

# LEVICURE

REVERSE THE IRREVERSIBLE

## Proprietary Disease-Modifying Treatment to Promote Remission Through $\beta$ -cells Regeneration in Type 1 Diabetes

INNODIA EASD Symposium

STARTUP  
+ HEALTH

T1D Moonshot  
Fellowship recipient



# Leviculture is developing a breakthrough disease-modifying treatment to promote remission through $\beta$ -cell regeneration in patients with recent-onset Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)



Regenerate  $\beta$ -cells



Eliminate or reduce the need for additional insulin therapy



Sustain normal blood glucose levels



Reduce short and long-term T1D complications

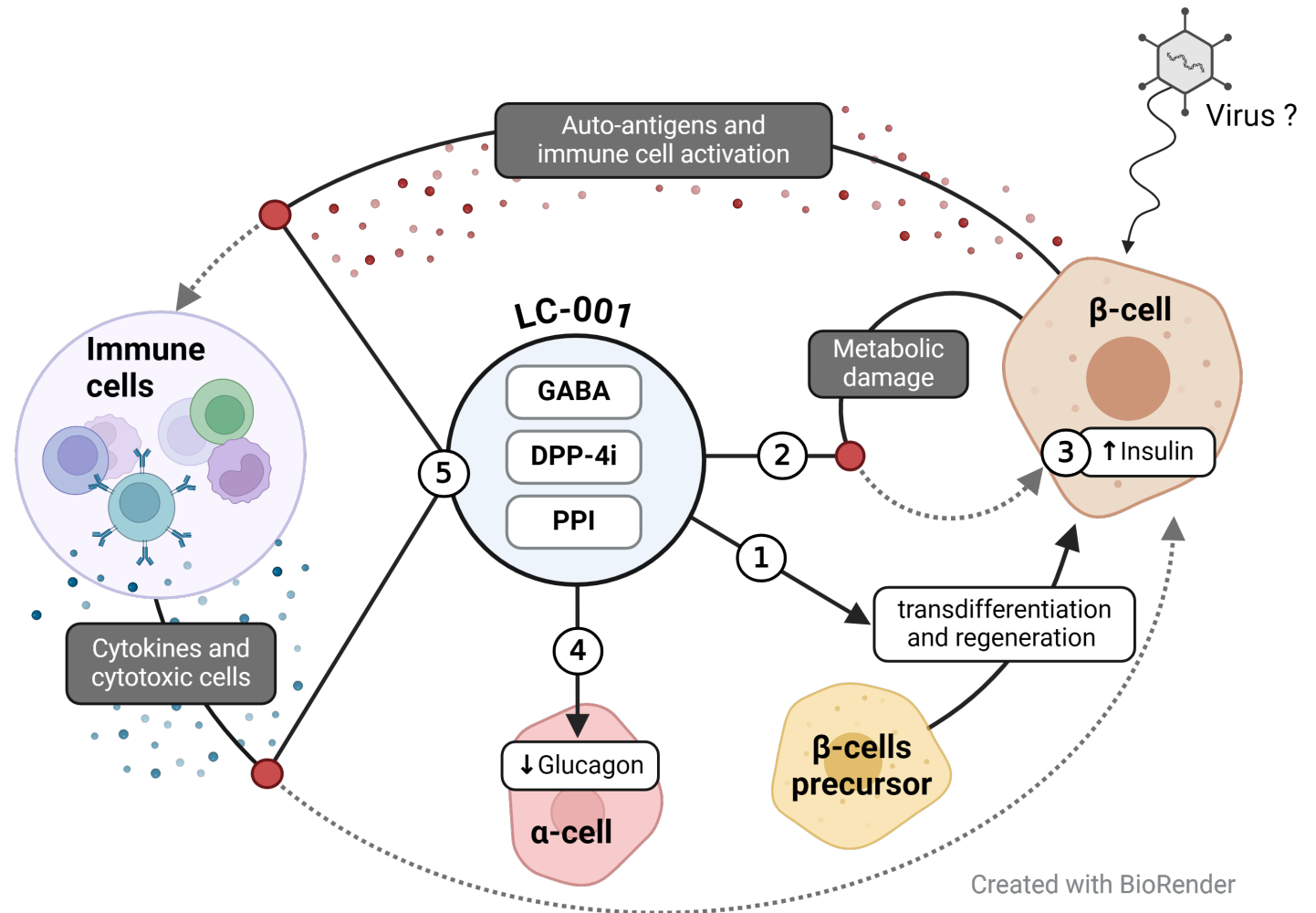


Once-a-day treatment

\*extended-release gastro-retentive (ER/GR)

# Mechanism of Action: GABA + DPP-4i + PPI treatment simultaneously synergistically focuses on **regeneration of $\beta$ -cells** and **inhibition of autoimmunity**

- 1 Initiates the transdifferentiation of duct cells and regeneration of  $\beta$ -cells
- 2 Stops metabolic self-damage of  $\beta$ -cells (downregulates TxNIP)
- 3 Increases insulin secretion
- 4 Inhibits glucagon secretion
- 5 Inhibits autoimmunity to  $\beta$ -cells



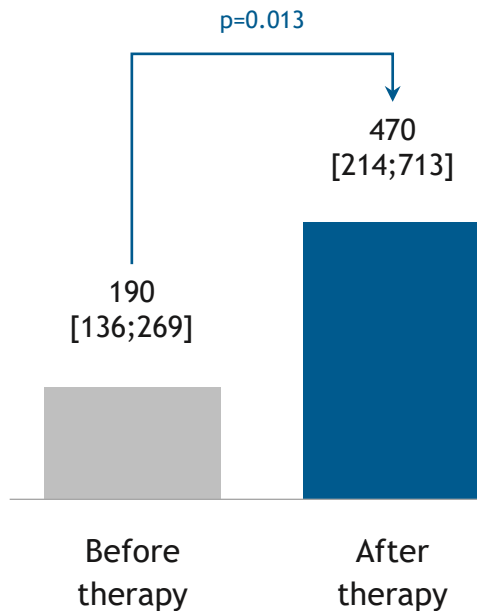


# Our published retrospective study of prospectively treated patients shows **significant outcomes** in **recent-onset adult Stage 3 T1D patients** after 32 weeks of treatment with GABA, DPP-4i and PPI

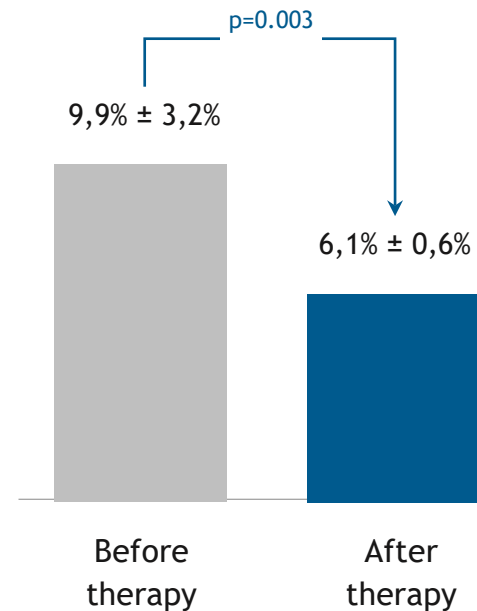


Rabinovitch et al., [Frontiers in Endocrinology](#), 2023

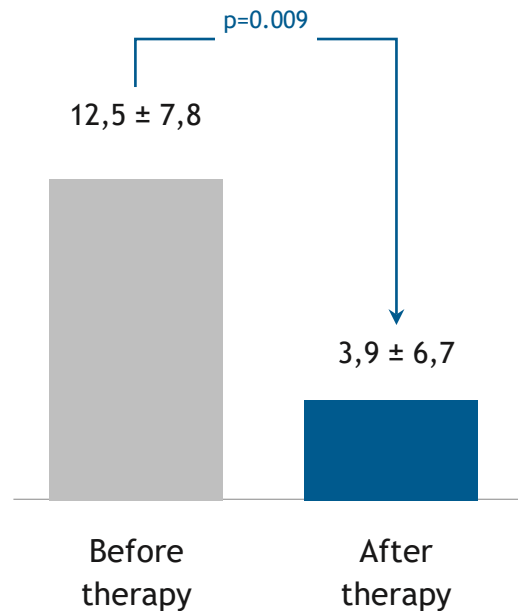
**+147%** C-peptide (pmol/L)



**-38%** HbA1c (%)



**-69%** Daily insulin dose (Units/Day)



**70%**

of 10 recent-onset T1D patients (<12 months from diagnosis) stopped insulin injections and maintained normoglycemia within 32 weeks of treatment



# Example: Patient 29-week results demonstrate significant improvement with Levicure Combination Therapy

OUR PATIENT

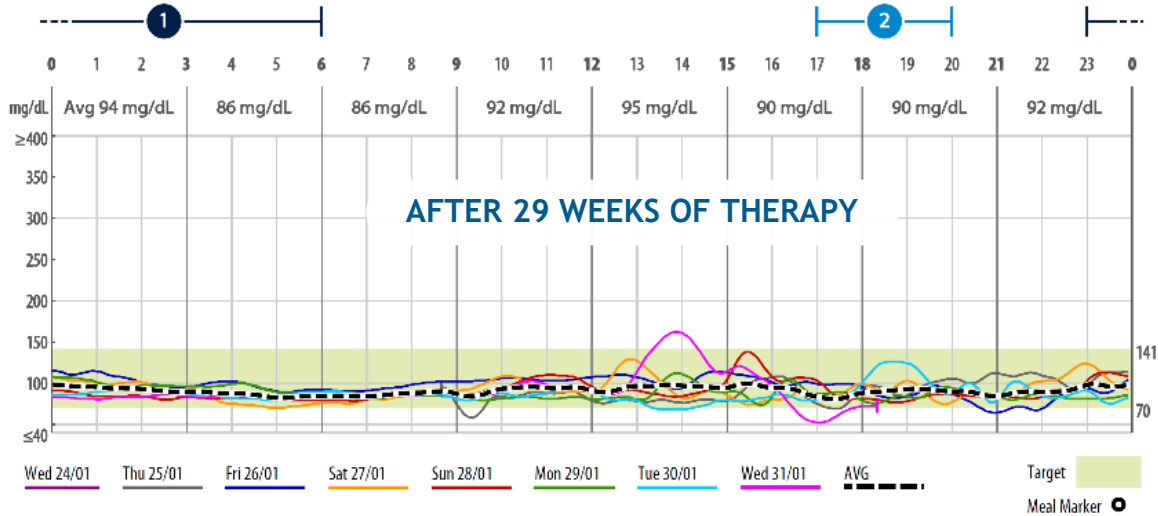
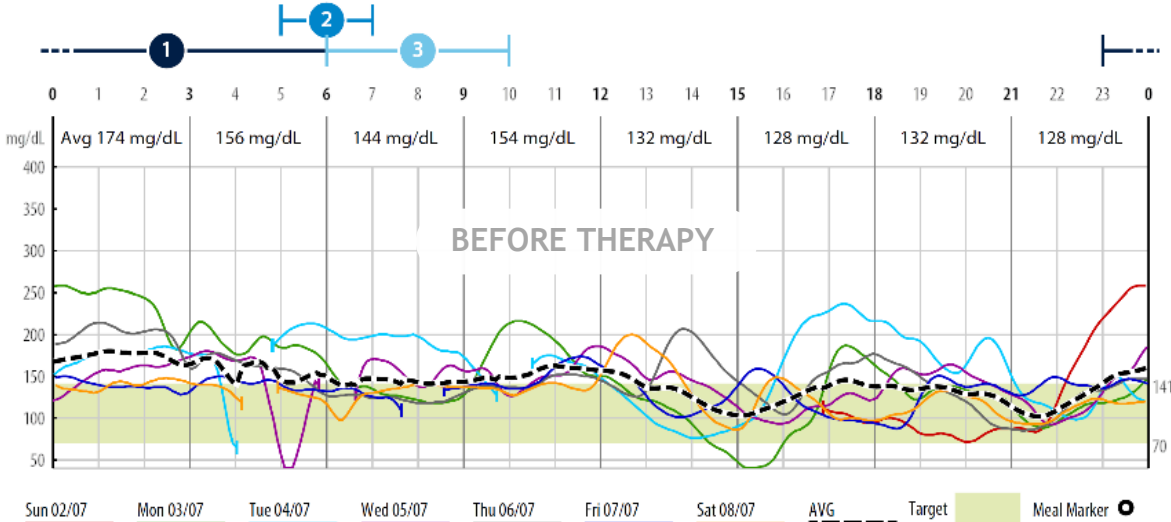
Age - 18 years

BMI - 19.8

GAD65 - Positive

Ketoacidosis  
on manifestation

Hospitalization  
on manifestation



Poor glycemic control

Insulin	12 units
HbA1c	8.5%
Fasting BG	130 (mg/dl)



Results within the healthy person reference range

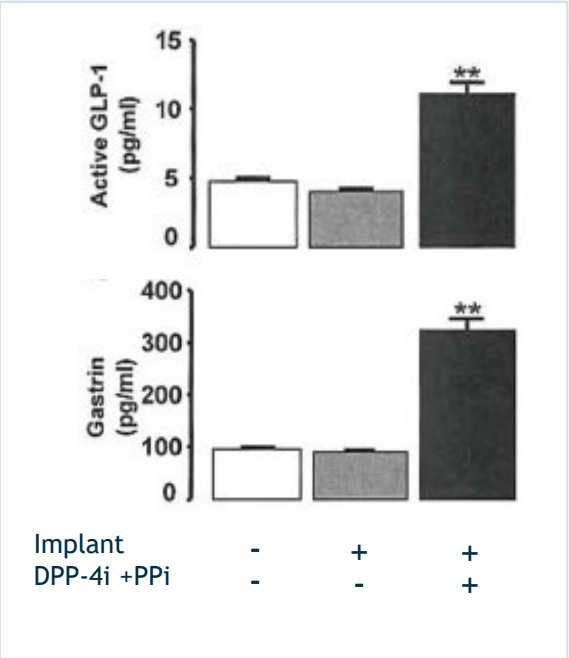
Insulin	0 units
HbA1c	5.2%
Fasting BG	100 (mg/dl)

# DPP-4i + PPI induced $\beta$ -cell neogenesis from human pancreatic duct cells increasing the number of insulin-producing cells by 1300% via GLP-1 and gastrin elevation

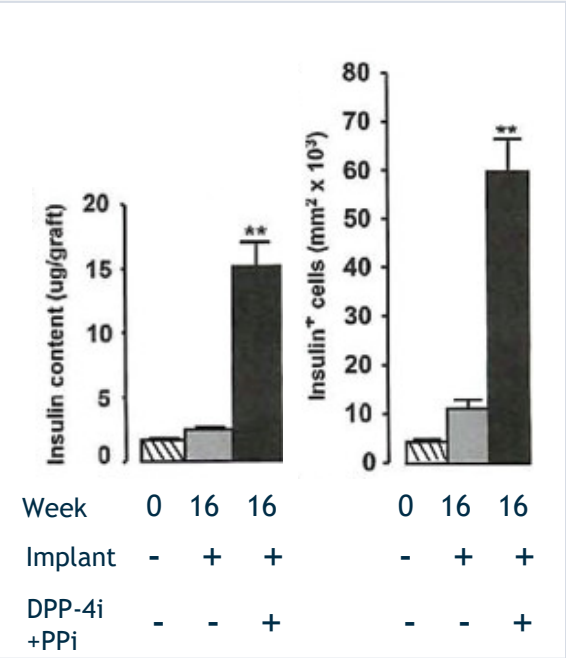
CELL  
TRANSPLANTATION

W. L. Suarez-Pinzon et al., [Cell Transplantation](#), 2011

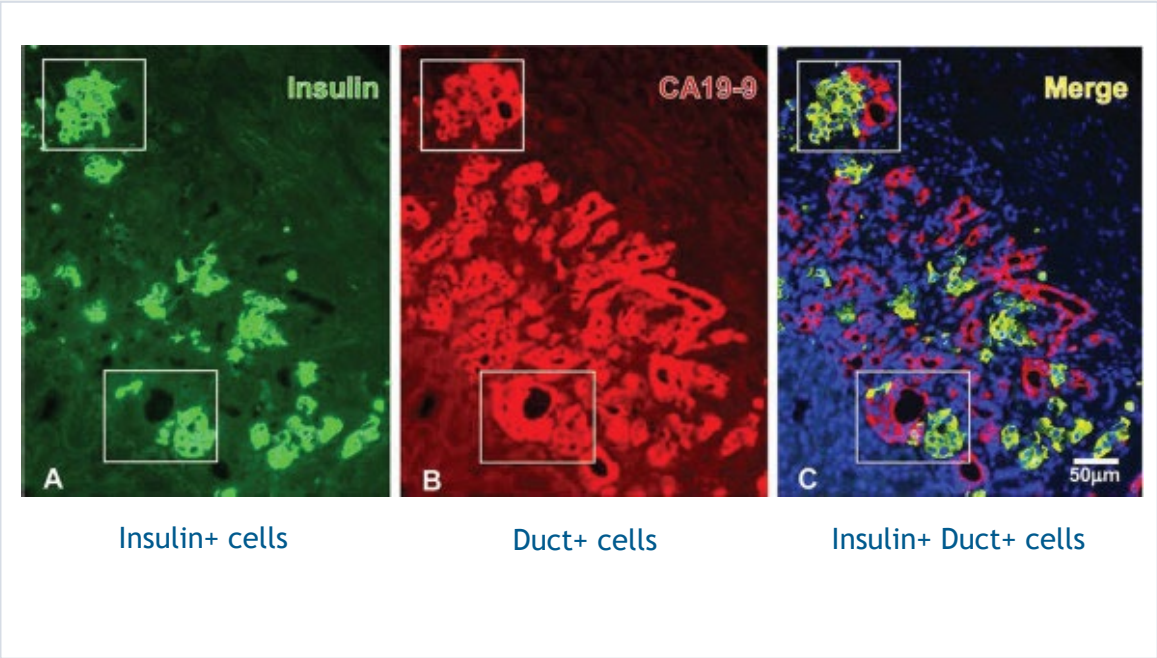
DPP-4i and PPI increased levels of **GLP-1** and **gastrin**



DPP-4i and PPI increased insulin content and **number of insulin producing cells by 1300%**



All insulin-positive cells were colocalized with CA19-9-positive duct cells, with the double positive cells appearing yellow in the merged photomicrograph (**Neogenesis**)



# REPAIR T1D study: DPP-4i and PPI failed to increase GLP-1 and gastrin to expected levels in all recent-onset T1D patients and did not meet clinical endpoints

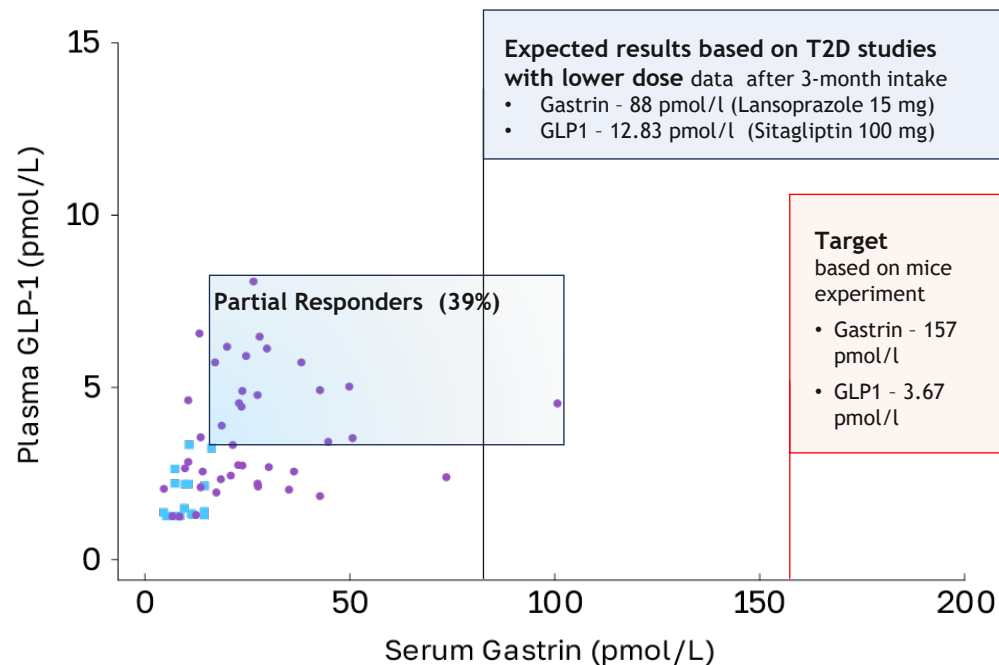
THE LANCET  
Diabetes & Endocrinology

Griffin et al., [Lancet](#), 2014

Even partial elevation of GLP-1 and gastrin in 39% of patients showed trends for improvement in clinical trial endpoints

Sitagliptin and Lansoprazole failed to induce increases of GLP-1 and gastrin to the level of planned effect in all patients

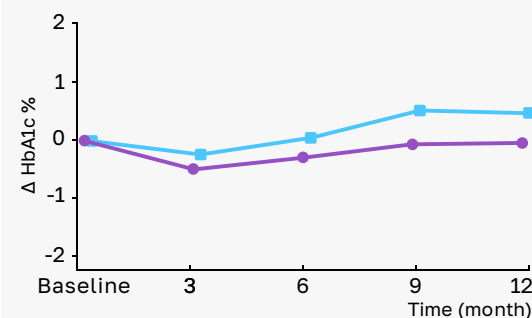
Study dose: Sitagliptin >18 years - 100 mg; <18 - 50 mg Lansoprazole >18 - 60 mg, <18 - 30 mg



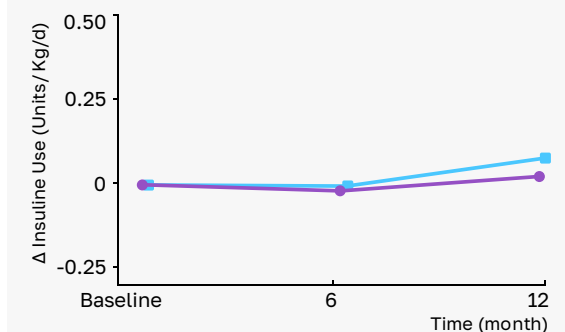
Partial responders showed trend for reduction of HbA1c, insulin dose and preservation of C-peptide response to MMTT

■ Placebo  
● Partial Responders (DPP-4i + PPI)

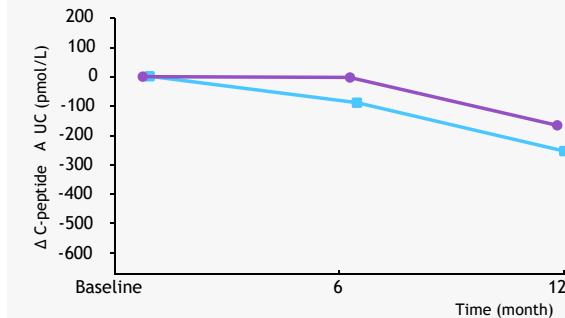
Delta HbA1c, %



Delta insulin use (Units/kg/d)



Delta C-peptide AUC (pmol/L)



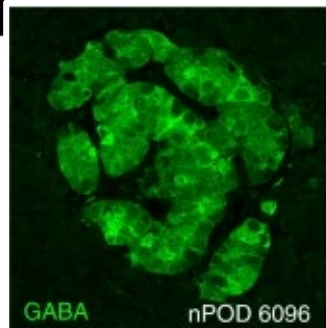
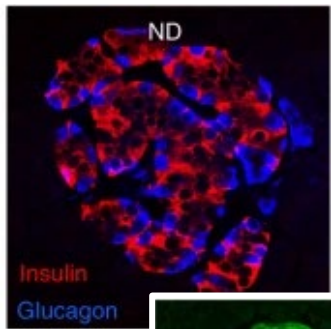
# $\beta$ -cells are the main source of GABA in the islets. **Loss of GABA** is observed in **all T1D donor islets** affecting normal $\beta$ - and $\alpha$ -cell function

nature metabolism

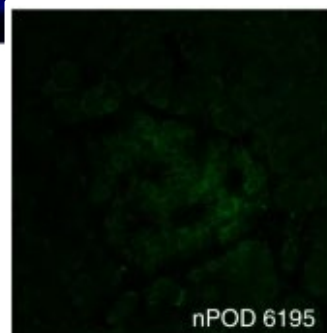
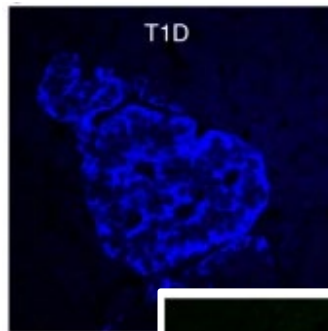
Menegaz, D., Hagan, D.W., et al. [Nature metabolism](#), 2019

Cytosolic pools of **GABA** are **depleted** in all type 1 diabetic islets

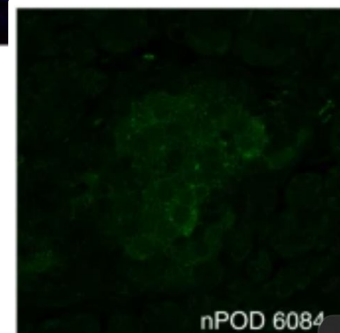
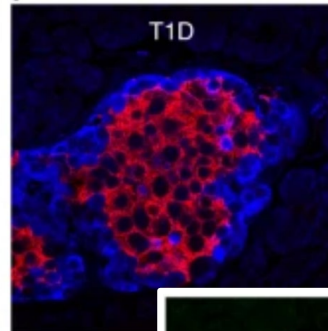
Healthy donor



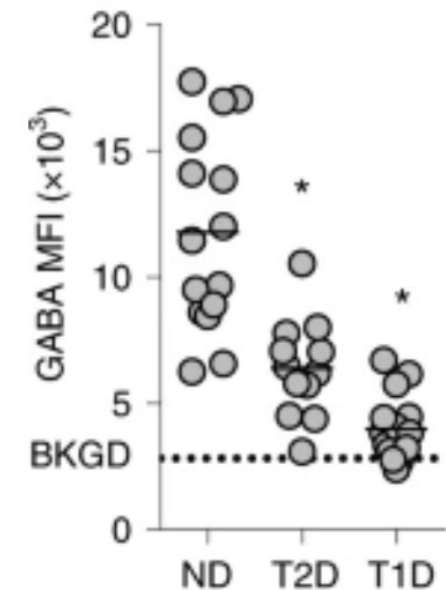
T1D Donor  
(devoid of  $\beta$ -cells)



T1D Donor  
(with residual  $\beta$ -cells)



GABA content in T1D  $\beta$ -cells is lower in comparison to healthy controls and T2D patients

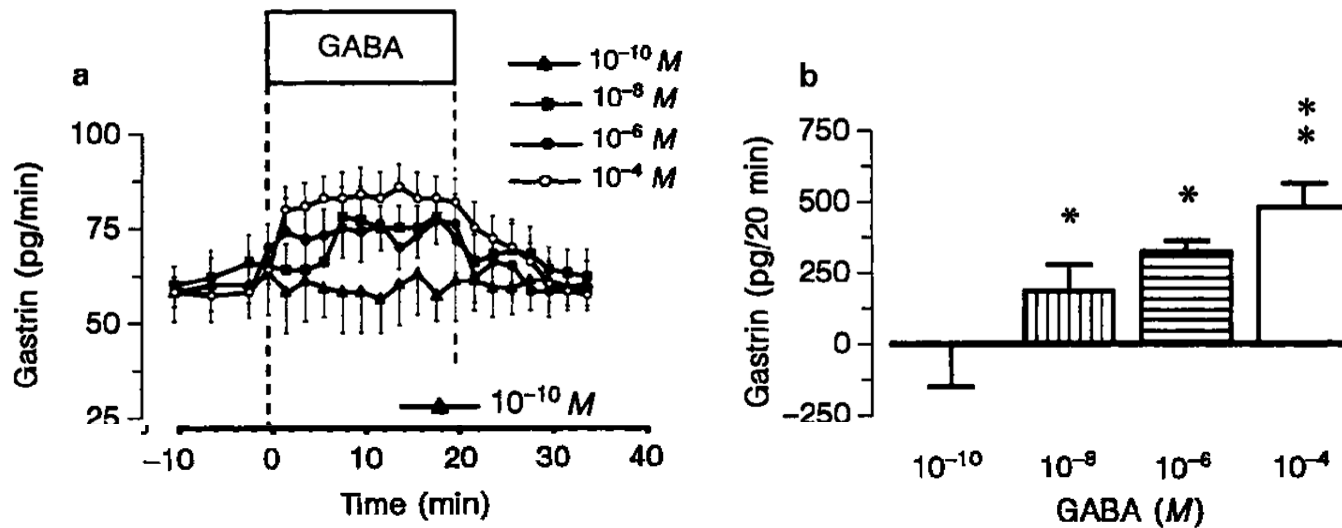




# Addition of GABA to the combination of DDP-4i and PPI is needed to ensure **GLP-1** and **gastrin** elevation in all T1D patients

## GABA stimulates secretion of Gastrin

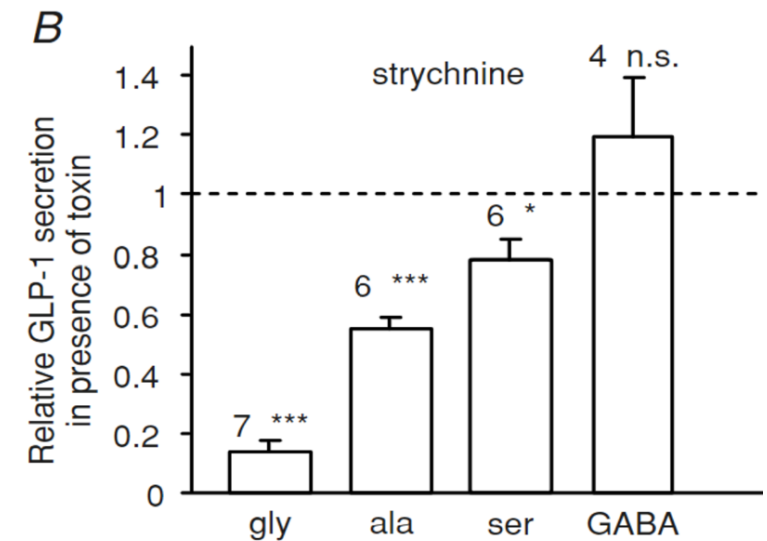
Perfused rat stomachs, Digestion, Weigert et al, 1998



## GABA stimulates secretion of GLP1

The Journal of  
**Physiology**

L-cell model GLUTag cells,  
Journal of Physiology,  
A. Gamiero, et al., 2005



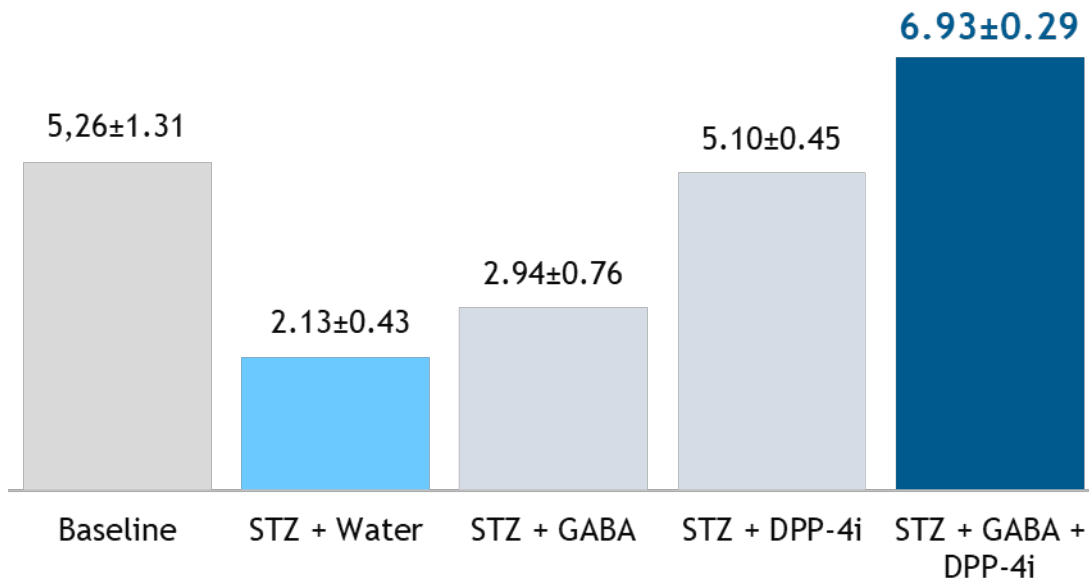
# GABA and DPP-4i synergistically stimulate the secretion of GLP-1, promote $\beta$ -cell proliferation and reduce the expression of pro-apoptotic TxNIP

## Combined effect of GABA and DPP-4i was able to synergistically increase GLP-1



STZ mice, Liu W. et al., *Frontiers in Pharmacology*, 2017

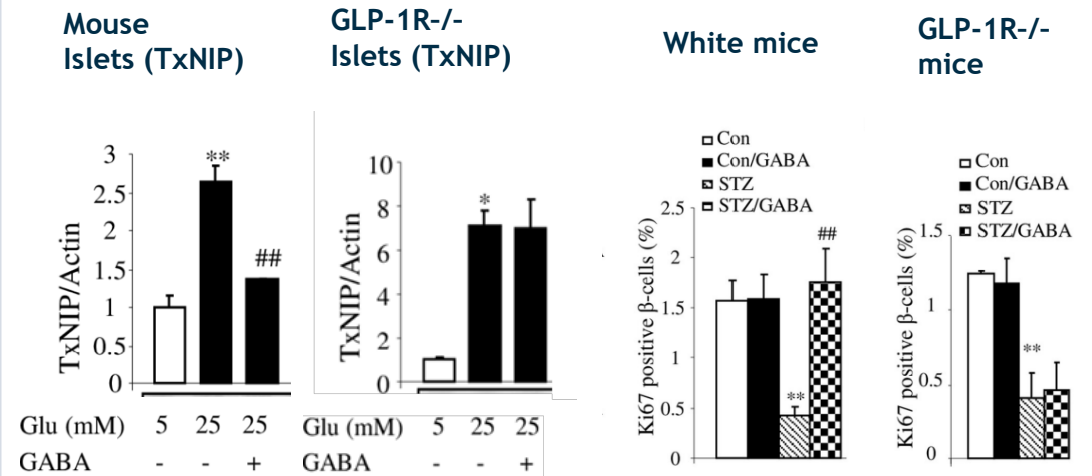
GLP-1 (pmol/L)



## GABA requires GLP-1 signaling to reduce the expression of TxNIP and promote proliferation



WT mice and GLP1-1R<sup>-/-</sup> mice, Weijuan Shao et al., *Journal of Endocrinology*, 2020

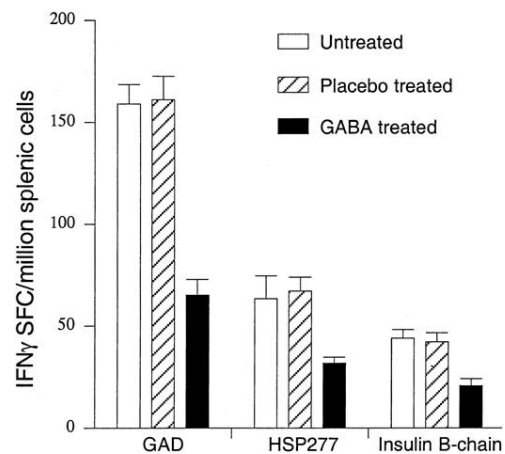


# GABA and DPP-4i inhibits inflammatory immune response in T1D

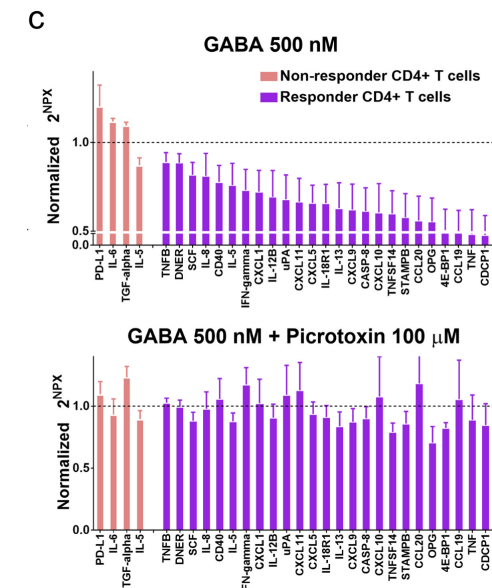
## GABA inhibits T cell autoimmunity and inflammatory cytokine responses in T1D



NOD mice, Tian J. et al.,  
[The Journal of Immunology](#), 2004



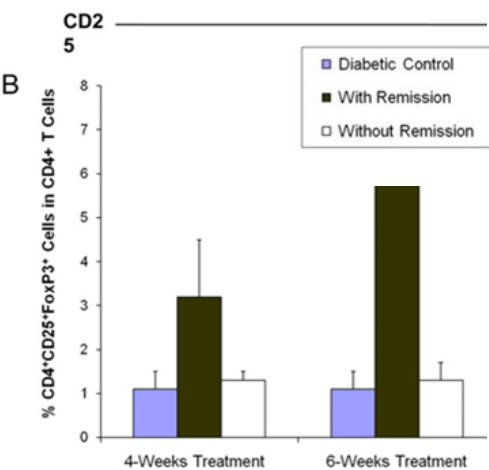
T1D patients, A. K. Bhandage et al.,  
[eBioMedicine](#), 2018



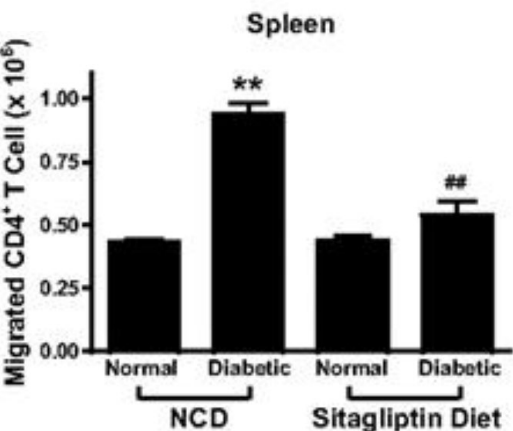
## DPP-4i increases CD4+ regulatory T cells and decrease CD4+ proinflammatory T cells

### ENDOCRINOLOGY

NOD Mice, Tian L. et al.,  
[Endocrinology](#), 2010



NOD Mice, S. J. Kim. et al.,  
[Diabetes](#), 2010



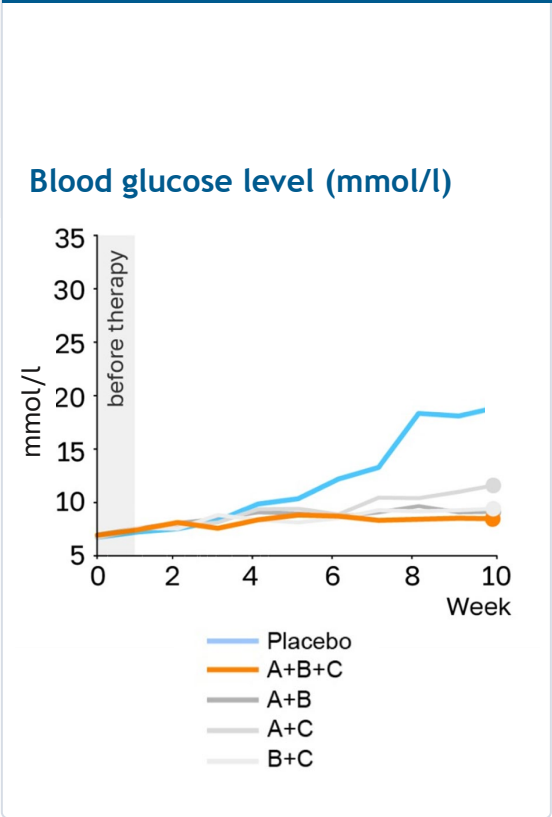
# Triple Therapy showed a superior synergistic effect to reverse Stage 3 T1D in insulin-dependent hyperglycemic NOD mice

A - GABA, B - sitagliptin, C - omeprazole

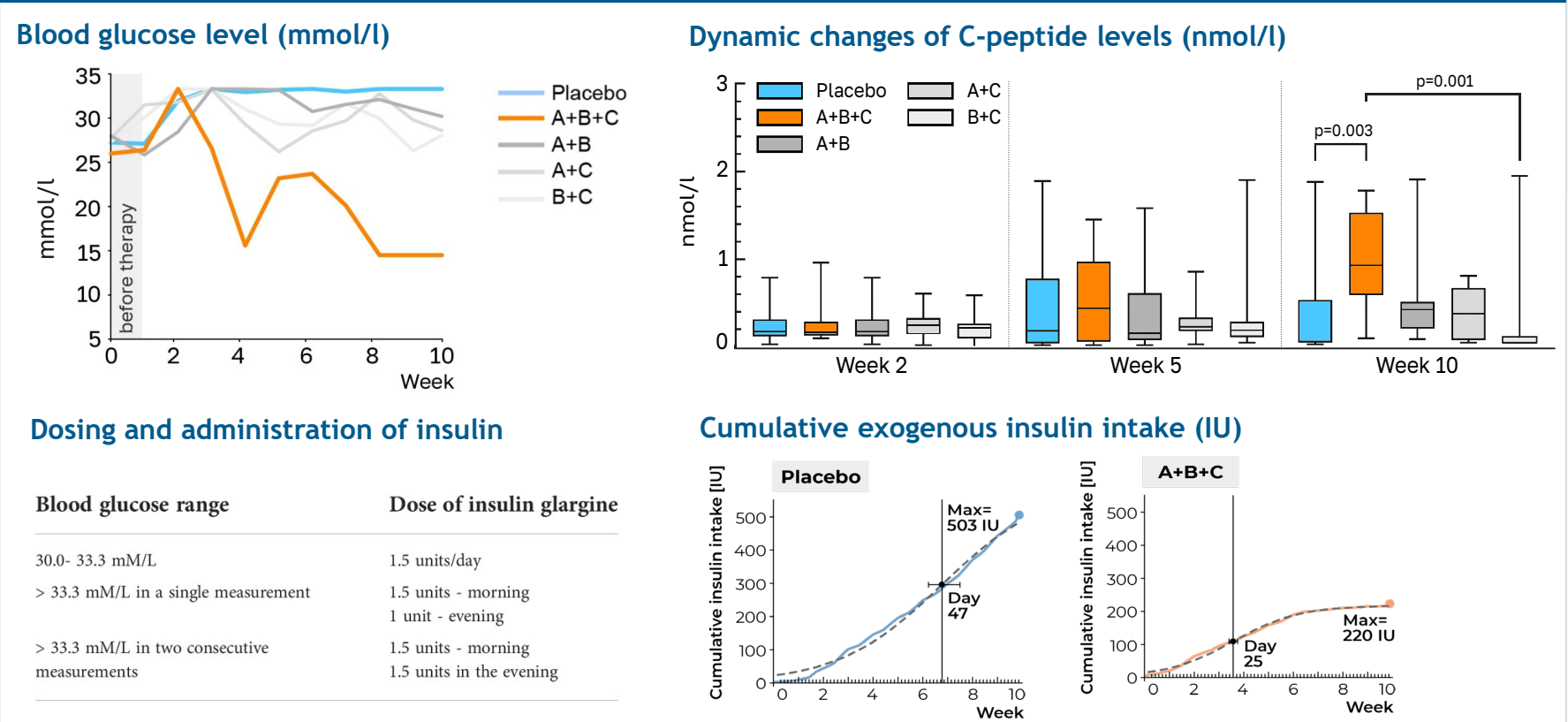


Lagunas-Rangel et al., [Frontiers in Endocrinology](#), 2022

## Pre-diabetic Stage 2 NOD mice



## Hyperglycemic insulin-dependent Stage 3 NOD mice (up to 6 weeks after diagnosis)

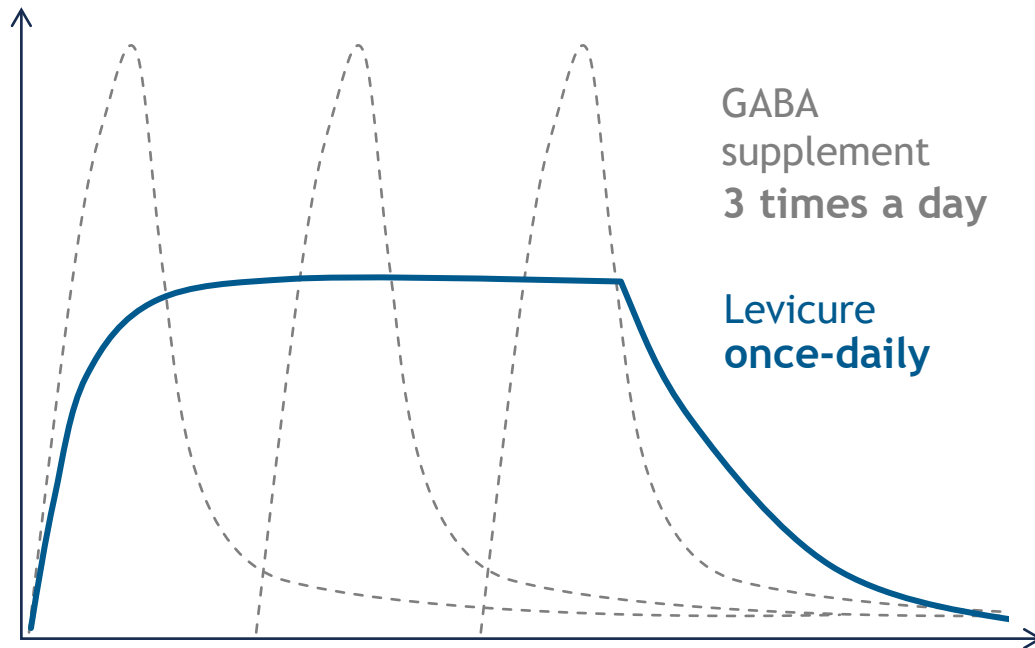




# Superior Pharmaceutical Offering: proprietary extended-release and gastro-retentive GABA formulation

## Suitable GABA dosage forms with appropriate release profiles are not commercially available

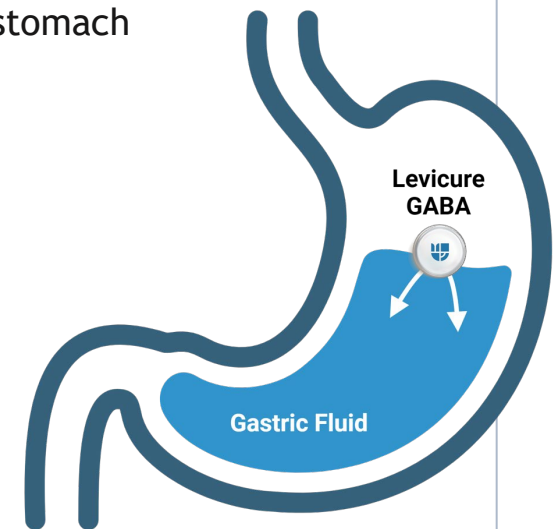
Schematic pharmacokinetic plasma concentration/time curve



Our own-developed patented proprietary GABA is formulated for optimal therapeutic effect

Extended-release (ER) GABA in **gastro-retentive (GR)** form retained in the stomach with a combination of swelling and floating mechanisms:

- Maintain more **consistent plasma concentration** for optimal therapeutic effect
- Provide **once-daily** dosing
- Maximize **GABA bioavailability** at a lower dose
- Minimize potential side effects



# Phase 2 trial with focus on regeneration of $\beta$ -cell mass and rate of T1D remission

## LEVICURE

aims to conduct a prospective, randomized, multi-center, placebo-controlled, double-blind Phase 2 trial for oral combination drug therapy

### Successful Pre-IND meeting with FDA

- 505(b)(2) (3 safe and well-established drugs) - decreased regulatory risk, development time and cost
- Phase 2 ready (No safety required)
- Potential accelerated approval and flexibility on factorial design is suggested based on Phase 2 results

### Primary endpoint

- 0-4 hr area under the curve (AUC) for the C-peptide response to mixed-meal tolerance test (MMTT)

### Secondary endpoints

- Rate of diabetes remission (No Insulin administration, HbA1c equal or less than 6.5%)
- Insulin/weight ratio (units/kg/day)
- HbA1c
- IDA-A1c
- Time to remission
- 0-2hr AUC for the insulin response, glucagon and fasting blood glucose to MMTT
- Mean daily glucose, time-in-range, time below and time above target range via continuous glucose monitoring (CGM)
- Other parameters (Plasma cytokines, GLP-1, Gastrin, Identification of HLA)

### Trial design

Patients diagnosed with T1D in the last 6 months confirmed by the presence of at least 1 diabetes-related autoantibody (either GAD65, IA-2, or ZnT8) and c-peptide > 100 pmol/l

Duration of treatment	36 weeks
Ages	16 - 45 years
Number of subjects (ratio of 2:1)	56 active 28 placebo

# Levicure's industry experts are dedicated to transform the lives of patients living with T1D



**DANIIL KOSHELEV**

CEO & co-Founder

- 12 years executive and business development
- Former CEO in biotech



Roland Berger



**YAFIT STARK, PhD**

Head of Clinical Development

- 34 years clinical development experience
- Former VP Head of Global Clinical Development and CCO, Teva



School of Medicine  
Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences  
Tel Aviv University



**MIKE TEILER**

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

- 35 years pharma experience
- Former VP Generic R&D, Teva International



**LUCY KOSHELEVA**

R&D & co-Founder

- Former VP Investor relationship
- Uppsala researcher (molecular signaling in T1D)



**OLGA KARPINCHYK**

Accounts & Operations

- Former executive at a private medical centre
- Accounts and operational



**SHMUEL LEVIT, MD, PhD**

Founder & CMO

- Over 38 years of clinical practice
- Head of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Institute



**VALENTINE SUKHOVEEVA**

CFO & COO

- Former investment director at a private equity fund
- 10+ years of project management roles

# Leviculture's advisors are uniquely equipped to guide Leviculture in launching **disease-modifying treatment** in T1D



**ALEX RABINOVITCH,  
MD, FRCP(C)**  
Senior Scientific Advisor



**DANIEL  
KAUFMAN, PhD**  
Senior Scientific Advisor



**ALEXANDER FLEMING,  
MD, PhD**  
Regulatory Advisor



**WALKER HAGAN,  
PhD**  
Scientific Advisor



**MARGERY  
FISCHBEIN, MBA**  
Financial Advisor



**CHRIS  
HOWARD, MBA**  
Business Advisor



**ERIC  
DUTCHER, MBA**  
Fundraising Advisor



**AMOS ANATOT**  
Strategic &  
Executive Advisor





# NOW IS THE TIME

Join us on our way to T1D  
remission!



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