

AACR Special Conference on Cancer Research

# **OPTIMIZING THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY AND TOLERABILITY THROUGH CANCER CHEMISTRY**

**AACR**  
American Association  
for Cancer Research®

December 9-11, 2024 | Hilton Toronto | Toronto, ON, Canada

## **Overcoming Traditional Design Limitations With AI-Based Discovery**

REC-617: Interim Ph 1 monotherapy dose escalation clinical data

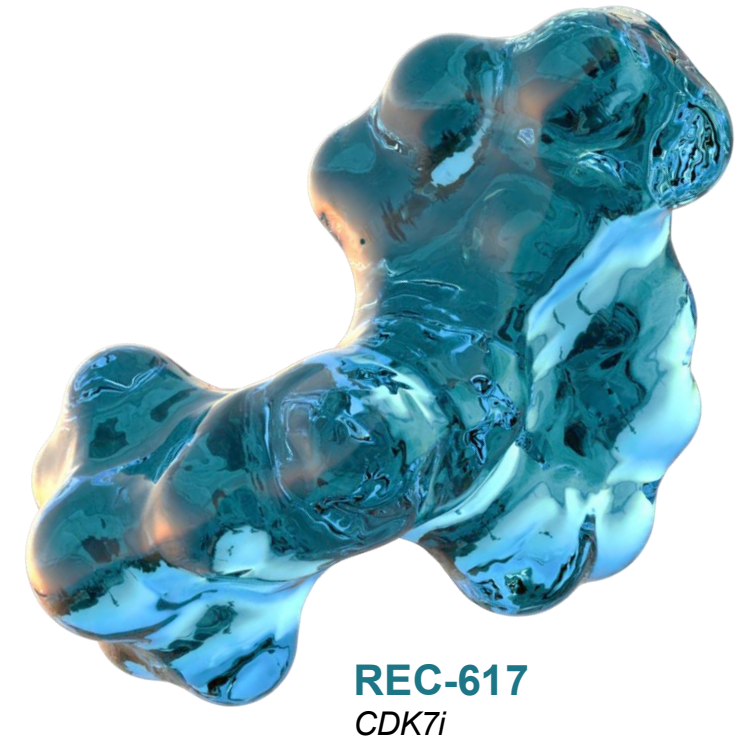
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Chief Scientific Officer

Recursion

# The next 20 minutes!

- The real problem
- Recursion OS – precision molecular design
- CDK7 as an oncology drug target
  - Therapeutic index (TI) challenges
- Emerging data from ELUCIDATE
  - Phase 1 monotherapy dose escalation update

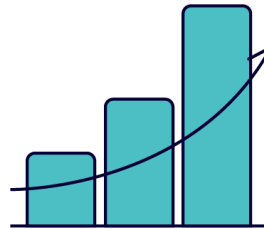


# Issues we must collectively address



**>90%**

Clinical attrition rate



**\$2.4+ billion**

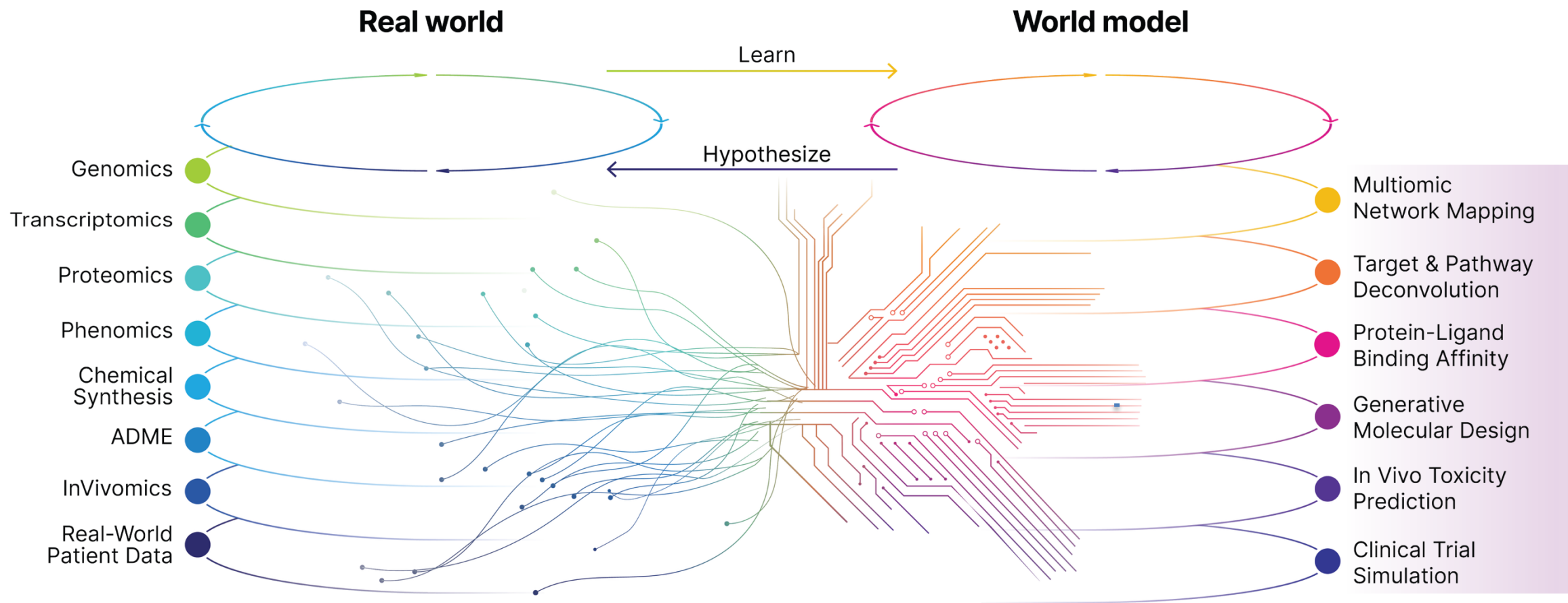
Cost of failure  
(attrition weighted)



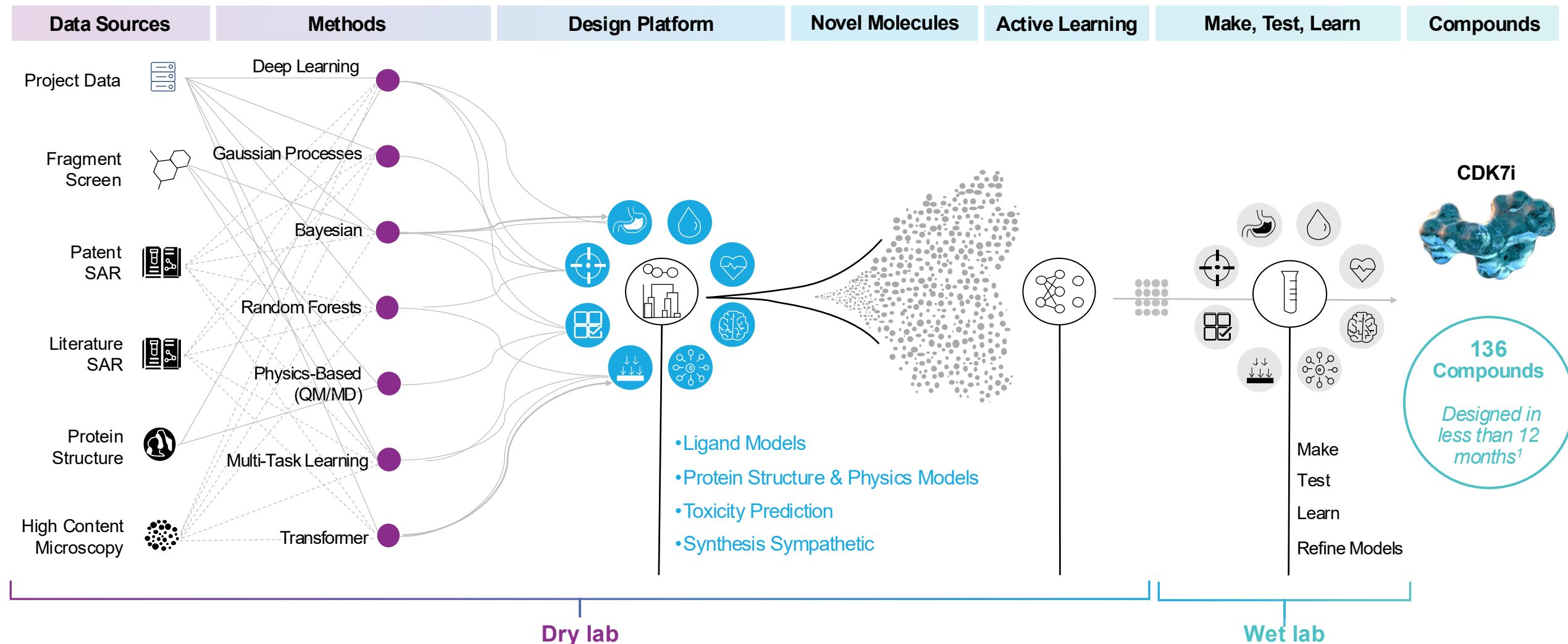
**10-15 years**

To commercial launch

# Recursion OS: End-to-end AI tech stack for drug discovery



# Recursion's precision design platform



1. 11 months from hit to candidate identification



# CDK7: A multi-pronged therapeutic strategy

**Cell cycle dysregulation and transcriptional "addiction" are both hallmarks of many aggressive cancers**

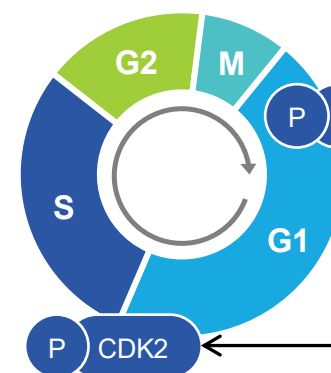
- Simultaneous inhibition of both mechanisms should allow CDK7i to be both effective and overcome common adaptations
- Cell lines resistant to CDK4/6i respond to CDK7i
- CDK7 phosphorylates multiple targets including ER

***Combining CDK7 inhibitors with agents targeting complementary pathways may achieve a more comprehensive antitumor response***

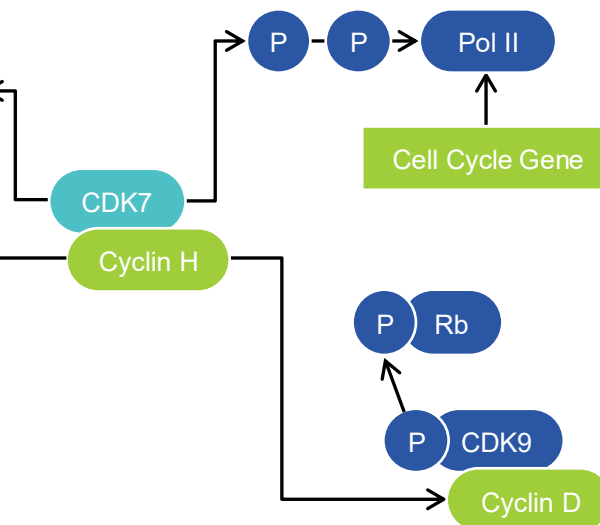
## The design challenge

- CDK7 is indispensable for cell proliferation<sup>1</sup>
- High turnover cells (neutrophils, intestinal, and gastric epithelia) need to be managed

## Cell Cycle Dysregulation in Cancer



## Transcriptionally Addicted Cancers



1. Gunuza, M., Sáiz-Ladera, C., Cañamero, M. *et al*, *EMBO J*, **31**, 2498 (2012). <https://doi.org/10.1038/emboj.2012.94>; Sources: Zhang M *et al*, *Am J Cancer Res*. 2021 May 15;11(5):1913-1935; Schachter and Fisher, *Cell Cycle* 12:20, 3239-3240; October 15, 2013; © 2013 Landes Bioscience; Patel *et al* (2016) *Clin Cancer Res* (2016) 22 (23): 5929-5938; Sava GP *et al*, Ali S. *Cancer Metastasis Rev*. 2020 Sep;39(3):805-823.; Xu *et al*. 2020 *Nature*

# Precision design for optimizing therapeutic index with CDK7

*In an oral molecule, how do we look to achieve a therapeutic index (TI) >1?*

**Highly selective  
for CDK7**

**Rapid oral absorption  
to reduce GI tissue  
exposure**

(highly permeable with minimal  
transporter interactions)

**Reversible MOA allows  
fine control of target  
engagement**

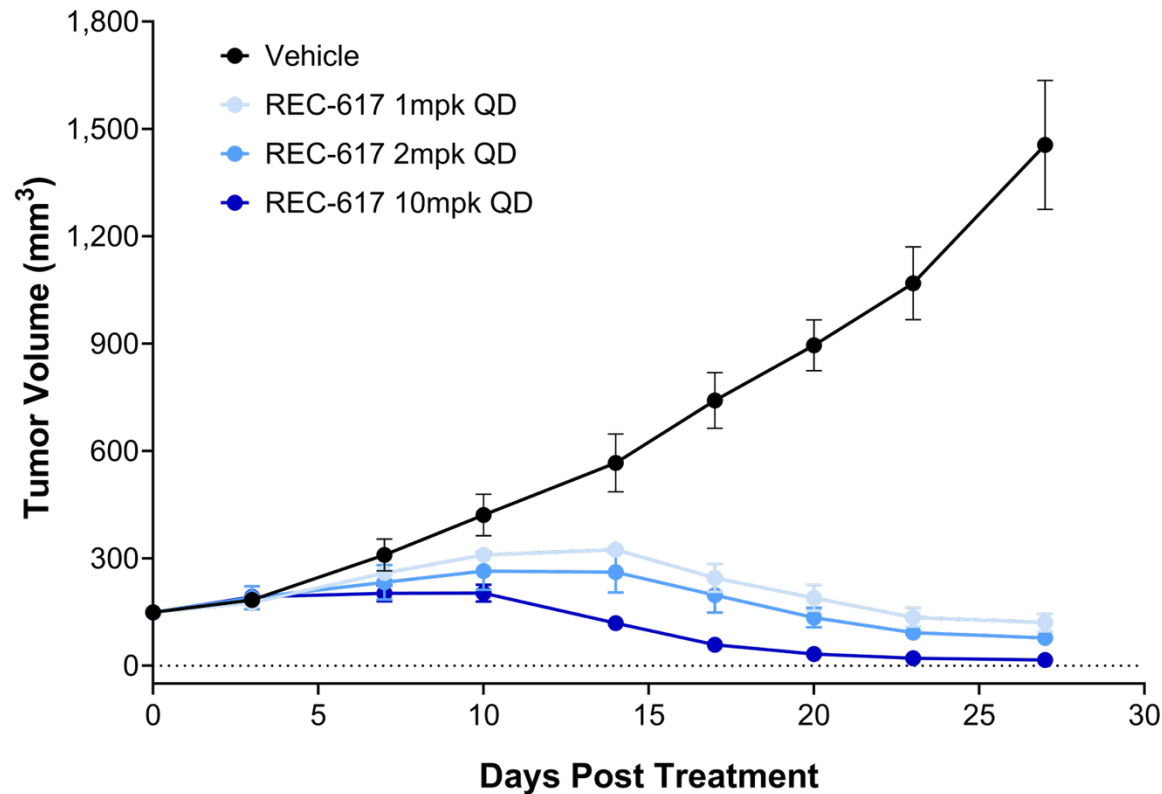
**Manage time on target  
while limiting drug  
holidays**

**Suitable human half-  
life to enable clinical  
team to optimize dosing  
regimen**

**Select tumors with high  
dependency on CDK7**

# In vivo: REC-617 demonstrates potent tumor regressions in *CCNE1*-amp CDX model

## OVCAR3 CDX (*CCNE1*-amplified)

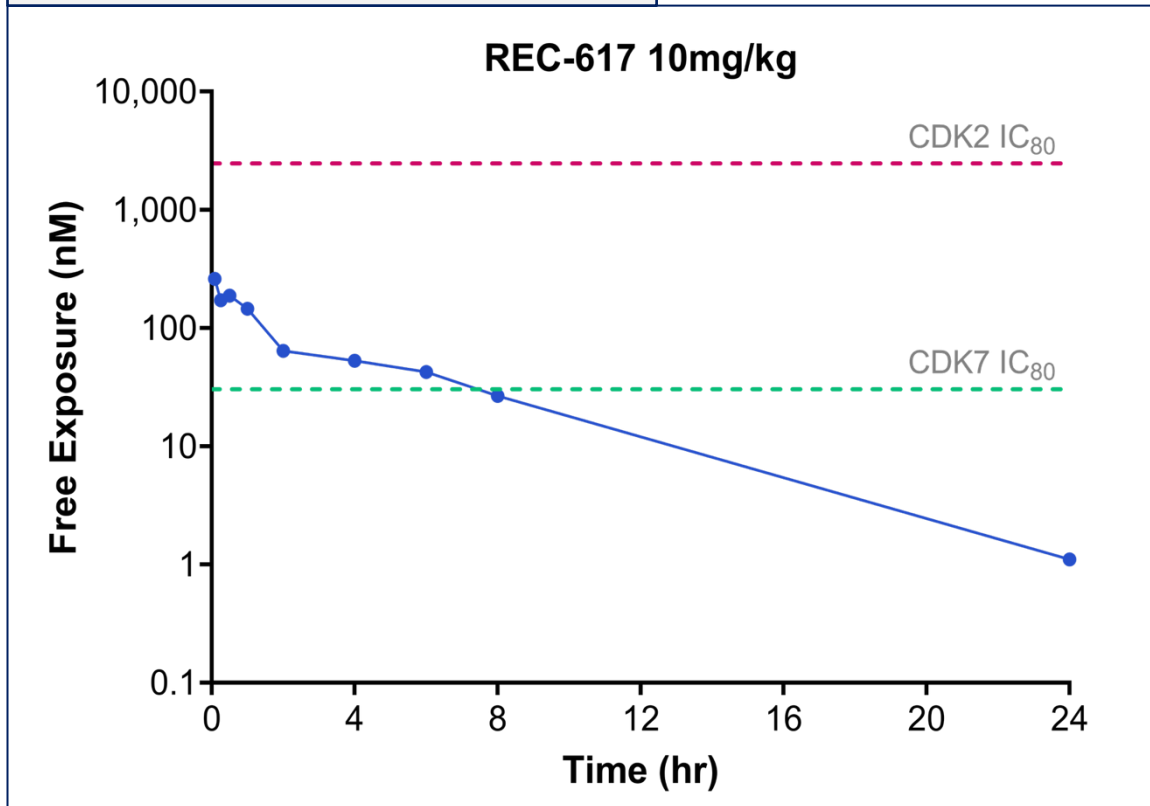


- N = 8
  - 28-day treatment
  - REC-617 administered QD PO
- ▼
- **No significant body weight loss** seen across treatment arms
  - **8/8 mice in 10mpk arm had complete tumor regression at Day 27**



# In vivo: REC-617 is a potent and selective CDK7 inhibitor with favorable PK

## Mouse PK for REC-617



- Day 1 PK samples
- ~6-hour coverage over CDK7 biochemical  $IC_{80}$  led to complete tumor regression
- 82-fold window over nearest off-target

# REC-617 has Best-in-Class potential

| Designed to be selective, rapidly absorbed, reduce interaction with GI transporters and result in better AE management |   |                           |                 |                           |
|--|---|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Category   | Assay                                       | SY-5609                   | Samuraciclib    | REC-617                   |
| Potency & Selectivity  | CDK7 IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)                  | Meets or exceeds criteria | Minor deviation | Meets or exceeds criteria |
|  | CDK family selectivity                      | Meets or exceeds criteria | Major deviation | Meets or exceeds criteria |
|  | HCC70 (breast cancer) IC <sub>50</sub> (nM) | Meets or exceeds criteria | Minor deviation | Meets or exceeds criteria |
| ADME   | Caco-2 A2B (efflux) 10 <sup>-6</sup> cm/s   | Major deviation           | Major deviation | Meets or exceeds criteria |
|  | Human half-life (hr)                        | Minor deviation           | Major deviation | Meets or exceeds criteria |

■ Meets or exceeds criteria    
 ■ Minor deviation    
 ■ Major deviation

CDK7 IC<sub>50</sub>: green <10nM; yellow 10-30nM; red >30nM

CDK7 selectivity: green >100-fold; yellow 30-100-fold; red <30-fold

HCC70 IC<sub>50</sub>: green <100nM; yellow 100-500nM; red >500 nM

Caco-2 A2B (efflux): green >3(<5); yellow >1.5 (<10); red <1.5 (>30)

Half-life: green <15, yellow <24, red >24

- REC-617 has **high permeability, low efflux** – consistent with **rapid absorption**
- Other compounds preclinically:
  - Low permeability and higher efflux suggesting slower absorption
  - Will take significantly longer to reach steady state
  - Long half-life and persistent inhibition of CDK7 potentially driving AEs

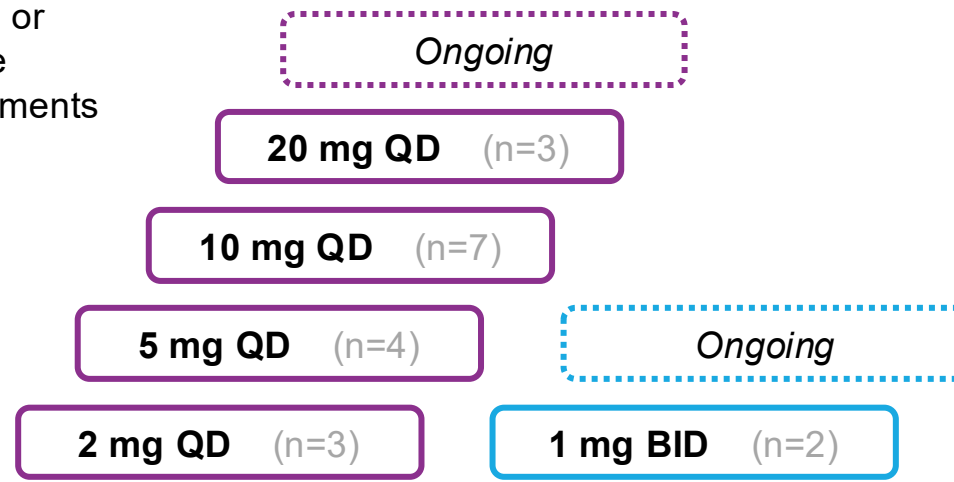
# ELUCIDATE: FIH Phase 1/2 clinical trial of REC-617 in advanced solid tumors

## Phase 1 Monotherapy Dose-Escalation

REC-617 advanced solid tumors

*Enrollment commenced July 2023*

- Unresectable, locally recurrent, or metastatic cancer
- Progressed following, or intolerant to, available standard of care treatments
- ECOG PS 0-1



- 18 of 19 response evaluable patients
- PK/PD
- MTD not reached
- Parallel dose escalation ongoing
- Prophylaxis for N/V/D<sup>1</sup> not mandated

1. N/V/D = nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

# Patient population: Heavily pre-treated with ~4 median prior lines of anti-cancer treatment

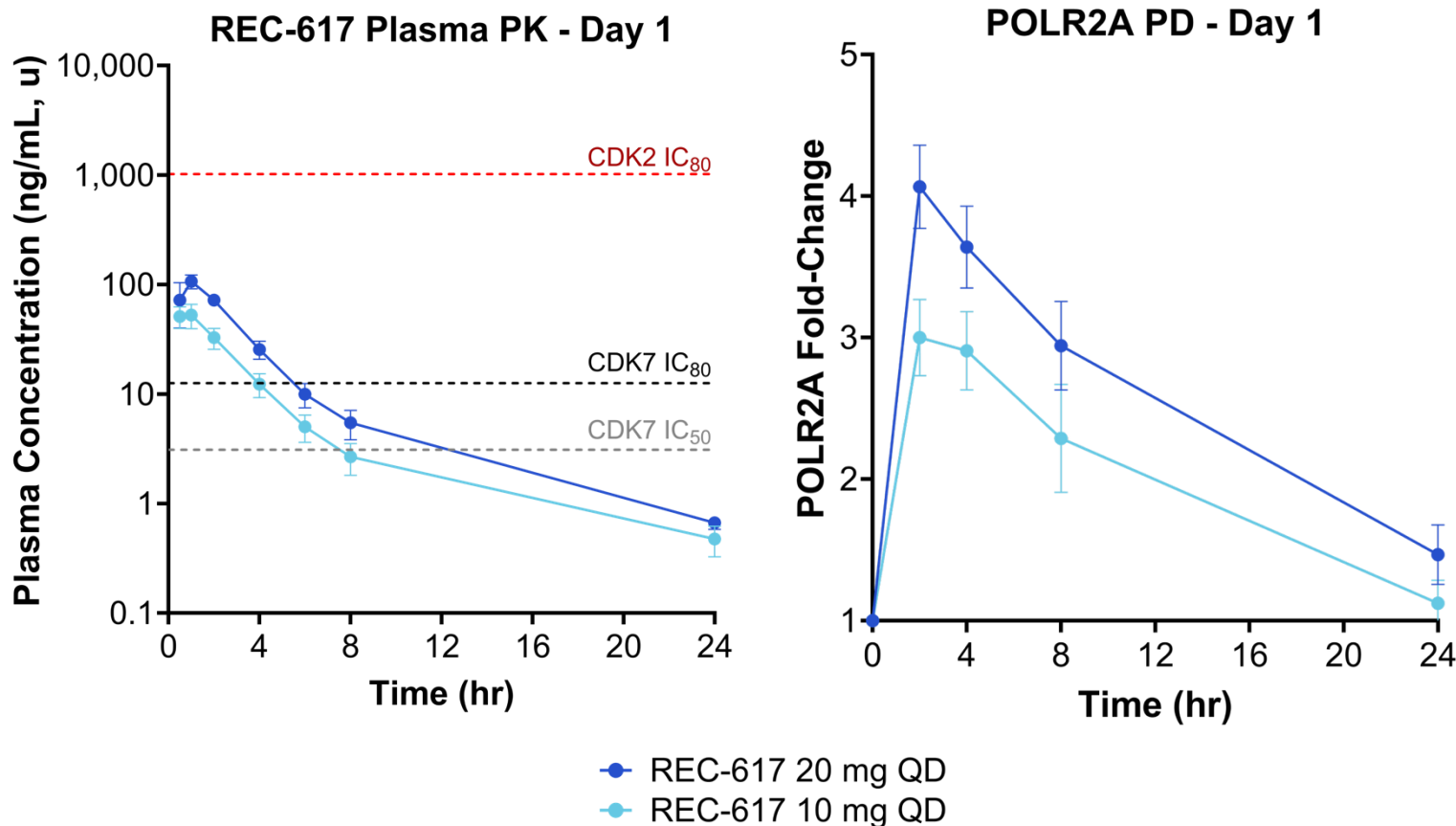
| Patient Characteristic  | All Patients (N=19) <sup>1</sup><br>18 of 19 response evaluable patients | Prior Lines of Therapy in the<br>Advanced Setting (median) <sup>3</sup> |
|---|--|---|
| Age, Median (range), Years  | 60 (30, 79)  |   |
| Female  | 9 (48%)  |   |
| Tumor Type  |  |   |
| Colorectal Adenocarcinoma   | 10 (53%)   | 4   |
| HR <sup>+</sup> /HER2 <sup>-</sup> Breast Adenocarcinoma <sup>2</sup> | 3 (16%)  | 4   |
| NSCLC   | 3 (16%)  | 3   |
| Epithelial Ovarian Carcinoma  | 2 (10%)  | 4   |
| Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma   | 1 (5%)   | 3   |

1. Data-cut off : 15 November 2024. All data shown as n (%) unless otherwise specified

2. All patients received CDK4/6 inhibitors in prior lines

3. Advanced setting: Locally advanced pre-metastatic and metastatic setting - includes adjuvant and neo-adjuvant treatment regimens as 1 line of therapy

# REC-617 achieves dose dependent PK/PD and strong target modulation in the clinic

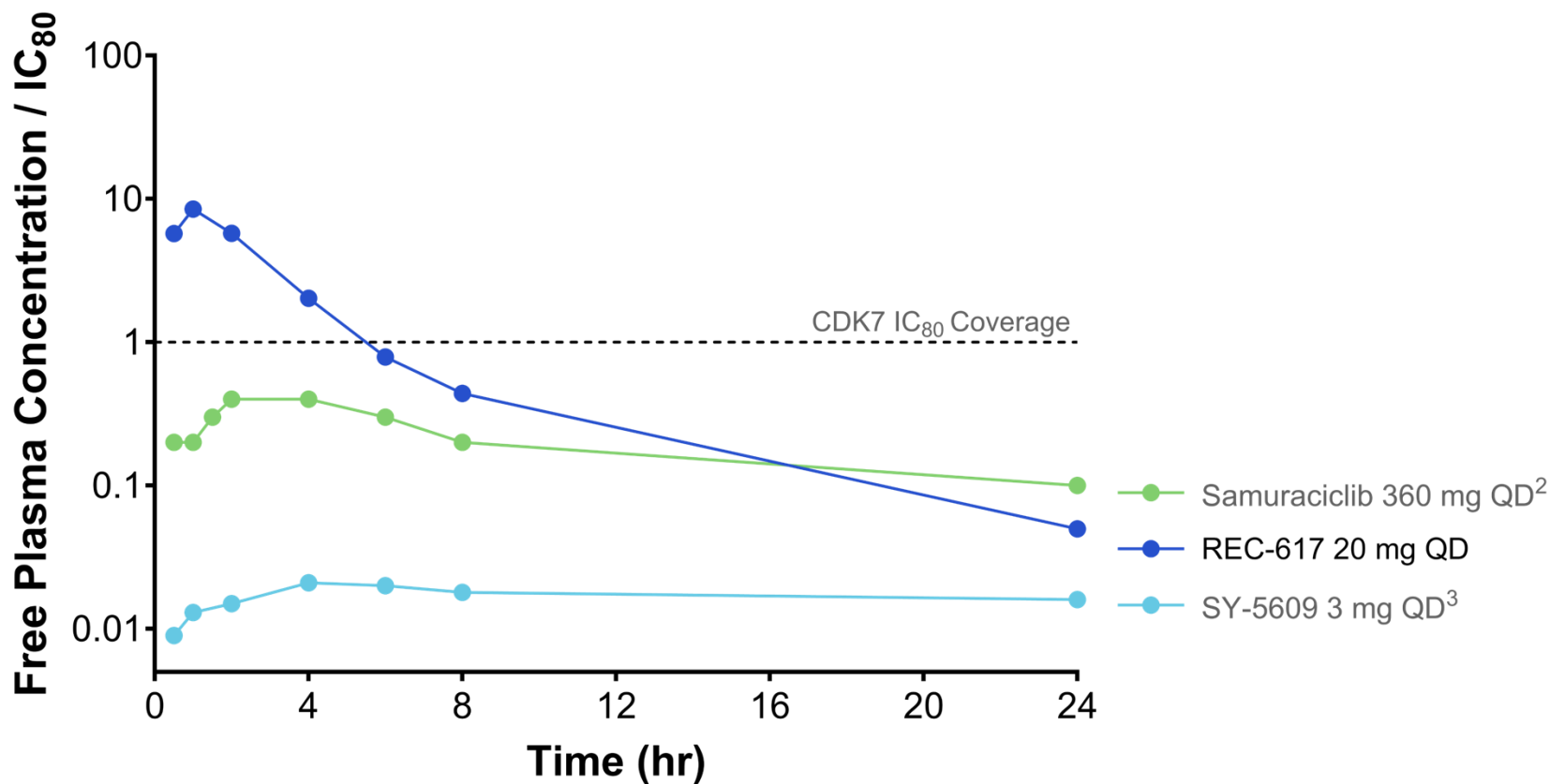


## PK/PD Summary

- **Dose-Linear PK:** REC-617 exceeds CDK7 IC<sub>80</sub> with rapid absorption ( $T_{max}$  0.5–2h) and short  $t_{1/2}$  (5–6h)
- **Robust Target Engagement:** Early POLR2A 3–4x modulation suggests ~80–90% target engagement<sup>1</sup>
- **Rapid Transient Modulation:** Quick, time-limited target engagement with POLR2A normalization in 24h
- **BID Evaluation:** Twice-daily dosing under investigation

1. Papadopoulos KM, et al. ENA (2020)

# REC-617 offers a differentiated profile that potentially improves the therapeutic index



## Competitive Differentiation

- Data suggests **superior target coverage for REC-617<sup>1</sup>** compared to two clinical CDK7 inhibitors
- REC-617 is **more rapidly absorbed** (earlier T<sub>max</sub>) compared to reported PK from two CDK7 inhibitors<sup>2,3</sup> suggesting a **reduction in localized GI residence time**
- **A shorter half-life** would allow for flexible target modulation, which may **improve the therapeutic index** in the clinic

1. CDK7  $IC_{80}$  reflects biochemical in-vitro potencies on file

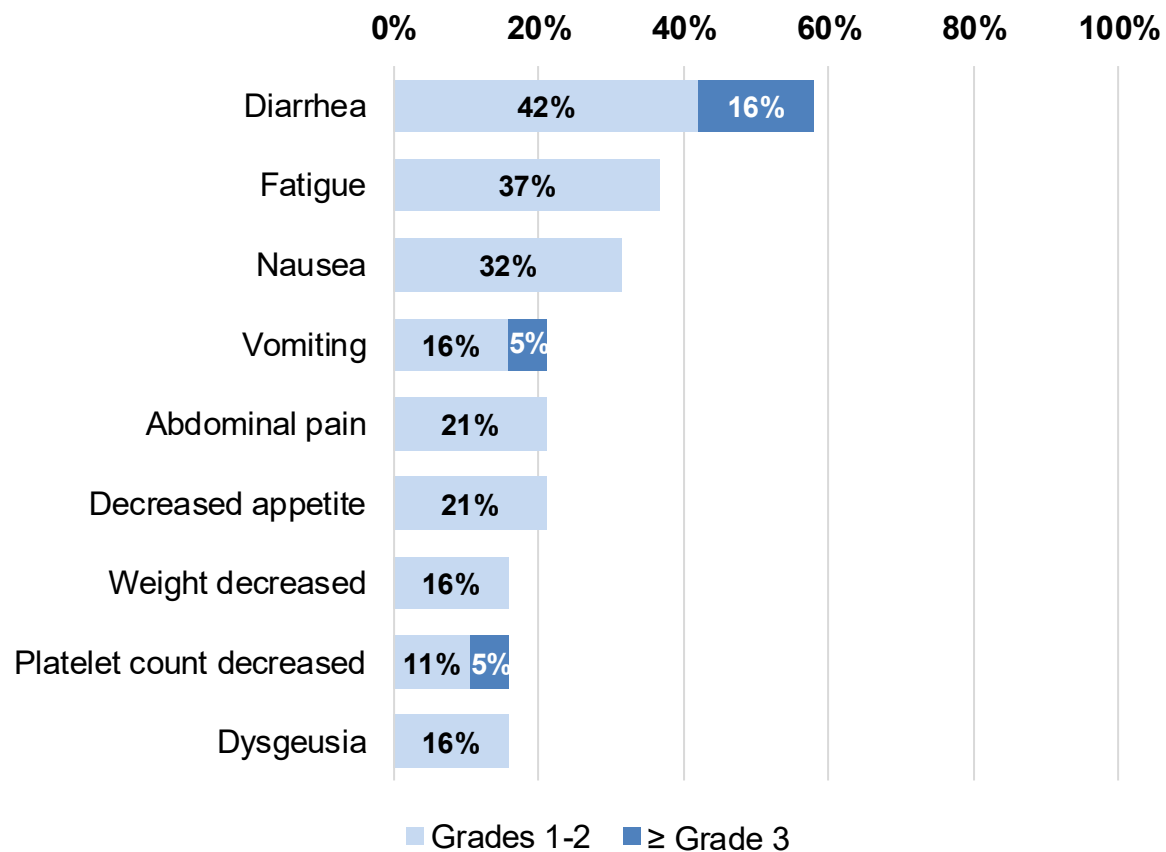
2. Coombes, RC, Nat Comms (2023)

3. Papadopoulos KM, et al. ENA (2020)



# Preliminary safety data suggests potential Best-in-Class oral CDK7 inhibitor

Treatment Related AEs occurring in ≥10% patients  
(% of patients, N=19<sup>1</sup>)



- Adverse events (AEs) were predominantly low grade, on-target, and reversible upon treatment cessation
- Early data indicates a favorable safety profile – Maximum tolerated dose (MTD) not reached
  - No treatment discontinuations due to AEs compared to competitor (~14%)<sup>2</sup>
  - Lower drug-related diarrhea (58%) than competitor (82%)<sup>2</sup>
- 3 treatment related SAEs reported in 2/19 patients; enterocolitis (G2, C1), diarrhea (G3, C2), nausea/vomiting (G3, C1)
  - Events resolved and treatment continued after dose reduction
- Antiemetics, anti-diarrheals not mandated prophylaxis for nausea / vomiting / diarrhea

1. Data-cut off : 15 November 2024. All data shown as n (%) unless otherwise specified.  
2. Coombes, RC, Nat Comms (2023), Phase 1 monotherapy dose escalation data (N=44)

# Monotherapy response: Confirmed durable PR observed in heavily pre-treated metastatic ovarian cancer

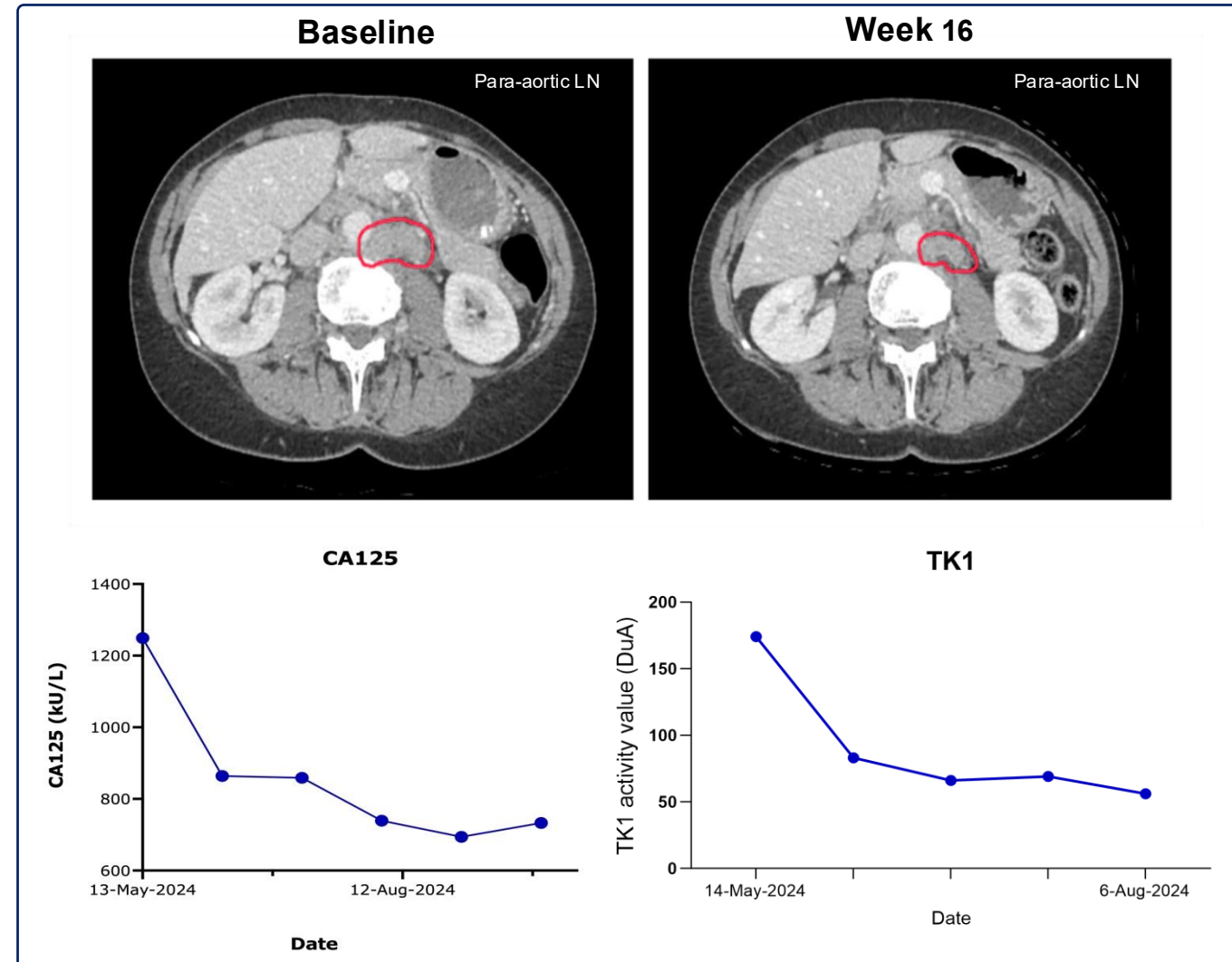
- **One confirmed, durable partial response (PR) by RECIST 1.1<sup>1</sup>**
  - 69-year-old woman with **platinum resistant ovarian cancer**, who had **progressed following 4 lines of prior therapy in advanced setting** with **metastatic disease to lungs and lymph nodes**
    - Patient was diagnosed with Stage IIIC ovarian cancer 2019
  - No BRCA1/2 mutation, low tumor mutational burden, and small TP53 variant (VAF 8%)
  - Initiated therapy at 20mg QD, dose reduced at Week 4 to 10mg QD due to transient Grade 3 nausea
  
- **Four additional patients achieved durable (up to 6 months of treatment) response of stable disease (SD) as best response across multiple dose levels**
  - All four patients progressed prior to entering the study
  - Three CRC patients (6L-7L) and one NSCLC patient (4L)
  - One patient on 2mg QD and three patients on 10mg QD

1. Response evaluation criteria in solid tumors, PR: decrease of more than 30% in the sum of the longest diameters of target lesions + no new lesions + no progression of non target lesions

# Monotherapy response vignette

- **One confirmed, durable partial response (PR) by RECIST 1.1<sup>1</sup>**
  - **Partial response (-34%) achieved with reduction in 2 lymph nodes (para-aortic and mesenteric) at Week 16 with normalization of LDH**
  - **Reduction of tumor marker CA125 from 1249 to 694 kU/L (-44%)**
  - **Reduction of tumor marker TK1 from 174 to 56 DuA (-68%)**
  - **Response ongoing after more than 6 months of treatment. Patient continues study therapy without need for antiemetics**

1. Response evaluation criteria in solid tumors, PR: decrease of more than 30% in the sum of the longest diameters of target lesions + no new lesions + no progression of non target lesions



# Summary of interim ELUCIDATE Ph 1 monotherapy clinical data

- REC-617 is an **orally active, highly selective, reversible CDK7 inhibitor**
- Precision designed using the Recursion OS platform, REC-617 is optimized **for rapid oral absorption** and a **half-life tailored to enable optimal dosing regimens** for patients
- **Robust PK exposure** ( $IC_{80}$  and above) and **strong target modulation in the clinic (~80-90%)**, with **high oral bioavailability** and **superior target coverage** amongst oral investigational CDK7 inhibitors
- REC-617 is preliminarily observed to be **well tolerated with predominately Grade 1-2 AEs**
  - **No treatment discontinuations to date due to AEs**, with reduced GI side-effects compared to published data on CDK7 inhibitors. Dose escalation still on-going
- **Encouraging interim monotherapy antitumor activity** at tolerable dose
  - **1 confirmed partial response (PR) with a durable response** ongoing after more than 6 months of treatment
  - **Four additional patients achieved durable (up to 6 months of treatment) stable disease (SD) as best response**
- **MTD has not been reached, dose escalation continues**

# Advancement of REC-617

- **Parallel dose escalation (QD and BID) of monotherapy** ongoing
  - BID dosing schedule may provide optimal coverage
- **Combination studies expected to initiate for ELUCIDATE in H1, 2025**
- ELUCIDATE and preclinical updates to be presented at future medical conferences
- Patient selection to leverage Recursion's multimodal RWD and Casual AI models

# Acknowledgements

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