



Advancing RNA medicine. Together.

A reducible carbamate ionizable lipid library tailored towards intramuscular and systemic therapeutic applications

Dr. Bram Bogaert - Business Development Manager

Flanders Vaccine 2024

# About us



Founded 2013  
Series A 2016  
Series B 2022



Team Members  
75+



Locations  
Belgium & USA

Driving discovery and solving challenges for partners across  
LNP formulation and RNA chemistry to enable delivery of  
**cost-effective, differentiated and efficacious RNA  
therapeutics**



Corporate Headquarters  
GMP manufacturing  
facility  
Niel, Belgium



Discovery Facility  
Zwijnaarde, Belgium



Business Development  
Boston, USA

# Experienced Leadership Team with Deep Expertise in RNA drug development



**Bernard Sagaert**

CEO



**Ronald Openshaw**

CFO



**Stefaan De Koker**

VP Technology & Innovation



**Phil Challis**

SVP Manufacturing



**Philip Van der Auwera**

VP HR



**Florence Lambolez**

Director Pharmacology



**Tony de Fougères**

Chairman of the Board  
(Founding CSO Moderna)



**Marijn Dekkers**

Board member  
(ex-CEO Bayer, ex-CEO Thermo Fisher)



**Kenneth Chien**

Board member  
(Co-founder Moderna)



**John de Koning**

Board member



**Kenneth Wils**

Board member



**Phil Chase**

Board member  
(CEO Adimab)



# etherna: full end to end capabilities for RNA medicine development

mRNA Chemistry	Lipid Chemistry	Formulation	Analytical	Preclinical	CMC	Regulatory
mRNA design	Lipid design	Customized LNP formulation	Biophysical characterization	<i>in vitro/ex vivo</i> pharmacology	Scale up manufacturing	CMC support
Sequence engineering	Lipid synthesis	High-throughput screening	QC analytical development	<i>in vivo</i> pharmacology	cGMP capabilities	(pre) IND/CTA review
Codon/UTR optimization	SAR analysis	LNP characterization	Assay validation	Toxicology	Purification optimization	Tech Transfer
Research – GMP production		Tailored LNP biodistribution		Immunology		IP

Our expertise offers end-to-end capabilities in RNA drug development

# etherna positioned to be the BioPharma partner of choice for RNA medicine discovery and development collaborations

**etherna: mRNA LNP expert**

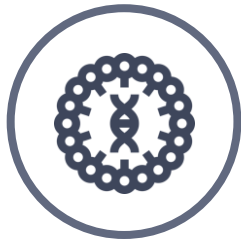


**Partner: disease biology expert**



## **mRNA**

Maximized expression  
Specific payloads



## **LNP**

Maximized expression  
Tailored biodistribution  
& immunogenicity



## **Process technologies**

Ultrapure mRNA  
Improved tolerability  
cGMP capabilities



## **Disease biology**

Target selection  
Indication selection  
Disease models  
Biomarkers



## **Clinical expertise**

Treatment protocol  
Patient selection

RNA partnership combines etherna's technology platform with almirall's therapeutic expertise to advance oncology / dermatology programs

- Multi-target alliance to discover and develop new mRNA-based therapies for severe skin diseases, including non-melanoma skin cancer
- Collaboration leverages etherna's proprietary mRNA and LNP technology with Almirall's expertise in the dermatology space
- etherna received upfront and tech access payments, and is eligible to receive >\$300 million in development and commercial milestones as well as tiered royalties
- etherna and Almirall will work collaboratively on the research activities, while Almirall will lead clinical development and commercialization

# LNP Platforms



# State-of-the-art LNP libraries tailored for specific applications

**ETB6  
Library**

**ETP  
Library**

**ETH  
Library**

**ETG/ETS Library**

## **ETG/ETS Library**

- Enhanced potency *in vivo/ex vivo*
- Contains bio-reducible linker to increase degradability
- Immune-stimulatory lipids for vaccine applications
- Immune-silent lipids for protein replacement & gene editing
- Extrahepatic delivery to bone marrow and spleen

## **ETB6 Library**

- Enhanced LNP stability
- Lipids with anti-inflammatory properties
- Extrahepatic delivery to monocytes/macrophages

## **ETP Library**

- High immune cell tropism
- Enhanced LNP stability and potency

## **ETH Library**

- Enhanced payload encapsulation

**4 libraries** with chemically diverse ionizable lipids  
Rapidly expanding LNP portfolio > **2500 ionizable lipids**



# Example therapeutic applications of our customized LNP platforms

Prophylactic &  
therapeutic vaccination

**iVAX-cLNP**

Enhanced immune responses



Autoimmune disease

**Tol-cLNP**

Induced immune tolerance  
against auto-antigen



Oncology

**iTu-cLNP**

Maximized local expression  
in tumor tissue



Customized LNPs  
tailored towards  
partner's needs

Liver diseases,  
secreted factors

**eLi-cLNP**

High expression in liver



Inflammatory diseases  
& Oncology

**M-cLNP**

Selective expression in  
macrophages/monocytes



Hematological disorders  
and CAR-applications

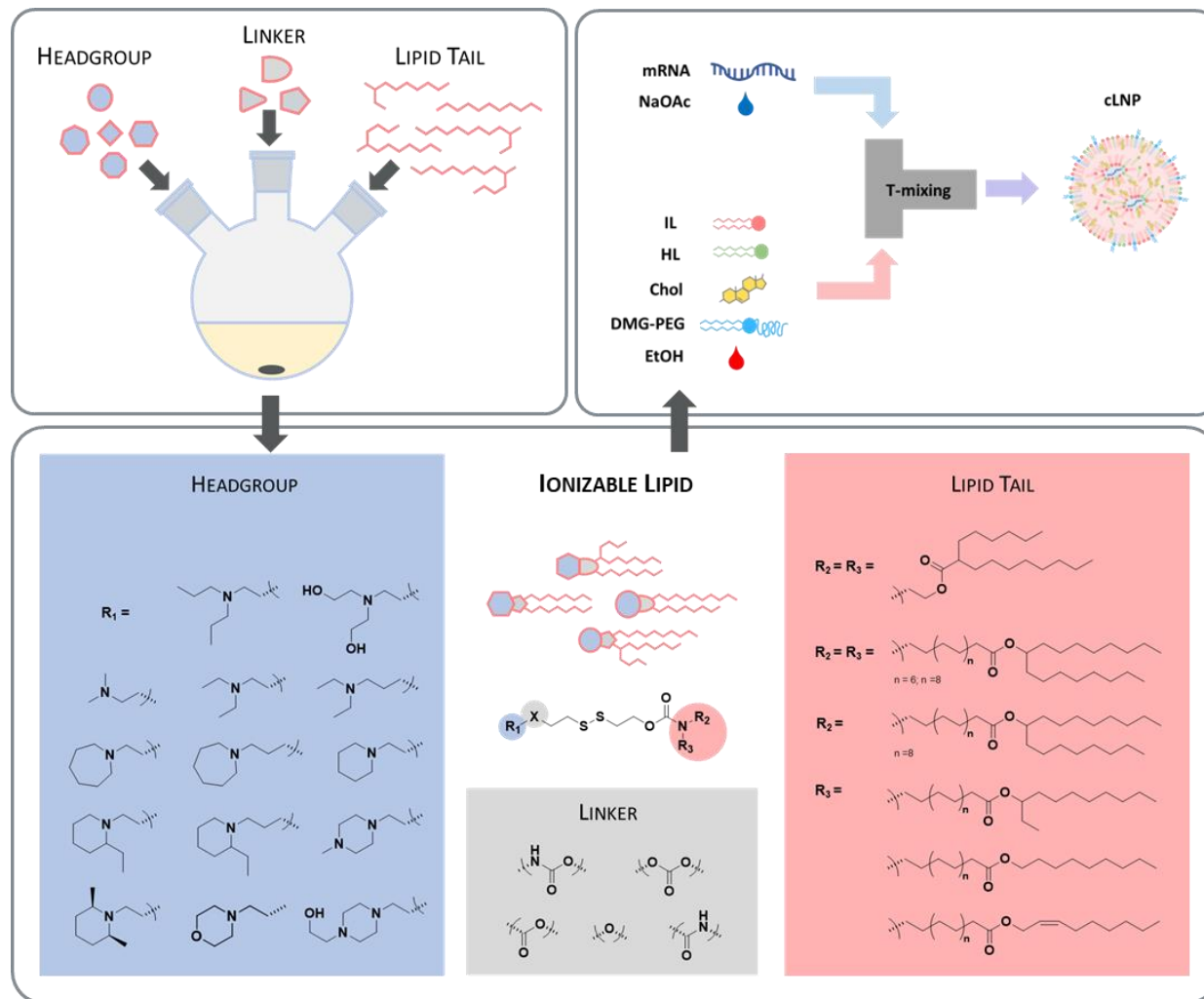
**Extrahep-cLNP**

High expression in bone  
marrow HSCs, T-cells



# etherna cLNPs for prophylactic vaccination enhance immune responses

## Reducible carbamate ionizable lipid library



## INTRAMUSCULAR PROPHYLACTIC vaccination platform

### Background

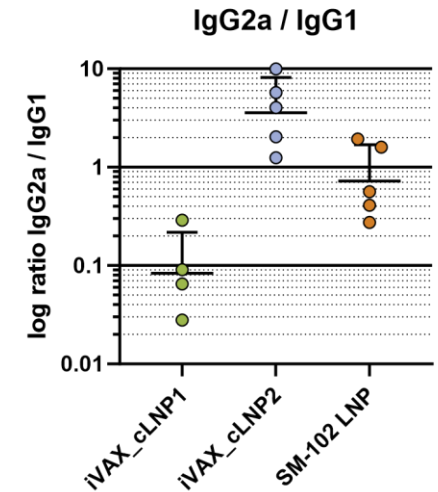
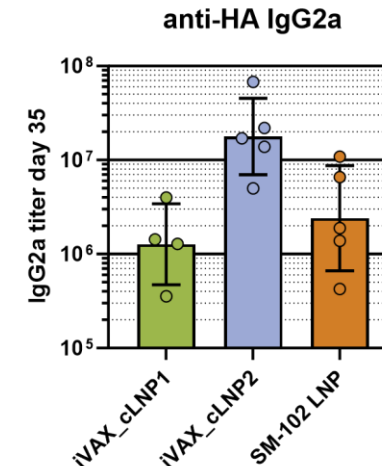
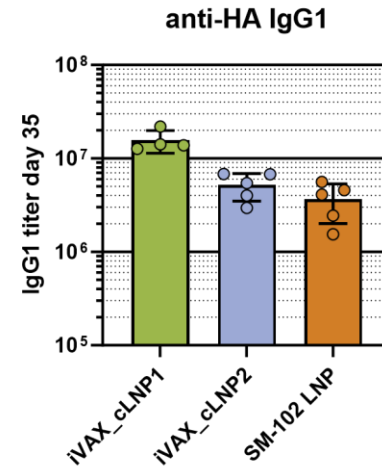
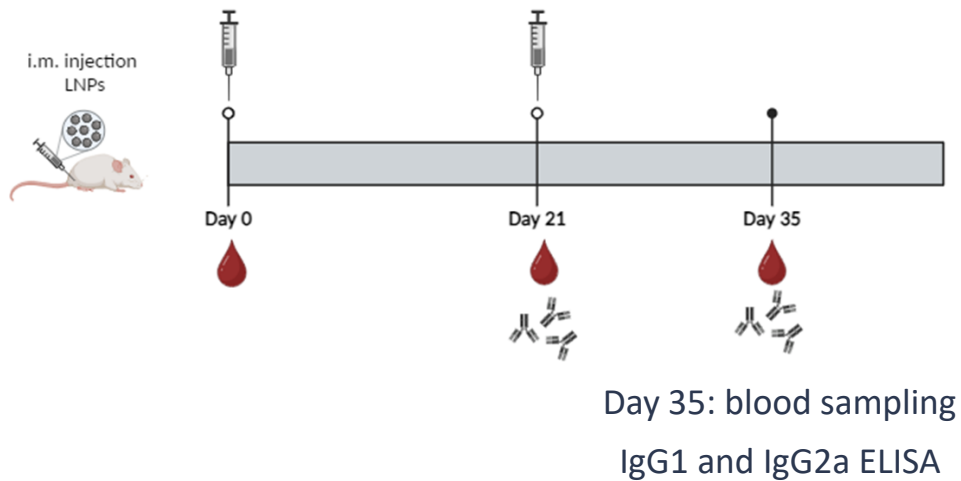
- Ionizable lipid chemistry not only governs mRNA expression but also displays intrinsic adjuvant properties

### Our approach

- SAR based optimization of ionizable lipid chemistries for enhanced antibody responses: 75 lipids/LNPs tested – 3 generations
- **iVax-cLNP1:** improved antibody titers to benchmarks; IgG1-biased
- **iVax-cLNP2:** improved Th1 responses; IgG2a-biased

# iVax-cLNPs induce strong immune response against HA influenza strain

Antigen: influenza viral Hemagglutinin (HA)



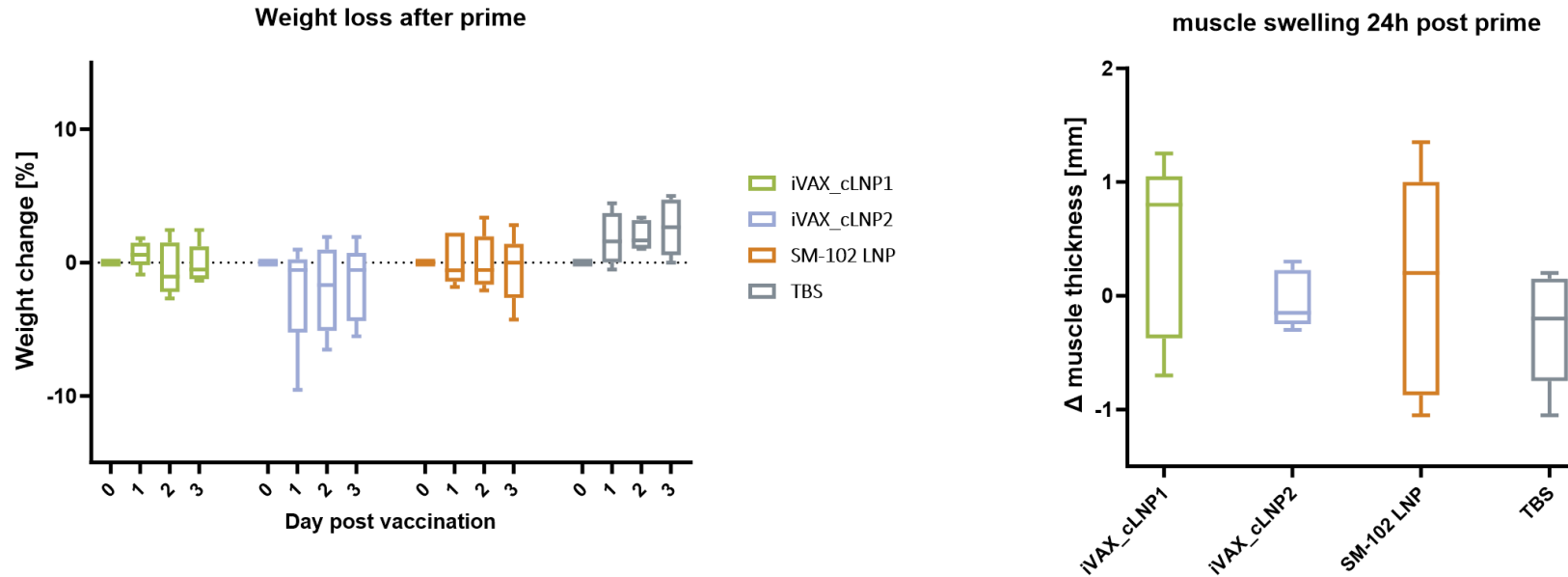
## iVax-cLNPs:

Built-in adjuvant properties

Increased antibody titers compared to Moderna SM-102 LNPs (Spikevax™)

Different IgG1 (iVax-cLNP1) vs IgG2a bias (iVax-cLNP2)

# iVax-cLNPs are well-tolerated in rodents



## iVax-cLNPs:

Similar reactogenicity profile compared to SM-102

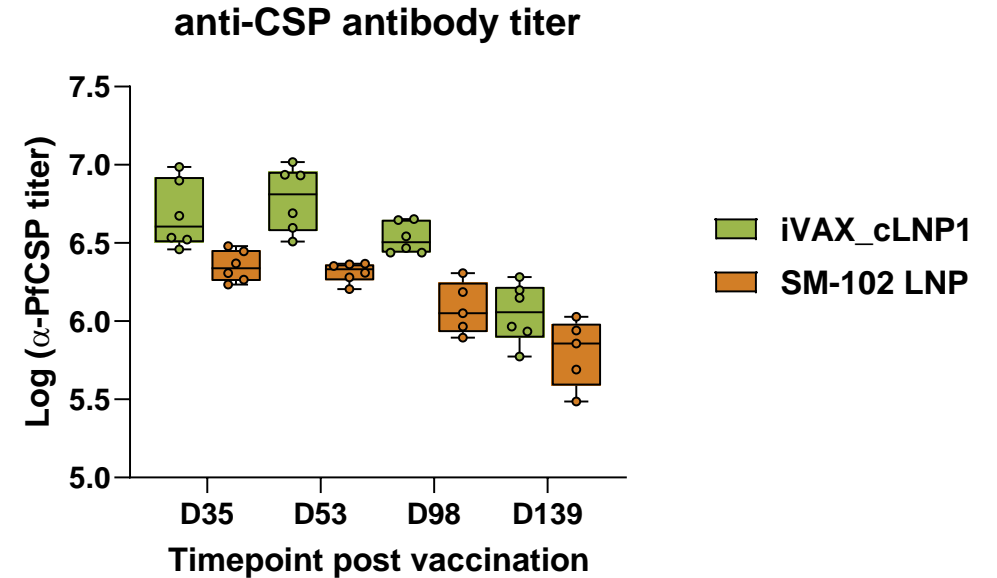
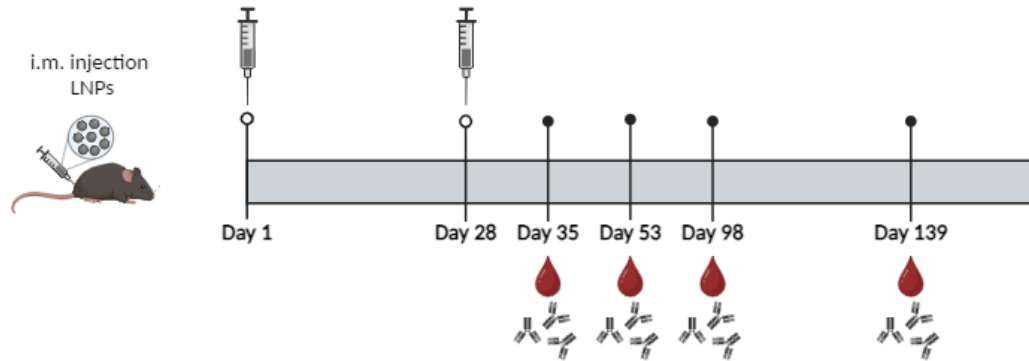
No increase in ALT/AST

**Coming-up:** NHP safety & immunogenicity studies – design phase (late 2024- early 2025)

# mRNA based malaria vaccine – towards improved activity

Enhanced immune response against CSP

Antigen: *P. Falciparum* derived antigen



Data generated at Institute Pasteur, Paris

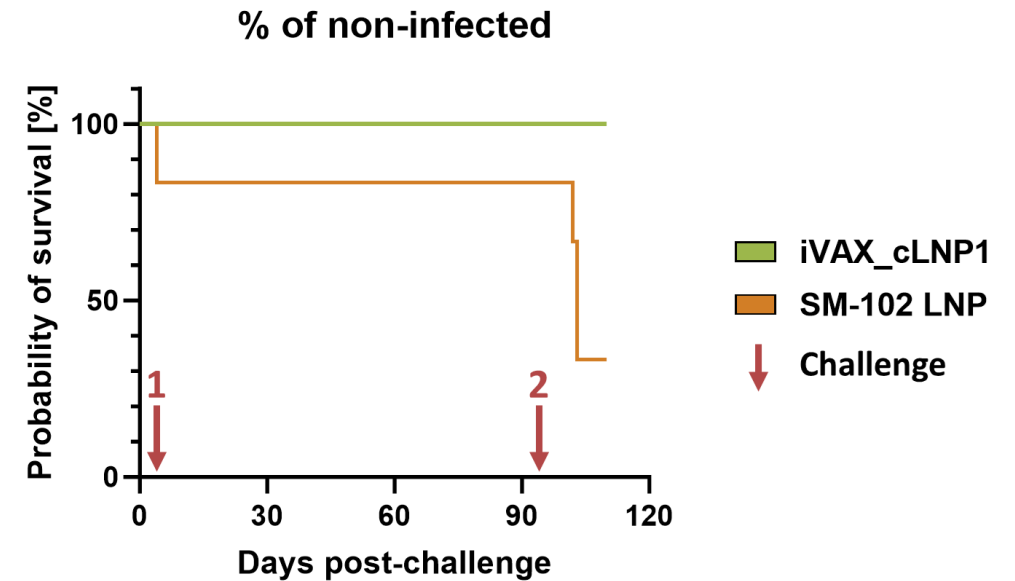
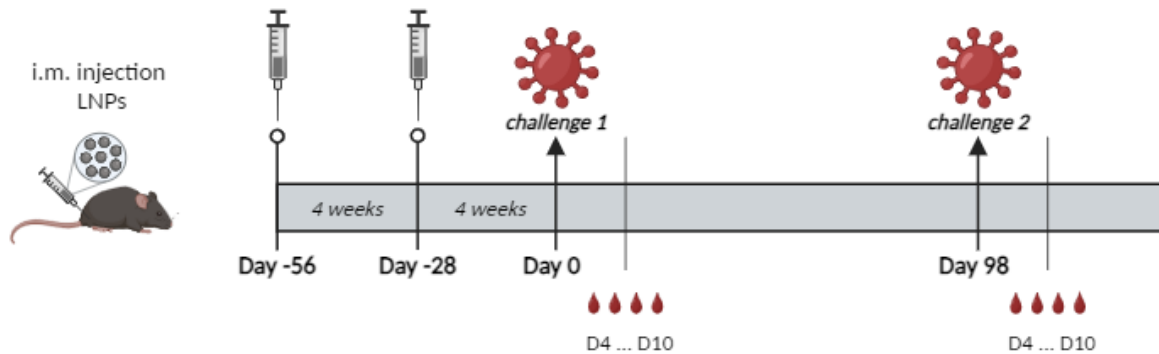
## iVax-cLNP 1

Vaccination of *P. falciparum* circumsporozoite protein (fCSP) mRNA results in superior antibody titers compared to the benchmark SM-102 LNP

# mRNA based malaria vaccine – towards improved activity

Enhanced immune response against CSP

Antigen: *P. Falciparum* derived antigen  
+ challenge with 5k *Plasmodium berghei*



Data generated at Institute Pasteur, Paris

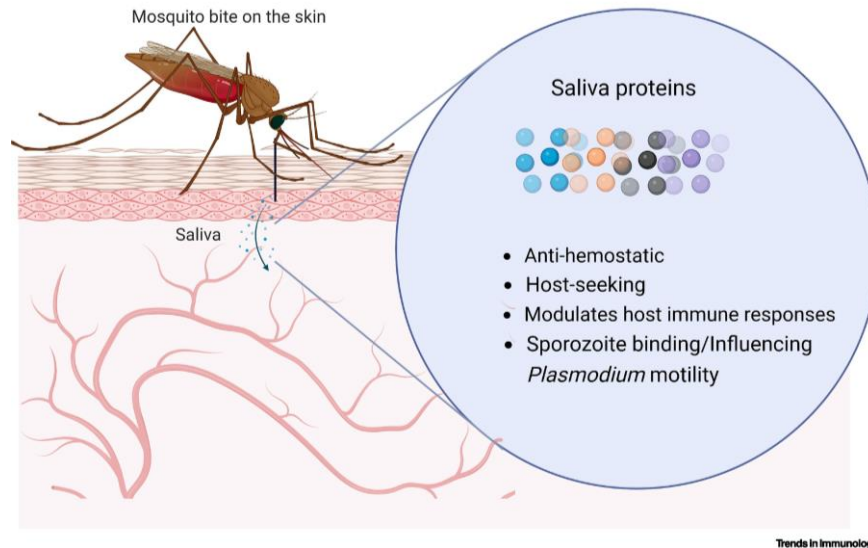
## iVax-cLNP 1

Challenge with 5k *Plasmodium berghei* transgenic for fCSP  
Superior protection against malaria infection compared to the SM-102

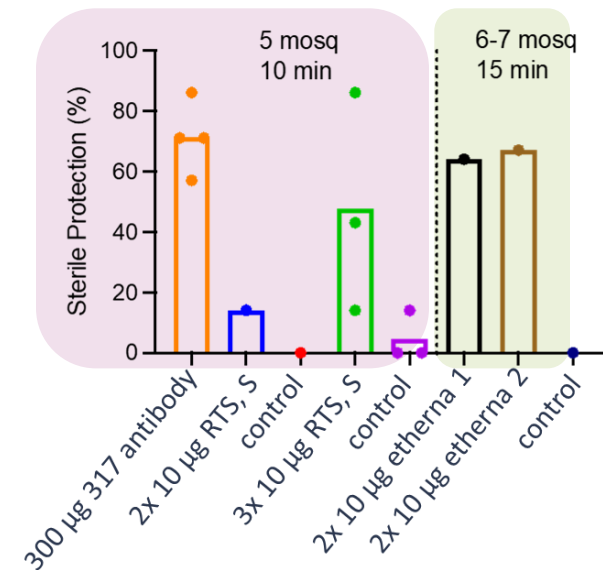
# etherna CSP mRNA LNP vaccine induces superior protection

## Mosquito bite model

### Mosquito bite model



### Mosquito bite challenge



NPJ vaccines 2024

Data generated at Institute Pasteur, Paris

etherna CSP mRNA LNP vaccines outperform approved GSK vaccine RTS,S/AS01 vaccine (Mosquirix™) in mosquito bite challenge model (comparison based on published data – Lock et.al. NPJ vaccines 2024)

**Next:** assessment and optimization of multivalent vaccines ongoing to improve efficacy and duration of protection



# The RNA revolution: a wealth of opportunities

Why partner with us?



## Broad IP portfolio

- ✓ Ionizable lipids
- ✓ LNP compositions
- ✓ mRNA platforms
- ✓ Immune-modulatory payloads
- ✓ Production Processes



## End-to-end capabilities in mRNA drug development

- ✓ Target selection
- ✓ mRNA design
- ✓ LNP formulation
- ✓ Pre-clinical evaluation
- ✓ cGMP mRNA manufacturing
- ✓ Regulatory support



## Customized solutions

- ✓ Lipid/ LNP customization tailored to your needs
- ✓ mRNA sequence engineering



## Flexible, professional partnership

- ✓ mRNA and LNP or single components
- ✓ Collaborative mindset
- ✓ Partner centered
- ✓ Professional alliance and project management





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