

# INFLAMMATORY BIOMARKERS, BRAIN VOLUMETRIC MRI, FDG-PET RESULTS IN PATIENTS WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES IN AZELIRAGON PHASE 3 TRIAL IN MILD ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (AD)

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### Disclosure



### **Carmen Valcarce**

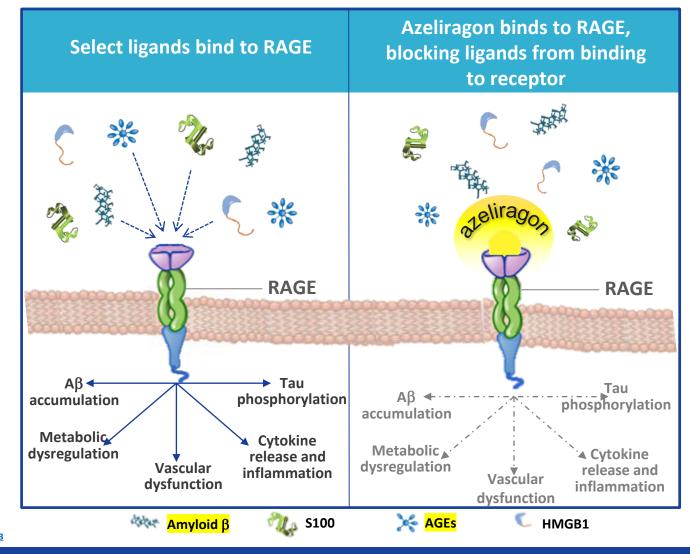
Full time employees of vTv Therapeutics LLC

### Targeting RAGE with Azeliragon



- Azeliragon's novel MOA: antagonizing the Receptor for Advanced Glycation Endproducts (RAGE)
- RAGE is expressed at low levels in healthy tissues (except skin and mucus membranes)
- Increases in the concentration of RAGE ligands induce RAGE expression
  - In AD, increases in RAGE protein and percentage of RAGE-expressing microglia parallel the severity of disease
- The interaction of **AGEs** (or other RAGE-ligands) with **RAGE** leads to:
  - Sustained cellular damage and inflammation; and
  - Insulin resistance
- Unlike most investigational AD treatments, azeliragon does not rely on just one hypothesis (e.g., amyloid or tau), but it targets several components of AD pathology

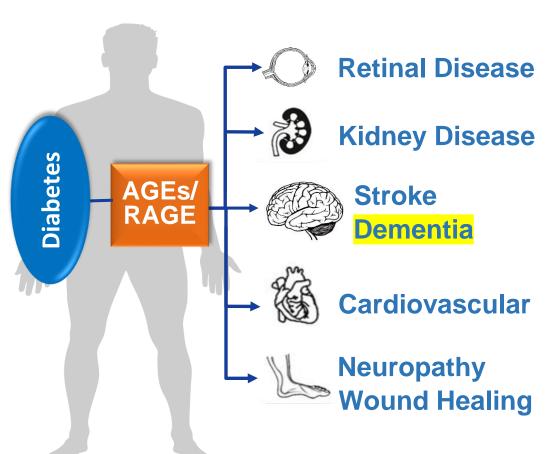
#### **Azeliragon Mechanism of Action**



For review see Dhananjayan et al. (2018) Advance Glycation, Diabetes and Dementia <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-809454-9.00009">https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-809454-9.00009</a>-

### RAGE Involved in Diabetic Complications and AD





#### **Pre-clinical Evidence with Azeliragon Treatment**

Animal model	Main Results: Treatment with Azeliragon	
Rat Diabetic Retinopathy	<ul> <li>Protection Against Vascular and Neuronal Lesions:</li> <li>Reduces acellular capillaries and improves pericyte/endothelial cell ratio</li> <li>Reduces activated microglia</li> </ul>	
Adriamycin Induced Mouse Nephropathy model	Protection from the Development of Massive Albuminuria, Mesangial Expansion and Glomerular Sclerosis	
Alzheimer's disease Transgenic Mouse model (human APP Swedish and London mutations)	<ul> <li>Reduces amyloid deposition and inflammation in the brain</li> <li>Increase Glucose Uptake in the brain</li> <li>Preserves cognitive/ behavioral function</li> </ul>	
C57BLKS/J-m+/+Lepr db mice (Lepr db)	Dose related decrease in wound closure time and % closure at all doses	

### Phase 3 STEADFAST Study Design







**Readout April 2018** 

## Two Pivotal Studies Under One Protocol

5mg/day azeliragon (AZL) or
Placebo (PBO) + Standard of Care
Patients with <u>probable mild AD</u>, MMSE 21-26, CDR
global 0.5-1

Co-Primary Endpoints: ADAS-cog11 and CDR-SB

Co-Primary Endpoints to be analyzed as independent studies

**Secondary Endpoints:** MRI volumetric measures, FDG-PET, functional / behavioral measures, etc

Secondary Endpoints to be analyzed as one study

Patients with diabetes were included in the study (HbA1c ≤7.7%)





<sup>\*</sup>At any time during the study; referred to as ADA-T2D subgroup throughout the presentation

## Potential Beneficial Effect on Cognition in Patients with Elevated HbA1c

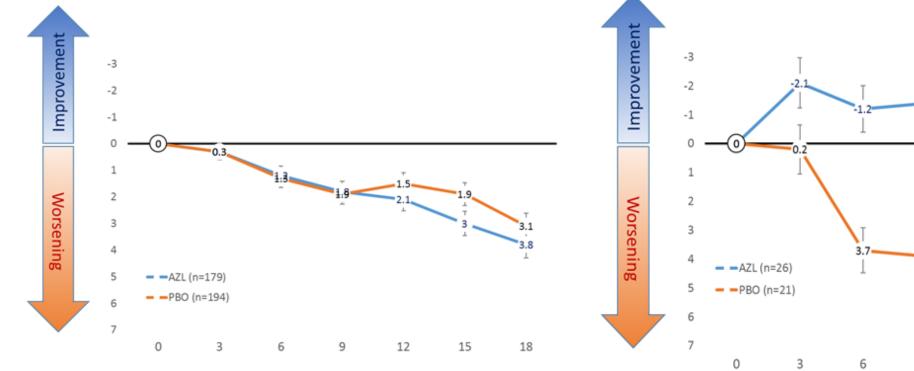


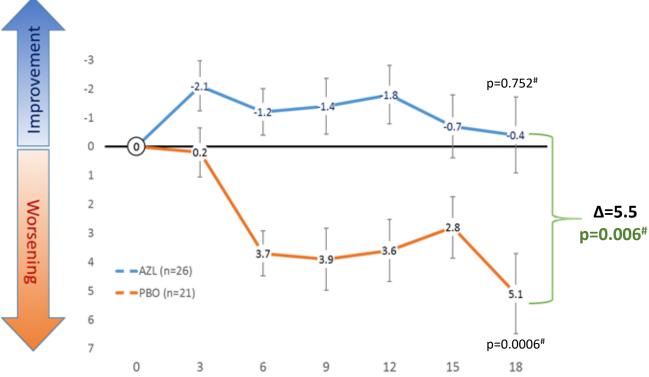
#### STEADFAST A-Study (FAS)

Change from Baseline in ADAS-cog11 (LSMEANS)

#### **STEAD** FAST A-Study ADA-T2D Subgroup (FAS)

**Change from Baseline in ADAS-cog11 (LSMEANS)** 





Results are LSMeans ± SE based on MMRM model. AD-T2D=HbA1c ≥6.5% at anytime during the study. #All p values are nominal. FAS =Full Analysis Set

## Potential Beneficial Effect on Cognitive Function in Patients with Elevated HbA1c

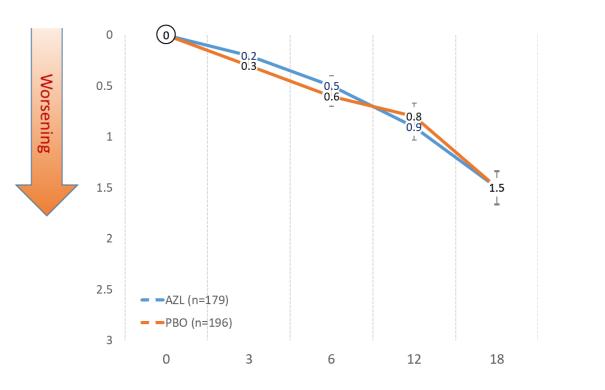


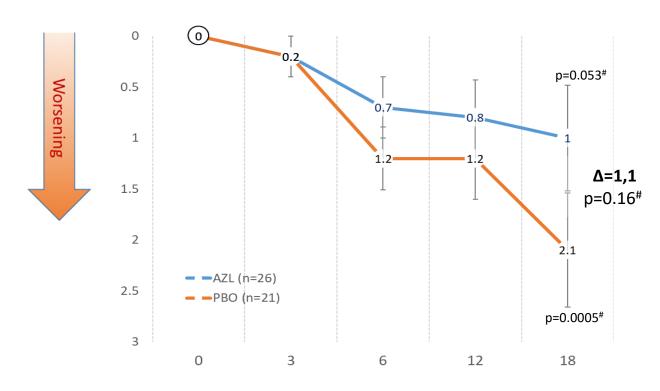
#### STEADFAST A-Study (FAS)

**Change from Baseline in CDR-SB** 

#### **STEADFAST A-Study ADA-T2D Subgroup (FAS)**

**Change from Baseline in CDR-SB** 





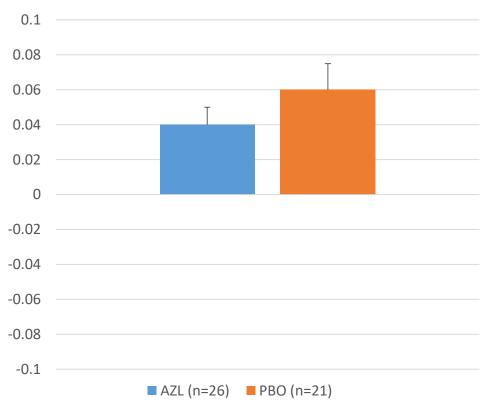
Results are LSMeans ± SE based on MMRM model. AD-T2D=HbA1c ≥6.5% at anytime during the study. #All p values are nominal. FAS =Full Analysis Set

## Cognitive Improvement Cannot be Explained by Improvement in Glycemic Control



#### **STEADFAST A-Study ADA-T2D Subgroup (FAS)**

#### Change in HbA1c (%) at Month 18

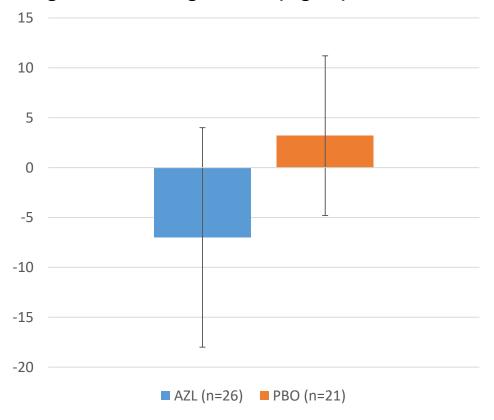


#### Stable therapy was required throughout the study

Insulin was not allowed

#### **STEADFAST A-Study ADA-T2D Subgroup (FAS)**

Change in Non-fasting Glucose (mg/dL) at Month 18



AD-T2D=HbA1c ≥6.5% at anytime during the study. Results are Means ± SE ,FAS = Full Analysis Set

### Demography and Baseline Characteristics: No Notable Imbalance Between Treatment Arms



## STEADFAST Study ADA-T2D Subgroup Demographics (A&B Studies Combined)

## STEADFAST Study ADA-T2D Subgroup Baseline Characteristics (A&B Studies Combined)

	_			
Characteristic	Statistic	Placebo	Azeliragon	
		(n=43)	(n=51)	
Age (years)	Mean	78	76	
	(min-max)	(58, 91)	(58, 92)	
Sex (male)	Number (%)	37 (86%)	31 (61%)	
Race (white)	Number (%)	39 (91%)	47 (92%)	
Ethnicity (not Hispanic or Latino)	Number (%) 36 (84%)		42 (82%)	
Weight (kg)	Mean (min-max)	82	78	
		(58-110)	(52-126)	
BMI (kg/m2)	Mean (min-max)	28	27	
		(20-38)	(19-35)	
Years since diagnosis of AD	Mean (min-max)	2.5	2.6	
		(0-13)	(0-10)	
ApoE alleles (at least one copy of E4)	Number (%)	22 (51%)	25 (49%)	
Background AD:				
Memantine	Number (%)	12 (28%)	22 (43%)	
Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor	Number (%)	40 (93%)	47 (92%)	
both	Number (%)	10 (23%)	18 (35%)	

Characteristic	Chatiatia	DI I	A 1.
Characteristic	Statistic	Placebo	Azeliragon
		(n=43)	(n=51)
Baseline MMSE	Mean (min-max)	23.5	23.4
		(17-28)	(19-30)
Baseline ADAS-cog	Mean (min-max)	16.1	16.5
		(5-27)	(4-33)
Baseline CDR-sb	Mean (min-max)	4.5	4.7
		(1.0-8.0)	(1.5-9.0)
Baseline ADCS-ADL	Mean (min-max)	63	66
		(31-76)	(48-78)
Baseline NPI	Mean (min-max)	8.9	10.2
		(0-50)	(0-43)
Baseline CDR-global			
CDR-global = 0.5	Number (%)	21 (49%)	21 (41%)
CDR-global = 1	Number (%)	22 (51%)	30 (59%)

## Change in MRI Brain Volume at Month 18 in the ADA-T2D Subgroup: Trend Towards Less Brain Atrophy in the AZL-treated Group





-0.5

-1.5

-2.5

Decrease

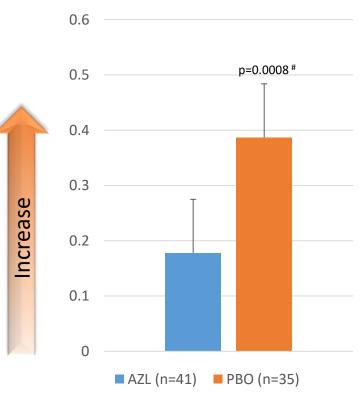


p=0.0002#

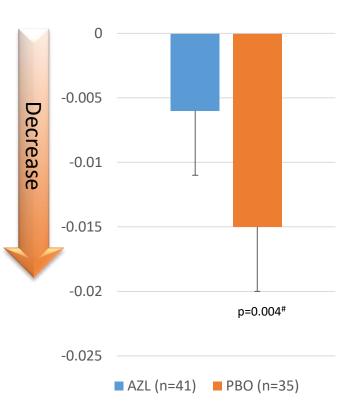
P=0.015

■ AZL (n=41) ■ PBO (n=35)

ADA-T2D Subgroup
Ventricular Enlargement (%)



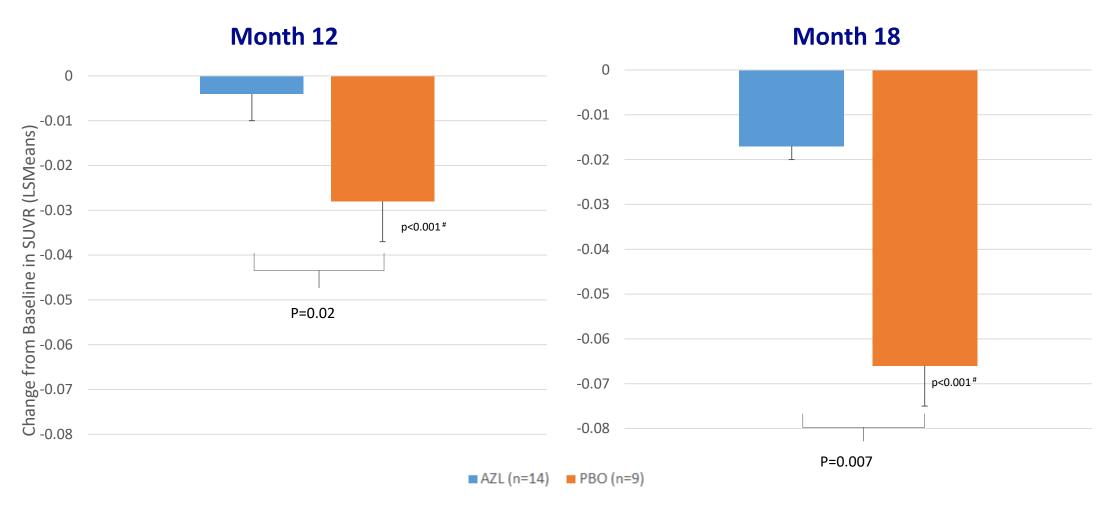
ADA-T2D Subgroup Change in Total Hippocampus Volume (%)



AD-T2D=HbA1c ≥6.5% at anytime during the study.\*\*Results are change from baseline LSMeans ± SE ANCOVA adjusted for baseline, FAS. # 1-sample test nominal significance indicating worsening. All p values are nominal

## Change in FDG-PET SUVR in the ADA-T2D Subgroup: Less Reduction in Glucose Utilization in AZL-treated Group





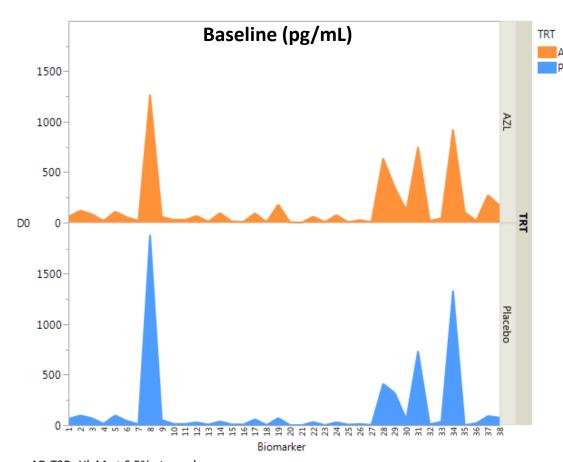
SUVR composite (unweighted combination of frontal, anterior/posterior cingulate, lateral parietal, lateral temporal, and hippocampus)

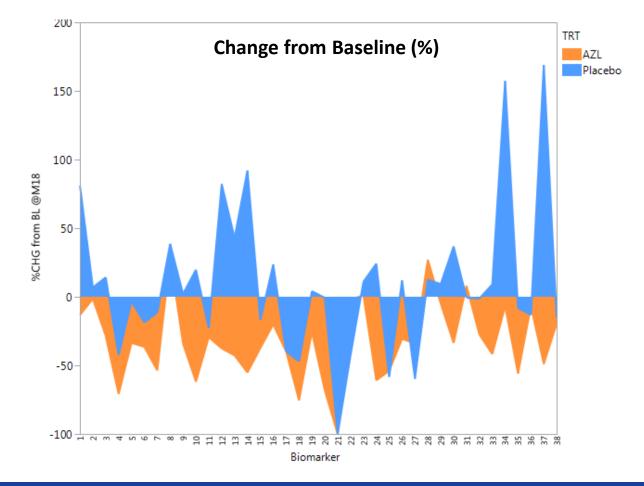
Results are LSMeans ± SE based on MMRM model, FAS. AD-T2D=HbA1c ≥6.5% at anytime during the study. #1-sample test nominal significance indicating worsening. All p values are nominal

## Inflammatory Marker Panel: Changes at Month 18 of Treatment in ADA-T2D Subgroup



- Inflammatory biomarkers were measured in plasma using LincoPlex system and the human cytokine/chemokine full panel (panel 1, Millipore)
- No notable differences between placebo and azeliragon at baseline
- Statistically meaningful differences between azeliragon and placebo for changes from baseline in select inflammatory markers





### Changes in Biomarker Profile Consistent with RAGE Inhibition



Biomarker	Relation to RAGE	Predicted change upon RAGE inhibition	Subjects with AD and HbA1c≥6.5
			treated with treated with  AZL 5mg Placebo
TNFb	Indirect	Decrease	*
TGF-a	Indirect	Decrease	
sCD40L	Direct	Decrease	*
MIP-1b	Direct	Decrease	*
MCP-3	Indirect	Decrease	
MCP-1	Indirect	Decrease	
IL-6	Direct	Decrease	*
IL-2	Indirect	Decrease	*
IL-13	Indirect	Decrease	
IL-12p70	Direct	Decrease	*
IL-12p40	Direct	Decrease	*
IFNg	Direct	Decrease	*
GM-CSF	Indirect	Decrease	
FGF-2	Indirect	Decrease	*
*nominal p<0.05 W Results are Me		-:	100 -75 -50 -25 0 25 5 %Change from Baseline at Month 18

#### Biomarker Profile

Azeliragon treatment significantly decreased the following markers linked to RAGE:

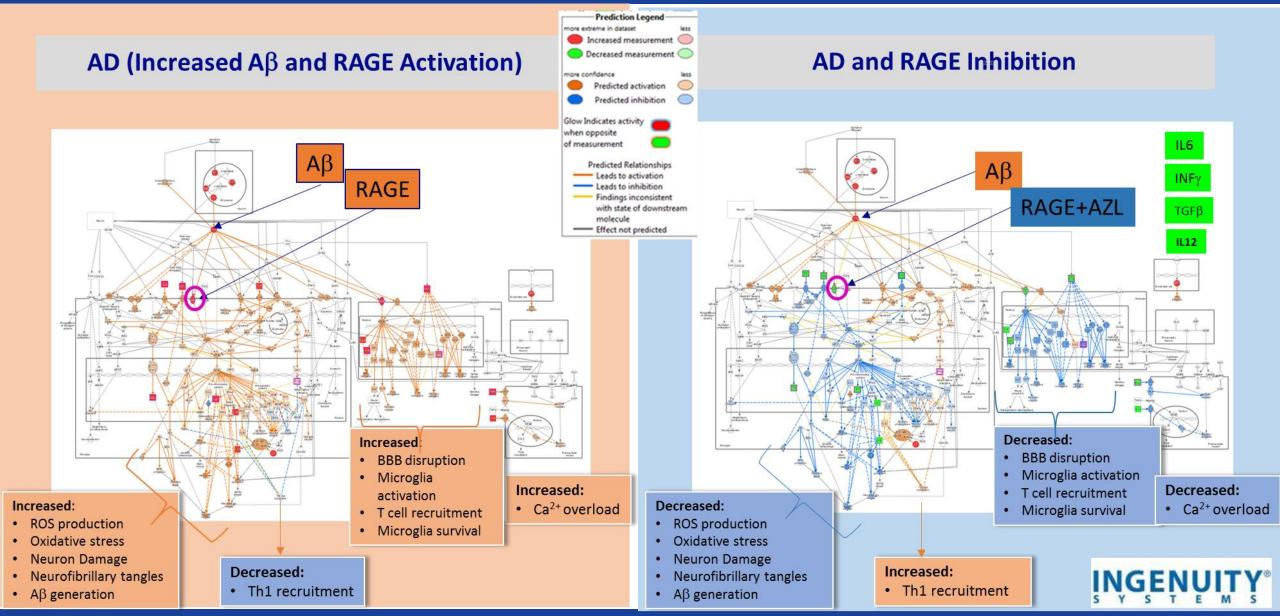
- IL6
- IL12
- INFg
- CD40L
- MIP-1
- IL2
- TNFb

Each of these markers is a major player in the neuroinflammatory pathway<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Based on Ingenuity software predictions

## Data from the ADA-T2D Subgroup and Prediction Using Ingenuity Software Support Hypothesis that Inhibition of RAGE Could Result in Beneficial Effects





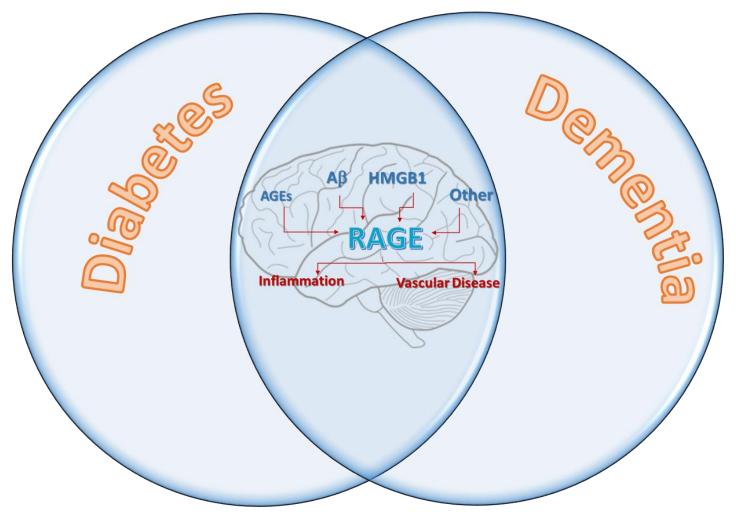
### Conclusions



- Results from the post-hoc analysis of a subgroup of patients with HbA1c≥6.5% support the hypothesis that treatment with azeliragon may:
  - Improve/preserve cognition and function
  - Reduce Whole Brain and Hippocampus atrophy and ventricular enlargement
  - Preserve glucose uptake
- □ The results from the inflammatory marker analyses revealed changes consistent with RAGE inhibition, possibly indicating functional pharmacologic activity of azeliragon in this subgroup of patients
- □ Further clinical studies are necessary to confirm this hypothesis:
  - vTv is Initiating start-up activities for a study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of azeliragon in subjects with mild AD and type 2 diabetes (HbA1c ≥6.5%)
    - Part 1: Objective is to demonstrate efficacy on a cognitive endpoint and establish proof of concept
    - Part 2: To be initiated upon positive results from Part 1. Objective is to demonstrate efficacy on co-primary endpoints of cognition and function

### Thank you!





We greatly appreciate all the patients, families, investigators and staff for their participation in STEADFAST