

# **INNOVATIVE LOCAL DRUG THERAPIES**

**BIOTUESDAYS Meeting - July 1st 2025** 



Gauthier Pouliquen, PhD - CEO



Founded by Truffle Capital\*



Local drug therapies in Rheumatology &

**Tissue Regeneration** 

"The right drug at the right place"

- Founded in 2019
- Based in Lyon Gerland (France)
- 10 employees (6PhDs)
- Biology and formulation labs

### Lead project (PKM-01): a breakthrough in gout flares

Ready to enter phase 2 clinical trial

### A strong pipeline:

- Gout flares (PKM-01) and extension in CPP arthritis
- Osteoarthritis (PKM-011)
- Bone marrow transplantation (PKM-02):Pioneering cell-Homing technology for Tissue Regeneration

### **GOUT FLARES**

# An excruciatingly painful and prevalent disease



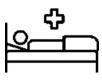
**Excruciatingly painful and disabling arthritis flares** triggered by crystal deposits in joints (5-10days)

"hurting worse than a bone fracture" or "thousand needle poking"



#### A common disease:

- Prevalence ~5% in the US¹(~12M), ~1-2% in EU (3-4M)
- Increasing worldwide (ageing, obesity...)



### Patients with many comorbidities:

• Diabetes, Hypertension, Chronic Kidney Disease, Cardiovascular diseases...

Note: Acute Calcium Pyrophospate (CPP) is a similar microcrystalline disease (previously known as Pseudo-gout)



«Patients regularly rate their pain level
at 9 or 10 on a pain scale »
Gout Education Society



### **PKM-01**

An innovative combination of fast-acting and controlled-release drugs



First ever intra-articular

colchicine product

**Ropivacaine** 

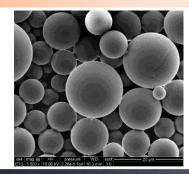
Anesthetic



**Colchicine** 

Anti-inflammatory

Controlled-release microspheres



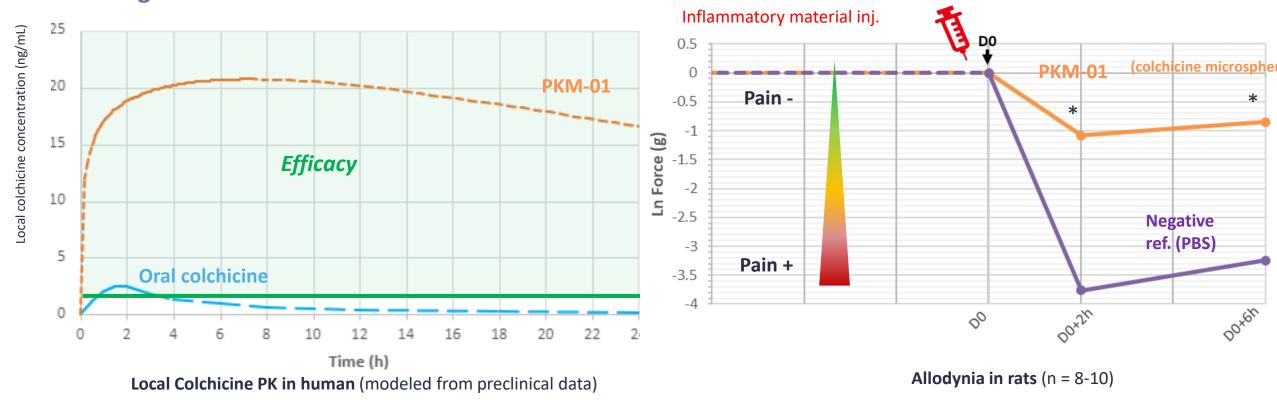
☐ Fast pain relief (within minutes)

☐ Routinely used

- Oral colchicine: Suboptimal efficacy limited by toxicity
- **□** PKM-01 increases and maintains local colchicine concentration
- □ PKM-01 induces a negligeable systemic exposure

# LOCAL PHARMACOKINETIC (PK) & EFFICACY

### High and sustained local colchicine concentration levels



High local colchicine concentrations

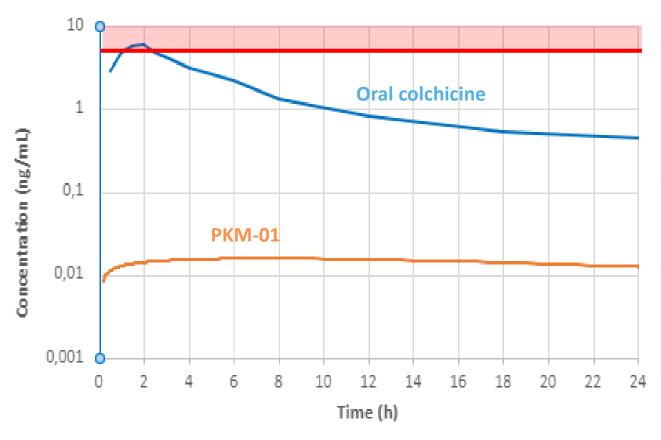


- > Swift and highly effective pain relief
- **Strong cartilage protection** (not shown here)

<sup>\*</sup> Stastically signatificative difference between PKM-01 and reference

# **SYSTEMIC PHARMACOKINETIC (PK)**

## Negligeable systemic colchicine concentrations in human



# Simulated systemic colchicine concentration in human (From preclinical data)

### PKM induces very low systemic concentration levels:

- 2-3 log lower than oral colchicine/toxicity threshold
- > Very safe as demonstrated by preclinical studies

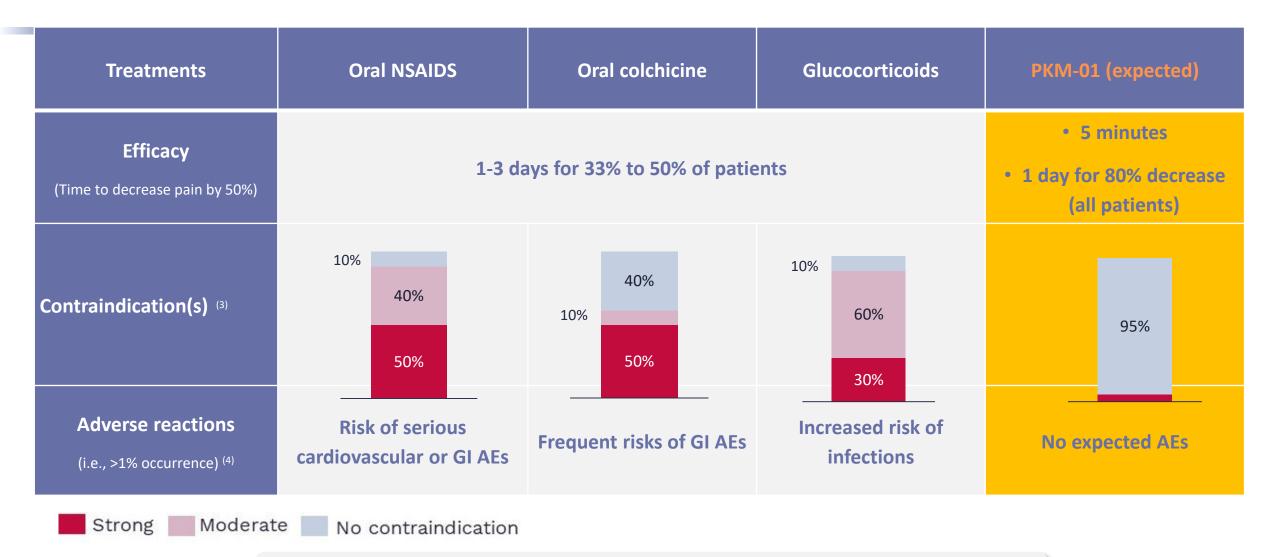
## Oral colchicine: a marked toxicity\*

- Induces gastric side effects at therapeutic levels
- Associated with many drug-drug interaction risks
- May cause fatal outcomes in cases of overdose



<sup>\*</sup> The French drug agency (ANSM) published recommendations in Oct 2023 to lower the dosage of Colchicine in Gout flare treatments to reduce the excessive number of intoxications

#### **OUTSTANDING EXPECTED PERFORMANCES COMPARED TO EXISTING TREATMENTS**



**Strong efficacy and safety differentiation** 



### **PROJECT STATUS**

FDA clearance to initiate clinical development in phase 2





# Product development -CMC-

- Prototyping
- ✓ Transfer to CDMO
- ✓ Manufacturing process scale-up (Ongoing)

#### **Preclinical**

- Successful efficacy studies
- ✓ Successful PK studies
- ✓ Successful prelim. local tolerance studies
- **✓** GLP tox program initiated





### Regulatory/clinical

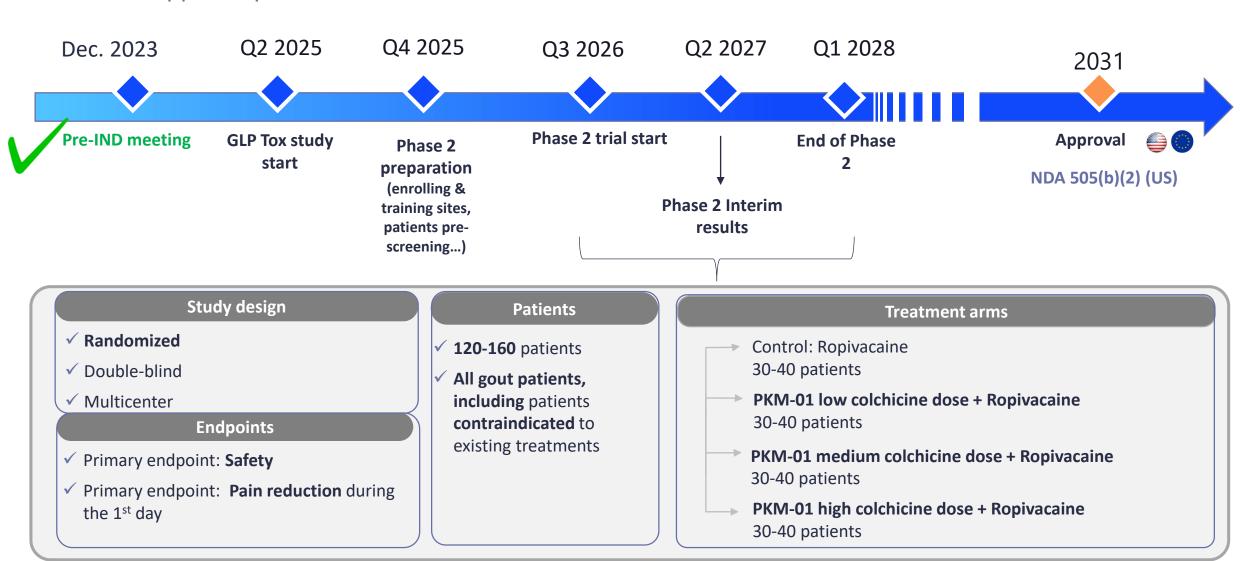
FDA (Pre-IND Jan. 2024)

- ✓ Direct access to Phase 2
- ✓ Agreement on Phase 2 clinical design
- ✓ Limited « safety population »
- ✓ EMA Scientific Advice submission (June 2025)
- ✓ Final draft of clinical protocol



### PKM-01 CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

An approval planned in 2030-31



### PKM-01: AN EXCELLENT CANDIDATE FOR INVESTMENT

\$20M series B funding

DERISKED PROJECT

SHORTENED DEVELOPMENT

STRONG POTENTIAL SHORT-TERM RETURN

- Known compounds
- Successful preclinical studies
- Patent protection until 2042

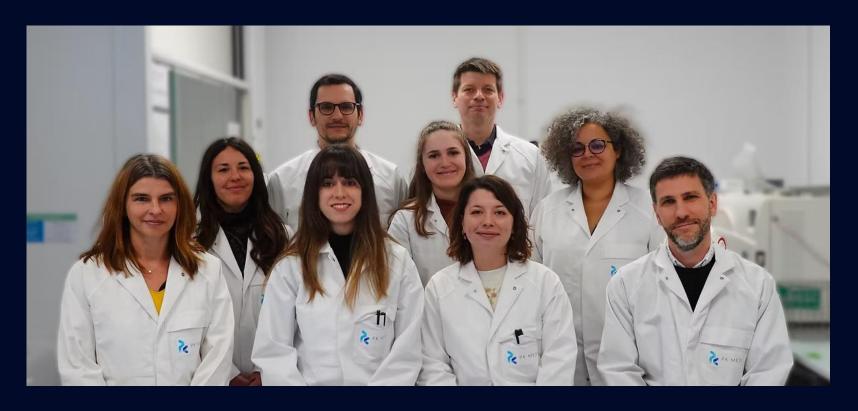
- FDA approval to go directly in Phase 2
- Phase 2 (US + EU)planned on Q3 2026
- High anticipated peak sales + Acute
   CPP
- Limited competition
- Extension in Osteoarthritis

- End of Phase 2 clinical trial: 2028
- Exit at 3 years through a Pharma deal
- In-market objective:2031

> Seeking \$20M Series B funding to support Phase 2 trial in gout: a short-term exit







# Thank you

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