

Platform for Generating Fully Human anti-SARS-CoV-2 Spike Therapeutic Monoclonal Antibodies

Collaboration with Columbia University



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## Immuno-compromised People are at Increased Risk of Severe COVID-19 and Poor Outcomes<sup>1</sup>

In a multicenter study of solid organ transplant recipients with COVID-19<sup>1</sup>

**78%** 

Required hospitalization

34%

Required intensive care

27%

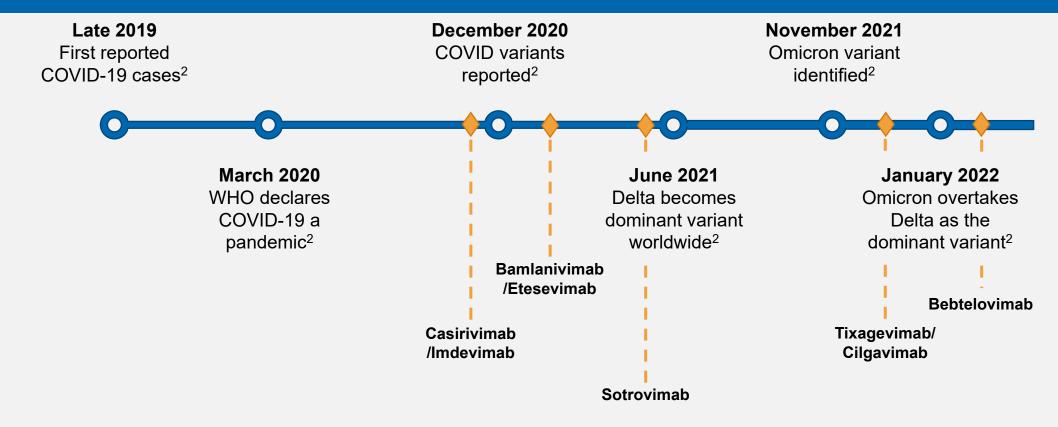
Required mechanical ventilation

Therapeutic and prophylactic anti-SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) have been useful in protecting the immunocompromised population



## Timeline of COVID-19 and the Availability of Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Therapeutics and Prophylactics

US regulators have relied on emergency use authorizations (EUAs) to accelerate the availability of mAbs for COVID-19<sup>1</sup>





## However, the Available anti-SARS-CoV-2 Monoclonal Antibodies are Losing Their Activity as SARS-CoV-2 Mutates and Evasive Variants Arise

The efficacy of any mAb treatment varies as the dominant circulating variant changes<sup>1,2</sup>

## Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs)– two with active US Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) endorsed by NIH Guidelines Panel<sup>1</sup>

- AbCellera/NIAID-VRC/Eli Lilly bebtelovimab EUA for treatment of mild or moderate COVID<sup>3</sup>
  - Nov 4 FDA warns of reduced effect on omicron subvariants BQ.1 and BQ.1.1<sup>4</sup>
- AstraZeneca/Vanderbilt Evusheld® (Tixagevimab/cilgavimab) EUA for long term prophylaxis

### Concerns about efficacy of mAbs against new variants

- Regeneron/Genentech REGEN-COV® Casirivimab/imdevimab
  - EUA revised Jan '22 to susceptible variants unlikely to be effective against omicron¹
- Eli Lilly/AbCellera/NIAID/Junshi-China Academy of Sciences Bamlanivimab/etesevimab<sup>1</sup>
  - EUA revised Jan '22 to susceptible variants unlikely to be effective against omicron¹
- Vir/GSK XEVURDY® (sotrovimab)¹ active against omicron, but NIH COVID Guidelines panel recommends against use because less activity against omicron BA.2, BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants¹

Most therapeutic and prophylactic mAbs have originated from COVID-convalescent patient blood<sup>5,6</sup>

https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/anti-sars-cov-2-antibody-products/anti-sars-cov-2-monoclonal-antibodies/

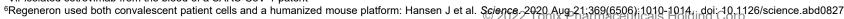
<sup>2</sup>Wu, K.J. October 29, 2022. The Atlantic. "The End of Evusheld: If you're immunocompromised, this ... isn't great. www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2022/10/covid-variants-antibody-treatments-immunocompromised/671929/

<sup>3</sup>Indicated for individuals with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who are at high risk for progression to severe disease

<sup>4</sup>"FDA Updates on Bebtelovimab" – "This information shows that bebtelovimab is not expected to neutralize Omicron subvariants BQ.1 and BQ.1.1."

- www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-bebtelovimab- Accessed Nov 4, 2022

<sup>5</sup>Vir isolated sotrovimab from the blood of a SARS-CoV-1 patent





### **Need for a Strategy to Frequently Update Monoclonal Antibodies**

### Current and prior mAb therapeutics were developed in collaborations



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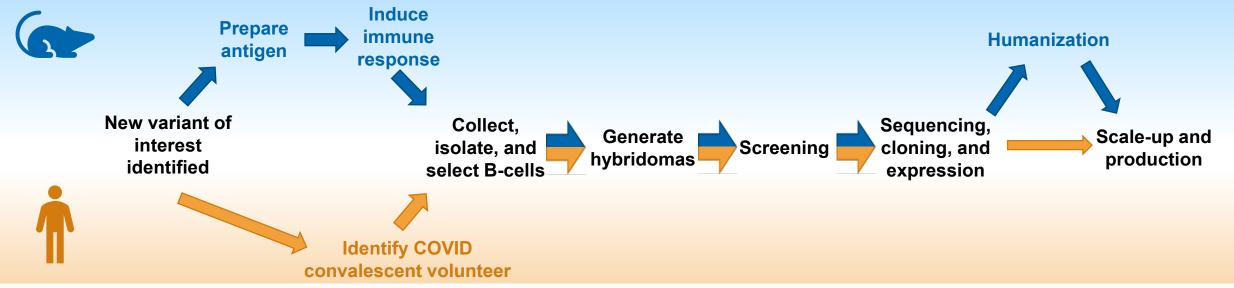
A platform to quickly develop and test novel SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing mAbs may represent a significant advancement in the ability to update the pool of mAb treatments available to protect the immunocompromised population



## Comparing Development Platforms for Novel anti-SARS-CoV-2 Monoclonal Antibodies

Most therapeutic and prophylactic mAbs have originated from COVID-convalescent patient blood<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Mouse hybridoma approach<sup>3</sup>



TNX-3600<sup>4</sup> Human COVID-19 convalescent patient approach

Generating fully human mAbs starting from recovered patient blood samples has the potential to reduce the time required to create novel therapeutics in response to newly identified COVID-19 variants, relative to generating murine mAbs followed by humanization

<sup>1</sup>Vir isolated sotrovimab from the blood of a SARS-CoV-1 patent



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Regeneron used both convalescent patient cells and a humanized mouse platform: Hansen J et al. Science. 2020 Aug 21;369(6506):1010-1014. doi: 10.1126/science.abd0827

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Lu R-M, Hwang Y-C, Liu IJ, et al. Development of therapeutic antibodies for the treatment of diseases. *J Biomed Sci.* 2020;27(1):1. doi:10.1186/s12929-019-0592-z

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>TNX-3600 is the designation for a series of monoclonal antibodies; each is in the pre-IND stage of development and has not been approved for any indication.

# Fully Human anti-SARS-CoV-2 Monoclonal Antibody Platform TNX-3600<sup>1</sup>: COVID-19 Therapeutic and Preventive Agents

Given the unpredictable trajectory of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and new variants<sup>2</sup>, we seek to contribute to a broad set of monoclonal antibodies from a variety of SARS-CoV-2<sup>+</sup> volunteers and convalescent patients, that can be scaled up quickly and potentially combined with other monoclonal antibodies

### **Collaboration with Columbia University**

Fully human mAbs generated from SARS-CoV-2<sup>+</sup> asymptomatic individuals or COVID-19 convalescent patients<sup>3</sup>

### Potential monotherapies or preventives

 Plan to seek indication similar to current EUA therapeutic mAbs for treating individuals with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who are at high risk for progression to severe disease

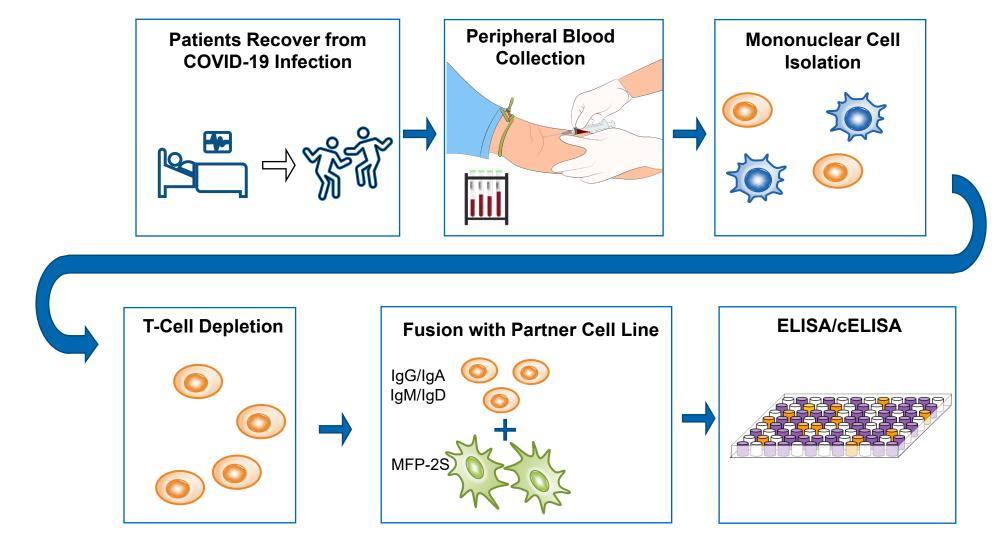
### Potential combination therapy with other mAbs as therapeutics or prophylactics

 Combination therapies for other anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies are believed to have reduced the emergence of drug resistant viral strains<sup>4</sup>



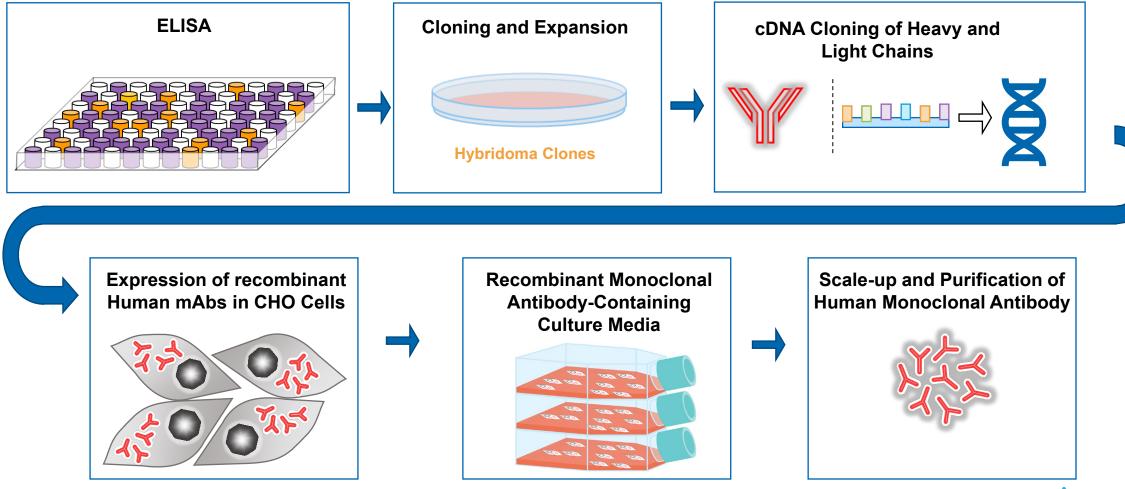
<sup>\*</sup>TNX-3600 is the designation for a series of monoclonal antibodies; each is in the pre-IND stage of development and has not been approved for any indication <sup>1</sup>Waltz, E. Nature. "Does the World Need an Omicron Vaccine?" 28 Jan 2022 <a href="https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00199-z">https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00199-z</a> <sup>3</sup>Volunteers participated in an IRB-approved research protocol

### **Generation of Fully Human Monoclonal Antibodies (1 of 3)**

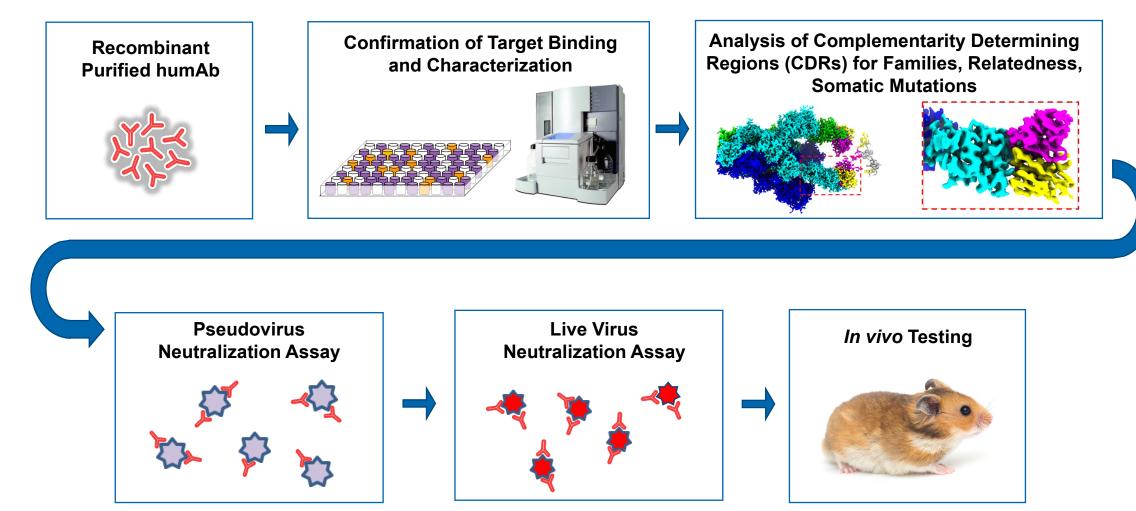




### **Generation of Fully Human Monoclonal Antibodies (2 of 3)**



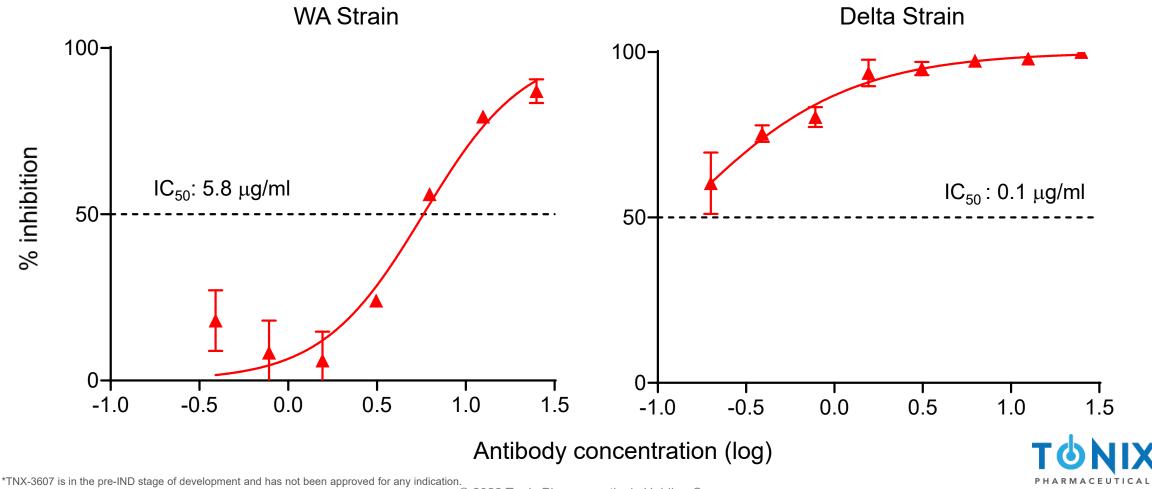
### **Generation of Fully Human Monoclonal Antibodies (3 of 3)**





### Live virus in vitro Neutralization Assay: TNX-3607\*

Example of a fully human mAb with potent neutralizing activity against parental Wuhan (WA) virus and Delta variant



## Therapeutic Monoclonal Antibody Development for COVID-19 has been Focused on a "Whack-a-Mole" 1x1 Monoclonal Antibody v. Variant Battle

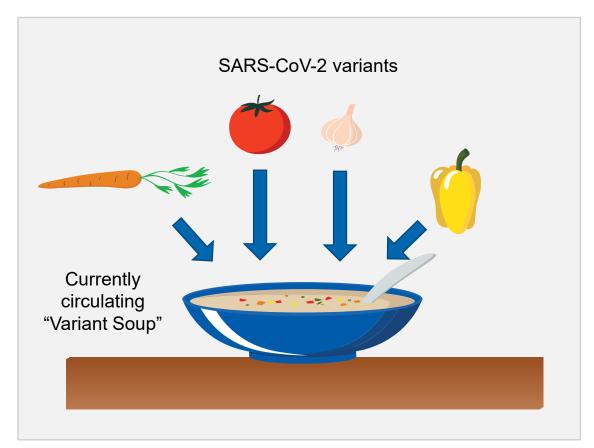


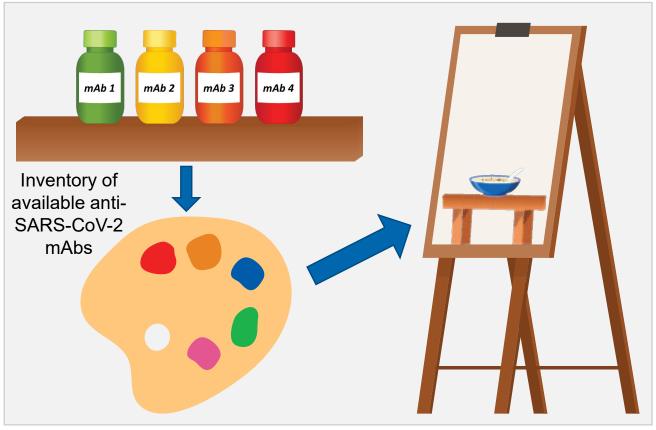
- As new variants emerge, mAbs that were highly effective against older variants may quickly lose their place in the treatment landscape<sup>1</sup>
  - Antibodies receiving Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) may only have a lifespan of 1-2 years before shifts in the dominant circulating variant reduce their clinical utility<sup>2</sup>





## As the Circulating Mix of SARS-CoV-2 Variants Changes, it Seems Prudent to Assemble a Diverse Inventory of Monoclonal Antibodies to Match It





## The Platform is Designed to Develop and Maintain a Diverse Inventory of Monoclonal Antibodies to Keep Up with SARS-CoV-2 "Variant Soup" 1

Inventory of available anti-SARS-CoV-2 mAbs



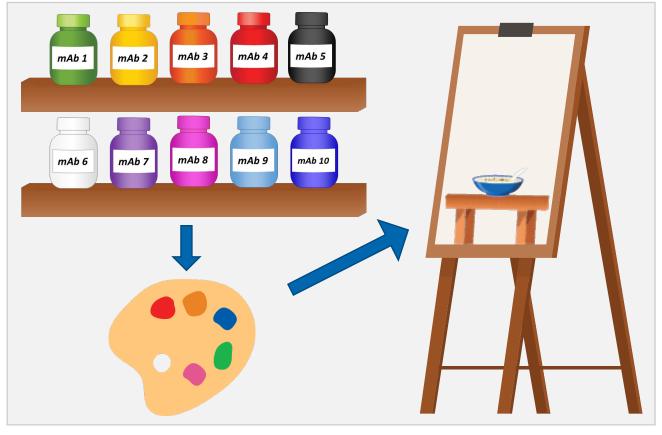
<sup>1</sup>Callaway, E. Oct 28 2022. *Nature* (News). COVID 'variant soup' is making winter surges hard to predict Descendants of Omicron are proliferating worldwide — and the same mutations are coming up again and again. www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-03445-6

## As the Circulating Mix of SARS-CoV-2 Variants Changes, it Seems Prudent to Assemble a Diverse Inventory of Monoclonal Antibodies to Match It

#### **Current Situation**

### Inventory of available antimAb 3 SARS-CoV-2 mAb 1 mAb 2 mAb 4 mAbs New variants Currently circulating "Variant Soup"

#### **Desired Inventory**





### Future of COVID-19 mAb Therapeutics and Prophylactics

- Immune-evading SARS-CoV-2 variants are arising by divergent and convergent evolutionary processes<sup>1</sup>
  - Potentially speeded by recombination between variants
- To protect immuno-compromised individuals from a changing "soup" of SARS-CoV-2 variants, we need an extensive palate of mAbs
  - Rapid evasion confounds the durability of individual mAb therapeutic products
  - Both new products are needed and potentially new combinations of new with existing mAbs
- For live-saving, but short-lived products, we expect FDA to regulate with commensurate speed
  - With respect to EUA product Bebtelovimab, the NIH Guidelines group wrote, "...there are no clinical efficacy data on the treatment of patients who are at high risk of progressing to severe COVID-19"
  - For "updated" mRNA booster vaccines encoding omicron spike antigen, FDA approvals were granted without human efficacy data consistent with a "cartridge" approach



## **Investigators and Collaborators**

#### Tonix

- Seth Lederman
- Bruce Daugherty
- Herb Harris
- Candace Flint

#### Columbia

- Ilya Trakht
- Gavreel Kalantarov
- Sergei Rudchenko
- Milan Stojanovic

#### Texas BioMed

- Viraj Kulkarni
- Marco Argonza

### Chicago BioSolutions

Lijun Rong

#### Curia

Brian Zabel





### **Internal Development & Manufacturing Capabilities**

#### Infectious Disease R&D Center (RDC) - Frederick, MD

- Function: Accelerated development of vaccines and antiviral drugs against COVID-19, its variants and other infectious diseases
- **Description:** ~48,000 square feet, BSL-2 with some areas designated BSL-3
- Status: Operational



- Function: Development and clinical scale manufacturing of biologics
- **Description:** ~45,000 square feet, BSL-2
- Status: Operational

#### Commercial Manufacturing Center (CMC) – Hamilton, MT

- Function: Phase 3 and Commercial scale manufacturing of biologics
- Description: ~44-acre green field site, planned BSL-2
- Status: Planning for site enabling work in 2022







Architectural Rendering



