



Leader in Targeted Protein Modulation

Targeting Degradable to the CNS for the Treatment of Cancer

Educational Session

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AACR

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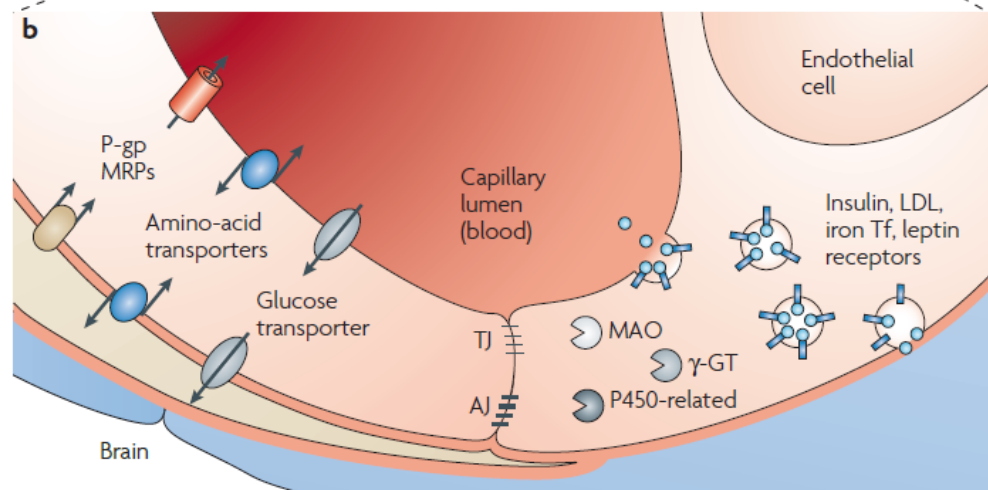
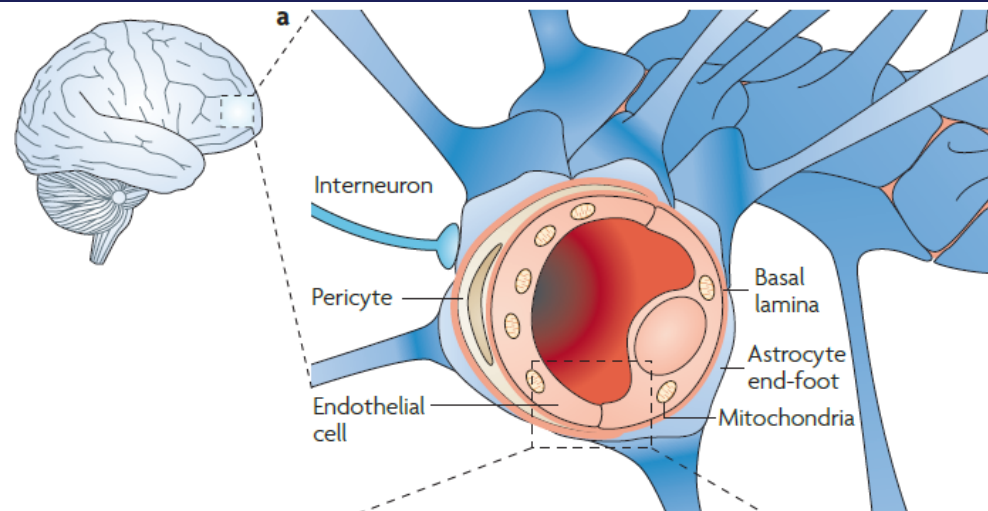
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Designing Compounds With Optimal CNS Exposure:

For *small molecule* drugs, established metrics can aid in CNS-penetrant designs



- The BBB is a selective barrier that protects the brain from harmful compounds and precisely regulates its microenvironment
- The CNS multiparameter optimization score (MPO score) defines chemical properties that are optimal for CNS therapeutic agents
- Determining the parameters and characteristics that predict CNS exposure of degraders are of high interest

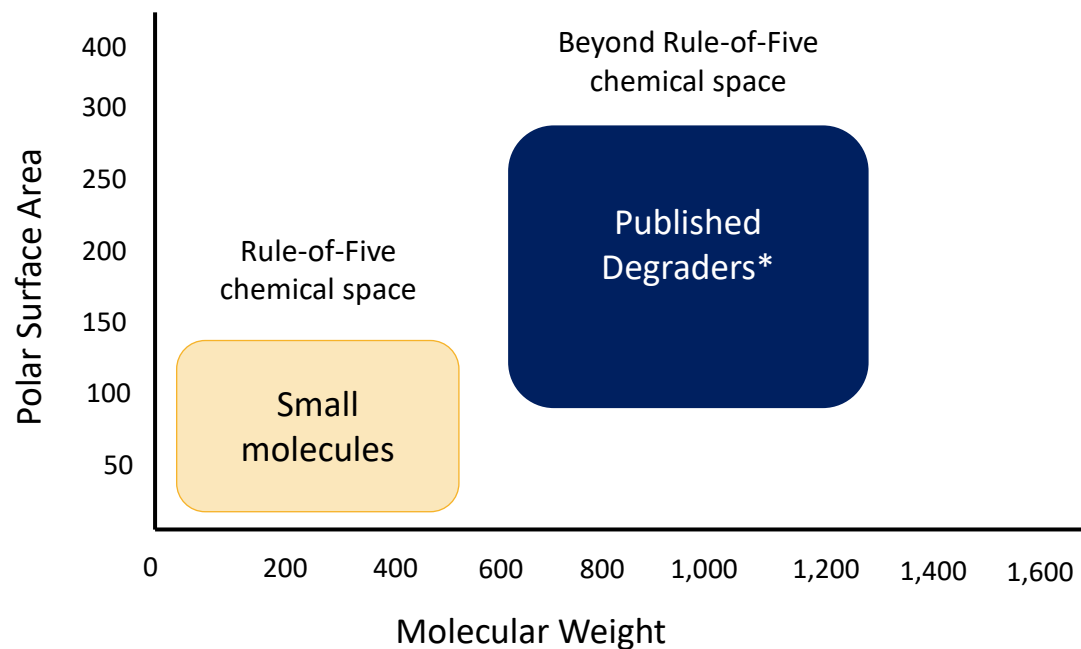
CNS MPO Properties and Parameter Ranges

Property	More Desirable	Less Desirable
ClogP	≤ 3	≥ 5
ClogD	≤ 2	≥ 4
MW	≤ 360	≥ 500
TPSA	40 to 90	$< 20, > 120$
HBD	≤ 1	≥ 4
pKa	≤ 8	≥ 10

Each property assigned a score from 0.0 to 1.0 and summed. 77% of marketed CNS drugs had an MPO score ≥ 4.0 (Wager, et al., *ACS Chem Neuro*, 2016)

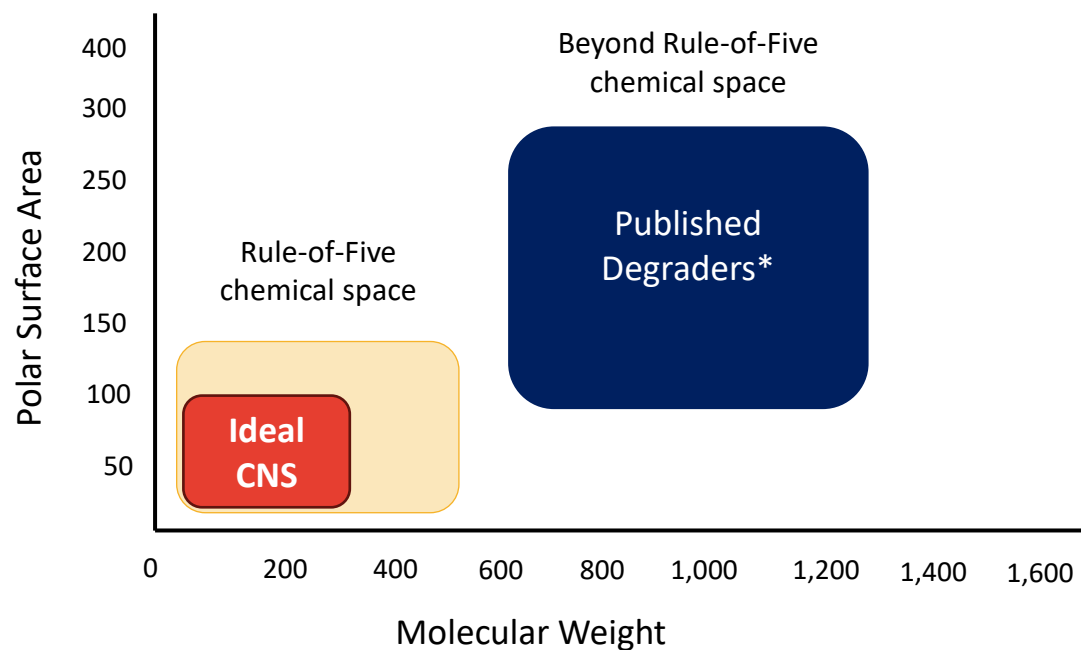
Degraders Occupy Non-Traditional Chemical Space Where Historical Rules Don't Apply

Degraders occupy space 'Beyond-the-Rule-of-Five' where established guidelines for physicochemical properties associated with drug-likeness can't easily be applied



Degraders Occupy Non-Traditional Chemical Space Where Historical Rules Don't Apply

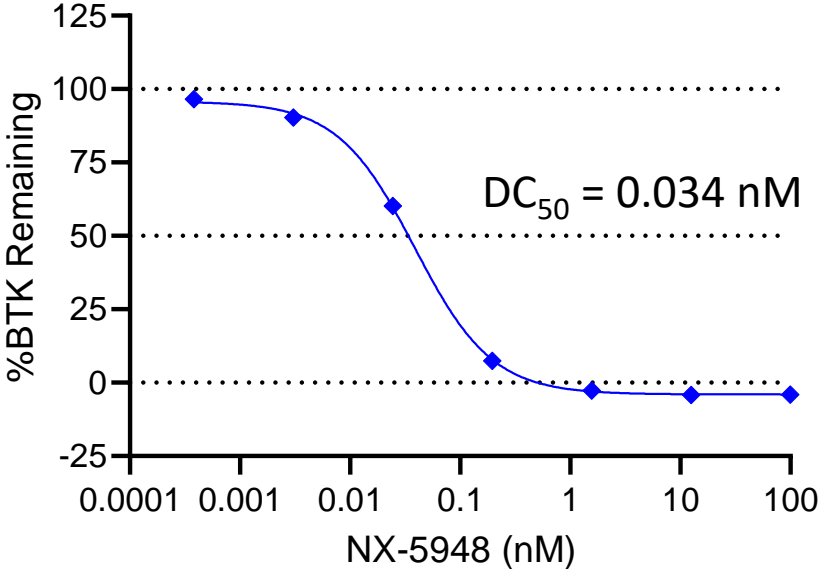
Designing blood-brain-barrier penetration in the bifunctional targeted protein degrader space is particularly challenging due to well-established limitations on both molecular weight and polar surface area



Case Study: BTK Degradation NX-5948 for the Treatment of B cell Malignancies

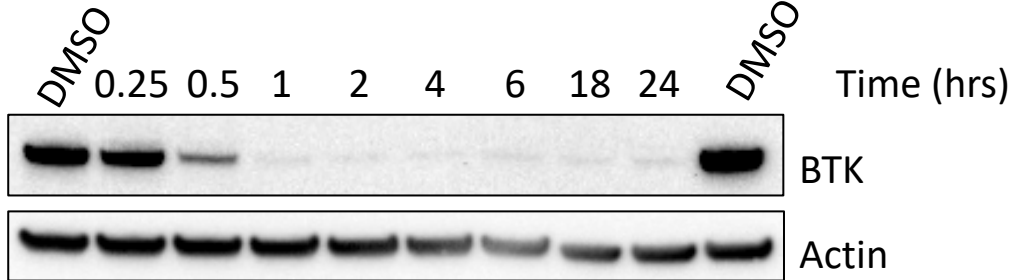
Optimized for Cellular Potency and Oral Bioavailability

Primary Human B cells



N=3 independent donors
4 hour treatment
SEM error bars are smaller than symbols

Ramos Cells (Human Burkitt Lymphoma)



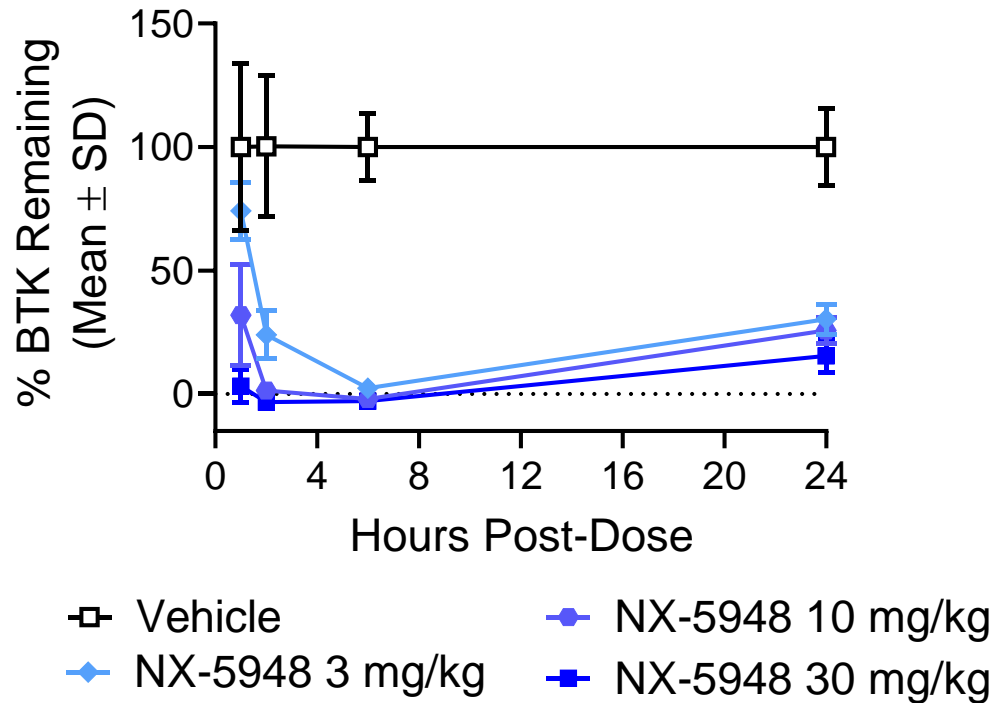
10 nM NX-5948

Case Study: BTK Degradation NX-5948 for the Treatment of B cell Malignancies

Optimized for Cellular Potency and Oral Bioavailability

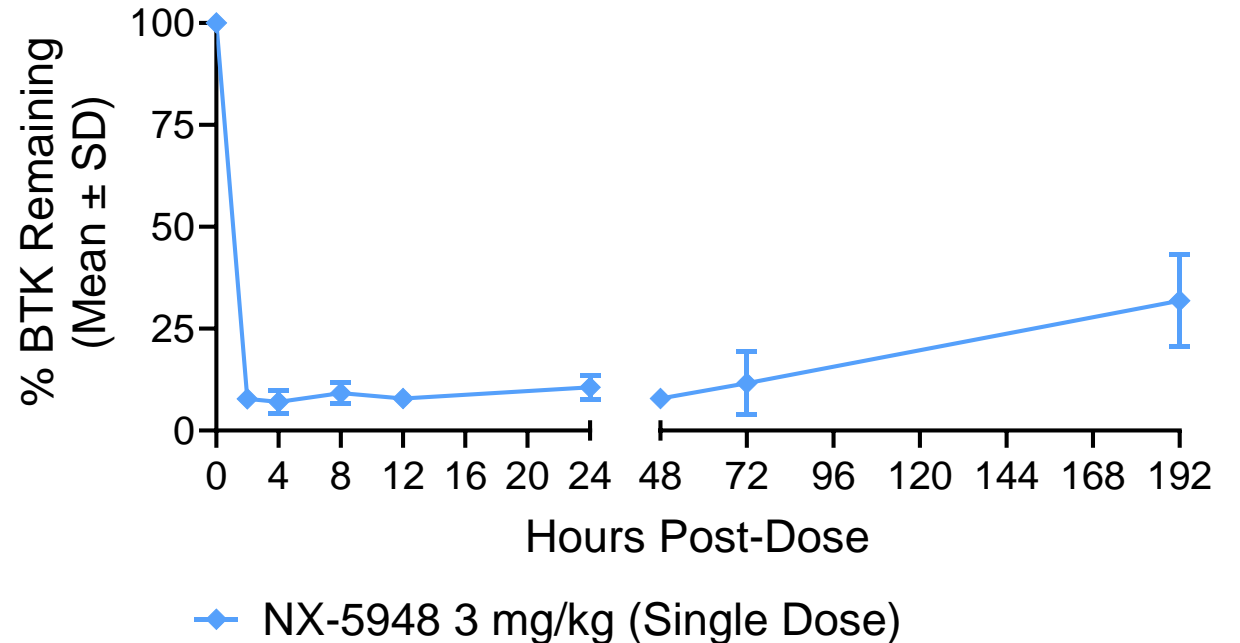
- A Single Oral Dose of NX-5948 Promotes Rapid and Complete BTK Degradation in Mouse and NHP B cells

BTK Levels in Mouse Circulating B Cells



In mice, BTK levels increased 24 hours after single dose

BTK Levels in NHP Circulating B Cells

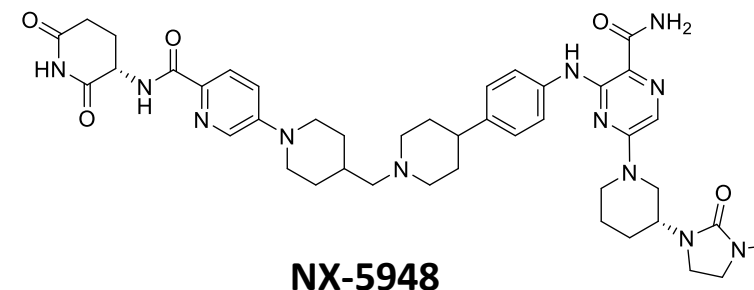
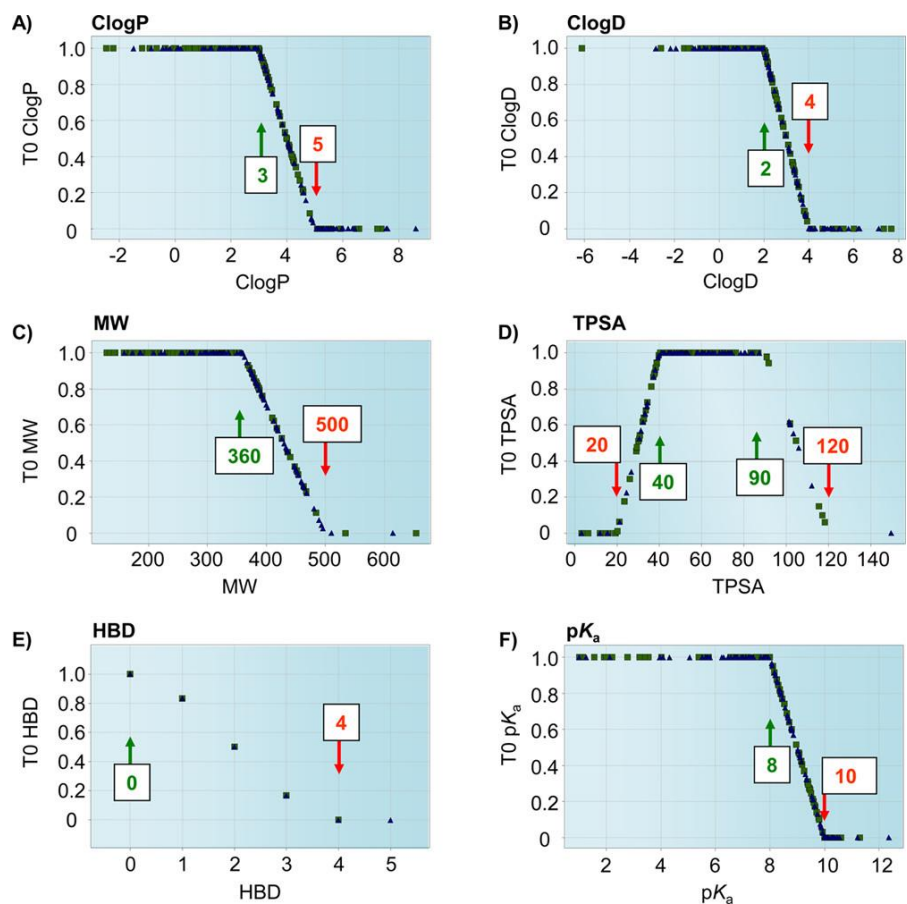


In cynomolgus monkeys, BTK levels remained suppressed at 48 hours and return to 32% of baseline after 8 days

Case Study: BTK Degradar NX-5948 for the Treatment of B cell Malignancies

Existing metrics for predicting CNS penetration suggest NX-5948 unlikely to show CNS exposure

Six property desirability functions used to generate the CNS MPO

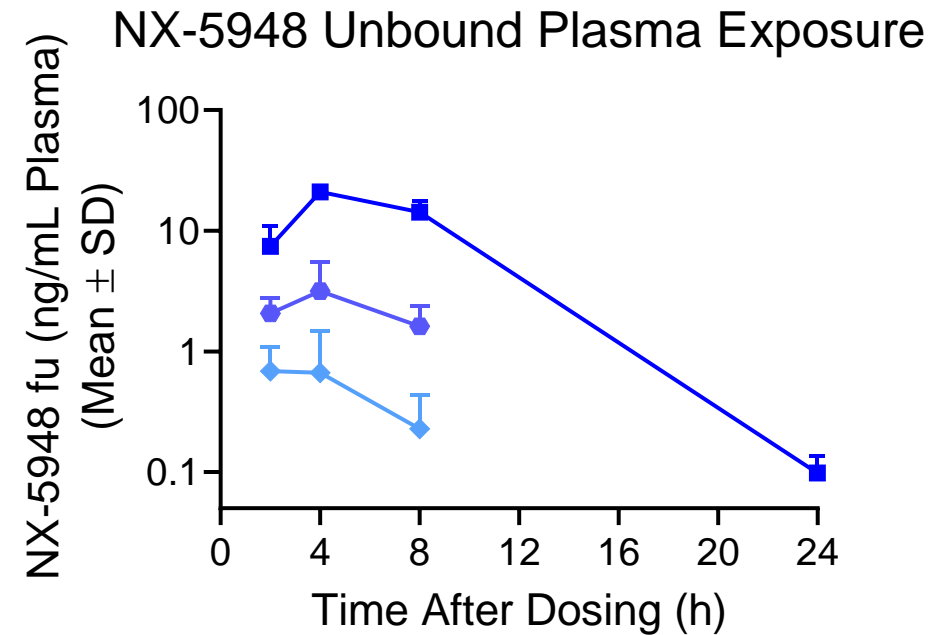
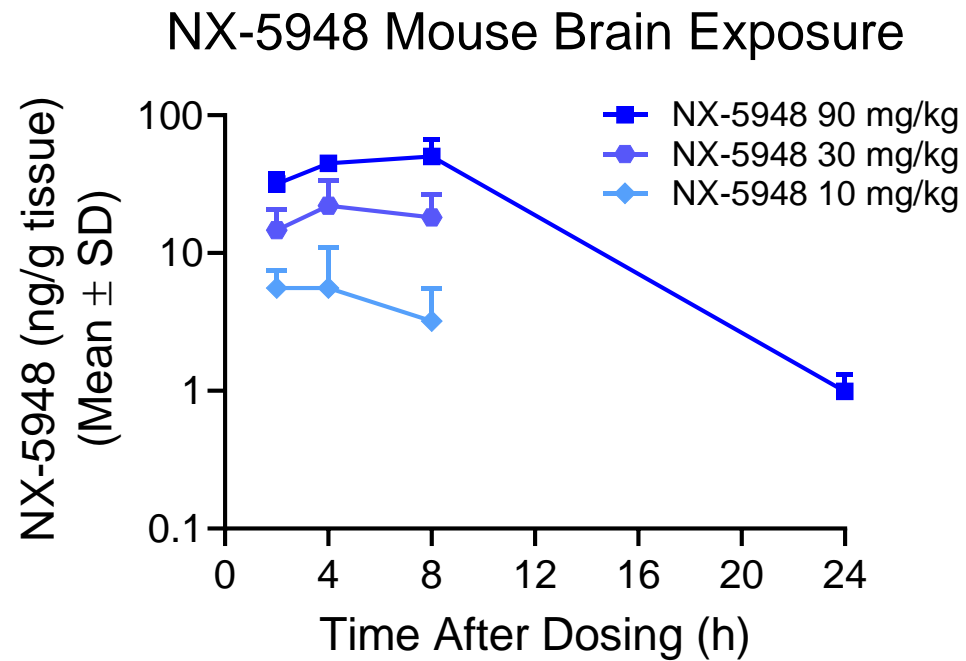


Property	More Desirable	Less Desirable	NX-5948 Property value	NX-5948 MPO score
ClogP	≤ 3	> 5	3.6	0.7
ClogD	≤ 2	> 4	0.9	1.0
MW	≤ 360	> 500	807	0
TPSA	40 to 90	$\leq 20, > 120$	202	0
HBD	≤ 1	> 4	5	0
pKa	≤ 8	> 10	9.1*	0.45
				Total = 2.2

*Measured pKa

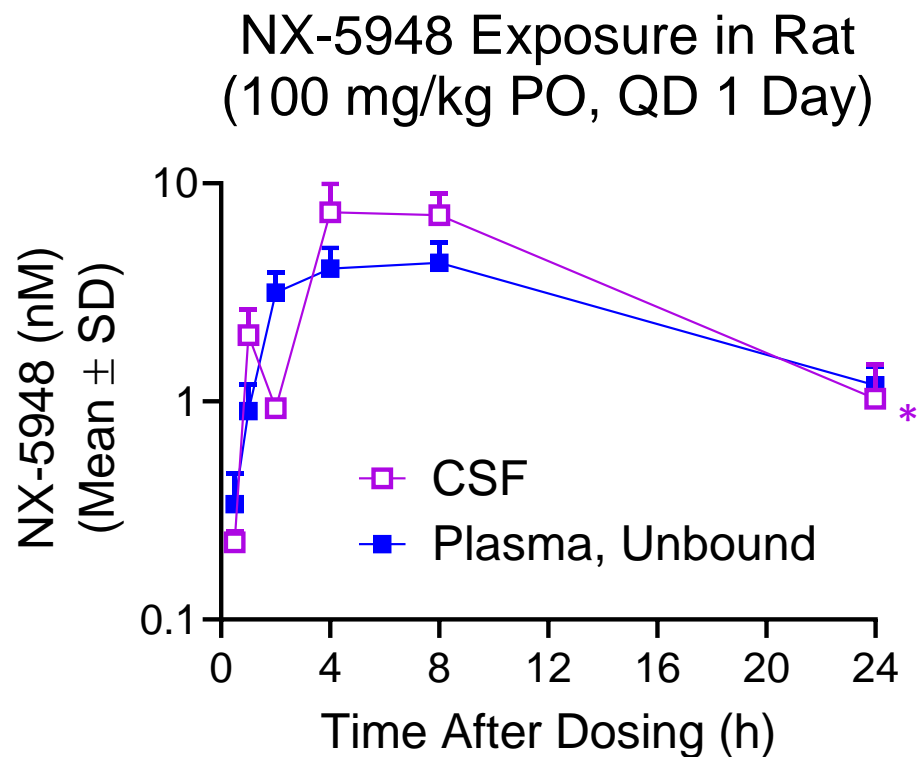
MPO > 4 generally required for CNS small molecules

However, a Single Oral Dose of NX-5948 in Mice Results in Dose-Dependent CNS Tissue Exposure

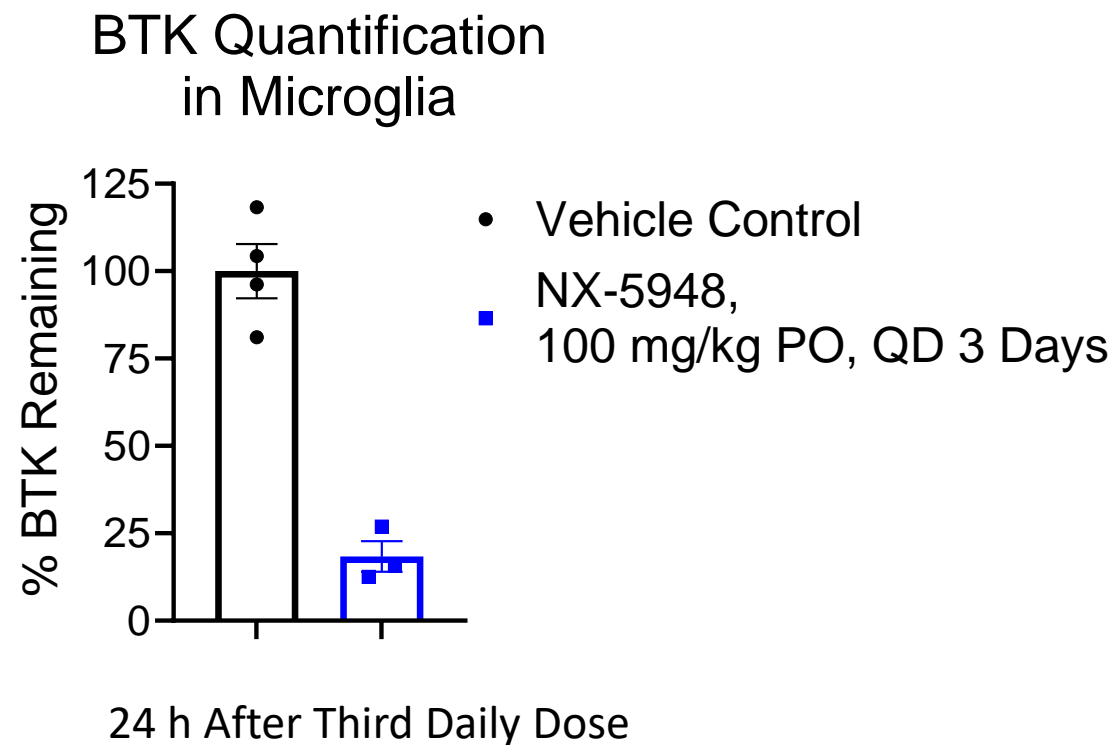


Mouse plasma protein binding = 99.6%

A More Detailed Study in the Rat Shows Oral Dosing of NX-5948 Results in Similar CSF and Unbound Plasma Exposures and Degrades BTK in Microglia



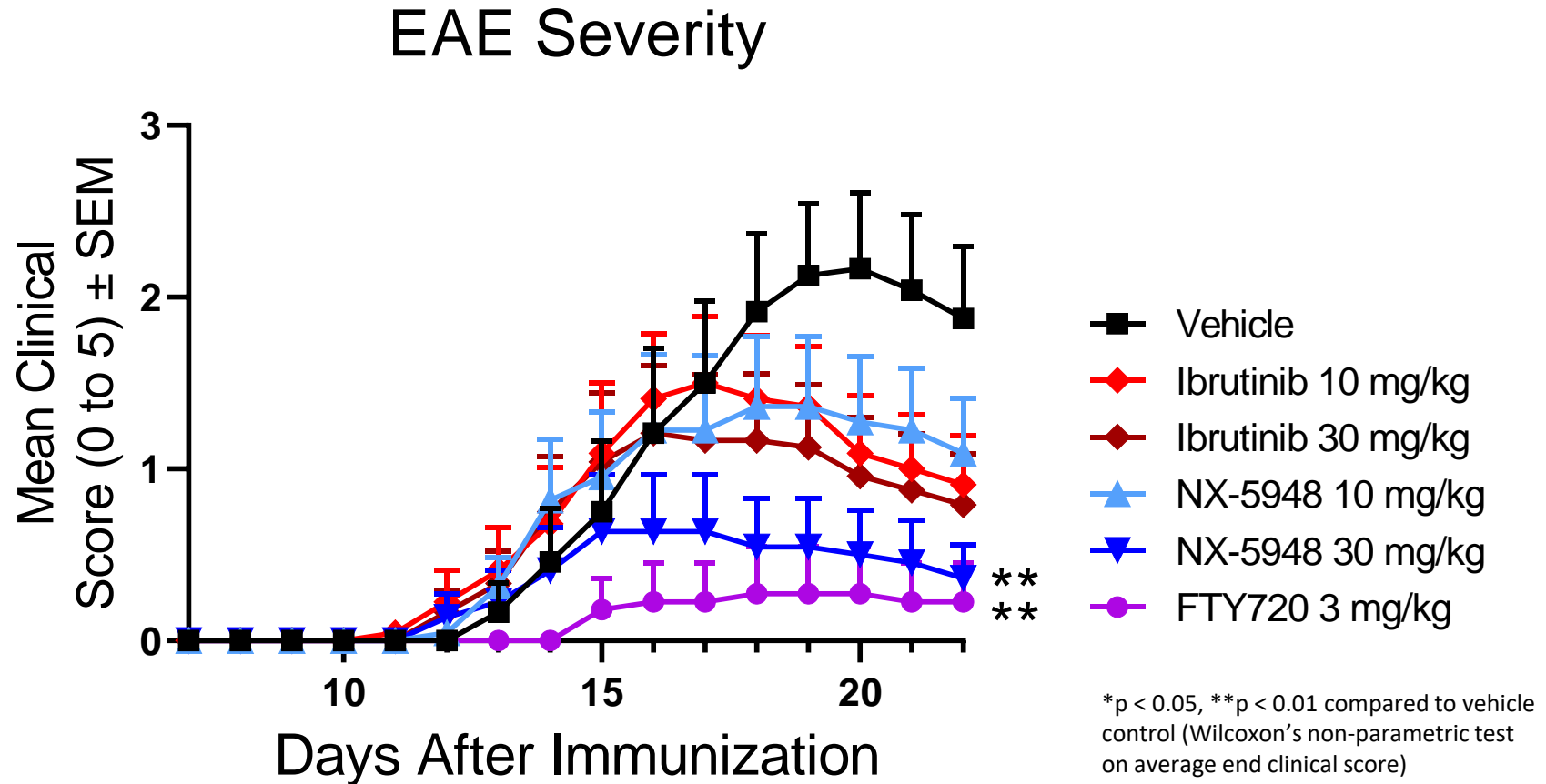
Rat plasma protein binding = 98.4%



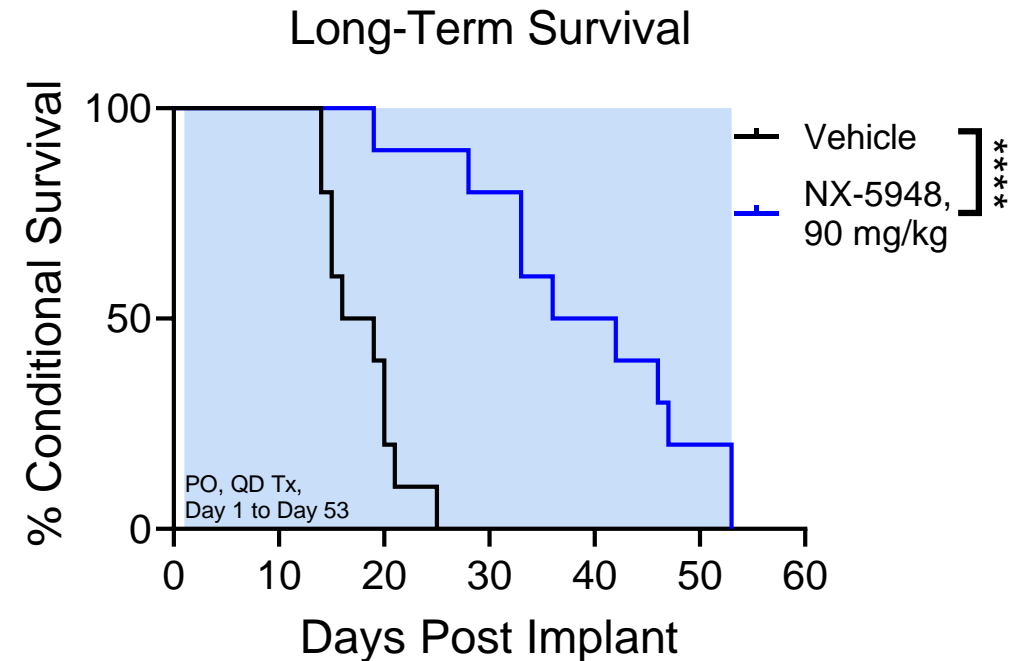
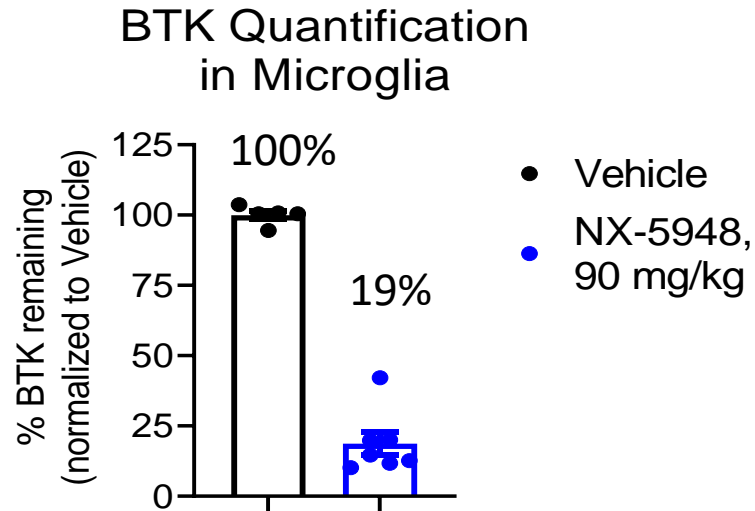
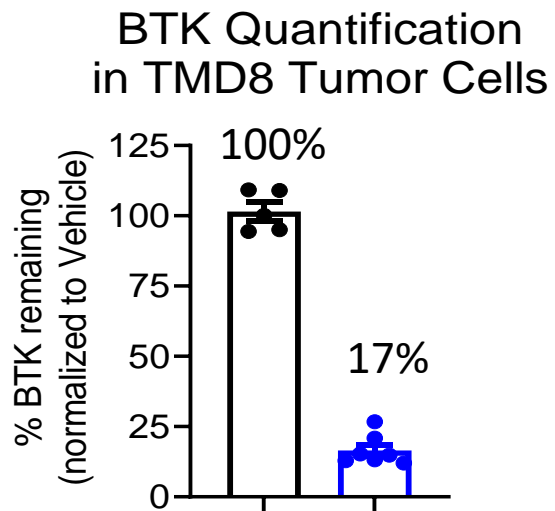
*One of three CSF samples collected at 24 h was excluded as an outlier based on criteria defined by Motulsky et al., Detecting outliers when fitting data with nonlinear regression – a new method based on robust nonlinear regression and the false discovery rate. BMC Bioinformatics 7, 123 (2006).

NX-5948 Superior to Ibrutinib in Preclinical Model of CNS Disease

Experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), a model of multiple sclerosis



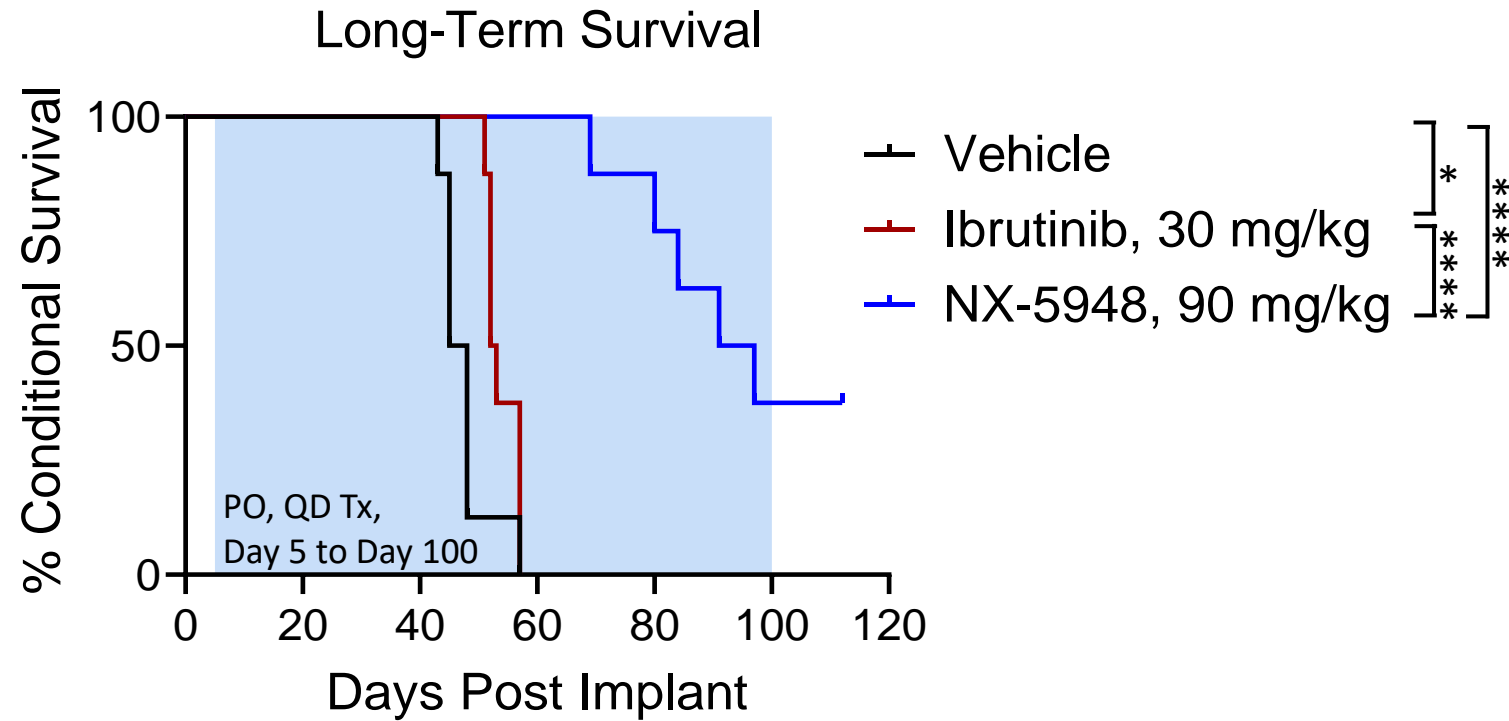
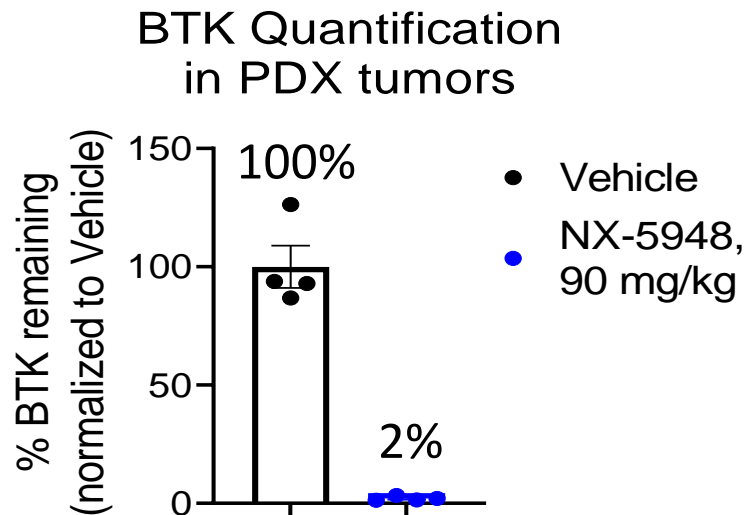
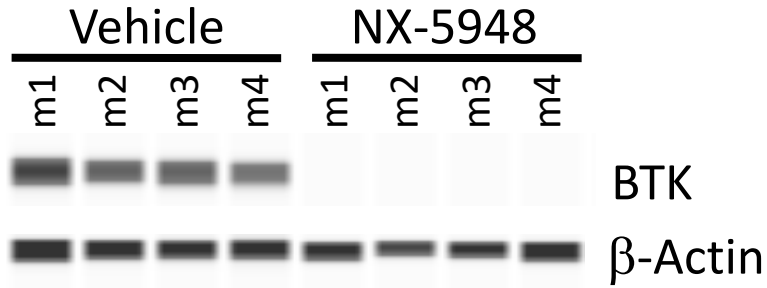
Daily Oral Administration of NX-5948 to Mice With Intracranial TMD8 DLBCL Tumors Degrades BTK in Brain-Resident Cells and Prolongs Survival



5 x 10⁵ TMD8 cells implanted by intracranial injection on Day 0
 NX-5948 administered orally QD Days 1-11 (left) or Days 1-53 (right)
 BTK levels assessed 24 h after the 11th dose by flow cytometry

****p < 0.0001 compared to vehicle control (Log-rank test)

Daily Oral Administration of NX-5948 to Mice Implanted with Intracranial DLBCL PDX Cells Drives Potent BTK Degradation and Prolongs Survival

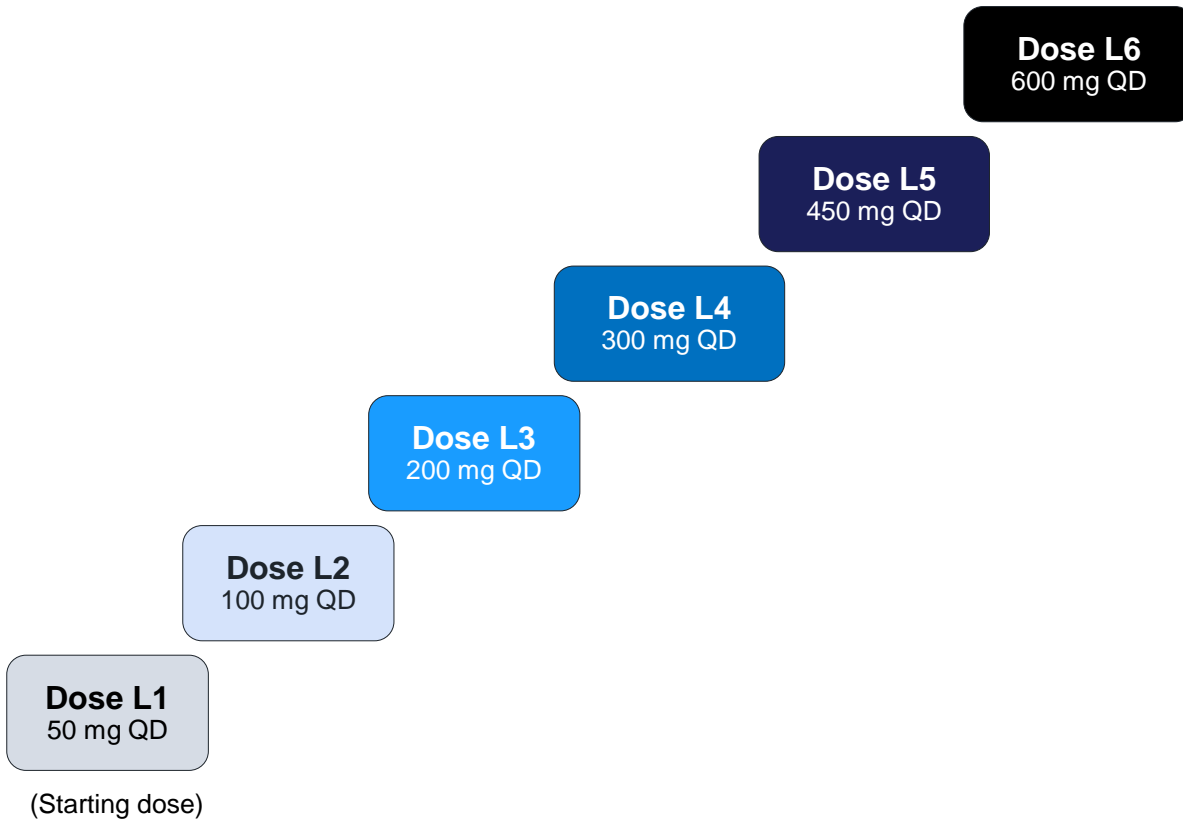


SC1 cells are derived from a patient with highly refractory CD79b and EVT6-mutant large B-cell secondary CNS lymphoma, resistant to R-CHOP, high-dose methotrexate/rituximab, etoposide, Ara-C and irradiation.

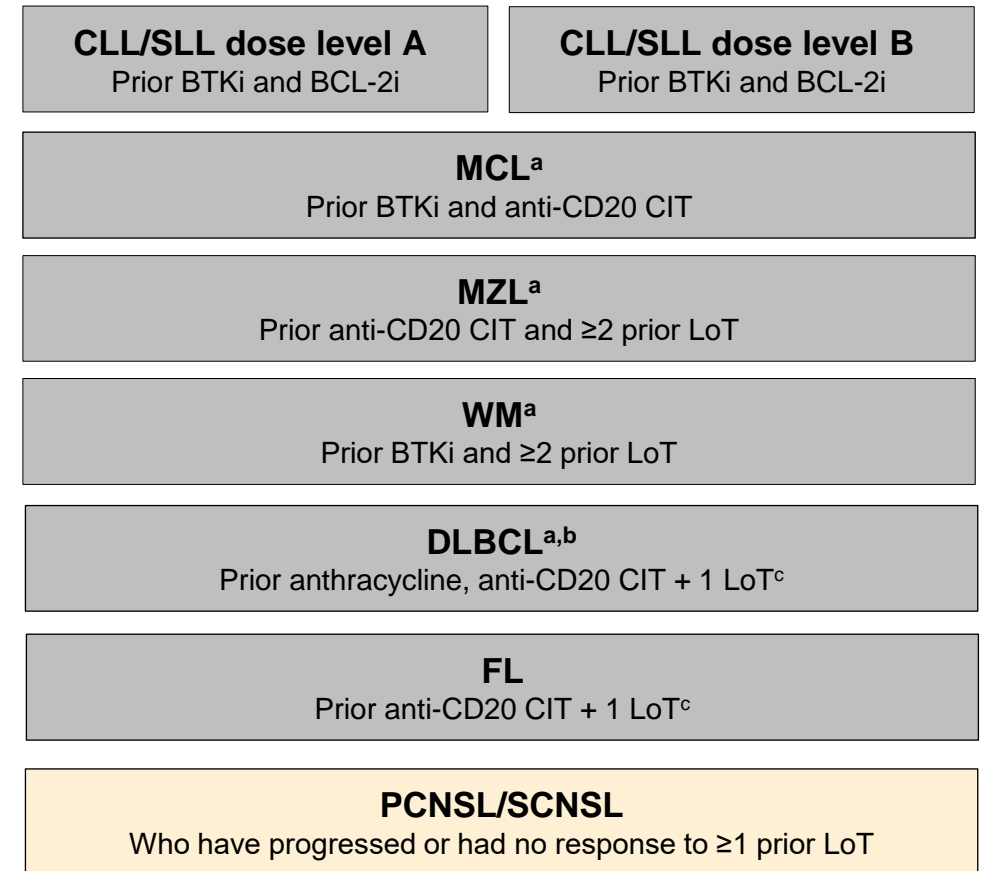
Phase 1 Trial of NX-5948 in Adults With Advanced B-cell Malignancies

Only BTK Degradator trial to permit patients with CNS involvement at baseline

Phase 1a dose escalation B-cell malignancies (N = up to 66 CLL and up to 66 NHL/WM)



Potential Phase 1b dose expansion (N = up to 160 patients)



Can We Identify Additional CNS-Penetrant Degraders?

>12,000 Nurix degraders designed between 2022-2023 plotted by MW vs PSA



Compounds represent 34 programs, colored by target

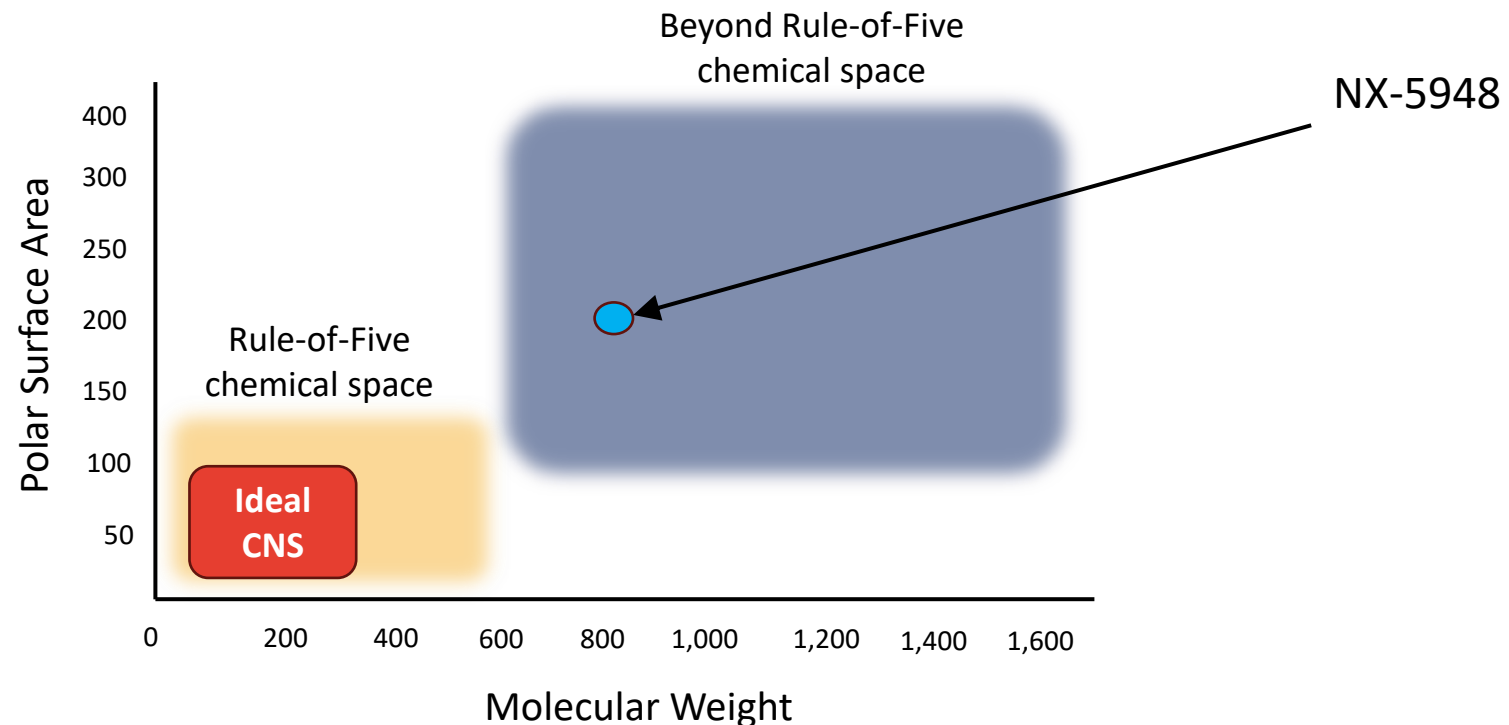
Broad property space anchored by profile of POI binder

Represents a larger property range vs public database

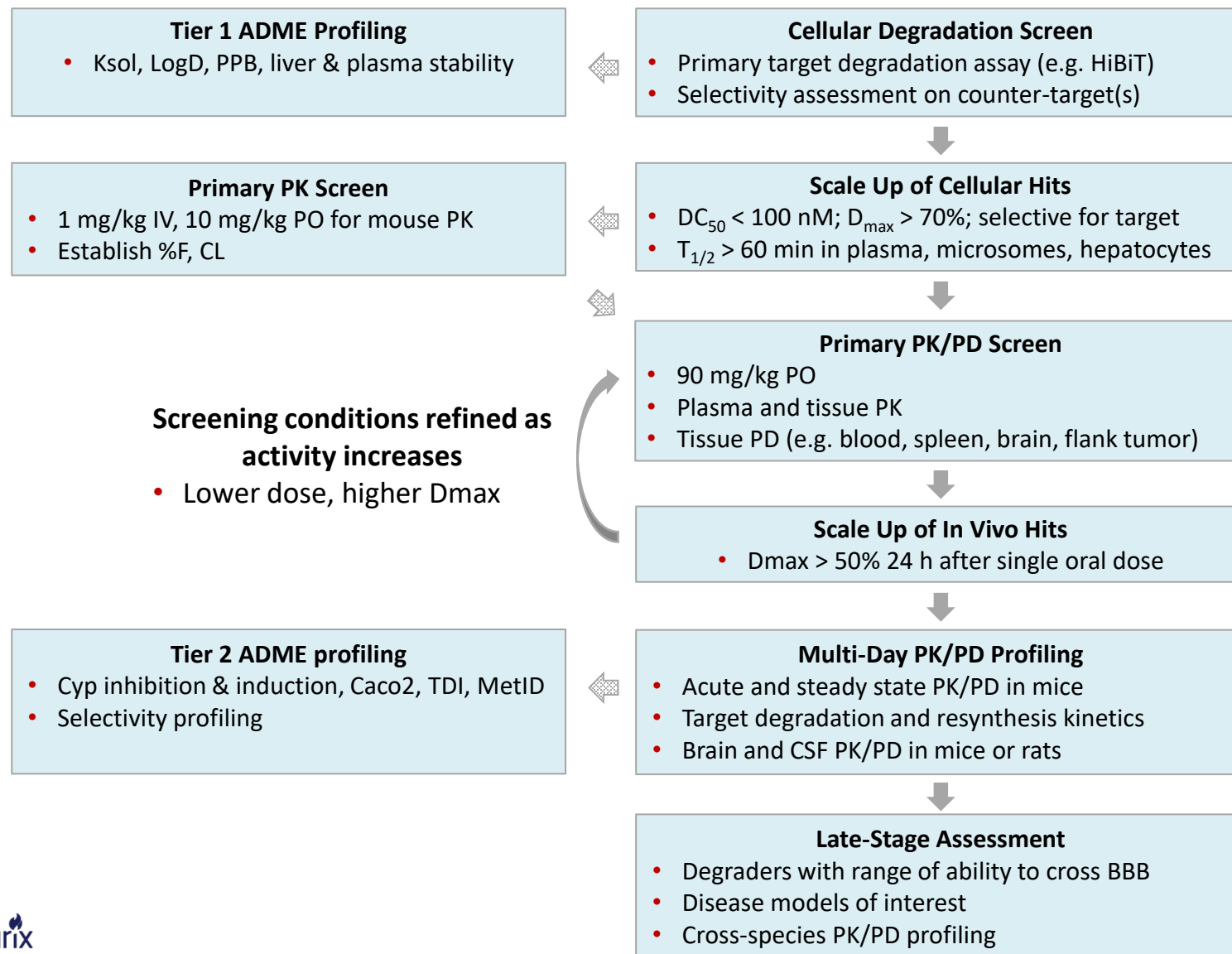
When You Lack a Rulebook, You Screen

CNS-penetrant drugs occupy a small quadrant of the traditional small molecule chemical space

What Parameters Define CNS-Penetrant Degraders?



Empirical Testing Funnel for Identifying Degraders that Cross the BBB



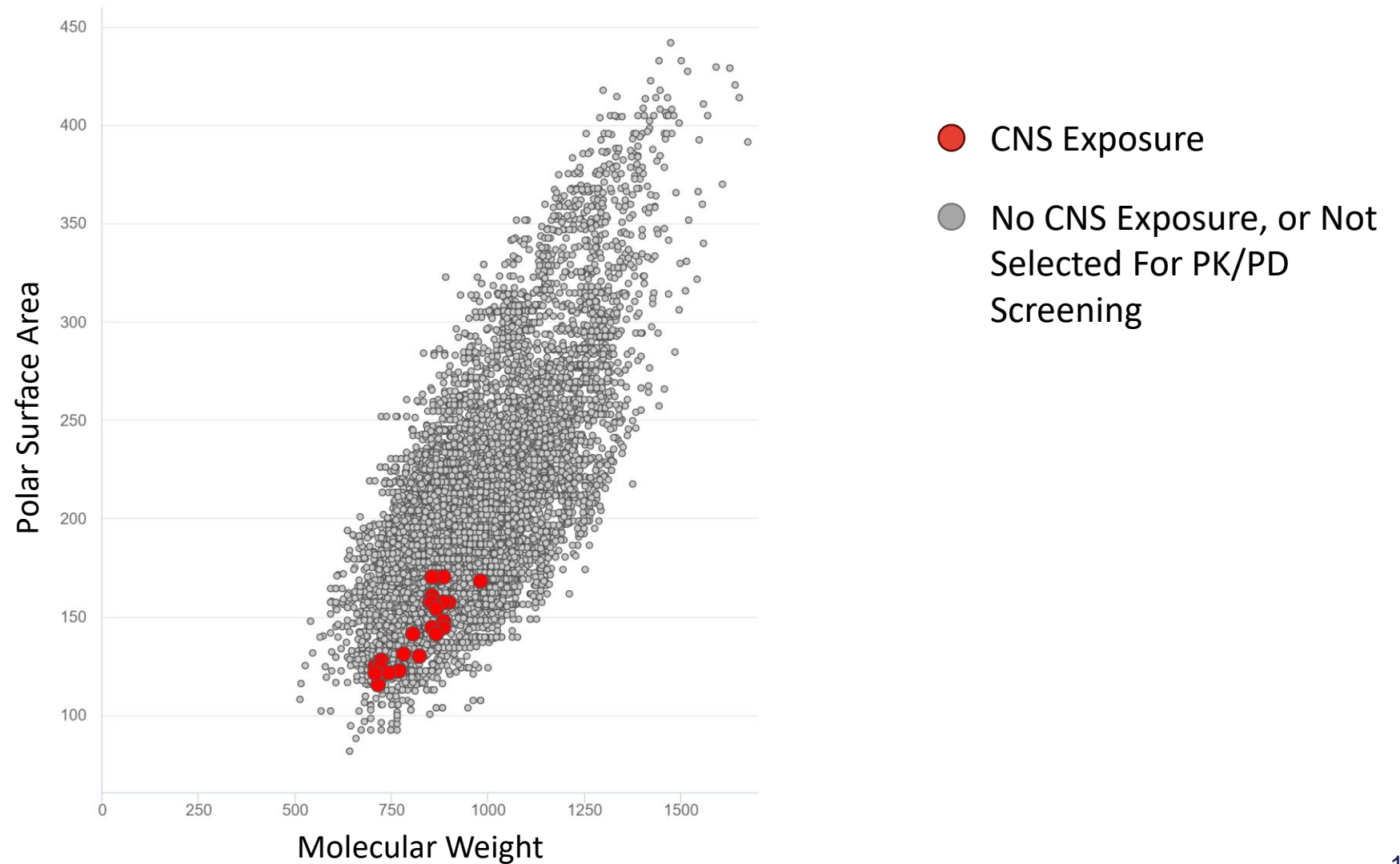
Primary PK/PD Screening

- If target is expressed outside of the brain, PK/PD is initially prioritized in peripheral blood or tissues
- If target is only expressed in brain, plasma PK is initially prioritized
 - Brain PK/PD performed on compounds with high %F, low CL
 - In-depth brain and CSF PK/PD assessed on leads



All programs screened to date have achieved significant BBB penetration

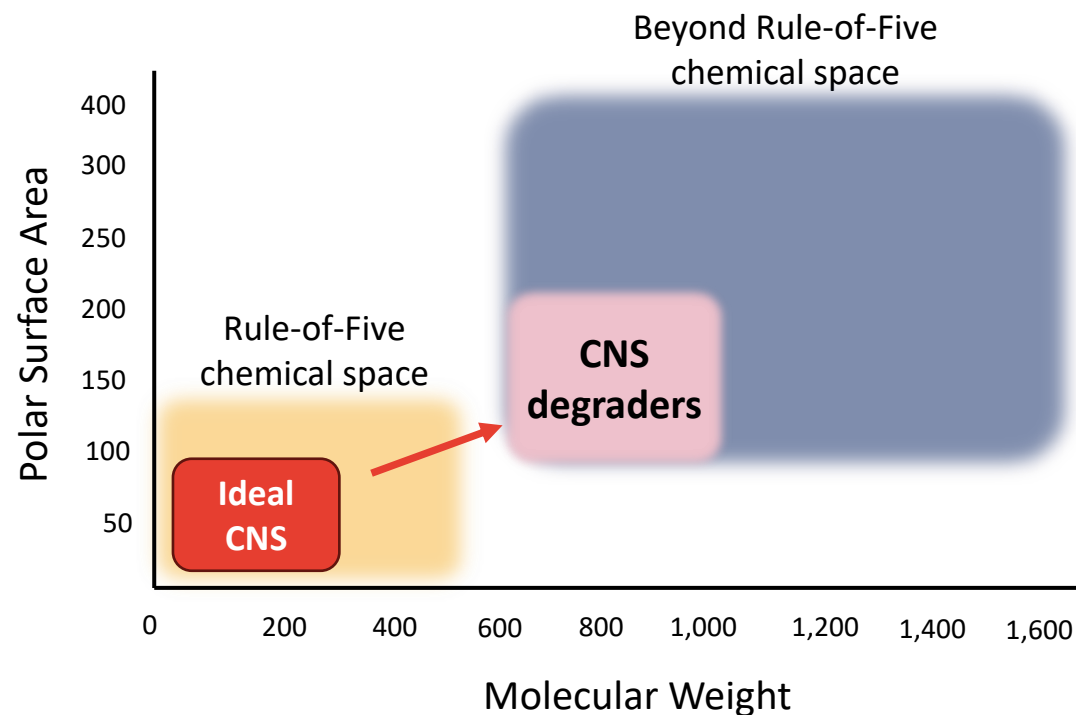
CNS-Penetrant Degraders Cluster in Small Quadrant of Degradation Design Space



Empirical Screening for CNS-Penetrant Degraders is a Viable Discovery Strategy

>50% of Degraders emerging from dedicated in vivo testing funnel show CNS penetration
CNS-penetrant degraders are much more prevalent than expected

Molecular weight range limitation of small molecule design space for CNS is not relevant for degraders



Thank you