

# Development and Characterization of a Novel Extended Half-life Monoclonal Antibody Drug Candidate Targeting Integrin $\alpha 4\beta 7$ for the Treatment of IBD

E. Zhu<sup>1</sup>, D. Rios<sup>1</sup>, R. Vaz<sup>1</sup>, J. Friedman<sup>2</sup>, D. Nguyen<sup>2</sup>, A. Spencer<sup>2</sup>, H. Shaheen<sup>1</sup>, J. Oh<sup>1</sup>

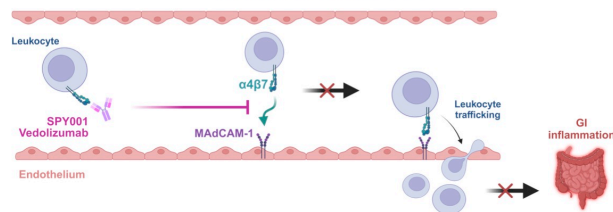
<sup>1</sup>Paragon Therapeutics, Waltham MA, United States; <sup>2</sup>Spyre Therapeutics, Waltham MA, United States

## Background

- **Antagonism of the interaction between the cellular adhesion integrin  $\alpha 4\beta 7$  and MAdCAM-1** has proven to be safe and effective in the treatment of Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC).
- **Additional benefit** may be gained from an  $\alpha 4\beta 7$  antagonist administered via the **subcutaneous (SC) route at extended intervals (e.g., every 8 to 12 weeks)** during maintenance therapy.

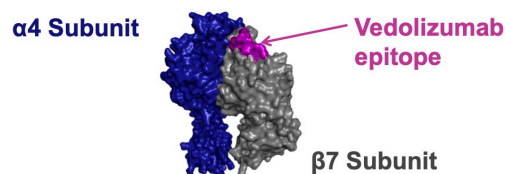
## Methods and Results

### $\alpha 4\beta 7$ blockade is a validated therapeutic mechanism in IBD



**Figure 1:** Binding of SPY001 (or vedolizumab) to  $\alpha 4\beta 7$  prevents its association with MAdCAM-1 and is anticipated to inhibit leukocyte trafficking across the endothelium and reduce GI inflammation. Created with BioRender.com.

### SPY001 is a novel antibody that binds to the same epitope as vedolizumab



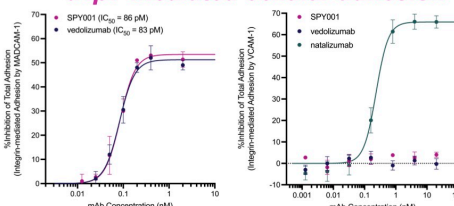
**Figure 2:** Predicted binding site for SPY001 and vedolizumab on  $\alpha 4\beta 7$ .

### SPY001 demonstrates potent and selective binding to $\alpha 4\beta 7$ in vitro

Antibody	$K_D$		
	$\alpha 4\beta 7$	$\alpha 4\beta 1$	$\alpha E\beta 7$
SPY001	<1 nM	NB <sup>1</sup>	NB <sup>1</sup>
Vedolizumab	<1 nM	NB <sup>1</sup>	NB <sup>1</sup>

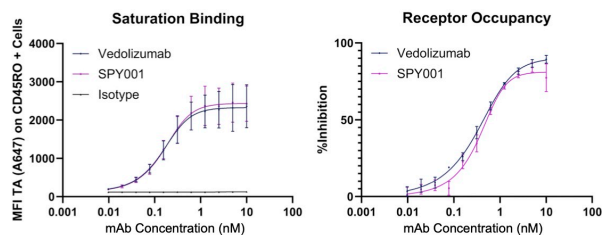
**Table 1:** SPY001 and vedolizumab dissociation constants ( $K_D$ ) for  $\alpha 4\beta 7$  by KinExA and for related integrins by surface plasmon resonance. <sup>1</sup>NB = no binding.

### SPY001 is a potent & selective inhibitor of $\alpha 4\beta 7$ -mediated cellular adhesion



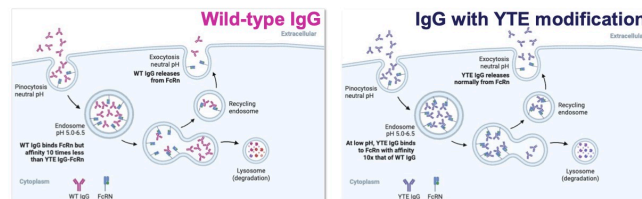
**Figure 3:** SPY001 and vedolizumab both inhibit  $\alpha 4\beta 7$ -mediated cellular adhesion to MAdCAM-1 (left); neither SPY001 nor vedolizumab inhibit  $\alpha 4\beta 1$ -mediated cellular adhesion via VCAM-1 (right).

### SPY001 binds to $\alpha 4\beta 7$ -expressing peripheral blood mononuclear cells



**Figure 4:** Labeled (AlexaFluor-647) SPY001 binds to  $\alpha 4\beta 7$ -expressing cells isolated from PBMCs (left); competing off AF647-SPY001 with unlabeled SPY001 demonstrates receptor occupancy (right).  $N=3$  donors.

### SPY001 is engineered to include a YTE modification in the Fc region for extended half-life (See P765)



**Figure 5:** YTE modification extends half-life by increasing IgG binding affinity to FcRn at low pH, increasing antibody recycling and reducing lysosomal degradation (1). Adapted from "extracellular vesicles" by BioRender.com (2023).

## Conclusions

- SPY001 is a novel humanized monoclonal IgG1 demonstrating **high affinity for  $\alpha 4\beta 7$  and potent, selective inhibition of the  $\alpha 4\beta 7$ /MAdCAM-1 interaction.**
- SPY001 **offers the potential for effective and safe treatment of CD and UC as a monotherapy or combination backbone**, with the advantage of **infrequent SC dosing**. First-in-human studies are planned for 2024.

### Citations

1. Dall'Acqua, W. F., Kiener, P. A. & Wu, H. Properties of Human IgG1s Engineered for Enhanced Binding to the Neonatal Fc Receptor (FcRn). *J. Biol. Chem.* 281, 23514–23524 (2006).

### Disclosures

EZ, DR, RV, HS, and JO are employees of Paragon Therapeutics. JF, DN, and AS are employees of Spyre Therapeutics. All authors own equity in Paragon Therapeutics and/or Spyre Therapeutics.