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Leader in Targeted Protein Modulation

NX-1607: a First-In-Class Inhibitor of Casitas Blineage Lymphoma B (CBL-B) for Immuno-Oncology

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CBL-B Is a Modulator of Immune Cell Activation

- CBL-B is an E3 ubiquitin ligase highly expressed in cells of the immune system
- CBL-B regulates T, B, and NK cell activation
- Blocking CBL-B removes a brake on the immune system
- *cbl-b* deficient mice demonstrate robust T-cell and NK cell-mediated antitumor immunity



Loss of CBL-B Activity Results in Enhanced T-cell Activation

KO and ligase inactive (KI) T-cells exhibit increased IL-2 secretion upon *ex vivo* stimulation



Ligase-dead or KO exhibit enhanced and equivalent response to either single or double stimulation

Ligase-inactive *cbl-b* knock-in mice exhibit tumor growth inhibition (TC-1 syngeneic model)



Activation of CBL-B Requires Phosphorylation



NRX-3 Is a Specific, Intramolecular Glue Inhibitor of CBL-B



SRC counter-screen



NRX-1 Singleton hit from 300K HTS screen



NRX-3 Resolved Screening hit mw = 338; LE = 0.29







Testing Funnel Designed to Identify Optimal T-cell Activators



- T-cell activation assays (*in vitro/vivo*) were primary drivers of optimization
- In vitro ADMET was collected in parallel with in vivo assays

Cytokine Release Assay for T-cell Activation



Cytokine Release Assay for T-cell Activation



Mouse PK/PD Assay for T-cell Activation



Amide Series Provided Early POC



First confirmation that CBL-B inhibition reproduces the genetic phenotype.



CT26 Syngeneic Model



Cyclizing the Amide Solves the Variable Plasma Stability Problem



	NRX-5	NRX-9	NRX-10	NRX-11
CBL-B E2-Ub: IC ₅₀ (µM)	0.092	0.62	0.18	0.059
Hep Stability h/m (pred CL hep, ml/min/kg)				15/77
Plasma stability m/r T _{1/2} (min)	140/-			>1000/>1000

1,2,4-Triazole is the Optimal Heterocycle for CBL-B Affinity





- Two H-bond acceptors required for affinity
- N-Methyl is the optimal ring substituent for affinity

Spacer SAR for Affinity and Metabolic Stability



Spacer SAR for Affinity and Metabolic Stability

		F_3C X N							
	X =	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		22 OH	H, H VC SS	H, , , , H N	n zy	F J	No No
		NRX-11	NRX-19	NRX-20	NRX-21	NRX-22	NRX-23	NRX-24	NRX-25
CBL-B E2	-Ub IC ₅₀ (µM)	0.056	0.15	6.9	0.33	0.039	0.045	0.025	0.067
⊺-cell ∏ Hep	L-2 2.5x (μ M) Stability h/m	1.5	0.44	-	2.2	0.21	0.34	0.13	2.5
(pred CL hep	o, ml/min/kg)	15/76	1.7/35	<8/<28	<8/50	<8/79			<8/<28
	Dose mg/kd; freq	180; BID#			180;BID#	[#] BID dose	s at T 0, 8h		
Mouse	Free Conc 2h/6h (µM)	0.44/0.11			4.3/2.6				
РКРО	Fold increase CD25+/CD4	2.3			2.6				
nuríx	+ cells (24h)								15

Co-Crystal Structures Suggest a New Pocket for Affinity



Piperidines and Pyrrolidines Optimally Fill the New Pocket



F F



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1111	1111
	F
	F N

	NRX-25	NRX-26	NRX-27	NRX-28	NRX-29	NRX-30	NRX-31
CBL-B E2-Ub IC ₅₀ (nM)	150	5.1	5.1	4.8	6.2	8.8	4.9
TR-FRET Probe Displacement (nM)		9.1	4.2	4.7	8.6	2.0	1.6
T-cell IL-2 AUC		32.2	38	43.1	39	23.4	54
T-cell IL-2 2.5x (nM)	2500	72.1	6.4	12.8	17.6	6.3	0.38
Hepatocyte Stability h/m (pred CL hep, ml/min/kg)	<8/<28	<8/58	<8/70	<8/67	<8/54	13/75	14/61



Piperidines and Pyrrolidines Optimally Fill the New Pocket

	$F_{3}C$ N N							
	н	F/,,N	∧	F	F F		F F	
	NRX-25	NRX-26	NRX-27	NRX-28	NRX-29	NRX-30	NRX-31	
CBL-B E2-Ub IC ₅₀ (nM)	150	5.1	5.1	4.8	6.2	8.8	4.9	
TR-FRET Probe Displacement (nM)		9.1	4.2	4.7	8.6	2.0	1.6	
T-cell IL-2 AUC		32.2	38	43.1	39	23.4	54	
T-cell IL-2 2.5x (nM)	2500	72.1	6.4	12.8	17.6	6.3	0.38	
Hepatocyte Stability h/m (pred CL hep, ml/min/kg)	<8/<28	<8/58	<8/70	<8/67	<8/54	13/75	14/61	

CBL-B E2-Ub assay bottom is ~10 nM; Probe Displacement assay bottom is ~1 nM

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Hypothesis: Slow Off-rate Drives T-cell Activity



Structural Hypothesis for Slow Off-Rate

Overlay of crystal structures of 5 inhibitor structures with CBL-B that either do not fill or sub-optimally fill the second pocket (Cyan) shows a highly consistent protein structure



Structural Hypothesis for Slow Off-Rate

Overlay of 5 inhibitor-bound crystal structures of CBL-B that either do not fill or sub-optimally fill the second pocket (Cyan) shows a highly consistent protein structure

Overlay of 6 crystal structures of inhibitors with slightly larger substituents reveals a large movement in the pro-pro loop (Gold)



T-cell Activity Drives in vivo PD



		NRX-26	NRX-27	NRX-28	NR	< -31
	T-cell IL-2 2.5x (nM)	72.1	6.4	12.8	0.3	38
	Hepatocyte Stability h/m (pred CL hep, ml/min/kg)	<8/58	<8/70	<8/67	14,	/61
Mouse	Dose mg/kg; freq Free Conc 2h/7.5h (nM)	180/BID# 200/-	180/BID# 830/54	135/BID# 455/22	180/BID# 844/100	90/QD 830/19
PKPD	Fold increase CD25+/CD4+ cells (24h)	1.3	2.0	1.6	3.6	2.2

[#]BID doses at T 0, 8h

Shortened Linkers Provide Improved Activity





Shortened Linkers Provide Improved Activity



[#]BID doses at T 0, 8h

Shortened Spacer Molecules Maintain Key Interactions



NRX-31





NX-1607

Over 10,000-fold Enzymatic Potency Improvement Achieved While Improving Molecular Properties







NX-1607 and Anti-PD-1 Synergize to Enhance Survival in Multiple Models



Vehicle * NX-1607 + anti-PD-1 + NX-1607+anti-PD-1

Shaded area indicates dosing period: NX-1607 (30 mg/kg, PO daily) and anti-PD-1 (twice a week at 10 mg/kg)

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NX-1607 Cross-Species PK

Cross-Species PK Findings

Parameters	Unit	Mouse	Rat	Dog	NHP
IV Dose	mg/kg	1	1	1	0.5
PO Dose	mg/kg	10	10	10	10
CI	mL/min/kg	59	40	16	27
CL	%Q	49	59	52	61
Vss	L/kg	1.4	3.2	2.0	2.8
IV T $_{\rm 1/2}$	h	0.33	1.4	1.7	1.6
F	%	25	0.23	48	7
PPB	% bound	97.3	96.2	94.6	96.2

Mean Plasma vs Time profiles for NX-1607 after 10 mg/kg PO Dose



- NX-1607 has CL rates ~50% of LBF across preclinical species
- Is moderately bound to plasma
- Has moderate to good oral bioavailability (except in rat)

NX-1607 Displays Favorable in vitro Safety Profile



SPR sensogram for the binding kinetics and affinity measurements of NX-1607 to CBL-B.

The dark red curves are fitted curves generated from a 1:1 binding model.

NX-1607 Properties						
Parameter	Value					
mw	537.6 amu					
pKa/LogD _{7.4}	8.3/3.5					
Solubility (PBS, pH=7.4)	230 uM					
K _D CBL-B (nM) spr	0.4					
K _D C-CBL (nM) spr	1.43					
CACO Permeability A-B(10 ⁻⁶ cm/sec) B-A Ratio	18.3 2.3					
hPPB	97.1					
CYP (%I @ 10 uM) 1A2/2B6/2C9/2C19/2D6/	14/18/48/42/28					
CYP3A4 IC ₅₀ , uM Tst/mid	3.9/6.0					
GSH trapping/TDI	Neg					
Ames/MNT (+/- S9)	Neg					

Concentration-response relationship of NX-1607 on hERG current



- Measured IC₅₀ (CEREP&hERG) values are >100X predicted efficacious free drug concentration in patients
- 28-day Tox studies in rat and NHP were supportive of advancement to clinical testing.

NX-1607-101 Interim Clinical PK Results Suggest Linear PK

Preliminary PK data suggest NX-1607 has dose-proportional exposures and a mean half-life of 6 to 8 hours at doses ranging from 5 to 50 mg (NCT05107674).



Dose-proportional increases in PK/PD observed in NX-1607-101 clinical trial are consistent with the potent anti-tumor activity seen in preclinical mouse models:

Whelan, S., et al. (2022) Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) 2022, Boston, MA.

_	Cycle 1 Day 1						
Dose	C _{max}	AUC _{0-last}	T _{max}	t _{1/2}			
	(ng/mL)	(h*ng/mL)	(h)	(h)			
5 mg (n=1)	4.35	26.2	2.0	7.72			
15 mg	16.2	129	2.0	7.14			
(n=9)	(38.5)	(33.4)	(1.5 - 6.0)	(19.8)			
25 mg	30.1	201	1.5	6.82			
(n=6)	(109)	(103)	(1.0 - 3.0)	(27.5)			
50 mg	79.2	502	2.5	5.88			
(n=2)	(134)	(113)	(2.0 - 3.0)	(7.7)			

 C_{max} and AUC_{0-last} are presented as geometric mean (geometric %CV); T_{max} is presented as median (range); $t_{1/2}$ is presented as mean (%CV)

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- A novel HTS assay was developed to screen for multiple modes of CBL-B inhibition
- A singleton hit was confirmed to be an intramolecular glue, stabilizing the closed, inactive state of the ligase
- The compound series was optimized for T-cell activation leveraging in vitro and in vivo assays
- NX-1607:
 - Single-agent efficacy in multiple mouse tumor models
 - Synergizes with anti-PD1
 - Pre-clinical safety profile supportive of clinical study
 - Currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial (NCT05107674)
 - Linear PK from 5 to 50 mg