

# Using pharmacokinetic simulation to guide dose escalation decisions for targeted IL2v immunocytokines

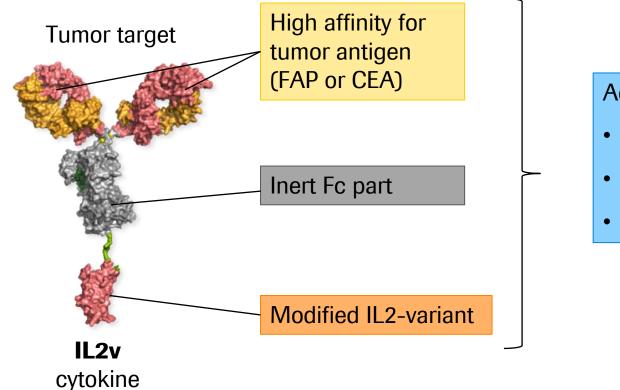
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## Tumor-targeted immune cell growth factor

Engineered Immunoglobulin-cytokine fusion protein



Advantages over wild type IL2:

- Tumor targeting
- Improved PK properties
- Reduced toxicity

CEA = Carcinoembryonic antigen, FAP=Fibroblast activation protein, IL2=Interleukin 2, cytokine for cell signaling



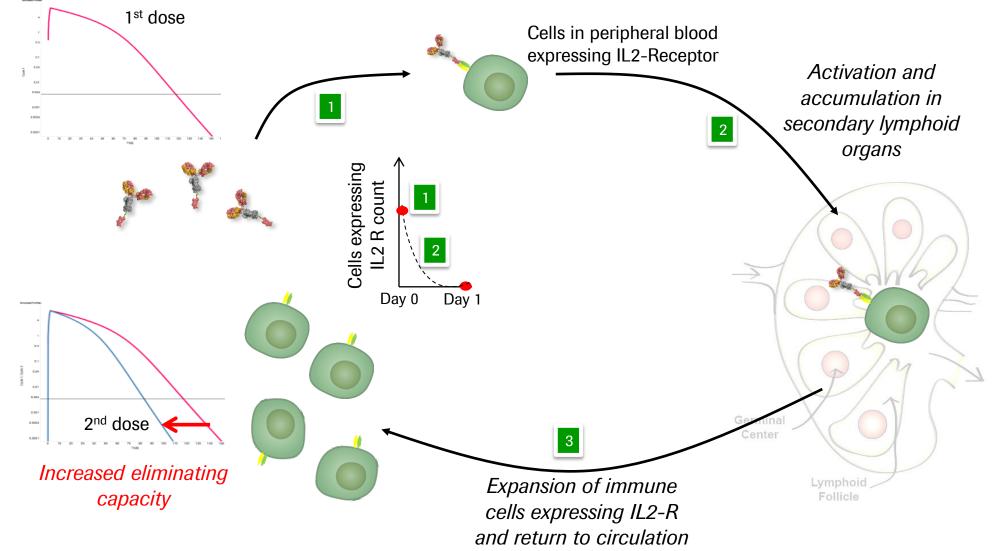
### **Targeted IL2v Mechanism of Action** *Growth factor for Natural Killer cells and Killer T-cells in the tumor*

#### Fibroblast **Step 1: Targeting** Tumor infiltrating surrounding immune cells target specific retention of compound tumor Tumor cell in the tumor **Step 2: Activation** Providing activation and proliferation signals to immune cells on site MR Junttila, Nature 2013

Tumor infiltrating immune cells: Natural Killer cells, T-cells, B-cells, Macrophages

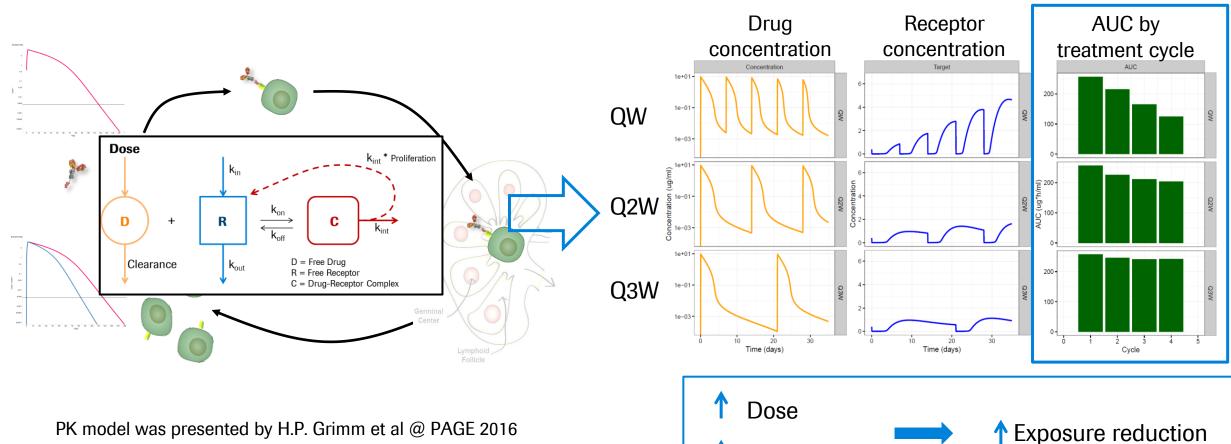


## Pharmacokinetic behavior is driven by TMDD and self induced clearance



TMDD: Target Mediated Drug Disposition

### PK properties lead to exposure reduction following multiple dosing Extent of exposure reduction is dependent on the dose and frequency of administration

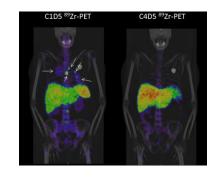


Frequency

PK model was presented by H.P. Grimm et al @ PAGE 2016

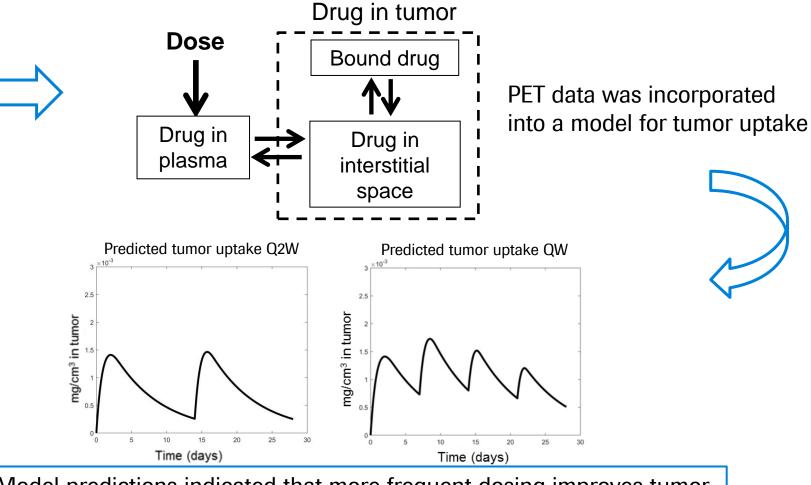
# Imaging study demonstrated specific tumor uptake after single dose but was reduced following repeated dosing (Q2W)

Reduction in tumor uptake is likely due to peripheral exposure reduction



PET imaging study with radiolabeled CEA-IL2v

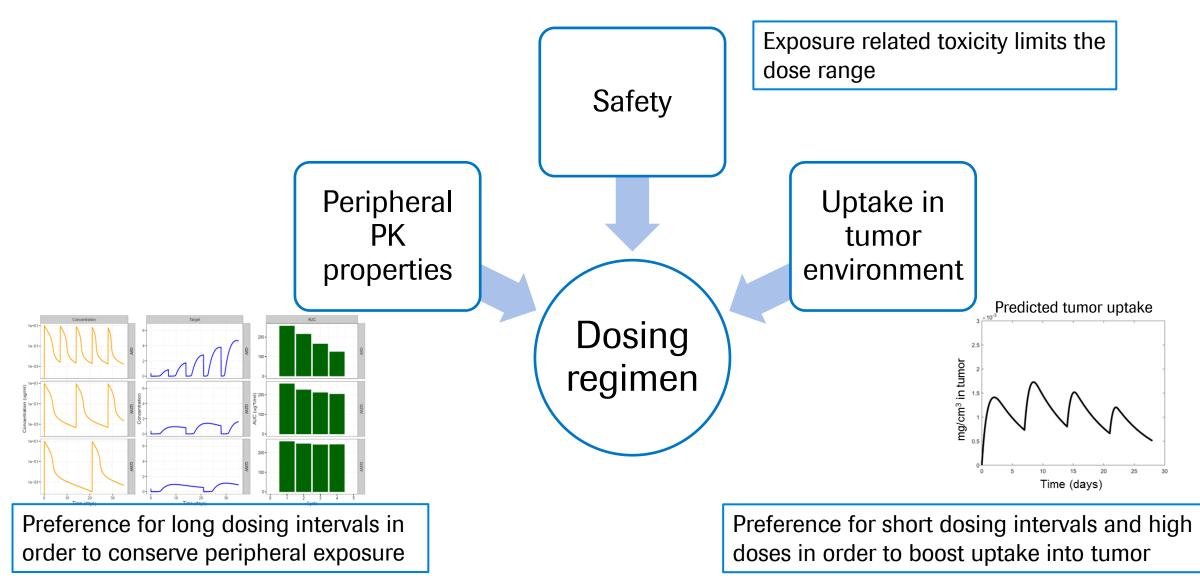
Amount of drug in the tumor lesion was measured longitudinally



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Model predictions indicated that more frequent dosing improves tumor uptake also when the peripheral exposure is reduced as a result

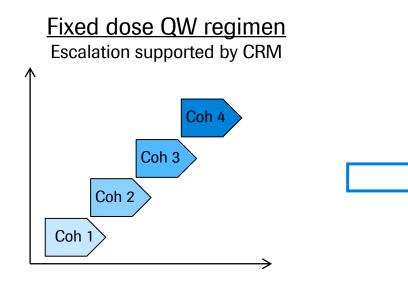
## Three main factors need to be considered when choosing the dosing regimen





# PK simulation was performed to investigate the possibility of dose up-titration

Maintained exposure over multiple cycles expected to benefit tumor uptake



PK model developed based on available PK data – fixed dosing

Additional options investigated through simulation:

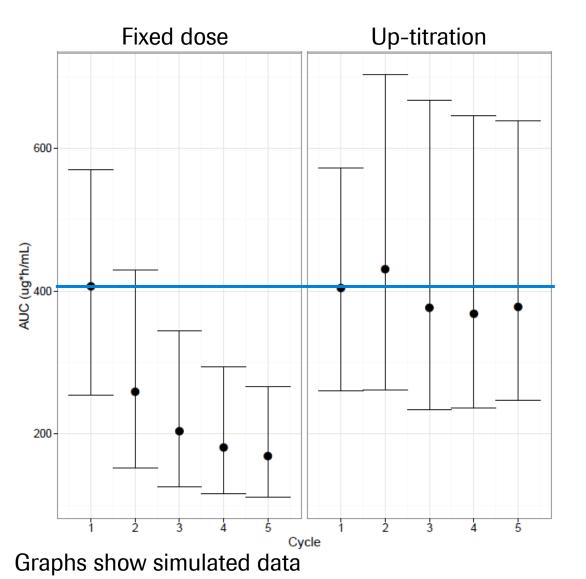
- Dose up-titration on one or more occasions
- Administration frequency QW, Q2W
- Mixed schedules of different frequency

#### Outcome measures:

• Comparison of AUC and Cmax to target values



## Maintained exposure over several cycles with QW dosing can only be attained by continuous up-titration



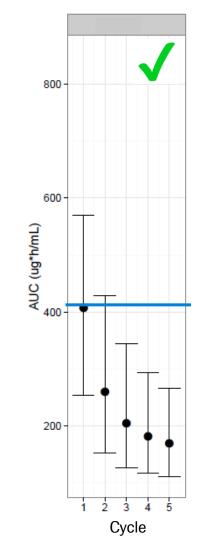
- Multiple dose up-titration considered not feasible from study management perspective
  - Limitation at 1 or possibly 2 dose up-titrations
- Safety concerns limited the doses clinicians were willing to administer

Target exposure correspond to the exposure of a well tolerated dose on cycle 1 – indicated by the blue line

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## Schedules with 1 dose up-titration on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> dose in a QW schedule were implemented in clinic

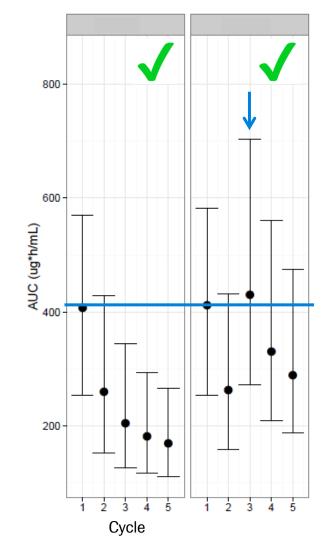
Decision was guided by PK simulation



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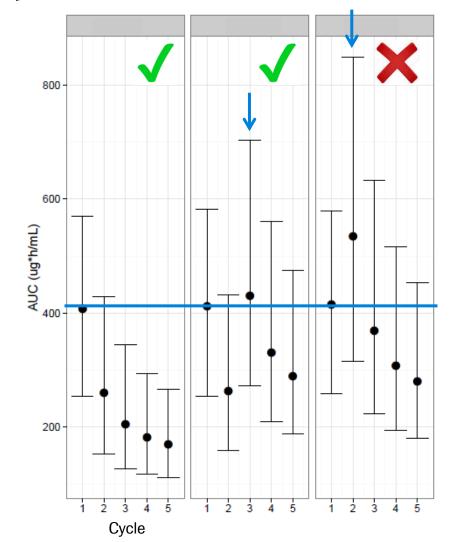
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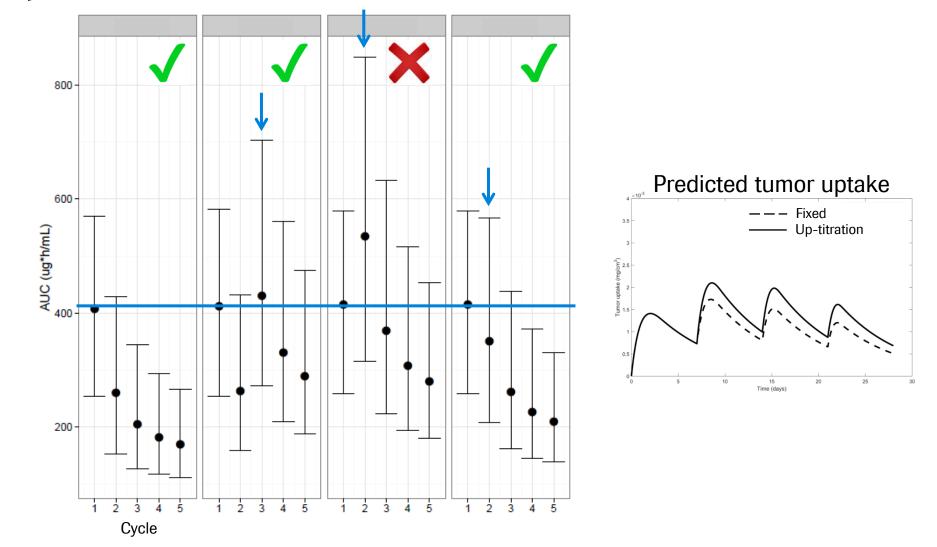
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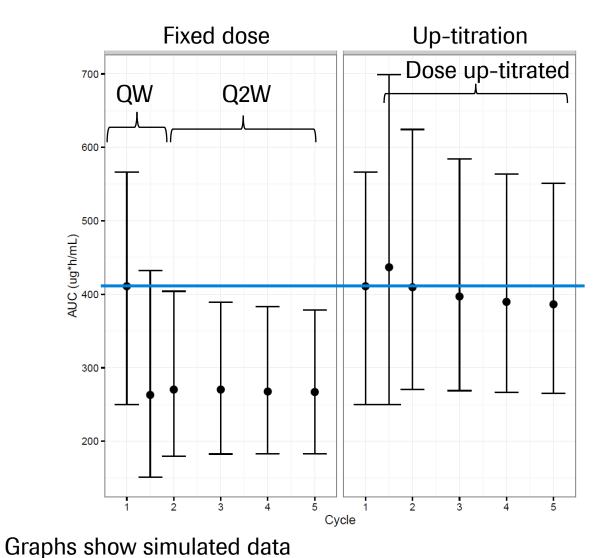
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# Maintained exposure can be achieved with one dose up-titration when QW regimen is followed by a less intense regimen (Q2W)



- Maintain the benefit of initial frequent dosing
- Peripheral exposure maintained within 10% of target
- Version of this schedule is implemented in an ongoing trial

### **Conclusions**



- Complex PK behaviour together with a narrow safety window demanded the need for non-standard dosing schedules
- Up-titration schedules were implemented based on PK simulations when the standard procedure for dose escalation was not appropriate
- Dose up-titration is believed to facilitate tumor uptake of the evaluated immunocytokines compared with fixed dose regimens and is being implemented in on-going trials

## Acknowledgment

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## Thank you for listening!





# Doing now what patients need next