

# Stellabody<sup>®</sup>

ANTIBODY HEXAMERISATION TECHNOLOGY

---

Creating potent  
biologic therapeutics

JUNE 2024

Non-confidential



**Burnet**

reach for the many



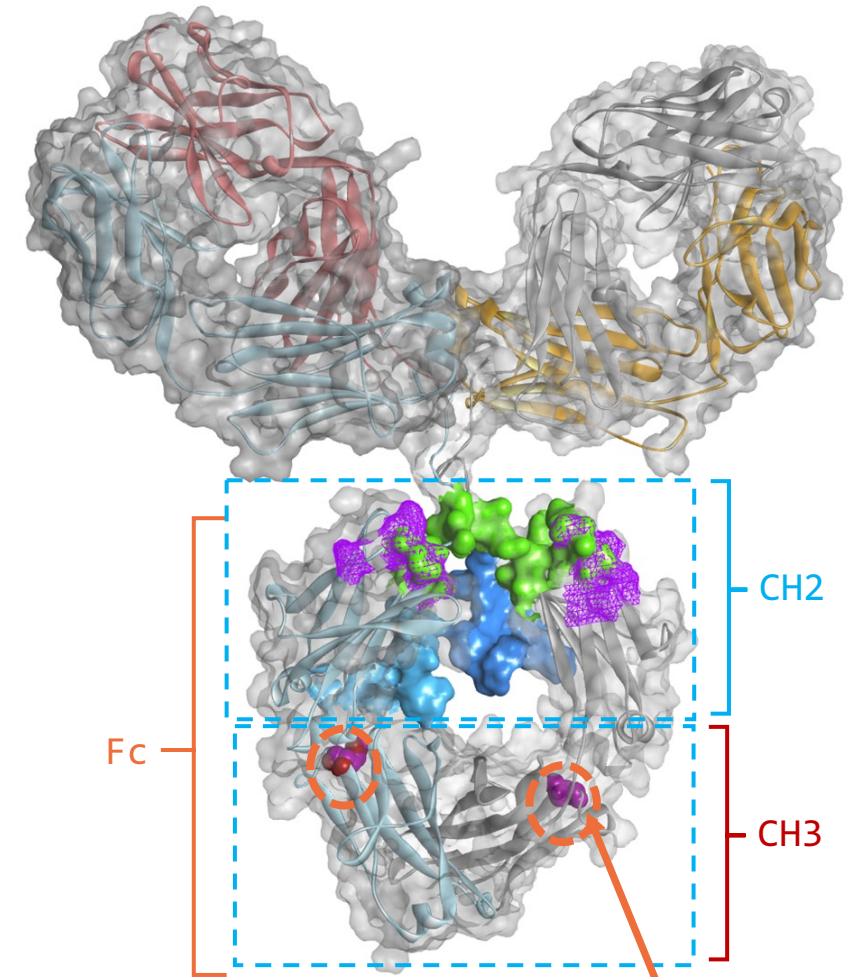
## THE PROBLEM

- Still lacking biological treatments that achieve functional cures and dramatic improvement in patient survival
- Key issues
  - Insufficient potency
  - Limitation in dosing approaches (due to dosing restrictions)
  - Lack of/or limited efficacy

## Stellabody®

### Stellabody® provides a SOLUTION

- A **HEXAMERISING TECHNOLOGY** that enhances:
  - clustering of antibodies on target cell surface
    - in a hexameric format - for better cell signaling
  - complement killing (CDC)
- Leading to the development of better biologics



Stellabody® - a single point mutation at H429 buried in CH3



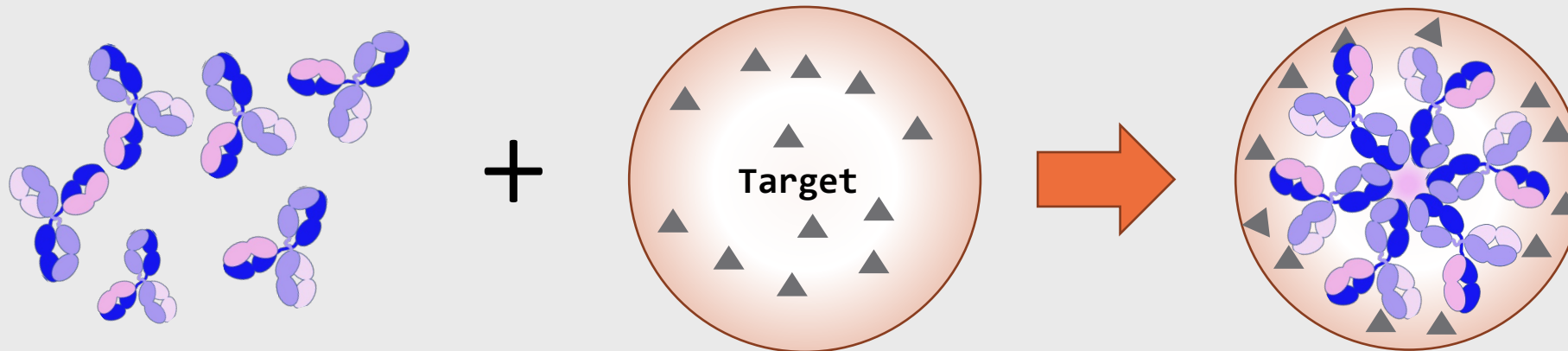
# Stellabody<sup>®</sup> drives on-target hexamerisation

## THE TECHNOLOGY: STELLABODY<sup>®</sup>

Modification at **residue H429** of CH3 domain to **H429F** drives on-target hexamerisation, where antibodies form into clusters of six antibodies once bound to their target.

These hexamers can:

- Amplify signaling by enhanced target clustering
- Trigger or enhance the complement cascade via C1q binding to initiate immune protection, for example, killing of a target cell or pathogen





# Stellabody<sup>®</sup> – enabling the development of better biologics

## VALUE PROPOSITION

### Dose benefit

- Enabling lower doses for:
  - Lower Cost of Goods (COG's)
  - Exploring challenging routes of administration
    - subcutaneous
    - intraarticular

### Increased Potency

- Potential to dose lower
- Potential to explore low abundance targets
- Potential to rescue stranded assets

### Efficacy benefit

- Leading to increased therapeutic effects
- Rescuing assets with absent or low therapeutic effect
- Opens opportunity for exploring new targets

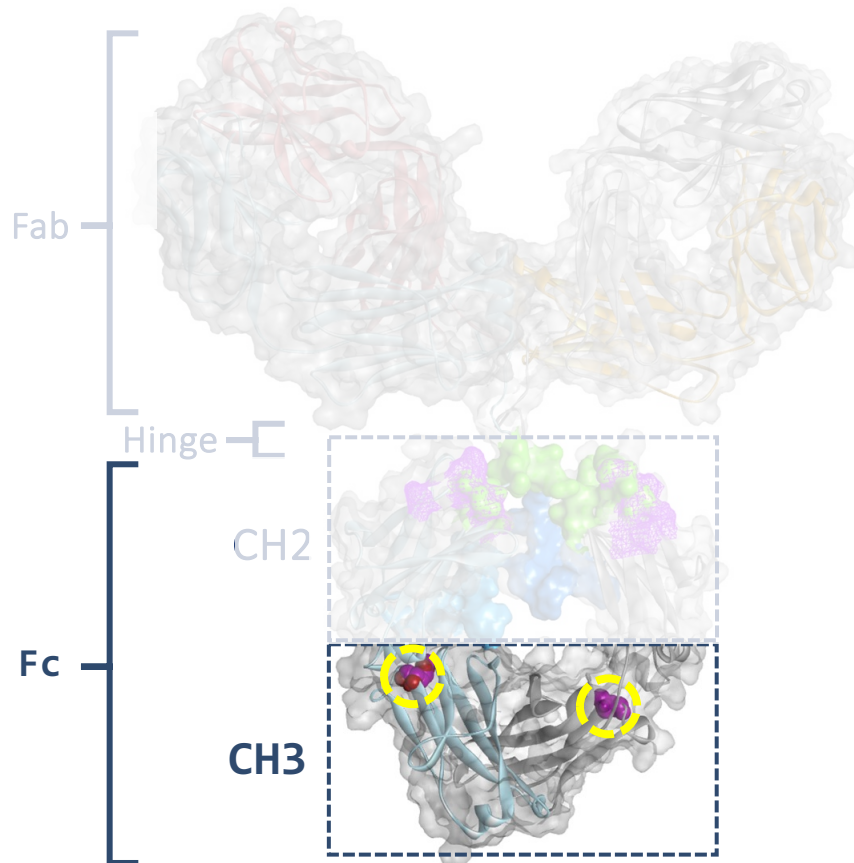
### Safety benefit

- Lower potential for immunogenicity verses competitor



# Stellabody<sup>®</sup>: Buried residue may lead to less risk of immunogenicity compared to competitor – Safety profile

## THE TECHNOLOGY: STELLABODY<sup>®</sup>



### A buried mutation:

Potentially less risk of immunogenicity versus a competitor hexamerisation technology (HexaBody<sup>®</sup>) that has mutated residues on the surface of Fc

### Novel & Inventive:

International search report indicates Stellabody<sup>®</sup> substitution is novel & inventive over the prior art identified



# Stellabody® has broad applicability

## THE TECHNOLOGY: STELLABODY®

### Signal amplification by target clustering

- Leading to enhanced agonism
- Example: Stellabody® DR5 mAbs enhanced cell killing *in vitro*
  - Colorectal cancer

### Complement killing

- Leading to enhanced depletion of cells through:
  - Complement dependent cytotoxicity (CDC)
  - Phagocytosis
- Examples: Stellabody® CD38 mAbs and CD20 mAbs enhanced cell killing *in vitro* and *ex-vivo* (CDC-mediated)
  - Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)
  - B cell lymphoma (BLL)
  - Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)

### Virus neutralisation

- Leading to enhanced killing of cells mimicking viral infection through:
  - CDC
  - Neutralisation
- Example: Stellabody® ACE2-Fc fusion protein [SARS-CoV-2]:
  - Enhanced killing of spike trimer-positive cells (CDC)
  - Gain of neutralisation potency against immunoevasive SARS-CoV-2 strain (% neutralisation)

Multiple indications e.g. cancer, infection, autoimmunity, inflammation



# Four patent families

– All solely owned by Burnet Institute

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

#1

“Immunotherapeutic proteins comprising an Fc region component with a mutation at position 429”

- PCT application: PCT/AU2022/051287
- International filing date: 26 Oct 2022
- Overview: Stellabody<sup>®</sup> platform

#2

“Antiviral agent comprising a cellular entry receptor and Fc regions component”

- PCT application: PCT/AU2022/051285
- International filing date: 26 Oct 2022
- Overview: Stellabody<sup>®</sup> therapeutic against SARS-CoV-2 (i.e. ACE2-Fc)

#3

“Immunotherapeutic proteins”

- PCT application: PCT/AU2024/050463
- International filing date: 10 May 2024
- Overview: Stellabody<sup>®</sup>-modified bispecific antibodies

#4

“Immunotherapeutic proteins”

- PCT application: PCT/AU2024/050468
- International filing date: 10 May 2024
- Overview: Use of Stellabody<sup>®</sup> in combination with mutations and novel immunoglobulin backbones to modulate antibody function



# Opportunity to partner on a promising platform technology

## NEXT STEPS

Burnet is seeking partners to incorporate Stellabody® technology in mAbs and mAb-like therapeutics

Current focus: Target-by-target partnerships

*NB. We are open to other models*

## POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Research evaluations
- Co-development of new Stellabody®- containing biologic therapeutics
- Licensing





# Stellabody<sup>®</sup>: Current development status

---

Strengthening and furthering scope of Stellabody<sup>®</sup> technology

Burnet Institute is advancing Stellabody<sup>®</sup> internally

# Validation studies

## Overall aim:

To assess preclinical efficacy of Stellabody® in *in vivo* and human clinical samples

## Models

- Human clinical samples
- Animal models

[BACK](#)



# Human clinical samples

## VALIDATION STUDIES - HUMAN CLINICAL SAMPLES

### AIM

To demonstrate efficacy of Stellabody® antibodies in patient samples

### MODELS

Samples selected based on clinical stage and risk

- B Cell Lymphoma
- Leukaemia
- Multiple myeloma

### READOUT

Complement killing (CDC) [Preliminary data available]

### ANTIBODIES TESTED

Unmodified antibody, Stellabody® antibodies, competitor antibodies (HexaBody®)

### ANTIBODY TARGETS

- CD38
- CD20
  - Comparing to hexamerisation competitor (HexaBody®)

### TIMEFRAME

- Preliminary data from chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) generated



# Stellabody® CD20 mAb showed greater killing potency on cell samples from CLL patients

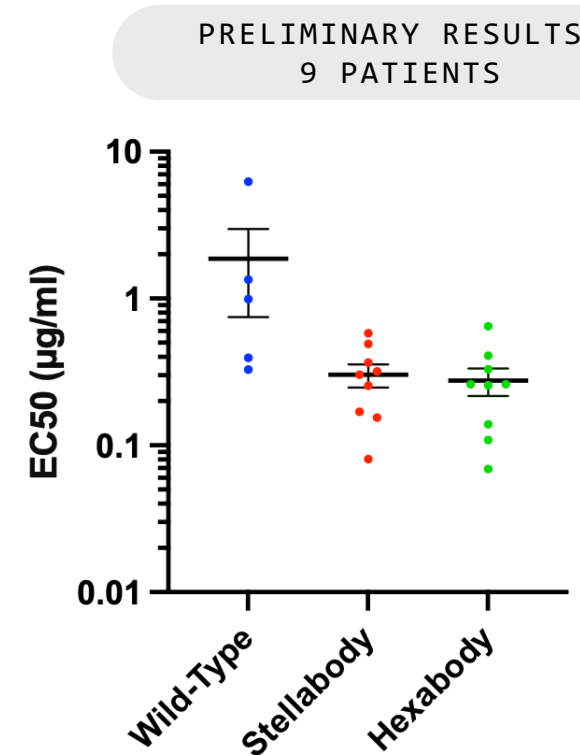
## Study

- CD20 mAb (ofatumumab) was enhanced for potency using Stellabody®
- Stellabody® ofatumumab, HexaBody® ofatumumab and unmodified/wild-type ofatumumab were tested for their ability to induce cell death of leukaemic cells.

Cells: Blood samples from CLL patients  
 Assay: EC50 values were measured in a CDC assay

## Key Results

- Stellabody® ofatumumab exhibited greater potency on CLL patients' cells than wild-type (as shown by EC50 in graph to right)
- Stellabody® also exhibited equivalent potency to its direct competitor HexaBody®.



Versions of ofatumumab tested on CLL patient cells



# Animal studies

## VALIDATION STUDIES - ANIMAL STUDIES

### AIM

To test efficacy Stellabody® antibodies in *in vivo* mouse models, initially focusing on cancer

### MODELS (Xenograft models)

- Solid cancer (planned)
    - Colon cancer
  - Blood cancers (in progress)
    - B Cell Lymphoma
    - Leukaemia
- ⇒ Patient-derived cells (pdx) & Cell line-derived (cdx)

### TIMEFRAME

Commenced November 2023

### ANTIBODY TARGETS

- DR5
- CD38
- CD20

### READOUTS

- Tumour volume / growth
- Animal weight
- Metastases



**Burnet**  
reach for the many

# Thank you

---

MS SERINA CUCUZZA (Executive General Manager Commercialisation)

Email: [serina.cucuzza@burnet.edu.au](mailto:serina.cucuzza@burnet.edu.au)



[burnet.edu.au](http://burnet.edu.au)