Combining IL-23 Blockade With Anti-α4β7 or Anti-TL1A for the Treatment of IBD is Supported by In Vitro and Mouse IBD Model Experiments

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Background

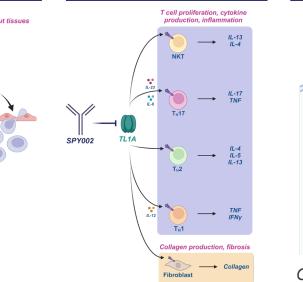
- **IL-23** and **α4β7** inhibition (e.g., with risankizumab and vedolizumab, respectively) are both well-tolerated and effective treatments for Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC).
- TL1A inhibition has been shown to ameliorate disease activity in patients with CD and UC.
- **Combined** use of **targeted biologic agents** may improve efficacy by inhibiting multiple pathways while avoiding the risks associated with broad immunosuppression.

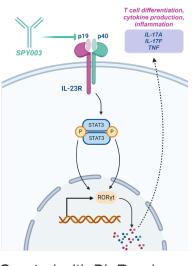
α4β7, TL1A, and IL-23 blockade are each clinically validated therapeutic mechanisms in IBD

Blockade of $\alpha 4\beta 7$ prevents circulating immune cells from entering gut tissues

Neutralization of **TL1A** suppresses inflammation and reduces fibrosis by inhibiting fibroblast activation

Neutralization of IL-23 inhibits cascade of various proinflammatory cytokines





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Methods

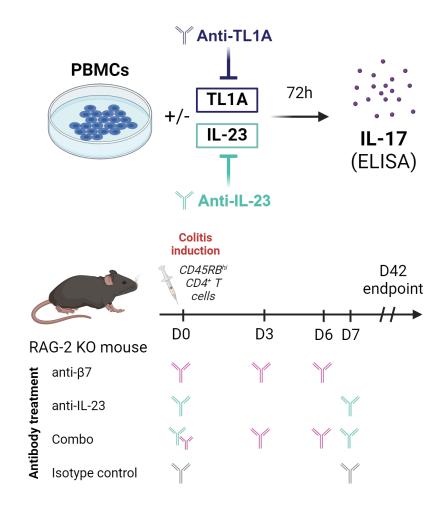


Figure 1: IL-17 was measured by ELISA after human peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were incubated with IL-23 and/or TL1A with or without anti-IL-23 and/or anti-TL1A (500 nM or 83 nM) for 72 hours (top). CD45RB^{hi}CD4⁺ T cells were transferred into RAG-2 KO mice to induce colitis. Mice were treated with isotype control Ab, murine anti-β7 mAb (30 mg/kg), murine anti-IL-23 mAb (1 *mg*), or both. Body weight was measured weekly; colons were harvested at Day 42 for histologic, immunohistochemical, and colonic IL-17 quantitative analysis. Created with BioRender.com.

- Dual blockade of TL1A and IL-23 results in additive inhibition of IL-17 production in PBMCs.
- Genetic association data are suggestive of a potential additive effect of SPY001 and SPY003 combination and SPY002 and SPY003 combination in the treatment of IBD.
- β7 and IL-23 blockade have additive effects in the murine T-cell transfer colitis model.
- Spyre is developing extended half-life mAbs against α4β7 (SPY001), TL1A (SPY002), and IL-23 (SPY003) for clinical development as combination therapies for IBD. (See posters PP1103, MP450, and MP118).

References

- Sands, B. et al. PRA023 Demonstrated Efficacy and Favorable Safety as Induction Therapy for Moderately to Severely Active UC: Phase 2 ARTEMIS-UC Study Results. Journal of Crohn's and Colitis. 17(S1), i1-i1056 (2023). Feagan, B. G. et al. The Anti-TL1A Antibody PRA023 Demonstrated Proof-of-Concept in Crohn's Disease: Phase 2a APOLLO-CD Study Results. Journal of Crohn's and Colitis. 17(S1), i1-i1056 (2023). Feagan, B. G. et al. Guselkumab plus golimumab combination therapy versus guselkumab or golimumab monotherapy in patients with ulcerative colitis (VEGA): a randomised, double-blind, controlled, phase 2, proof-of-concept trial.
- Lancet Gastroenterol. Hepatol. 8, 307-320 (2023).





Results

Carriage of variants in any two of the pathways is associated with greater risk of IBD than any single variant

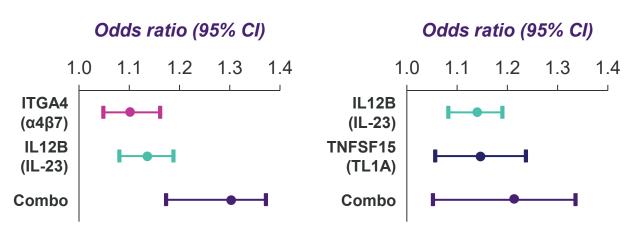
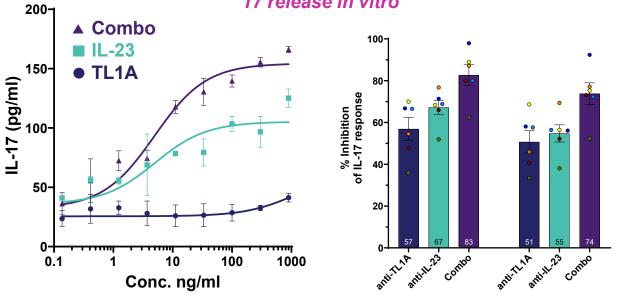
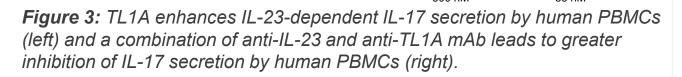


Figure 2: The contribution of lead variants in each of the three (α4β7, TL1A, and IL-23) target gene pathways to the risk of IBD, alone and in combination of two at a time, was explored by genetic association using the UK Biobank.

Combination of anti-TL1A and anti-IL-23 offers superior inhibition of IL-17 release in vitro





Combination of anti-β7 and anti-IL-23 increases efficacy and PD in T-cell transfer colitis

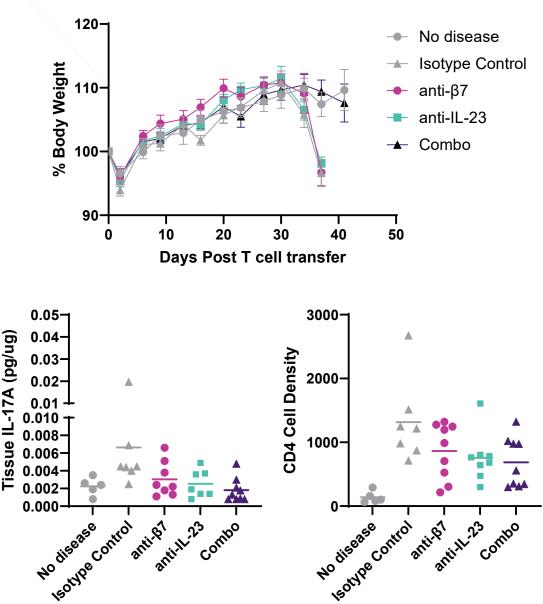


Figure 4: Anti-β7 and anti-IL-23 mAb in combination led to lower weight loss than either one alone (top), to lower IL-17 levels by ELISA of colonic lysates (bottom left) and to lower CD4⁺ T cell infiltration in the colon by *immunohistochemistry (bottom right).*

Conclusions

Disclosures DR, MA, JM, JV, JO, and HS are employees of Paragon Therapeutics. JF and AS are employees of Spyre Therapeutics. All authors own equity in Paragon Therapeutics and/or Spyre Therapeutics.





Danese, S. et al. Anti-TL1A Antibody PF-06480605 Safety and Efficacy for Ulcerative Colitis: A Phase 2a Single-Arm Study. Clin. Gastroenterol. Hepatol. 19(11), 2324-2332.e6 (2021).