

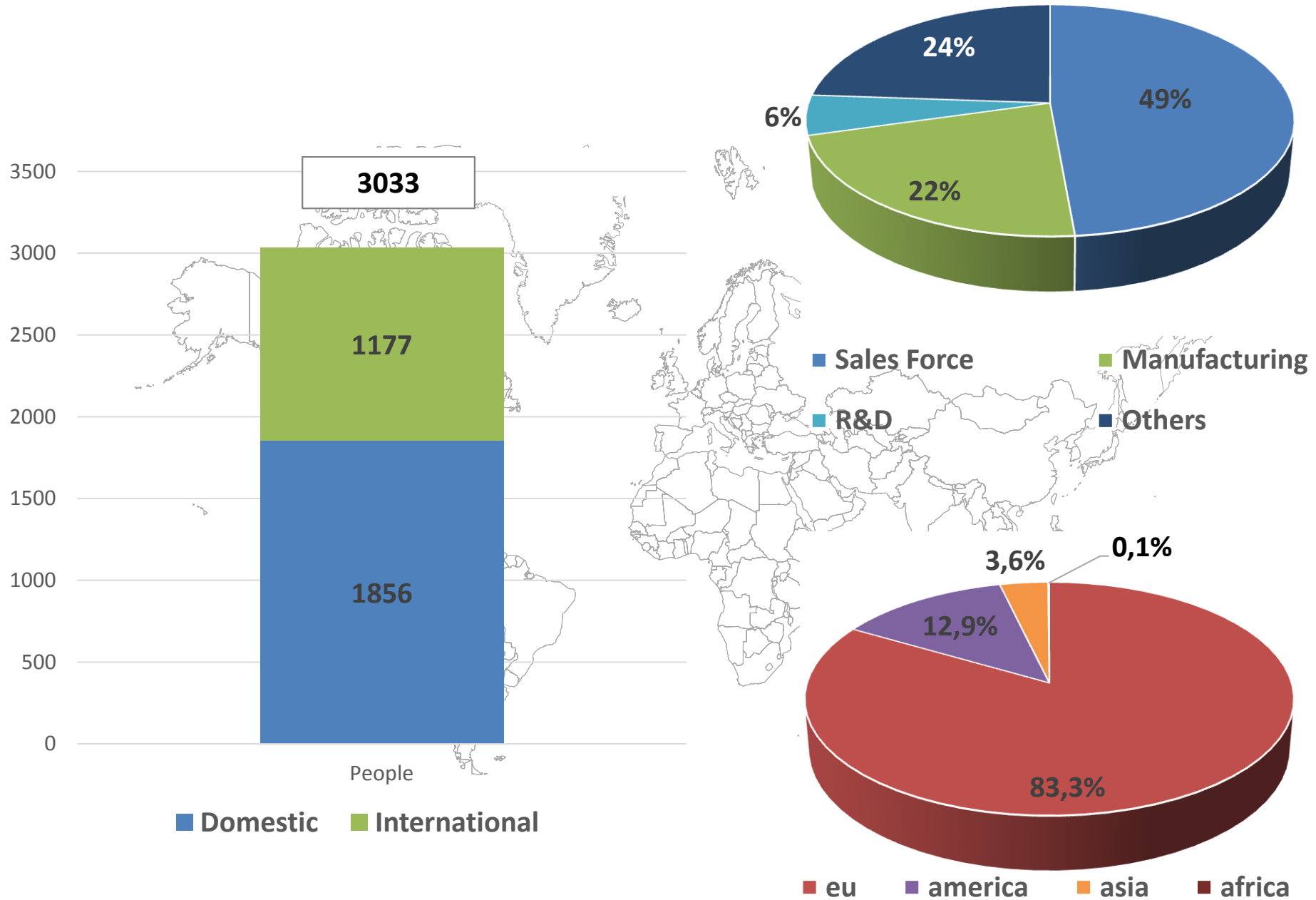
# Vecchi anticorpi per nuove terapie biologiche

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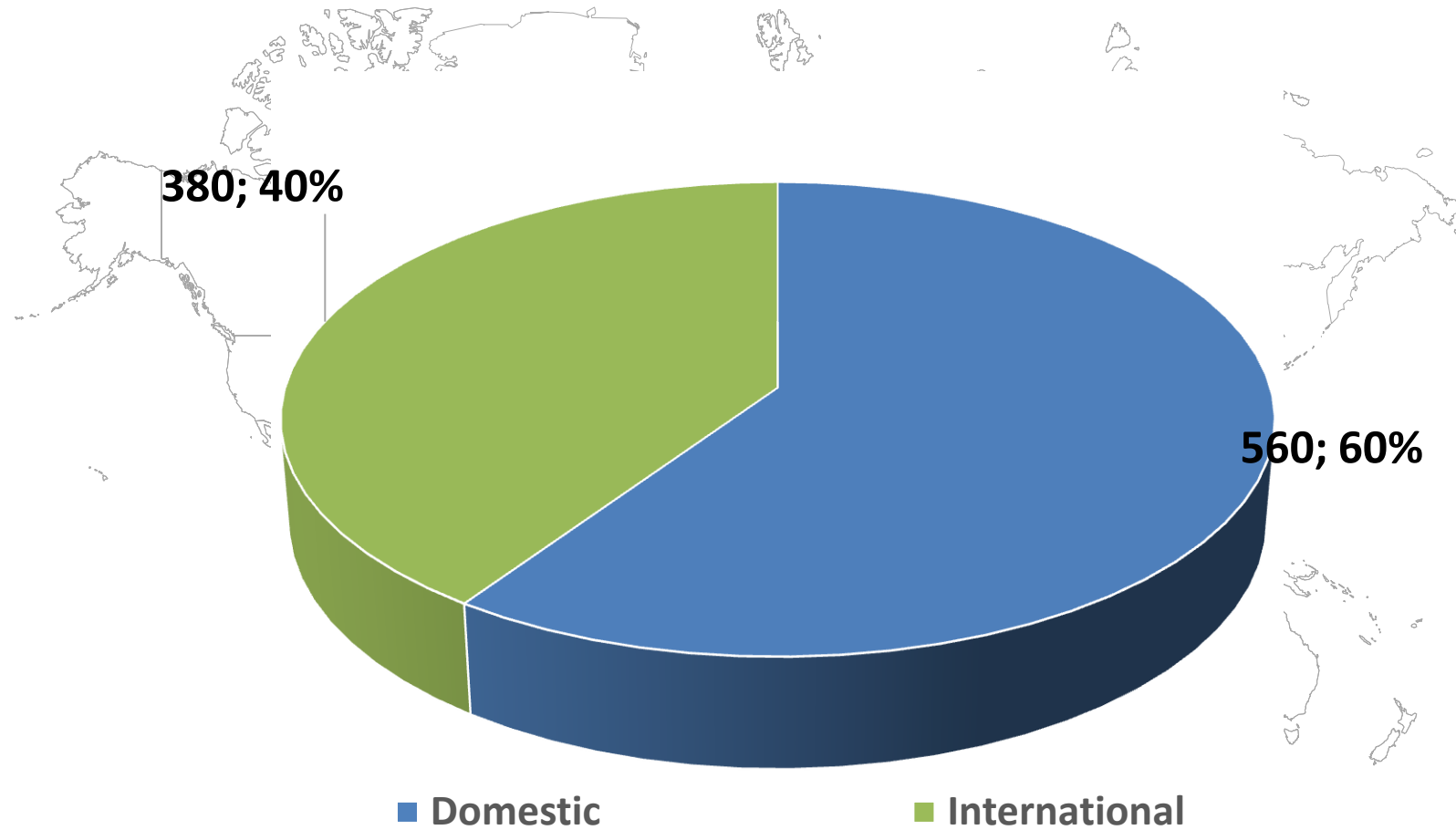
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# Alfasigma headcounts



# Alfasigma 2016 Turnover: 940 M€



# Phage



Bacteriophages or phages are viruses that infect bacteria

They represent most abundant biological entities on earth

They are GRAS



# ST Biotech: competitive advantages on phage technologies

In house expertise:

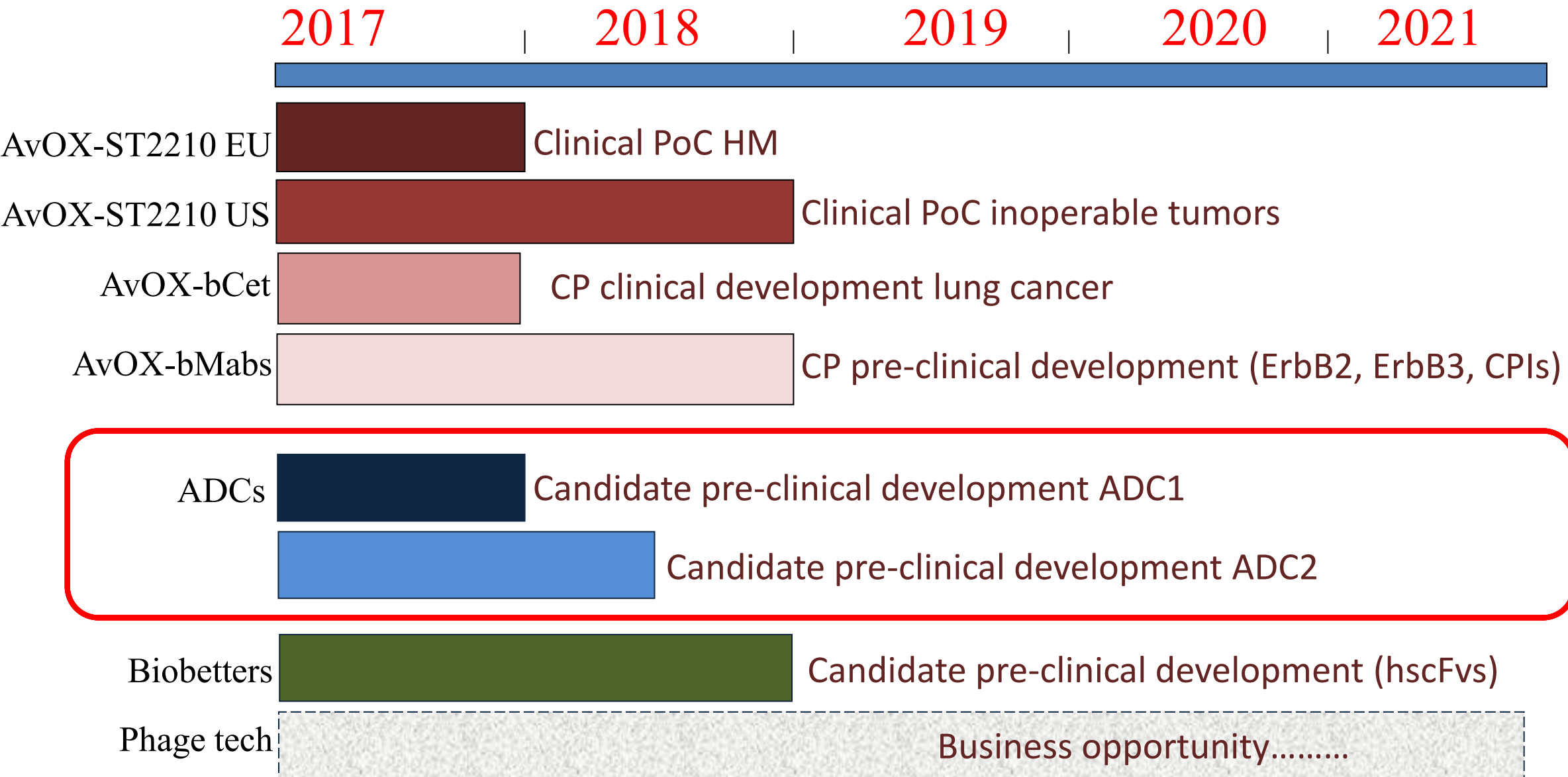
1. Consolidated use of phage libraries for human antibody selection (Biobetters)
  - Patents
  - Several antibody selected and patented (i.e. recent anti-ErbB3, anti-PD1/PDL1)
2. Possible easy connection with originator Countries where phage therapy is approved and marketed as OTCs (Russia)



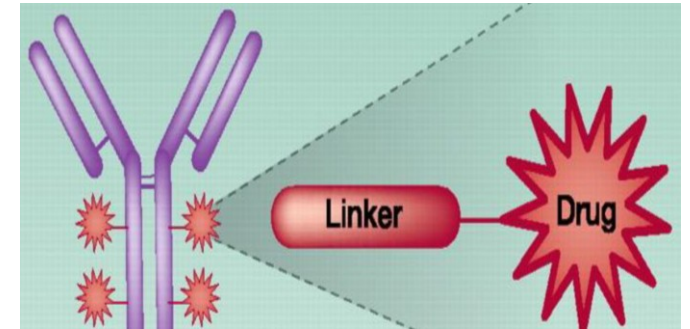
To evaluate partnerships/collaborations



# Biotech pipeline



# ADCs: “old Mabs/new toxins” model



ST discontinued projects on small molecule chemotherapeutics

- **Blockbuster Mabs out of patent** with validated clinical targets (i.e. Cetuximab, Trastuzumab; biosimilars approved)
- **Thousands of Proprietary molecules** from different classes acting in the nano/micromolar range



**Betting on crashing the ADC paradigm  
“high payload toxicity good ADC efficacy”**





## ADCs: status 2Q2017

- Selected 2 ADC leads from a dozen different conjugates
- Pharmacology studies ongoing

## Active collaborations

- Siena University, Italy
- Toscana Life Science, Italy
- Takis, Italy
- Accelera, Italy
- Ephoran, Italy
- Crown Bioscience, USA
- University of Tallahassee, USA
- IrsiCaixa Institute, Badalona, Spain

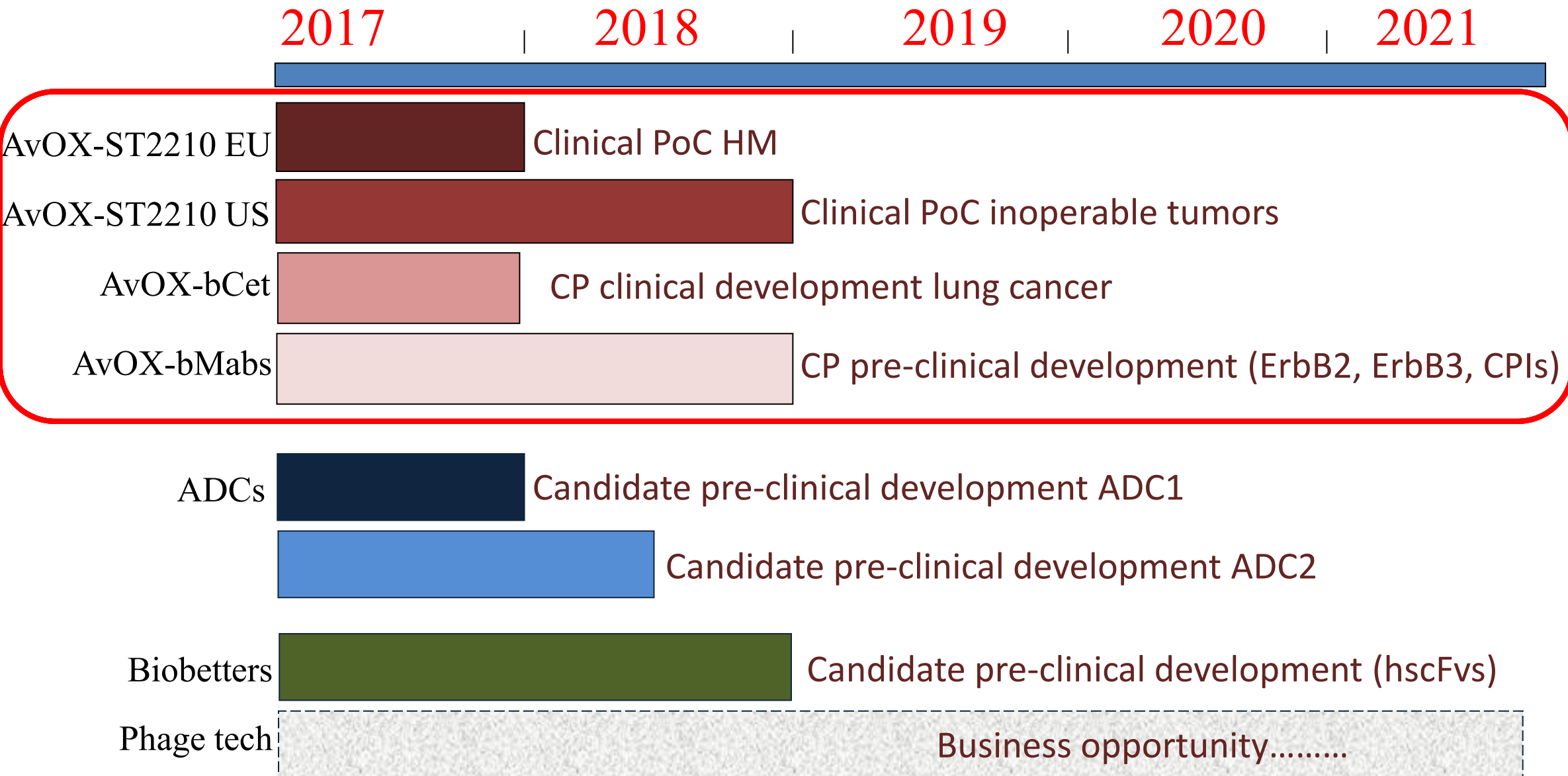
## Search for collaborations

- Formulation and delivery
- GMP development
- Pre-clinical regulatory package
- Biomarkers for selecting best target population
- Clinical development





# Biotech pipeline

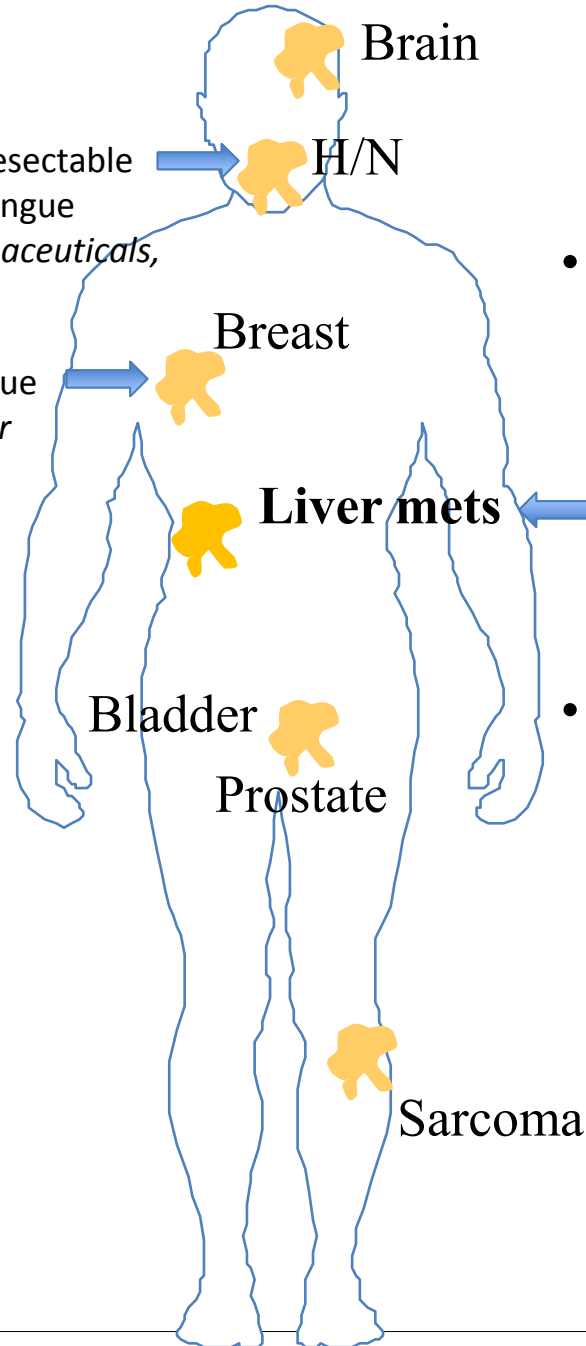


# AvidinOX for RNT with radioactive biotin: status 2Q2017

## Pre-clinical PoCs

Albertoni C, et al Radionuclide therapy of unresectable tumors with AvidinOX and  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -biotinDOTA: tongue cancer paradigm. *Cancer Biother Radiopharmaceuticals*, 30(7):291-298, 2015

De Santis R, et al AvidinOX for highly efficient tissue pre-targeted radionuclide therapy. *Cancer Biother Radiopharmaceuticals*, 2010



## Clinical trials

- Phase I EU HM from CRC  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -ST2210 (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT02053324)  
13 patients treated:
  - no side effects
  - highly specific uptake
  - preliminary signs of efficacy
- Phase I various indications (MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Tx, USA), FPI May 2017



# Paul Ehrlich's magic bullets are finally coming of age?

Efficacy: **Increase TTP or OS Few months**

Safety: **Significant side effects**

Cost: **Very high**



**Space for improvements**



## Efficacy of aerosol therapy on tumor growth and paralysis induced by

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Keywords: AvidinOX, Cetuximab, lung cancer

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### ABSTRACT

Lung cancer, as well as head and neck cancer, is often treated with nebulized drugs. The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of aerosolized AvidinOX and Cetuximab (bCet) in SCID mice with advanced tumor growth. The treatment with AvidinOX and bCet at a dose lower than 1 mg/kg correlates with a striking inhibition of tumor growth. The combination of biotinylated Cetuximab, AvidinOX and bCet, leading to inhibition of tumor growth and massive lysis of EGFR. Excellent tolerance to AvidinOX and antibodies,

### INTRODUCTION

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths and it has the greatest overall impact among all cancers [1]. Many patients with locally advanced disease and metastatic disease require therapies whose efficacy and tolerability are not satisfactory. Lung cancer cells express ErbB2, an anti-epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antibody (Mab) such as Cetuximab, Panitumumab have been widely used in intravenous administration, showing limited toxicity [2-4].

Aerosol may be an appealing delivery system for cancer therapy because of site specificity and excellent patient's compliance. Several preclinical and clinical studies with nebulized chemo-

## Intra-tumor AvidinOX and biotinylated Cetuximab in combination

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Keywords: HNSCC, AvidinOX, Cetuximab, bCet, target therapy

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### ABSTRACT

For locally advanced and metastatic head and neck cancer (HNSCC), the current clinical use of cetuximab is often associated to severe systemic toxicity. In FaDu pharynx SCC cells, show that biotinylated Cetuximab (bCet) become active when conjugated to AvidinOX. AvidinOX-anchored bCet specific inhibition of signaling, dependent on EGFR. In the mouse model of HNSCC, the treatment of AvidinOX allows anti-tumor activity at low dose bCet. Consistent with this, the combination of AvidinOX is under clinical investigation in HNSCC tumors (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT02053324) treatment of HNSCC in combination

### INTRODUCTION

Head and neck cancer accounts for more than 550,000 cases annually worldwide [1]. The overall survival for recurrent or metastatic head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) remains less than 50% one year despite a wide armamentarium of therapeutic approaches including anti-EGFR antibody Cetuximab [2]. The administration of Cetuximab in combination with radiotherapy and chemotherapy has shown modest survival improvement in patients with locally advanced recurrent/metastatic cancer [3, 4] and such improvement is at expenses of increased local and systemic toxicity that deserve consideration and timely management. Therefore, there is a high medical need for improving the cost/benefit ratio of current HNSCC treatments.

We recently described that anchoring biotinylated Cetuximab (bCet) on the surface of AvidinOX-conju-

## AvidinOX-anchored biotinylated trastuzumab and pertuzumab induce down-modulation of ErbB2 and tumor cell death at concentrations order of magnitude lower than not-anchored antibodies

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Keywords: AvidinOX, trastuzumab, pertuzumab, ErbB2, cancer

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### ABSTRACT

The oxidized version of Avidin, known as AvidinOX, was previously shown to link to tissue proteins upon injection or nebulization, thus becoming a stable receptor for biotinylated therapeutics. AvidinOX is currently under clinical investigation to target radioactive biotin to inoperable tumor lesions (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT02053324). Presently, we show that the anti-ErbB2 monoclonal antibodies Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab can be chemically biotinylated while maintaining their biochemical and biological properties. By using several and diverse experimental conditions, we show that when AvidinOX is conjugated to tumor cells, low antibody concentrations of biotinylated Trastuzumab (bTrast) or Pertuzumab (bPert) prevent internalization of ErbB2, induce endoplasmic reticulum stress, cell cycle arrest and apoptosis leading to inhibition of proliferation and ErbB2 signaling. Moreover, we found that the treatment is able to induce down-modulation of ErbB2 thus bypassing the known resistance of this receptor to degradation. Interestingly, we show that AvidinOX anchorage is a way to counteract agonistic activities of Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab. Present data are in agreement with previous observations from our group indicating that the engagement of the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) by AvidinOX-bound biotinylated Cetuximab or Panitumumab, leads to potent tumor inhibition both *in vitro* and in animal models. All results taken together encourage further investigation of AvidinOX-based treatments with biotinylated antibodies directed to the members of the EGFR family.

### INTRODUCTION

We previously reported that the oxidized version of Avidin, named AvidinOX, exhibits the distinctive property to form Schiff's bases with tissue proteins thus constituting a stable receptor for radiolabeled biotin [1-4]. This product is currently under investigation in phase I clinical trials for targeting <sup>177</sup>Lutetium-biotinDOTA (<sup>177</sup>Lu-ST2210) [5] to inoperable tumor lesions and liver metastases (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT02053324). Previous data from our group also showed that AvidinOX can be employed for targeted delivery of diverse biotinylated therapeutics including cells [6] or antibodies. Particularly, several *in vitro* experiments indicated that AvidinOX-anchored anti-EGFR biotinylated antibodies like biotinylated

Cetuximab (bCet) or Panitumumab (bPan), exert much higher inhibitory activity against EGFR<sup>+</sup> tumor cells compared to their original version. *In vivo* results were shown to correlate with anti-tumor activity of low bCet doses, intraperitoneally injected in mice with AvidinOX-treated human larynx carcinoma xenotransplants [7]. In a severe metastatic model of lung cancer, delivery by aerosol of extremely low doses of bCet was shown to control tumor growth and significantly improve survival, when administered after nebulized AvidinOX [8].

EGFR shares structural and functional properties with other members of the receptor family (HER2/ErbB2, HER3, HER4) all having roles in cancer development and drug resistance [9, 10]. Specifically, ErbB2 is the most relevant oncogenic receptor in breast and a key player in

## Clinical development

Ospedale Latina, Italy

Sant'Andrea Rome, Italy

Ospedale Mestre, Italy

Vienna hospital, AU

MD Anderson Cancer Center, Tx, USA

## Targeting pharmacology

Takis, Rome, Italy

Turin University, Italy

## AvidinOX

## active collaborations

## Immunology

La Sapienza Univ, Rome, Italy

Takis, Rome, Italy

## Chemical/physical

Naples Univ, Italy

Rome Univ, Tor Vergata, Italy

Turin Univ, Italy

Toscana Life Science, Italy

Parma Univ, Italy

Ronzoni Institute, Milan, Italy

UPO, Alessandria, Italy

## Radiochemistry

ABX, Austria

## GMP

Areta, Varese, Italy

Chelab, Treviso, Italy





To find collaborations is not an option  
Thank you!!!

