# Innate Defense Regulators: Agnostic Therapy for Antibiotic Resistant Disease

"Supercharging existing and new antibiotic therapies"

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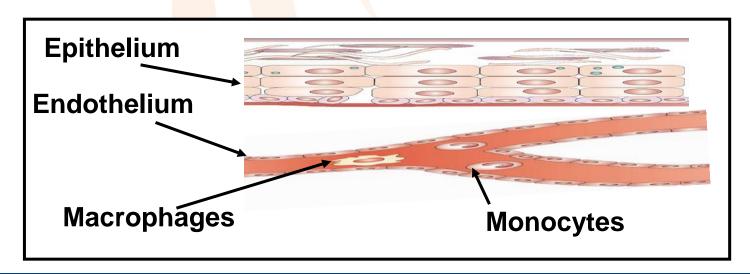
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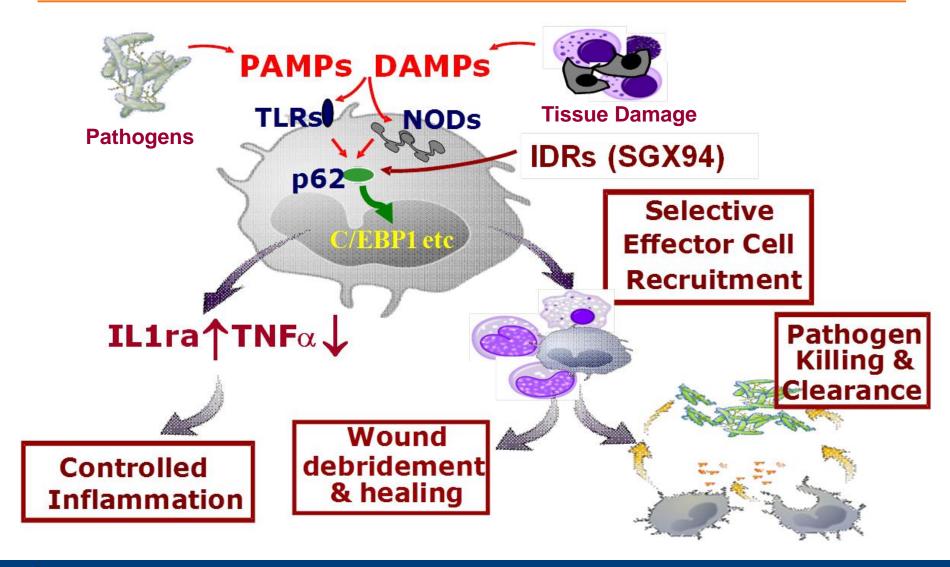
# **Leveraging Innate Immunity**

- Rapid, non-specific response
- Involves circulating <u>and</u> tissue resident cells.
- Inflammation separable from tissue healing / bacterial clearance mechanisms
- Antibiotics act in tandem with the innate immune system





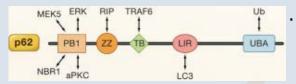
# **Innate Defense Regulators**



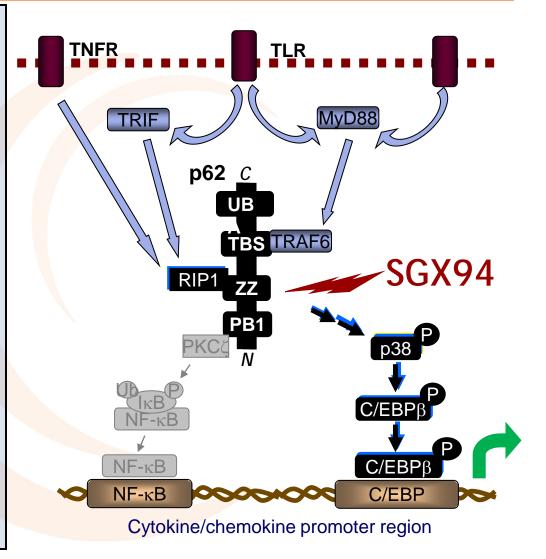


# SGX94 Targets Sequestosome-1 (p62)

 SGX94 (dusquetide) specifically binds to the ZZ domain of p62



- Selectively stabilizes TNFα-induced p62-RIP1 complex formation
  - No effect on TNFα-induced p62-PKCξ complex formation
- Specifically modulates downstream pathways by activating MAPK p38 and C/EBPβ
  - Does not modulate NF-κB activity
- Results in:
  - Modulation of cytokine/chemokine production
  - Altered protein expression in endothelial cells, monocytes
  - Increased macrophage recruitment to the site of infection/damage



Jorge Moscat and Maria T. Diaz-Meco. Cell 137, June 12, 2009



# **Broad Spectrum Activity**

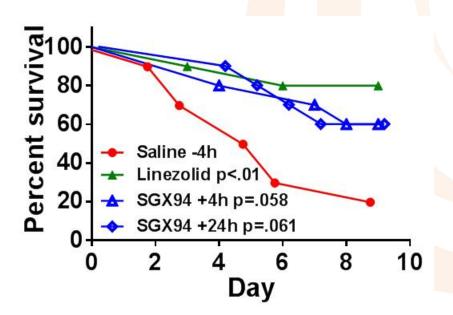
- Improves survival and enhances bacterial clearance
- Efficacious against various pathogens:
  - Gram-negative (*P. aeruginosa, B. pseudomallei*) <u>OR</u> Gram-positive (*S. aureus,* MRSA)
  - Extracellular (MRSA, S. aureus) <u>OR</u> Intracellular (B. pseudomallei)
  - Antibiotic sensitive (S. aureus) <u>OR</u> Antibiotic resistant (MRSA, B. pseudomallei)
- Effective at various anatomic locations
- Active in immune compromised animals
- Aids in resolution of tissue damage
- Modulates inflammation
- Enhances antibiotic action when antibiotics alone are suboptimal



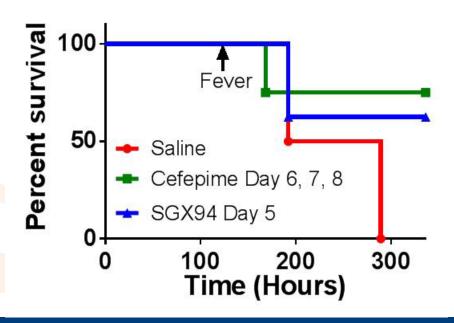
#### **Anti-Infective**

 Improves survival with therapeutic administration, including in immune-compromised animals

**Gram-positive, Antibiotic- resistant Bacteremia (MRSA)** 



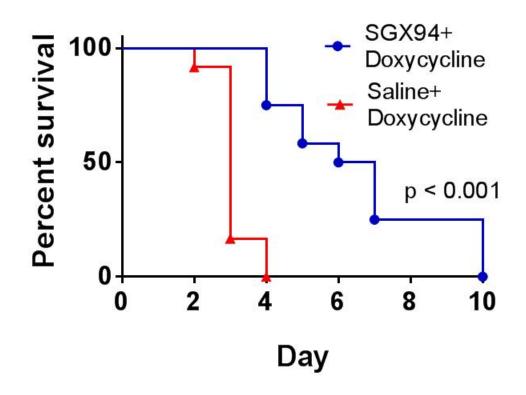
Gram-negative, Leukopenic Septicemia (*P. aeruginosa*)





### **Complements Antibiotic Action**

Combination treatment with lung infection: Gram-negative, Antibiotic-resistant *B. pseudomallei* 

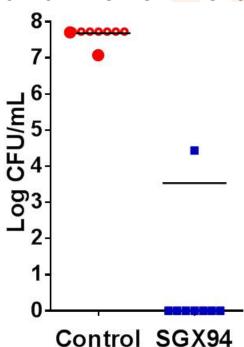




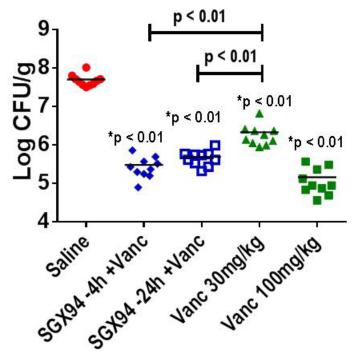
#### **Bacterial Clearance**

# Enhances bacterial clearance – alone or in conjunction with antibiotics

#### S. aureus Peritoneal Infection: Stand Alone Therapy



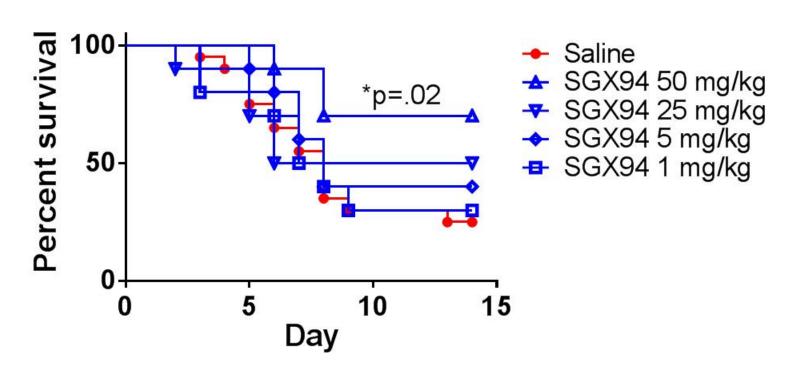
# MRSA Thigh Infection: Combination Treatment





### **Anti-Infective Dose Response**

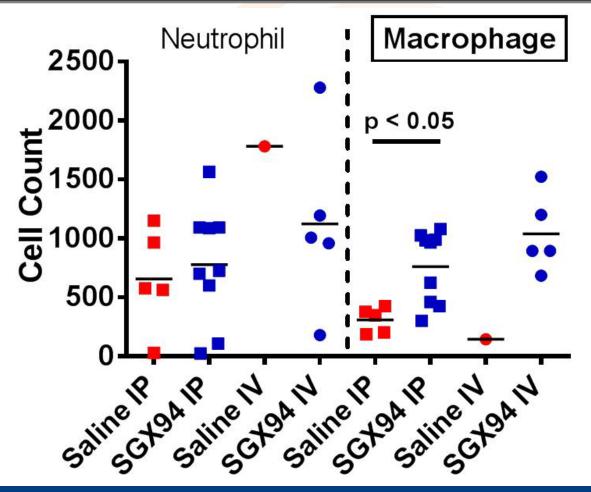
# MRSA Bacteremia in Nude Mice with Treatment 4 hours prior to Infection





### **Increased Macrophage Recruitment**

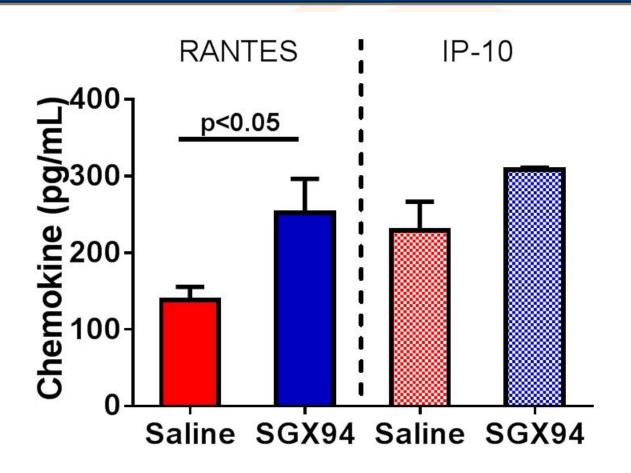
#### Peritoneal macrophages increased in MRSA IP infection





# **Early Chemokine Responses**

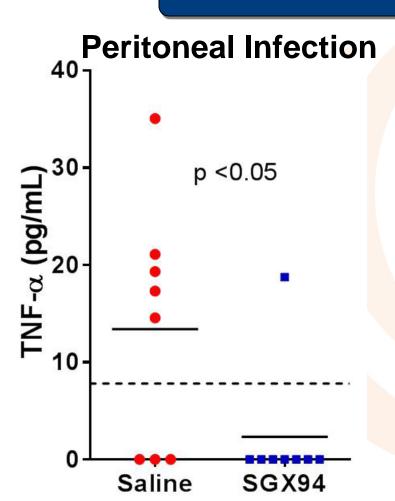
#### Peritoneal RANTES and IP10 increased in MRSA IP infection

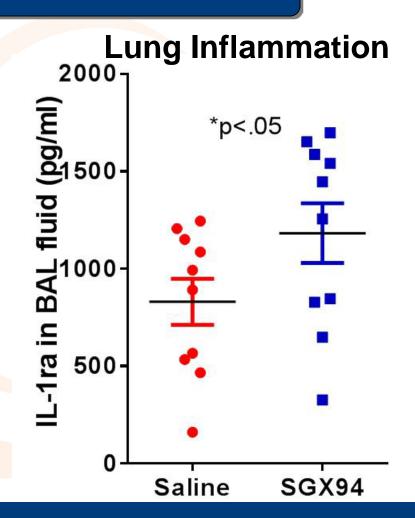




# **Anti-Inflammatory Action**

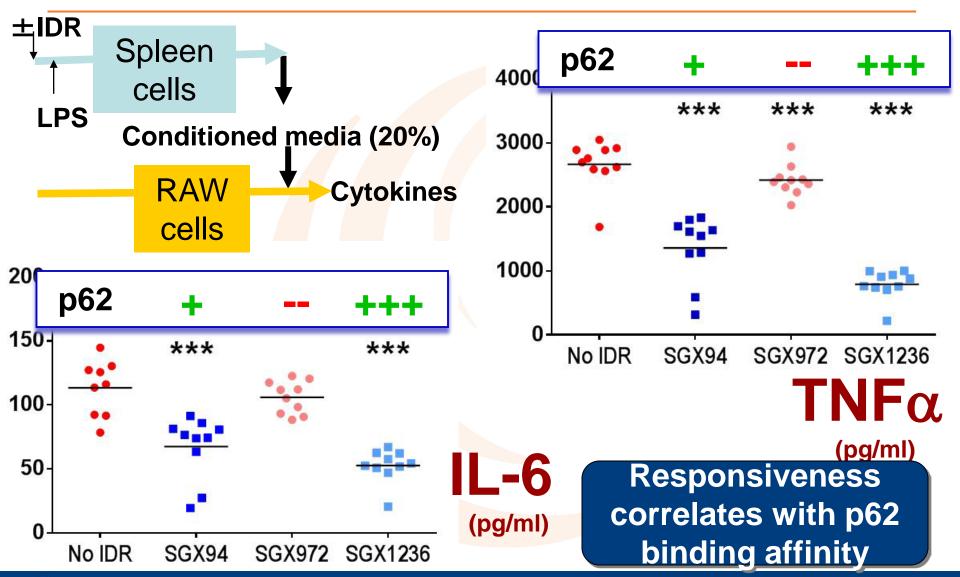
#### TNF $\alpha$ decreased and IL-1ra increased





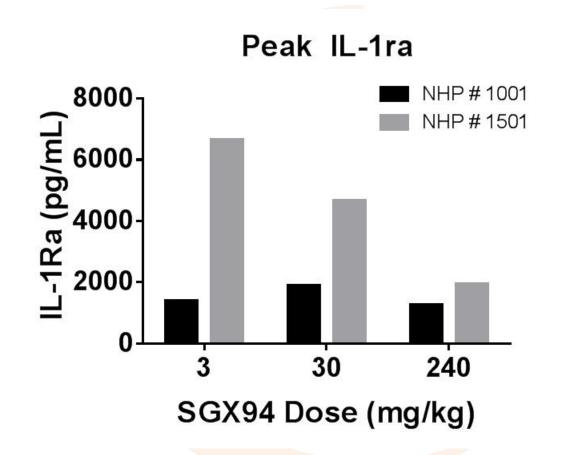


#### **Tissue-Mediated Effects**



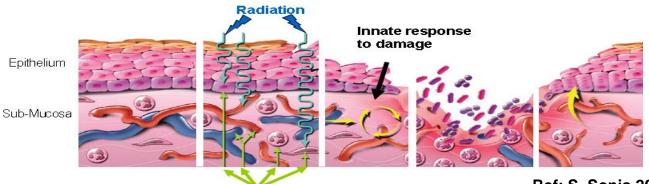


# **Anti-Inflammatory Dose Response**





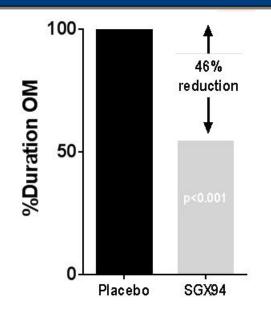
# **Chronic Injury Models: Oral Mucositis**

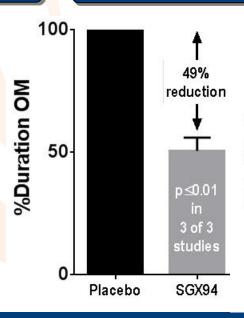


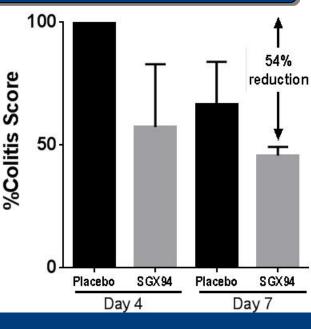
Ref: S. Sonis 2004

#### **Radiation-Induced Mucositis**

#### **Chemotherapy-Induced Mucositis**



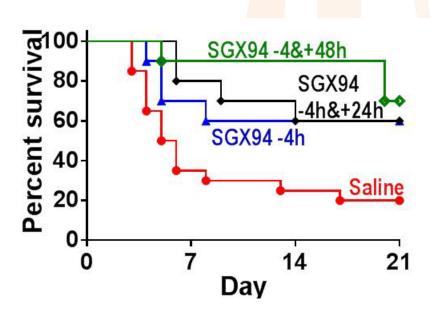




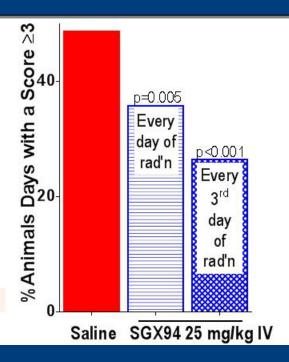
# **Enduring Pharmacodynamic Effect**

- Rapid PK (expected for peptide product)
- Repeat administration within 24-48 hours has no additional benefit
- Treatment up to 5 days prior to infection is effective

# **Gram-positive, Antibiotic- resistant Bacteremia**



#### **Oral Mucositis Model**





#### **Translation to the Clinic**

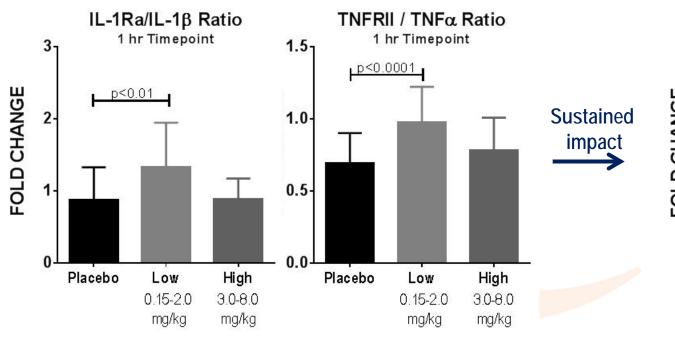
- Innate immune system present in all orders of mammals
  - Highly conserved
- Target protein p62 highly conserved
  - 91% sequence identity mouse-human
  - 99% sequence identity orangutan-human
- Phase 1 study in 84 healthy human volunteers
- Phase 2 study in 111 head and neck cancer patients at risk of severe oral mucositis
- Complete concordance between nonclinical and clinical findings

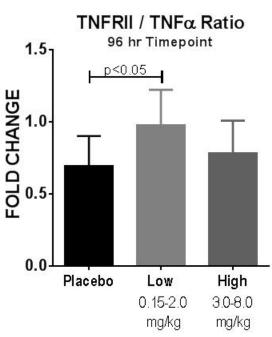


# **Anti-Inflammatory**

 Whole blood samples collected at various timepoints postdosing are stimulated with LPS (endotoxin) for 4 hours

# Anti-Inflammatory Effect Stronger at Low Dose Enduring PD Response







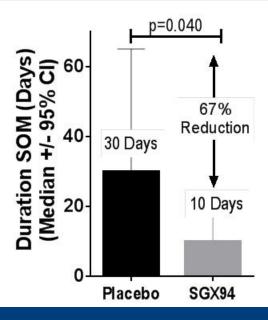
# Tissue Healing/Anti-Inflammatory

 Enrolled 111 head and neck cancer (HNC) patients planned to receive at least 55 Gy radiation and either weekly (30-40 mg/m²) or every 3<sup>rd</sup> week (80-100 mg/m²) cisplatin

#### **Duration Severe OM**

#### 

# Duration Severe OM High Risk Subpopulation

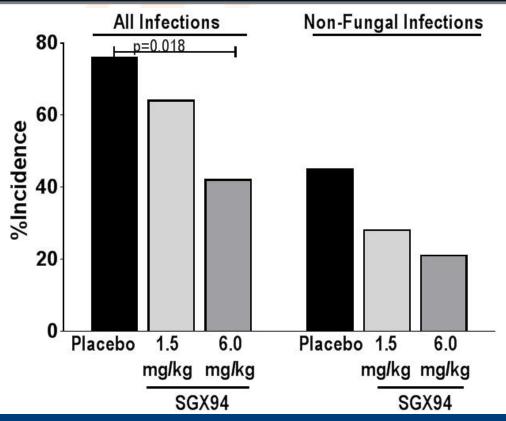




#### **Anti-Infective**

- Recorded infection as a monitored adverse event (Phase 2 study)
- All concurrent antibiotic treatments allowed

#### All and Non-Fungal (Bacterial) Infections Reduced





#### **Infectious Disease**

- Broad-spectrum activity
  - Does not require positive identification of pathogen
  - Effective irrespective of antibiotic resistance
  - Will work in at-risk populations (immune-compromised)
- Combination activity:
  - Can be combined with standard of care antibiotic therapy – tested for interference with most major antibiotic classes
  - No PK interference with other drugs likely (rapid degradation by blood/tissue peptidases; kidney/liver functions not required)



# **IDR Program Status**

- Phase 2 clinical study in oral mucositis completed
- Phase 3 clinical study in oral mucositis initiating 2017
- cGMP quality drug product available
- Pharmacokinetics and nonclinical toxicology completed
- Phase 1 healthy volunteer studies completed
- Portfolio of IDR analogs:
  - Co-crystal structure solved for SGX94 in its target binding site
  - SAR against target protein binding; peptidomimetic analogs developed



#### **Conclusions**

- IDRs, such as SGX94, represent a new class of compound with unique mechanism of action targeting p62
- IDRs may significantly enhance antibiotic efficacy without increasing resistance
  - Does not interfere with antibiotic action on either a PD or PK basis
- IDR action is independent of bacterial pathogen characteristics:
  - Broad-spectrum activity
  - Targets both tissue mediated and circulating innate immune responses
  - Extended PD action
- High degree of clinical translation observed in recent Phase 2 clinical study



# **Acknowledgements**

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