

Innovations in IBD Therapy: The Story of TL1A - from Discovery to Potential Future Care (F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd) (Complete Session)

Remo Panaccione

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Presentation

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This symposium reviewed the 22-year development of TL1A inhibitors for IBD, from cytokine discovery in 2002 to positive phase 2 trial results in 2024, with phase 3 programmes now recruiting in ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

KEY POINTS

- TL1A is a cytokine that amplifies immune responses when intestinal barrier damage occurs, expressed in antigen-presenting cells and binding to death receptor 3 on immune cells including ILCs and T cells.
- The speaker stated that three anti-TL1A therapies have reported positive phase 2 trials in ulcerative colitis showing significance over placebo across clinical and endoscopic endpoints with large placebo-adjusted treatment differences and no safety signals observed during induction and maintenance.
- Genetic polymorphisms in TNFSF15 linked to higher TL1A production may serve as predictive biomarkers, with the speaker noting that biomarker-positive patients in one trial had numerically greater treatment effects than all-comer patients.
- The speaker described TL1A inhibition as addressing multiple IBD features including inflammation, tissue remodelling, and potentially fibrosis, while maintaining immune homeostasis without over-immunosuppression.
- Multiple phase 3 trials in ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease are recruiting, with the speaker stating some trials are ahead of schedule and top-line results expected between 2026 and 2028.
- The speakers discussed potential future applications beyond IBD including idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, hidradenitis suppurativa, and spondyloarthritis, though positioning relative to existing therapies will depend on phase 3 outcomes and remains uncertain.

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