

## Fragment-based discovery of MRTX9768, a synthetic lethalbased inhibitor designed to bind the PRMT5•MTA complex and selectively target *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* tumors

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Abstract LB003



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## Matthew Marx

I have the following financial relationships to disclose:

Stockholder in:Mirati TherapeuticsEmployee of:Mirati Therapeutics

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## First-in-class Approach Targeting the PRMT5•MTA Complex



- PRMT5 was the top hit in large scale functional genomics screens that demonstrated shRNAmediated PRMT5 inhibition selectively inhibited *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* cancer cell line viability<sup>1</sup>
- MTAP is proximal to and co-deleted with CDKN2A, the most commonly deleted gene in human cancer; MTAP deletion increases cellular concentrations of its substrate, MTA
- MTA binds to and partially inhibits PRMT5, creating a novel, *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* cancer cell-specific target, the PRMT5•MTA complex
- Current clinical PRMT5 inhibitors do not bind PRMT5•MTA and do not exhibit selectivity for MTAP<sup>DEL</sup> cancers, resulting in "head to toe" inhibition of PRMT5 and the possibility of a low therapeutic index<sup>2</sup>
- MAT2A was also identified as a synthetic lethal target for *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* cancers as an indirect approach to inhibit PRMT5 by depleting its substrate, SAM; Early clinical data suggests maximal MAT2A inhibition only leads to partial PRMT5 inhibition in tumors<sup>3</sup>
- MRTX9768 is a small molecule proof of concept for selective inhibition of the PRMT5•MTA complex in MTAP<sup>DEL</sup> cancer cells with prospects for an improved therapeutic index based on the concept of synthetic lethality

<sup>1</sup> Mavrakis, K, Science, 2016; Kryukov, G, Science, 2016; Marjon, Cell Reports, 2016; <sup>2</sup> Barbash L (GSK), AACR, 2017; JNJ – Brehmer D (Janssen), AACR, 2017; <sup>3</sup>Heist, R, AACR, 2019 poster (investor.agios.com) - 65-74% plasma SAM decrease → ~37% tumor SDMA inhibition.

### MRTX9768 binds PRMT5•MTA complex in MTAP-deleted tumor cells

PRMT5.SAM Active

> SAM is a methyl donor

SAM Activating co-factor

Activated PRMT5 regulates RNA splicing, gene expression, and protein translation PRMT5•MTA

MTA Inhibitory co-factor

PRMT5•MTA Selectively inhibited

**MTA** competes with SAM for binding to catalytic site

> **MRTX9768** Selective for **PRMT5-MTA** complex

The CDKN2A/MTAP gene locus is the most common deletion in human cancers, resulting in increased MTA and formation of PRMT5-MTA complexes, a new target for therapeutic intervention

MRTX9768 binds to

and fully inhibits **PRMT5•MTA** complex

n MTAP<sup>DEL</sup> tumor cells, MRTX PRMT5-MTA inhibitors selectively kill tumor cells while sparing healthy cells

## Identification of the First Known Selective Binder of the PRMT5•MTA Complex

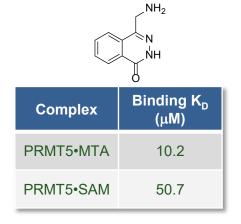


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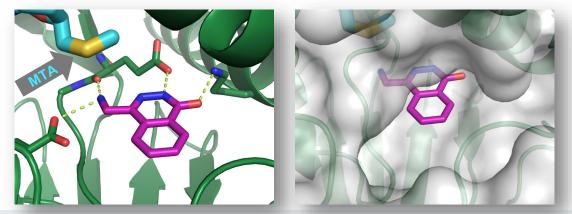
Fragment library screened by SPR for binding to PRMT5•MTA and PRMT5•SAM complexes



Mirati fragment hit – First x-ray structure of ligand bound to the PRMT5•MTA complex

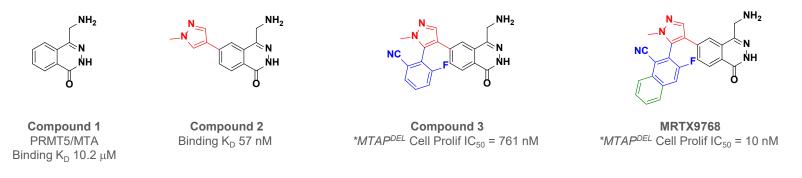


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# PRMT5•MTA Inhibitor Optimization to MRTX9768

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- A co-crystal structure of the fragment hit in PRMT5 confirmed MTA binding and suggested vectors for further elaboration
- Addition of methylpyrazole increased binding to the PRMT5•MTA complex by making a key hydrogen bond to Leu312 backbone N-H
- Addition of cyanofluorophenyl increased potency through an additional interaction with Phe580 backbone N-H and demonstrated selective inhibition of viability in *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* cells
- Further optimization resulted in improvement in antiproliferative activity and high bioavailability in rodent and nonrodent species

\*MTAP<sup>DEL</sup> Cell Prolif assay: 10 Day Cell Titer Glo assay in CRISPR/Cas9-engineered MTAP<sup>DEL</sup> HCT116 (CRC) cells

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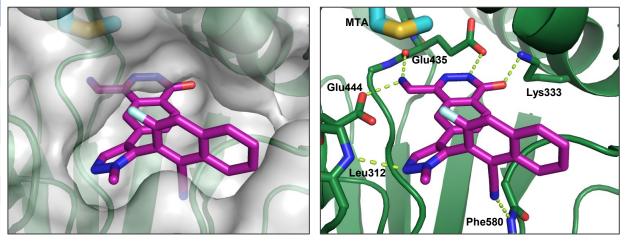
# MRTX9768 has a Favorable ADME Profile and Binds the PRMT5•MTA Complex

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A	DME/PK property	MRTX9768		
In vitro	PPB Fu (H   C   D   M)	0.14   0.10   0.07   0.13		
	CYP Inhibition	CYP3A4 IC <sub>50</sub> 6.2 µM		
	CYP TDI	acceptable		
	CYP induction	acceptable		
	Hep Eh (H   C   D   M)	0.50   0.50   0.69   0.68		
ln vivo	CI Eh (C   D   M)	0.55   0.67   0.86		
	%F (C   D   M)	28   56   54		

>50% bioavailability in mice and dogs

Moderate to high clearance



Co-crystal structure with PRMT•5MTA Key polar interactions with protein driving optimization of compound binding and potency

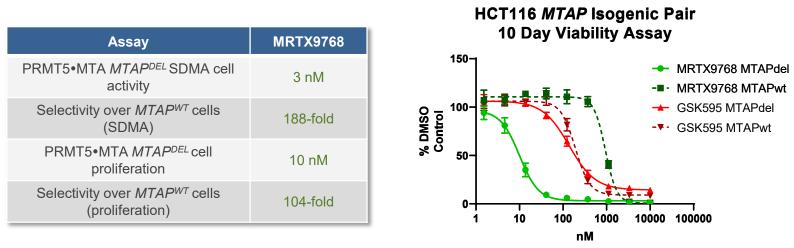
\* PO dose 30 mg/kg in CD-1 mouse and beagle dog, 10 mg/kg in cynomolgus monkey

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# MRTX9768: First-in-class Selective Inhibitor of the PRMT5·MTA Complex



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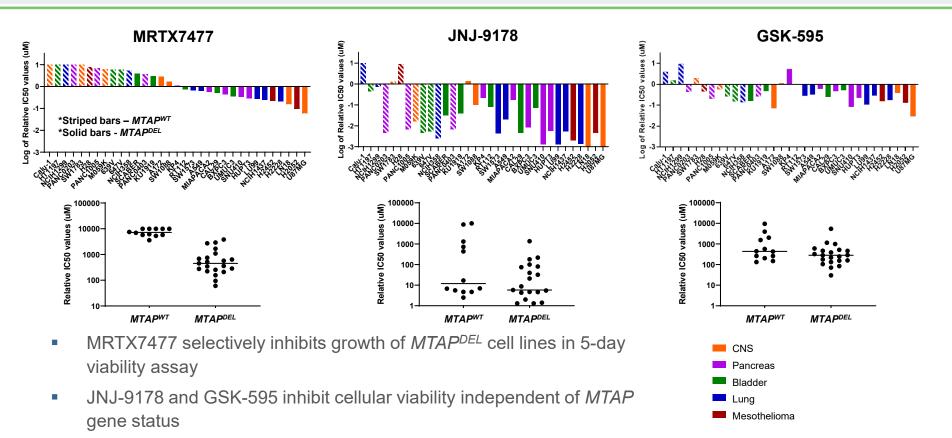
- MRTX9768 binds selectively to the PRMT5•MTA complex with a very slow off rate (K<sub>D</sub> determination ongoing)
  - Tight binding leads to prolonged PD effects in vivo
- MRTX9768 demonstrates selective inhibition of SDMA marks and cellular viability in *MTAP*-deleted tumor cells
- A representative clinical compound is not selective for *MTAP*-deleted cells. These findings indicate differential inhibition of PRMT5 in *MTAP<sup>wt</sup>* (normal) and *MTAP*-deleted (tumor) cells by these two classes of agents and suggest the potential for increased therapeutic index compared with first generation PRMT5 inhibitors

Cell activity and proliferation assays: 96 hr SDMA In-Cell Western and 10 Day Cell Titer Glo assays, respectively, in MTAPDEL (PRMT5•MTA) and MTAPWT HCT116 (CRC) cells

In Vitro Cell Viability Screen Demonstrates Selective Sensitivity of Cell Lines Harboring MTAPDEL to PRMT5•MTA Inhibition

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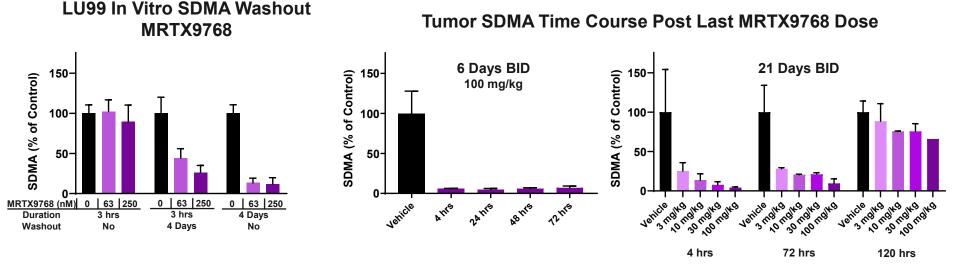
#### AACR ANNUAL MEETING 2021: APRIL 10-15, 2021 AND MAY 17-21, 2021

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## Sustained PD Inhibition Suggests Durable Target Occupancy

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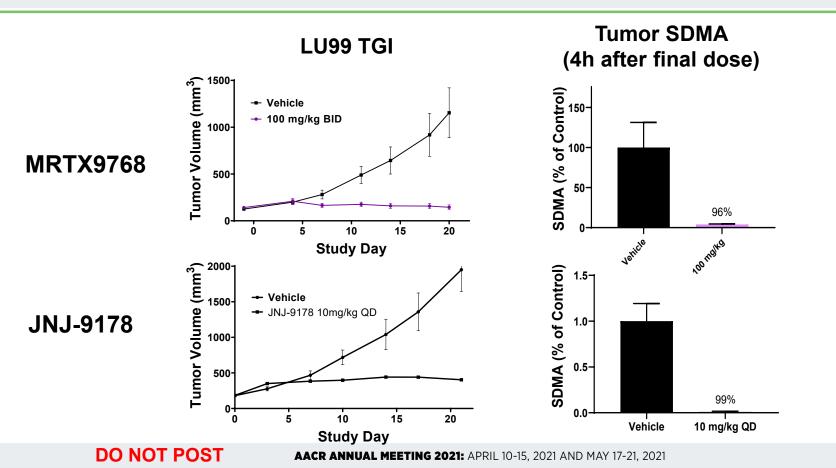
- In vitro SDMA inhibition maintained after 3-hr drug treatment followed by 4-day washout
- In vivo SDMA inhibition maintained 3 days after dosing is stopped

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Data suggest MRTX inhibitors exhibit tight binding and prolonged PRMT5•MTA occupancy

## MRTX9768 Treatment Results in Strong In Vivo Efficacy and PD Target Modulation

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## Hematology Changes Observed in Mice for Clinical Agents are Not Observed for MRTX9768



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Compound	HCT116 MTAP <sup>DEL</sup> / MTAP <sup>WT</sup> prolif. IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	Dose (QD, mg/kg)	Multiple of efficacious daily dose	AUC <sub>d14</sub> (µg*h/mL)	Red blood cells	Platelets	Reticulocytes
JNJ-64619178	5/7	30 N=3	3x (10 mg/kg QD)	32	7.12	839	67.1
GSK-3326595	189 / 237	300 N=2	1.5x (100 mg/kg BID)	60	7.13	1,212	76.5
MRTX9768	10 / 815	1,000 N=4	5x (100 mg/kg BID)	143	8.75	1,141	243
Reference ranges					7.94-10.52	1,032-1,850	236-440

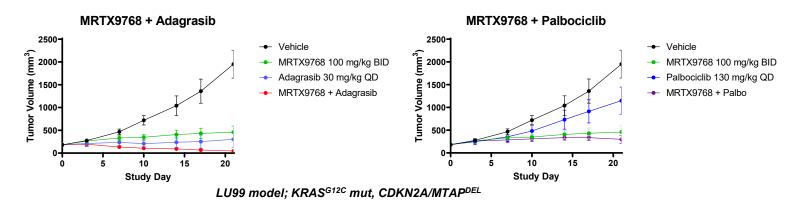
- JNJ: Large decreases in platelets and reticulocytes
- GSK: Large decrease in reticulocytes

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- Preclinical findings for clinical agents consistent with myelosuppression reported in GSK and JNJ clinical trials (anemia, neutropenia and thrombocytopenia)
- MRTX9768: No changes in RBC parameters when administered well above efficacious concentrations (1000 mg/kg)

Increased Tumor Growth Inhibition Observed in Combination with Adagrasib or Palbociclib in LU99 Xenograft Model





- Preclinical evaluation of targeted therapy and chemotherapy combinations ongoing
  - Adagrasib: KRAS<sup>G12C</sup> prevalent in lung adenocarcinoma cancers harboring MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>
  - Palbociclib: CDK4/6 may act as co-driver in cancers harboring co-deletion of CDKN2A/MTAP
- Near complete response in MRTX9768 plus MRTX849 (adagrasib, KRAS G12C inh)-treated tumors
- Increased anti-tumor activity in MRTX9768 plus palbociclib-treated tumors

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## Summary

- We have described the first known preclinical approach specifically targeting the PRMT5•MTA complex in *MTAP<sup>DEL</sup>* cancers, a deletion identified in approximately 10% of all human cancers
- MRTX9768 provides >100-fold selectivity in mechanistic and cell viability assays when evaluated in the HCT116 cell line with and without an MTAP deletion; current clinical agents do not target the PRMT5•MTA complex specifically, and are nonselective inhibitors of cellular viability
- Preclinical antitumor efficacy and tumor PD of MRTX9768 are comparable to a representative clinical PRMT5 inhibitor
- MRTX9768 shows no changes to hematological parameters in mice at multiples of the efficacious dose; current clinical agents show evidence of myelosuppression
- Targeting the PRMT5•MTA complex specifically may provide an opportunity for deeper and more sustained target inhibition in *MTAP* deleted tumors and improved therapeutic index relative to current inhibitors of PRMT5 and MAT2A



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