



**WPD**   
Pharmaceuticals

Investors presentation 5/2023



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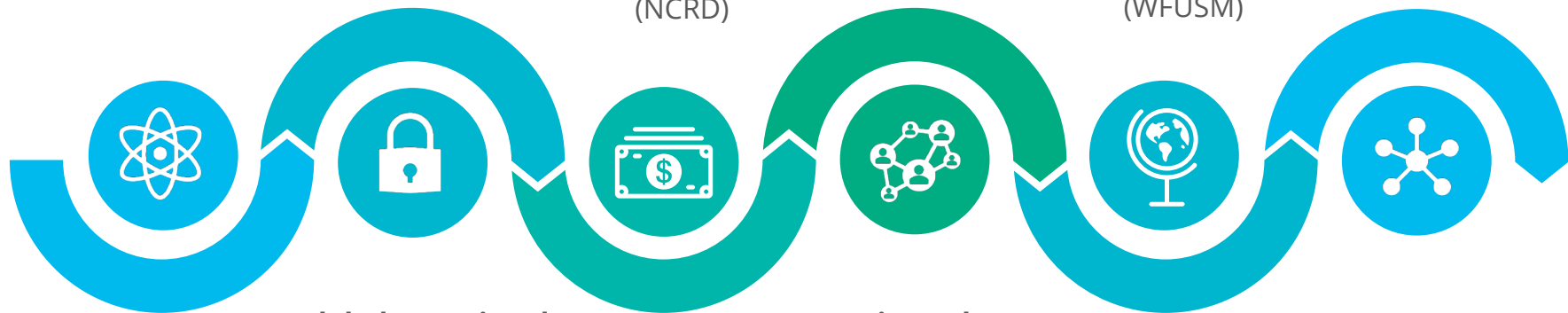
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# About Us

**Innovative projects**  
in important therapeutic  
areas - oncology

grants **from National  
Centre for Research  
and Development**  
(NCRD)

**Cooperation with**  
Wake Forest University  
School of Medicine  
(WFUSM)



**Global or regional**  
market exclusivity

**Experienced team**  
of 20 experts from  
Poland and US

**4 active projects,**  
one in Ph II clinical study

# Experienced Team



**Mariusz Olejniczak**  
CEO & CO-FOUNDER

Experienced professional in clinical development - from planning and scientific advice through supervision to the closure and finalization of the project. Founder of several startups and member of the board and supervisory board of R&D companies.



**Marek Sipowicz, PhD**  
CMO

20 years of experience in clinical research in oncology (haematology and solid tumours), neuropsychiatry, diabetes and cardiovascular fields. 20 years in Director level roles at Servier. During his time at Servier, Marek served as Director, Clinical Operations (Oncology) in France, and Director, Clinical Research in Australia.



**Beata Pająk, D.Sc, PhD**  
CSO

Habilitation and PhD in biotechnology with experience in the field of medical biology, including oncology and virology. Expert in the field of signal pathways, mechanisms of programmed cell death, chemo- and immunoresistance of cancer cells. Author and co-author of scientific publications and conference reports.

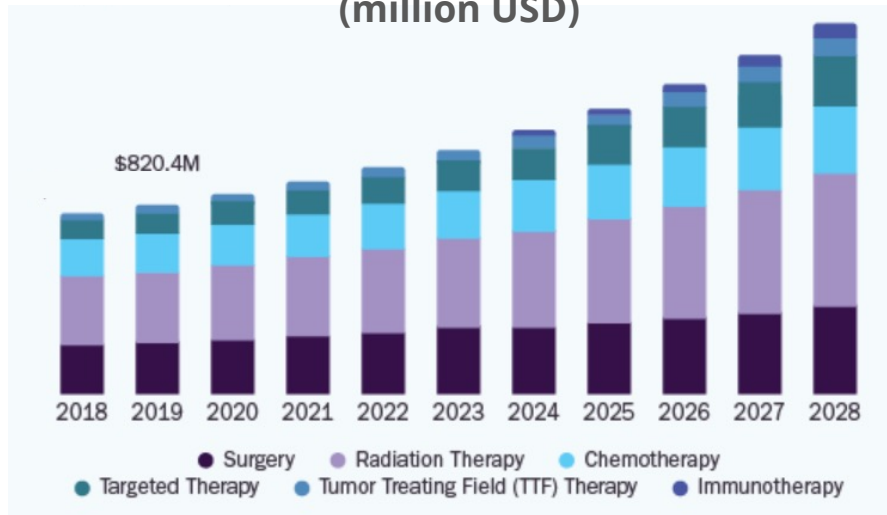


**Agnielika Kaczynska, PhD PM**

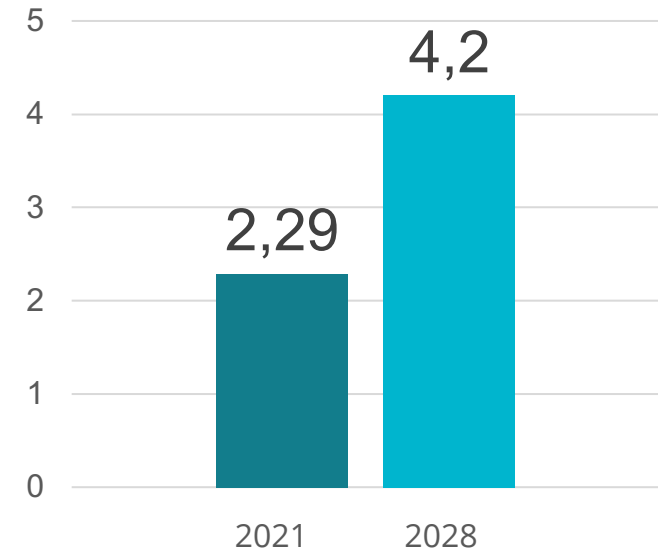
Highly qualified biotechnologist and molecular biologist experienced in cancer cells biology. Participant of numerous workshops in the fields of molecular and cellular biology. Author and co-author of publications, conference papers, patent applications, and innovations. Laureate of awards: InnoDoktorant, Educators for the elite, Jerzy Masłowski Prize, UNESCO/Russian Federation co-sponsored Fellowship.

# Glioblastoma market

US GBM treatment market  
(million USD)



Global GBM treatment market  
(billion USD)



Almost 100% GBM will recur locally within 2 years after surgical and radiation therapy (60 Gy/30 fractions) with concomitant and adjuvant temozolomide

# Epidemiology – glioblastoma



Glioblastoma is the most aggressive malignant primary brain tumor. Incidence rate - **3.19 per 100,000 persons** in the United States



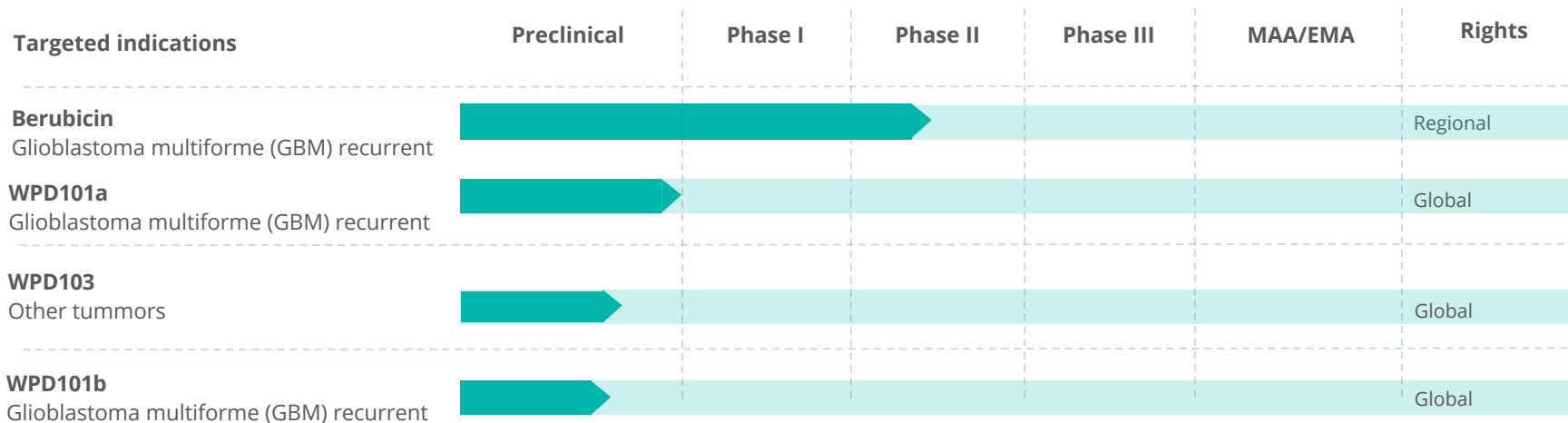
**15 months** - average patient survival rate after glioblastoma diagnosis if cancer is treated

**3-4 months** – average patient survival rate after diagnosis - no treatment



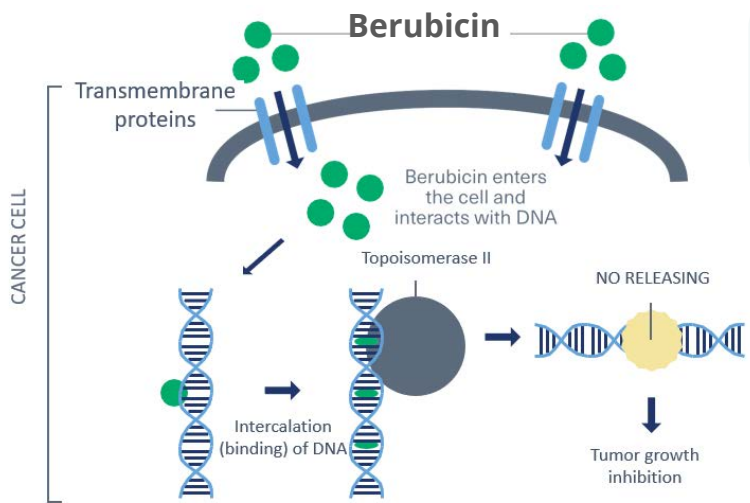
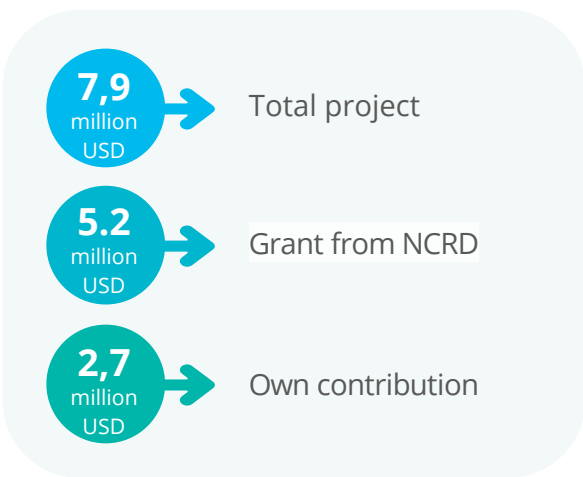
In almost **100% of cases**, recurrence of the disease occurs after about **10 months** after treatment. The patient lives an average of **9 months** after a recurrence.

# Portfolio of drug candidates



# Berubicin (*brain cancer*)

**Berubicin** is a potential new drug that is one of the anthracyclines proven to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB) and able to reach brain tumors. This discovery can potentially extend the clinical use of anthracyclines to brain tumors, specifically GBM.

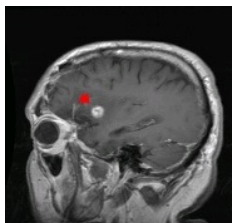


420 million - total population  
- license for 31 European  
and Asian markets



# Berubicin Clinical Development

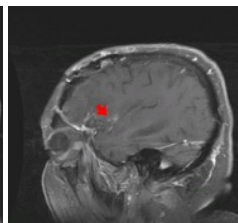
**Screening**  
(Day 2)



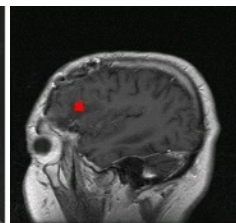
**After 2 Cycles**  
(Day 44)



**After 6 Cycles**  
(Day 170)



**After 7 Cycles**  
(Day 191)



Berubicin had one complete response to treatment during Phase I clinical trials. A “complete response” means no signs of cancer are visible on MRI.

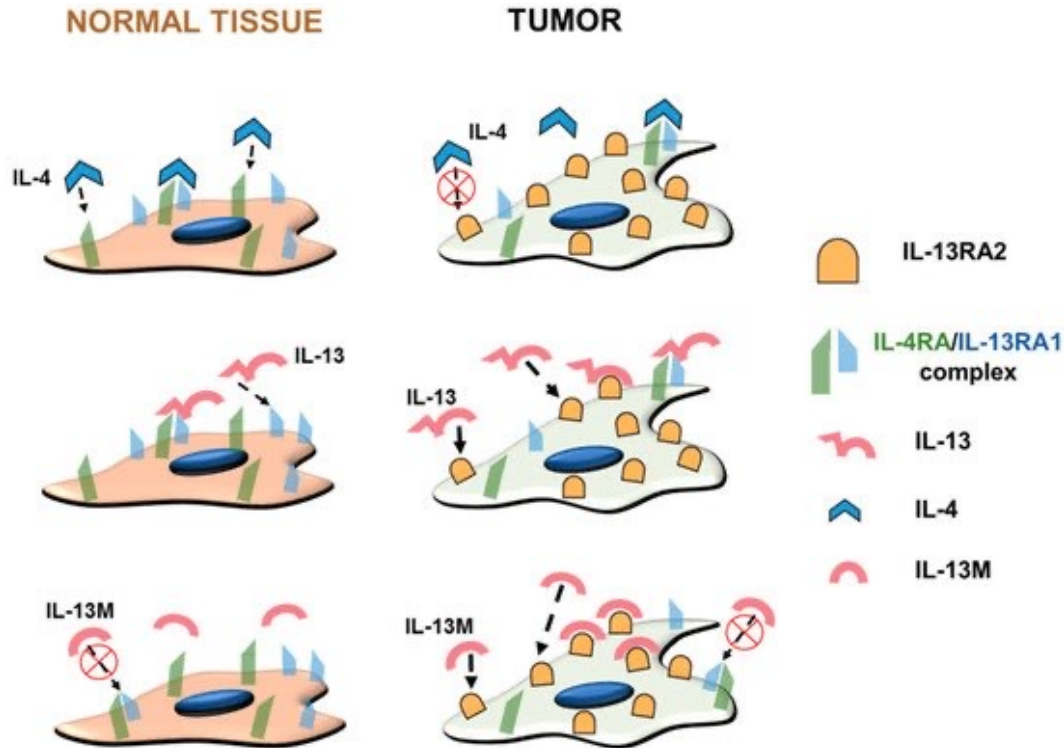
**Berubicin’s Phase I clinical trial**, the first time it was tested in humans, yielded very promising results with 44% of the patients showing a clinical response. In addition, Berubicin has shown evidence of improved overall survival in a patient population that currently has a dismal median survival rate of only 14.6 months from diagnosis.

# Cooperation with WFUSM

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The solution's breakthrough is based on GBM-targeted therapy against IL-13RA2 and EphA2 – (brain tumor-specific receptors) conjugated with bacterial cytotoxins or other agents. It is well known that interleukin-13 receptor alpha 2 (IL-13RA2) is a glioblastoma receptor that is abundantly overexpressed in GBMs but absent in normal brain tissue. It is estimated that IL-13RA2 overexpression is reported in >50% of GBM cases. Similarly, EphA2 is a cancer-specific receptor recognized by ephrin A1 cytokine. Its overexpression is also a hallmark of GBM cells. Thus, EphA2 receptors are proposed targets (Wykosky et al., 2005, 2007; Ferluga et al., 2016). Its overexpression is confirmed in the majority of GBM specimens. It is assumed that over 90% of GBM overexpressed at least one of the receptors (Wykosky et al., 2008). Other tumors also express IL-13A2 and EphA2 receptors.

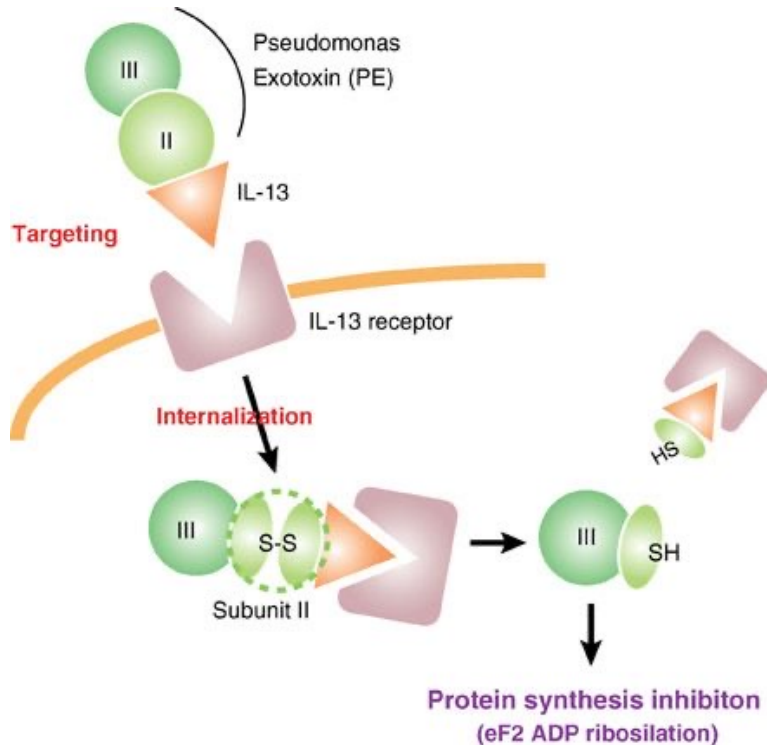
# Mechanism of action



**Figure 1.** A schematic of the IL-13 receptor system. Normal and tumor cells express IL-4RA/IL-13RA1. IL-4 first binds to IL-4RA, then to the IL-13RA1 in normal cells. On the other hand, IL-13RA2 is expressed by tumor cells. IL-4 binds to IL-4RA/IL-13RA1 but not IL-13RA2. IL-13 binds more readily to IL-13RA2 compared to IL-4/IL-13RA1. By introducing mutations in the IL-13 ligand – IL-13M, the ligands bind primarily to the IL-13RA2.

Source: <https://www.mdpi.com/1422-0067/19/11/3326>.

# Mechanism of action



**Figure 2.** A schematic of the IL-13-based immunotoxins action. IL-13 conjugated to bacteria toxin specifically recognizes and binds to its IL-13RA2 receptor. Receptor-ligand complex is internalized and transported within the cell. Further, bacteria toxin is released and inhibits protein synthesis, leading to intrinsic cell death induction.

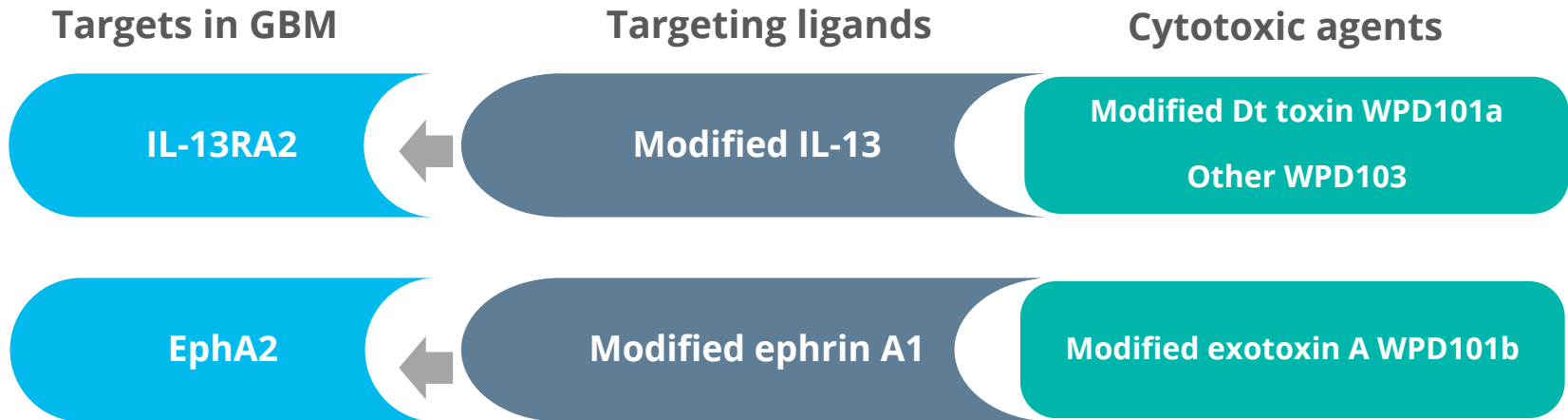
Source: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-4748-1\\_1476](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-4748-1_1476)

# Development strategy

Immunotoxins are fusion proteins comprised of a toxic moiety and a targeting moiety. That allows the concentration of the fusion protein at the plasma membrane of specific cell types.

WPD101 is a unique drug cocktail composed of two immunotoxins targeting IL-13RA2 (WPD101a) and EphA2 (WPD101b) receptors simultaneously. This strategy guarantees specific drug administration to the majority of GBM cells.

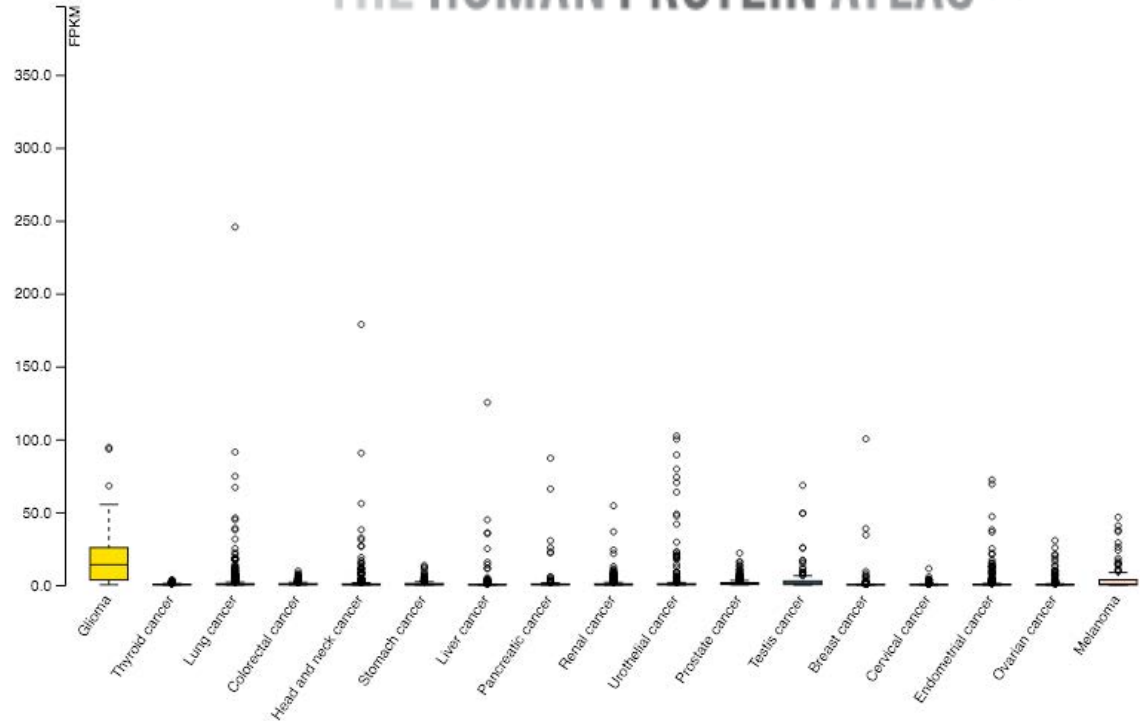
Furthermore, to increase tissue distribution, minimize possible side effects, and overcome BBB difficulties, Convection-Enhanced Delivery (CED) of WPD101 directly to the brain tumor will be applied (Debinski and Tatter, 2009).



# IL-13RA2 expression in tumor tissues

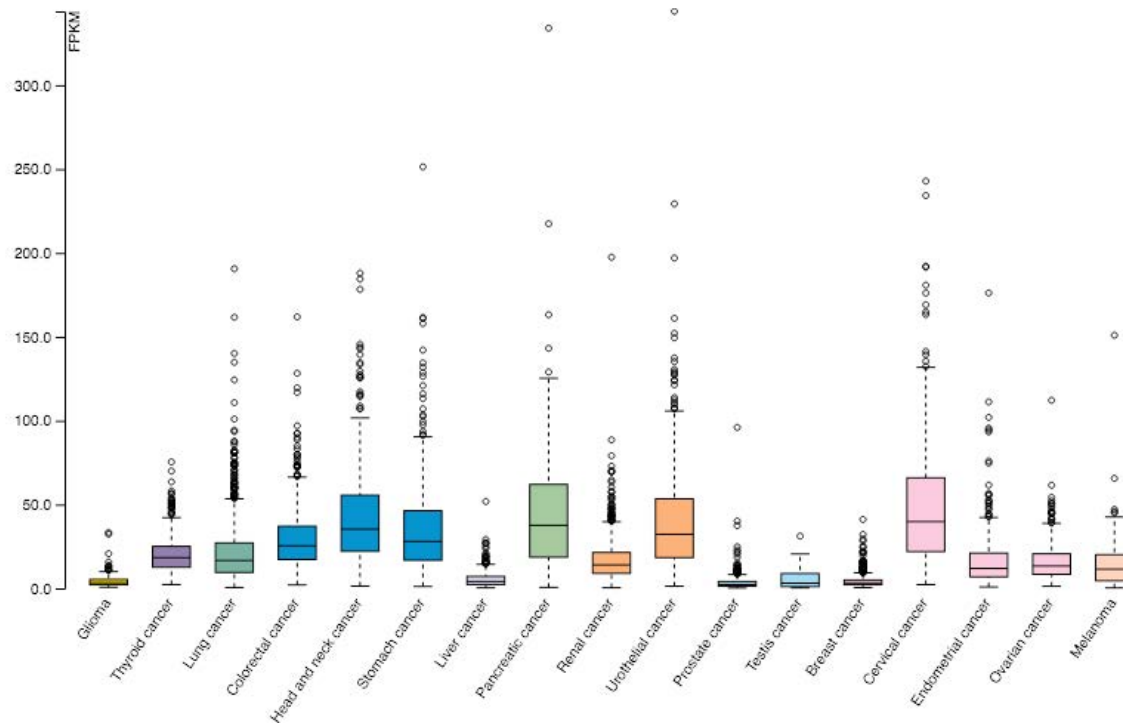
THE HUMAN PROTEIN ATLAS

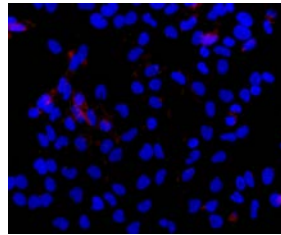
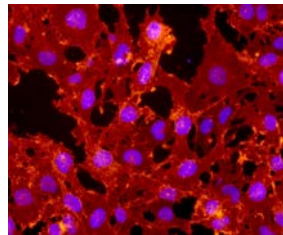
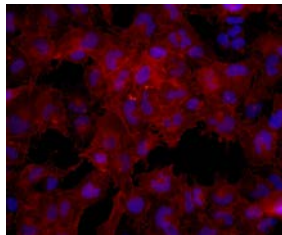
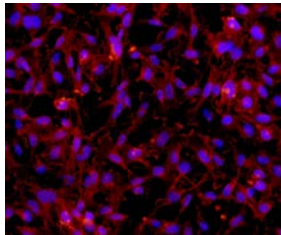
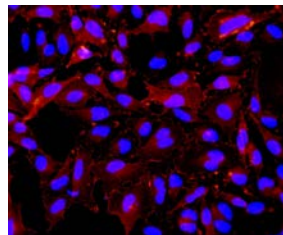
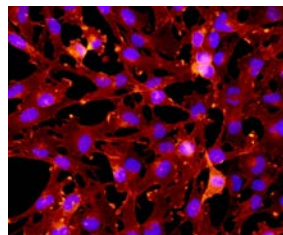
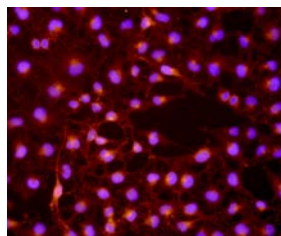
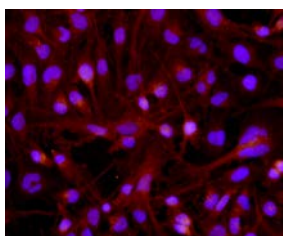
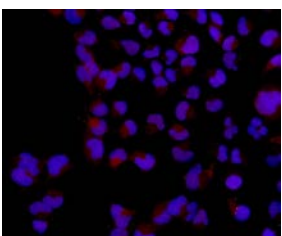
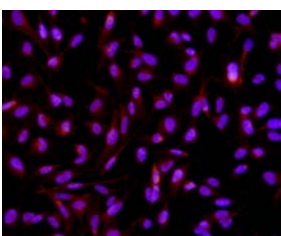
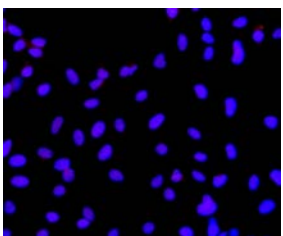
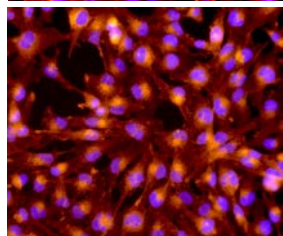
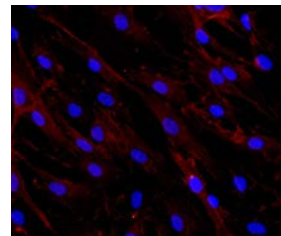
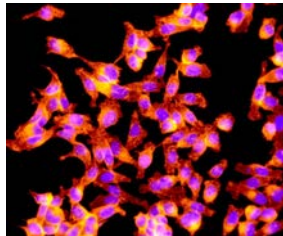
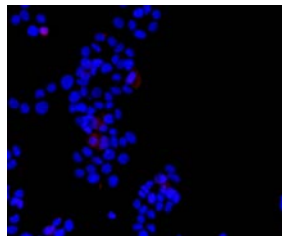
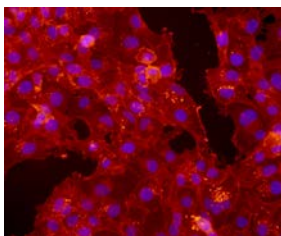
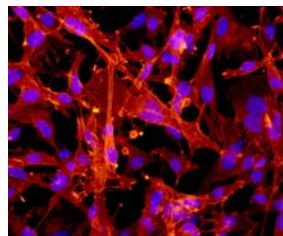
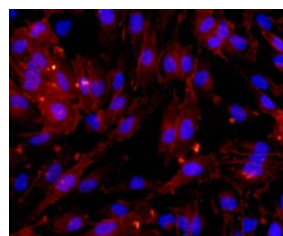
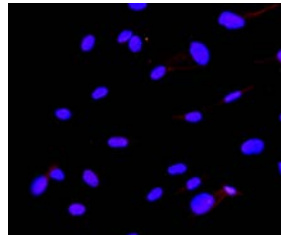
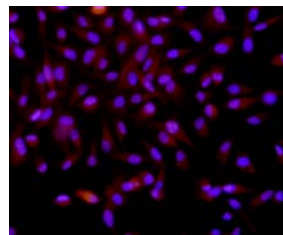
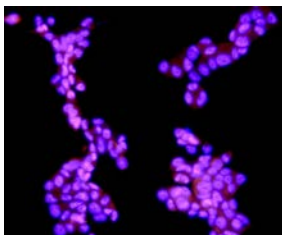
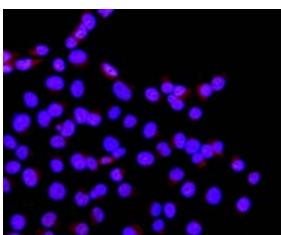
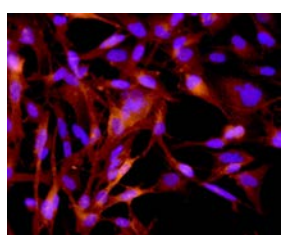
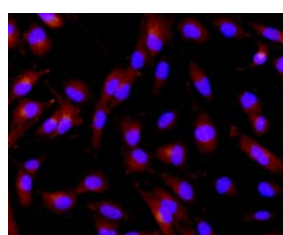
An elevated level of IL-13RA2 has been reported in various cancer types. However, only in glioma its overexpression is statistically significant.



# EphA2 expression in tumor tissues

An elevated level of EphA2 has been reported in various cancer types.



**U-251****LN-229****SNB-19****T98G****U-373****H4****EphA2****IL-13RA2****BTCOE 4536****BTCOE 4795****MDA-MB-231****T47D****PC-3****fibroblasts****EphA2****IL-13RA2**



# The Phase I clinical trial in dogs with spontaneous malignant gliomas

JOURNAL ARTICLE

## Phase I trial of convection-enhanced delivery of IL13RA2 and EPHA2 receptor targeted cytotoxins in dogs with spontaneous intracranial gliomas

John H Rossmeisl , Denise Herpai, Mindy Quigley, Thomas E Cecere, John L Robertson, Ralph B D'Agostino, Jonathan Hinckley, Stephen B Tatter, Peter J Dickinson, Waldemar Debinski 

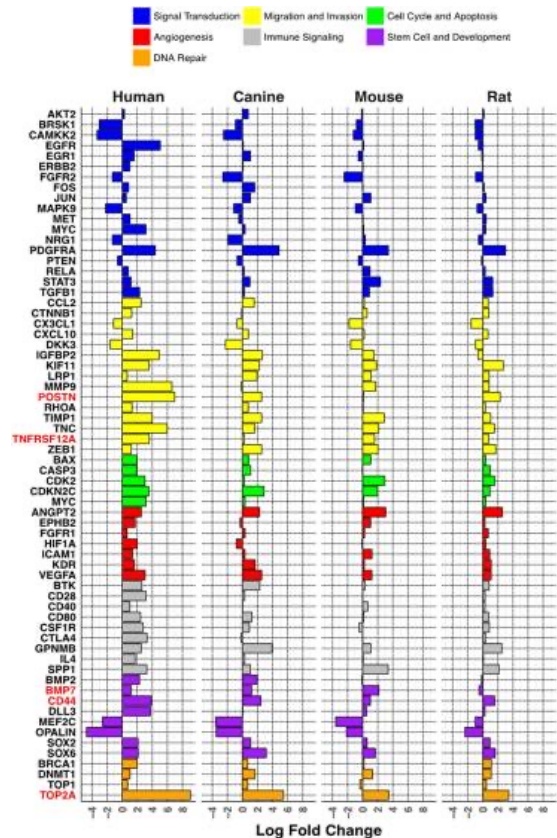
*Neuro-Oncology*, Volume 23, Issue 3, March 2021, Pages 422–434,  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/neuonc/noaa196>

**Published:** 19 August 2020 **Article history** ▼

In the published study, 17 dogs diagnosed with glioma and immunohistochemically positive for IL-13RA2 (17/17) or/and EphA2 (11/17) receptors were treated with escalating doses of IL-13- and ephrinA1-based cytotoxins. Cytotoxins were delivered through the Convection Enhanced Delivery (CED) method. CED allowed consistent intratumoral delivery of the cocktail with a median coverage of 70% (range 40-94%) of the tumor. No dose-limiting toxicities were observed. At 42 days of treatment, volumetric tumor reductions were observed in 15/16 dogs, with a median reduction of 42% (range 5-94%). Objective tumor responses were observed in 8/16 (50%) dogs, and the median tumor volume reduction was 79% (range 65-94% of tumor volume regression).

**The authors conclude that the CED of IL-13RA2/EphA2 targeting cytotoxins at concentrations ranging from 0.05-1.6 ug/mL was safe and resulted in clinically relevant responses in 50% of dogs with gliomas.**

# Gene expression pattern



**Figure 3.** Comparative transcriptional analysis of GBM signature gene expression patterns in human, canine, mouse and rat samples.

# Scientific Advice in MHRA

In July 2020, WPD consulted MHRA in Scientific Advice procedure to discuss quality, non-clinical and regulatory aspects of WPD101a for the treatment of glioblastoma multiforme. MHRA accepted WPD drug development plan.



Medicines &  
Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



MHRA

# Current status

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WPD101 is currently in the preclinical stage of development. Its consistent anticancer properties are demonstrated and validated in dogs with spontaneous GBM resembling GBM in human patients. The canine model of spontaneous gliomas represents the closest translational model to human diseases and provides a potentially more clinically relevant assessment of potential efficacy in human trials regarding biological and technological aspects of treatment (Figure 3). Canine gliomas and human GBM cells overexpress tumor-associated IL-13RA2 and EphA2 receptors that are not present in normal brain cells. IL-13RA2 and EphA2 are conjointly present in >90% of patients and dogs with GBM. The preliminary preclinical study in mice led to the safe dose determination on the 50 ug/ml (repeated dose study).

WPD will seek partners and investors, who could help in further development of WPD101a and other products that may be developed under the license agreement with Wake Forest University and plans to submit applications for new grants for further development of this line of product.

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