



**THE FORUM**  
For Collaborative Research<sup>SM</sup>

# Pooling of Endpoints WG

Liver Forum 16 Update

Washington DC

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Michelle T. Long, MD, MSc

Novo Nordisk, DK

on behalf of the pooling of endpoints WG

**Berkeley** Public  
Health

# Working group progress:

Co-chairs: **Jasmohan Bajaj** (VCU)  
and **Michelle Long**(Novo Nordisk)

Meetings: Approximately Monthly

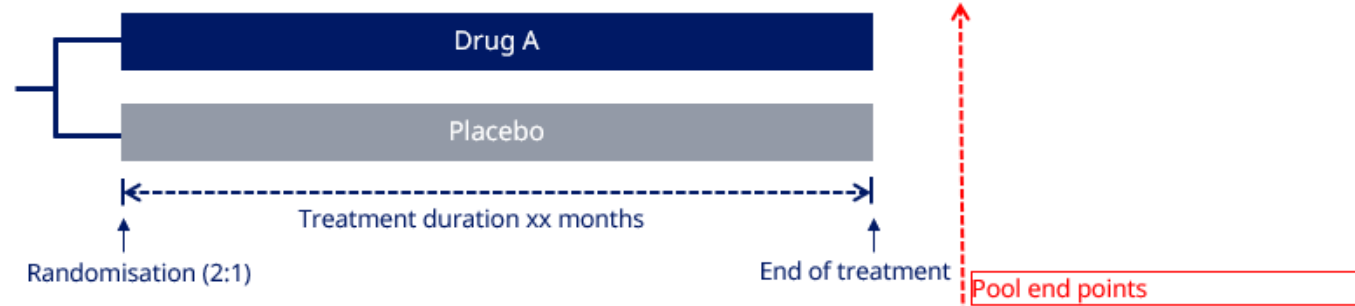
- Cathy O'Hare
- Arie Regev
- David Shapiro
- Roberto Calle
- Ashish Dhawan
- Diogo Ferrinho
- Claudia Filozof
- Shirin Hemmat
- Massimo Siciliano
- Jörn Schattenberg
- Charmaine Stewart
- Vlad Ratziu
- Brenda Rodriguez
- Toru Matsubayashi
- Mazen Nouredin
- Jose Willemse
- Libette Luce
- Raj Vuppalanchi
- Margot Yann
- Juan Abralde
- Jasmohan Bajaj
- Azza Karrar
- Sehyr Khan
- Madhuri Jerfy
- Veronica Miller
- Christina Mogenson
- Blue Neustifter
- Melissa Palmer
- Detlef Schuppan
- Radha Seetharam
- Amrik Shah
- Richard Torstenson
- Tram Tran
- Sharat Varma
- Julia Wattacheril
- Pam Young
- Michelle Long



# Can we pool endpoints between F3 and F4 studies?

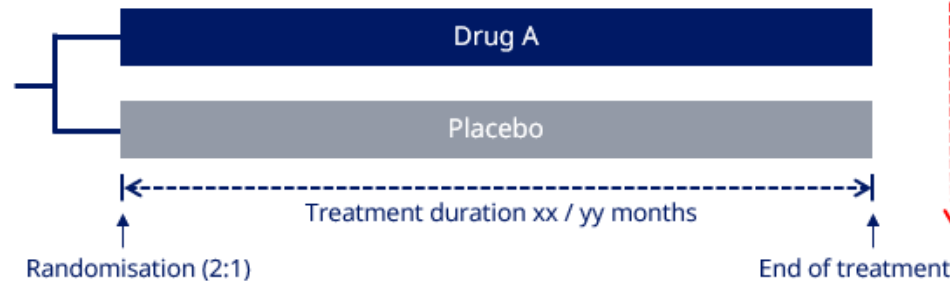
## Trial 1

- Time driven by biopsy/histology
- NASH with **F3**



## Trial 2

- Event driven
- NASH with **F4c**



# Challenge to pooling endpoints:



- **Pre-cirrhotic MASH:** aim to measure the clinical benefit of a therapeutic on the regression of disease (reduction in fibrosis or resolution of MASH).
  - Time-driven events
- **MASH with compensated cirrhosis:** aim to measure the halting of progression to decompensated cirrhosis.
  - Endpoint-driven events
  - However, there may be some indication that regression of cirrhosis could be an accelerated approval pathway in F4c

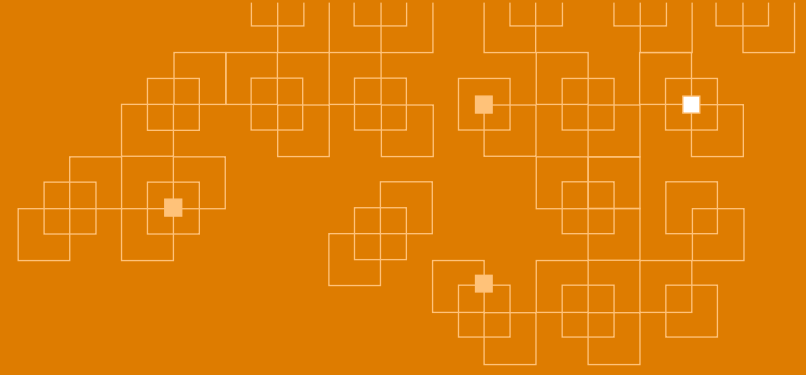
# Evolving discussion on endpoints



- 1: Pooling patient populations from *distinct trials in F3 and F4 patients* and ranking of endpoints to increase efficiency
  - Consider new, clinically relevant endpoints to add to a composite endpoint
- 2: Incorporate PROs in MASH clinical trials
  - For patients with F3 and F4c fibrosis, with and without signs or symptoms of portal hypertension
- 3: Potential for a *single trial* enrolling F3 and F4 patients
  - With considerations from expert statisticians

# Focus: Workstream 1

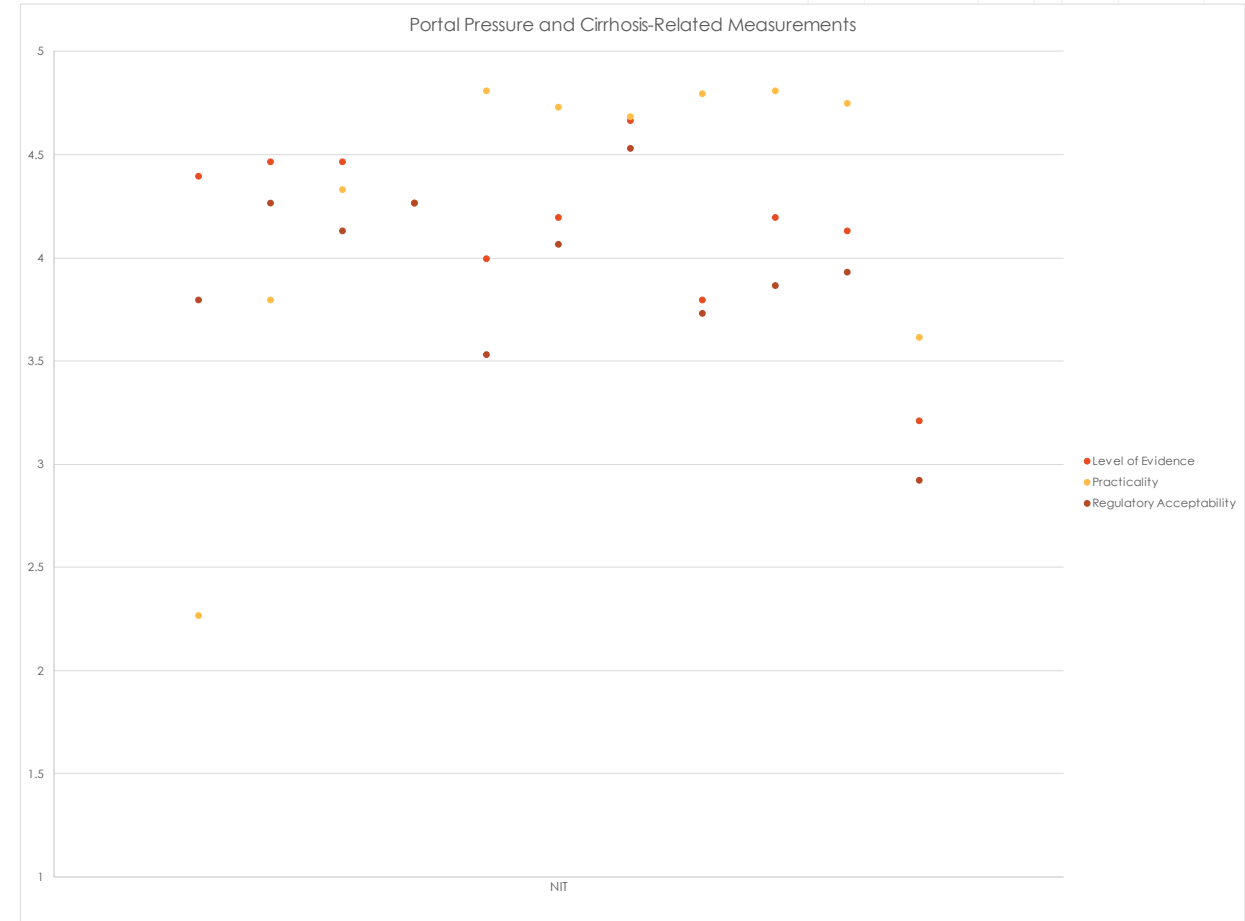
- Aim: discuss and recommend a composite endpoint that would allow pooling endpoints in F3 and F4 patients
  - Addresses disease progression, disease stability (no progression, no regression) and disease regression
  - Relates to disease severity strata (F3, F4 with and without portal hypertension)
  - Consider phase 2 and phase 3 CT designs
  - Includes clinical, functional, histological, and non-invasive assessments
    - PROs to be added later (Workstream 1 discussion)
    - Innovative markers are important, but focus will be on considering **endpoints achievable in the near term**



**Which measurements should be included in a composite endpoint with F3 and F4 patient populations in mind?**

# Expanded endpoint survey

- Completed survey of WG members of various endpoints which could be part of a composite endpoint
  - Ranked separately on level of evidence, practicality, and regulatory acceptability
  - Clarified focus is not to get into a discussion on proposing new NIT-based endpoints in the WG





# Outline for ongoing discussions



1. Provide an overview of F3 and F4 patient populations and differences in clinical trial design.
  - a. Refer to regulatory guidelines in FDA and EMA
  - b. Case study from other disease areas?
  - c. Outline overlap of F3 and F4 patient populations.
2. Propose a continuum of F3 and F4 patient populations.
  - a. Refer to the academic literature suggesting a continuum of cirrhosis in MASH and MASLD populations.
    - i. Refer to Mazen Nouredin 2022/2023 paper on cirrhosis risk stratification for clinical trial enrollment.
    - ii. MASH and MASLD are not just driven by fibrosis—use of the term compensated advanced chronic liver disease (but this is defined by HVPG)
      1. Consider non HVPG, in advanced compensated

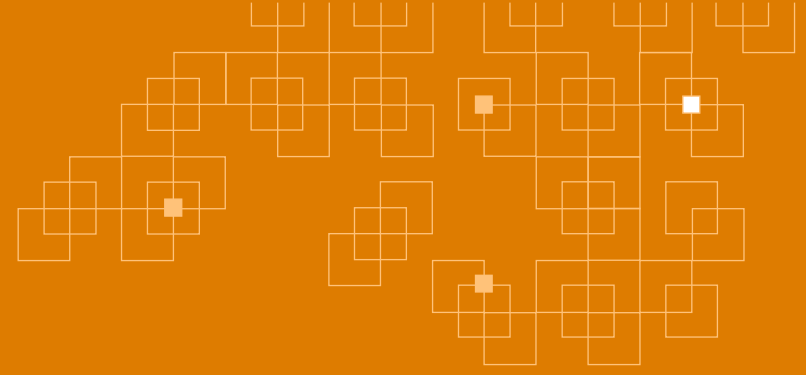
# Outline for ongoing discussions



3. Discuss and propose endpoints to characterize the following.
  - a. Progression from F3 → F4
  - b. Lack of progression within F3 & F4
  - c. Regression of cirrhosis (histological cirrhosis) would be relevant to biopsy-driven trials from F4 à F3. Can discuss, movement (89bio)
  - d. Discuss pros and cons of the proposed endpoints:
    - i. Histology, Ishak Fibrosis Score
    - ii. VCTE/Fibroscan
    - iii. Development of Varices
      1. Discuss means of grading varices
    - iv. define level of evidence, regulatory acceptance, and practicality for all the endpoints above.
    - v. Provide rationale based on past/current studies
4. Next steps:
  - a. Current limitations; this composite endpoint as an interim solution
  - b. proposed clinical trial design for F3 and F4 patient populations.

# Next steps

- Expand discussions on clinical composite (focus on advanced fibrosis)
  - Discuss clinical and laboratory measures that could expand the composite
  - Definitions and standardization of endpoints
- Consider statistical approaches
  - ordinal outcome ranking of composite
- **Please join us!**
  - Friday, April 5, 2024 from 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM EDT
  - Wednesday, April 24, 2024 from 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM EDT
  - Wednesday, May 22, 2024 from 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM EDT



**Thank you!**