

Defined Bacterial Consortia, a Novel Approach to Tackle Healthcare-Associated Infections

Silvia Caballero, Director Infectious Diseases Vedanta Biosciences

Microbiota and Metabolic Alterations Characterize Colonization and Infection with *C. difficile* and MDRO



C. difficile

Multidrug-resistant organisms

Clostridium IV + XIVa

Bacteroides

Primary (1°) bile acid

Secondary (2°) bile acid

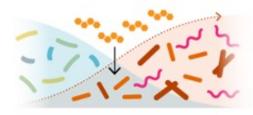
Short-chain Fatty Acids (SCFAs)



ACTIVE DISEASE

Antibiotics disrupt microbiota and metabolite pool of bile acids and SCFAs

Antibiotics cause dysbiosis, increase ratio of 1° to 2° bile acids



Degradation of mucus layer and epithelial damage

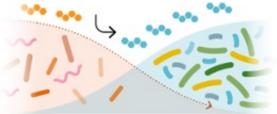


Intestinal Epithelium > <

RETURN TO HEALTH

Recovery of beneficial bacterial community and homeostatic metabolite pool observed in clinical studies

Clostridium IV + XIVa convert 1° to 2° bile acids and help recover a healthy microbiome



Clostridium IV + XIVa produce SCFAs (butyrate), strengthening the gut barrier

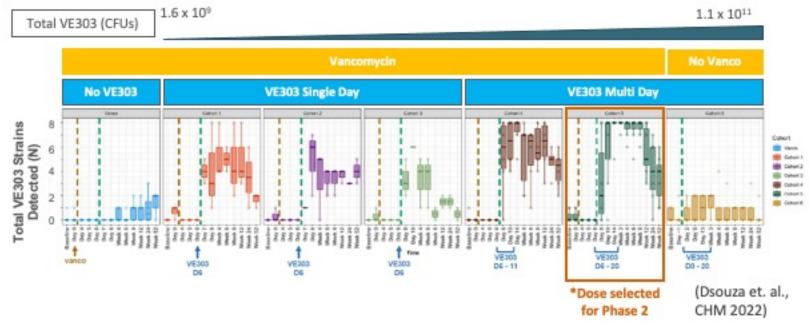


VE303 : An Investigational Defined Bacterial Consortium Against *C. difficile* Infection (CDI)

- <u>Defined</u> composition of 8 nonpathogenic, nontoxigenic strains of bacteria isolated initially from the stool of healthy donors.
 - Designed to eliminate risk of pathogen transfer associated with FMT
- VE303 strains showed
 - In-vitro and in-vivo suppression of C. difficile
 - In-vitro SCFA production and in-silico encoding of 1° to 2° BA conversion
- Isolates manufactured from clonal cell banks under GMP conditions; <u>Consistent</u> composition and quality attributes.
- <u>Stable</u> lyophilized drug product amenable to at-home storage and dosing.
- Durable strain colonization following oral dose administration (Dsouza et. al., CHM 2022).



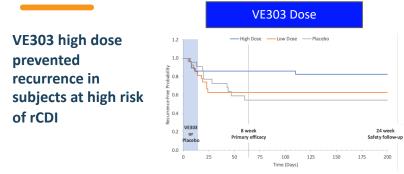
Phase 1 Study Established Recommended Phase 2 Dose and Described Pharmacokinetics (PK) and Pharmacodynamics (PD) in Healthy Volunteers: Important Considerations for Clinical Trial Design



- Antibiotics are necessary to create a niche for VE303 colonization
- More robust colonization with multiple-day dosing after Abx
- Recovery of beneficial bacteria, Secondary Bile Acids and SCFAs with VE303



Phase 2 CONSORTIUM Study: Colonization Data Provide Rationale for Superior Activity Observed with High Dose

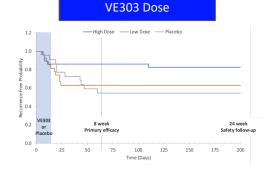






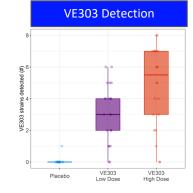
Phase 2 CONSORTIUM Study: Colonization Data Provide Rationale for Superior Activity Observed with High Dose

VE303 high dose prevented recurrence in subjects at high risk of rCDI

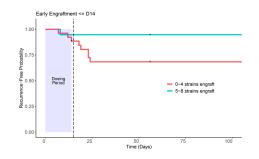


Strain Engraftment

VE303 dosing led to effective, dosedependent strain colonization



Subjects with high vs low VE303 strain engraftment had higher recurrence-free probability

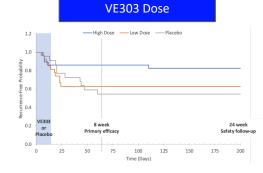






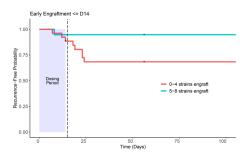
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Strain Engraftment

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VE303 dosing led to effective, dosedependent strain colonization

Higher VE303

associated with

recovery, which

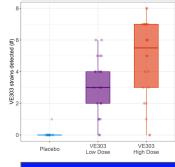
correlates with

dosing was

faster host

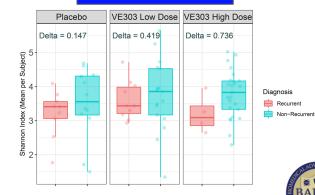
microbiome

clinical cure



VE303 Detection

Diversity







Unpublished Data

VE707 – A Defined Bacterial Consortium for Decolonization of MDR Enterobacteriaceae as an Infection Prevention Strategy



CDC, 2019 AR Threats Report

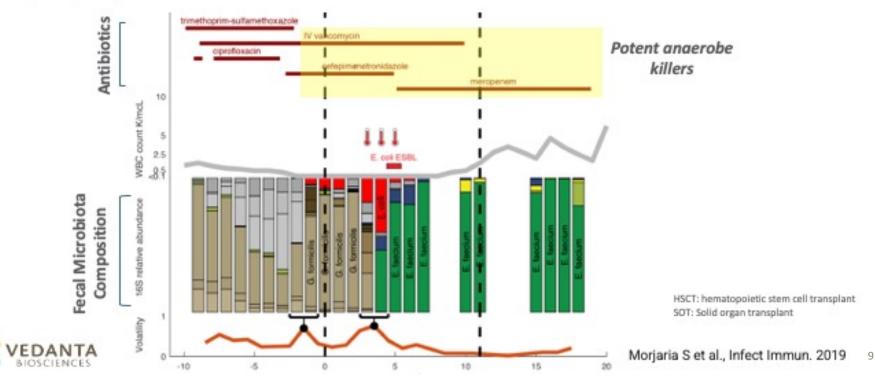
- MDR *E.coli* and *K. pneumoniae* represent ~40% of all MDRO colonization cases with 17-65% colonized patients developing infections, compared to 0.5-11% in non-colonized cohorts.
- Clinical proof of concept for CRE and ESBL decolonization established with other sub-optimal modalities.
 - <u>Selective Digestive Decontamination (SDD)</u>: ~80% reduction in infections following successful decolonization in "at risk" patients. *Caveat: Emergence of antibiotic-resistant strains*
 - Fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT): 33-90% efficacy at treating persistent colonization with prevention of infection. Caveat: Donor variability, number of FMT doses





MDRO Colonization Frequently Precedes MDRO Infection in High-Risk Patient Populations Highlighting the Need for Surveillance

 Intestinal MDRO colonization increases infection risk by ≥10-fold in susceptible individuals (e.g., HSCT, SOT, ICU).

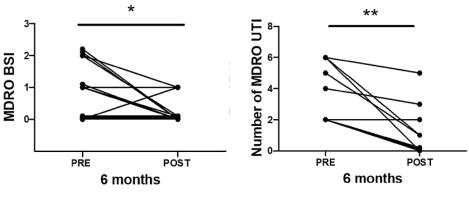


MDRO Eradication from the Intestine is NOT Required for Infection Prevention

Disease Prevention Not Decolonization: A Model for Fecal Microbiota Transplantation in Patients Colonized With Multidrug-resistant Organisms

Rohma Ghani,^{1,2} Benjamin H. Mullish,^{1,3,a,0} Julie A. K. McDonald,^{1,4} Anan Ghazy,² Horace R. T. Williams,^{1,3} Eimear T. Brannigan,² Siddharth Mookerjee,² Giovanni Satta,² Mark Gilchrist,² Neill Duncan,⁵ Richard Corbett,⁵ Andrew J. Innes,⁶ Jiří Pavlů,⁶ Mark R. Thursz,^{1,3} Frances Davies,² and Julian R. Marchesi^{1,7}

CID, 2020



Decolonization efficacy: 41%

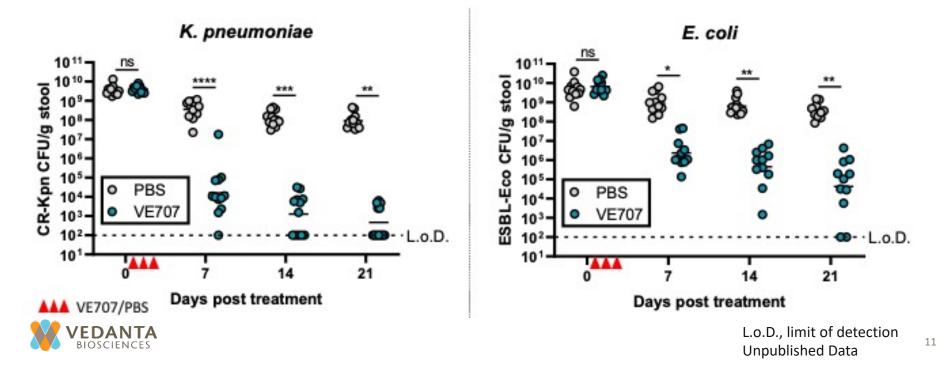
Other factors important for infection prevention

- Carriage reduction
- Microbiota restoration
- Epithelial Barrier integrity



VE707 Candidate is Highly Efficacious at Decolonizing MDR *K. pneumoniae* and *E.coli* in Mice

 60 unique defined bacterial consortia were tested in vivo. VE707 reduced MDR Kpn and Eco titers by ≥ 3-logs compared to untreated mice.



Microbiome Restoration as a New Paradigm for Infection Control

