



**Formation  
Biologics**

## **AVID200 Program Featured in an Oral Presentation at the 5th Systemic Sclerosis World Congress and Received an Award for One of the Most Original Works Presented at the Congress**

(February 17, 2018) Formation Biologics, a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company, today announced that its AVID200 program had been selected for an oral presentation at the 5<sup>th</sup> Systemic Sclerosis World Congress. The presentation highlighted benefits of AVID200 unique design features and described a multicenter AVID200 clinical trial in systemic sclerosis planned for 2018. The presentation also received an award from the World Scleroderma Foundation for one of the most original works presented at the congress.

The [presentation \(CO.22\)](#) demonstrated the potent anti-fibrotic effects of AVID200, a selective TGF- $\beta$ 1 and TGF- $\beta$ 3 inhibitor, in animal models of established fibrosis, as well as in Scleroderma patient-derived fibroblasts in culture. The presentation also featured findings on clinical biomarkers demonstrating that the expression of TGF- $\beta$ 1 and TGF- $\beta$ 3, but not TGF- $\beta$ 2, correlates positively with the severity of fibrosis in scleroderma patients as measured by the modified Rodnan Skin Score.

### About AVID200

AVID200 selectively blocks TGF- $\beta$ 1 and - $\beta$ 3 ligands with pM potency. TGF- $\beta$ 's are a family of secreted ligands that play key roles in [fibrosis](#) and [resistance to immune checkpoint inhibitors](#). Of the three TGF- $\beta$  isoforms found in humans, TGF- $\beta$ 1 and - $\beta$ 3 are strongly implicated in several disorders with blockade of these ligands resulting in reversal of these diseases. In contrast, inhibition of TGF- $\beta$ 2 is undesirable, since neutralization of TGF- $\beta$ 2 is associated with [promotion of cancer metastasis](#), [negative effects on hematopoiesis](#) and [cardiac toxicity](#).

Applying its TGF- $\beta$  structure-activity expertise and through using a novel protein-engineering approach, Formation Biologics has developed AVID200, which is significantly more active against TGF- $\beta$ 1 and - $\beta$ 3 compared to TGF- $\beta$ 2. AVID200 blocks TGF- $\beta$ 1 and - $\beta$ 3 with low pM potency, which enables efficient trapping and removal of these ligands *in vivo*. AVID200 is undergoing IND-enabling development for use in fibrotic diseases and cancer immunotherapy with clinical studies planned for 2018.

### About Formation Biologics

Formation Biologics is a clinical stage pharmaceutical company that engineers novel biotherapeutics. Our mission is to transform the lives of patients affected by life-threatening diseases. Based on a deep understanding of the biology of rare diseases, including molecularly-defined cancers, heritable disorders and pediatric diseases, Formation Biologics identifies therapeutic targets that are central to the disease process.

Subsequently, our scientists apply advanced protein engineering methods to design biotherapeutics that are positioned to become the new standard of care.

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