The mitochondria-targeting peptide elamipretide potentiates dystrophin expression induced by an exon-skipping morpholino in mdx mice

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Leading Mitochondrial Medicine

MDA Clinical Conference 2022

Disclosures

• Dr. David A. Brown is a full-time employee of Stealth BioTherapeutics, which is publicly traded under the NASDAQ symbol "MITO"

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Leading Mitochondrial Medicine

• Stealth BioTherapeutics:

- >15 years in development of mitochondrial targeted compounds
- ~20 Clinical trials completed or in progress
- >500 publications in partnership with leading experts in their respective fields

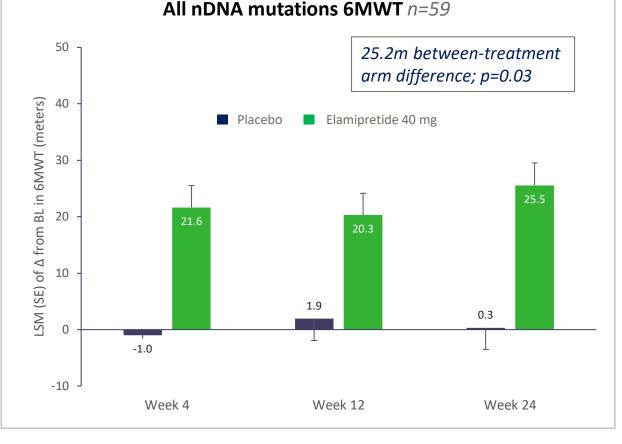
• Mitochondrial Platform:

- Elamipretide (ELAM):rare cardiomyopathies, mitochondrial myopathy, geographic atrophy
- Pipeline (SBT-272, SBT-550): neurology

• Lead Compound ELAM:

- ->1,000 subjects dosed systemically
- ->4 years of exposure systemically

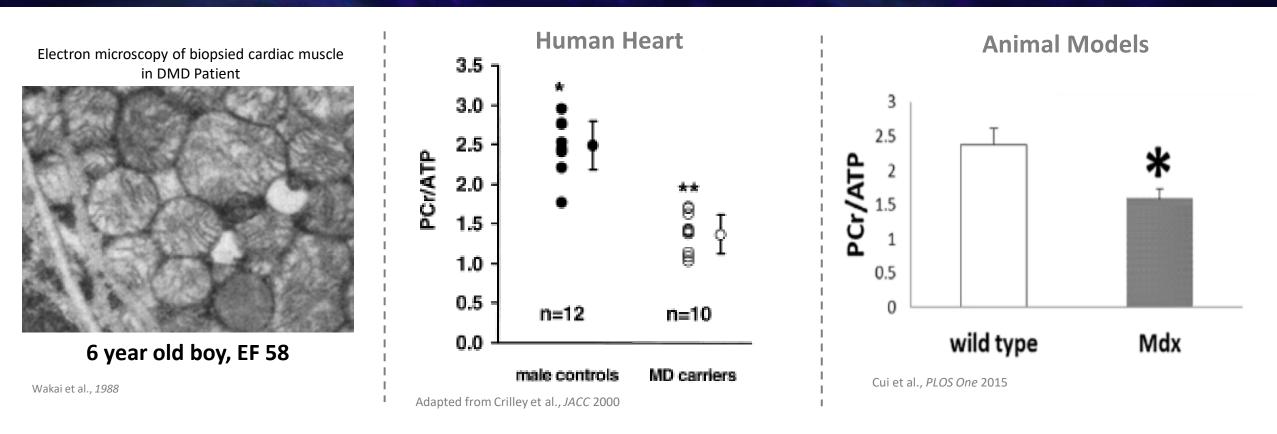
SPIMM-301 Primary Mitochondrial Myopathy Change in 6MWT: nDNA Subgroup Analysis (pre-specified)



Karaa et al., in review 2022

U Stealth BIOTHERAPEUTICS

Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Muscular Dystrophies



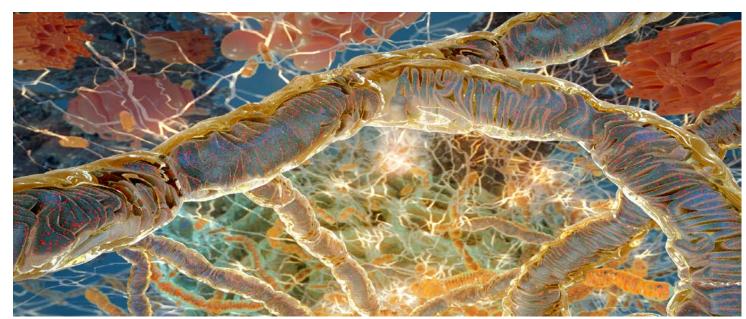
In humans and animal models, impaired energetics *before* declines in muscle function
Mitochondrial energy production is limited *early* in the disease process



Addressing Mitochondrial Dysfunction in DMD

Establishes energy (ATP) gradients

Buffers Calcium



Hone to site(s) of membrane injury

Support in nascent phospholipid synthesis

Oxidize metabolic substrates (demand)

Influence inflammatory signaling Guide cell fate decisions

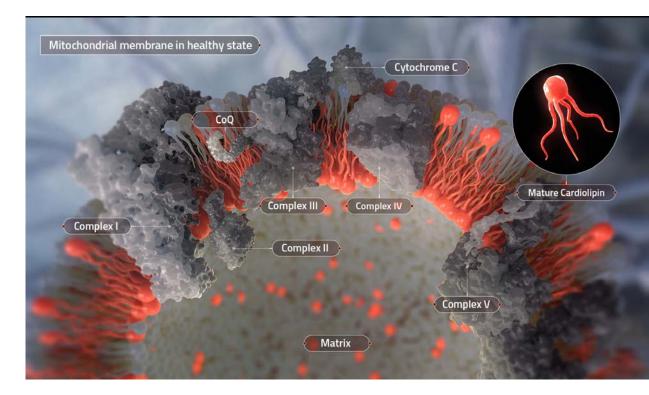
Maintain redox/ROS balance





Elamipretide and Cardiolipin

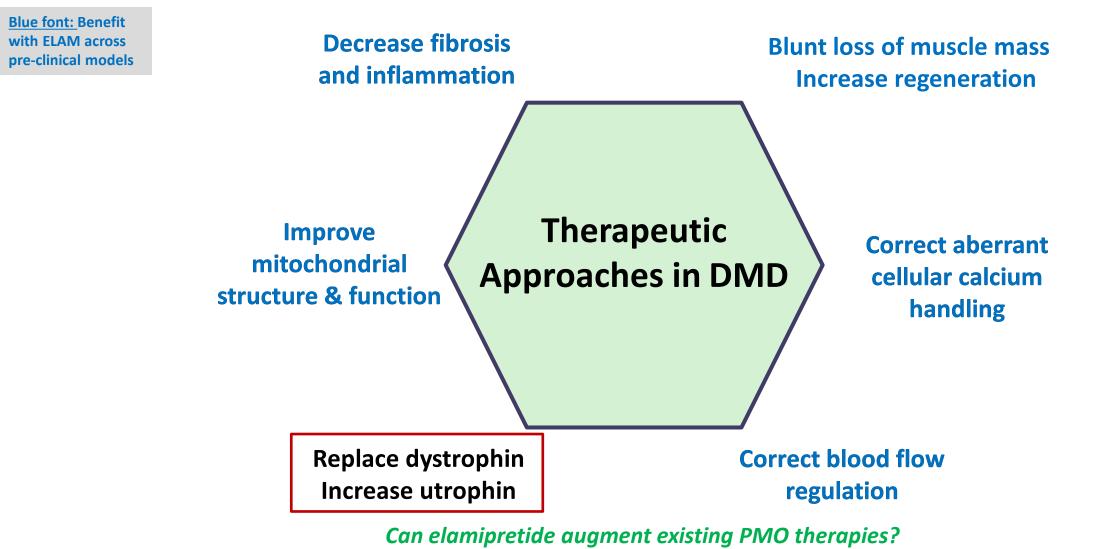
- Cell-permeable mitochondria-targeting peptide, cytoprotective across scores of pre-clinical models
- Interacts with the inner mitochondrial membrane phospholipid <u>cardiolipin</u> to restore mitochondrial structure and function
- Reduction of mitochondrial ROS, improved mitochondrial ultrastructure, restoration of cellular bioenergetics (all known to be altered in DMD)



<u>Cardiolipin</u>: signature mitochondrial phospholipid that influences nearly every aspect of mitochondrial physiology



Elamipretide Potential in DMD



Improved PMO uptake, retention, efficacy by improving mitochondrial health?

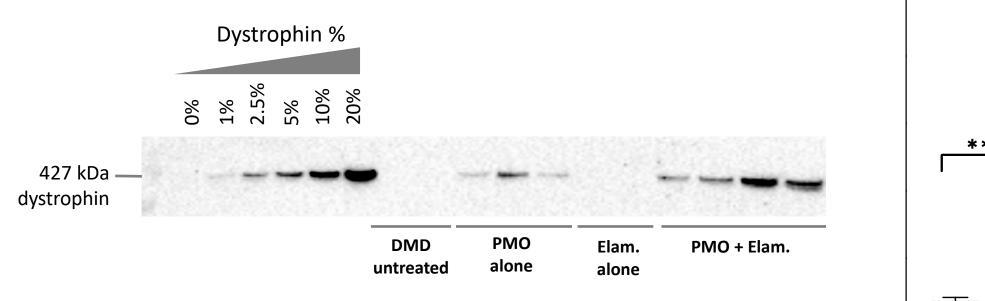


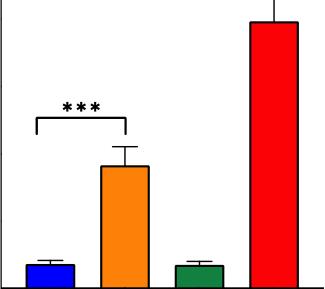
Elamipretide + PMO Study

	Can a mitochondria-protecting peptide improve the efficacy of PMOs at restoring dystrophin? Study Duration: 7 weeks	HAGADA BIOSCIENCES
4-5 weeks of age		11-12 weeks
WT (n=15)		
MDX mouse + saline (n=15)		
MDX mouse + PMO 125mg/kg/wk retro-orbital injection (n=15)		
MDX mouse + elamipretide 5mg/kg/day intraperitoneal (n=15)		
MDX mouse + PMO + elamipretide (n=15)		



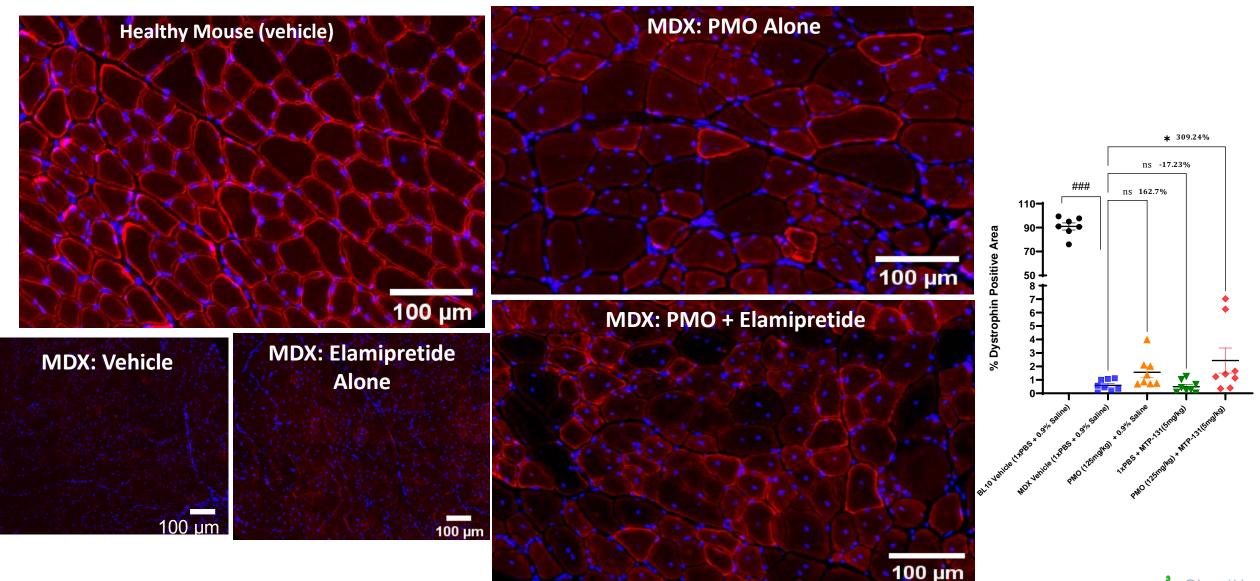
Elamipretide Augmented PMO-mediated Dystrophin Expression





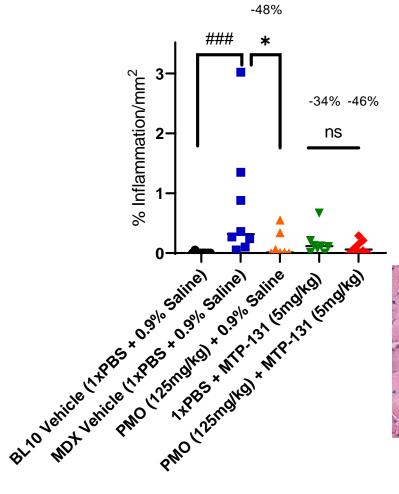


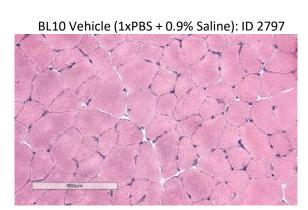
Dystrophin Expression: Immunofluorescence Studies



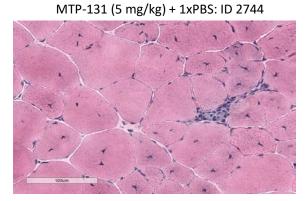
tealtr

% Inflammation in TA Tissues

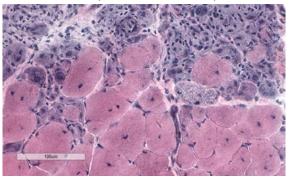




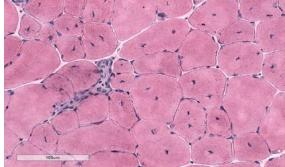
PMO (125 mg/kg) + 0.9% Saline: ID 2726



MDX Vehicle (1xPBS + 0.9% Saline): ID 2791



PMO (125mg/kg) + MTP-131 (5mg/kg): ID 2734





Punchlines

- In mdx mice, elamipretide significantly increased dystrophin protein expression evoked by an exon-skipping PMO
 - Dystrophin levels more than doubled as assessed by Western blot and immunofluorescence
 - Trends to reduce inflammation in the mdx model
- Upcoming work:
 - Assessment of dystrophin in additional muscles
 - Mechanistic insights involved in the synergistic effect
 - Additional insights into timing of elamipretide and PMO for efficacy
- Continued exploration of the cardioprotective effect of elamipretide in DMD cardiomyopathy



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Discussion

