



CatalYm Announces Initial Data from Ongoing Phase 2a Trial Evaluating GDF-15-targeting Antibody Visugromab in Combination with Nivolumab at ASCO 2023

- Oral presentation highlights first data from the GDFATHER-2a trial demonstrating lasting and confirmed responses (as per RECIST criteria) following treatment with visugromab and the anti-PD-1 inhibitor nivolumab in, advanced-stage solid tumor patients that were relapsed/refractory to prior anti-PD1/-L1 treatment
- Promising early responses in major cancer indications, including non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), bladder cancer and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).
- Treatment with visugromab and nivolumab continues to demonstrate overall very good safety and tolerability profile
- Evaluation of potentially response-predictive biomarkers continued
- Totality of updated data from Phase 1 and emerging 2a further underscores the potential of neutralizing GDF-15 as a novel treatment strategy in combination with PD-1 inhibition in advanced-stage solid tumor patients

Munich, Germany, June 6, 2023 – [CatalYm](#) today announced first Phase 2a data from its ongoing GDFather-2 trial (**GDF-15 Antibody-mediated Human Effector Cell Relocation Phase 2**) ([NCT04725474](#)) at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting 2023 in Chicago, Illinois. The early data presented during today's oral "Developmental Therapeutics-Immunotherapy" session revealed lasting and confirmed responses in several solid tumor types investigated following treatment with visugromab and the anti-PD-1 inhibitor nivolumab. In addition, the combination continues to demonstrate a good safety and tolerability profile across all cohorts. CatalYm's lead candidate, visugromab, is a humanized, monoclonal antibody designed to neutralize the tumor-produced Growth Differentiation Factor-15 (GDF-15), a central regulator of tumor resistance development.

"These early data from our Phase 2a cohorts corroborate the encouraging anti-tumor-response we have seen in the Phase 1 study and further elucidate the considerable therapeutic potential of visugromab in very advanced and anti-PD1/PD-L1 relapsed/refractory solid tumor patient populations. They also confirm and further refine our scientifically guided indication selection to identify the solid tumor patients that would most benefit from a GDF-15 modulating approach," said **Prof. Dr. Eugen Leo, Chief Medical Officer at CatalYm**.

The presentation at ASCO by International Coordinating Investigator Prof. Dr. Ignacio Melero Bermejo, MD, Co-Director of Immunology and Immunotherapy (CIMA) at the Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona/Spain, builds on the further [matured Phase 1 trial data](#) announced in September 2022 which showed a significant clinical benefit in last line tumor patients that were anti-PD1/-L1 relapsed or refractory with an overall response rate of 17% in an advanced-stage mixed tumor population (RECIST, all responses confirmed). The Phase



2a study cohorts were selected based on a translational research program and include several major solid tumor types identified in Catalym's translation research program as potentially being GDF-15 influenced.

The emerging phase 2a efficacy data further extend the initial encouraging data from Phase 1 with durable, confirmed responses as per RECIST criteria in several major tumor indications. Furthermore, investigation of potentially response-predictive biomarkers identified during phase 1 dose-escalation are ongoing through tumor biopsy analyses. The cumulative safety and tolerability profile for the Phase 1/2a study confirmed, so far, a well-acceptable safety profile when treating advanced-stage cancer patients, an important aspect for combination therapy in this critically ill patient population and earlier treatment lines.

Dr. Phil L'Huillier, Chief Executive Officer at Catalym added: "The data revealed in today's presentation illustrate the strides we have made in developing a completely novel treatment option by neutralizing GDF-15 in a variety of indications. We will continue in our broad multi-arm Phase 2 development program (GDFATHER-2) in 2023 and anticipate sharing more data and an update on our late-stage clinical development strategy later this year. I am grateful for the study patients and dedicated clinicians who have been a part of our clinical development program to this stage."

The Phase 2a GDFATHER-2 program was initiated [in March 2022](#). The ongoing study consists of two segments with up to seven cohorts, expected to enroll a total of over 200 patients in Simon-2-stage designs and in a biomarker-evaluation directed cohort.

Mature data readouts for efficacy and safety data of the core phase 2a program as well as main biomarker-correlations are expected to become available before the end of 2023.

About the GDFATHER-2 Trials

The GDFATHER-2a trial (**GDF-15 Antibody-mediated Human Effector Cell Relocation Phase 2**) ([NCT04725474](#)) is an ongoing Phase 2a trial with several cohorts investigating the effect of visugromab (CTL-002) as monotherapy and/or in combination with a PD-1 checkpoint inhibitor in patients in various advanced-stage, relapse/refractory solid tumor types and a biomarker-selected cohort. The study can enroll > 200 patients in Simon-2-stage designs and a biomarker-evaluation directed cohort to confirm certain response rates and potential biomarker-based responder patient selection.

About Visugromab (CTL-002)

Visugromab is a humanized monoclonal antibody that neutralizes the tumor-derived Growth Differentiation Factor-15 (GDF-15). GDF-15 is an essential player in fetomaternal tolerance, a powerful mechanism that cancer cells hijack to create an immunosuppressive environment to evade destruction. By neutralizing GDF-15, visugromab reverses the immunosuppressive effects that block an efficient anti-tumor immune response in the tumor microenvironment and the draining lymph nodes. Visugromab drives an activated and differentiated immune cell infiltration into the solid tumor as well as enables priming



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of T cells and enhances the tumor killing effects of T cells and NK cells. GDF-15 is currently investigated in an ongoing Phase 2 program that includes confirmatory studies in multiple solid tumor indications and the analysis of a predictive response biomarker to better identify the patients benefiting from this new class of immunotherapy.

About CatalYm

CatalYm is pioneering a novel immuno-oncology therapy that safely overcomes GDF-15-mediated immunosuppression in the tumor microenvironment. Our lead product, visugromab, a first-in-class GDF-15 neutralizing antibody, has demonstrated potent and durable anti-tumor efficacy with multiple, long-lasting objective responses in combination with anti-PD-1 treatment in phase 1/2 studies in advanced cancer patients. CatalYm is focused on maximizing visugromab's potential as a new class of cancer immunotherapy with a clinically distinct profile in a range of solid tumor indications.

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