



A new standard in  
cholesterol therapy

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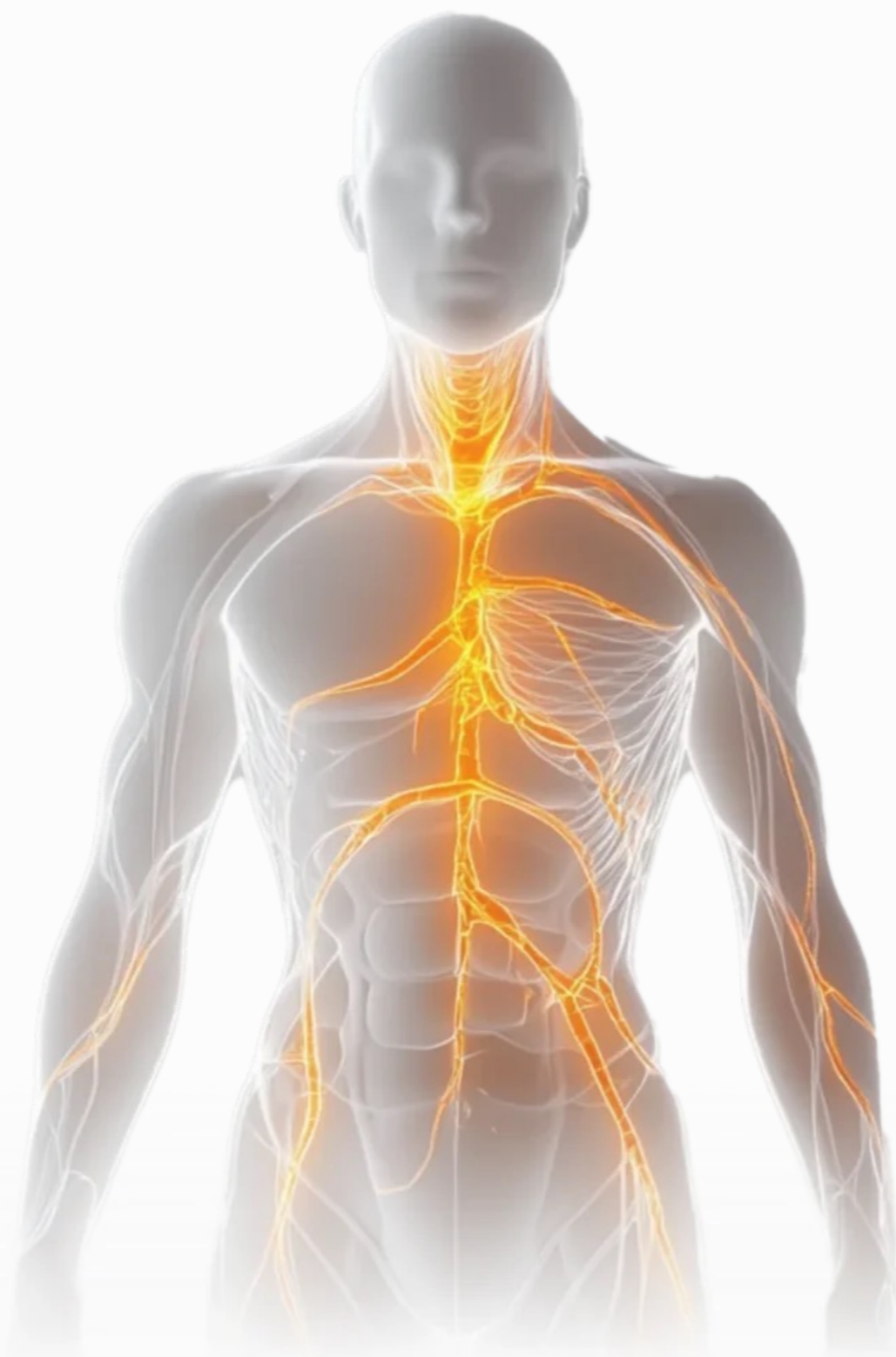
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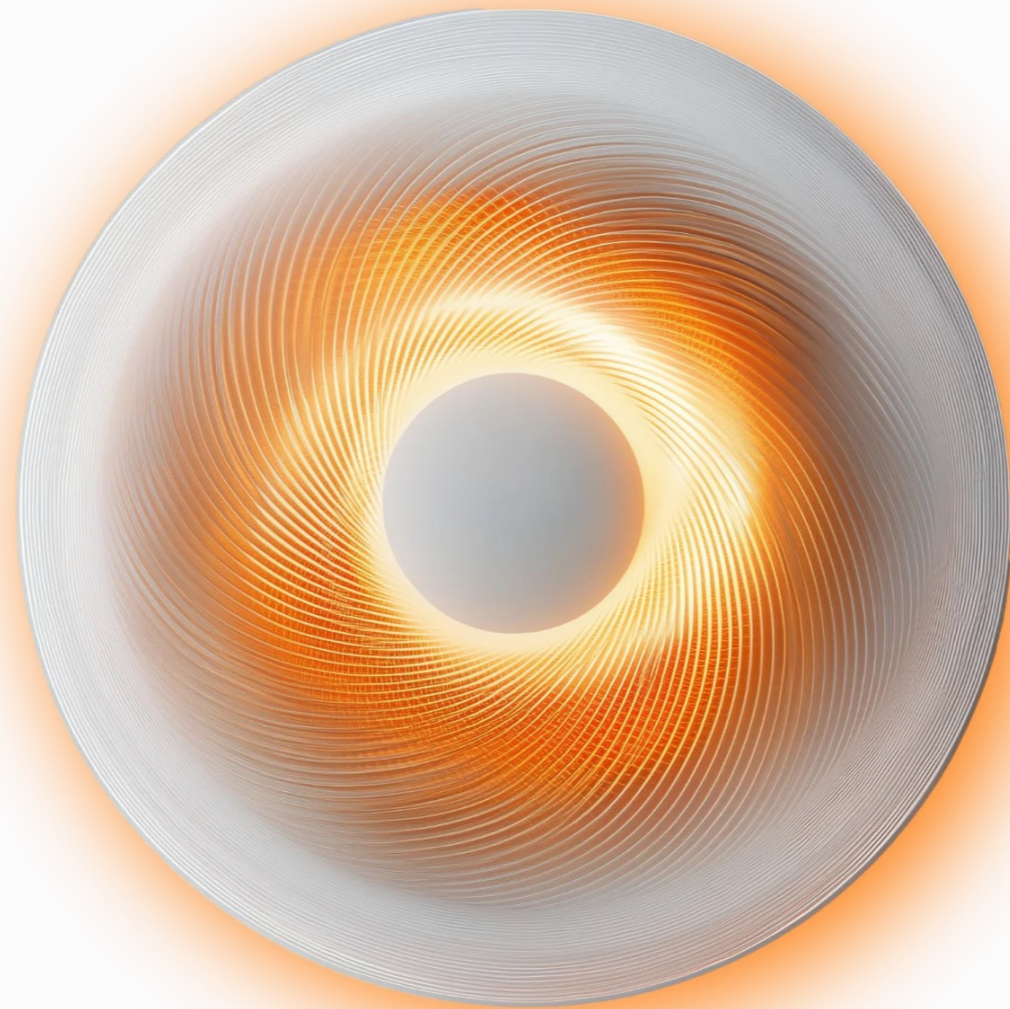
# About Aqur

A pioneering bioscience company  
headquartered in Westlake Village,  
California, United States



Developing a revolutionary oral  
therapy targeting high cholesterol,  
addressing a \$25+ billion market

# Core Values



## Vision

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Pioneering a future where cardiovascular disease caused by high cholesterol is effectively treated with cutting-edge, and patient-friendly therapies.

## Team

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Our team consists of world-renowned scientists, researchers, and industry experts with deep expertise in bioscience, pharmaceutical discovery, and cardiovascular health. Collectively, the team has contributed to the development of over 30 commercial drugs, generating more than \$10 billion in sales.

## Mission

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Dedicated to advancing breakthrough treatments that address some of the most urgent health challenges, ensuring safety, efficacy, affordability, and accessibility.

# High Cholesterol & Cardiovascular Disease



## CVD

High cholesterol is a major contributing factor to the Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)

## >1 billion

People suffer from high cholesterol globally, affecting approximately ~39% of adults (~94M Americans)

## #1

CVD is the number 1 cause of death worldwide, responsible for ~31% of all annual global deaths

## 18.6 million

Annual cardiovascular deaths, with ~85% attributable to atherosclerotic CVD, primarily caused by elevated LDL

# Current Cholesterol Therapeutics: Statins



## MoA

Competitive inhibition of enzyme HMG-CoA reductase

## LDL

Typical reduction:  
30 – 50%

## Administration

Oral

## Cost

Low

## Effect

Reduces cholesterol level & helps stabilize atherosclerotic plaques

## Side Effects

Muscle-related & gastrointestinal symptoms, liver enzyme elevation (reversible & rare)

# Current Cholesterol Therapeutics: PCSK9i



## MoA

mAbs - binds to PCSK9  
siRNA - interfere with PCSK9 synthesis

## LDL

Typical reduction:  
50 – 70%

## Administration

Injectable

## Cost

High

## Effect

Significantly reduces LDL  
cholesterol levels in high-risk patients

## Side Effects

Injection site reactions, flu-like symptoms,  
hypersensitivity or allergic reactions (rare)

# Current Market

## PCSK9i injectables: ~ \$3.7 Billion



~\$754M Sales in 2024



~\$725M Sales in 2024



~\$1.22B Sales in 2024

## Statins (incl. generics): ~ \$16 Billion



~\$1.15B Sales in 2024



~\$2.0B Sales in 2024

2020 - Novartis acquired The Medicines Company for \$9.7B, primarily for inclisiran (Leqvio), then under-development

2020 - AstraZeneca acquired Dogma Therapeutics' oral PCSK9 inhibitor, for an undisclosed amount

# Therapies Under Development

Targeting PCSK9

SUPPRESSED PCSK9



**AZD0780**  
CLINICAL RESEARCH PHASE II



**MK-0616**  
CLINICAL RESEARCH PHASE III

Targeting LDL-R

PCSK9 UNAFFECTED



**AQR-008**  
PRE-CLINICAL RESEARCH

# Aqur's Oral PCSK9i

Portfolio of over 50 peptides derived from PCSK9's catalytic domain

Patent granted in 2020

Royalty free



Leading candidate

Pre-IND stage

# AQR-008: MoA



## Targets

EGF-A domain on the  
Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptors (LDL-R)

## Prevents

PCSK9 binding to LDL-R, process that leads to LDL-R  
degradation in the hepatic cell

## Allows

LDL-R recycling back to the hepatic cell membrane, and  
recurrent binding to LDL particles for clearance

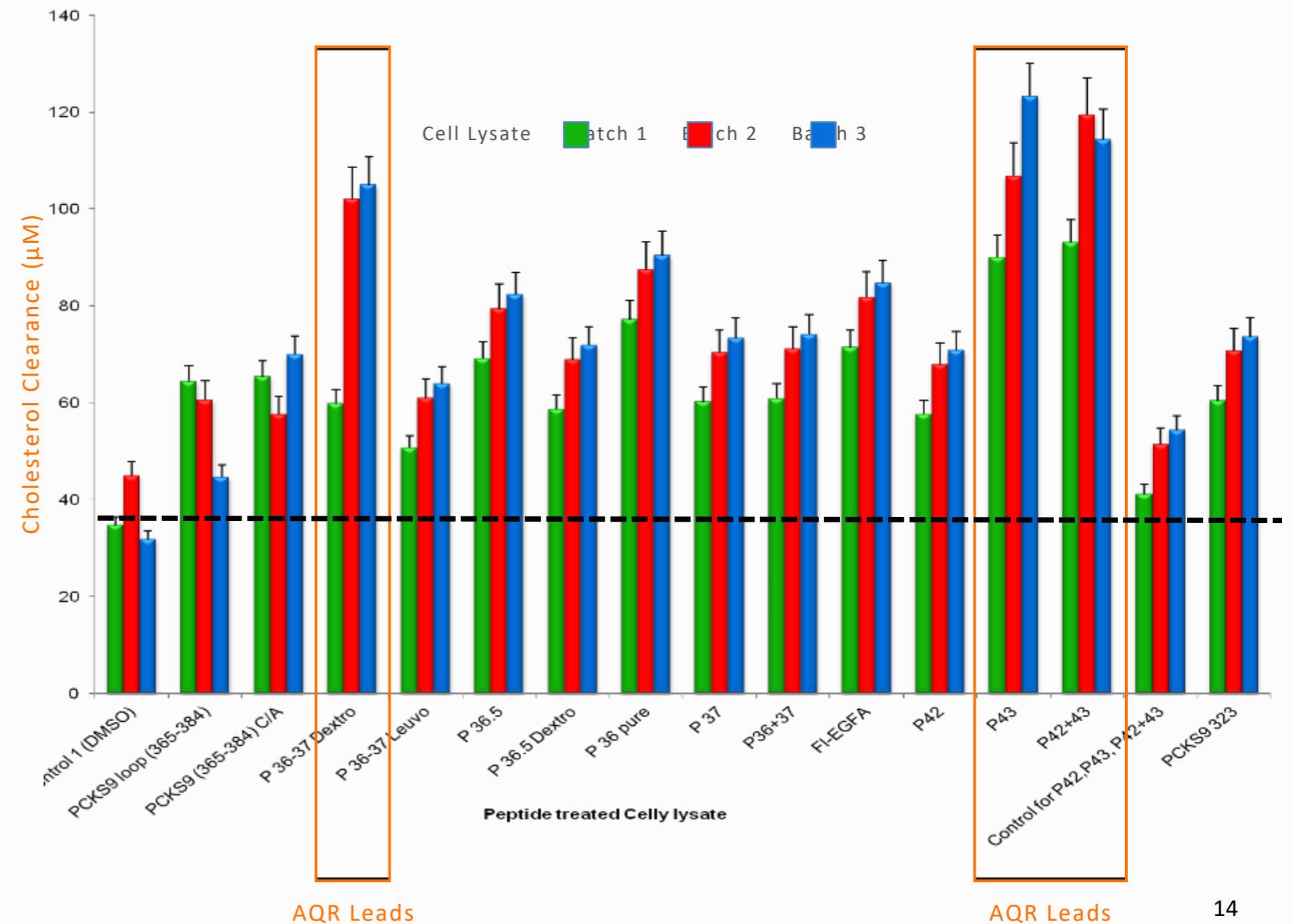
# AQR-008: Advantages



- ✓ Oral delivery
- ✓ Minimizes side effects
- ✓ Affordable for patients
- ✓ Improved patient compliance
- ✓ Storage without refrigeration

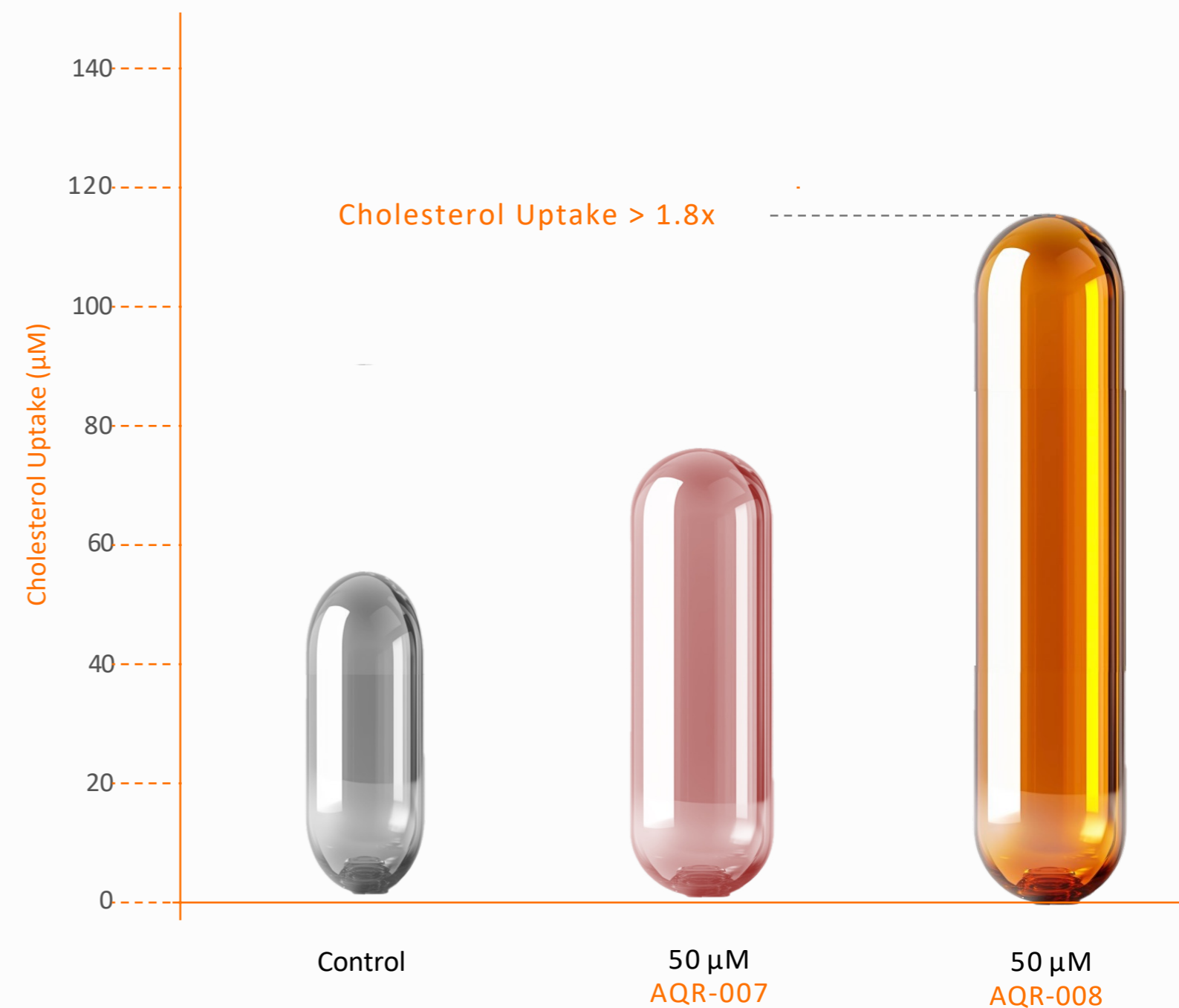
# Preliminary Cholesterol Clearance Results

Aqur's peptides exhibited nearly  
3x Cholesterol Clearance



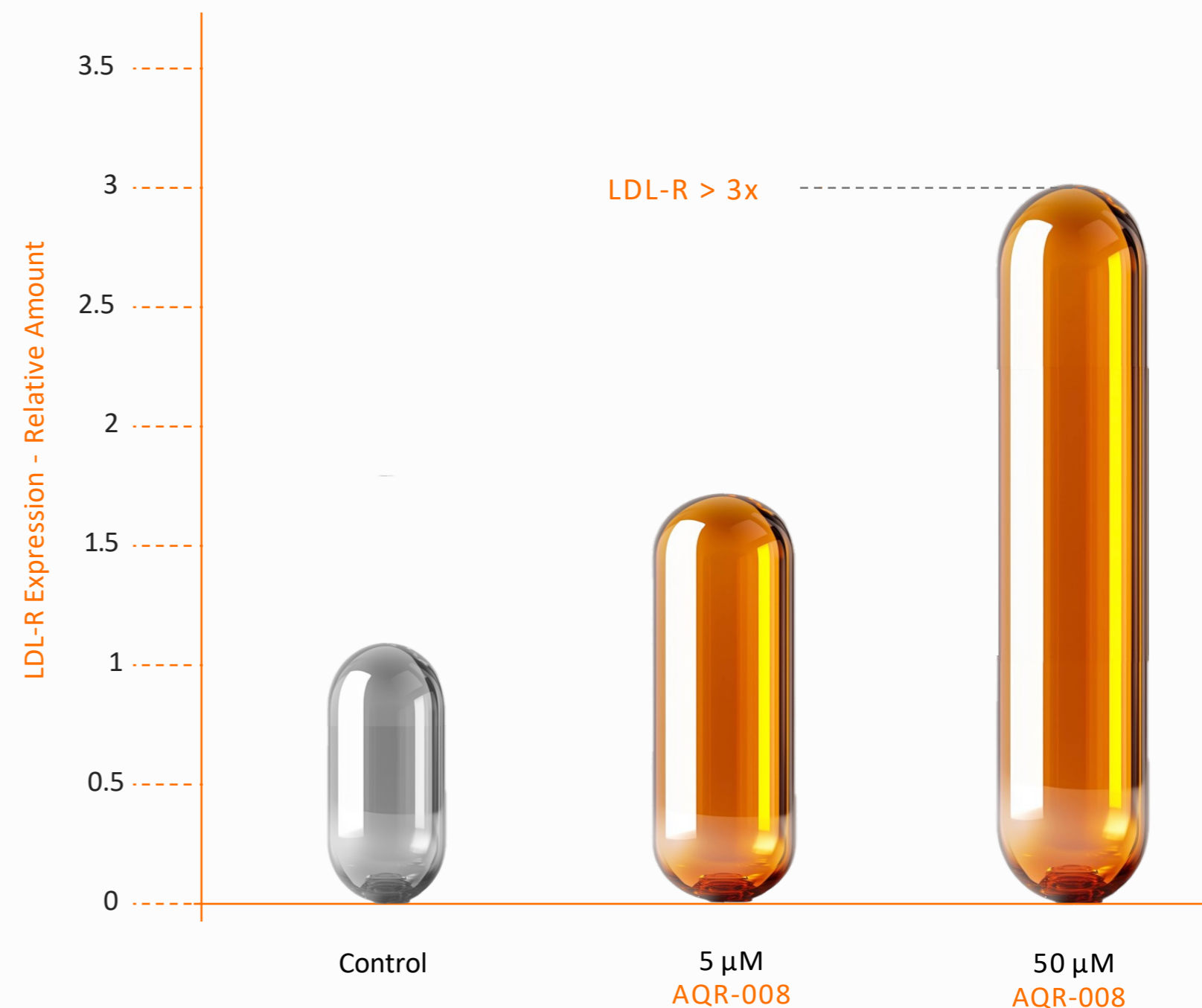
# Preliminary Cholesterol Uptake Results

Aqur's leading peptides increase **Cholesterol Uptake** levels (>1.8x) in HepG2 cells



# AQR-008: Pre-Clinical Efficacy

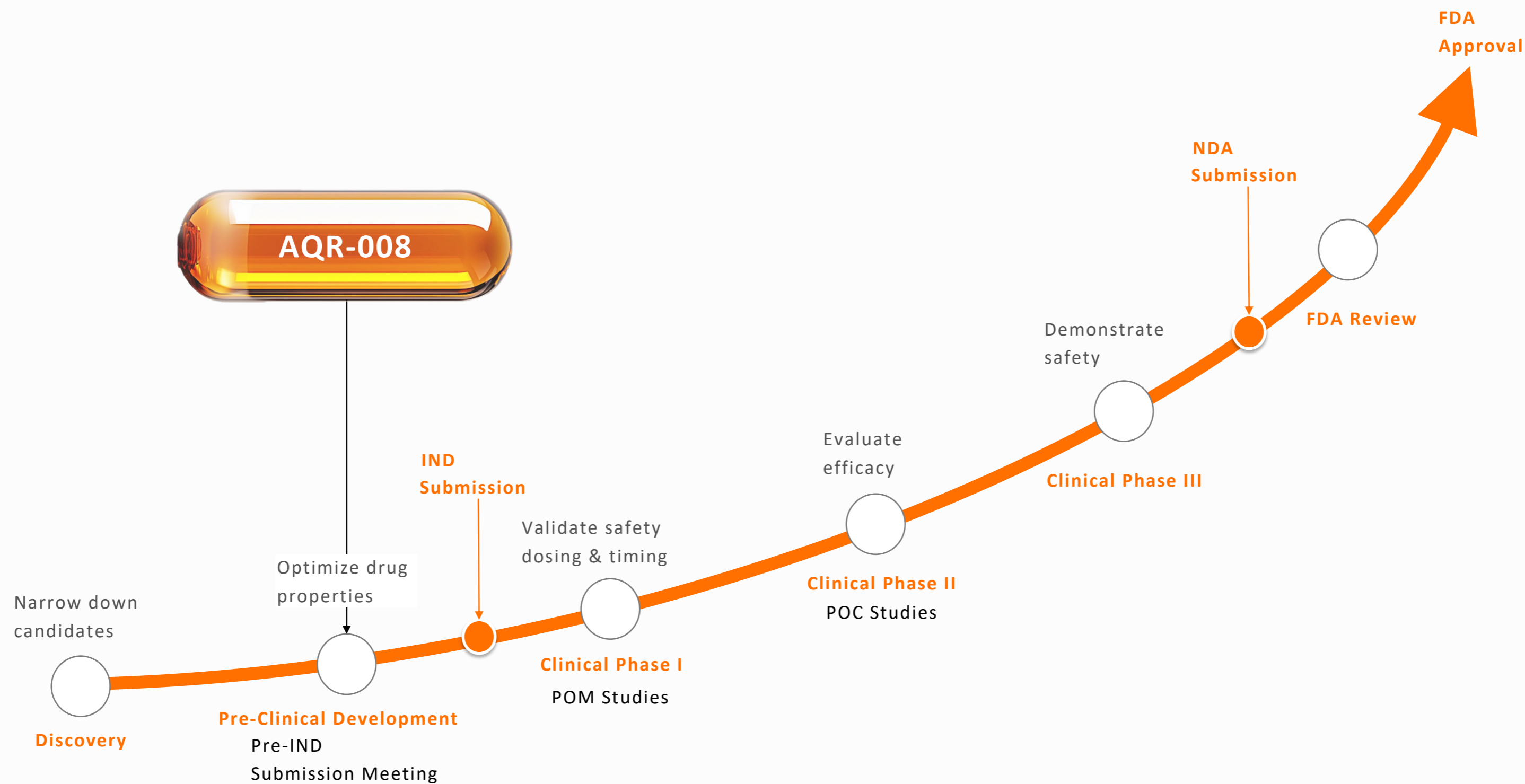
Significantly enhanced (>3x)  
LDL-R Expression in human hepatic cells  
at 50  $\mu$ M concentration



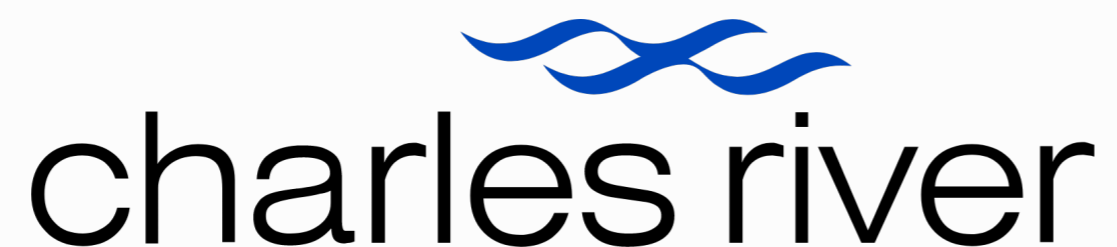
# AQR-008 Key Points

STAGE	In pre-clinical studies
MECHANISM OF ACTION	Targets the EFG-A domain on the LDL-R Blocks LDL-R from binding with PCSK9 Prevents LDL-R degradation & enables its recycling
DELIVERY METHOD	Oral
RESULTS & EFFECTS	Significant LDL cholesterol reduction
PCSK9	PCSK9 UNAFFECTED Does NOT bind to PCSK9 Does NOT suppress PCSK9 production Does NOT interfere with other PCSK9 functions
SIDE EFFECTS	Minimal side effects
COMPLIANCE	High compliance due to oral delivery, low cost & minimal side effects
COST	Designed for patient affordability

# Path Forward



# Strategic Partners



McGill  
UNIVERSITY



# Professionals

**McGuireWoods**



**NATCO**  
Nevada Agency and Transfer Company

# Management Team



**Michael A. Fole, MD, MBA**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

25+ years of experience in wealth & family office management, banking, trading and investments

MD - University of Medicine & Pharmacy Carol Davila, Bucharest

MBA - University of La Verne, California



**Jeffrey B. Wolin, JD**  
**President**

25+ years investment banking, corporate transactions, mergers & acquisitions, public filings and financings

BS - Biomedical and Chemical Engineering - Columbia University



**Andy Jennings, PhD**  
**Chief Scientific Officer**

35+ years of pharma and biotech industry (GSK, Takeda, & Structure Therapeutics)

Published in Computational Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Structural Biology, Assay Development, and Bioinformatics

BSc - Medicinal Chemistry (University of Hertfordshire) and PhD - Computational Chemistry & Bioinformatics - The Open University - UK



**James Hess Leach**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

40+ years of experience in family office venture capital

Chairman & Senior Managing Director, National Trust, LLC

Chair Emeritus, Rhode Island PBS Foundation & Inductee, Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame



**Michel F. Denarie, MBA**  
**Chief Operating Officer**

37+ years veteran of the pharmaceutical industry

21 years with IQVIA - Senior Principal, Strategic Drug Development - Global COE Lead, Patient Insights - Senior Principal, Commercial Effectiveness

BS - Kogod School of Business - American University

MBA - Darden School of Business - University of Virginia

# Board of Directors



**Jeffrey B. Wolin, JD**

25+ years investment banking, corporate transactions, mergers & acquisitions, public filings and financings

BS - Biomedical and Chemical Engineering - Columbia University



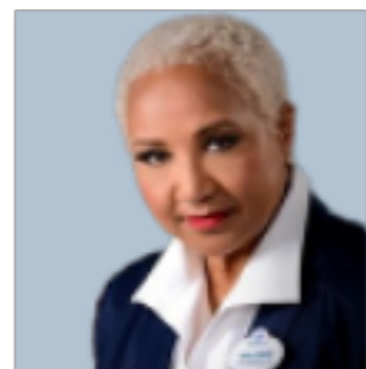
**James Hess Leach**

40+ years of experience in family office venture capital  
Chairman & Senior Managing Director, National Trust, LLC  
Chair Emeritus, Rhode Island PBS Foundation & Inductee, Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame



**Madison F. Richardson, MD**

40+ years board-certified surgeon  
Officer, Medical Board of California (1987-1993)  
Former Asst. Professor of Surgery, USC & UCLA Medical Schools  
Lt. Col., Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (1968-1979)



**Valerie Ferguson**

40+ years in management  
Former Regional General Manager – Deluxe Resorts at Walt Disney World  
Former Chairman of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHGLA)  
Held senior roles at Loews Hotels Corporation & The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company



**Amanuel Sima, MD**

24+ years board-certified physician  
Board-certified physician specializing in internal medicine  
Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Board of Pulmonary Medicine, & the American Board of Critical Care Medicine

# Scientific Advisory Board



**Roland Wandeler, PhD**

15+ years of commercial leadership and general management experience in the pharmaceutical & biotechnology industry

Former Amgen General Manager Germany in Spain & Portugal, and Corporate Vice President & General Manager of Amgen's US Bone Health & Cardiology Business Unit

MSc & PhD - Chemical Engineering - ETH Zurich



**Wayne Paterson**

Director & CEO, Anteris Technologies Ltd

Former Head of Pharmaceuticals (South Korea) & Head of Commercial Operations (China), Roche Pharmaceuticals

President, Merck KGaA Europe, Canada & Australia & Global Head of Cardiovascular Medicine, Merck KGaA (2010-2012)



**Jay Horton, MD**

Dr. Horton's characterization of PCSK9 & the protein's interactions with LDL-R provided the foundation for the development of PCSK9i

Professor of Internal Medicine and Molecular Genetics, Chief of the Division of Digestive & Liver Diseases

Holds the Robert C. & Veronica Atkin Chair in Obesity & Diabetes Research - University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas



**Tomi Sawyer, PhD**

Inventor of MCR1 agonist NDP-MSH (Scenesse® by Clinuvel) recently approved by the FDA

Invented ALRN-6924 (Aileron) and Iclusig® (Ariad/Takeda)

Former titles: Distinguished Scientist (Merck), CSO (Aileron), SVP (Ariad) and Sr. Director (Pfizer)

Past President of the American Peptide Society



**Nabil Seidah, MC, PhD, OQ, PRSC**

Discovered and cloned seven (PC1, PC2, PC4, PC5, PC7, SKI-1 and PCSK9) of the nine known enzymes belonging to the convertase family

Author of over 720 peer-review articles & manuscripts

Recipient of Medical Research Council Scientist Award, McLaughlin Medal of the Royal Society of Canada, the Parizeau Prize of the Association Canadienne-Française, the Pfizer Distinguished Cardiovascular-Metabolic Research Jean-Davignon Award, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the "Jacques Genest" Lecturer Award



**Michael D. Shapiro, DO**

Professor of Cardiology and Molecular Medicine at Wake Forest University

Published extensively in the areas of atherosclerosis imaging, lipid disorders, and preventive cardiology with research focuses on PCSK9 physiology and its impact on lipoprotein metabolism

DO - Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine

# Scientific Advisory Board



**Nicola Ferri, PhD**

Professor in Pharmacology, Department of Medicine, University of Padua, Italy

Author of >190 peer-review articles & manuscripts, including “Emerging oral therapeutic strategies for inhibiting PCSK9” published in Atherosclerosis Plus

PhD in “Experimental Pharmacology” & PhD in “Toxicology of Environment and Nutrition” - University of Milan, Italy



**Ajoy Basak, MSc, PhD, FIC**

Inventor of AQR-008

25+ years of discovery and development of PCSK9, cholesterol regulation & CVD

Adjunct Professor, University of Ottawa, & Affiliate Investigator, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Published 150+ peer reviewed articles on PCSK9 enzymes



**David M. Lubman, PhD**

Professor Emeritus – University of Michigan Medical School

Director, The Lubman Lab (University of Michigan Medical School) investigating novel biotechnologies

MS - Columbia University

PhD - Stanford University



**Bruce Auerbach, MS**

20+ years of experience in pharmaceutical drug discovery & early clinical development

Former associate Research Fellow at Pfizer specializing in drug discovery & early clinical development, with a concentration in dyslipidemia and metabolic diseases

MS in Pathology and Comparative Medicine - Bowman Gray School of Medicine - Wake Forest University



**Mary G. Sorci-Thomas, PhD**

Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Clinical Nutrition- Medical School of Wisconsin

Funded for 33+ years by the National Institutes of Health & for 20 years participated as a Project Leader on an NIH funded Program Project that studied Atherosclerosis and Lipid Metabolism

PhD - Wake Forest University School of Medicine



**Robert E. Burrier, PhD**

Career technology executive with experience in pharmaceutical research

Participated & led programs resulting in drugs currently on the market including Zetia & Vytorin

RGD at Schering-Plough, Merck KGaA, Eli Lilly, GelTex, and Genzyme

PhD - Boston University, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Comparative Medicine - Wake Forest University

# Scientific Advisory Board



**David M. Filsoof, MD**

Medical Director of Beverly Hills Cardiovascular  
Fellowship in Cardiovascular Disease at Mayo Clinic  
10+ years at Cedars Sinai Medical Center  
BA – Emory University  
MD – New York Medical College



**Khaled Machaca, PhD**

Senior Associate Dean for Research, Innovation and Commercialization, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar & Professor of Physiology and Biophysics, Weill Cornell Medicine  
Machaca Lab investigates Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling, non-genomic progesterone signaling, and personalized treatments for monogenic disorders, with continuous support from NIH and QARDI  
Serves on editorial boards, reviews for journals and funding bodies, and has a strong record of student and postdoc mentorship



**George M. Tsoukas, MD, FRCPC**

Associate Professor of Medicine, McGill University Health Centre  
Seasoned expert in endocrinology and cardiovascular disease, and has authored numerous scientific papers  
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada and an active member of several professional societies, including the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research and the American Heart Association

# At a Glance



aqur  
biosciences

## Innovation

Unique Mechanism of Action

## Strategy

Proven Development Pathway

## Target

Large Addressable Market

## Advantage

Oral, Affordable, Accessible



# Thank You!

We look forward to the journey ahead,  
where we can turn our vision into reality.



[www.aqurbiosciences.com](http://www.aqurbiosciences.com)



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