cGMP Mass Production of FT538, a First-of-Kind, Off-the-Shelf, Multiplexed Engineered Natural Killer Cell Cancer Immunotherapy Derived from a Clonal Master Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell Line

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FT538 is an Investigational, Off-the-shelf, Multiplexed Engineered Natural Killer (NK) Cell Cancer Immunotherapy

- FT538 NK cells are derived from a clonal master induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) line engineered with three functional components to enhance innate immunity:
  - 1. A high-affinity 158V, non-cleavable CD16 Fc receptor (hnCD16) modified to augment ADCC activity.
  - 2. An IL-15 receptor fusion protein (IL-15RF) which promotes survival and persistence and reduces dependency for exogenous cytokine support.
  - 3. Deletion of CD38 to eliminate anti-CD38 antibody mediated NK cell fratricide.



## Use of a Clonal Master Engineered iPSC Line as a Starting Cell Source Enables **Routine Mass cGMP Production & Supports Off-the-Shelf Availability**



Consistent, reliable and cost-effective product forms

Eliminates stochastic editing variability associated with pool engineering

Unprecedented scalability

Off-the-shelf production of cells

Addresses Critical Limitations of Patient- and Donor-Sourced Cellular Therapies

# Generation of FT538 Fibroblast-derived Clonal iPSC Line Engineered with Multiple Modalities to Enhance NK Cell Functions and Persistence



- A. Workflow for the generation of FT538 engineered fibroblast-derived iPSC MCBs. The engineering strategy resulted in: CD38 knockout, expression of an IL-15 receptor alpha fusion (IL-15RF) protein, and expression of a high-affinity non-cleavable CD16 (hnCD16)
- B. Flow cytometry profiles of reprogrammed and engineered clonal iPSC clone are depicted.
- C. PCR assays to screen for clones with specific cassette integration into the CD38 locus with no random integration are displayed
- D. Characterization of the genomic stability of FT538 iPSC MCB was performed and results are displayed.



### Figure 2

- A. The clonal master engineered iPSC line serves as a renewable source for the routine cGMP mass production of FT538 drug product. Routine cGMP manufacture of FT538 drug product consists of three stages: Stage 1: Differentiation of the clonal master engineered FT538 iPSC line to iPSC-derived CD34-expressing (iCD34) hematopoietic progenitor cells, Stage 2: Further differentiation to and expansion of NK cells from either fresh or cryopreserved iCD34 cells, and Stage 3: Fill/finish and cryopreservation of the FT538 drug product. The yield of viable FT538 cells for the clinical batch was 3.1 x 10<sup>11</sup> viable cells. The cGMP clinical manufacturing campaign was filled into over 300 units of cryopreserved drug product. Based on the number of CD34-derived batches that could be produced from the initial iPSC thaw (15 batches), the cGMP campaign had a theoretical yield of 4.5 x 10<sup>12</sup> FT538 NK cells.
- B. Representative flow cytometry plots of each process step are depicted, from iPSC to final product.

## Stage 1: iCD34 Cell Production

### **FT538 Development & Clinical Batch Characterization**



### Figure 3

- A. Prior to differentiation, the frequency of pluripotent cells was evaluated by flow cytometry. Development batches of FT538 exhibited an average of 100 ± 0.1% SSEA4+TRA181+ and 93 ± 2% SSEA4+TRA181+CD30+ (n=2). Clinical batches exhibited an average of 98 ± 0.8% SSEA4+TRA181+ and 96 ± 0.8% SSEA4+TRA181+CD30+ (n=2).
- B. After differentiation to iCD34 cells and enrichment for CD34-expressing cells, frequency of CD34 expression was evaluated by flow cytometry. Development batches of FT538 exhibited an average of 97 ± 0.8% CD34+ (n=2). Clinical batches exhibited an average of 99 ± 0.2% CD34+ (n=2).
- C. The theoretical yield of iCD34 cells for development batches was calculated by multiplying the actual yield by the proportional scale factor intended for use in a clinical batch. The theoretical development batch yield ranged from 1.6-1.8 x 10<sup>8</sup> viable cells and the actual yield for the clinical batches ranged from 2.1-2.5 x 10<sup>8</sup> viable cells. The cGMP clinical manufacturing campaign yielded sufficient CD34-expressing hematopoietic progenitor cells to support >15 batches of NK page 7 differentiation, derived from cryopreserved iCD34 cells.

## Stage 2: NK Cell Production FT538 Development & Clinical Batch Characterization



#### Figure 4

At several processing points during Stage 2: NK Cell Production, cells were evaluated for differentiation to hematopoietic (CD45+) and NK cells (CD45+CD56+).

- A. Mid-differentiation to NK cells, development batches exhibited 99 ± 0.2% CD45+ and 35 ± 1% CD45+CD56+ (n=2). The clinical batch exhibited 98% CD45+ and 43% CD45+CD56+ (n=1).
- B. Post-differentiation to NK cells, development batches exhibited 99 ± 0.4% CD45+ and 79 ± 2% CD45+CD56+ (n=2). The clinical batch exhibited 98% CD45+ and 84% CD45+CD56+ (n=1).
- C. Mid-expansion of NK cells, development batches exhibited 100 ± 0.1% CD45+ and 96 ± 2% CD45+CD56+ (n=2). The clinical batch exhibited 100% CD45+ and 99% CD45+CD56+ (n=1).

Stage 3: Drug Product Fill/Finish and Cryopreservation FT538 Development & Clinical Batch Characterization

Stage 3: Drug Product Fill/Finish and Cryopreservation

FT538 Phenotype and Impurity Characterization Summary

	Development		Clinical
	Batch 1	Batch 2	Batch 1
CD45+	99%	100%	100%
CD45+CD56+	99%	99%	99%
CD16+	100%	100%	100%
CD38+	0%	0%	0%
Residual iPSC	Not detected	Not detected	Not detected







#### Figure 5

- A. FT538 cells were thawed and evaluated for frequency of CD45+, CD45+CD56+, CD16+, and CD38+ by flow cytometry and evaluated for residual iPSC by qPCR. Average results for development and clinical batches are depicted in the table above.
- B. Representative flow plots of the final product are displayed for CD45+ and CD45+CD56+ of viable cells, CD16 of CD45+CD56+ viable cells, and CD38+ of CD45+CD56+ viable cells.
- C. FT538 cells were thawed and potency was evaluated by measuring IFNγ production in response to RPMI-8226 (CD38+ MM cell line), with and without daratumumab (dara). Development batch #1 released an average of 178 ± 77 pg/mL and 3217 ± 674 pg/mL IFNγ without and with dara, respectively (n=2). Development batch #2 released an average of 454 ± 36 pg/mL and 3613 ± 251 pg/mL IFNγ without and with dara, respectively (n=3). Clinical batch #1 released an average of 184 ± 37 pg/mL and 2956 ± 177 pg/mL IFNγ without and with dara, respectively (n=3).

- FT538 NK cells are derived from a clonal master induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) line engineered with three functional components to enhance innate immunity: a novel hnCD16 Fc receptor; an IL-15RF; and the elimination of CD38 expression.
- A clinical batch of FT538 drug product has been manufactured, which produced a total of 3 × 10<sup>11</sup> FT538 NK cells filled into over 300 units of cryopreserved drug product. Based on the number of CD34-derived batches that could be produced from the initial iPSC thaw (15 batches), the cGMP campaign had a theoretical yield of 4.5 x 10<sup>12</sup> FT538 NK cells.
  - The clinical batch of FT538 drug product is comprised of uniformly engineered CD56+ NK cells with homogeneous expression of hnCD16 and lacking expression of CD38. Importantly, there were no residual iPSCs detected in the FT538 drug product.
  - Additionally, the FT538 drug product exhibited potent effector function in a candidate potency assay measuring IFN-γ release in response to RPMI-8226 target cells in the presence of daratumumab.
- An Investigational New Drug application for FT538 has been cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
  - Clinical study will be a multi-center, multi-dose Phase I clinical trial for the treatment of patients with relapsed/refractory (r/r) acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) and multiple myeloma (MM).
  - The dose-escalation utilizes a 3+3 design to identify the maximum tolerated dose of three doses of FT538 on Days 1, 8, and 15 as a monotherapy in r/r AML (Regimen A) and in combination with daratumumab (Regimen B) or elotuzumab (Regimen C) in r/r MM.
  - The trial will test up to five FT538 dose levels ranging from 50 million to 1.5 billion cells, and up to 105 patients will be enrolled.

