



In Pursuit of Medical  
Innovations

August 2022  
Corporate Presentation

# Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains forward looking statements (as defined by applicable securities legislation) made pursuant to the safe harbor provision of the US Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and forward-looking information (as defined under applicable Canadian securities laws), which reflect the current expectations regarding future events of Aeterna Zentaris Inc. (the "Company", "we", "our"). Forward looking statements and forward-looking information may include, but are not limited to statements preceded by, followed by, or that include the words " will," "expects," "believes," "intends," "would," "could," "plans," or "planned" and similar terms that relate to future events, performance, or our results.

Such statements include, but are not limited to, the Company's ability to deliver multiple development and regulatory milestones with respect to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, including developing manufacturing processes for immunomodulating therapeutics and selection of development candidates, the potential of oral Coronavirus vaccines to induce mucosal immunity to prevent infection and avoid transmission, the Company's expectations regarding the development and manufacturing of oral Coronavirus vaccines, the potential use of Macrilen™ macimorelin as a therapeutic, including its use as a potential treatment for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease), the size, timing and scope of our commercial and development pipeline for AIM biologicals, AEZS-150, macimorelin as a therapeutic and oral Coronavirus vaccines, the Company's expectations regarding its cash runway and its ability to fund operations beyond 2023 and the expected timing of future key milestones, studies, agreements and approvals.

Forward looking statements and forward-looking information contained in this presentation are based on our opinions, estimates and assumptions in light of our experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors that we currently believe are appropriate and reasonable in the circumstances. There can be no assurance that the underlying opinions, estimates and assumptions will prove to be correct.

Forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, including those discussed in this presentation and in our Annual Report on Form 20F, under the caption "Key Information Risk Factors" filed with the relevant Canadian securities regulatory authorities in lieu of an annual information form and with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Known and unknown risks and uncertainties could cause our actual results to differ materially from those in forward looking statements and forward-looking information. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, our heavy dependence on the success of Macrilen™ macimorelin and related out licensing arrangements and the continued availability of funds and resources to successfully develop and commercialize Macrilen™ and our in licensed products and technologies, the ability of the Company to enter into licensing, development, manufacturing and marketing and distribution agreements with other pharmaceutical companies, universities or others and keep such agreements in effect (including that the Company may be unable to successfully negotiate a license agreement for any technology or products for which it has an option), the Company's ability to identify therapeutic uses for Macrilen™ macimorelin or to in license other product candidates, the Company's reliance on third parties for the manufacturing and commercialization of Macrilen™ macimorelin, potential delay or termination or lack of success of any of our pre clinical or clinical programs, potential disputes with third parties leading to delays in or termination of the manufacturing, development, licensing or commercialization of our products or resulting in significant litigation or arbitration, and, more generally, uncertainties related to the regulatory process, the degree of market acceptance of Macrilen™ macimorelin, the impact of securities class action litigation, shareholder lawsuits or other litigation on our cash flow, results of operations and financial position, our ability to protect our intellectual property, general changes in economic conditions and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our operations, plans and prospects, including to the initiation and completion of clinical trials in a timely manner or at all.

Readers of this presentation should consult our quarterly and annual filings with the Canadian and US securities commissions for additional information on risks and uncertainties. Given these uncertainties and risk factors, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements and forward looking information. The forward looking statements and information in this presentation are made as of the date hereof and we disclaim any obligation to update any such factors or to publicly announce any revisions to any of the forward looking statements or forward looking information contained herein to reflect future results, events or developments, unless required to do so by a governmental authority or applicable law.

## Certain Other Matters

Any graphs, tables or other information demonstrating our historical performance or that of any other entity contained in this presentation are intended only to illustrate past performance of such entities and are not necessarily indicative of future performance. This presentation does not purport to contain all of the material information with respect to the Company and is not a recommendation that any person should make an investment in the Company. Moreover, this presentation does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy or acquire securities of the Company in any jurisdiction or an inducement to enter into investment activity, nor may it or any part of it form the basis of or be relied on in connection with any contract or commitment whatsoever. Any reference to "\$" or "dollars" means United States dollars.

# Investment Highlights

Diversified portfolio focused on areas of significant unmet medical need

Leveraging network of large pharmaceutical and university partners and collaborators

Executing strategy to deliver multiple development and regulatory milestones

Strong financial position with runway expected to fund operations through 2023<sup>1</sup>

## Key Focus Areas:

### Diagnostics

- Rare endocrine disorders

### Therapeutics

- Auto-immune diseases
- Neurodegenerative disease
- Endocrine disorders

### Salmonella-Based Vaccine Platform

- SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19)
- Chlamydia

# Diagnostic Commercial and Development Pipeline

	Program	Indication	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Commercial	Co-Development Partner
Diagnostics	Macimorelin	Adult Growth Hormone Deficiency (AGHD)	[Green bar spanning Preclinical, Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3, and Commercial]					
	Macimorelin	Childhood-Onset Growth Hormone Deficiency (CGHD)	[Green bar spanning Preclinical, Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3]					

## Commercial Rights

U.S./Canada



European Union / UK



Israel and Palestine Authority



Turkey and some Balkan Countries



Korea



ROW



# Therapeutic and Vaccine Development Pipeline

	Program	Indication	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Program Highlights
Therapeutics	AIM Biologicals	Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD)	█				Positive PoC data presented at 13th Intl. Congress on Autoimmunity (Athens, June 2022)
		Parkinson's Disease (PD)	█				Presented positive preclinical results at IMMUNOLOGY2022™
	Macimorelin	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease)	█				Entered material transfer agreement and option to in-license in January 2021
	AEZS-150 (Delayed clearance parathyroid hormone)	Chronic Hypoparathyroidism	█				In-licensed program in March 2021
Vaccine	Salmonella-Based Vaccine Platform	COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)	█				In-licensed program in March 2021
		Chlamydia Trachomatis	█				In-licensed program in September 2021



# Development Programs

Advancing Therapeutics and Vaccines  
to Secure Long-Term Growth

# AIM Biologicals

## Targeted Immunomodulating Therapeutics



Technology platform enabling highly specific treatment for auto-immune diseases with well-defined target antigens



Modulation of immune response towards auto-antigens by induction of antigen-specific regulatory T cells and by elimination of cognate antigen-specific cytotoxic T cells

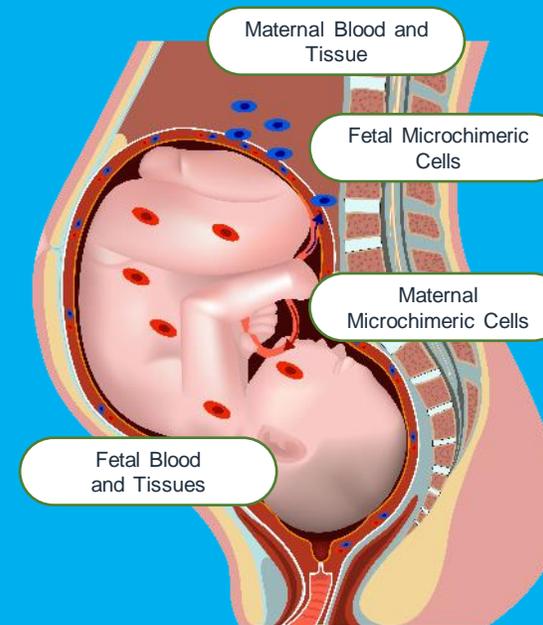


Entered exclusive license and R&D agreements with Julius-Maximilians-University of Wuerzburg in January and September 2021



Targeted, highly specific, autoimmunity modifying proteins

Technology is based on “**feto-maternal-tolerance**” – It is derived from the body’s natural process that protects a fetus against the mother’s immune system while the mother is protected against pathogens



Fetal cells persist in mothers for decades after delivery and vice versa → lasting, selective immune tolerance which cannot be explained by barrier function<sup>1</sup>

# The Promise of Targeted, Physiological, Antigen-Specific Immunomodulation



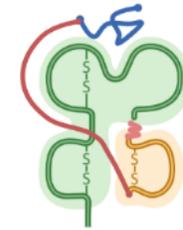
## Autoimmune Diseases

Enhanced by autoreactive effector (cytotoxic) T cells  
Ameliorated by protective regulatory T cells



## Immunosuppressive Therapeutics

Reduce disease symptoms  
Often cause severe side effects



AIM Biologics

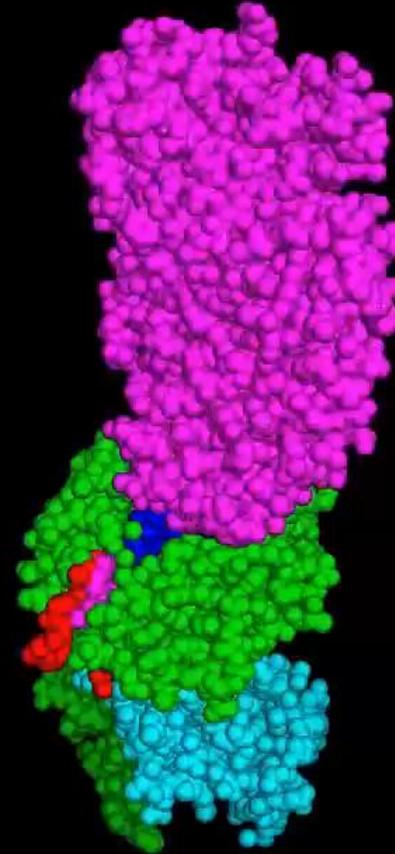
## Antigen-specific Immunomodulation

Various antigens may be used for highly selective de-sensibilization  
Relevant side effects should be avoided

# AIM Biologicals Concept<sup>1</sup>

- Adaptable platform of immunomodulating molecules
- Soluble HLA-G  $\beta$ 2m fusion proteins presenting a peptide (= antigen)\* which is coupled to the proteins via a linker
- The proteins interact with the target cells via the T-cell receptor (TCR) and ILT-2 to induce immune tolerance

\* exemplified by NMOSD-specific antigen



# The Promise of Targeted, Physiological, Antigen-Specific Immunomodulation



Potential selective treatment option for neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD)



Potential treatment option for Parkinson's disease (PD)



Well-defined antigen: Aquaporin-4 (AQP4)



$\alpha$ -Synuclein ( $\alpha$ -Syn) described as target



NMOSD is an auto-antibody mediated inflammatory CNS orphan disorder with significant unmet medical need affecting 1 per 100,000 people<sup>1</sup>



Parkinson's disease is a neurodegenerative movement disorder affecting over 7 million people worldwide, growing evidence suggests that PD could be considered as an autoimmune disease<sup>2</sup>

## Next Steps:

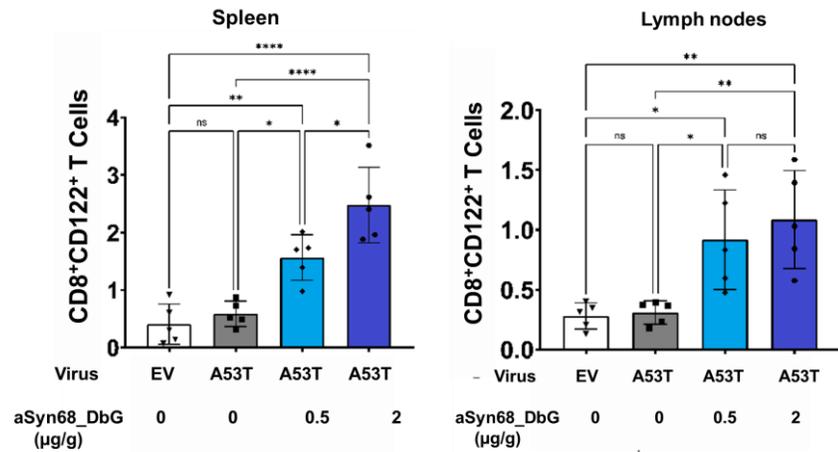
- *In-vitro* and *in-vivo* assessments to select development candidate
- Manufacturing process development for selected candidate

## Recent Highlights:

- ✓ Design and production of antigen-specific AIM biologics molecules
- ✓ *In-vitro* and *in-vivo* assessments in relevant disease models

# AIM Biologicals Demonstrated Improvements in Preclinical Parkinson's Disease Model

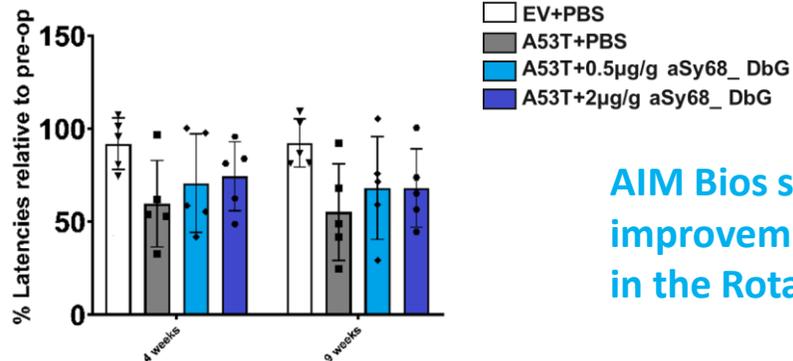
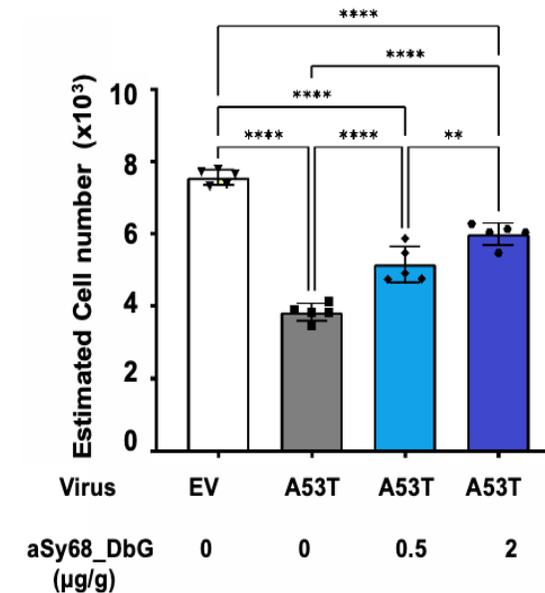
Significant induction of regulatory T cells, improvement in motor function and rescue of substantia nigra neurons



AIM Bios induce regulatory CD8+CD122+ T cells in spleen and lymph nodes

Significantly improves survival of SN neurons

Number of dopaminergic neurons in SN



AIM Bios show a trend towards improvement of motor function in the Rotarod test

# AEZS-150: Delayed Clearance Parathyroid Hormone (DC-PTH) Fusion Polypeptide



PTH is a key regulating hormone essential for calcium homeostasis and renal phosphate clearance



Potential to be a self-administered pen to help maintain normal serum calcium and phosphate levels in a once weekly treatment versus current daily injections

## Hypoparathyroidism

Body produces abnormally low levels of PTH

Orphan indication

~23-37 per 100,000<sup>1</sup>

affects

causes



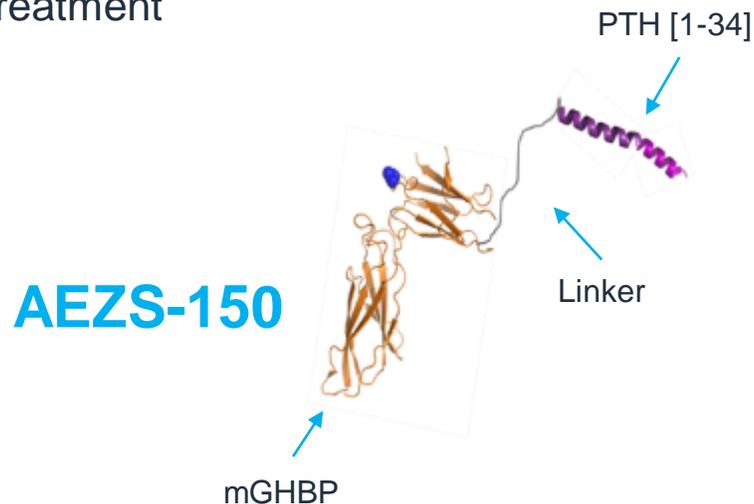
Renal dysfunction  
Muscle cramping  
Twitching  
Seizures  
Cardiac arrhythmias

# AEZS-150: Delayed Clearance Parathyroid Hormone (DC-PTH) Fusion Polypeptide

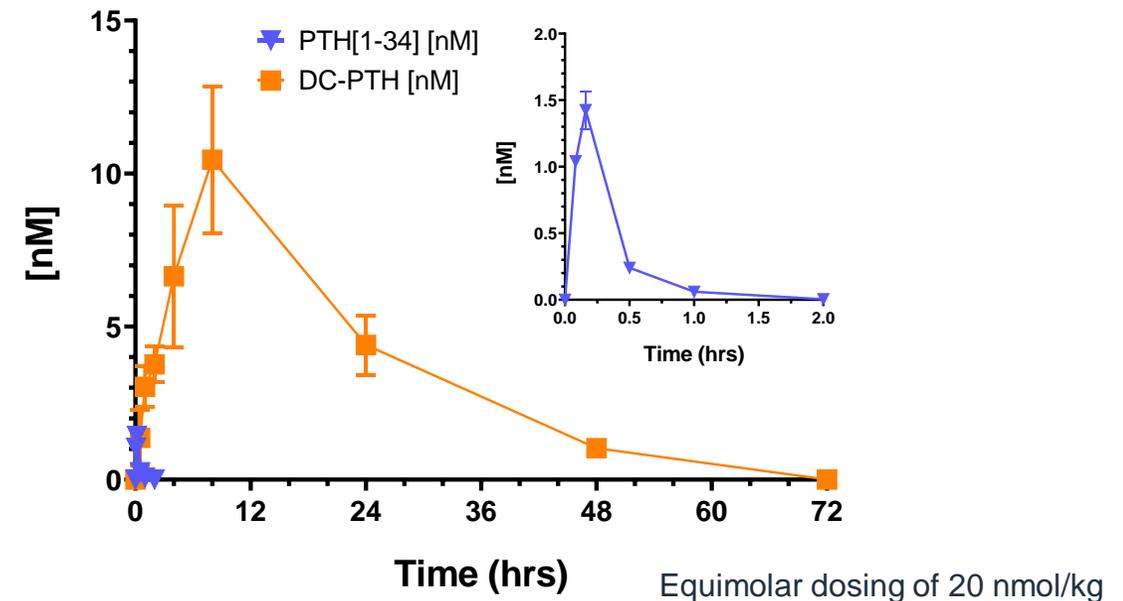
AEZS-150: Fusion-Protein of PTH [1-34] coupled via a linker to a modified growth-hormone binding protein (GHBP)<sup>1</sup>

Delayed clearance in comparison to PTH[1-34]

Potential to control serum calcium levels by once weekly treatment



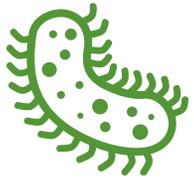
Plasma Pharmacokinetics in a Rat Study<sup>2</sup>



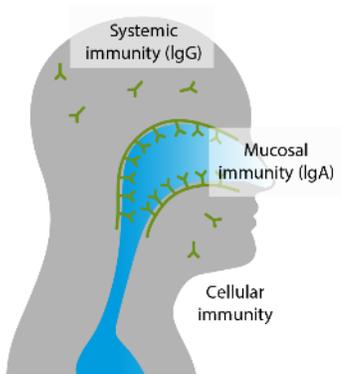
## Next Steps:

- In depth characterization of development candidate (*in-vitro* and *in-vivo*)
- Manufacturing process development ongoing

# Salmonella-Based Vaccine Platform



Live-attenuated bacterial vaccine based on the *Salmonella typhi* Ty21a carrier strain currently used as a typhoid vaccine



This new, alternative and unprecedented approach with *Salmonella* based vaccines should have the potential to induce mucosal immunity, not only in respiratory, but also in urogenital tract, in order to form a barrier for pathogens entering the body

- Potential to evade infection
- Potential to avoid transmission



Entered exclusive license and R&D agreements with Julius-Maximilians-University of Wuerzburg in 2021

Potential for temperature stable supply chain:  $\sim 2^{\circ}\text{C} - 8^{\circ}\text{C}^1$

Potential to induce systemic and mucosal immunity to prevent infection

→ COVID-19 vaccine

→ Chlamydia Trachomatis vaccine

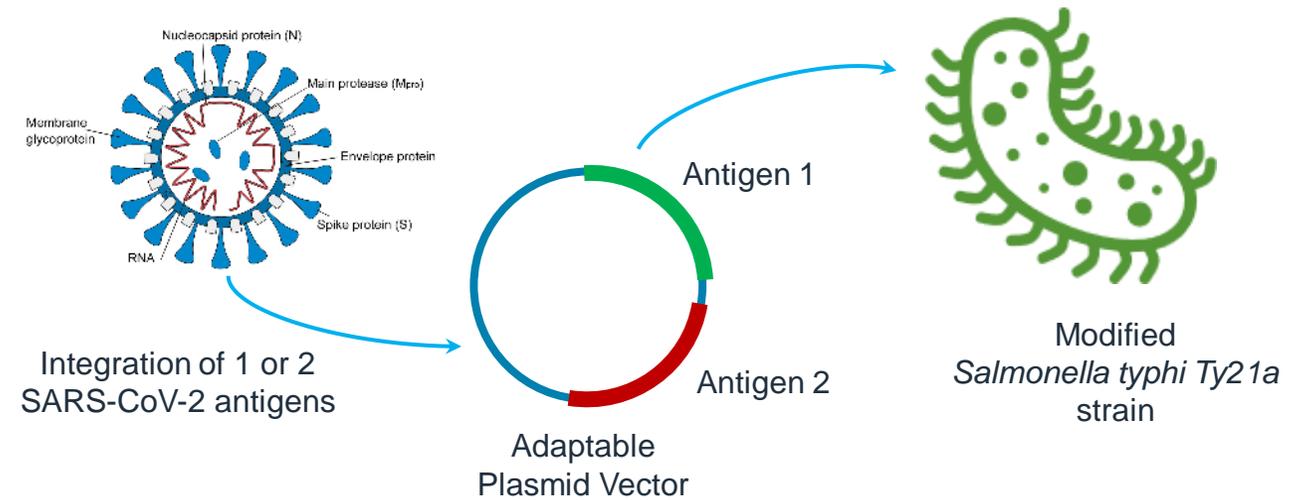
Adaptable antigen expression

*Salmonella Typhi* Ty21a carrier strain has been safely used worldwide in more than 150 million administered doses<sup>1</sup>



# Oral Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) Vaccine

Currently undergoing pre-clinical studies for the prevention of coronavirus diseases, including COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)



## Induction of Immunity

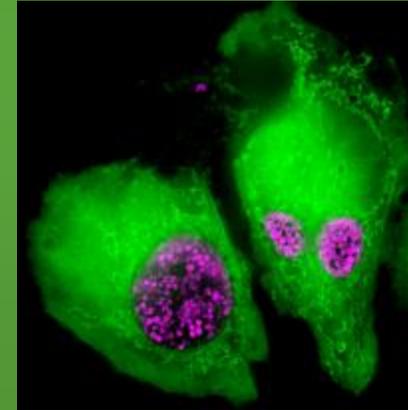
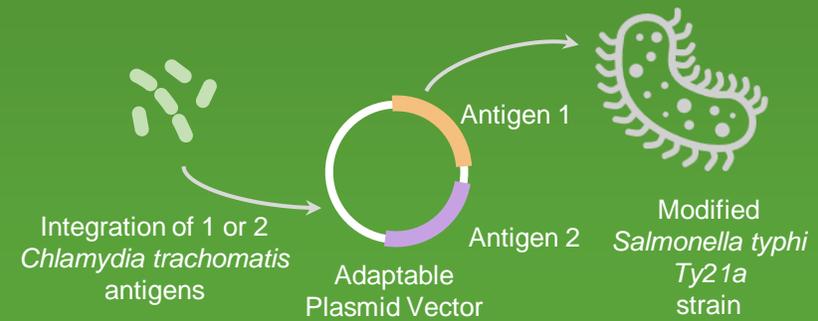
Potential to induce mucosal immunity to prevent infection and avoid transmission

## Multiple-Antigens

Higher likelihood for improved defense against mutated virus variants if not only spike protein is used as antigen

# Chlamydia Trachomatis Vaccine

- Sexually transmitted gram-negative bacterium infecting over 130 million subjects annually
- Whereas symptomatic infection can be treated by antibiotics, asymptomatic disease can spread to the reproductive tract inducing infertility, miscarriage, or ectopic pregnancy, which is a life-threatening condition
- Ocular infections can lead to inclusion conjunctivitis or trachoma, which is the primary source of visual impairment or infectious blindness
- High medical need to develop a vaccine providing mucosal immunity preventing infection
- In-depth expertise and well-established advanced disease models at University of Wuerzburg<sup>2</sup>



*Chlamydia trachomatis* (magenta)  
in human cells (green)



Infection with *Chlamydia trachomatis* leads to visual impairment or infectious blindness of about 1.9 million people<sup>1</sup>



Approximately 4% of women with chlamydial lower genital tract infection will develop chronic pelvic pain, 3% infertility, and 2% adverse pregnancy outcome.<sup>3</sup>

## Next Steps:

- Design and preparation of candidate vaccine strains
- *In-vivo* immunology experiments and challenge studies

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/trachoma>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/mikrobio/forschungsschwerpunkte/chlamydiales>

<sup>3</sup> Paavonen and Eggert-Kruse, *Hum Reprod Update* Sep-Oct 1999;5(5):433-47.

# Macimorelin For the Treatment of ALS



Exclusive rights for AEZS to negotiate a license agreement for the commercial use of the results



Investigation as a potential treatment for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease)



University researchers to secure grants and conduct pre-clinical and clinical studies

ALS is a neurodegenerative motoneuron disease with progressive loss of motor neurons that control voluntary muscles

Disease symptoms of ALS include muscle twitches, cramps and stiffness, gradual increasing weakness and muscle atrophy, finally leading to respiratory failure in most patients

Treatment approaches consist mainly of supportive therapy, including physical therapy, nutritional and breathing support

# The Science Behind Macimorelin in ALS

## Importance of Ghrelin and the GH/IGF-1 axes in ALS<sup>1</sup>

- Ghrelin is a natural endogenous hormone that stimulates appetite and lowers metabolic rate to promote weight gain
- Ghrelin also regulates the release of the neuroprotective and anabolic hormones growth hormone (GH) and insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1)
- Ghrelin acts via the GHSR1a, which is expressed throughout the body, including the cerebral cortex, spinal cord and muscle (i.e. tissues directly impacted in ALS)
- Majority of motor neuron disease (MND) patients have a moderate to marked GH deficiency<sup>2</sup>
- Treatment with ghrelin or the ghrelin mimetic GHRP3 was shown to slow weight loss, improvement of muscle strength, and extension of survival in the SOD1G93A mouse model of ALS<sup>3</sup>. However, clinical use of ghrelin is limited due to its rapid clearance from circulation.

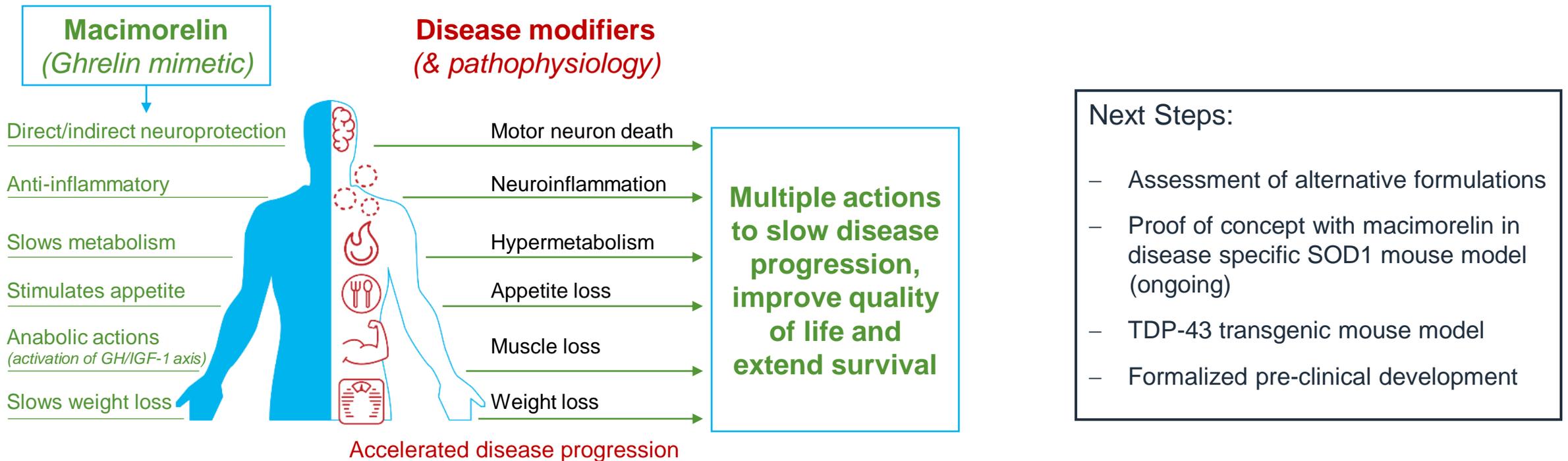
1: Bianchi et al., International Journal of Molecular Sciences, 2017, 18.

2: Steyn et al., Endocrinology. 2012 Aug;153(8):3735-46. Impairments to the GH-IGF-I Axis in hSOD1G93A Mice Give Insight into Possible Mechanisms of GH Dysregulation in Patients with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

3: Ngo et al., J Neuroendocrinol. 2021 Jan 29;33(7):e12938. Ghrelin as a treatment for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

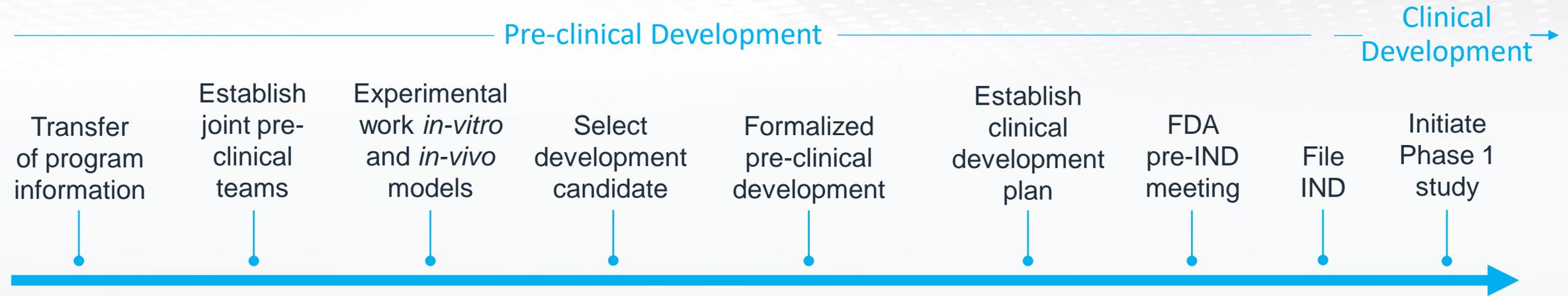
# The Science Behind Macimorelin in ALS

Macimorelin is a Ghrelin mimetic and modulates various disease-relevant processes



Macimorelin has the potential to benefit patients and to slow disease progression

# Roadmap for Advancing Development Programs Towards IND Filing



AIM Biologicals

AEZS-150

Macimorelin as a Potential Therapeutic (ALS)

Salmonella-based Vaccines

# Macimorelin / Macrilen™

A Disruptive Oral Diagnostic Test Solution  
for Growth Hormone Deficiency

First and only AGHD test approved by US FDA  
and European Commission

# Growth Hormone is Critical to Lifelong Health



Produced by the pituitary gland  
(located at the base of the brain)

## Children

Promotes growth



**Reduction in auxological parameters:**

- Short stature
- Low growth velocity (speed) for age
- Increased fat around the waist
- Delayed tooth development

## Adults

**Maintains normal body stature and regulates metabolism**



**No clear signs or symptoms, but recognized by:**

- Metabolic syndrome
- Osteoporosis
- Muscle wasting
- Impaired quality of life

**Increased risk of:**

- Cardiovascular (CV) issues
- Bone fractures

# Macimorelin

Only Approved Oral Diagnostic for GHD

No Other FDA or EC Approved Oral Test

*Insulin tolerance test (ITT) considered the “Gold Standard” in GHD detection procedures<sup>1,2</sup>*

***Not FDA or EC approved or regulated***

*“[ITT Test] is increasingly used less frequently in the U.S. because of safety concerns.”<sup>2</sup>*

“Because the **macimorelin** test is simple, well tolerated with minimal side effects, and of shorter duration with only 3 to 4 blood draws compared to other GH-stimulation tests, it is anticipated that its use will increase over time.”<sup>2</sup>

“Very promising test that is easy to conduct with high reproducibility, safety, and diagnostic accuracy comparable to the ITT...test”<sup>2</sup>

1: Molitch et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2011; 1587-1609

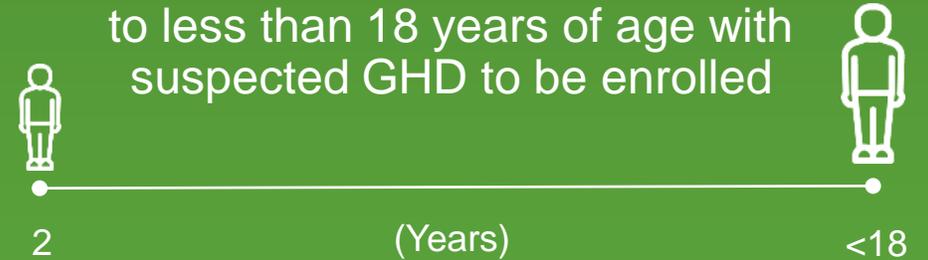
2: AACE 2019 Guidelines: American Association Of Clinical Endocrinologists And American College Of Endocrinology Guidelines For Management Of Growth Hormone Deficiency In Adults And Patients Transitioning From Pediatric To Adult Care, 2019

# Pivotal Phase 3 DETECT<sup>1</sup> Study for Diagnosis of CGHD

## Currently Enrolling Subjects and Dosing is Underway

- Open-label, single dose, multicenter, multinational
  - US, Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Georgia, Italy, Serbia, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and Ukraine
- Macimorelin GHST will be performed twice (for repeatability data)
- Two standard GHSTs as controls: arginine (i.v.), clonidine (p.o.)
- Design suitable to support claim for potential of macimorelin as stand-alone test
- The impact of delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine – two countries where we planned to recruit patients – will extend the recruitment phase into H2 2023.

Children and adolescents from 2 to less than 18 years of age with suspected GHD to be enrolled



≥ 100 subjects worldwide



≥ 40 pre-pubertal and  
40 pubertal subjects



≥ 25 subjects expected  
to be enrolled in the U.S.

# Macimorelin Commercial Rights

Actively seeking commercial partners in ROW



## License and Assignment Agreement

- Territories: United States and Canada
- Royalties on sales
- Sales milestones
- Aeterna Zentaris controls API supply chain and provides API
- Co-development for expansion into CGHD
  - Novo Nordisk to fund 100% of budgeted Study P02 trial expenses up to €9 million
  - Potential additional expenses to be shared



## License Agreement

- Territories: Europe and the United Kingdom
- Pricing and reimbursement milestones
- Royalties on sales
- Aeterna Zentaris controls supply chain and provides finished product according to supply agreement



## Distribution and Commercialization Agreement

in Israel and the Palestine Authority



Owns Worldwide Rights Outside of U.S., Canada, Europe, Israel and Palestine Authority



## License Agreement on Development and Commercialization

in Republic of Korea



## Distribution and Commercialization Agreement

in Turkey and some Balkan countries



# Corporate Overview

# Financial Snapshot

NASDAQ: AEZS / TSX: AEZS

Cash runway expected to fund operations through 2023<sup>1</sup>

~\$58M

Cash on Hand  
As of June 30, 2022

~\$25M

Market Cap<sup>2</sup>

~4.9M

Shares  
Outstanding<sup>3</sup>

~130K

10-day  
Avg. Volume<sup>4</sup>

1: Based on Management's current expectations and planned development activities

2: Based on August 3, 2022 closing price of \$5.02 per share on NASDAQ and the number of issued and outstanding AEZS shares on that date

3: Information as of July 18, 2022

4: Based on information as of August 3, 2022 for the 10-day average daily trading volume on NASDAQ

# Management



**Klaus Paulini, PhD**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer; Managing Director, Aeterna Zentaris GmbH*



**Eckhard Guenther, PhD**  
*SVP Business Development and Alliance Management  
Managing Director, Aeterna Zentaris GmbH*

**Giuliano La Fratta**  
*SVP Finance, Chief Financial Officer*



**Nicola Ammer, MD**  
*SVP Clinical Development, Chief Medical Officer*



**Michael Teifel, PhD**  
*SVP Non-Clinical Development, Chief Scientific Officer*



# Investment Summary

Advancing diversified pipeline across multiple high-value therapeutic areas

## High-Value Focus Areas:

- Endocrine disorders
- Auto-immune diseases
- Neurodegenerative disease
- COVID-19 oral vaccine
- Chlamydia oral vaccine

AGHD

Only oral drug indicated  
for diagnosis of adult  
growth hormone deficiency

CGHD

Expanding into childhood  
growth hormone deficiency

Leveraging network of  
large pharmaceutical  
and university partners  
and collaborators

Strong Financial Position with Runway Expected to Fund Operations Through 2023<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>: Based on Management's current expectations and planned development activities



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Innovations

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