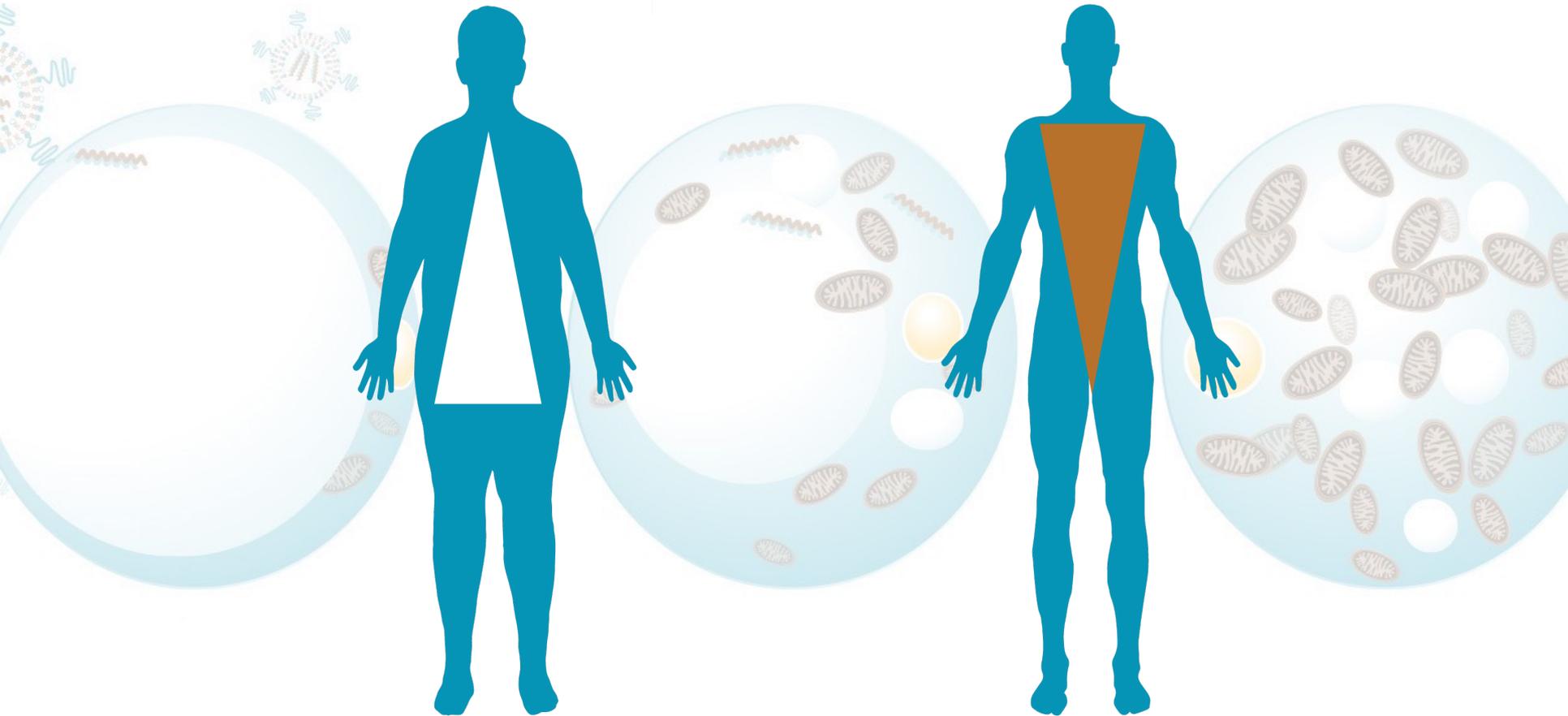


# APTAMIR

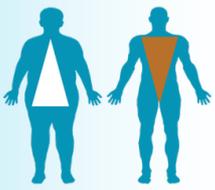


## Investment Opportunity

*Marc Thibonnier, M.D., M.Sc.*

*Founder & President*

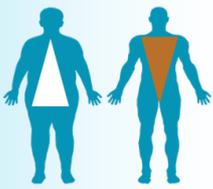
June 2021



# AptamiR Therapeutics Summary

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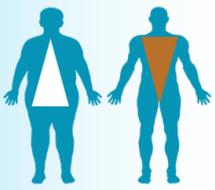
- ▶ **Structure:** AptamiR is a US modular Biotechnology Company currently developing pre-clinical drug candidates
- ▶ **Mission:** Treat *fat accumulation, inflammation and necrosis* to cure related cardiometabolic disorders (dyslipidemia, diabetes and metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease (MAFLD)), without altering brain functions, but improving patients quality of life
- ▶ **Strategy:** Transform fat-storing cells (white adipocytes) into fat-burning cells (“browning effect”) to increase lipid oxidation, mitochondrial activity and energy expenditure
- ▶ **Accomplishment to date:** Proofs of efficacy for our first generation of Oligonucleotide Therapeutics (ONTs) targeting microRNAs were achieved *in vitro in primary cultures of human adipocytes* and *in vivo* in animal models of obesity and fatty liver disease
- ▶ **Goal for the next 24 months:** Complete the pre-IND and IND phases for our second generation of targeting miR-22-3p Antagomirs to treat the *Metabolic Pandemics* obesity, diabetes and fatty liver disease
- ▶ **Gap to achieve this goal:** Secure the first tranche (\$5M) of Series B financing
- ▶ **Major milestone:** Initiate within 2 years the clinical studies for the lead miR-22-3p antagomir drug candidate of the second generation
- ▶ **End goal:** Help patients live longer and healthier lives while reducing healthcare costs



# The Problem

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- ▶ **Obesity and Metabolic Dysfunction Associated Fatty Liver Disease (MAFLD)** are growing and costly pandemics in need of safe, effective and convenient therapies
- ▶ **Obesity**
  - ▶ **Affects one third of the world population, including millions of children**
  - ▶ The economic burden of obesity on the healthcare systems is significant and growing (e.g. \$190 billion or nearly 21% of annual medical spending in the United States)
  - ▶ Currently approved drugs offer limited efficacy with significant side effect profile and adverse events
  - ▶ Pharmacotherapy treatment rates of obesity are very low (<10%)
  - ▶ **Obesity worsens morbidity and mortality from COVID-19** ([www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/obesity-and-covid-19.html](http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/obesity-and-covid-19.html))
  - ▶ **Adipocyte membranes are rich in the ACE2 docking protein for the SARS-CoV2 virus**
  - ▶ **The adipose tissues are a very large site of replication, refuge and shedding for that virus**
- ▶ **MAFLD**
  - ▶ **Affects 25% of the global adult population**, ranging from 14% in Africa to 32% in the Middle East
  - ▶ Prevalence of liver steatosis is 76% in obese patients
  - ▶ Lifetime costs of treatment of NASH in the United States in 2017 was \$223 billion
  - ▶ Currently there is no approved drug for MAFLD in the context of multiple recent clinical failures of drug candidates



# The Market

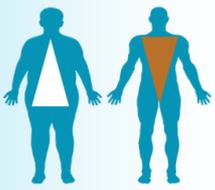
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## ▶ Obesity

- ▶ The US weight loss and diet control market was estimated to be **\$66 Billion in 2017**
- ▶ Annual **low productivity costs** in the US related to obesity are estimated to be **\$75 Billion**
- ▶ A safe and effective therapy to treat obesity (>10% weight loss) could reach global sales of **~\$20 Billion**

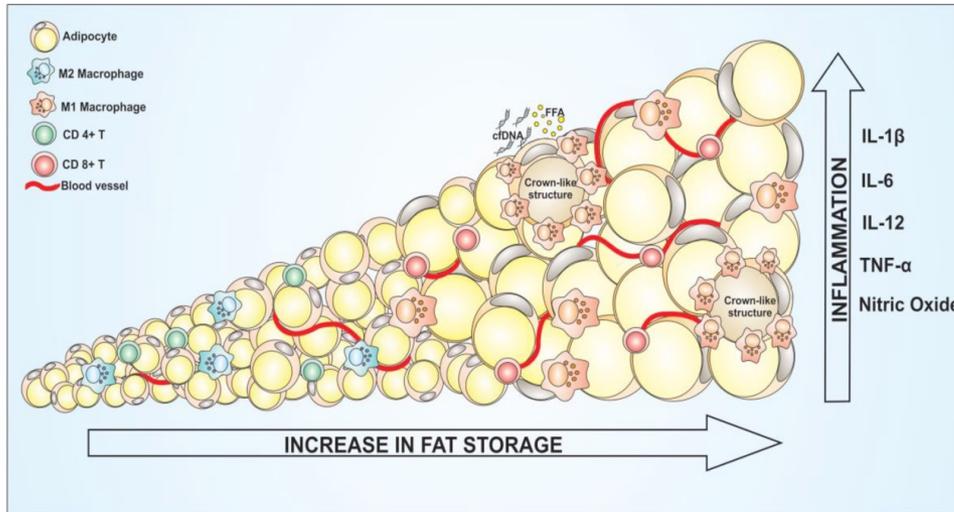
## ▶ MAFLD

- ▶ Significant unmet medical need for a safe and effective treatment
- ▶ The MAFLD market is expected to reach **\$21 Billion globally by 2025**

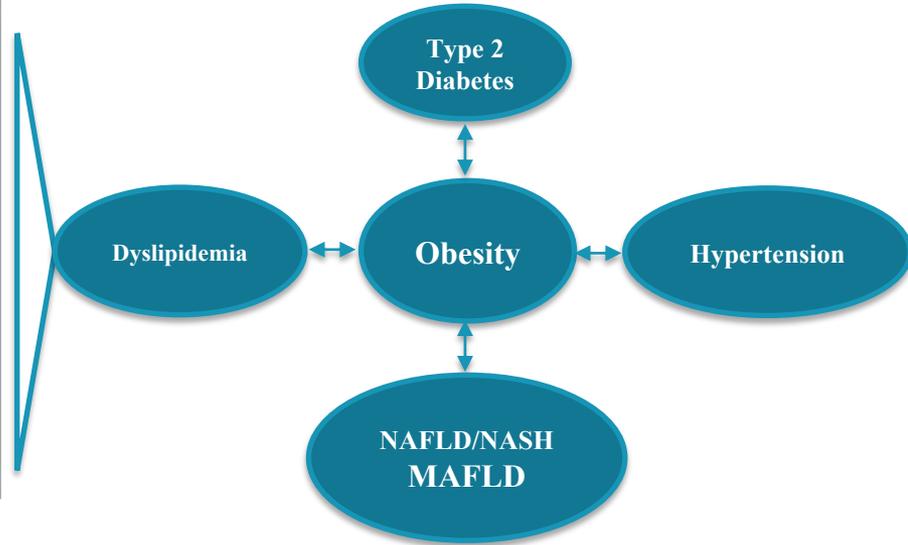


# Disruptive Therapeutic Approach

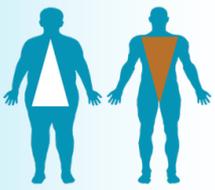
**Fat accumulation, inflammation and necrosis** cause several cardio-metabolic disorders including lipotoxicity, dyslipidemia, insulin resistance, diabetes, liver steatosis, inflammation and fibrosis



<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31262098>



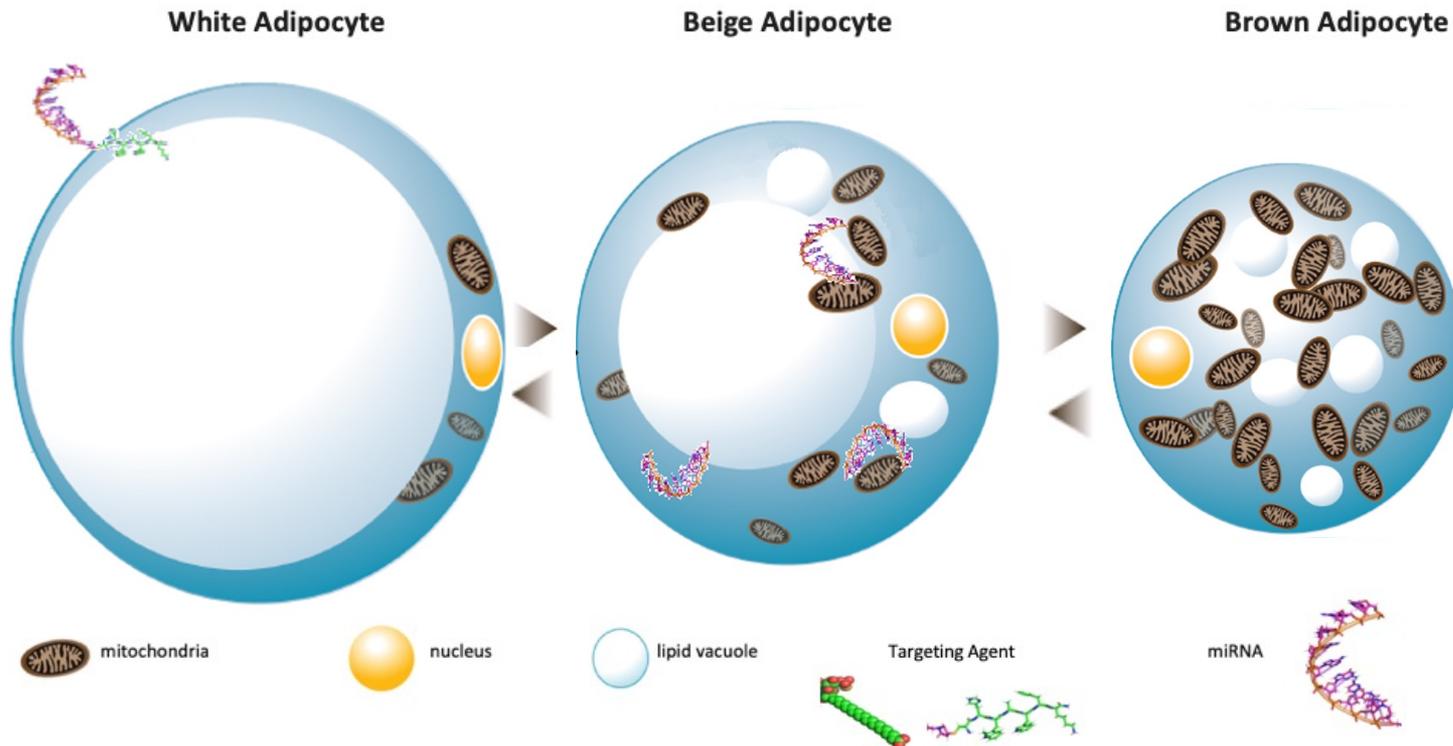
- Obesity and associated cardio-metabolic disorders are **multifactorial** diseases that cannot be easily controlled by classical therapeutic agents (Mechanism of Action: one drug-one target or one drug-two/three targets)
- Several small molecule drug candidates have failed to reach the market for obesity or MAFLD
- AptamiR's approach uses a **pleiotropic** concept (One Drug-Multiple Targets) by developing oligonucleotide therapeutics targeting **microRNAs**, as they simultaneously modulate many target genes involved in lipid oxidation, mitochondrial activity and energy expenditure.

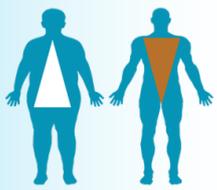


# AptamiR Strategy & Technology

## Development of microRNA-derived Drugs (Oligonucleotide Therapeutics, ONTs):

- ▶ Designed to be preferentially delivered to adipocytes and hepatocytes via the membrane Fatty Acid Translocase (FAT) transporter
- ▶ Transforming subcutaneous lipid-storing fat cells (White Adipocytes) into calories-burning fat cells ("Browning Effect")
- ▶ Reducing fat accumulation and body weight
- ▶ Correcting lipotoxicity and dyslipidemia
- ▶ Improving insulin sensitivity and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
- ▶ Reversing liver steatosis, inflammation and fibrosis



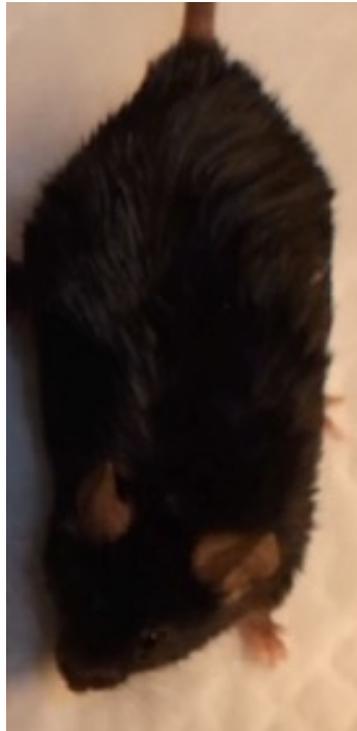
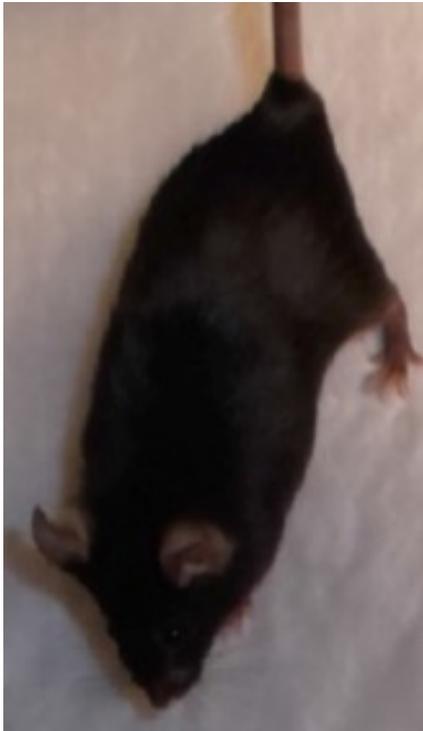


# AptamiR first drug candidate reduces fat mass and improves metabolic parameters in obese mice

Normal diet

High-fat diet (60%)

High-fat diet (60%) + anti-miR Rx for 8 week



32.08 gm.

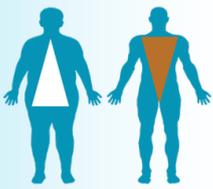
45.85 gm.

35.51 gm.

*Mean Body Weight at week 8 of study*

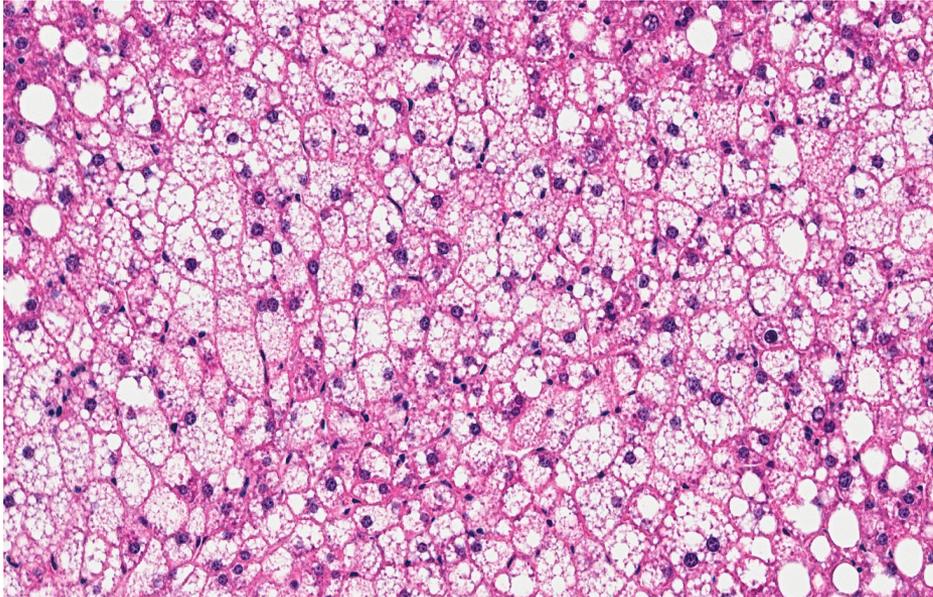
## Results

Body Weight	Reduced
Fat Mass	Reduced
Lean Mass	Unchanged
Cholesterol	Improved
Glucose	Improved
Insulin Sensitivity	Preserved
Liver Tests	Normal
Temperature	Normal
Appetite	Unchanged
Energy Expenditure	Increased
Liver Steatosis	Reduced

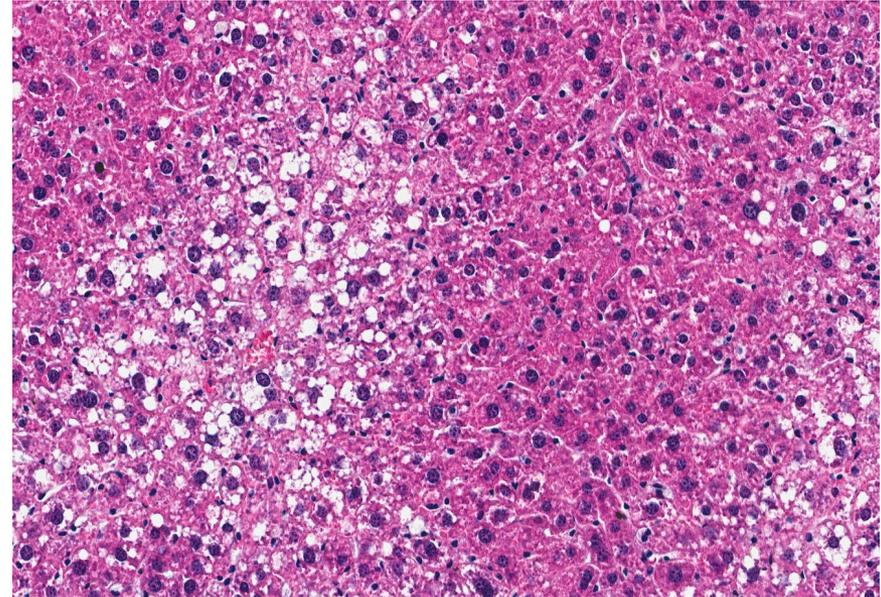


# AptamiR miR-22 Antagomir Reduces Liver Fat Accumulation in DIO Mice

- ▶ Treatment for **12 weeks** with the miR-22-3p antagomir APT-110 produced a marked reduction in fatty infiltration of the liver (H&E staining):

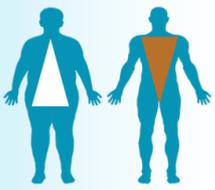


Saline



APT-110

- ▶ Thibonnier, M. et al. Metabolic Benefits of MicroRNA-22 Inhibition, *Nucleic Acid Ther.*, 30(2), 104-116, 2020
- ▶ Thibonnier, M. et al. Metabolic and Energetic Benefits of MicroRNA-22 Inhibition, *BMJ Open Diabetes Res. Care*, 8, 2020
- ▶ Elevated circulating miR-22-3p is a biomarker of NAFLD, in relation to activity score (NAS) and Steatosis Activity Fibrosis (SAF): *Scientific Reports*, 8:10606, 2018; *BMC Genomics*, 19:188, 2018
- ▶ Hepatic miR-22 overexpression enhances diet and alcohol-induced steatosis whereas reducing miR-22 level improves alcoholic steatosis in mouse models: *JHEP Rep.* 2020;2(2), 100093
- ▶ miR-22 promotes the development of liver cirrhosis through BMP7 suppression: *Cell Physiol. Biochem.* 2015;36:1026-1036
- ▶ miR-22 modulates the expression of lipogenesis-related genes and promotes hepatic steatosis in vitro: *FEBS Open Bio* 2021;322-332. ***“miR-22 inhibitors may have potential as candidate drugs for NASH and obesity”***



# Toxicity of the 1<sup>st</sup> Generation of ONTs

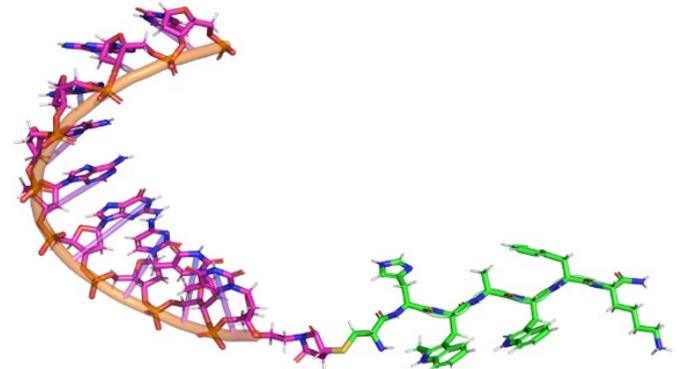
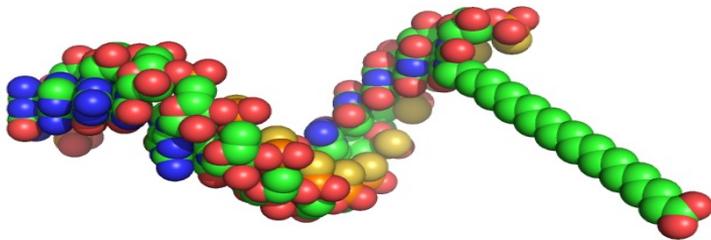
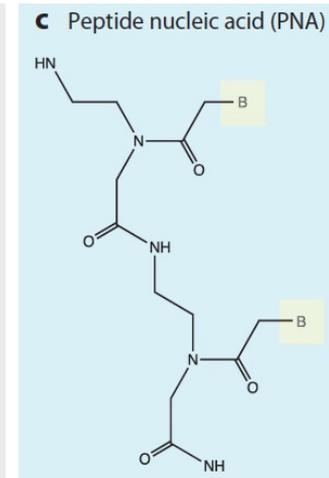
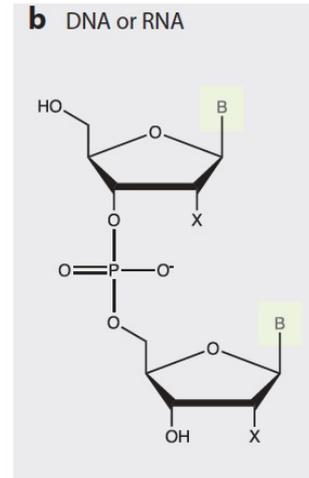
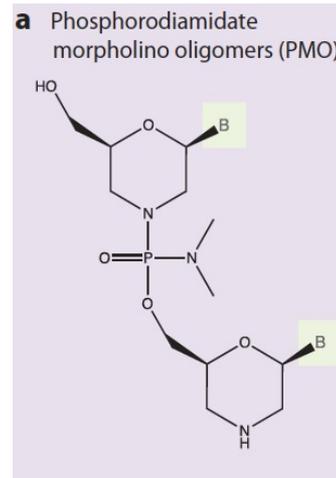
The First Generation of ONTs (ASOs, siRNAs & miRNAs) developed by AptamiR and other Biotechnology Companies were found to trigger at supra-therapeutic doses in Non-Human Primates:

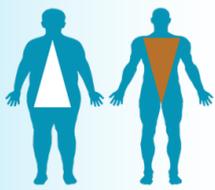
- ▶ Transient activation of blood platelets and the complement pathway in relation to Phosphorothioate (PS) backbone modifications
- ▶ Hepatic and renal toxicity in relation to Locked Nucleic Acid (LNA) sugar modifications



Our Second Generation of ONTs was designed to eliminate this toxicity by:

- ▶ Replacing PS by PNA or PMO backbone modifications
- ▶ Conjugating the ONT to a fatty acid or short peptide for enhanced targeted delivery to adipocytes of a greatly reduced effective dose with an extended duration of action in target tissues





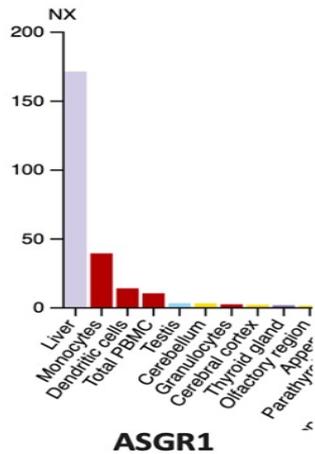
# Targeted Delivery of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation of ONTs

## Selection of the membrane Fatty Acid Translocase (FAT) transporter for targeted delivery of ONTs to adipocytes and metabolic organs

- ▶ mRNA and protein expression levels of FAT are very high in human adipose tissues (the Asialoglycoprotein receptor 1, ASGR1 used for targeted delivery to the liver is used as a reference)

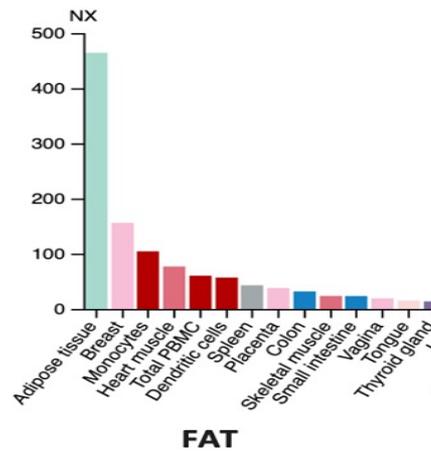
### RNA EXPRESSION OVERVIEW<sup>1</sup>

#### Consensus dataset<sup>1</sup>



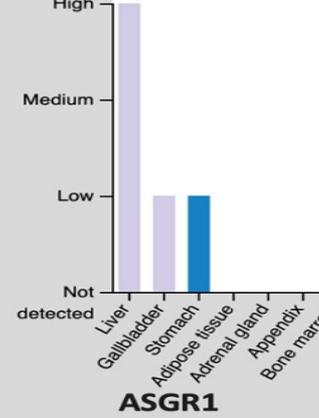
### RNA EXPRESSION OVERVIEW<sup>1</sup>

#### Consensus dataset<sup>1</sup>



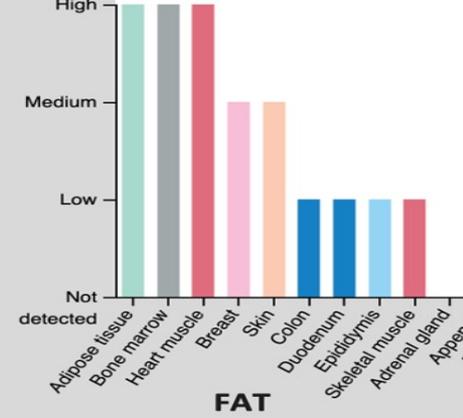
### PROTEIN EXPRESSION OVERVIEW<sup>1</sup>

#### Score

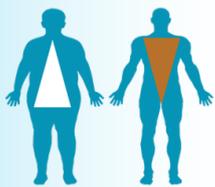


### PROTEIN EXPRESSION OVERVIEW<sup>1</sup>

#### Score



- ▶ Conjugating our ONTs to a fatty acid or short peptide allows enhanced targeted delivery of a much reduced effective dose with a significantly longer duration of action
- ▶ As the average obese male patient weighs around 200 lbs with 40% being adipose tissue, there is a huge amount of FAT available at the surface of adipose tissues to transport inside the adipocytes our second generation of miR-22-3p antagomir coupled to a fatty acid or a peptide.
- ▶ Consequently, the effective dose for our second generation of drugs should be much lower with a greatly improved safety and PK/PD profile, especially the mean residence time inside the targeted cells



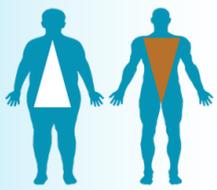
# AptamiR IP & Assets Development Stage

Patent Portfolio	Subject Matter	Date of Publication/Issue
WO 2013/159091 A3	MicroRNA modulators of thermogenesis	Published in 2013
US 9,034,839; 9,453,224; 9,803,203 and 10,253,319	MicroRNA modulators of thermogenesis	Issued in 2015-2019
US 2015-0216892-A1	Cell-specific delivery of miRNA modulators for the treatment of obesity and related disorders	Published in 2015
WO 2017/187426 and US 0127736	Inhibition of miR-22 miRNA by APT-110	Issued in 2017-2019
WO 2020/051398 A1	Metabolic benefits of short miR-22 miRNA antagomirs therapies	Published in 2020
WO 2020/010059 A1	Targeted delivery of therapeutics agents to human adipocytes	Published in 2020
EP 2839005	MicroRNA modulators of thermogenesis	Granted in 2021

## Current Development Stage

Our second generation of miR-22-3p antagomirs is now ready to be tested:

- In vitro in primary cultures of **human adipocytes**
- In vivo in animal models of obesity and fatty liver disease
- In toxicology studies in mice and Non Human Primates



# AptamiR Experienced Team



Marc Thibonnier, M.D., M.Sc., Founder & President

- ▶ **Founded AptamiR in 2012**
- ▶ Academic career at CWRU and Stanford University
- ▶ Senior management positions at Pharmaceutical (Bayer, BMS, GSK) and two Biotechnology Startup Companies
- ▶ Holds an M.D. degree from Université Pierre et Marie Curie, and a M.Sc. in Pharmacology from UCSF



Philippe Camus, Chairman of the Board

- ▶ **Chairman of AptamiR since 2012**
- ▶ Former Chairman of the Board at Alcatel–Lucent and Senior Adviser at Evercore Partners
- ▶ Former CEO of EADS and co-managing partner at Lagardère
- ▶ Graduated from Ecole Normale Supérieure and Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris

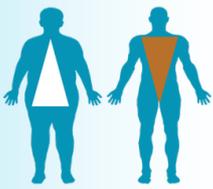


Jean-Pierre Lehner, M.D., Board Director

- ▶ **Director of AptamiR since 2015**
- ▶ Retired Chief Medical Officer of Sanofi, with previous positions notably at Roussel
- ▶ CEO of JPL Pharma Consulting and Board Member of several biotech and R&D companies
- ▶ Cardiologist with M.D. degree from University of Paris School of Medicine

## ADVISORS

- ▶ **Bernard Poussot:** Retired Chairman, CEO & President of Wyeth, Board Director of Roche
- ▶ **Daniel Ricquier, Ph.D.:** Discoverer of UCP1 and Member of the French Academy of Sciences
- ▶ **André Ulmann, M.D., Ph.D.:** Chairman of HRA Pharma, Former Developer of RU-486
- ▶ **Huntington Willard, Ph.D.:** Founding Director, Geisinger National Precision Health and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor, Former Founding Director of the Duke Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy, and Chairman of Genetics at C.W.R.U.



# Financial Need and Use of Proceeds

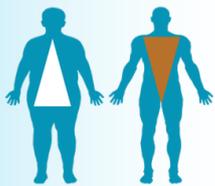
- ▶ Development of the *1st Generation of miR-22-3p AntagomiRs (APT-110) from Discovery to Toxicology (\$7M spent)* proved the concepts that:
  - ▶ miR-22 is a good metabolic target and
  - ▶ antagonizing miR-22 reduces fat mass, body weight, dyslipidemia, insulin resistance and fatty liver:



## Current Financial Need:

- ▶ AptamiR is now seeking to raise the first tranche (\$5M) of Series B financing (\$15-20M):
  - ▶ To complete within 2 years the pre-IND and IND phases (Efficacy, Safety and Toxicology) for the second generation of miR-22-3p antagomirs in order to initiate the clinical studies
  - ▶ Protect and expand our **Intellectual Property portfolio**

**Several Pharmaceutical Companies** have expressed interest for **Out-Licensing /Partnership** at the initiation of clinical trials

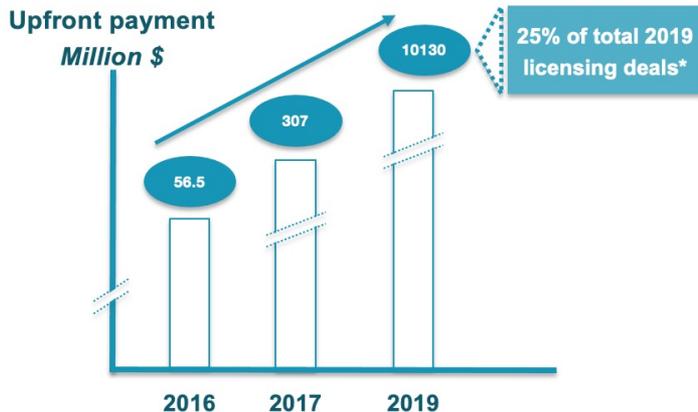


# AptamiR Current Valuation

- Benchmarking versus executed ONT licensing deals -

Deal #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Year	2016	2017	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019	2019	2020
Therapeutic area/ Indication	Cardiovascular	NASH	Orphan diseases- multiple targets	Cardio- metabolic, neuro degeneration	Chronic Hepatitis B	NASH	Chronic Hepatitis B	Liver cardio- metabolic diseases	Cholesterol reduction	Alpha-1 Antitrypsin- Associated Liver Disease
Out-licensor	Arrowhead	Dicerna	Dicerna	Dicerna	Arrowhead	Dicerna	Dicerna	Dicerna	The Medicines Company	Arrowhead
In-licensor	Amgen	BI	Alexion	Eli Lilly	Janssen	BI	Roche	Novo- Nordisk	Novartis	Takeda
Development stage	Pre-Clinical	Discovery	Discovery	Discovery	Phase I/II	Pre-Clinical	Phase I	Discovery	Regulatory	Phase II
Upfront (M\$)	56.5	10	37	20 per target	250	5	200	225	9700 (acquisition)	300
Milestones (M\$)	617	201	105 per target	350 per target	3500	Undisclosed	1470	375.5 per target	NA	\$740M
Royalties	Double digit	Double digit	Double digit	Double digit	Undisclosed	Undisclosed	Undisclosed	Undisclosed	NA	Profit sharing 50/50 in USA

## Licensing deal activity for Oligonucleotide Therapeutic assets



\* The top 15 biopharma licensing deals of 2019, Fierce Biotech, Mar 23, 2020

## APTAMIR Valuation

