# Modulation of Innate Immunity in the Treatment of Inflammation-Driven and Infection-Driven Disease

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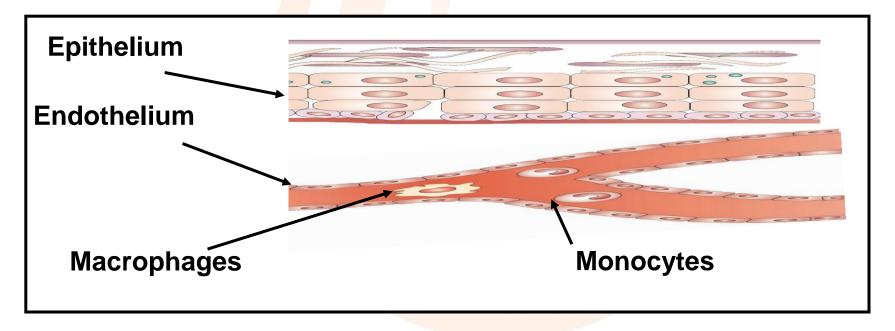
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# **Leveraging Innate Immunity**

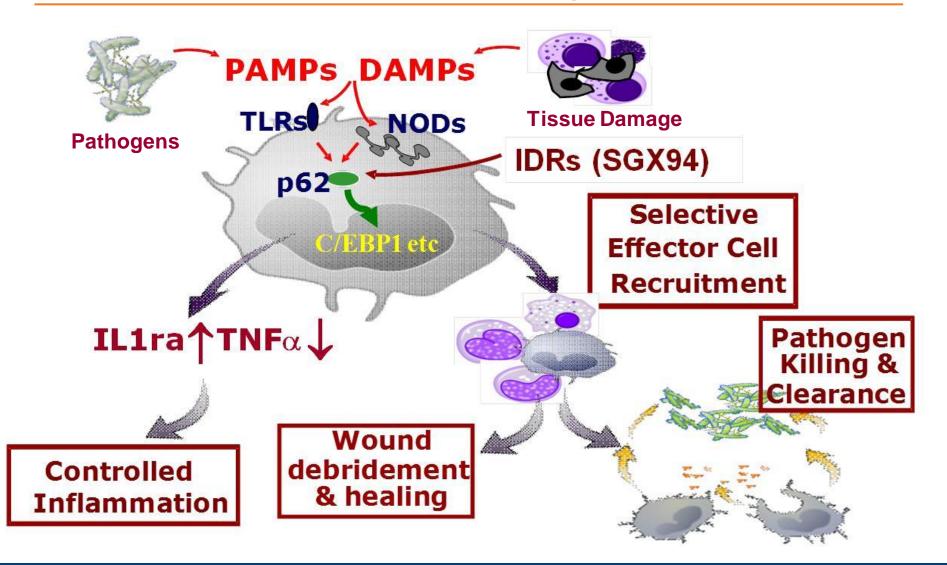
- Rapid, non-specific response
- Involves circulating <u>and tissue resident cells</u>
- Inflammation separable from tissue healing / bacterial clearance mechanisms





Yu et al. JBC 2009; 284(52): 36007-11.

#### **Innate Defense Regulators**

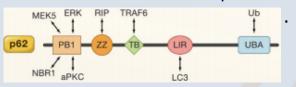




Yu et al. JBC 2009; 284(52): 36007-11.

# SGX94 Targets Sequestosome-1 (p62)

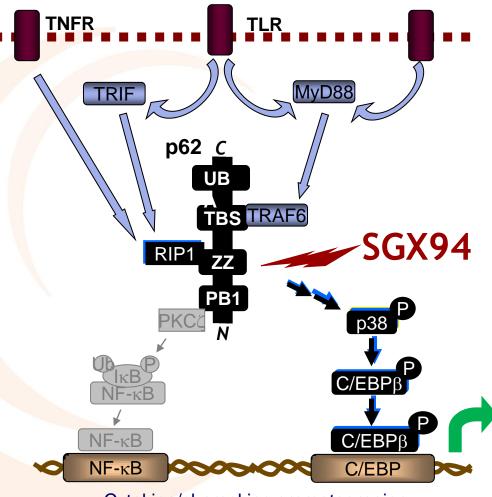
• SGX94 (dusquetide) specifically binds to the ZZ domain of p62



- Selectively stabilizes TNFα-induced p62-RIP1 complex formation
  - No effect on TNFα-induced p62-PKCξ complex formation
- Specifically modulates downstream pathways by activating MAPK p38 and C/EBPβ
  - Does not modulate NF-κB activity
- Results in:
  - Modulation of cytokine/chemokine production
  - Altered protein expression in endothelial cells, monocytes
  - Increased macrophage recruitment to the site of infection/damage

Jorge Moscat and Maria T. Diaz-Meco. Cell 137, June 12, 2009





Cytokine/chemokine promoter region

# **Broad Spectrum Activity**

- Improves survival and enhances bacterial clearance
- Efficacious against various pathogens:
  - Gram-negative (*P. aeruginosa, B. pseudomallei*) <u>OR</u> Gram-positive (*S. aureus,* MRSA)
  - Extracellular (MRSA, S. aureus) <u>OR</u> Intracellular (B. pseudomallei)
  - Antibiotic sensitive (S. aureus) <u>OR</u> Antibiotic resistant (MRSA, B. pseudomallei)
- Effective at various anatomic locations
- Enhances antibiotic action when antibiotics alone are suboptimal
- Active in immune compromised animals
- Aids in resolution of tissue damage
- Modulates inflammation

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Scott et al. Nat Biotechnol 2007;25: 465-72. North et al. J. Biotech 2016; 226:24-34.

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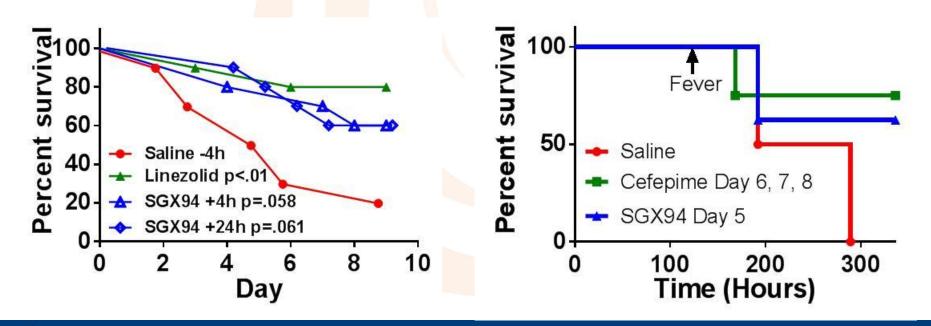
### **Anti-Infective**

Improves survival with therapeutic administration, including in immune-compromised animals

Gram-positive, Antibioticresistant Bacteremia (MRSA)

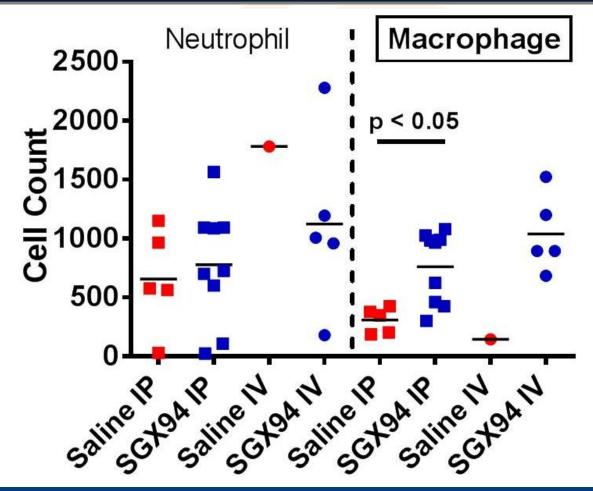
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#### Gram-negative, Leukopenic Septicemia (*P. aeruginosa*)



#### **Increased Macrophage Recruitment**

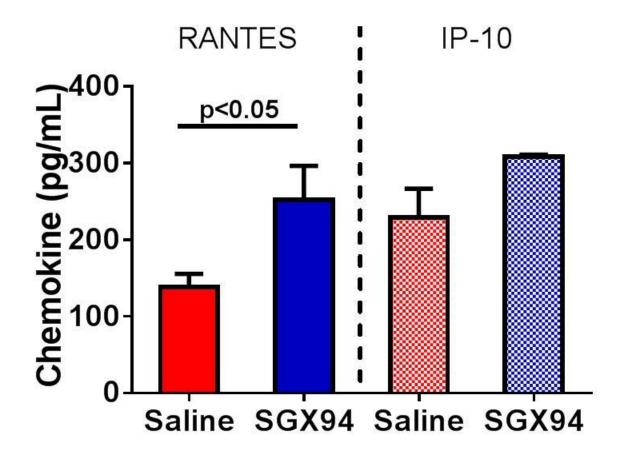
#### Peritoneal macrophages increased in MRSA IP infection





### **Early Chemokine Responses**

#### Peritoneal RANTES and IP10 increased in MRSA IP infection



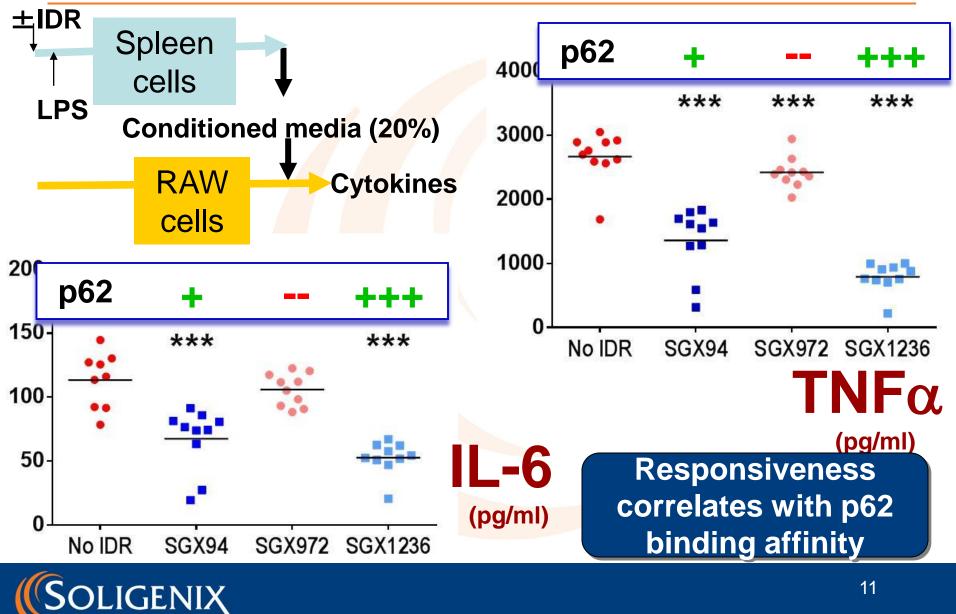


#### **Anti-Inflammatory Action**

#### TNF $\alpha$ decreased and IL-1ra increased **Peritoneal Infection** Lung Inflammation 40-2000-(Juu/bd) \*p<.05 TNF-α (pg/mL) p < 0.05 IL-1ra in BAL fluid ( 00 00 00 10. 0 0 Saline SGX94 Saline SGX94



#### **Tissue-Mediated Effects**

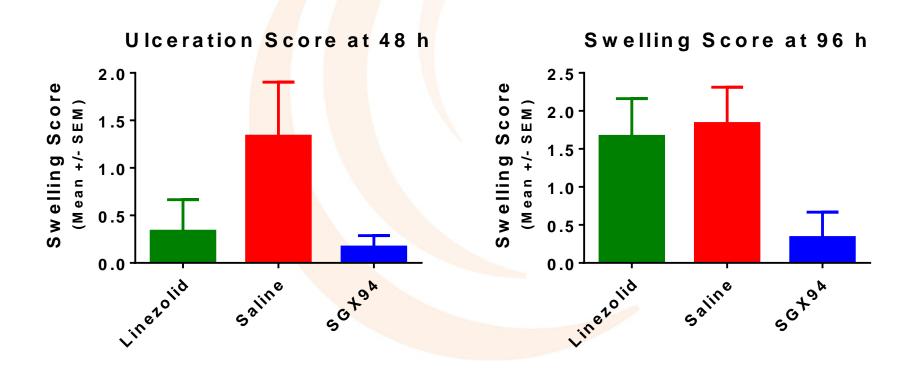


North et al. J. Biotech 2016; 226:24-34.

### **Tissue Healing Activity**

Epithelial damaged followed by MRSA infection

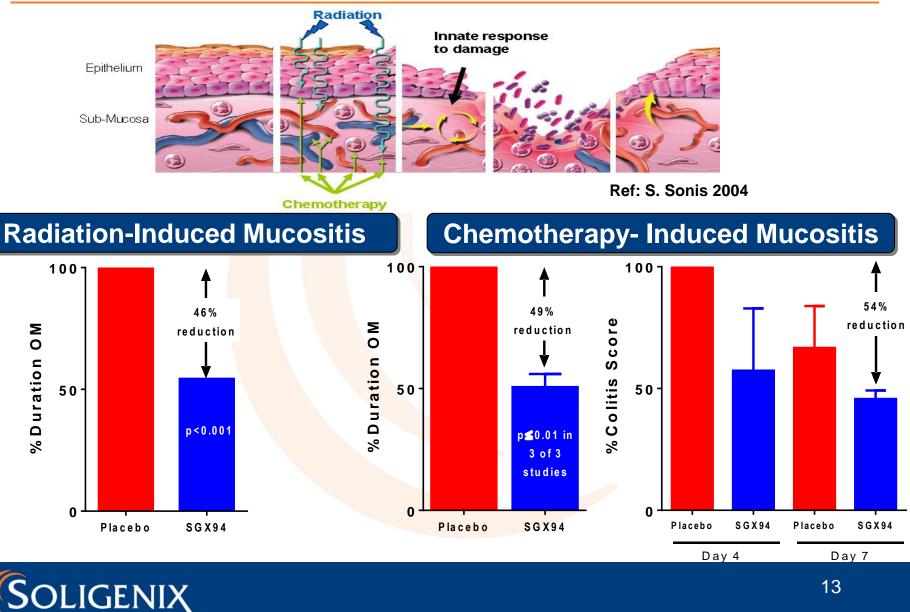
**Decreased Ulceration & Swelling with Single Administration** 





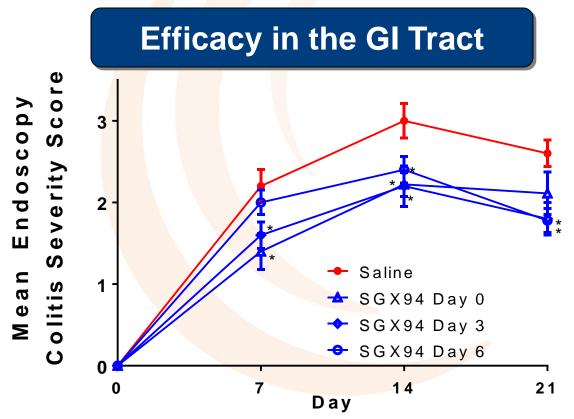
North et al. J. Biotech 2016; 226:24-34.

### **Chronic Injury Models: Oral Mucositis**



## **Gastrointestinal Injury: IBD Model**

- Oral DSS given on Days 0 to 5 damages the GI lining.
- SGX94 is effective administered before, during or after the insult.



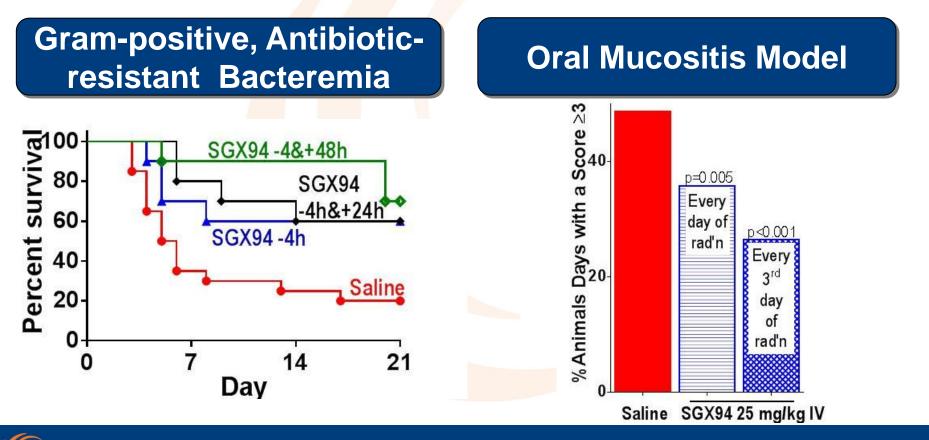


# **Enduring Pharmacodynamic Effect**

Rapid PK (expected for peptide product)

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- Repeat administration within 24-48 hours has no additional benefit
- Treatment up to 5 days prior to infection is effective



15 North et al. J. Biotech 2016; 226:24-34. Kudrimoti et al. J. Biotech 2016; 239:115-125.

## **Translation to the Clinic**

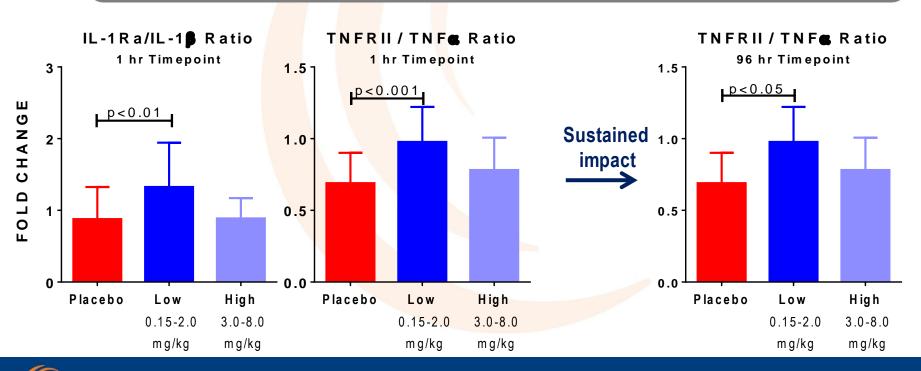
- Innate immune system present in all orders of mammals
  - Highly conserved
- Target protein p62 highly conserved
  - 91% sequence identity mouse-human
  - o 99% sequence identity orangutan-human
- Phase 1 study in 84 healthy human volunteers
- Phase 2 study in 111 head and neck cancer patients at risk of severe oral mucositis
- Complete concordance between nonclinical and clinical findings



### **Anti-Inflammatory**

 Whole blood samples collected at various timepoints postdosing are stimulated with LPS (endotoxin) for 4 hours

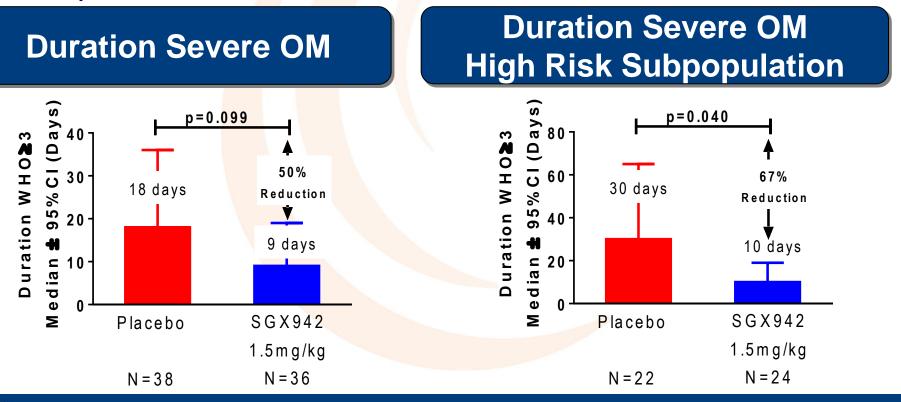




North et al. J. Biotech 2016; 226:24-34.

### **Tissue Healing/Anti-Inflammatory**

 Enrolled 111 head and neck cancer (HNC) patients planned to receive at least 55 Gy radiation and either weekly (30-40 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) or every 3<sup>rd</sup> week (80-100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) cisplatin



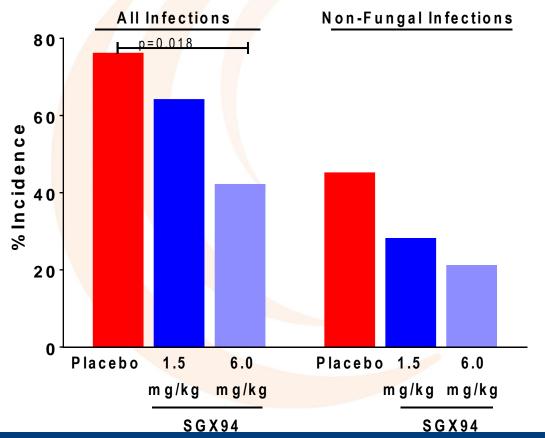
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Kudrimoti et al. J. Biotech 2016; 239:115-125.

# **Anti-Infective**

- Recorded infection as a monitored adverse event (Phase 2 study)
- All concurrent antibiotic treatments allowed

All and Non-Fungal (Bacterial) Infections Reduced

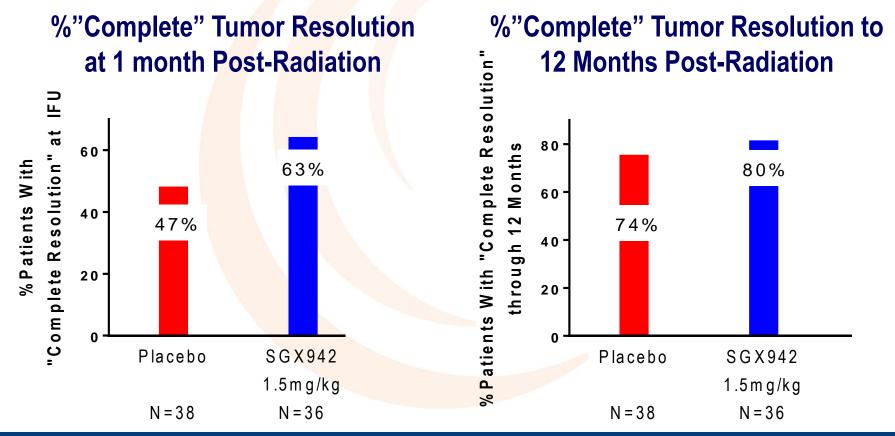




### **Ancillary Benefits**

#### Potential for accelerated tumor resolution

#### **Tumor Resolution at 1 and 12 Months**

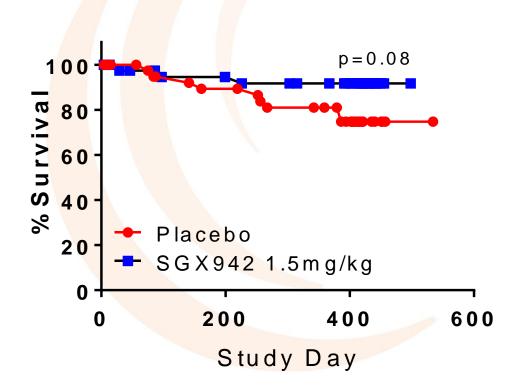




#### **Improved Survival over 12 Months**

• Patients monitored through 12 months post-radiation

**Increased Survival with SGX94 Treatment** 





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# **IDR Program Status**

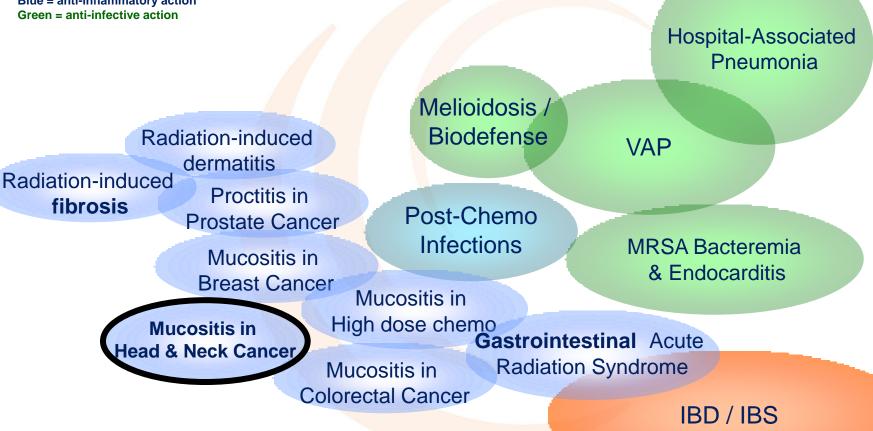
- Pharmacokinetics and nonclinical toxicology completed
- cGMP-quality drug product available
- Phase 1 healthy volunteer study completed.
- Phase 2 clinical study in oral mucositis completed
- Phase 3 clinical study in oral mucositis initiating
- Portfolio of IDR analogs:
  - Co-crystal structure solved for SGX94 in its target binding site
  - SAR against target protein binding; peptidomimetic analogs developed
- Initiated explorations of other potential clinical indications (GI disease, infectious disease, etc.)



## **Potential Indications**

#### Patients at risk of Mucosal Barrier Failure and Infection / Inflammation:

Blue = anti-inflammatory action





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