

# Eliminating barriers to immunotherapy efficacy

Glycyx Therapeutics

January 2025



# Mission

Preventing immunodeficiency in cancer caused by opioids used for pain management

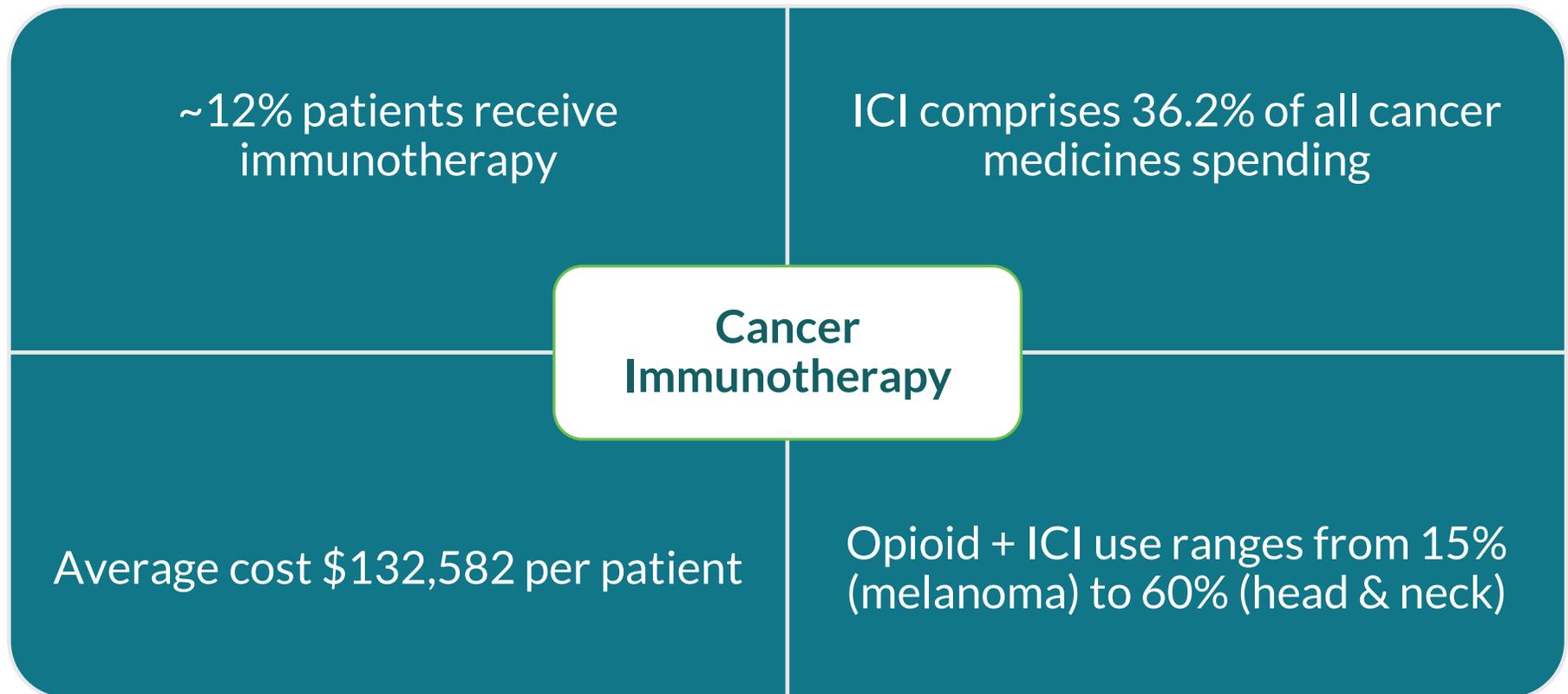


Opioids are essential for cancer pain but they block immunotherapy



Glycyx is creating a new standard of care to ensure optimal outcome and pain relief for every patient

# 45% of immunotherapy patients take opioids for pain, and there are no good alternatives



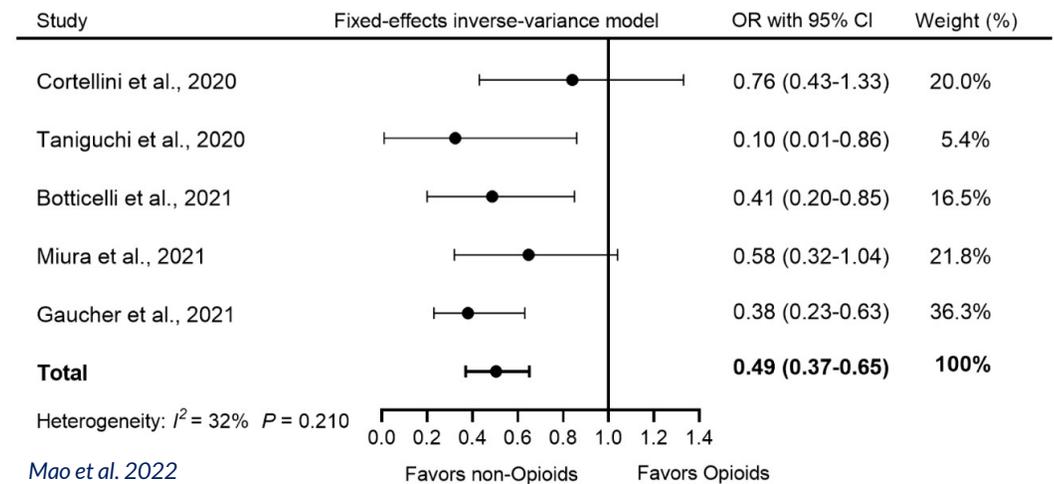
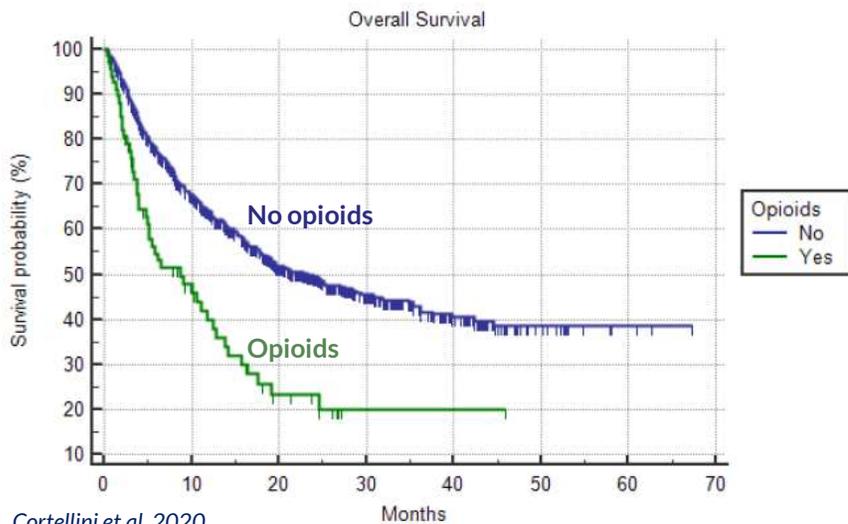
ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor(s)

# Opioids block efficacy of checkpoint inhibitors

Opioid-Induced Immunodeficiency (OII) in frontline checkpoint inhibitor patients

Opioids Are First Line For Cancer Pain

Opioids Create Immune Deserts in TME



Patients on ICI survive significantly longer without opioids...

...and this evidence is across 4000 patients

## Real world observational evidence:

- Baseline opioid status associated with poor survival of immunotherapy patients in multiple observational studies
- Cortellini et al. results at left confirmed in **propensity score matching analysis**
- Published meta-analysis shows **HR for OS = 1.78; HR for ORR = 0.49**



# Our lead, axelopran, is clinic-ready in 2024

Within striking distance of key milestones to start a Phase 2a POC study



## Safety

- Axelopran is a small molecule, **peripherally active mu receptor antagonist** that competitively binds on T-cells, in the body outside the CNS, and in the tumor microenvironment
- Axelopran is a safe, **immune restoration and maintenance** agent preventing Opioid-Induced Immunodeficiency by preparing the immune system prior to immunotherapy
- Bioavailable, efficacious dose regimen demonstrated in OIC Phase 2: **15mg** oral daily
- Extensive safety database: **544 patients dosed**; minor and transient side effects; no treatment discontinuation and **no Grade 3+ AEs**



## Regulatory

- **IND #078-654** opened with GI division of FDA by Theravance; transferred to Glycyx
- **IND reactivated** with GI division **Apr 5, 2024**; transfer to (or new IND submission to) Oncology Division Q1 2025

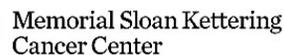


## Manufacturing

- CMC validated to 12kg batches; long-term manufacturing partnership
- **11kg** batch produced by Scinopharm Taiwan in Q1 2024 = **~2,000 patient years of API**

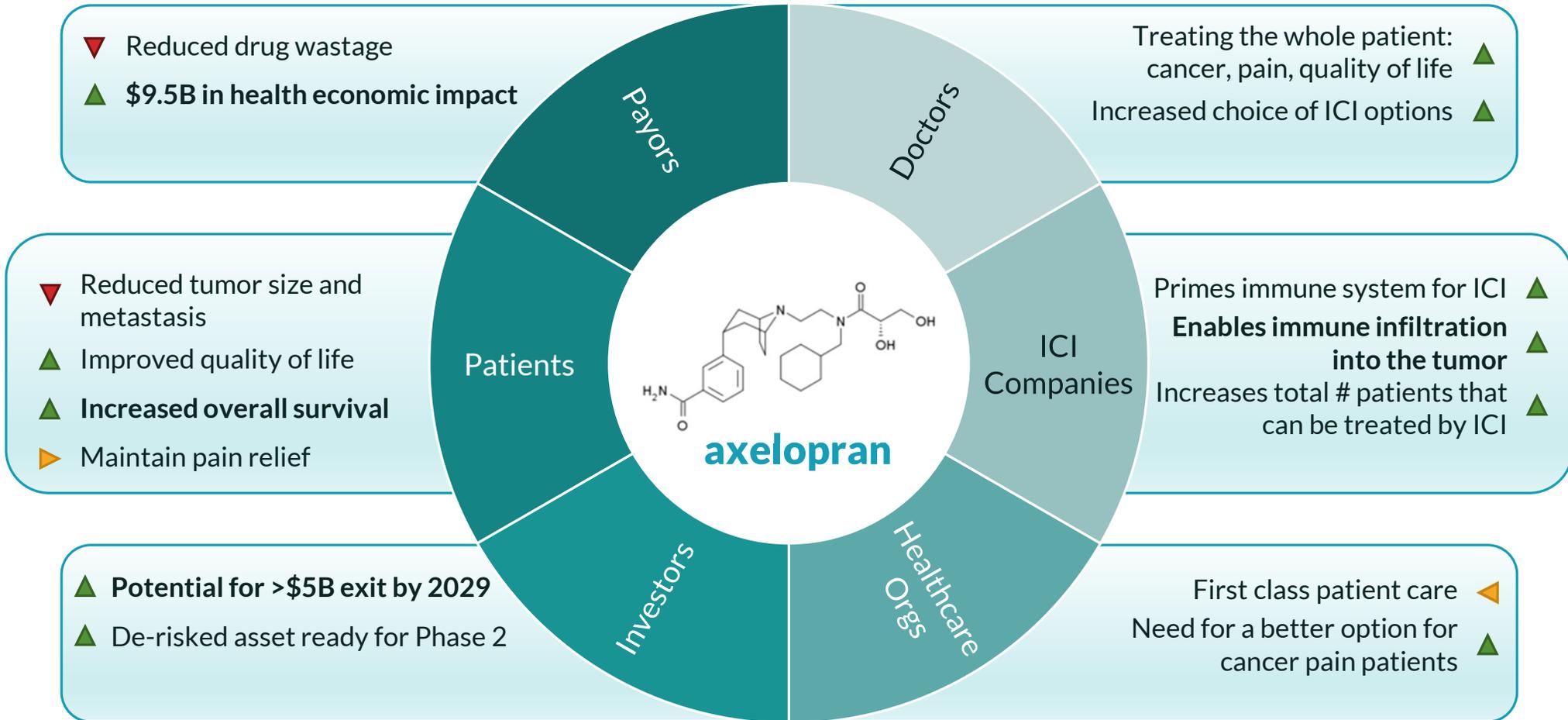


## Clinical Partners



# Axelopran

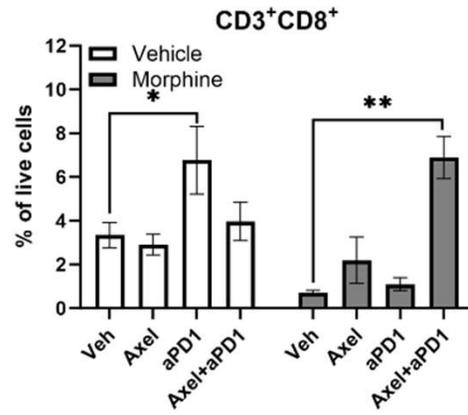
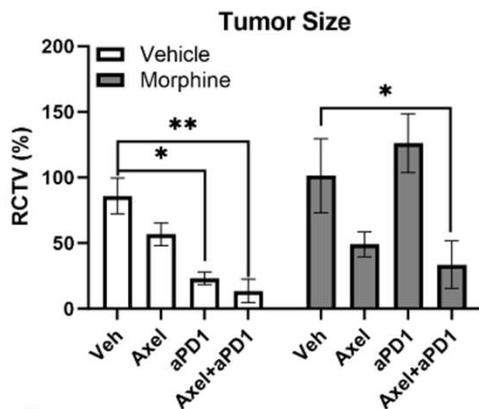
An immune restoration and maintenance agent for better patient outcomes



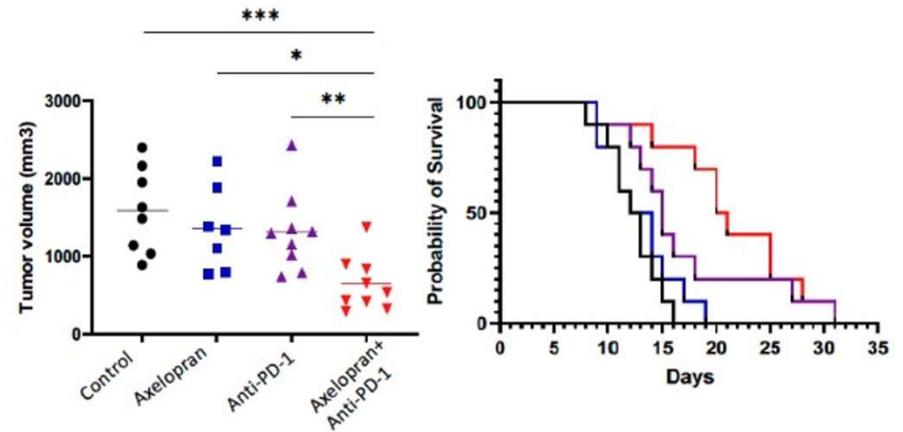
# Proof of Mechanism

Axelopran prevents Opioid-Induced Immunodeficiency, maximizing ICI efficacy

Axelopran improves tumor burden in opioid-induced immunodeficiency in murine syngeneic oral cancer (HNSCC)



Axelopran improves survival even absent prescription opioids in murine syngeneic colon cancer (CRC)



Scheff and Johnson, 2024 (publ. submitted)

**Axelopran improves immune profile and survival in models replicating clinical observations with opioids/ICI:**

- Reverses opioid suppression of CD8+ T-cell infiltration
- Improves biomarkers of tumor microenvironment such as TIM3 and PD-1
- Reduces tumor burden in multiple solid tumor models (HNSCC, CRC, Melanoma, TNBC)
- Mono- and combo-therapy approaches independent of prescription opioids, providing expansion opportunities

# US Market Opportunity

## IMMUNOTHERAPY MARKET: OPDIVO + KEYTRUDA

Despite biosimilars, PD-1's and immunotherapies expected to grow through 2030

**\$32B**

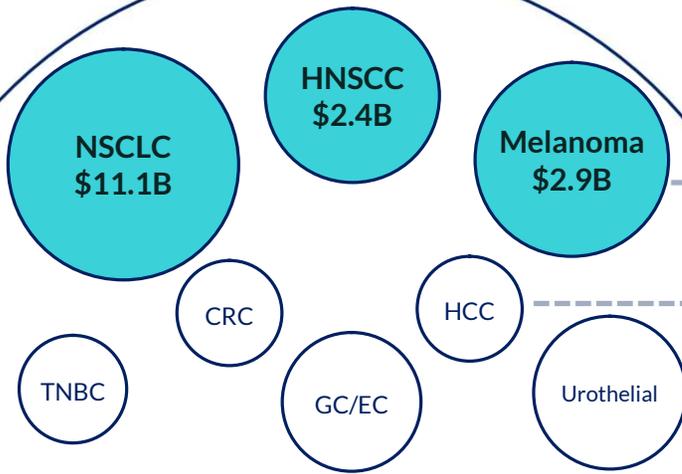
**>45%**

## CANCER PAIN MARKET: OPIOIDS

45% of immunotherapy patients take opioids  
\$14.4B of current ICI market is wasted spend

## GLYCYX TARGET MARKET: OPIOID + ICI

Increase responsiveness of ICIs and revenue of axelopran >\$1B



First 3 basket indications with >\$15B PD-1 market

Follow-on indications maximize long-term immunotherapy market capture

## Axelopran is an immune restoration agent for all ICIs in solid tumors

- Enables tumor infiltration
- Study designed for broad label in solid tumor enhancer of ICIs with opioids

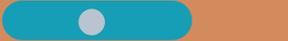
Indication	Anti PD-1 Market (\$M)	Opioid Use	Peak Penetration
HNSCC	\$2,443	70%	50%
NSCLC	\$11,144	45%	30%
Melanoma*	\$2,861**	15%	50%

\* Highest producer of endogenous opioids

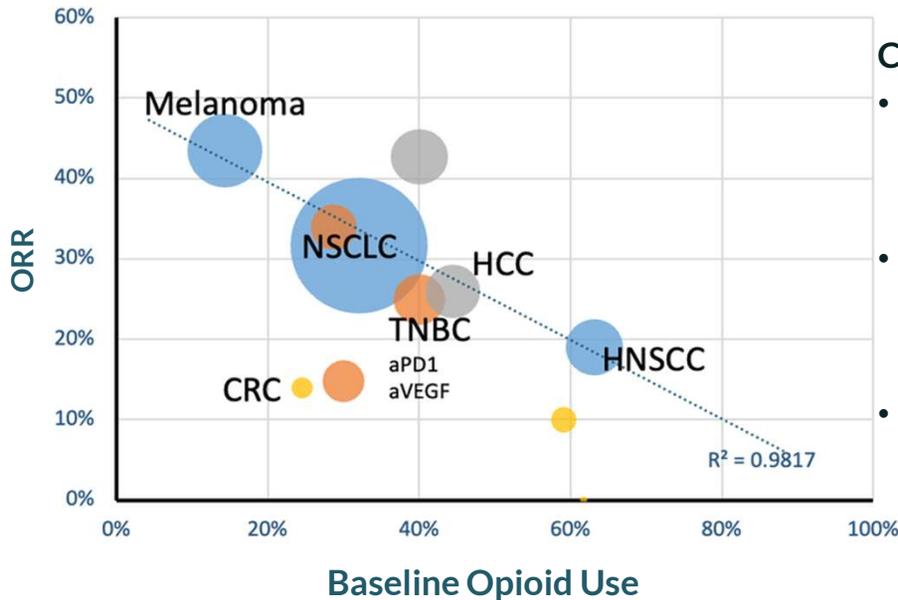
\*\*Does not include approved LAG3 and CTLA4 immunotherapy combo agents

# Pipeline:

Ready to start a full Phase 2b POC study with full funding

Therapy	Tumor Type	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Est. Launch	Comments
ICI Monotherapy + Axelopropan	HNSCC				2030	Basket Phase 2a study in three indications. Open-label, Simon 2-stage design de-risks Phase 2b expansion
	NSCLC					
	Melanoma					
ICI Combination + Axelopropan	Solid tumors				2032	Follow on indications for label expansion: GC/EC, Urothelial, CRC, TNBC, HCC

## Rationale



### Clinical Plan:

- HNSCC is the ideal indication for a proof-of-concept: 70% opioid use + 85% immunotherapy eligibility **provides fast enrollment of eligible patients**
- NSCLC and Melanoma included due to significant market size enhanced by concomitant opioid use (*see graph, left*)
- **Simon 2-stage trial design gives insight to efficacy and powering for a de-risked Phase 2b**, by using a smaller, less expensive open-label design

# Go to market strategy:

Strategic development plan consistent with successful precedents

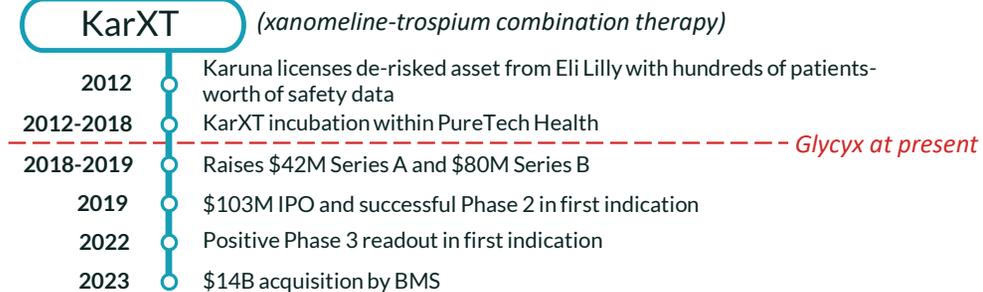
## Business Development opportunities following proof of concept data

	De-risking next-gen pipelines	Oral immunotherapy combinations	Supportive care in oncology
 MERCK	X	X	
 Bristol Myers Squibb™	X		
 Roche	X		
 HELSINN <small>Building quality cancer care together</small>			X
 CURIS™		X	
 AMGEN	X	X	
 Incyte		X	

Axelopran holds patent protection for fixed-dose combination therapies, with conversations initiated for oral PD-1 combinations.

Expansion to other immunotherapies unlocks new opportunities for growth and partnership.

## Comparable asset: Karuna's development of an agonist/antagonist combination



## Major similarities and takeaways

<b>Successful repurposing with combination approach</b>	Karuna <b>enhanced agonist efficacy while reducing antagonist AEs</b> ; axelopran+ICI aims for similar results, boosting efficacy while preserving opioid analgesia.
<b>Accelerated development</b>	Licensed a de-risked asset <b>leverages a robust safety database</b> , shortening clinical development timelines.
<b>Multi-indication potential following PoC in lead indication</b>	Karuna's success in schizophrenia as rational first neuro indication <b>informs Glycyx's strategy for HNSCC</b> (high opioid+ICI combination).

# Development Plan

Simon 2-stage design: Basket Phase 2b study of 3 cancers with a registrational intent

## 1st-stage:

Safety /  
futility with  
initial efficacy  
readout  
\$15M

HNSCC  
N = 18

6 month recruitment  
ORR 8 weeks

With standard of care  
ICI and opioid

NSCLC  
N = 18

6 month recruitment  
ORR 8 weeks

With standard of care  
ICI and opioid

Melanoma  
N = 18

6 month recruitment  
ORR 8 weeks

With standard of care ICI  
and opioid

Raise \$5M to focus on  
melanoma study to  
answer request from  
VCs on POC efficacy

Adaptive design to determine final patients number required for registration

## 2nd-stage:

Efficacy with  
registration  
intent  
\$50M - \$80M

HNSCC  
N = 120 to 200

Randomized controlled  
standard of care ICIs and  
opioid

With and with out axelopran

NSCLC  
N = 120 to 200

Randomized controlled  
standard of care ICIs and  
opioid

With and with out axelopran

Melanoma  
N = 120 to 200

Randomized controlled  
standard of care ICIs and  
opioid

With and with out axelopran

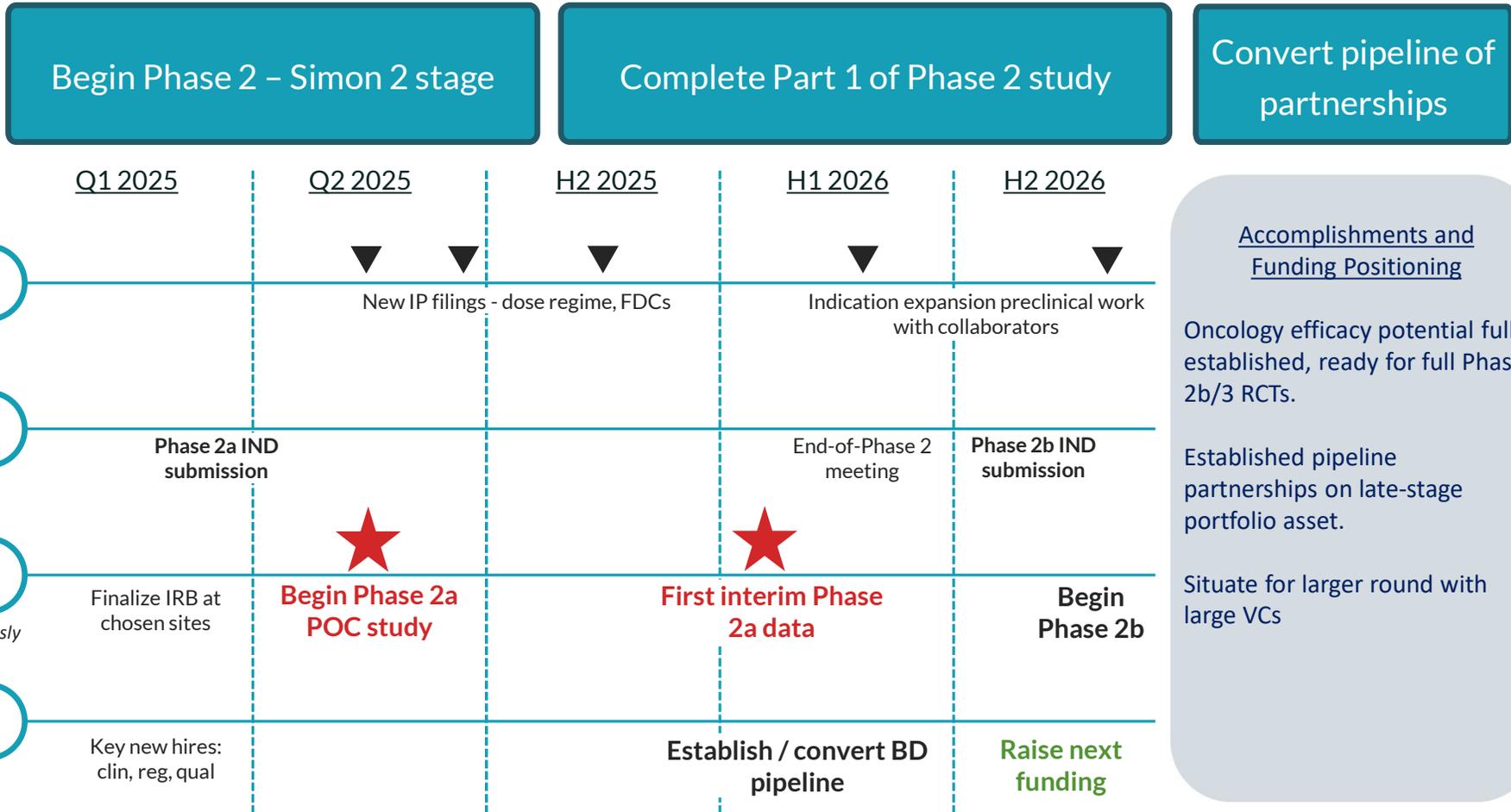
Designed for broad label for solid tumors outside the brain



# Ask and Use of Proceeds

Raising \$5M Series A for a POC in human in melanoma

## 2yr Key Milestones



Convert pipeline of partnerships

### Accomplishments and Funding Positioning

Oncology efficacy potential fully established, ready for full Phase 2b/3 RCTs.

Established pipeline partnerships on late-stage portfolio asset.

Situate for larger round with large VCs

# Potential for IPO or acquisition in 2 to 3 years

Expected to be >\$2B exit, treating 50,000 to 100,000 patients

TAM – Solid Tumors with anti-PD1s and Opioids

Revenue projections on HNSCC, NSCLC and Melanoma

Investor Returns

## Opioid-Induced Immunodeficiency

- Opioids used in 45% of cancer immunotherapy patients
- Opioids block checkpoint inhibitors (ICI) through immunosuppression
- Potential to increase overall survival by 50% across all solid tumors where opioids and ICIs are used

## Patients

- 50,000 eligible patients in 3 cancers alone, potential up to 100,000
- Better quality of life while still maintaining pain relief and survival



## Series Seed - \$5M

- Clean cap table
- Only internal investors for valuation designed for de-risked step-up
- Clear milestones and deliverables on Phase 2 study



# Team

Scientific, clinical & commercial experts in cancer and opioid biology.



**Lorin K. Johnson, PhD**  
Chairman & CSO  
Scientific founder of Salix,  
13 NDAs in GI Medicine  
\$15B exit



**Justin Chickles, MBA**  
Chief Executive Officer  
CEO, CCO, CPO roles  
25+ years leadership experience:  
start-ups, J&J, other pharma



**Dave Taggart, LLM**  
Chief Business Officer  
R&D, BD, and strategic  
consulting at AbbVie, J&J,  
BMS, Sanofi, Roche



**Bridget Martell, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer  
C-suite roles at Artizan Bio, Kura  
Oncology, Juniper Pharma  
Led 6 medicine approvals  
including Kadcyla & Elelyso



**Prof. Jonathan Moss, MD, PhD**  
Chief Medical Advisor  
University of Chicago  
Anesthesiologist & inventor of  
the PAMORA class of drugs

## Key Advisors



**Ana Anderson, PhD**  
Harvard Medical School  
Associate Professor, Center  
for Neurological Diseases



**Dylan Zylla, MD**  
HealthPartners  
Medical Oncologist



**Alessio Cortellini, MD**  
University of Roma  
Medical Oncologist



**Dan Zandberg, MD**  
UPMC  
Associate Professor  
Medical Oncologist



**Nicole Scheff, PhD**  
UPMC  
Assistant Professor  
Center for Neuroscience

# Join us in eliminating barriers to immunotherapy efficacy

- Cancer is a complex, multi-factor disease
  - We have identified a clear problem with current treatments
  - And there is no reason for patients not to treat both the pain and the cancer
  - Axelopran can significantly improve survival and still maintain pain relief
- We want a partner that can join us on the journey on bringing this important treatment to market



# *Contact Us*

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# Appendix

# Glycyx Solution



Axelopran is a best-in-class opioid receptor antagonist demonstrating improved cancer survival while maintaining the analgesic effects of cancer pain medication



**Selective and potent:** Peripherally active mu-opioid receptor antagonist (PAMORA) mechanism retains opioid pain relief in cancer patients while eliminating immunosuppressive effects.



**Proven safety, tolerability, & CMC:** Axelopran previously studied in >500 patients across nine trials in OIC, with no significant AEs. Full preclinical toxicology program and CMC package complete with 11kg API available.



**Best-in-class and first-in-indication:** Three PAMORAs are approved for OIC but not cancer indications, including combination therapy with checkpoint inhibitors.



**Wholly owned compound with new IP:** Glycyx completed a full license for all territories and indications from Theravance before developing intellectual property with protection to 2042.



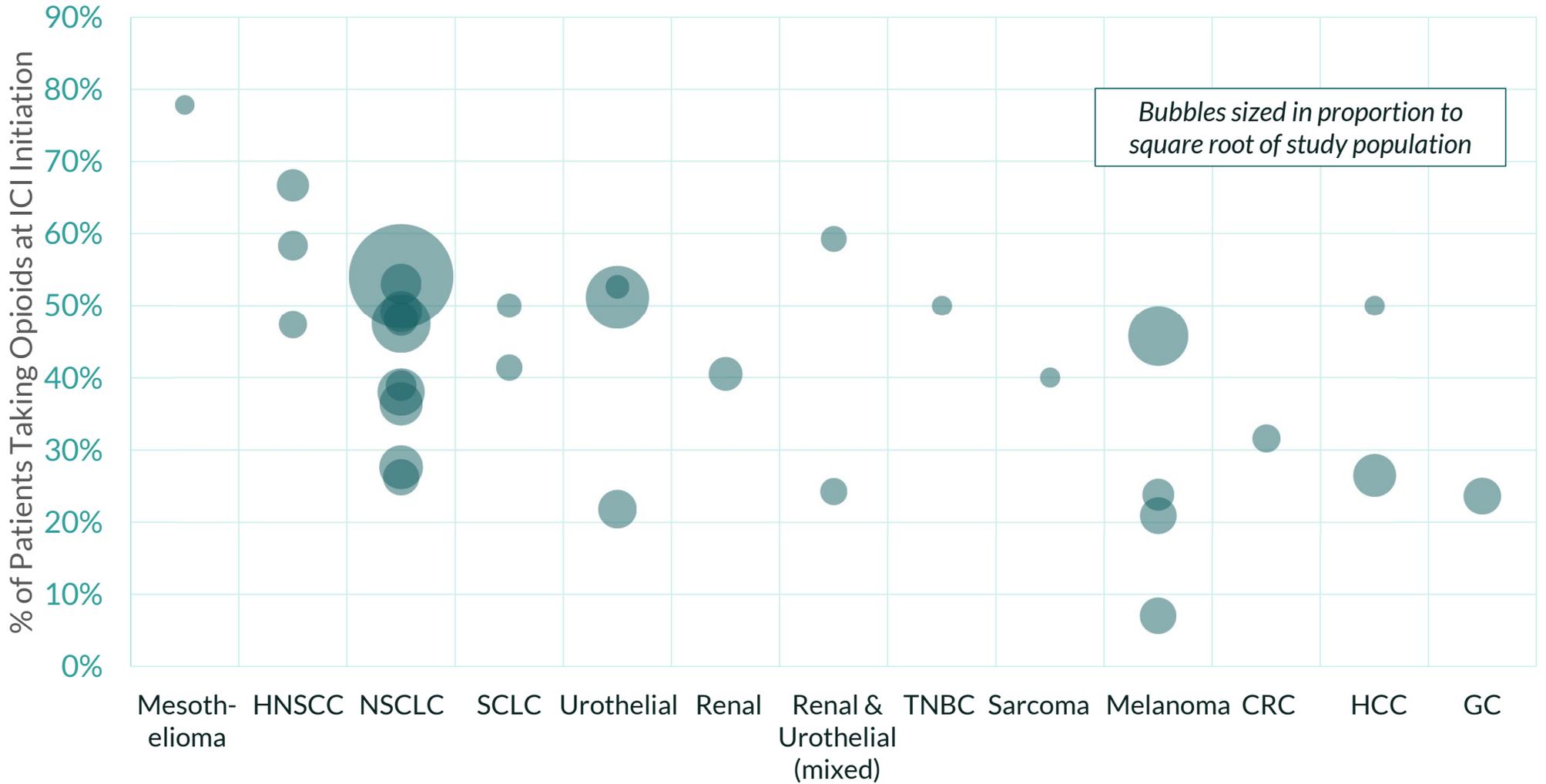
**IND approved to treat cancer patients with clear path to market:** Pivot to cancer indications provides FDA-aligned roadmap for development and first approval by 2030.

# Risk analysis and mitigation:

Proactively addressing potential obstacles and questions in development and marketing

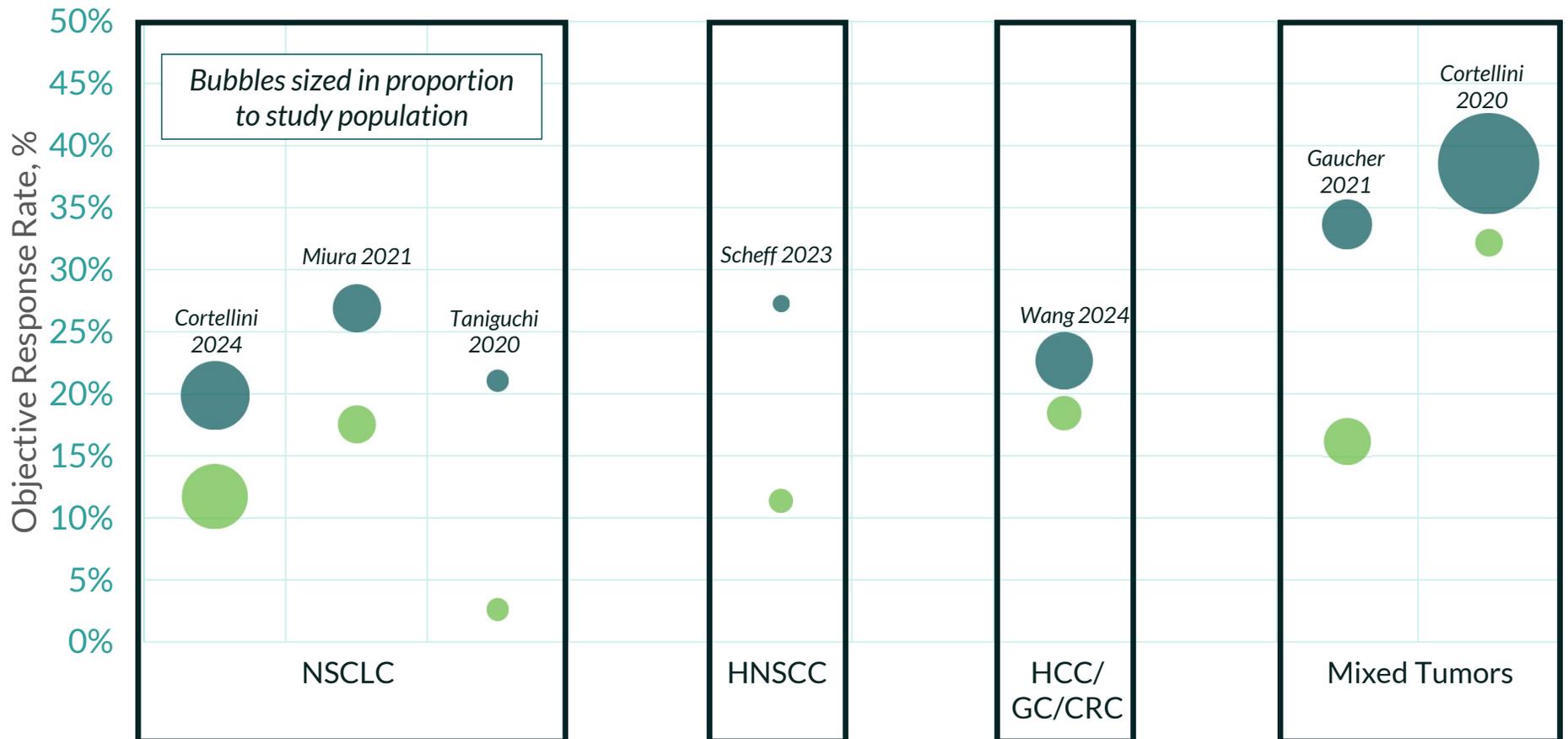
Risks and Questions	Impact and Mitigation
Is there patent protection beyond 2027 for Axelopran?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Yes:</b> Glycyx retains invention and exclusivity for <b>Method of Use out to 2042</b> (combo with checkpoint and VEGF inhibitors, preventing opioid-induced immunodeficiency) in all planned indications</li> <li>• <b>Orange Book eligible:</b> all prosecuted patents are eligible for protection via Paragraph 4 (generics)</li> <li>• <b>Orphan Drug Designation</b> fortifies IP position in certain niche cancers</li> </ul>
What happens to the target market when Keytruda and Opdivo go off-patent in 2030?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Limited impact:</b> 11 PD-1 biosimilars poised to launch as replacement, with branded PD-1 usage estimated to decline only -3% from peak by end of decade</li> <li>• <b>87% of total cancer pain market</b> is estimated to utilize mu opioid receptor agonists – the target of axelopran – up from 70% in 2023</li> </ul>
Are opioids prescribed only for cancer patients with advanced disease?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No:</b> Opioids are <b>prescribed at all stages of cancer progression</b>, not just advanced stages</li> <li>• Glycyx mechanistically proved that opioids reduce efficacy of immunotherapies <i>in vivo</i>, and that axelopran reverses this effect</li> <li>• Academic collaborators have shown <b>opioid effect is independent of cancer stage</b></li> </ul>
Will competition from generic PAMORAs reduce profitability?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Unlikely:</b> No PAMORA has been used in for oncology combination therapy, providing <b>Glycyx a first-mover advantage in oncology</b></li> <li>• <b>Projected &gt;\$1B in sales with focus on volume:</b> A broad, multi-indication label as an enhancer for immunotherapy, delivered as frequently as opioids with competitive pricing to LAG3 or CTLA4 agents</li> </ul>
Why was Axelopran's development discontinued by Theravance?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business decision in separate indications:</b> Theravance discontinued axelopran for business reasons after pursuing only opioid-induced constipation</li> <li>• Theravance has no interest in oncology evidenced by the <b>buyout option available to Glycyx</b></li> </ul>

# How Often Do We Use Opioids And ICIs Together?



# Could Opioid Exposure Be Affecting Response Rates?

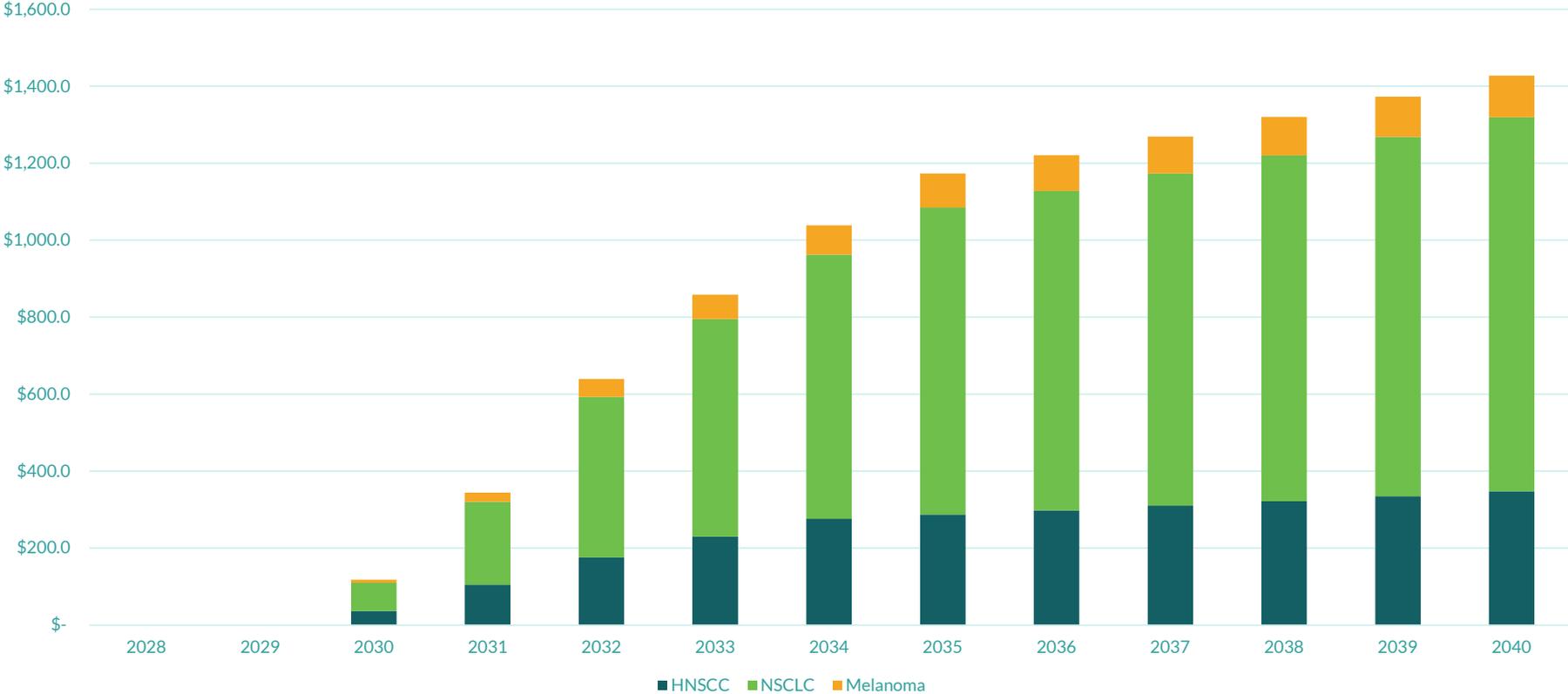
● Non-Opioid Patients ● Opioid Patients



# Financial projections



Axelopran Revenue Projections in \$M



# Executive Summary



## What

- **Axelopran prevents opioid-induced immunodeficiency:** clinic-ready asset in immuno-oncology
- **Established tolerability:** safety database of >550 patients and clinical collaborators ready
- **Phase 2a basket study:** clinical development in solid tumors with opioid + ICI use

## Why

- **>50% decline in ORR:** patients taking opioids with ICI halve their respective response rate
- **Large market:** On average, >45% of immunotherapy patients take immunosuppressive opioids
- **No current competition:** Axelopran set to be first-in-indication asset

## How

- **Raising \$30M in Series A funding**
  - Complete Phase 2a basket trial in solid tumors
  - Secure full ownership of asset via minority inventor buyout (Theravance)
  - Convert pipeline of BD opportunities following Phase 2a data