nanoparticle vaccine designed to drive B cell and T cell responses
- Multi-antigen vaccine potentially enables personalized approach from "off-the-shelf" components
- Targets APCs
- Enhanced through addition of immunostimulatory nanobodies & cytokines



# pH-sensitive Antibodies Selectively Bind Their Targets in the Low-pH Tumor Microenvironment

#### **TMAb Platform**

The tumor microenvironment of pH ~6 is lower than physiological pH of 7.4



Sensei's technology identifies pH-sensitive antibodies designed to bind only at the tumor

- Antibodies that bind at physiological pH may encounter a "sink"
  - Prevents effective binding at the tumor and may lead to toxicity
- TMAb antibodies are expected to bypass tissue compartments other than the low-pH tumor microenvironment
- Goal is to unlock previously undruggable immune targets through potential for improved safety and clinical activity profile



# **VISTA: An Emerging Checkpoint Target on Myeloid Cells**

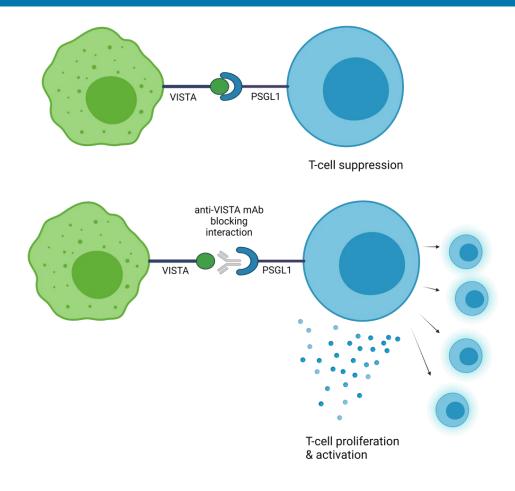
#### Target Overview:

- B7 family ligand
- Extensive expression on myeloid cells<sup>1</sup> correlating with poor survival rates across multiple cancers
- Novel development program with no approved therapies
- Large market opportunity

#### Sensei's Competitive Advantage:

- Extensive understanding of VISTA biology
- Unique tumor selective antibody

#### **VISTA** is a Negative Regulator of T cell Function





#### Increased Understanding of VISTA as a Promising Target to Address the Needs of Patients with Cancer

# mature medicine

#### **BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS**

#### VISTA is an inhibitory immune checkpoint that is increased after ipilimumab therapy in patients with prostate cancer

medicine

Jianjun Gao<sup>1</sup>, John F Ward<sup>2</sup>, Curtis A Pettawav<sup>2</sup>, Lewis Z Shi<sup>1</sup>, Sumit K Subudhi<sup>1</sup>, Luis M Vence<sup>3</sup>, Hao Zhao<sup>3</sup>, Jianfeng Chen<sup>1</sup>, Hong Chen<sup>3</sup>, Eleni Efstathiou<sup>1</sup>, Patricia Troncoso<sup>4</sup>, James P Allison<sup>3,5</sup>, Christopher J Logothetis<sup>1</sup>, Ignacio I Wistuba<sup>6</sup>, Manuel A Sepulveda<sup>7</sup>, cantly higher levels of ICOS<sup>+</sup> and GrB<sup>+</sup> cells, which may represent Jingjing Sun<sup>3</sup>, Jennifer Wargo<sup>8</sup>, Jorge Blando<sup>3</sup> & anee Sharma1,3,5

To date, anti-CTLA-4 (ipilimumab) or anti-PD-1 (nivolumab) monotherapy has not been demonstrated to be of substantial clinical benefit in patients with prostate cancer. To identify additional immune-inhibitory pathways in the prostate-tumor microenvironment, we evaluated untreated and ipilimumabtreated tumors from patients in a presurgical clinical trial. Levels of the PD-L1 and VISTA inhibitory molecules increased on independent subsets of macrophages in treated tumors. Our data suggest that VISTA represents another compensatory inhibitory pathway in prostate tumors after ipilimumab therapy. Fig. 4a). We focused our analyses on a subset of genes that repre-

therapies, that block T cell inhibitory pathways have led to durable Fig. 4b). Both PD-L1 and VISTA were previously reported as inhibitory antitumor responses and clinical benefit in a substantial number of molecules that can suppress murine and human T cell responses<sup>9,1</sup> patients with cancer<sup>1,2</sup>. However, prostate cancer has proven to be Here we found significantly greater protein expression of PD-1, poorly responsive to immune checkpoint monotherapy<sup>3–5</sup>. To better PD-L1, and VISTA in prostate tumors after ipilimumab therapy understand the immune profile within prostate tumors and potential (Fig. 1c and Supplementary Fig. 5a). ting of immune checkpoint monotherapy, we conducted a clinical trial patients with metastatic prostate cancer who took part in a separate apy (ADT) before surgery in patients with localized prostate cancer (Supplementary Fig. 1a-c and Supplementary Tables 1 and 2).

expressing inducible costimulator (ICOS), OX40, 4-1BB, PD-1, points in both localized and metastatic prostate cancer

CTLA-4, and FoxP3 (Supplementary Fig. 2a,b). We observed an increase in CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells, including PD-1<sup>+</sup> and ICO8<sup>+</sup> subsets, after ipilimumab therapy, which is similar to our previous significantly higher PD-L1 expression on CD4+ T cells, CD8+ T cells, findings with ipilimumab monotherapy in patients with melanoma and CD68+ macrophages after treatment (Supplementary Fig. 7a).

<sup>1</sup>Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA. <sup>2</sup>Department of Urology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA. <sup>3</sup>The Immunotherapy Platform, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA Hopedment & Pelching, University of Taxia MD Addrono. Gener Gener, Kentor, Taxia, U.B., "Organized of Immunology, University of Texas MD Addrono. Concer Genet, Heurism, Ku, U.B., "Organized of Taxiational Concerner Genetics, Houseville, University of Texas MD Addrono. Concer Genet, Heurism, Ku, U.B., "Organized of Taxiational Concerner Genetics, Houseville, University of Texas MD Addrono. Concerner Genetics, Heurism, Ku, U.B., "Organized of Taxiation Concerner Genetics, Houseville, University of Texas MD Addrono. Concerner Genetics, Heurism, Statistica, Concerner, Lice, Planmaceutica, Concerner, Statistica, Statistica,

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and bladder cancer<sup>6-8</sup>. We also compared post-treatment tumor tis sues (Supplementary Fig. 1a) to those of stage-matched untreated tumors from another cohort of patients (Supplementary Fig. 1b). Flow cytometric studies revealed a significantly higher frequency of CD4+, CD8+, and ICOS+ T cells in the post-treatment tumors (Fig. 1a). Immunohistochemical (IHC) studies also demonstrated significant increases in tumor-infiltrating immune cells, including CD4+, CD8+, ICOS+, CD45RO+, granzyme-B (GrB)+, and CD68+ cells (Supplementary Fig. 3). We found significantly greater immune cell infiltration in prostate tumors after ipilimumab therapy but not after ADT alone, although ADT monotherapy was associated with signifian activated T cell subset (Fig. 1b). Taken together, our data suggest that the immunologic changes in post-treatment tumors were mostly due to ipilimumab therapy, as opposed to ADT. However, we cannot discount a possible synergistic effect between ipilimumab and ADT We did not observe clinical responses consisting of pathologic complete response, as we did previously for patients with bladder cancer8. To identify potential mechanisms that might explain this lack of response, we performed an unbiased gene expression study and found that ipilimumab therapy resulted in significant changes in the expression of a total of 690 genes (false discovery rate (FDR) < 0.2; P < 0.028; log2 (fold change) > 0.5)(Supplementary Table 3), most of which are related to immune responses (Supplementary sent inhibitory immune checkpoints and identified increased PD-L1 Immune checkpoint therapies, including anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 and VISTA expression in post-treatment tumors (Supplementary

ompensatory immune inhibitory pathways that may arise in the set- We also evaluated metastatic tumors and blood samples from 194271) with ipilimumab plus androgen-deprivation ther- clinical trial (NCT02113657) and received treatment with ipilimu We compared post-treatment and baseline blood samples (Supplementary Fig. 6a), which was similar to data from a mouse (Supplementary Fig. 1a), evaluating the levels of CD4+ and CD8+ model of prostate cancer (Supplementary Fig. 6b). We suggest that T cells (Supplementary Fig. 2a), as well as those of T cell subsets PD-L1 and VISTA are likely to be relevant inhibitory immune check-

#### Trends in Immunology



T cell death.

on myeloid-derived suppressor cells

of myeloid cells by reducing Toll-like

laid cells traverds reduced penduction

leukin (iL)-6, tumor necrosis factor

production of IL-10 and other anti

cristic VISTA antibodies are

sancers: drugs that target the adidity of the TME might reduce immunoinhibitor

activity in addic niches and combine

inflammatory mediators.

(MDSCs) via hypoxia, and can contrib

Feature Review

#### VISTA: A Mediator of Quiescence and a Promising Target in Cancer Immunotherapy

Long Yuan, <sup>1,2</sup> Jahnavi Tatineni,<sup>2</sup> Kathleen M. Mahoney, <sup>2,3</sup> and Gordon J. Freeman<sup>2,\*</sup>

V-domain Ig suppressor of T cell activation (VISTA) is a B7 family member that Highlights maintains T cell and myeloid quiescence and is a promising target for combina- V-domain ig suppressor of T cell activation (VISTA) binds to V-set tion cancer immunotherapy. During inflammatory challenges, VISTA activity and Ig domain-containing 3 (VSIG3) reprograms macrophages towards reduced production of proinflammatory cytoand P-selectin glycoprotein ligand kines and increased production of interleukin (IL)-10 and other anti-inflammatory 1 (PSGL-1) ligands, and signaling mediators. The interaction of VISTA with its ligands is regulated by pH, and the may be bidirectional. acidic pH ~6.0 in the tumor microenvironment (TME) facilitates VISTA binding VISTA binds to PSGL-1 at addic pH to P-selectin glycoprotein ligand 1 (PSGL-1). Targeting intratumoral pH might such as in the tumor micr be a way to reduce the immunoinhibitory activity of the VISTA pathway and (TME), but not at physiological pH. enhance antitumor immune responses. We review differences among VISTA VISTA activity imposes quiescence or therapeutics under development as candidate immunotherapies, focusing on mammakan myeloid and naive T cells. VISTA binding partners and the unique structural features of this interaction. and inhibits T cell activation and cytokine production, it can promote peripheral toi-

#### VISTA: How This B7 Protein Might Transform Cancer Immunotherapy Immunotherapy has become an established pillar of cancer treatment, in large part owing to

the success of blocking the programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1)/ programmed VISTA is particularly upregulater death-ligand 1 (PD-L1) immune checkpoint (see Glossary) pathway. As recent research deepens our understanding of V-domain Ig suppressor of T cell activation (VISTA), the VISTA signaling pathway has increasingly become a promising target for overcoming resistance to current immune checkpoint therapies [1]. Although the development of VISTA blocking receptor (TLP) signaling and call migra antibodies has not reached fruition clinically, this review highlights the new features of VISTA for as well as by reprogramming mys that make this pathway particularly attractive for therapeutic development. We discuss (i) VISTA expression on immune cells in the tumor microenvironment (TME). (ii) the biological functions and bidirectional signaling pathways of VISTA in mammalian lymphocytes and myeloid cells, (INF)-o, and 1L-12, and increases (iii) the structural features of VISTA that contribute to its molecular interactions. (iv) current VISTA monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) that are in clinical development, and (v) the candidate druggable targets that regulate the pH of the TME and which in turn might affect VISTA activity in vivo. This review gives a detailed picture of VISTA structure in the context of its binding partners clinical development for treating some and therapeutic antibodies targeting VISTA.

#### VISTA Structure

ell with VISTA or checkpoint blockadi VISTA, also known as PD-1H, B7-H5, Dies1, Gi24, DD1g, and C10orf54, is encoded by the VS/R therapies. gene in human (Vsir in mouse) and has multiple unique features, including its interaction with two receptors that bind to overlapping but distinct sites on the VISTA extracellular domain (ECD) [2-4]. VISTA is a type I transmembrane protein that was identified by mRNA analysis of activated versus resting mouse natural regulatory T cells (Tregs) [5] and also by homology to coinhibitory molecules such as PD-1 [6]. VISTA bears features of both the B7 and CD28 families of immuno-Medical School, Boston, MA 02115, <sup>1</sup>Program in Immunology, Harva regulatory molecules and can act as both a ligand and a receptor [3,7,8]. The VISTA ECD is most USA homologous to the B7 family, which includes well-known immune checkpoint ligands such as Department of Medical Oncology, Data-Farber Cancer Institute, Harv PD-L1 (Figure 1C). Whereas other B7 family members have an IgV-like and IgC-like domain, Medical School, Boston, MA 02215, mouse and human VISTA contain a single unusually large IgV-like domain (Figure 1A) [2]. VISTA USA



Trends in Immunology, March 2021, Vol. 42, No. 3 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.12.000.12.008 209 0 2021 The Author/pl, Published by Elsevier Lht. This is an open access article under the CC BY NC-ND loanse (http://oner/wcommons.org/loanse.by-rc-nd/4.0).

CellPress cience that inspires



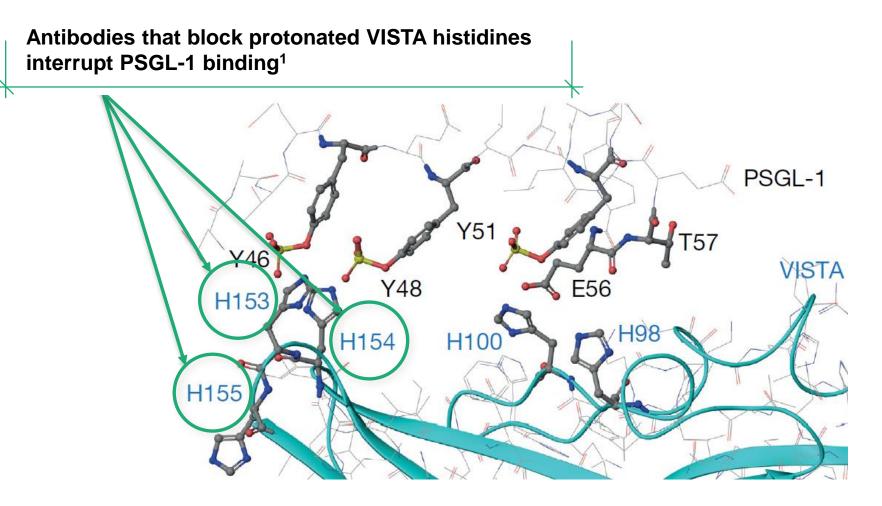
## Key to Unlocking the Power of VISTA

- 1. Block the pH-dependent binding of VISTA to PSGL-1 on T cells at low pH
- 2. Selectively bind VISTA at low pH to avoid:
  - target mediated drug disposition (TMDD)
  - on-target/off-tumor side effects
- Utilize an Fc-competent IgG backbone to engage and activate FcYR on tumor-infiltrating myeloid cells





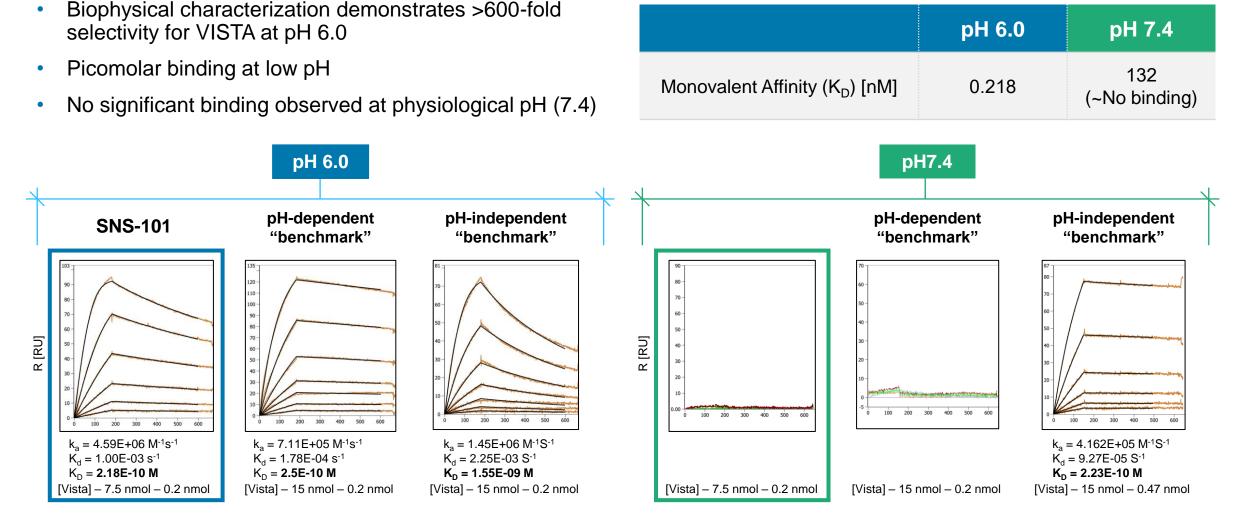
### VISTA Checkpoint is Activated at the Low pH of the Tumor Microenvironment



- VISTA's extracellular domain is uniquely rich in histidines<sup>1</sup>
- Histidines are protonated at low pH enabling VISTA to distinguish the active (acidic pH) and inactive (neutral pH) PSGL-1 binding interface



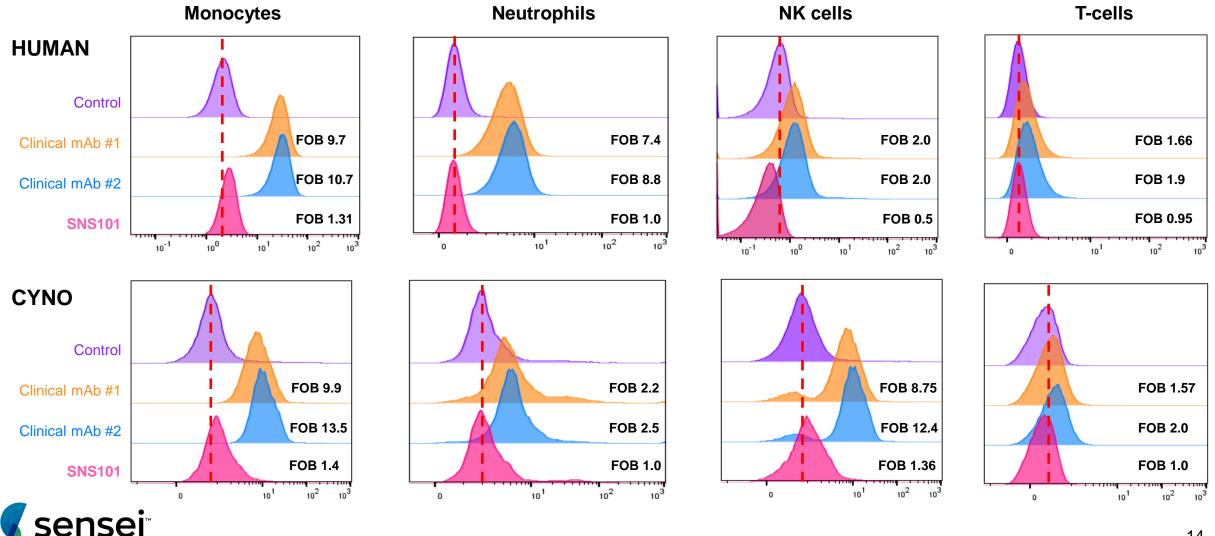
# SNS-101 Has >600-Fold Selectivity for Active VISTA<sup>pH6</sup>





SITC 2021: Poster titled: Antagonistic pH-selective VISTA antibody SNS-101 potentiates anti-PD-1/PD-L1-induced anti-tumor immunity.

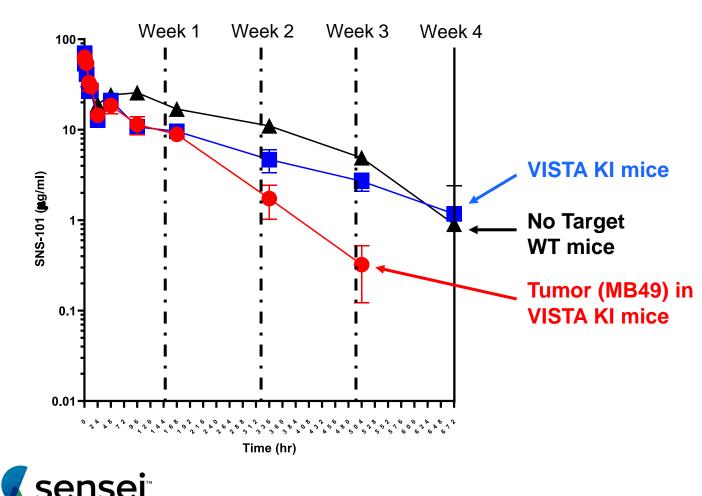
### No Significant Binding of SNS-101 to Monocytes, Neutrophils, NK Cells and T-cells in Whole blood at Physiological pH



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### SNS-101 Displays a Favorable PK Profile No significant TMDD in human VISTA KI mice

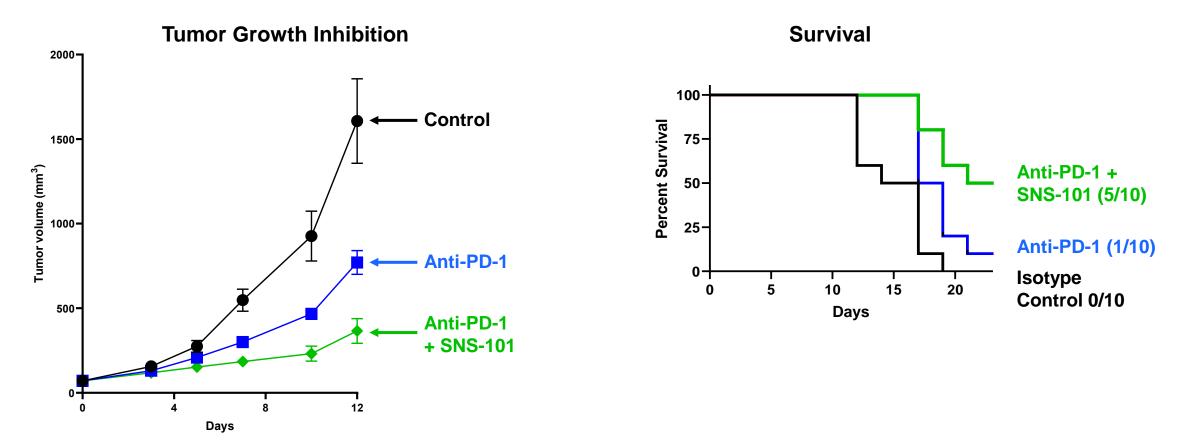
#### Pharmacokinetics of Single Dose 5 mg/kg SNS-101 in VISTA Knock-in Mice



Demonstrated a long mean residence time in the blood, indicating a lack of significant target-mediated drug disposition (TMDD) and clearance in non-malignant tissues

### SNS-101 Demonstrates Activity in a PD-1 Resistant Syngeneic Tumor Model

SNS-101\* in Combination with Anti-mouse PD-1





# **SNS-101 Is a Differentiated Anti-VISTA Antibody**

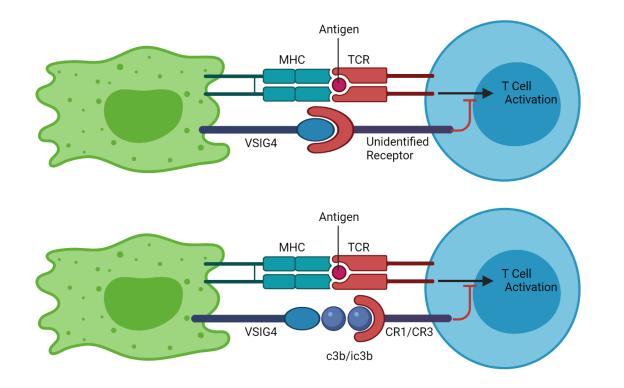
#### **TMAb Platform**

	SNS-101	VISTA.18 (BMS)	KVA12.1 (Kineta)	CI-8993; JNJ-61610588 (J&J/Curis)	K01401-020; W0180 (Pierre Fabre)	HMBD-002 (Hummingbird)
Inhibit PSGL-1 Binding	Yes	Yes	unknown	Yes	unknown	No
pH Sensitive Binding	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Fc Active	Yes (IgG1)	No (IgG4)	Yes (IgG1)	Yes (IgG1)	N/A	No (IgG4)
Stage	Preclinical	Preclinical	Preclinical	Phase I	Phase I	Phase I
Clinical Data / Notes	<ul> <li>Demonstrated activity in preclinical models</li> <li>Demonstrated potential for best-in-class safety profile and PK in mouse model</li> <li>IND-enabling studies underway</li> </ul>	• N/A	• N/A	<ul> <li>JNJ initiated Phase I study in 2016</li> <li>12 pts enrolled; initial dose 0.005 mg/kg</li> <li>Only patient treated at 0.3 mg/kg experienced grade 3 CRS-associated encephalopathy; trial was halted</li> <li>Phase I ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not published</li> </ul>	Not published



Johnston et al, Nature, 2019; Kineta website; Snyder et al, AACR Annual Meeting 2016; Pierre Fabre website; Hummingbird website; Thakkar et al, J of Immunother Cancer, 2022

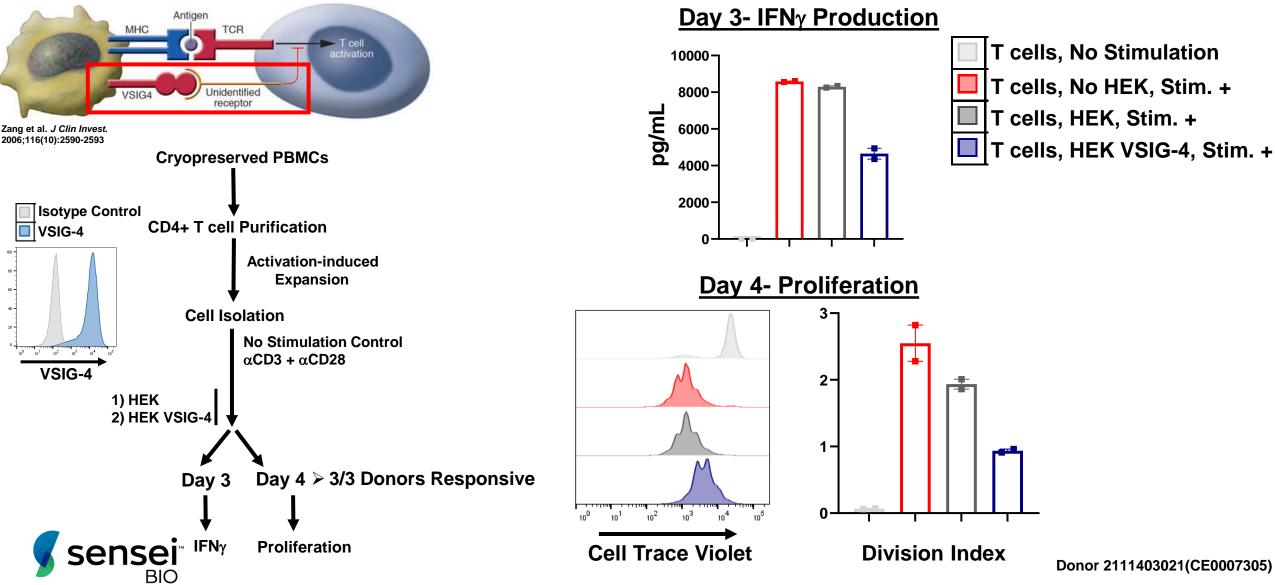
# **VSIG4** Plays a Critical Suppressive Role in T-cell Activation



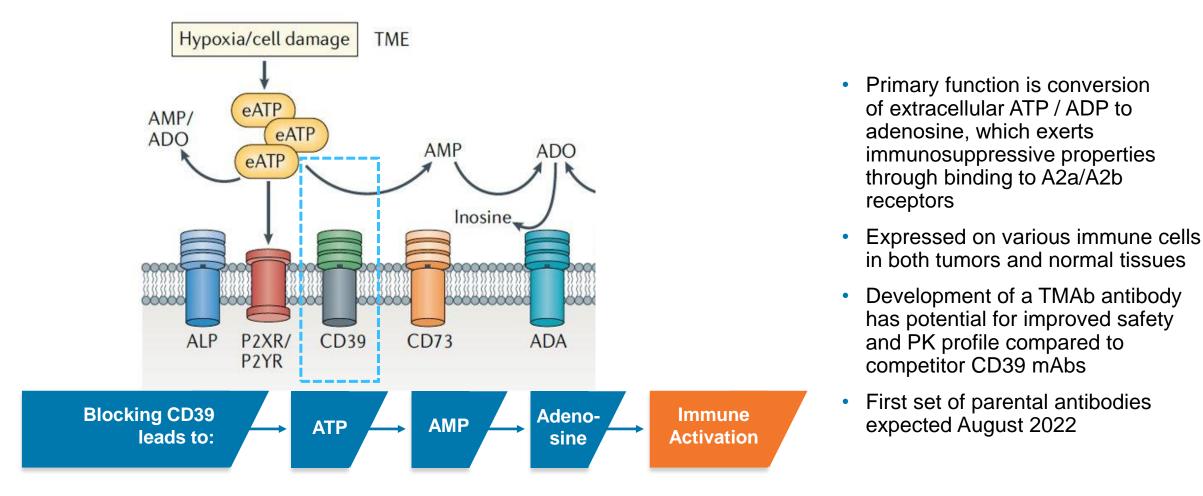
- B7 family related protein
- Expressed primarily on macrophages and inhibits T-cell activation
- As of August 2022, Sensei has:
  - Identified 8 parental antibodies for further optimization; and
  - Identified novel VSIG4 receptors on primary T-cells by Hi-Res proteomics, which are currently in verification stage
- Select product candidate & initiate IND-enabling studies in 2023



### Cell Surface Expressed VSIG-4 Suppresses Primary Human T-cell Activation



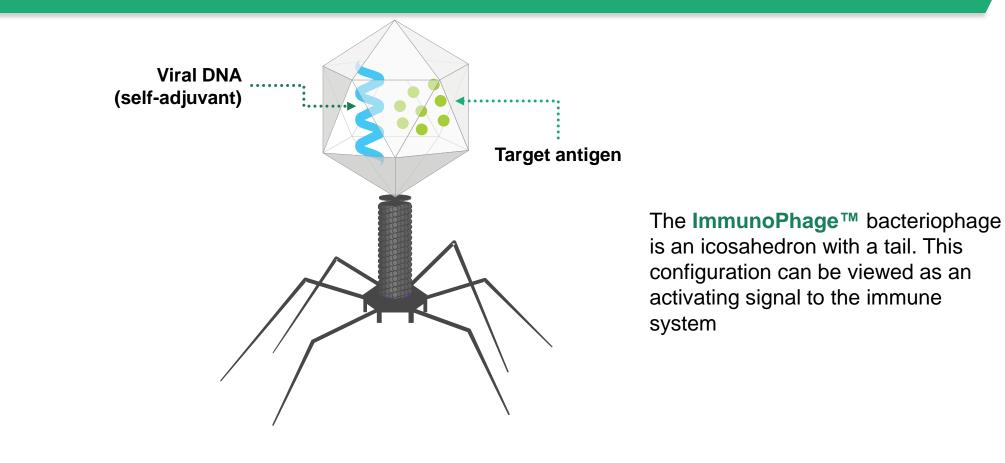
# ENTPDase1 (CD39) is the Rate Limiting Enzyme in the Production of Immunosuppressive Adenosine



## **Designed to Generate Strong Antibody and T-cell Responses**

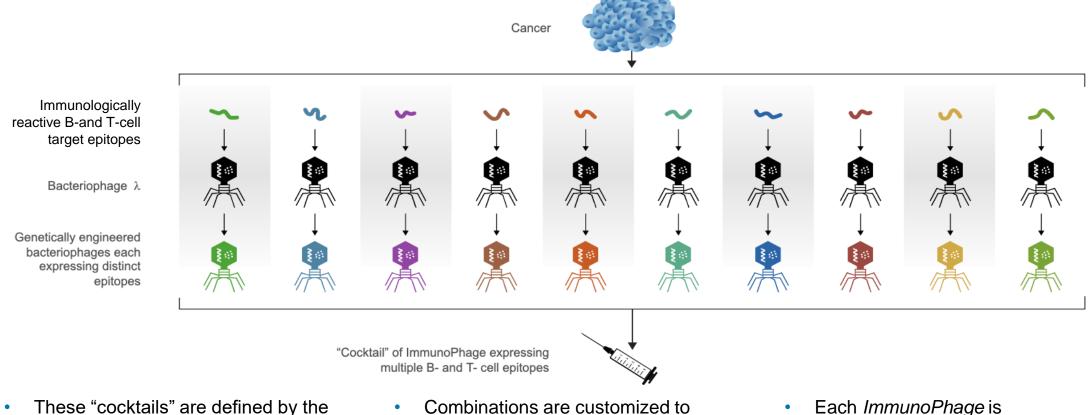
#### **ImmunoPhage™ Platform**

Bacteriophage virus is engineered and manufactured with both antigen and immune stimulatory viral DNA





# Phortress: Proprietary Library of Personalized Vaccine Cocktails with Off-the-Shelf ImmunoPhage "Ingredients"



 These "cocktails" are defined by the disease or patient genetics

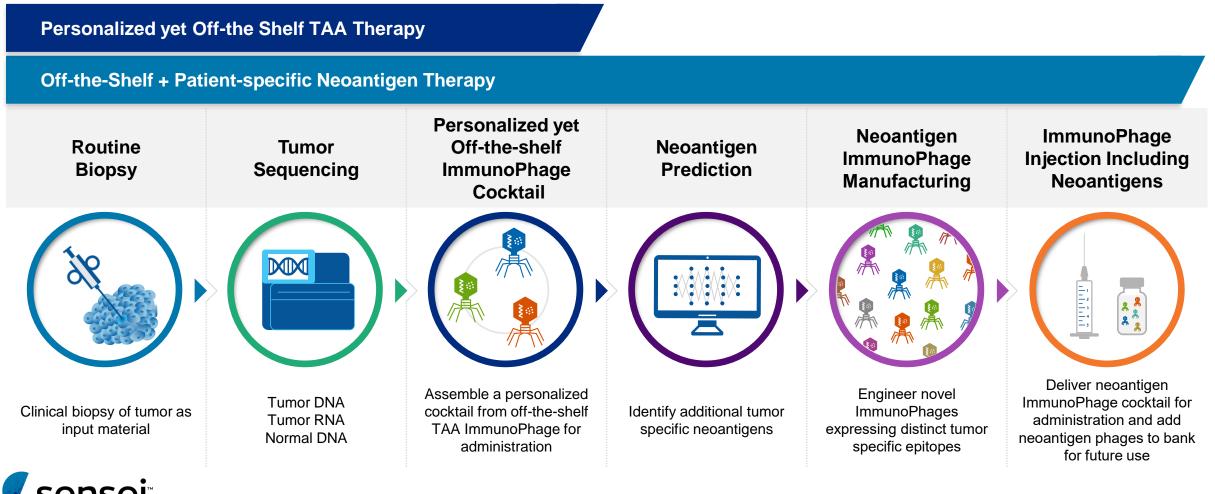
sensei

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 Combinations are customized to cover multiple epitopes, protein domains or targets  Each ImmunoPhage is pre-manufactured to target a discrete antigen

## Personalized Immunotherapy Approach Could Accelerate Speed to Treatment

High speed and low cost-of-goods of ImmunoPhage potentially allows a broader array of antigens



#### **Expected Program Milestones**



#### SNS-101 (anti-VISTA)

- Q3 2022: Non-Human Primate (NHP) PK data
- Q3 2022: Cytokine Release Data
- 1H 2023: IND filing

#### SNS-102 (anti-VSIG4)

• 2023: Select product candidate / initiate IND-enabling studies

#### SNS-103 (anti-ENTPDase1/CD39)

• 2023: Select product candidate



#### **Proven Team With Deep Experience**



John Celebi, MBA President and CEO





**Patrick Gallagher Acting Chief Business** Officer



HansPeter Waldner, Ph.D. SVP, Cancer Immunology



**Robert Pierce, M.D.** Chief R&D Officer

MERCK ROCHESTER FRED HUTCH



**Elisabeth Colunio** VP, Human Resources



Christopher Gerry, J.D. VP, General Counsel



Erin Colgan **Chief Financial Officer** 





Edward van der Horst, Ph.D. SVP, TMAb Antibodies

sensei BIO



HQ: 451 D St, Unit 710, Boston, MA 02210 / MD: 1405 Research Blvd, Suite 125, Rockville, MD 20850

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