Six Month Progress Report – AMMA Therapeutics

Development of a Once Daily Subcutaneous Injection of Cysteamine Bitartate

The project is comprised of 3 specific goals ("AIMs") conducted over a 1 year time period. In Summary:

AIM #1 (6 months): formulation development and in vitro testing

AIM #2 (3 months): small animal pharmacokinetic ("PK") testing

AIM #3 (3 months): small animal efficacy and safety testing

Accordingly, the first 6 months have been dedicated to completing AIM #1. We faced significant Covid 19 related disruptions to workflows and higher costs, but we have managed to stay within the projected timelines and budgets.

For AIM #1, we screened and assessed physiochemical properties for numerous BAIT formulations comprising different BAIT constructs. While our primary goal has been to develop a BAIT formulation of cysteamine bitartate, we also evaluated another form of cysteamine that may allow us to deliver greater amounts of cysteamine in smaller injection volumes. AIM #1 activities have been largely completed and we selected the most promising BAIT formulations to advance to Aim #2.

	AIM #1 Goals		Status
1.	Evaluate the solubility, chemical, and physical stability of Cysteamine Bitartrate in BAIT NPT formulation excipients.		Solubility – Completed Compatibility – To be completed Invitro drug release - Completed
2.	Screen BAIT constructs that may comprise formulations that achieve optimal drug delivery profiles, stability, and applicable as subcutaneous injections.	_	Syringe injectability - Completed

The goal of AIM #2 is to select a single BAIT formulation, based on rodent PK studies, to advance to a longer-term efficacy study in AIM #3. Upon more comprehensive discussions and planning for AIM #3 with our scientific and project collaborators, Dr Rega and Dr Emma, it became apparent that 2 important unknowns could pose a challenge towards a successful AIM #3:

- The plasma cysteamine levels needed to achieve the desired efficacy in the cystinosis rodent model
- The proper dosing regimen (dosage, frequency) for cysteamine BAIT that achieves therapeutic plasma cysteamine levels

To elucidate these unknowns, AIM #2 has been expanded to include additional rodent PK and pharmacodynamic studies. It is our intention to stay within the project timelines and budgets despite the expansion of Aim #2. The first of these studies, a single dose PK study at AMMA, was initiated early February and we are awaiting bioanalysis results.