

# Highly Effective Modulator Therapy in Cystic Fibrosis

2022 CSHP Ontario Branch Annual Conference

November 19, 2022

Kevin J. Curley BSc, BScPhm, MSc, RPh.

# Presenter Disclosure

- I have the Relationships with commercial interests:
  - Speaker Fees: [Vertex Pharmaceuticals Canada](#)
- Speaking Fees for current program:
  - I have received no speaker's fee for this learning activity

# Commercial Support Disclosure

- This program has received no financial or in-kind support from any commercial or other organization

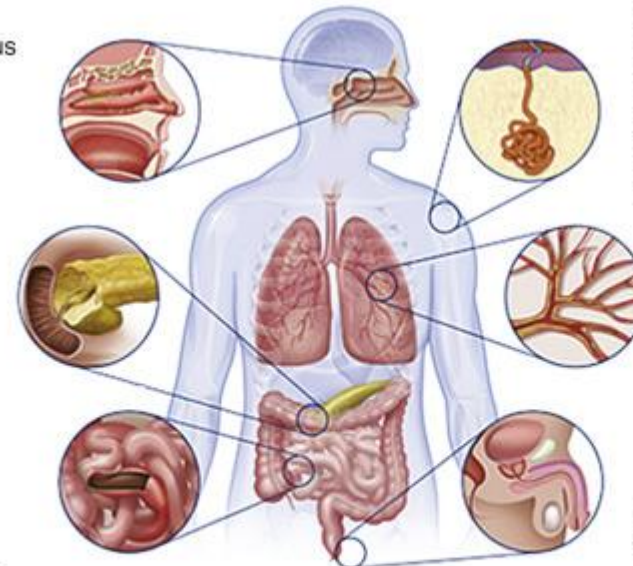
# Learning Objectives

- By the end of this session participants should understand:
  - Molecular pathogenesis of Cystic Fibrosis
  - Mechanism of action of novel CFTR modulator drugs
  - Safety and efficacy of elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor
  - Current accessibility of modulator drugs across Canada

# Cystic Fibrosis

- Genetic disease resulting from mutation in cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene
- Multisystem disorder
  - **Lung**
  - Pancreas
  - Liver
  - Intestines
  - Reproductive organs
- Goals of therapy
  - Maintaining lung function
  - Maintaining growth and development

*Nose and sinuses*  
• Not a specific focus of trials to date



*Sweat gland*  
Reduction in sweat Cl- with ivacaftor, corrector/ivacaftor combinations/ GLPG1837/ cysteamine+ECGC

*Lung*  
Positive outcomes in trials of:  
• CFTR gene replacement  
• Potentiators (+/-correctors)

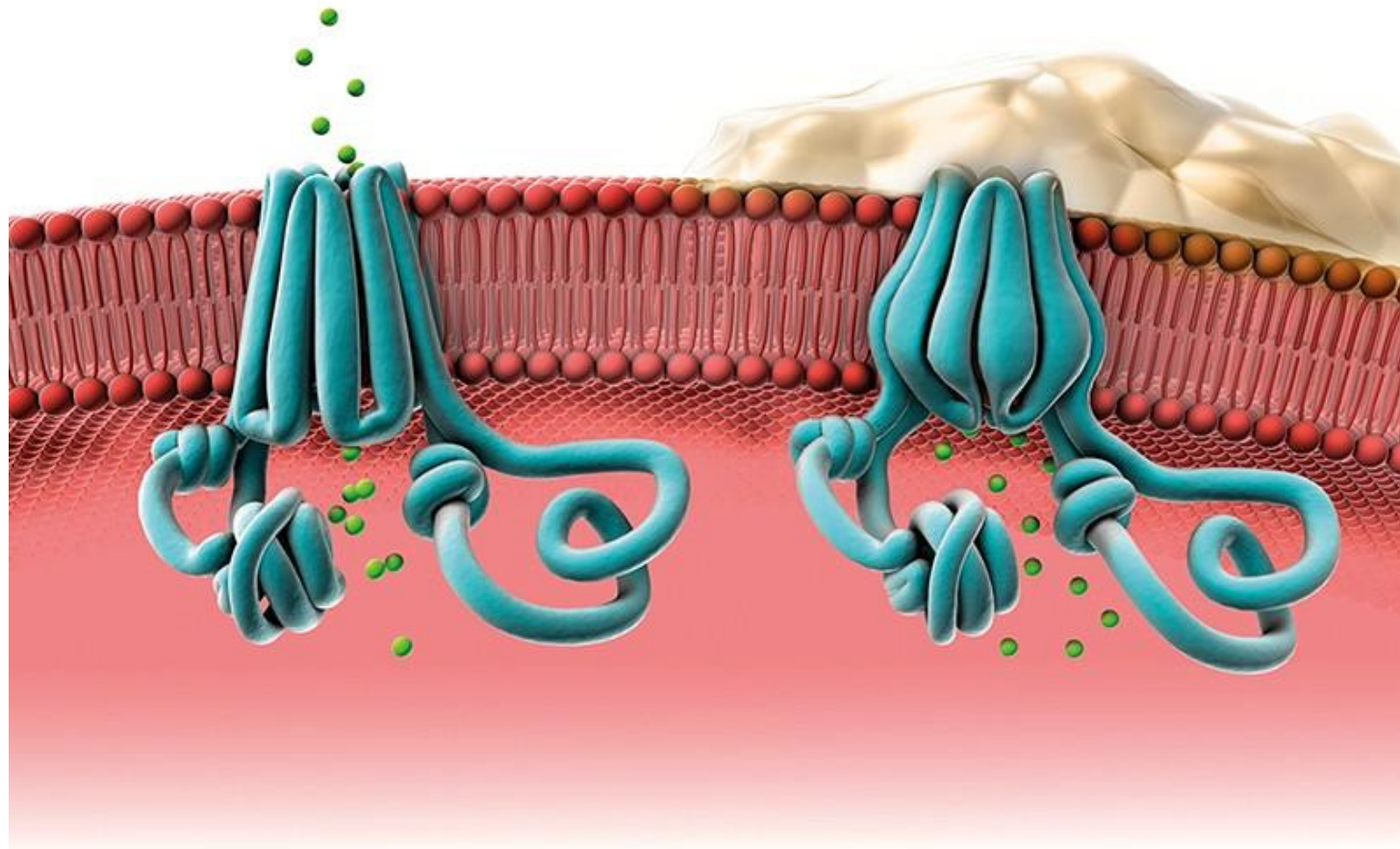
*Vas deferens*  
• Not assessed to date in clinical trials

*Pancreas*  
Increased faecal elastase observed in children under 6 years with gating mutations receiving ivacaftor

*Gut*  
Improvements in weight with potentiators/ combo  
Correction of gut pH with ivacaftor

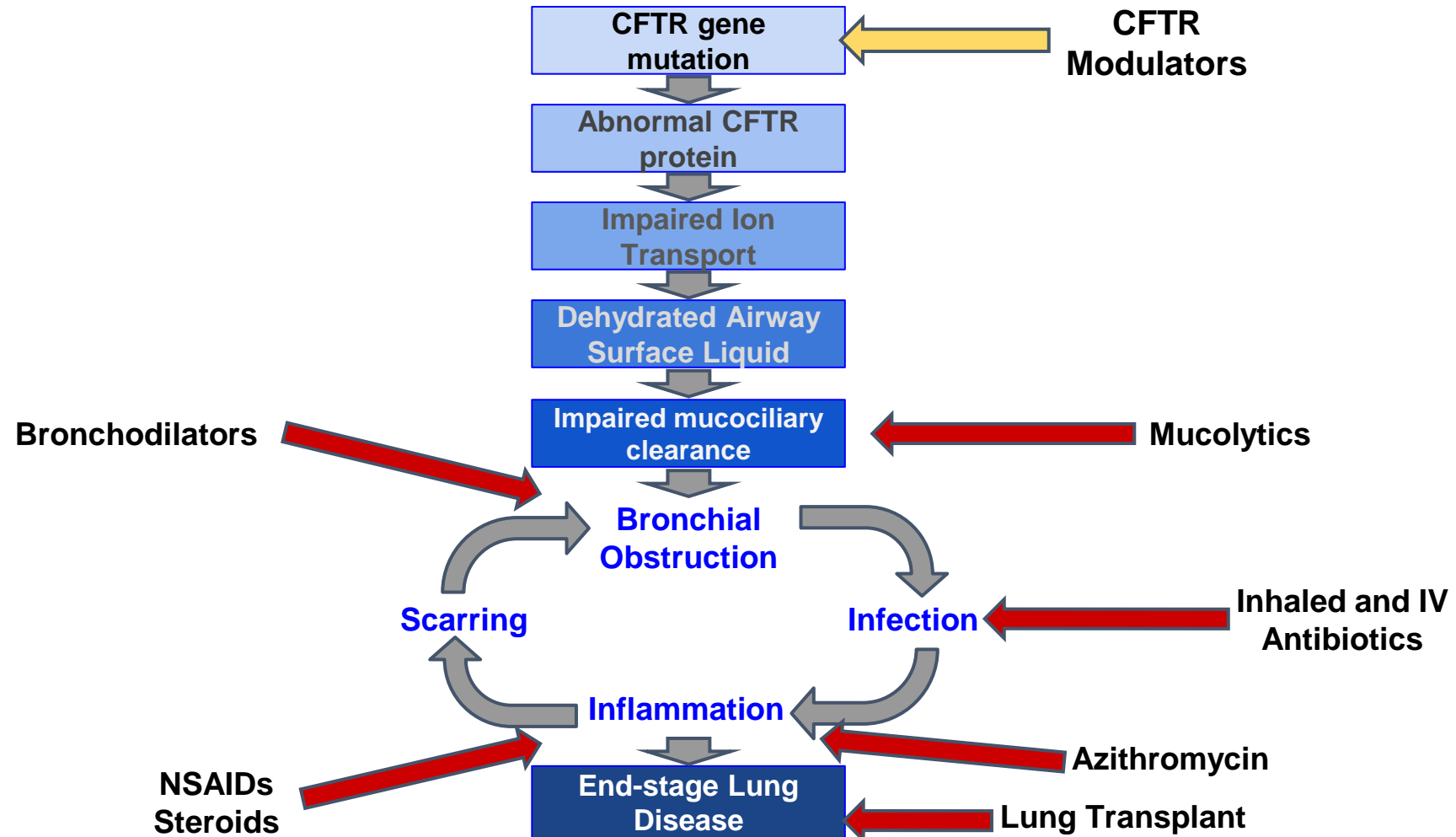
# Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator (CFTR)

**Normal CFTR Channel**  
Chloride ions move across membrane to outside of cell



**Mutant CFTR Channel**  
Chloride ions do not move across membrane. Sticky mucus builds up outside of cell

# Treatment vs. Pathophysiology of CF Lung Disease

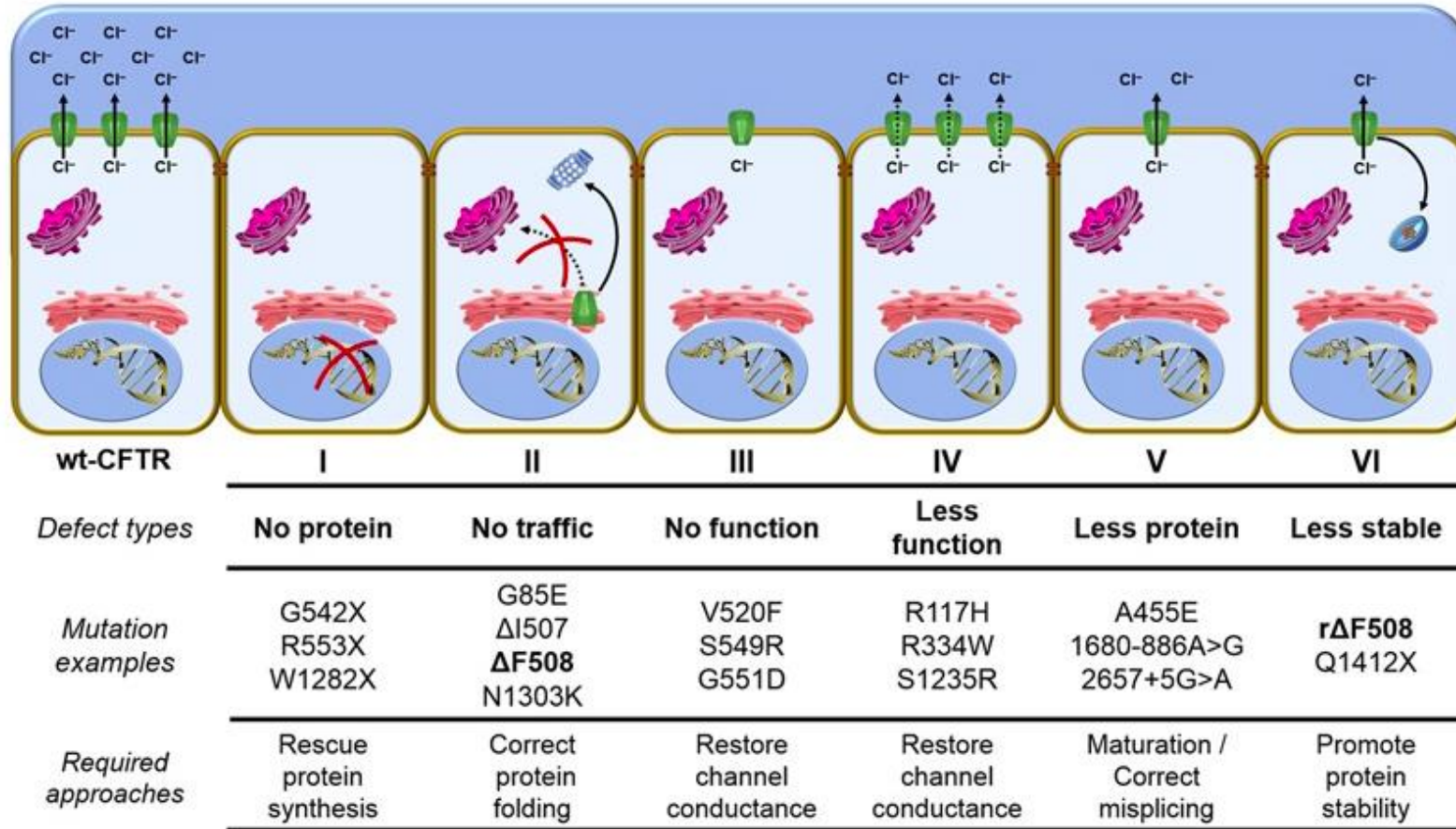


# CFTR Modulators

- Drugs that act directly on CFTR to correct defects in production and/or structure
- Small molecules
- New drugs or existing drugs discovered by high throughput screening
- Categories of CFTR Modulators:
  - Read-through
  - **Correctors**
  - **Potentiators**
  - Stabilizers
  - Amplifiers

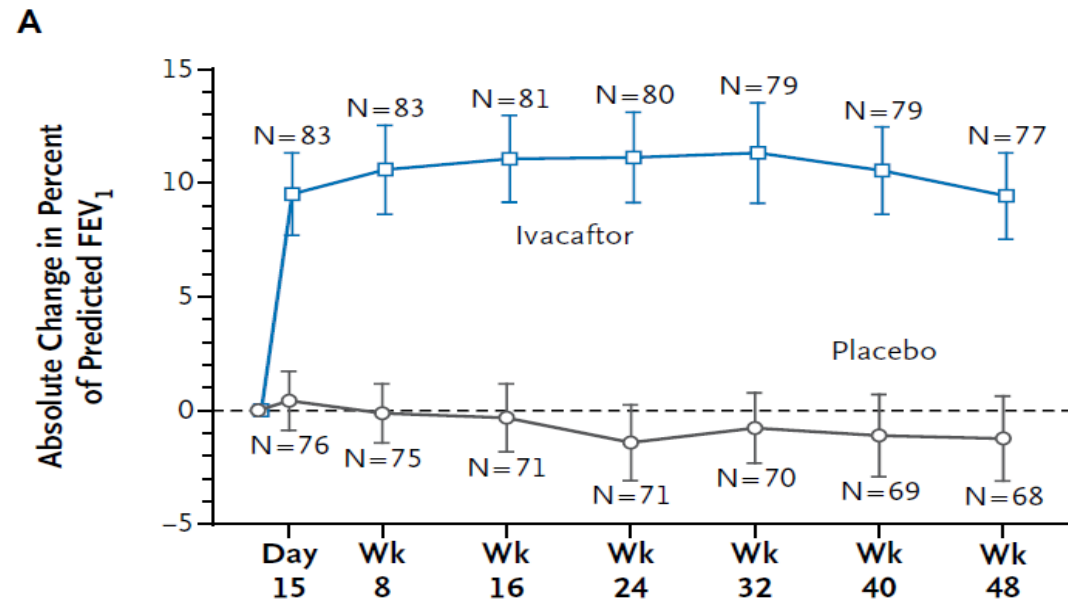


# CFTR Mutations



# Ivacaftor

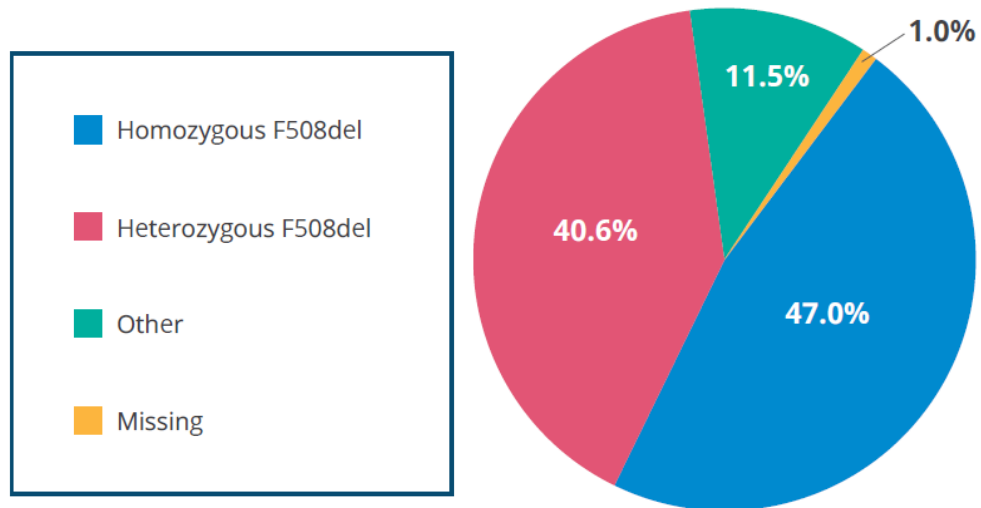
- Potentiator - Corrects gating defects in G551D (and others)
- Approved 2012 based on STRIVE, ENVISION
  - 10.6% increase in ppFEV<sub>1</sub>
  - 55% reduction in exacerbations
- Well tolerated, few drug interactions



Ramsay et al, NEJM (2011)

# CFTR Genotypes

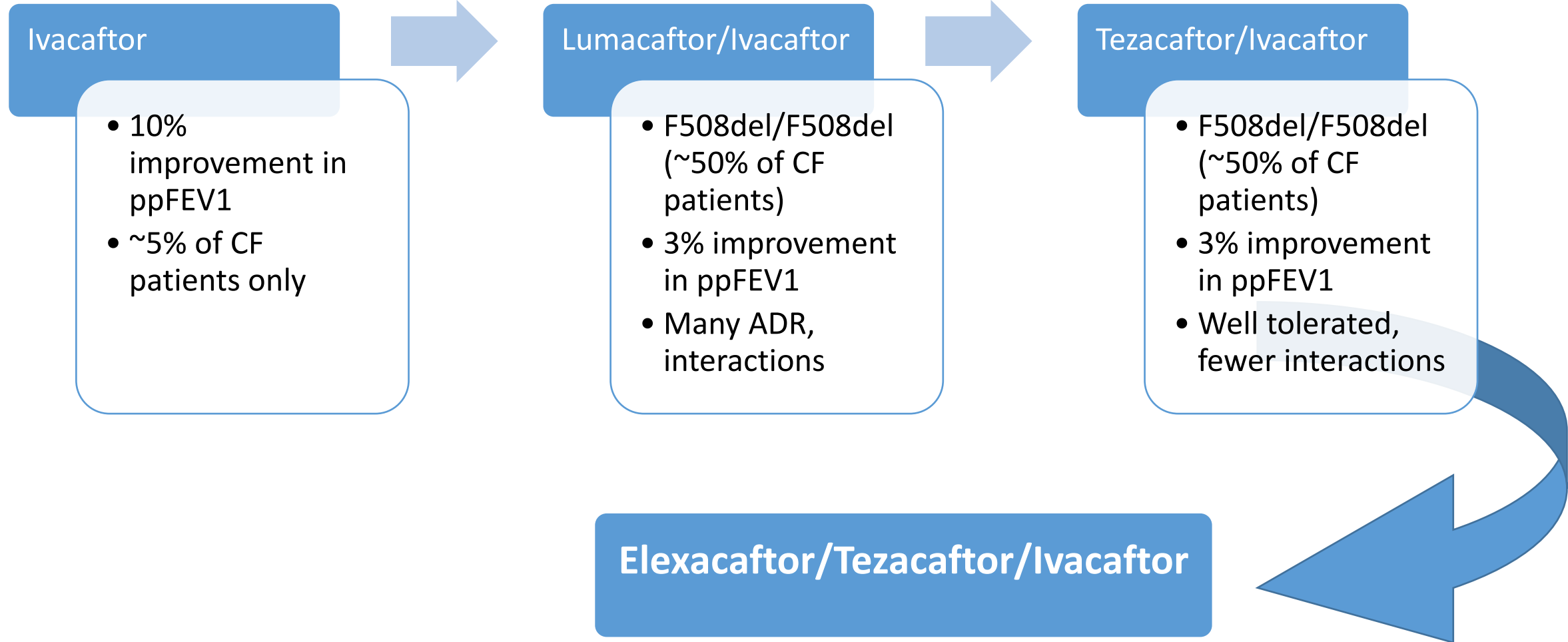
Genotype distribution of CF population (N = 4,332), 2020.



Frequency of the top 10 most common CFTR gene mutations on one or both alleles of cystic fibrosis individuals with recorded mutations (N = 4,290), 2020.

| MUTATION  | NUMBER | PERCENTAGE |
|-----------|--------|------------|
| F508del   | 3,791  | 88.4%      |
| 621+1G->T | 259    | 6.0%       |
| G542X     | 146    | 3.4%       |
| G551D     | 136    | 3.2%       |
| 711+1G->T | 118    | 2.8%       |
| A455E     | 112    | 2.6%       |
| L206W     | 110    | 2.6%       |
| N1303K    | 91     | 2.1%       |
| M1101K    | 69     | 1.6%       |
| G85E      | 68     | 1.6%       |

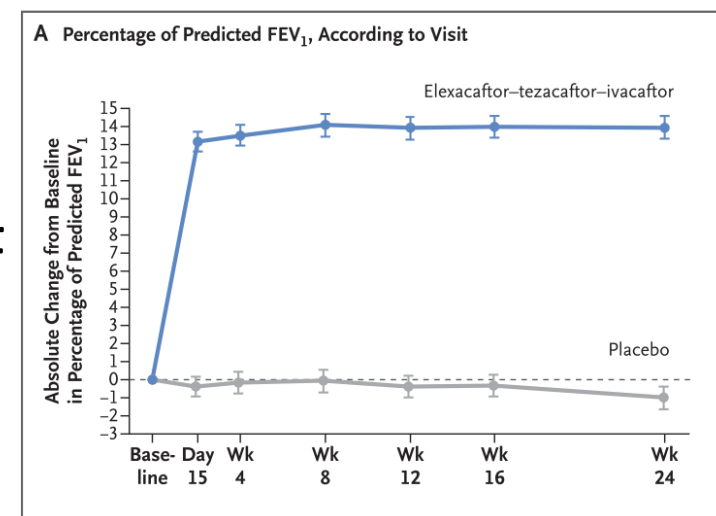
# CFTR Modulator Development



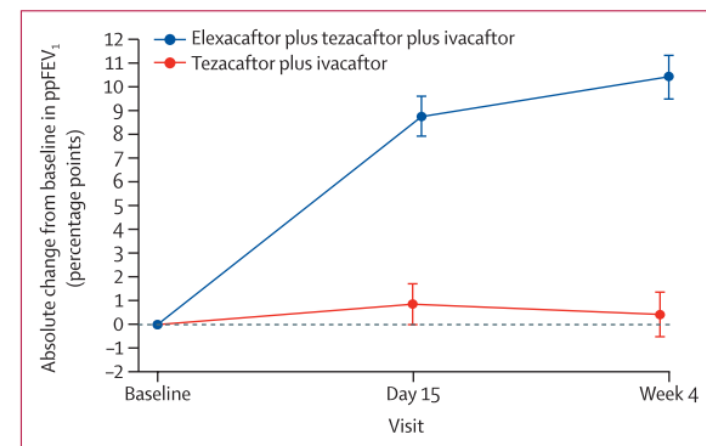
# Elexacaftor/Tezacaftor/Ivacaftor

- Triple combination
  - Corrector/Corrector/Potentiator
- Studied in F508del homozygous or F508del/MF
- Phase III trial results published Oct. 2019
  - **13.8%** increase in FEV<sub>1</sub> for F508del/MF
  - **10.0%** increase in FEV<sub>1</sub> for F508del/F508del
    - Versus tezacaftor/ivacaftor alone
  - **63%** reduction in pulmonary exacerbations
- Approved in Canada 2021
  - For patients with one copy F508del (~90% of CF population)

MF = Minimal Function



F/MF



F/F

Middleton et al., NEJM (2019)

Heijerman et al., Lancet (2019)

# Elexacaftor/Tezacaftor/Ivacaftor Side Effects

| Side Effect         | E/T/I      | Placebo   | Side Effect                | E/T/I     | Placebo   |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Headache            | 17%        | 15%       | CPK increase               | 9%        | 4%        |
| URTI                | 16%        | 12%       | <b>AST increase</b>        | <b>9%</b> | <b>2%</b> |
| Abdo Pain           | 14%        | 9%        | Rhinorrhea                 | 8%        | 3%        |
| Diarrhea            | 13%        | 7%        | Influenza                  | 7%        | 1%        |
| <b>Rash</b>         | <b>10%</b> | <b>5%</b> | Sinusitis                  | 5%        | 4%        |
| <b>ALT increase</b> | <b>10%</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>Increased bilirubin</b> | <b>5%</b> | <b>1%</b> |
| Nasal congestion    | 9%         | 7%        |                            |           |           |

- Post-marketing
  - Joint, muscle pain
  - Cognitive, psychiatric effects

# Administration and Clinical Pearls

- Two tablets AM (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor), one tablet PM (ivacaftor)
- Medication must be taken with food
  - 10-15g fat minimum
- CYP450 and Pgp substrate
  - Interactions with azole antifungals, anti-seizure meds
- Close monitoring of liver function in first year
- Counsel on fertility, birth control
- Discuss discontinuation, plan for other chronic CF meds

# Elexacaftor/Tezacaftor/Ivacaftor Coverage

- List price ~\$300,000 per year
- Currently covered by all provincial public drug plans for patients over 6 years of age with one copy F508del
- Many private drug plans covering
- Clear demonstration of benefit required for renewal – baseline and follow-up monitoring required
  - Lung function
  - BMI
  - Exacerbations
  - CFQ-R



# References

- Davies, G et al.. (2019). Molecular Therapies for Cystic Fibrosis. In R. W. Wilmott et al. (Ed) *Kendig's Disorders of the Respiratory Tract in Children* (Ninth Edition, pp 800-811). Elsevier.
- Plackett, B. (2020). How much protein function needs to be restored? *Nature*, 583(7818) doi:<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-020-02114-w>
- Lopes-Pacheco M (2016) CFTR Modulators: Shedding Light on Precision Medicine for Cystic Fibrosis. *Front. Pharmacol.* 7:275. doi: 10.3389/fphar.2016.00275
- Ramsey, B. W. et al. A CFTR potentiator in patients with cystic fibrosis and the G551D mutation. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **365**, 1663–1672 (2011)
- Cystic Fibrosis Canada. (2022). The Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Registry 2020 Annual Data Report. Toronto, Canada: Cystic Fibrosis Canada.
- Middleton, P. G. et al. Elexacaftor-tezacaftor-ivacaftor for cystic fibrosis with a single Phe508del allele. *N. Engl. J. Med.* **381**(19):1809–1819. (2019)
- Heijerman, H. G. M. et al. Efficacy and safety of the elexacaftor plus tezacaftor plus ivacaftor combination regimen in people with cystic fibrosis homozygous for the F508del mutation: a double-blind, randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet.* **394**(10212):1940–1948. (2019)