Contraception by blocking soluble adenylyl cyclase (sAC; ADCY10)

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<u>Conflict of Interest Disclosure</u>: Drs. Levin & Buck are co-founders of Sacyl Pharmaceuticals, Inc. established to develop sAC inhibitors for contraception

sAC is the "ON" switch for motility and capacitation which are essential for Fertilization



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*Capacitation is defined as the ability to fertilize an egg.

Contraceptive effects of a sAC inhibitor



Can inhibiting sAC cause infertility?

sAC is essential for male fertility in mice

- sAC KO mice are male-specific sterile
 - Sperm <u>do not capacitate</u>
 - Sperm<u>are immotile</u>

sAC is essential for male fertility in humans

- 2 sAC KO men are **<u>STERILE</u>**, but otherwise **<u>HEALTHY</u>**
 - <u>Sperm are immotile</u>

Thus, sAC is genetically validated in MICE and MEN to be a contraception target

Workflow to build a sAC inhibitor contraceptive

- 1. Need = nonhormonal contraception for men &/or women
- 2. Target = sAC (ADCY10)
 - Knockouts in male mice and men are infertile
- 3. We developed inhibitors suitable for "proof-of-concept studies."



sAC inhibitor blocks human sperm motility

+ sAC Inhibitor



Latest generations of sAC inhibitors turn enzyme completely OFF



Workflow to build a sAC inhibitor contraceptive



Female nonhormonal intravaginal contraceptive

- 1. Validated in vitro (Balbach et al., Mol Hum Repro 2021)
 - sAC inhibitor INTERRUPTS Capacitation and STOPS Motility
- 2. Working with Marc Baum and John Moss (Oak Crest) to develop IVR
 - 1. "Multipurpose Protection Technology" (MPT) Ring
 - 2. sAC inhibitor CONTRACEPTIVE delivered w/anti-HIV peptide
- 3. Lead candidate undergoing preclinical validation

Clinical Lead (TDI-11155) Pharmacology



ON DEMAND male contraception



M. Balbach Ex vivo motility assay **Deliver sAC***i* (oral or *i.p.*)





Ex vivo motility

Sperm dissected from epididymis of sAC inhibitor-treated mice:



A SINGLE DOSE of a sAC inhibitor blocks sperm motility Effect is reversible



Balbach et al 2023 Nat Communications

Ex vivo Motility correlates with Pharmacokinetics



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Balbach et al 2023 Nat Communications

Timed Mating





MATING EFFICACY also correlates with PK



- Effect is NOT ABORTEFACIENT
- BREAKTHROUGHS are NORMAL (progeny are fertile)
- Effect is REVERSIBLE: One day after injection mice completely fertile

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TWO Types of sAC inhibitor Contraceptives IN DEVELOPMENT

1. Female intravaginal contraceptive



2. On-demand birth control pill for men



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