

## Overview

viDA Therapeutics, Inc. (viDA), is a Vancouver, Canada based biotechnology company advancing first-in-class drugs based on inhibitors of the extracellular serine protease, Granzyme B (GzmB), to treat autoimmune and age-related, chronic inflammatory diseases. The Company is seeking a Series A financing of US\$10.0 million to advance our lead drug product, VTI-1002 in gel into the clinic for the treatment of two orphan skin indications, epidermolysis bullosa and bullous pemphigoid. Based on preclinical studies with the lead compound VTI-1002, the Company is planning to file an Investigational New Drug (IND) application with the FDA within the next 12-14 months.

## Epidermolysis bullosa (EB)

Epidermolysis bullosa is a group of rare diseases (prevalence 1:17,000 live births affected) that cause fragile, blistering skin. The blisters may appear in response to minor injury, even from heat, rubbing, scratching or adhesive tape. In severe cases, the blisters may occur inside the body, such as the lining of the mouth or the stomach. Most types of EB are inherited. The condition usually shows up in infancy or early childhood. Some people don't develop signs and symptoms until adolescence or early adulthood. EB has no cure. Infants with a severe form of junctional EB are at high risk of infections and loss of body fluids from widespread blistering. Their survival also may be threatened because of blistering, which may hamper their ability to eat and breathe. Many of these infants die in childhood. Current treatment for EB patients focuses on caring for blisters and preventing new blister formation.

## Bullous Pemphigoid (BP)

Bullous pemphigoid is a rare skin condition (prevalence 1:40,000 population) that causes large, fluid-filled blisters. The blisters develop on areas of skin that often flex — such as the lower abdomen, upper thighs or armpits. BP is most common in people older than age 60. BP occurs when the immune system attacks a thin layer of tissue below the outer layer of skin, the dermal-epidermal junction. The reason for this abnormal immune response is unknown, although it sometimes can be triggered by taking certain medications. Treatment usually includes medications, such as prednisone, and other drugs that suppress the immune system. BP can be life-threatening, especially for older people who are already in poor health.

## viDA Treatment Approach

Our approach is through a novel mechanism involving extracellular GzmB, an enzyme that accumulates in the skin, degrades structural and adhesive molecules and has been shown to be responsible for the disruption of the skin's basement membrane and the resulting epidermal detachment and blistering. By inhibiting the protein degrading activity of extracellular GzmB and preventing extracellular matrix protein degradation, our GzmB inhibitors not only prevent tissue injury but facilitate normal tissue repair and remodeling resulting in accelerated healing and reduced scarring.

VTI-1002 is a first in class drug that selectively and potently targets GzmB that accumulates in the extracellular space during excessive and/or dysregulated inflammation. By inhibiting the extracellular, pathological activity of GzmB and preventing protein degradation, the body can achieve healthy tissue remodeling and repair in the treatment and prevention of sub-epidermal blistering and other inflammatory skin conditions. The product will be delivered daily as a topical gel.

## Competitive Landscape

Several products with anti-inflammatory activity such as topical corticosteroids or immunosuppressant drugs are used to treat the aforementioned conditions. These current treatment options have limited efficacy and a number of significant side effects including atrophy and steroid dermatitis.

The viDA inhibitors are not classified as anti-inflammatory agents. Our GzmB inhibitors are designed to target extracellular GzmB that is significantly elevated in these patients. GzmB degrades extracellular matrix proteins contributing to the observed skin damage and impaired tissue healing and/or scarring. This unique approach of targeting an enzyme for which no known extracellular inhibitors have been identified, is differentiated from other approaches that target inflammation.

We anticipate a topical VTI-1002 will be used alone or in combination with current treatment protocols. A therapeutic without the limitations and side effects of current treatment protocols would be a major improvement and provide a significant advancement in the management of these diseases.

## The Company

viDA, located in Vancouver, British Columbia, providing administration, intellectual property, drug discovery and development support. Our research is performed at laboratories at the University of British Columbia (UBC). The UBC laboratories consist of multiple scientists researching the role of granzymes in tissue injury, inflammation and disease under the direction of Dr. Granville.

## Management

The management team is led by co-founders **Alistair Duncan, BSc CA**, and **David Granville, BSc, PhD, FAHA**. Mr. Duncan, President and CEO, previously with Ernst & Young's Corporate Finance, International Life Sciences group, has since founded three companies involved in gene/cell therapy (technology acquired by GSK), therapeutics (technology acquired by Glenmark Pharmaceuticals) and sustainable bio-jet fuel (in commercialization stage). Dr. Granville, CSO and Professor at University of British Columbia has received multiple recognitions for his research including a Canada Research Chair, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar, Canada Top 40 Under 40 and Scholar of the Royal Society of Canada, is a recognized leader in the granzyme field with numerous publications, talks, awards and patents.

viDA is fortunate to have attracted other successful biotech executives to serve in advisory roles:

**Dr. Robert Ryan**, Chair of viDA board, was co-founder and CEO of Scioderm (acquired by Amicus for US\$957-million) that is developing SD-101 for the orphan indication, epidermolysis bullosa, **Dr. Julia Levy**, Board member, was co-founder and CEO of QLT that developed Visudyne generating revenue of US\$480 million at its peak and treating over 2 million patients with age-related macular degeneration. **Dr. Marlene Haffner**, Board member, was the Director of the Office of Orphan Products Development at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for 20+ years, **Dr. Michael Abrams**, Science Advisory Board Member Chair, was co-founder and CEO of Anormed (acquired by Genzyme for US\$580-million) that developed MOZOBIL for a stem cell transplant, **Dr. Ron Nardi**, Dr. Nardi previously served as Chief Scientific Officer of Scioderm LLC, an Amicus Therapeutics company, focused on the development of an innovative topical treatment for Epidermolysis Bullosa and **Dr. Robert Young**, viDA Science Advisory Board Member, previously Vice President, Chemistry Merck whose team developed the asthma drug, Singulair™.

## Intellectual Property

Through a combination of co-ownership and an exclusive license with the University of British Columbia, viDA has an intellectual property portfolio consisting of 50 patents/patent applications (23 issued and 27 pending) including methods of use, composition of matter, formulation and diagnostics around the granzyme technology.

## Financing strategy

To date, viDA has raised approximately \$10 million (US\$8 million) from BDC Venture Capital, private investors and grants (\$2.5 million / US\$2.0 million) to advance our understanding of the role that extracellular GzmB plays in chronic inflammatory age related and autoimmune diseases and the therapeutic value that can be realized by inhibiting and stopping extracellular GzmB's pathological activity.

We are currently seeking US\$10.0 million to fund our lead candidate, VTI-1002 in a gel topical formulation through the following activities over the next 24 months: Scale up and production of VTI-1002, complete Investigational New Drug (IND) enabling studies, file IND, complete Phase 1 healthy volunteer study, file 2 Orphan Applications both in US and EU, initiate and complete Phase 2 study in EB and BP.

## Contact

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