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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

June 4, 2018  
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

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**ATYR PHARMA, INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-37378**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**20-3435077**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**3545 John Hopkins Court, Suite #250**  
**San Diego, California 92121**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(858) 731-8389**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

aTyr Pharma, Inc. (the “Company”) intends to use an investor presentation to conduct meetings with investors, stockholders and analysts and at investor conferences. The Company intends to place this investor presentation on its website. A copy of the presentation materials is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. The Company does not undertake to update the presentation materials.

The information under this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, is being furnished herewith and shall not be deemed “filed” for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall they be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**Item 9.01 Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	<a href="#"><u>Corporate Presentation Materials of aTyr Pharma, Inc. dated June 2018</u></a>

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**ATYR PHARMA, INC.**

By: /s/ Sanjay S. Shukla  
Sanjay S. Shukla, M.D., M.S.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: June 4, 2018



Translating New Immune Pathways  
into Meaningful Medicines



**Corporate Presentation**  
**June 2018**

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## Forward-Looking Statements

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The following slides and any accompanying oral presentation contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws. The use of words such as “may,” “might,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “project,” “intend,” “future,” “potential,” “opportunity,” or “continue,” and other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. For example, all statements we make regarding the potential therapeutic benefits of proteins derived from tRNA synthetase genes and our product candidates, including ATYR1923 and any product candidates from our other pipeline programs, the ability to successfully advance our pipeline or product candidates, the timing within which we expect to initiate, receive and report data from, and complete our planned clinical trials, our ability to receive regulatory approvals for, and commercialize, our product candidates, our ability to identify and discover additional product candidates, and the ability of our intellectual property portfolio to provide protection are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions by our management that, although we believe to be reasonable, are inherently uncertain. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those that we expected. These risks, uncertainties and other factors are more fully described in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and in our other filings. The forward-looking statements in this presentation speak only as of the date of this presentation and neither we nor any other person assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any forward-looking statement. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

We own various U.S. federal trademark applications and unregistered trademarks, including our company name. All other trademarks or trade names referred to in this presentation are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks and trade names in this presentation are referred to without the symbols ® and ™, but such references should not be construed as any indicator that their respective owners will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, their rights thereto.

## Accelerating Value Creation from Novel Immune Pathways

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### Research:

Discover innovative therapeutic candidates based on extracellular functionality of tRNA synthetases  
*Initial focus on Resokine Pathway*

### Lead Product Candidate: ATYR1923

Engineered Resokine protein for the treatment of inflammatory interstitial lung diseases

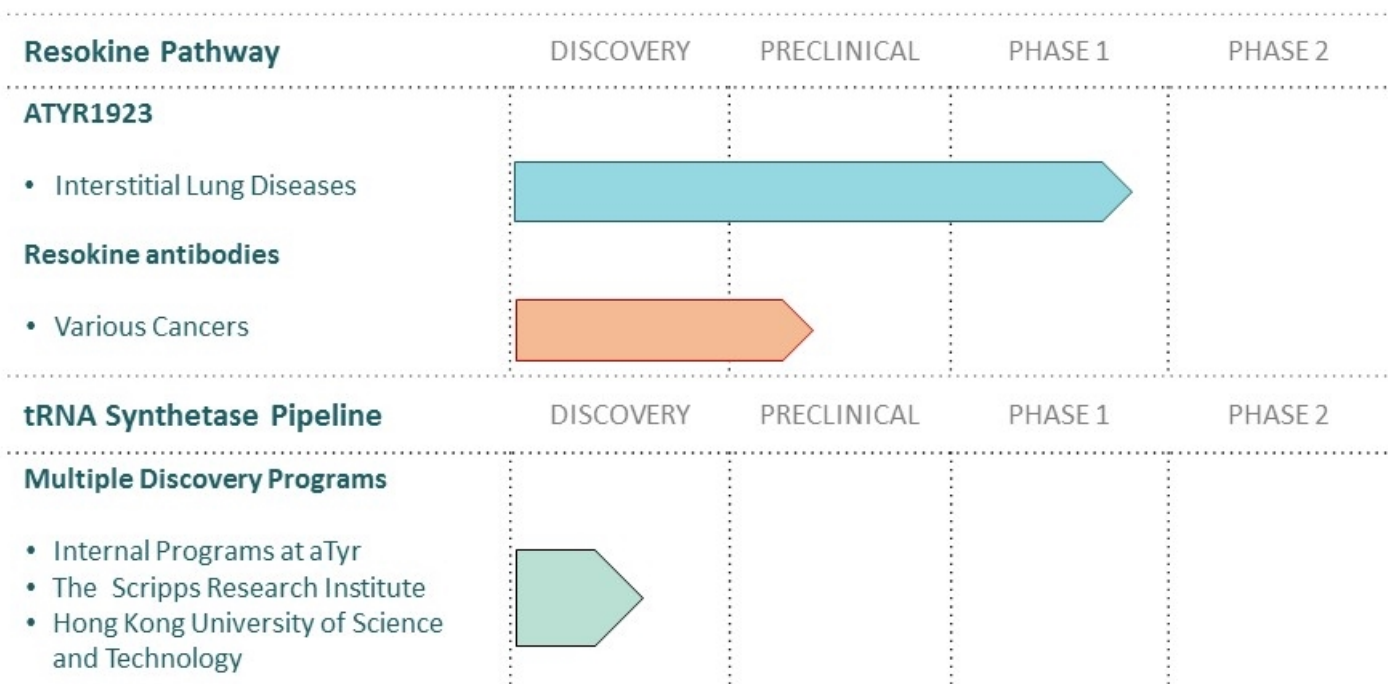
### Financials:

Cash, cash equivalents and investments at \$74.1M as of 3/31/2018

### Upcoming Clinical Catalysts:

ATYR1923 Phase 1 data – 2Q 2018  
Patient trial initiation – 4Q 2018

# Therapeutic Candidate Pipeline





ATYR1923 for the Treatment of Interstitial Lung Diseases  
Engineered HARS Splice Variant

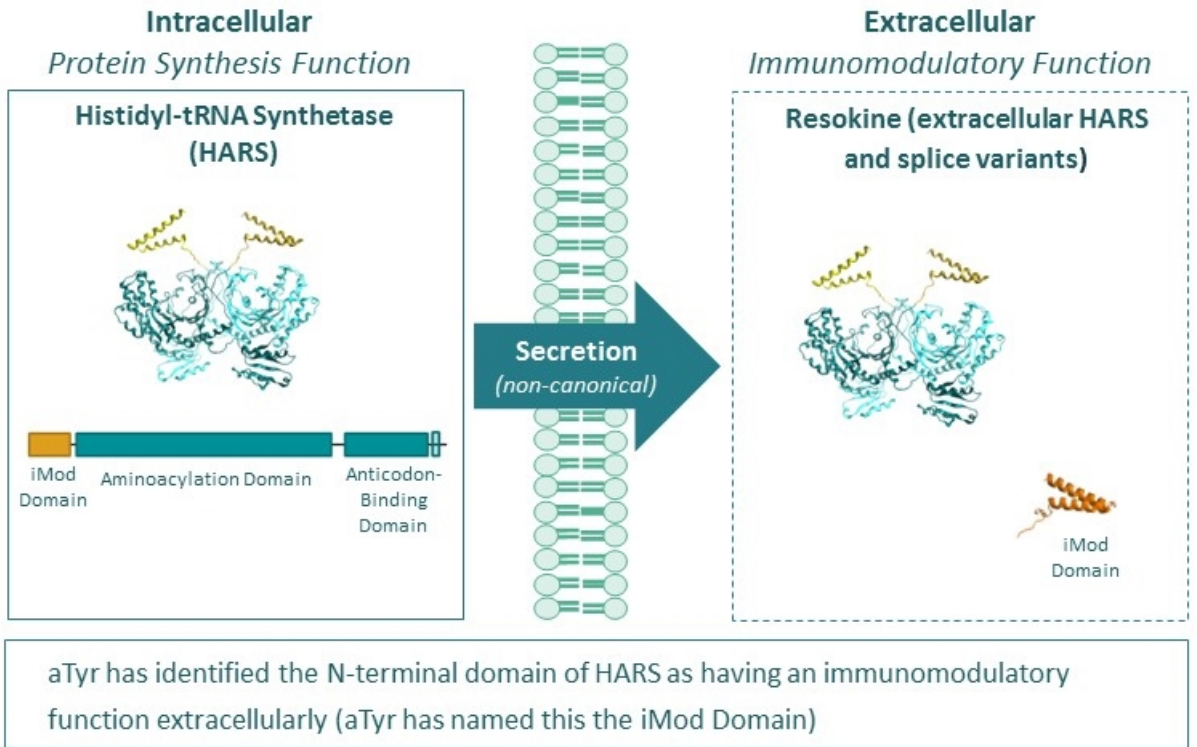
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# iMod: Extracellular Splice Variant Derived From HARS Gene

## tRNA Synthetase Genes:

- AARS
- CARS
- DARS
- EPRS
- FARS
- GARS
- HARS**
- IARS
- KARS
- LARS
- MARS
- NARS
- QARS
- RARS
- SARS
- TARS
- VARS
- WARS
- YARS



**Hypothesis:** Resokine is part of a regulatory pathway that controls the immune set-point  
➤ Sets the threshold of stimulation required for immune activation

### **Resokine inhibits T cell activation *in vitro***

- Inhibits release of inflammatory cytokines (e.g. IL-2, IFN $\gamma$ ) and effectors (e.g. granzyme B)
- Prevents up-regulation of cell-surface activation markers

### **Resokine has activity in a number of animal models of inflammatory disease**

- TNBS-induced colitis, statin-induced myopathy, bleomycin-induced lung disease, IL-23 induced psoriasis, type-1 diabetes

### **Resokine circulates in healthy individuals**

- Detectable levels in all healthy individuals tested
- Levels altered in some disease states

# ATYR1923: Program Snapshot

## ATYR1923:

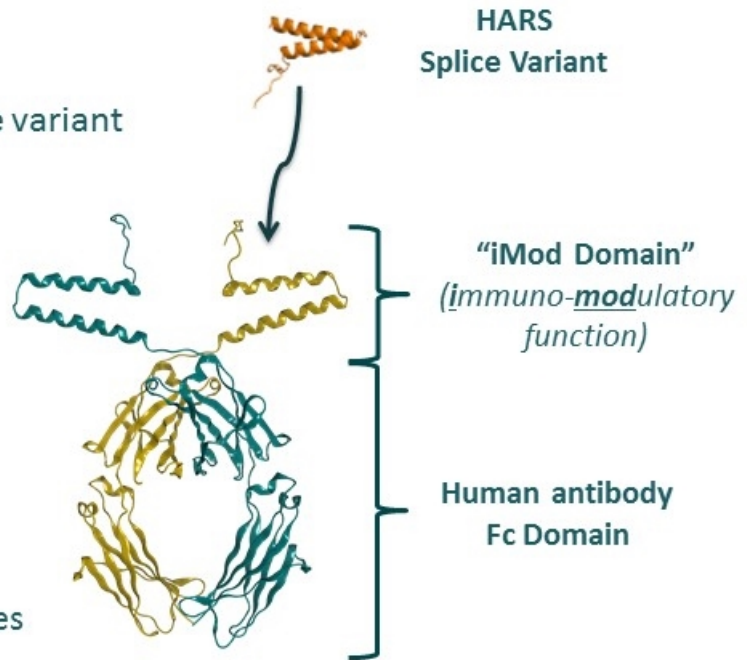
Engineered Fc fusion protein with HARS splice variant  
Refer to splice variant as the “iMod domain”  
(iMod for immuno-modulatory function)

## Mechanism:

Regulation of immune system  
Binds to Neuropilin-2 (NRP-2)

## Target Population:

Primary: Inflammatory interstitial lung diseases  
Secondary: Other inflammatory disorders



# High Unmet Need in Multiple Interstitial Lung Diseases

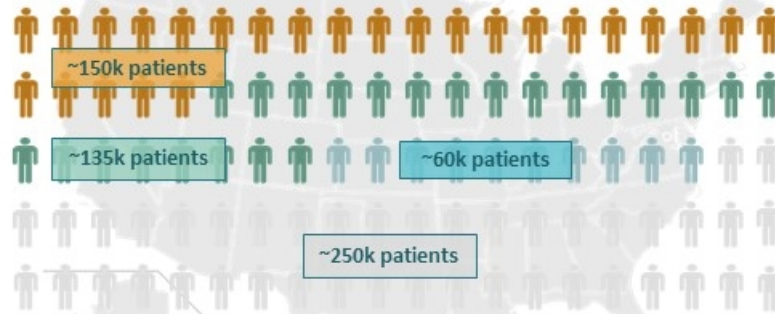
## Sarcoidosis

- **~150K patients in the U.S.**
- Systemic inflammatory disorder characterized by non-caseating granulomas (CD4+ T cell driven)
- Advanced pulmonary disease is leading cause of death
- ~30% of patients have chronic inflammation, unresponsive to steroid treatment

## Chronic Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis (CHP)

- **~60K patients in the U.S.**
- Exaggerated immune response to environmental antigen
- Commonly misdiagnosed as IPF
- Median survival: 7 years
- No effective therapeutic options

Represents 1% of U.S. ILD population



## Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

- **~135K patients in the U.S.**
- Irreversible, progressive disease with acute episodes
- Median survival: 3-5 years
- Current SOC: Nintedanib / pirfenidone slow functional loss but associated with significant side effects;
  - **~\$2.0B+ combined sales in 2017 and growing**

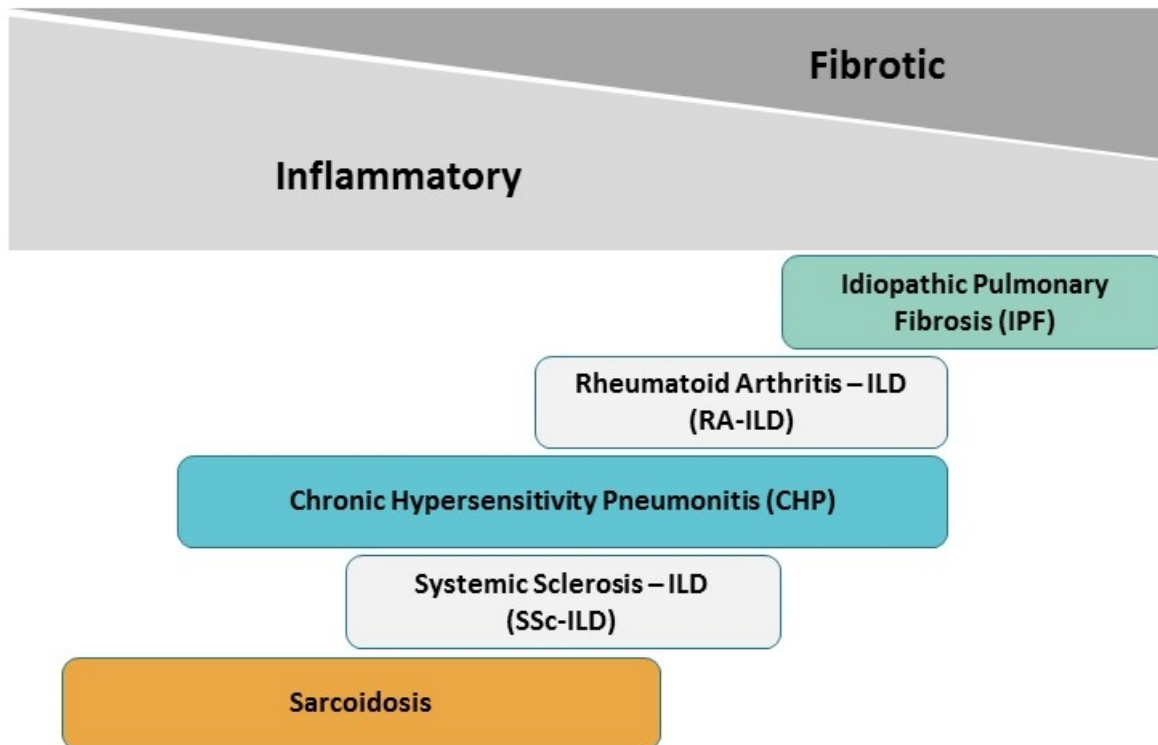
## Other ILDs (>100 disorders, ~250K patients in the U.S.)

- Many secondary to other disease (e.g. SSc-ILD, RA-ILD)
- All share underlying inflammatory insult
- Large unmet medical need**
  - Many have grave prognosis
  - SOC has limited evidence of safety or efficacy



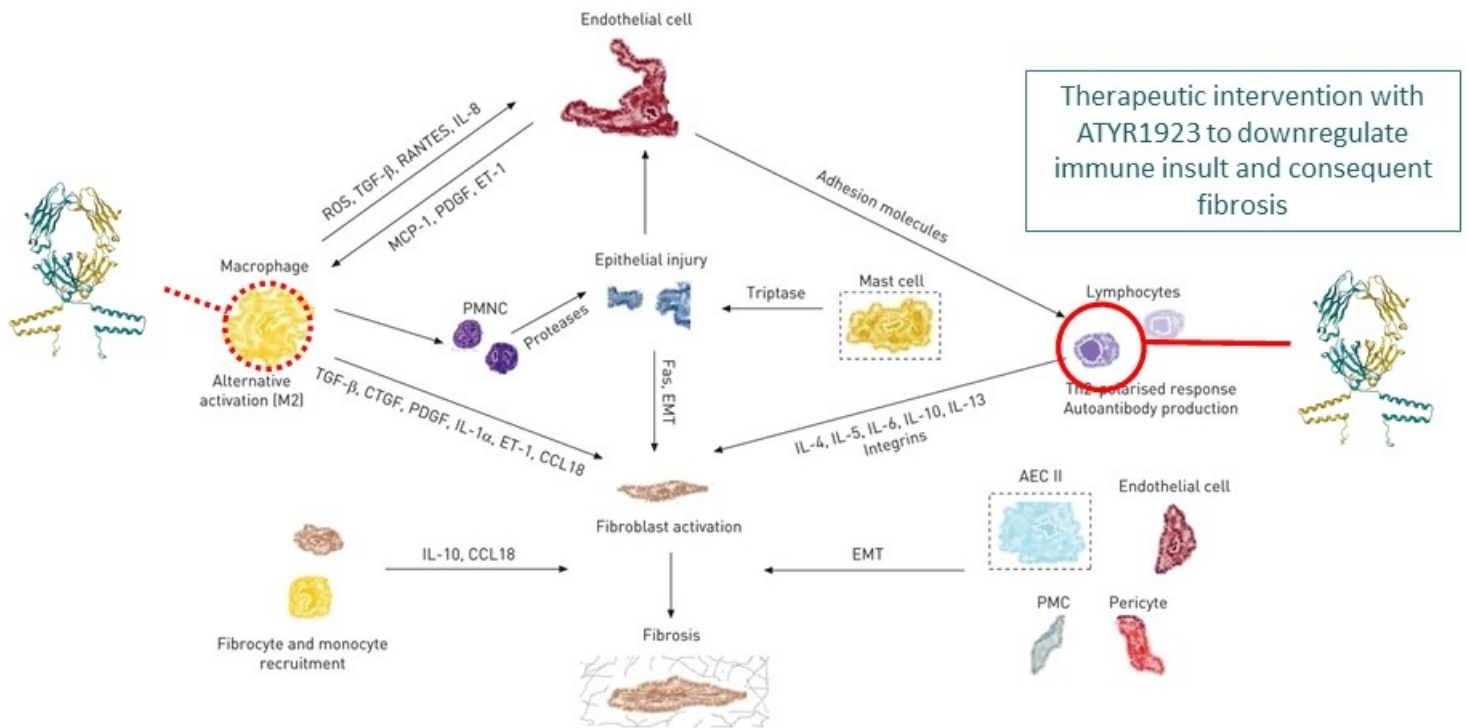
2017 annual sales of Ofev® (nintedanib) ~920 Euros, 52.3% increase YoY  
 2017 annual sales of Esbriet® (pirfenidone) ~869 CHF, 13% increase YoY

# Interstitial Lung Diseases Share Persistent Immune Engagement



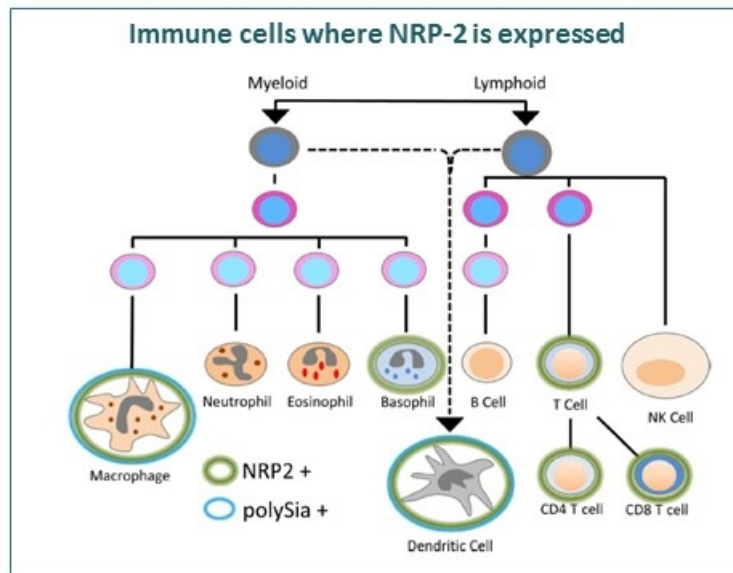
# ATYR1923 MOA Overlaps with ILD Pathogenesis

## Cellular players and molecules in ILD



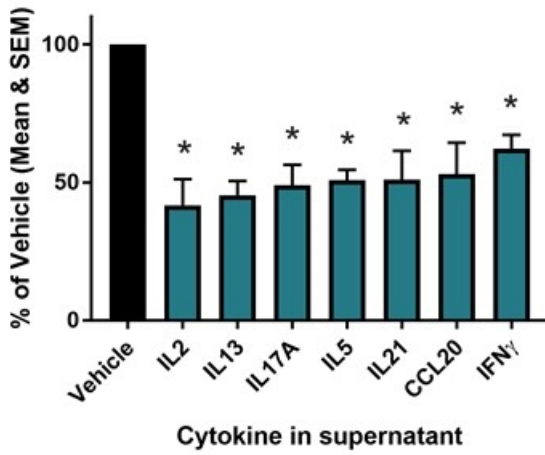
## Neuropilin-2 (NRP-2) Identified as a Binding Partner for ATYR1923

- Pleiotropic receptor that can bind to a number of different ligands
- Well-established role in the development of the neural and lymphatic systems
- Emerging role in the immune system; present on a number of immune cell types
- Expressed on alveolar macrophages and may play role in regulating lung inflammation



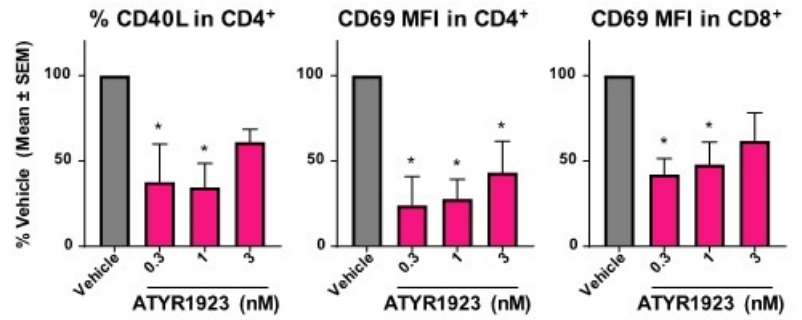
# ATYR1923 Inhibits T Cell Activation In Vitro

## Effect of 0.3 nM ATYR1923 on T Cell Cytokine Release



Mean response from 3 donors

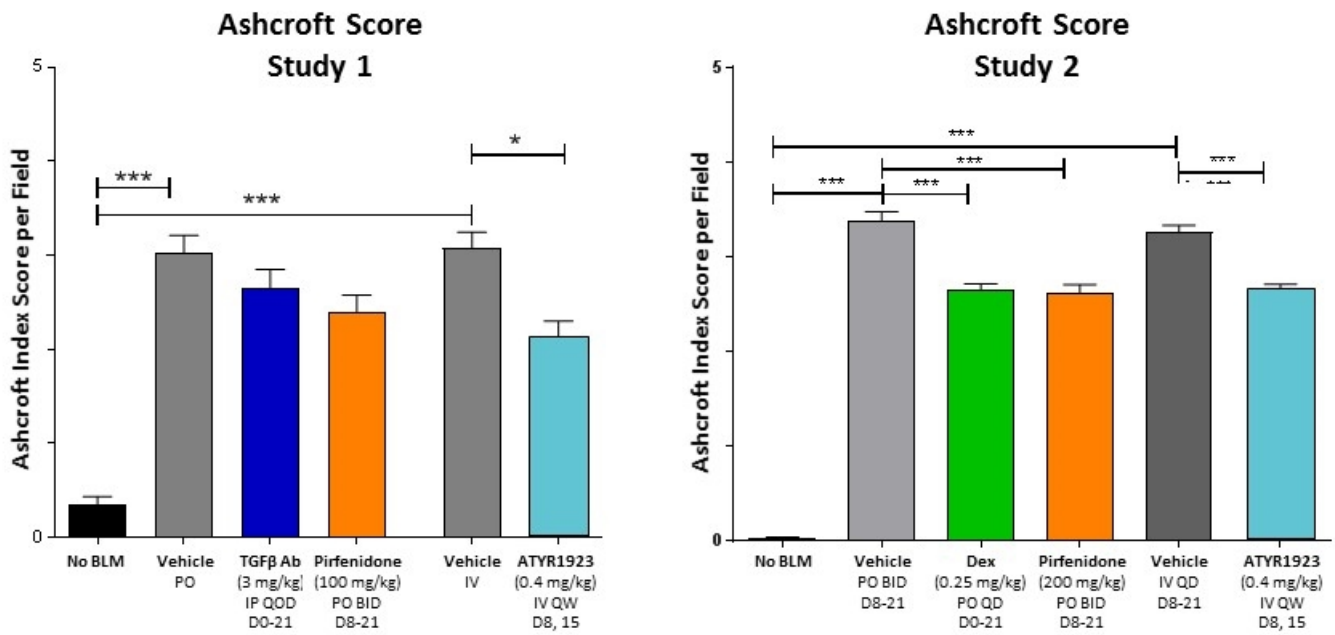
## Effect of ATYR1923 on T Cell Activation Markers



aTyr is currently exploring the interaction with ATYR1923 and NRP-2 across multiple immune cell types

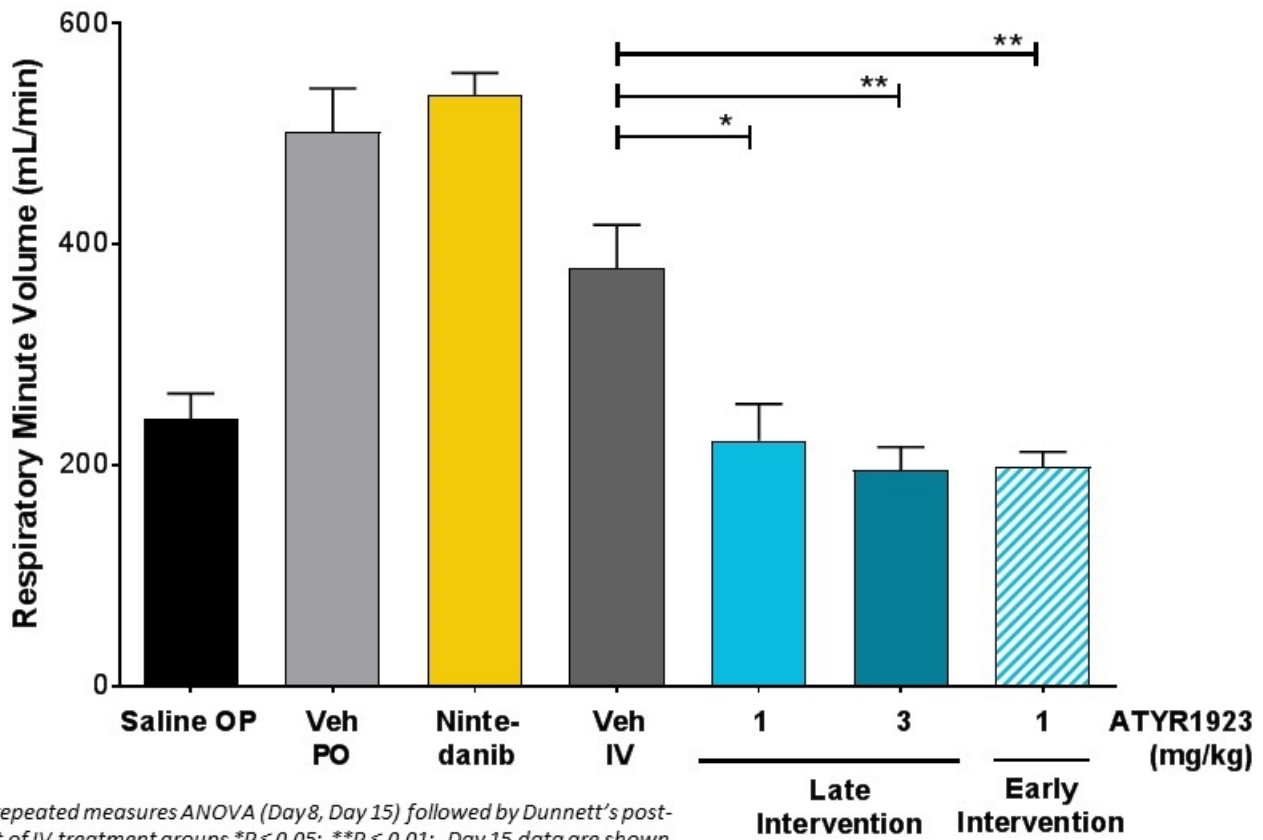


# Weekly Therapeutic Dosing of ATYR1923 Reduces Fibrosis in Mouse Bleomycin Model



ATYR1923 administered therapeutically at 0.4 mg/kg QW reduces histological fibrosis comparable to or greater than pirfenidone, anti-TGF antibodies, and dexamethasone

# ATYR1923 Returns Breathing to Normal in Rat Bleomycin Model



Late and early intervention commenced on Days 9 and 2, respectively  
 Respiratory Volume = amount of air inhaled/exhaled/min; Nintedanib dosed daily (Days 9-21)  
 Note: Presented in a poster at the American Thoracic Society International Conference in May 2018

# Favorable Safety Profile Observed in 1- and 3- Month GLP Toxicology Studies

## Nonhuman Primates



**2 weekly IV** doses of 3 mg/kg

- No increase in ~30 serum immune markers

**1- and 3-month weekly IV** dose

at 0, 10, 30, and 60 mg/kg

- No adverse test article–related findings
- Systemic exposure increased with increasing dose and did not appear to change with repeated dosing
- Anti-drug antibodies (ADA) did not appear to have an impact on systemic exposure
- No-observed-adverse-effect level (NOAEL) = 60 mg/kg ( $C_{\text{trough}} = 228 \text{ nM}$ )

## Rodents



**1- and 3-month weekly IV** dose

at 0, 10, 30, and 60 mg/kg

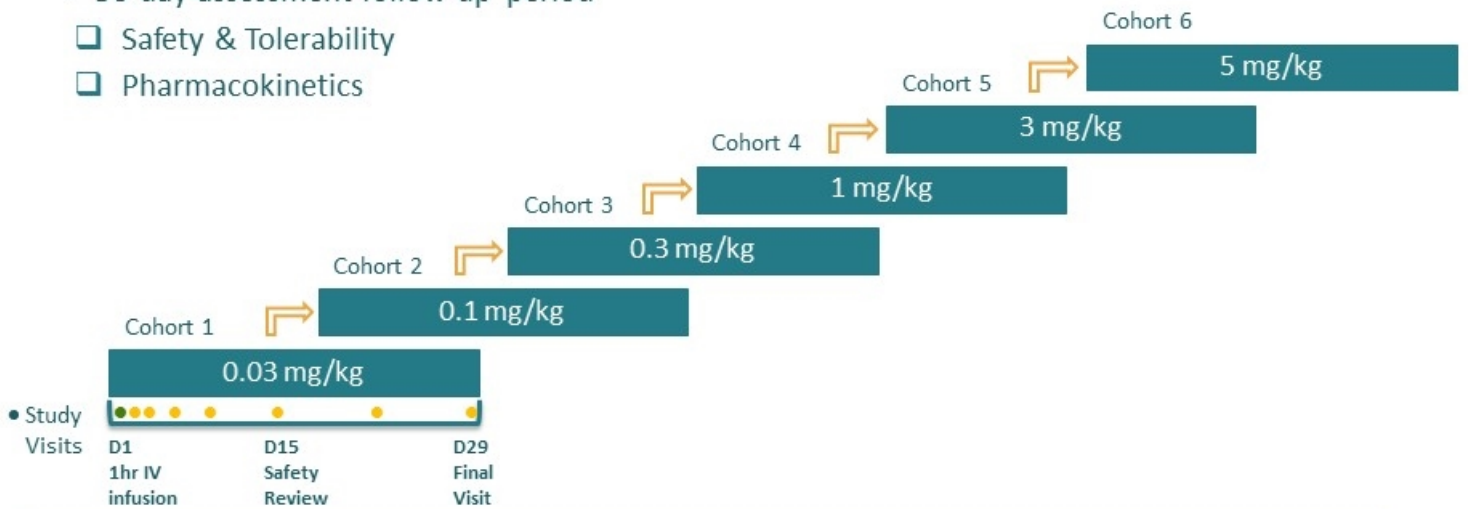
- No adverse test article–related findings
- Systemic exposure increased with increasing dose and did not appear to change with repeated dosing
- ADA did not appear to have an impact on systemic exposure
- NOAEL = 60 mg/kg

6-Month GLP study ongoing in nonhuman primates

# ATYR1923 Phase I Healthy Volunteer Study

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, single-ascending-dose
- 6 Cohorts; 6 healthy volunteers/cohort; 2:1 randomization (N=36 HVs total)
- 30-day assessment-follow-up period

- Safety & Tolerability
- Pharmacokinetics



- Dose escalation proceeded through Cohort 6 (DRC review after each cohort)
- All participants completed study drug infusion in all cohorts
- Top-line data to be announced in June

## Strategic Focus to Create Long-Term Shareholder Value

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### Phase 2 Trial – Interstitial Lung Disease

1. Several translational animal studies ongoing to better inform clinical direction
  2. Understanding the interaction of Neuropilin-2 as a binding receptor for ATYR1923
  3. Collaborating with industry leading pulmonary clinicians to develop patient trials for ATYR1923
- Initiate patient trial in 4Q 2018



### Discovery and Pipeline Enhancement

- Academic collaborations and ongoing internal programs to discover innovative therapeutic candidates from tRNA synthetase biology

### Financials

- **\$74.1M** cash, cash equivalents and investments as of 3/31/18
- Market capitalization as of closing price on 6/1/18: **~\$36M\***



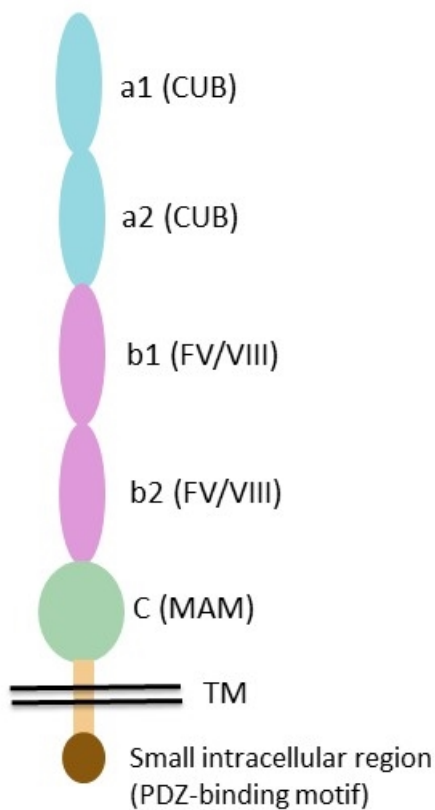
*\*Market capitalization calculated using all common shares outstanding and preferred class X shares on an if-converted basis for a total outstanding share count of 41.3M shares.*



## Appendix: Neuropilin-2 (NRP-2) Overview

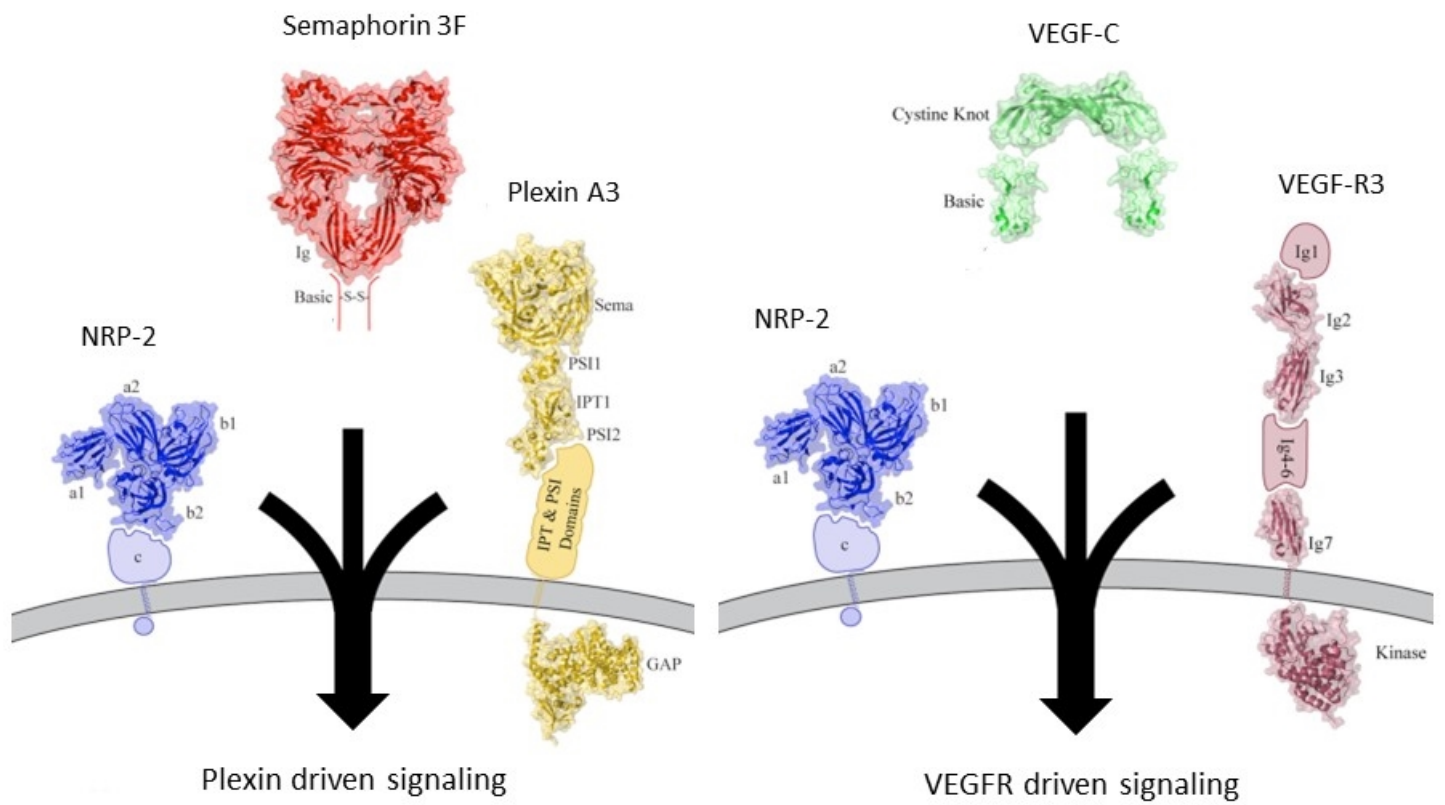
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## Neuropilin-2



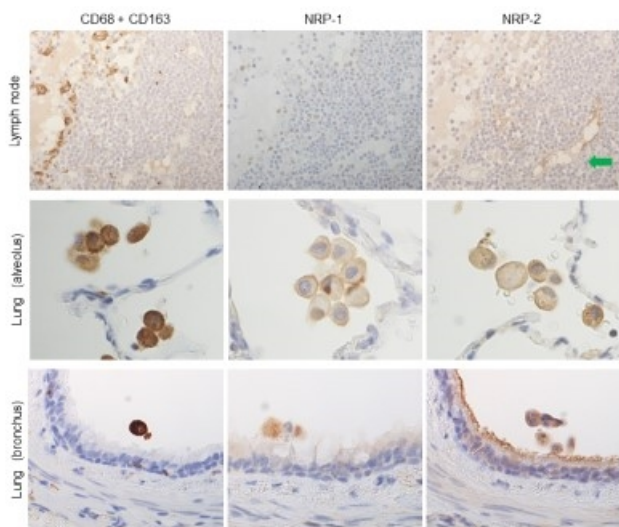
- Originally identified based on its role in axon guidance during neuronal development
- Subsequently shown to be a pleiotropic receptor that can regulate diverse pathways
  - Binds multiple ligands
  - Pairs with multiple co-receptors
- Widely distributed, though often held intracellularly and transported to the cell surface under specific stress/activation conditions
- Type I transmembrane glycoprotein of approx. 120kDa (926 amino acids)
- 5 defined extracellular domains
- Small intracellular domain (46 amino acids) has limited signaling ability

# NRP-2 Utilizes Common Mechanisms to Regulate Diverse Pathways

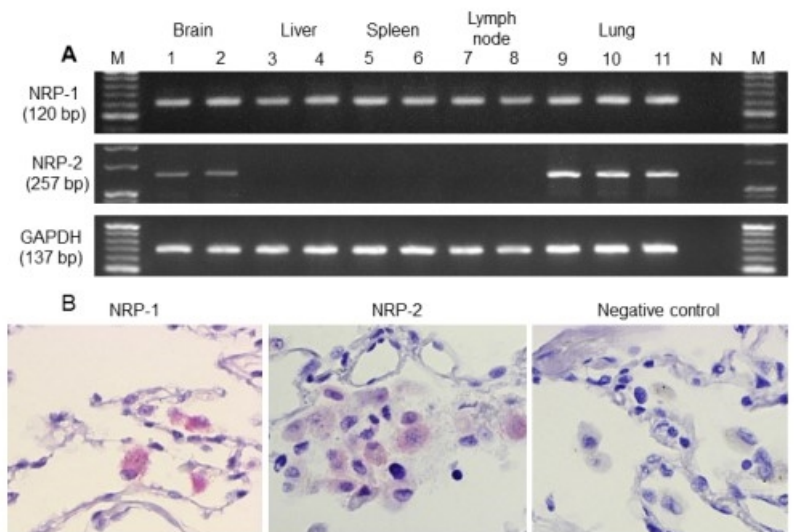




# NRP-2 is Highly Expressed in Alveolar Macrophages



**Fig 2.** NRPs expression in tissue-specific macrophages compared to immunostaining with a cocktail of anti-CD68 and anti-CD163 antibodies. Expression was detected in alveolar macrophages in lung, but not in lymph node (sinus macrophages). And NRP-1 and NRP-2 also expressed on bronchial macrophages. Green arrow indicates NRP-2 expression on lymphatic vascular endothelium, used as positive control. Serial sections were counterstained with hematoxylin. NRP-1, neuropilin 1; NRP-2, neuropilin 2.



**Fig 4.** NRPs mRNAs expression in normal tissues (RT-PCR) and on alveolar macrophages in physiologically normal lung (in situ-PCR). (A) By reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), N represents the negative control, and M represents the 20 base-pair DNA ladder. (B) NRP-1 and NRP-2 mRNAs of alveolar macrophages in physiologically normal lung by in situ-polymerase chain reaction (in situ-PCR). NRP-1, neuropilin 1; NRP-2, neuropilin 2; GAPDH, glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase.

**Table 3. Comparison of neuropilin-1 (NRP-1) and neuropilin-2 (NRP-2) expression on alveolar macrophages in lung cancer adjacent to the cancer margin, lung inflammation and lung tissue remote to the cancer nest (physiologically normal lung).**

Cases/Diseases	Number of NRP-1 positive cells <sup>A)</sup> (mean ± SD)	Number of NRP-2 positive cells <sup>A)</sup> (mean ± SD)
Adenocarcinoma (n = 15)	38.3 ± 8.9 <sup>±, *</sup>	37.8 ± 9.20 <sup>±, *</sup>
Squamous cell carcinoma (n = 15)	46.7 ± 9.2 <sup>*, ***</sup>	48.1 ± 10.7 <sup>*, ***</sup>
Inflamed lung (n = 20)	25.1 ± 9.1 <sup>*, ** ±</sup>	24.5 ± 12.1 <sup>*, ** ±</sup>
Physiologically normal lung (n = 5)	9.2 ± 3.8 <sup>*, ***, *</sup>	8.9 ± 3.9 <sup>*, ***, *</sup>

## Recent Publications

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- Schellenberg et al. *Role of Neuropilin-2 in the Immune System*. Mol. Immunology. 2017
- Roy et al. *Multifaceted Role of Neuropilins in the Immune System: Potential Targets for Immunotherapy*. Frontiers in Immunology. 2017
- Immormino et al. *Neuropilin-2 Regulates Airway Inflammatory Responses to Inhaled Lipopolysaccharide*. Am J of Physiology. 2018
- Mucka et al. *Inflammation and Lymphedema Are Exacerbated and Prolonged by Neuropilin 2 Deficiency*. Am J of Pathology. 2016

