

**A Phase I Study Investigating the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamic Activity of the Hepcidin Antagonist PRS-080#022. Results from a Randomized, Placebo Controlled, Double-Blind Study Following Single Administration to Healthy Subjects**

December 07, 2015

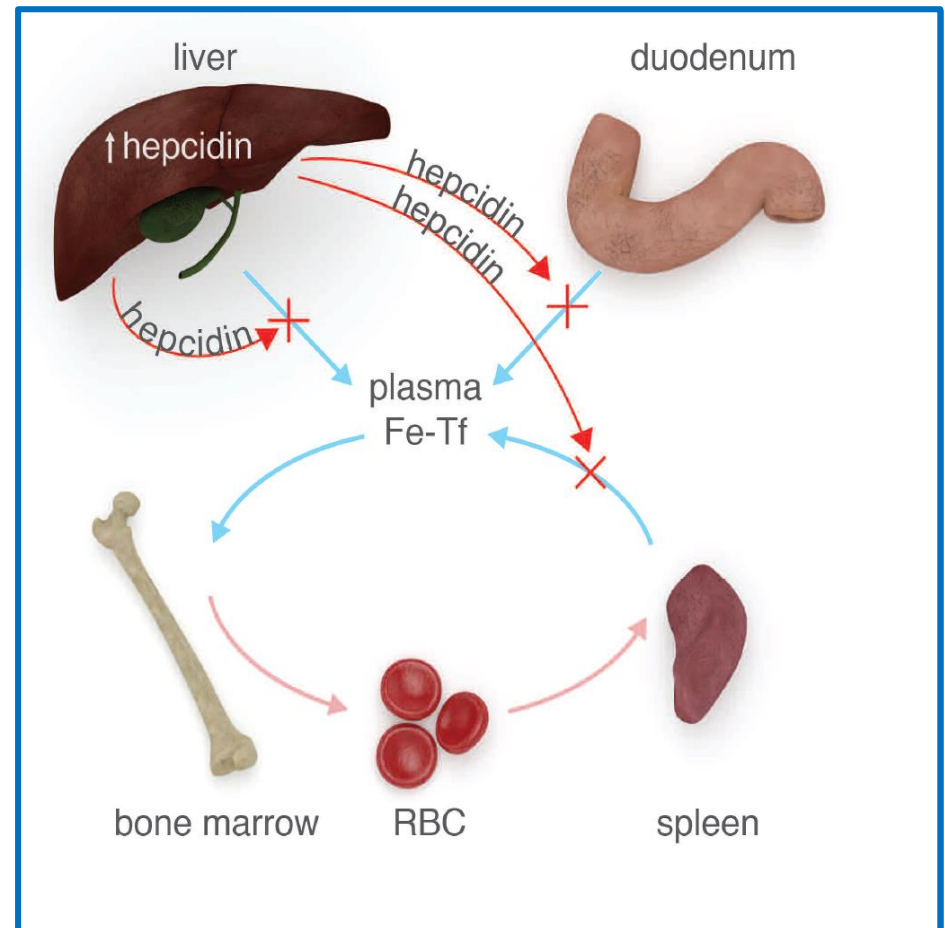
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# Hepcidin Plays a Central Role in Iron Metabolism

Hepcidin is a 25 amino acid peptide hormone that serves as a **key regulator of iron metabolism** by inhibiting iron entry into plasma from the three main sources of iron:

- Dietary absorption in the duodenum
- Release of recycled iron from macrophages
- Release of stored iron from hepatocytes

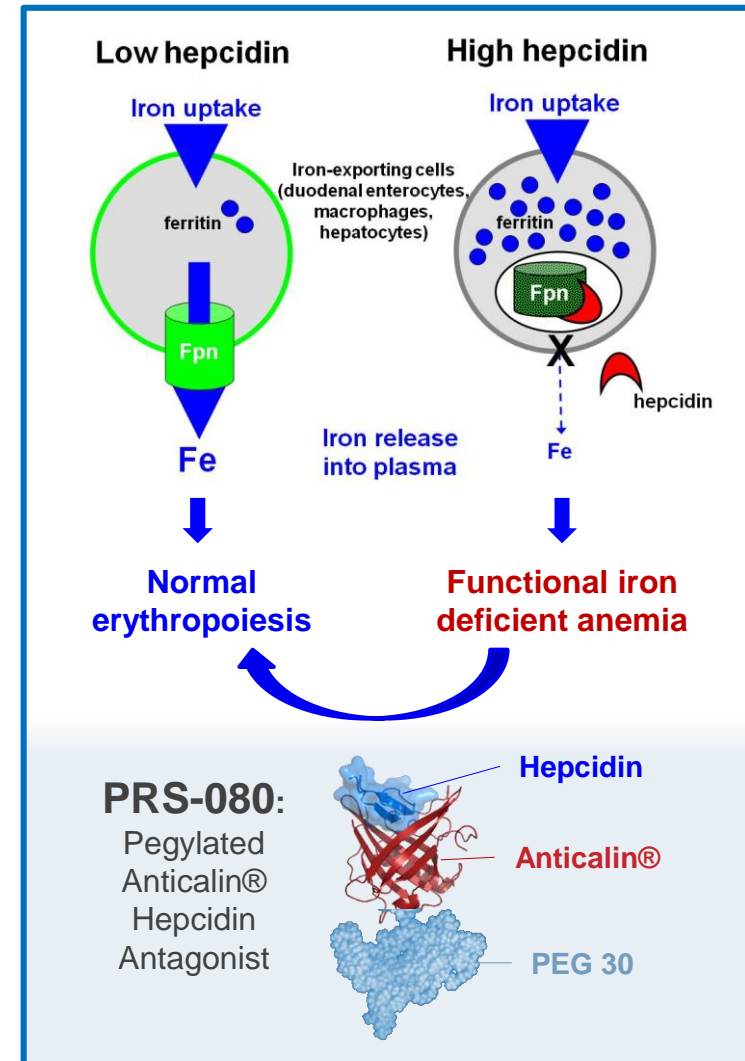


*Haematologica* 2013 98:11

# Antagonizing Elevated Heparidin Levels in Anemias of Chronic Disease (ACD)



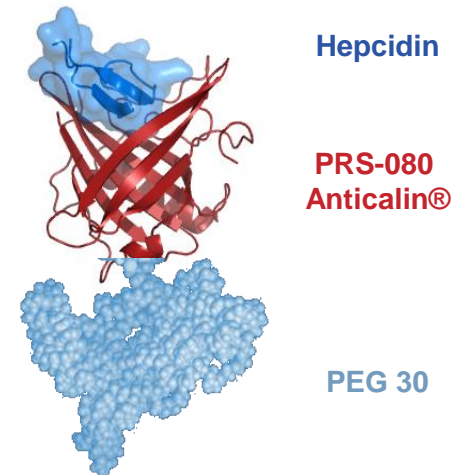
- **Heparidin elevated in multiple chronic inflammatory conditions associated with anemia**
  - Infections, cancer, RA, chronic kidney disease (CKD)
- **Iron metabolism regulated by heparidin/ferroportin**
  - Heparidin inhibits iron export from cells by blocking ferroportin
  - Excess heparidin is the root cause of hypoferremia and iron-restricted reduction of erythropoiesis seen in ACD
  - Heparidin inhibits erythroid colony formation at reduced erythropoietin concentrations
- **Inhibition of heparidin to treat functional iron deficient erythropoiesis and anemia expected to**
  - Increase availability of internal iron sources
  - Increase ESA responsiveness allowing reduction of ESA doses
  - Prevent iron overload from exogenous administration
  - Increase and stabilize Hb levels



# PRS-080 is a Highly Potent Anticalin® Hepcidin Antagonist



- **Anticalins®** – derived from human lipocalins – are a **novel class of therapeutic binding proteins** (MW 16-20kD), that demonstrate high target affinity and exquisite specificity
- **PRS-080 is a pegylated Anticalin®** protein derived from the human lipocalin NGAL, that acts as a **potent hepcidin antagonist**
  - 50 pM affinity for hepcidin
  - Produced by bacterial expression in E. coli
  - Inhibits hepcidin-induced ferroportin internalization
  - Optimized plasma half life by conjugation to PEG 30
  - No adverse effects in non-human primate toxicity studies



# PRS-080 Has Been Investigated in Phase I in Healthy Subjects



- Single dose escalating study in healthy male subjects, n=48
  - Randomized, double blinded, placebo controlled study
- 6 dose cohorts
  - 0.08, 0.4, 1.2, 4.0, 8.0, 16.0 mg/kg (based on API without PEG)
  - I.V. infusion over 2 hours
  - 6 subjects receiving PRS-080, 2 subjects receiving placebo per cohort
- Endpoints
  - Safety and maximal tolerated dose
  - Pharmacokinetics
  - Pharmacodynamics (serum iron, transferrin saturation)
  - Hepcidin plasma concentrations
  - Immunogenicity

# PRS-080 Was Well Tolerated in Healthy Subjects



- No serious Adverse Events (AE)
- 39 treatment emergent AEs (TEAE) in 22 subjects
  - 30 mild TEAEs
  - 9 moderate TEAEs
- Headache was most common TEAE (10 subjects)
- Otherwise, no association of AEs to specific organs
- No apparent correlation between dose and number of TEAEs
- No hypersensitivity, no infusion reactions
- Vital signs and ECG without changes
- No cytokine release upon PRS-080 administration
  - IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6 and TNF- $\alpha$

# PRS-080 Shows Dose Proportional Pharmacokinetics



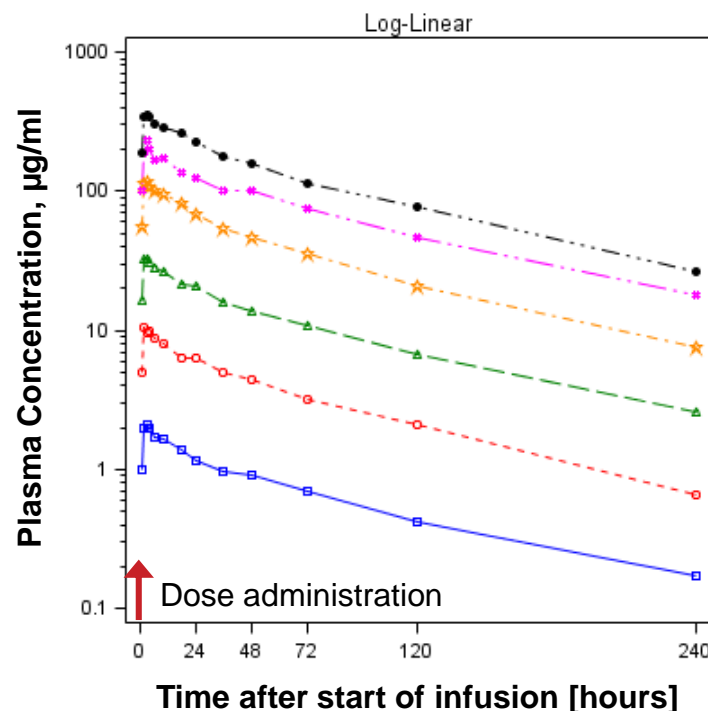
## ■ Total PRS-080

- Dose proportional  $C_{max}$  and AUC
- $T_{max}$  at around 1h after end of infusion
- $T_{1/2}$  at 64 to 81 hours (geometric mean)
  - 71 to 81 hours, arithmetic mean
- Small volume of distribution (48 - 65 ml/kg)
  - Consistent with distribution to blood volume

## ■ Free PRS-080

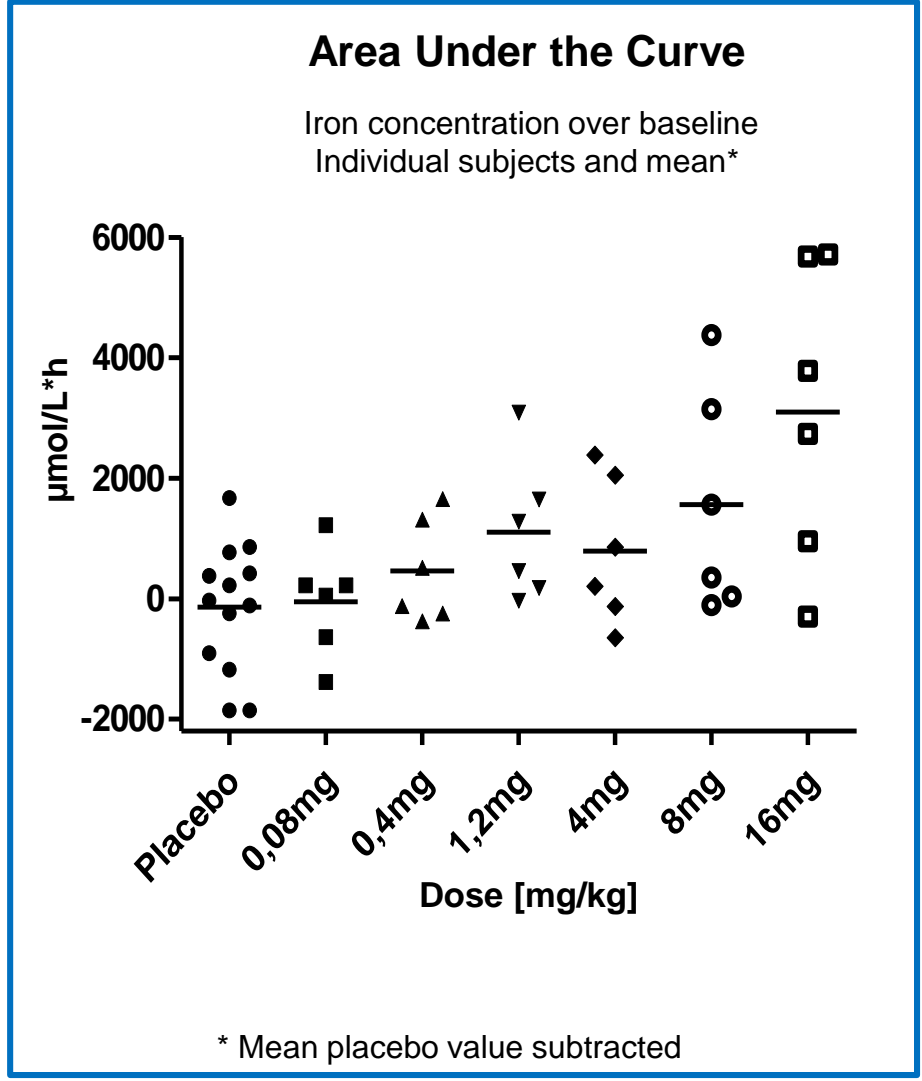
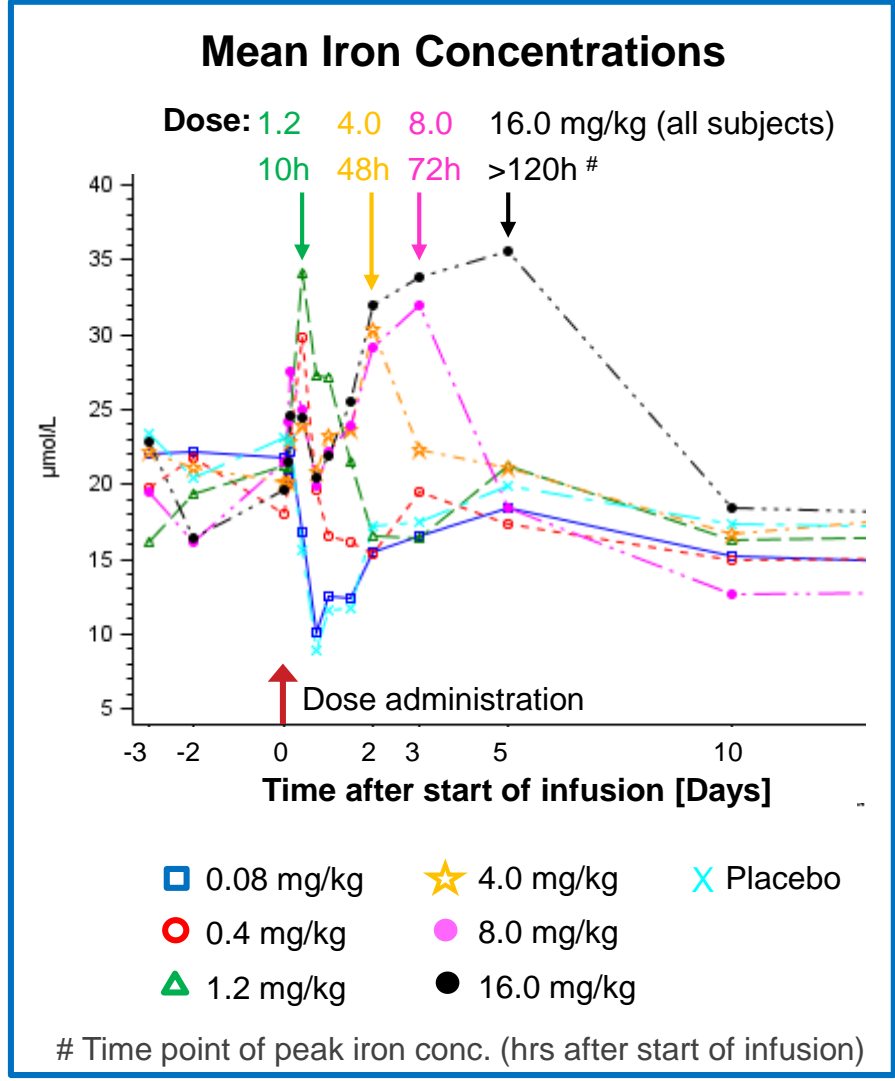
- $C_{max}$  and AUC lower compared to total PRS-080
- $T_{1/2}$  at 40 to 62 hours
  - Consistent with “consumption” of free PRS-080 by hepcidin binding

### Total PRS-080 [ $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ]



# PRS-080 Shows Dose-Dependent Effects

## Increased Duration & AUC of Elevated Serum Iron Concentrations



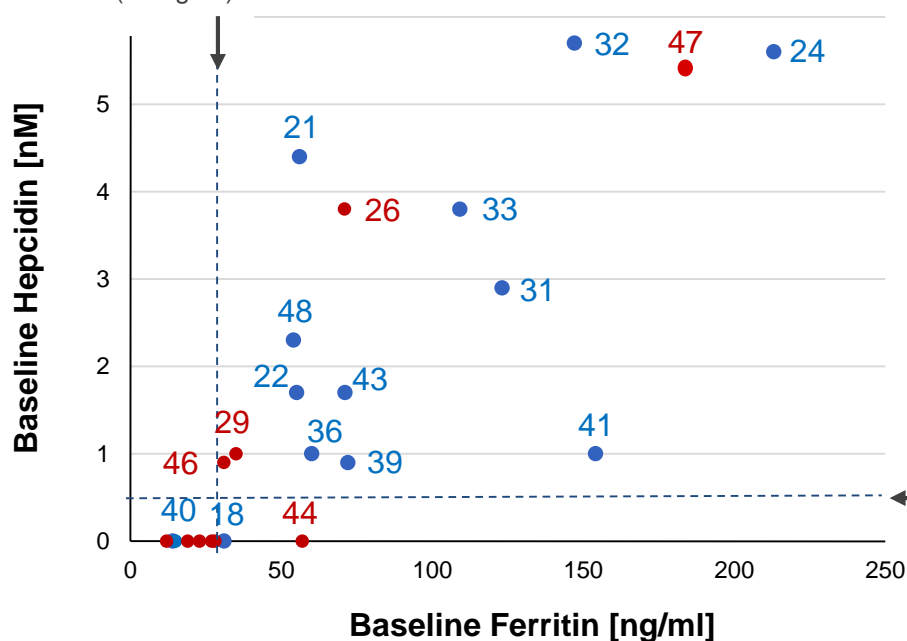


# PRS-080 Induced Iron Response is Correlated to Baseline Ferritin & Hepcidin



- Serum iron response generally observed in subjects with normal ferritin (> 30 ng/ml) and detectable hepcidin (> 0.5 nM) at baseline
- Subjects of dose cohorts 1.2 to 16.0 mg/kg shown below
  - Subjects achieving iron response (> 34.5 μM = Fe ↑)
  - Subjects without iron response (< 34.5 μM = Fe →)

Lower limit of normal ferritin (30 ng/ml)



	Ferritin > 30 ng/ml Hepcidin >0.5 nM	No. of subjects	
		Fe ↑	Fe →
<b>PRS-080</b> [1.2–16 mg/kg]	+	11	4
	-	2	7
<b>Placebo</b>	+	1	9
	-	1	1

Lower limit of hepcidin quantification (0.5 nM)

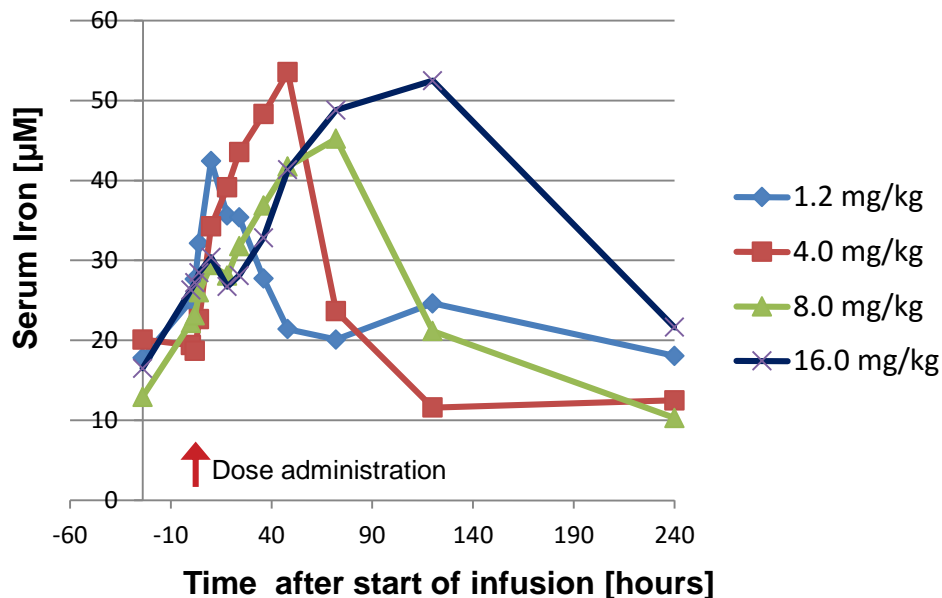
# Duration of Iron Response After PRS-080 Administration is Dose-Dependent



- Duration of response increases with dose
- Individual peak serum iron concentrations are independent of dose

## Mean Iron Concentrations

Subjects achieving iron response > 34.5  $\mu\text{M}$



## Time to Peak Duration of Response Peak Iron Concentration

Dose [mg/kg]	1.2	4.0	8.0	16.0
Time to peak iron concentration	10h	48h	72h	120h
Duration of iron response*	25h	64h	94h	185h
Peak serum iron concentration [ $\mu\text{M}$ ]	42.5	53.6	45.2	52.2

\* Estimated time point where serum iron falls <34.5  $\mu\text{M}$

# PRS-080 Shows Favorable Safety Profile/ Confirms Mechanism of Action in Phase 1



- PRS-080 was **well tolerated** in healthy subjects
- **Pharmacokinetics as expected:**  $T_{1/2} \sim 3$  days
- Immediate **dose-dependent decrease in circulating hepcidin**
- **Dose-dependent duration of serum iron and TSAT responses**
  - From 24 hours up to >120 hours
  - Predominantly observed in subjects with normal ferritin (>30 ng/ml) and detectable hepcidin (>0.5 nM) at baseline
    - Sufficient tissue iron stores and target expression
  - Robust responses at doses of 1.2 mg/kg and above, with **statistically significant increase in total serum iron** relative to placebo ( $p = .005$ )
- **No risk of immunogenicity observed**
- **Data support further investigation of PRS-080 in patients with ACD**

# Next Steps: Phase Ib/IIa Study to Investigate PRS-080 in Anemic CKD5 Patients



## Planned Phase Ib/IIa in CKD5 hemodialysis patients

- Ib: Single Ascending dose; Safety, PK and pharmacodynamic activity (iron, TSAT, hepcidin)
- IIa: MAD, 4 week repeated dosing; anemia (Hb) as primary outcome measure

### VALIDATED BIOLOGY

Elevated hepcidin levels in CKD patients as cause for anemia

- Restricted iron utilization
- Impaired erythropoiesis
- Anemia despite i.v. iron and high ESA doses

### PROMISING INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG

PRS-080 = hepcidin antagonist

- Increases iron mobilization
- Tailored half-life
- Aim to
  - Increase erythropoiesis
  - Reduce ESA and prevent iron overload
  - Reduce anemia

### PROMISING CLINICAL ACTIVITY

Phase I study in healthy subjects

- ✓ Excellent safety
- ✓ Pharmacologic activity demonstrated



# Thank you

## **Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

Corporate Headquarters  
255 State Street, 9th floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
USA

[www.pieris.com](http://www.pieris.com)

## **Pieris Pharmaceuticals GmbH**

Munich Site  
Lise-Meitner-Strasse 30  
85354 Freising  
Germany