

**An Open Phase I/IIa Study to Evaluate the Safety and Effect of  
Therapeutic HIV-1 Immunization using Vacc-4x + rhuGM-CSF, and  
HIV-1 Reactivation using Romidepsin, on the Viral Reservoir in  
Virologically Suppressed HIV-1 Infected Adults on cART**

**“REDUC”**

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# Rationale

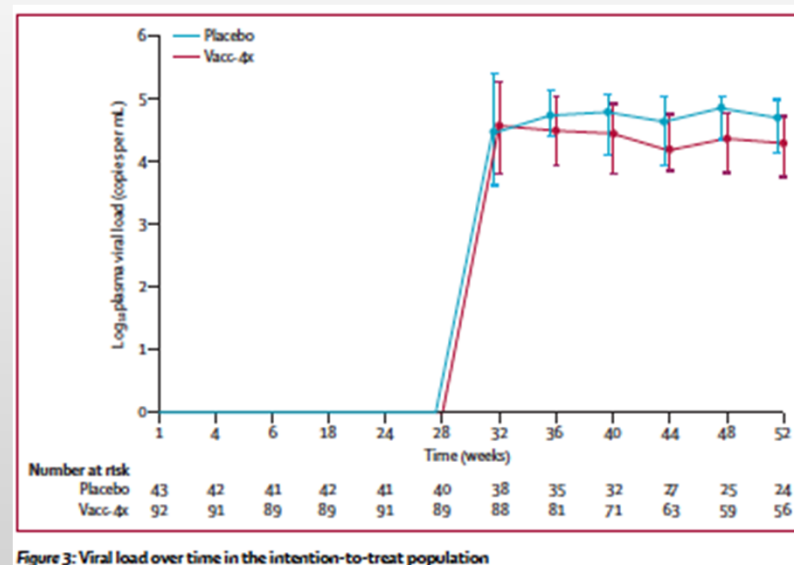
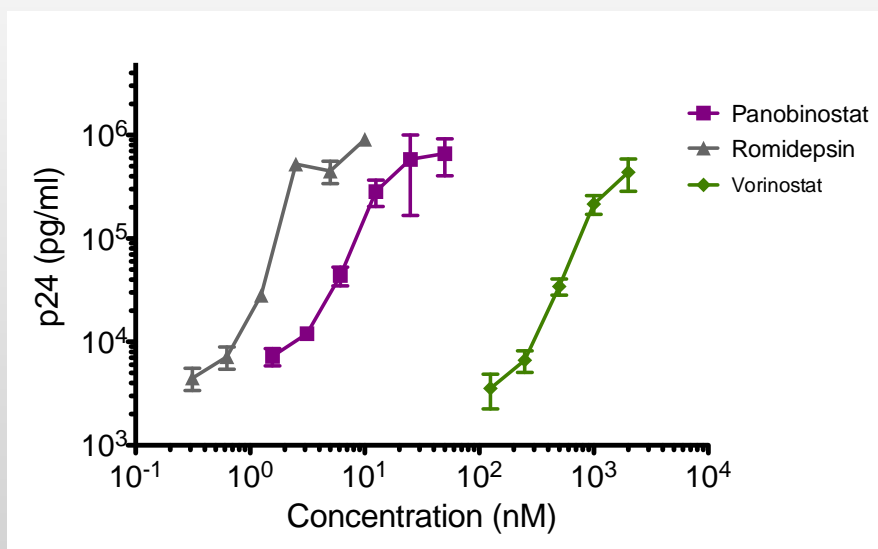
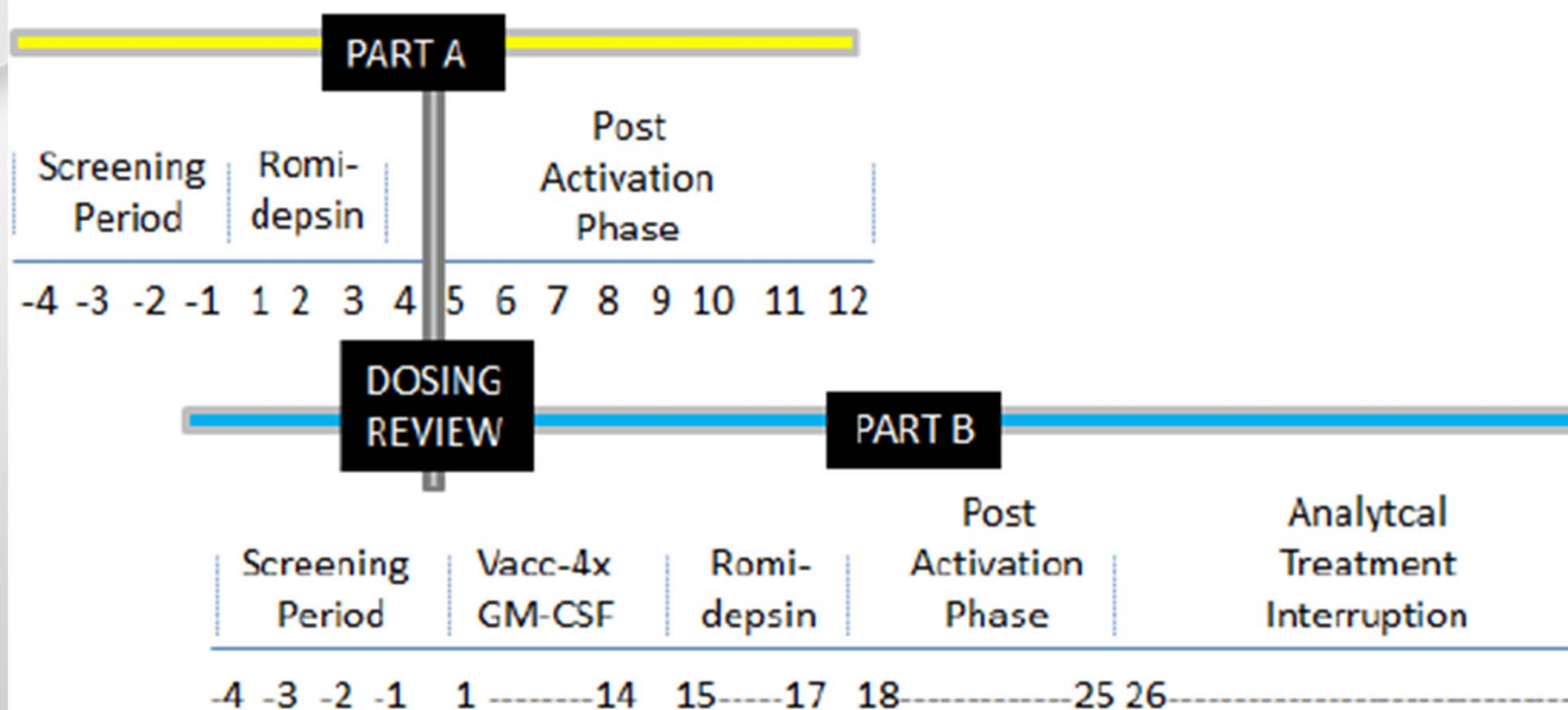


Figure 3: Viral load over time in the intention-to-treat population

Rasmussen et al. HVI 2013 (modified)  
Pollard RB et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2014

# REDUC study overview



# Objectives and methods

## Part A

Safety and tolerability of romidepsin 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (one third of standard dose).

- Adverse events (AEs), Serious adverse events (SAEs), Suspected unexpected serious adverse reactions (SUSARs).
- Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE)
- Medical dictionary for regulatory activities (MedDRA)

Effect of romidepsin on HIV-1 transcription when on cART

- Cell associated unspliced HIV-1 RNA (Clear study protocol)
- Single copy assay (Method by Sarah Palmer)
- Plasma HIV RNA (NAT screen – Procleix Ultrio Plus, Genprobe)
- Plasma HIV RNA (Standard VL monitoring assay - Cobas Taqman)

Dose reviewing committee to decide proceeding to part B.

# Objectives and methods

## Part B

- Safety
- Efficacy
  - Reduction from baseline of latent reservoir in CD4+ T cells
    - HIV-1 viral outgrowth assay (Laird et al. PLoS Path 2013)
    - Integrated HIV-1 DNA (Method by Una O'Doherty)
    - Total HIV-1 DNA by digital droplet PCR (Strain et al. PLoS One 2013)
  - Other measurements
    - T-cell activation pattern (CD69, CD25, HLA-DR, CD38)
    - Intracellular cytokine stain (IFN-gamma, IL-2, TNF-alfa)
    - IFN-gamma Elispot (Method by Giuseppe Pantaleo)
    - T-cell proliferation (Method by Giuseppe Pantaleo)
- Predictive parameters for viral control
  - HLA type, CCR5 haplotype
  - Treatment interruption (Change in viral setpoint / Time to viral rebound)

# Major inclusion criteria

- Age >18 years.
- HIV-1 plasma RNA <50 copies/mL for at least 1 year with at least two viral load measures per year.
- Receiving cART, for a minimum of 1 year, defined as at least 2 nucleoside/nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors plus either a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, an integrase inhibitor, or a protease inhibitor.
- CD4 T-cell count  $\geq 500$  cells/mm<sup>3</sup> at screening.
- The ability to understand and sign a written informed consent form and comply with protocol related procedures.

# Major exclusion criteria

- Any significant acute medical illness in the past 8 weeks.
- History of any malignancy
- Abnormal predefined values of the hematologic and clinical chemistry at Screening
- History of insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
- A history of clinically significant cardiac disease, symptomatic or asymptomatic arrhythmias, syncopal episodes, or additional risk factors for Torsades de pointes (e.g. heart failure, congenital long QT syndrome)
- Use of an agent definitely or possibly associated with effects on QT intervals within 2 weeks of screening
- ECG at screening that shows QTc >450 msec for males and >470 msec for women when calculated using the Fridericia formula from either lead V3 or V4
- CD4 T-cell nadir below 200 cells/ mm<sup>3</sup> less than 2 years before study inclusion
- Women of Child Bearing Potential (WOCBP) who are unwilling or unable to use an acceptable method of contraception to avoid pregnancy for the entire study period.
- Males or females who are unwilling or unable to use barrier contraception during sexual intercourse for the entire study



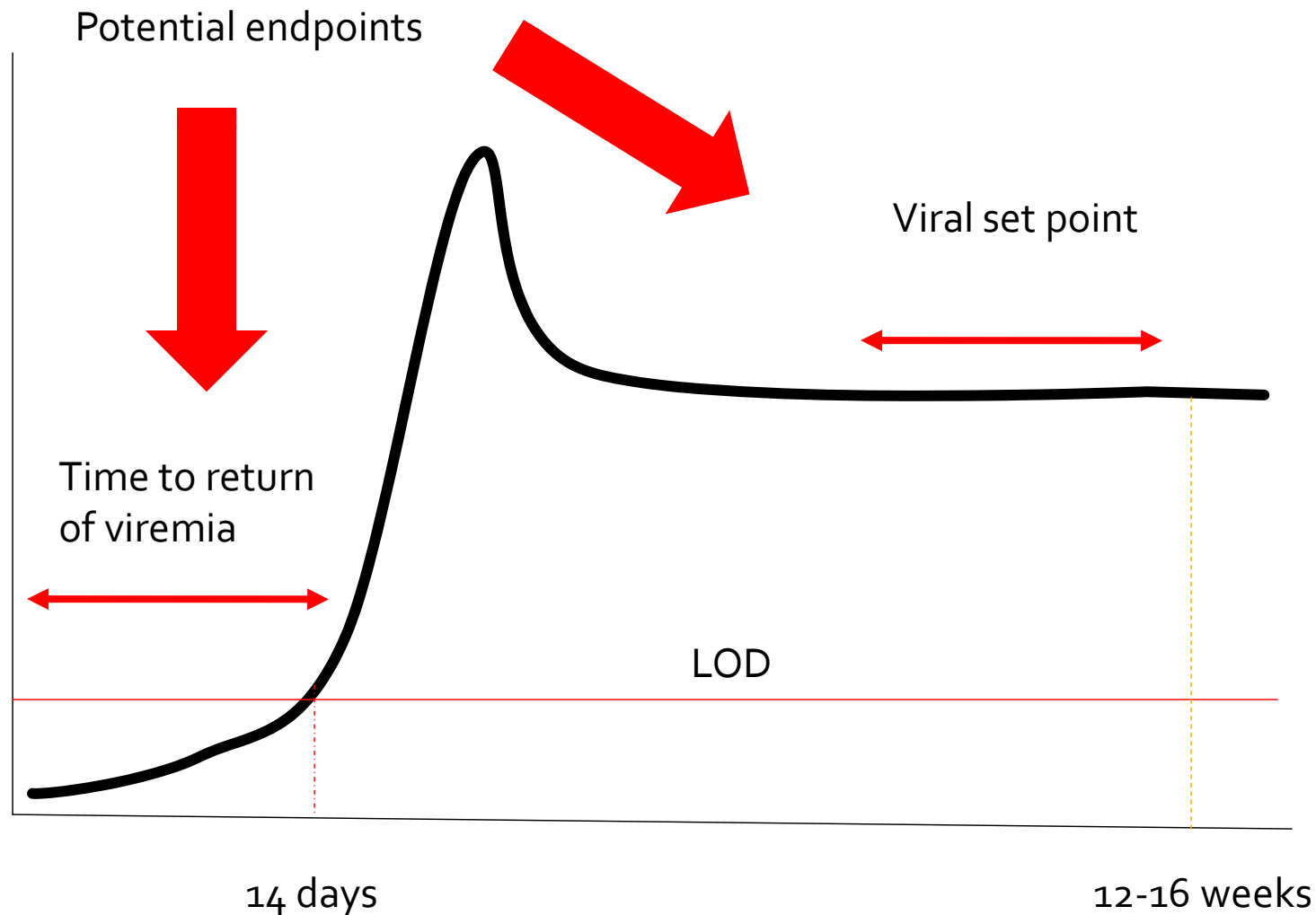
# Rationale for ATI

- The ultimate goal is to achieve viral control in the absence of cART – i.e. no viral rebound in the absence of cART.
- It will not be possible to study the predictive value of any in-vitro test/parameter if it can not be benchmarked against a clinical relevant outcome – i.e. viral control in the absence of cART.
- Considerations of a traditional 16 weeks ATI to assess viral setpoint versus a monitored antiretroviral pause with restarting of cART at the time of viral rebound.

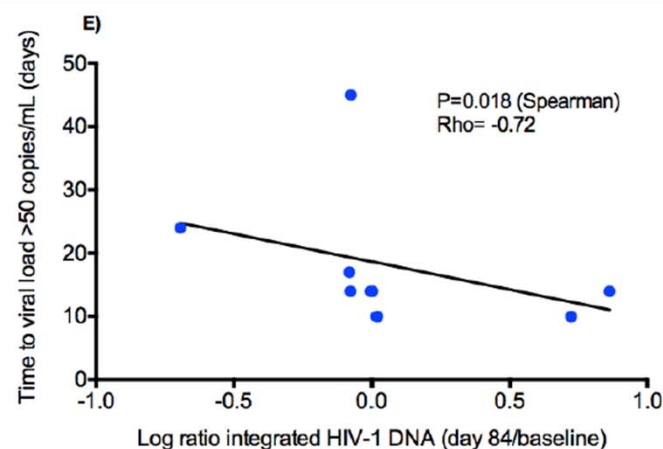
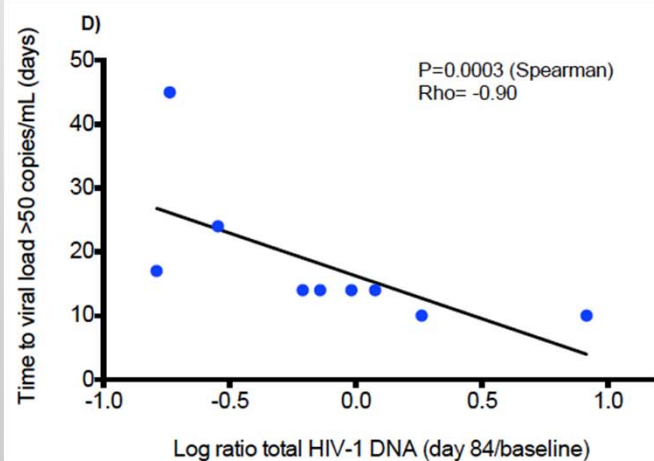
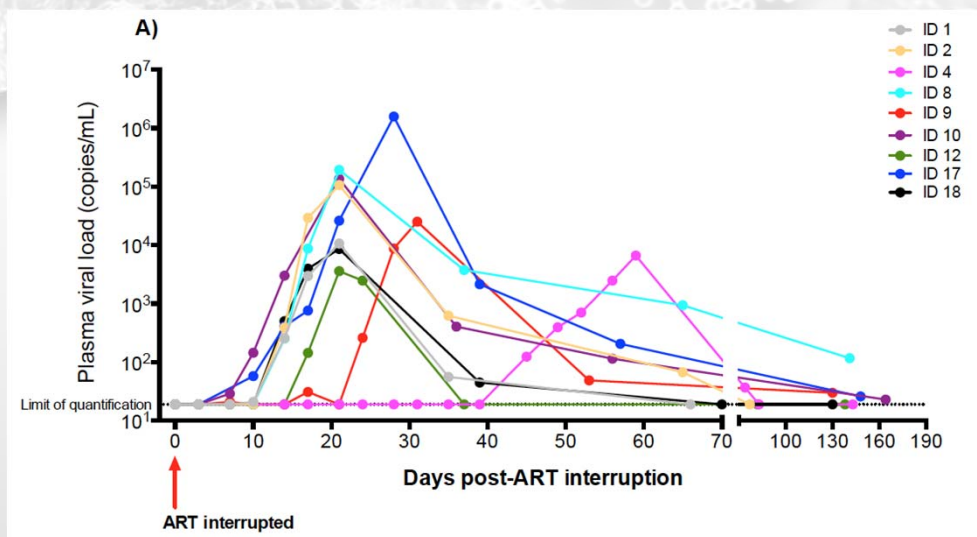


# Key parameters in ATI studies

Pablo Tebas



# Previous experience from the Clear-study



Rasmussen et al CROI 2014, Tolstrup et al ECCMID 2014

# ATI – time to viral rebound (MAP)

## Criteria for MAP

- Significant increase in unspliced HIV-RNA
- CD4+ T-cell count > 500/mm<sup>3</sup>
- Patient on NNRTI willing to switch to atazanavir

## VL, CD4, clinical status, and reinforcing safe sex during MAP

- Twice weekly for the first 4 weeks
- Once weekly during the following 4 weeks
- Once every 2 weeks hereafter

## Criteria for resumption of cART

- CD4+ cell-counts <350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>
- HIV-RNA measurement >1000 copies/ml
- Subject request

# Long term follow-up

All participants assessed at least every six month re.:

- Clinical status
- VL, CD4
- Clinical chemistry
- Clinical signs or symptoms of neoplasia

# REDUC participants

## Department of Infectious Diseases, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

- Ole Schmeltz Søgaard, MD, PhD
- Martin Tolstrup, MSc, PhD
- Thomas Rasmussen, MD
- Paul Denton, MSc, PhD
- Christel Rothe Brinkmann, MSc, PhD
- Rikke Olesen, MD, PhD
- Steffen Leth, MD
- Mette Graversen, MD
- Anni Winckelmann MD student
- Ann-Sofie Kjær MD student
- Lars Østergaard, Professor/Head, MD, DMSc, PhD

## Bionor Pharma, Oslo, Norway

- Maja A. Sommerfelt, PhD

## Ragon Institute, Harvard University/MGH, -Boston

- Mathias Lichterfeld, MD, PhD
- Maria Buzon, MSc, PhD

## Westmead Millennium Institute for Medical Research, Sydney

- Sarah Palmer, PhD

## University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine

- Una O'Doherty, MD. PhD. Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

## Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

- Giuseppe Pantaleo, M.D



The journey of the thousand miles  
must begin with a single step !

Lao Tzu



*enhancing & facilitating HIV research*

## PANEL DISCUSSION

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- Lars Østergaard (Aarhus), presenter
- Janet Siliciano (JHMI), moderator
- Giulio Maria Corbelli (EATG)
- Romas Geleziunas (Gilead)
- Gail Henderson (UNC)
- Filip Josephson (SMPA)
- Kim Struble (CDER/FDA)





## PANEL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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- What if the intervention (not necessarily romidepsin) was genotoxic or had positive carcinogenicity findings, how would this affect patient selection, monitoring, dose selection and long term follow-up?