

# TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION

R&D Meeting – December 9, 2022



# CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

In this material, statements made with respect to current plans, estimates, strategies and beliefs and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements about the future performance of Astellas Pharma. These statements are based on management's current assumptions and beliefs in light of the information currently available to it and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (i) changes in general economic conditions and in laws and regulations, relating to pharmaceutical markets, (ii) currency exchange rate fluctuations, (iii) delays in new product launches, (iv) the inability of Astellas to market existing and new products effectively, (v) the inability of Astellas to continue to effectively research and develop products accepted by customers in highly competitive markets, and (vi) infringements of Astellas' intellectual property rights by third parties.

Information about pharmaceutical products (including products currently in development) which is included in this material is not intended to constitute an advertisement or medical advice. Information about investigational compounds in development does not imply established safety or efficacy of the compounds; there is no guarantee investigational compounds will receive regulatory approval or become commercially available for the uses being investigated.

## I Introduction

Kenji Yasukawa, Ph.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## II Building Leadership in Targeted Protein Degradation

Masahiko Hayakawa, Ph.D.  
Head of Targeted Protein Degradation

## III Closing

Yoshitsugu Shitaka, Ph.D.  
Chief Scientific Officer

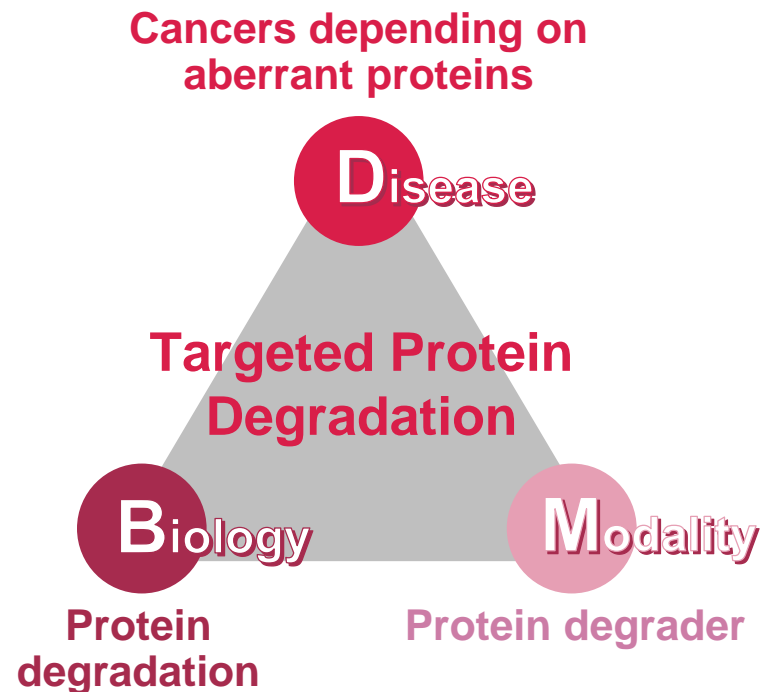
# INTRODUCTION



**Kenji Yasukawa, Ph.D.**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

# NEW PRIMARY FOCUS – TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION

*Proactively invest resources to continuously create programs from the established competitive technology platform*



**Primary Focus Targeted Protein Degradation** has been selected based on;

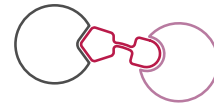
- Scientific validity:  
Established a technology platform for a new modality, **protein degrader**
- Feasibility:  
Leveraging **proficient capabilities for medicinal chemistry and manufacturing of small molecules** cultivated over the year, and development in oncology
- Identified lead program and potential follow-on programs:  
In addition to **ASP3082**, **multiple follow-on programs** are under investigation

# OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S PRESENTATION

## BUILDING LEADERSHIP IN TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION



**Technology platform**  
allowing access to  
undruggable targets



Product potential  
of **ASP3082**



**Capabilities** to continuously  
generate new programs



**Expandability** of  
the Primary Focus



**Masahiko Hayakawa, Ph.D.**  
Vice President  
Head of Targeted Protein Degradation

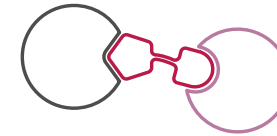
# BUILDING LEADERSHIP IN TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION



**Masahiko Hayakawa, Ph.D.**  
Head of Targeted Protein Degradation



**Technology platform**  
allowing access to  
undruggable targets



Product potential  
of **ASP3082**



**Capabilities** to continuously  
generate new programs

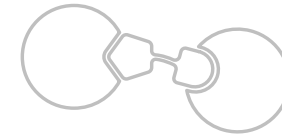


**Expandability** of  
the Primary Focus





**Technology platform**  
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Product potential  
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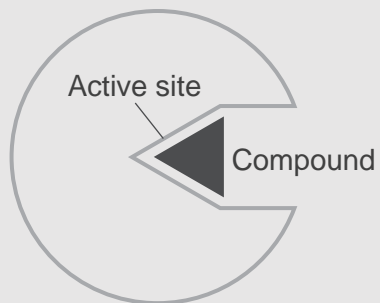
**Capabilities** to continuously  
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**Expandability** of  
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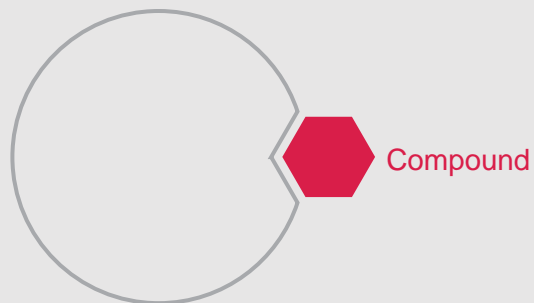
# 'UNDRUGGABLE' TARGETS

## DRUGGABLE TARGET



Able to control its function through binding to active site, conformational change, etc.

## UNDRUGGABLE TARGET



Not able to sufficiently control its function by just binding, due to lack of apparent active sites, etc., considered hard to be a target of drug

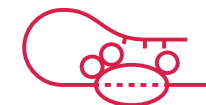
About 20% of disease-related proteins have an active binding site (or deep pocket) suitable for inhibition via small molecules <sup>1</sup>

The remaining 80% have shallow binding pockets traditionally considered undruggable <sup>1</sup>

Examples of undruggable targets include:



**Small GTPase**  
(e.g. KRAS, NRAS)



**Transcription factor**  
(e.g. c-Myc,  $\beta$ -catenin)



**E3 ligase**



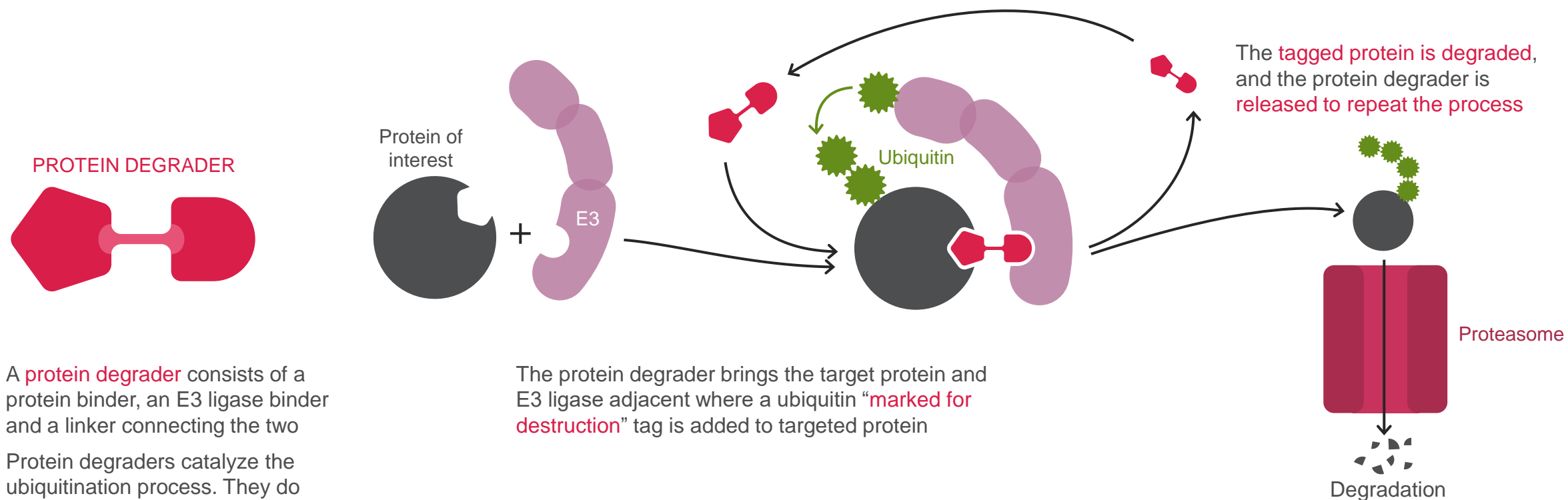
**Scaffold protein**



**Adaptor protein**

# PROTEIN DEGRADATION AS A KEY MODALITY TO ACCESS INTRACELLULAR UNDRUGGABLE TARGETS

*A protein degrader works by hijacking the body's natural protein degradation process, the ubiquitin-proteasome system*



A **protein degrader** consists of a protein binder, an E3 ligase binder and a linker connecting the two

Protein degraders catalyze the ubiquitination process. They do **not need potent binding affinity** to the targeted protein

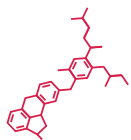
The protein degrader brings the target protein and E3 ligase adjacent where a ubiquitin "**marked for destruction**" tag is added to targeted protein

# POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF PROTEIN DEGRADERS OVER OTHER MODALITIES

Molecular weight

Intracellular target

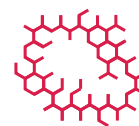
Extracellular target



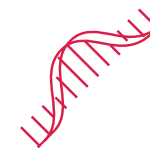
Covalent binding drugs  
(e.g. small molecule cryptic pocket binder)



Protein degrader



Mid-size molecules  
(e.g. cyclic peptides)



Oligonucleotide therapeutics  
(e.g. siRNA)



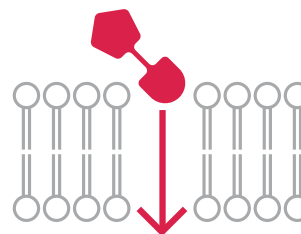
Protein-based drugs  
(e.g. antibodies)

## Advantages of protein degrader



### Targeting undruggables

Up to 80% of proteins could be addressed by protein degraders since they do not need deep pockets (vs. conventional small molecules)



### Penetrating barriers

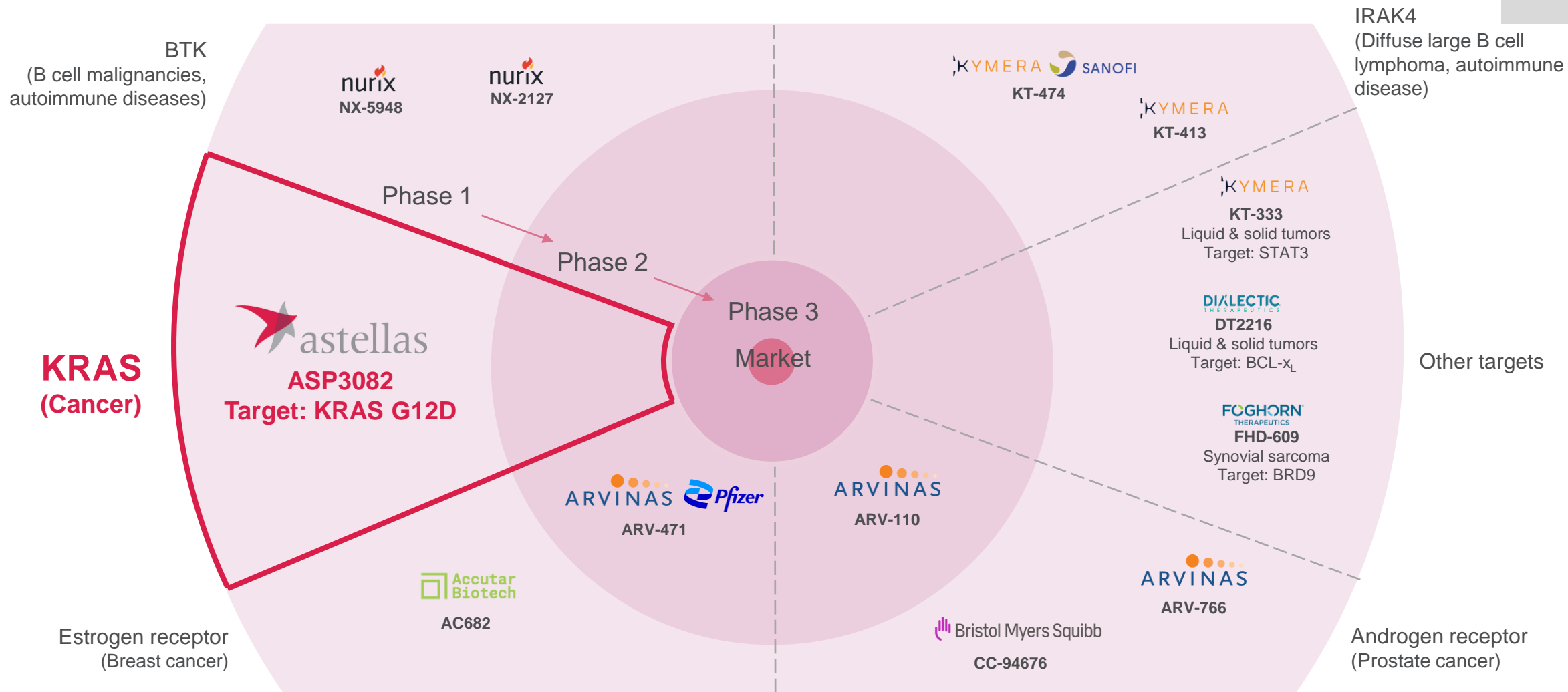
Protein degraders can penetrate the cell membrane and blood brain barrier, and are likely to penetrate solid tumor better than some bigger modalities (vs. antibodies)



### Specificity

Protein degraders are heterobifunctional molecules that can selectively degrade specific molecules by forming ternary complex (vs. conventional small molecules). They can also act selectively on a specific organ by utilizing disease/tissue-specific E3 ligase (vs. cyclic peptides)

# LANDSCAPE OF PROTEIN DEGRADERS

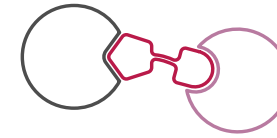


Ref: Békés M., Langley D.R., Crews C.M. *Nat Rev Drug Discov* 21:181-200 (2022)

BTK: Bruton's tyrosine kinase, KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homologue, IRAK4: interleukin-1 receptor-associated kinase 4, STAT3: signal transducer and activator of transcription 3, BCL-x<sub>L</sub>: B cell lymphoma-extra large, BRD9: bromodomain-containing protein 9



**Technology platform**  
allowing access to  
undruggable targets



Product potential  
of **ASP3082**



**Capabilities** to continuously  
generate new programs



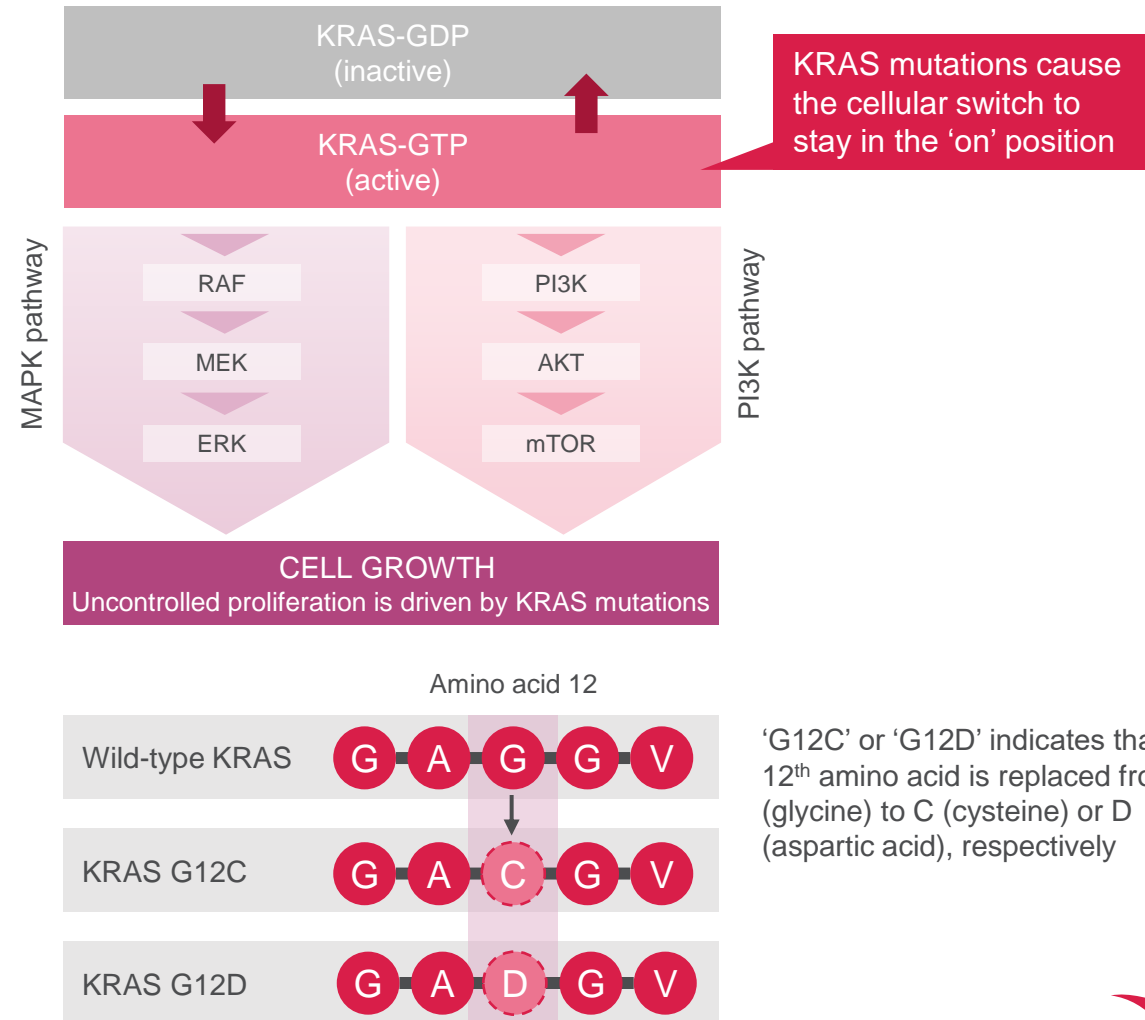
**Expandability** of  
the Primary Focus

# RAS MUTATIONS – A KEY DRIVER OF CANCER

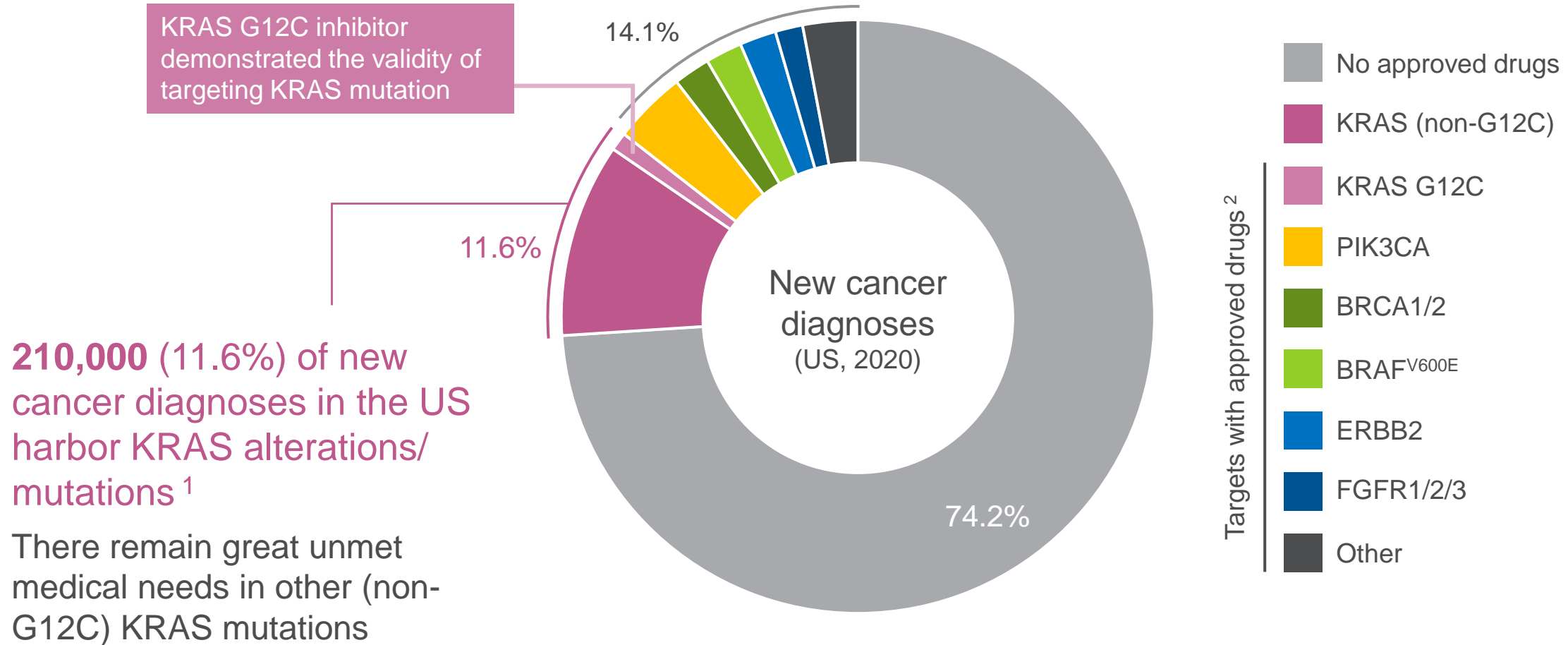
RAS proteins are GTPases which regulate signaling pathways and other interactions

RAS mutations are key cancer drivers with KRAS, NRAS and HRAS most commonly involved

Multiple types of KRAS mutations are known



# TARGETING KRAS MUTATIONS IS ONE OF THE GREAT FRONTIERS IN ADDRESSING UNMET MEDICAL NEEDS IN CANCER



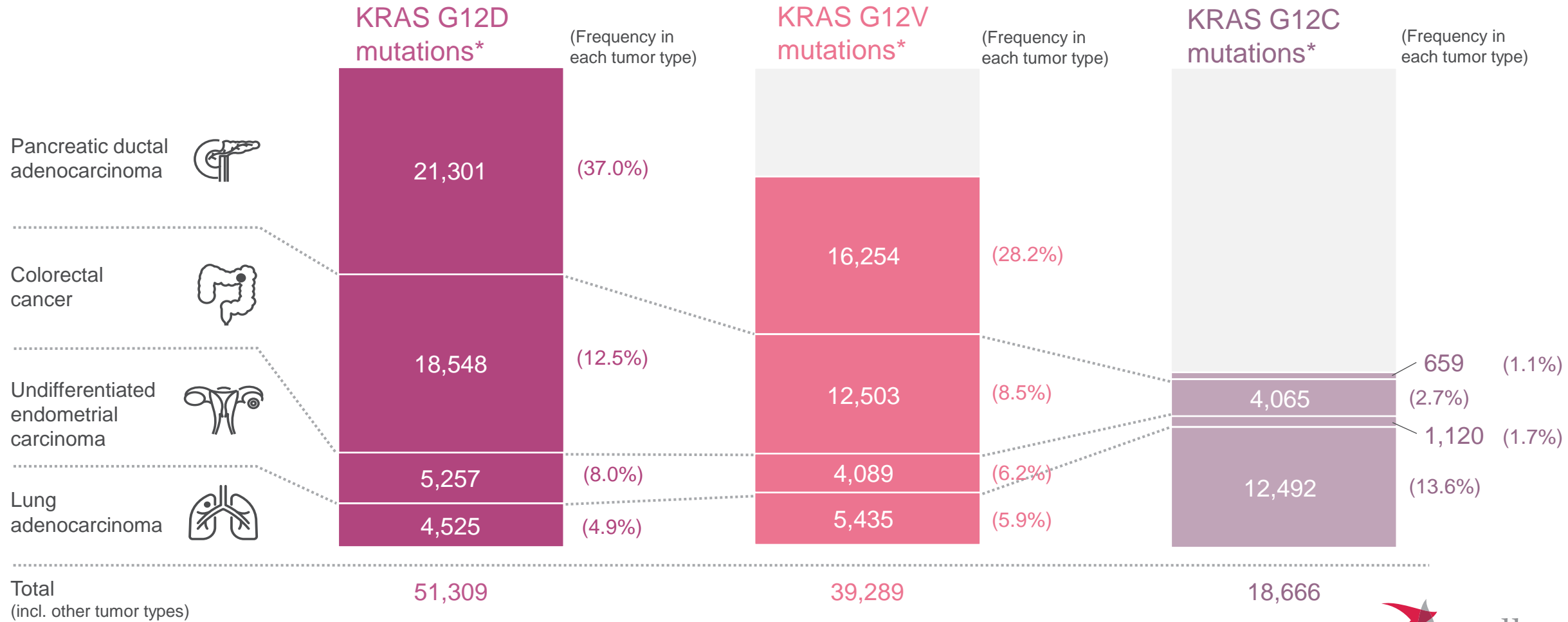
1. Hofmann M.H. *Cancer Discov* 12:924-37 (2022). 2. Precision medicine drugs approved by FDA (Food and Drug Administration). 3. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures (2020).

KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homologue, PIK3CA: phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate 3-kinase catalytic subunit alpha, BRCA: breast cancer gene, BRAF: v-raf murine sarcoma viral oncogene homolog B1, ERBB2: Erb-B2 receptor tyrosine kinase 2, FGFR: fibroblast growth factor receptor



# TARGETING MAJOR KRAS MUTATIONS CAN HAVE A **SIGNIFICANT IMPACT** ON UNMET MEDICAL NEEDS

The most prominent KRAS mutations are G12D, G12V, and G12C



\*Estimated new diagnoses/patients per year in US



# KRAS G12D IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND CHALLENGING MUTATIONS

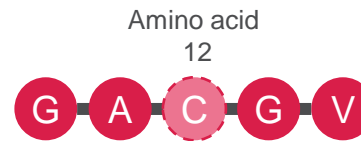
Inhibiting KRAS is difficult because **the pocket** to which the inhibitor binds is “**shallow**”, calling for novel therapeutic approaches

KRAS G12C has been successfully targeted, but KRAS G12D has **proven to be more challenging**

- The recently launched KRAS G12C inhibitor exploits a cysteine residue that makes irreversible covalent binding possible
- Other KRAS mutations including G12D has no cysteine residue, and even if it binds, it is easily released

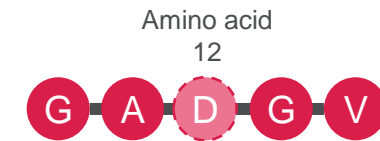
**ASP3082** binds to KRAS G12D and E3 ligase, bringing them adjacent to each other, and catalyzes the degradation via the ubiquitin-proteasome system

## KRAS G12C mutation

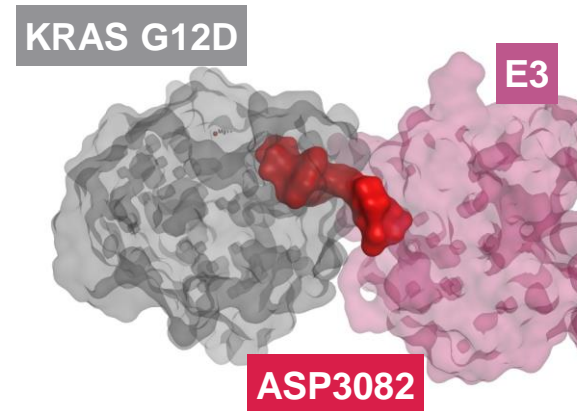


Mutation to cysteine:  
compounds can be  
covalently bound

## KRAS G12D mutation



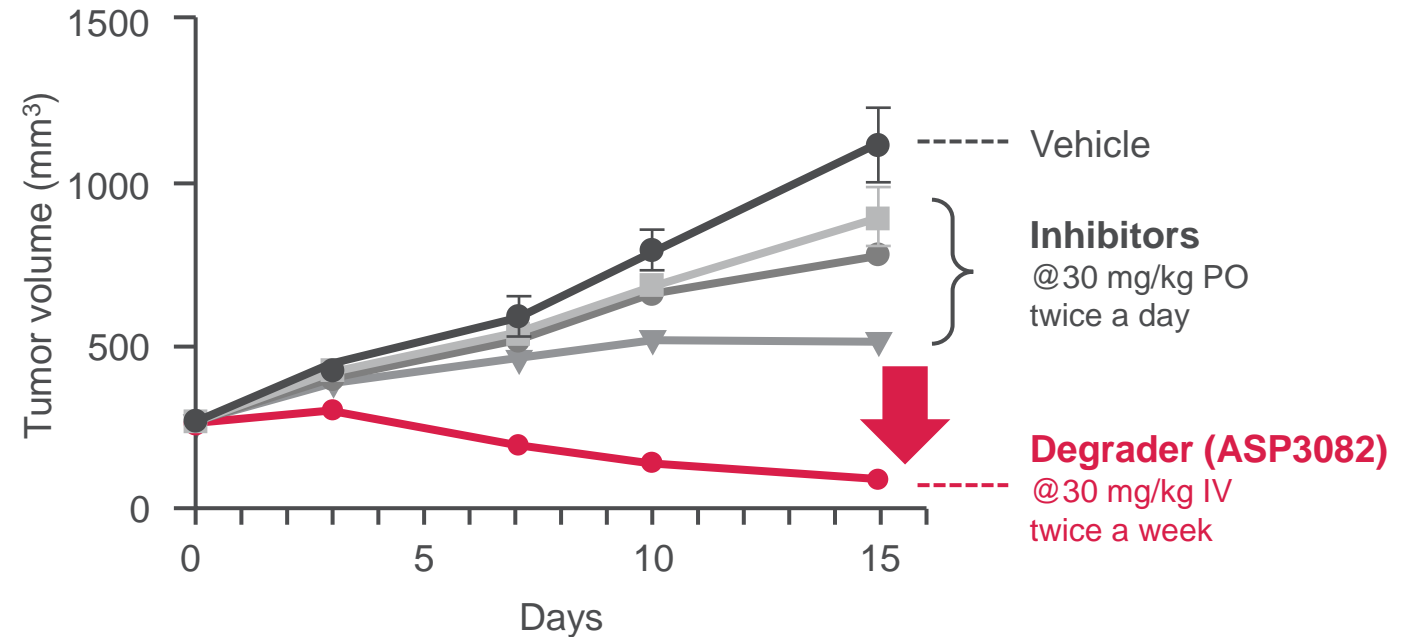
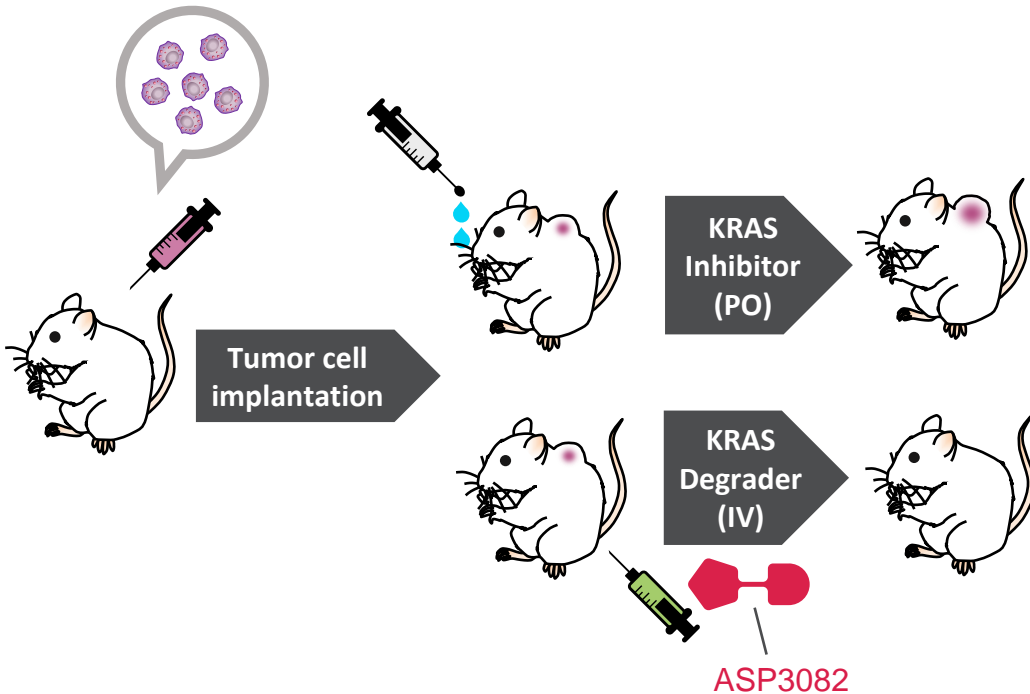
Mutation to aspartic acid:  
difficult to achieve strong  
binding



# ASP3082 DEMONSTRATES SUPERIOR ANTI-TUMOR EFFICACY VS INHIBITORS IN PRECLINICAL STUDIES

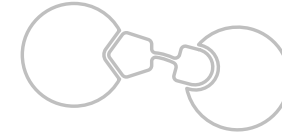
Xenograft mice bearing human pancreatic cancer with KRAS G12D mutation

PK-59 cell  
(KRAS G12D positive)





**Technology platform**  
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Product potential  
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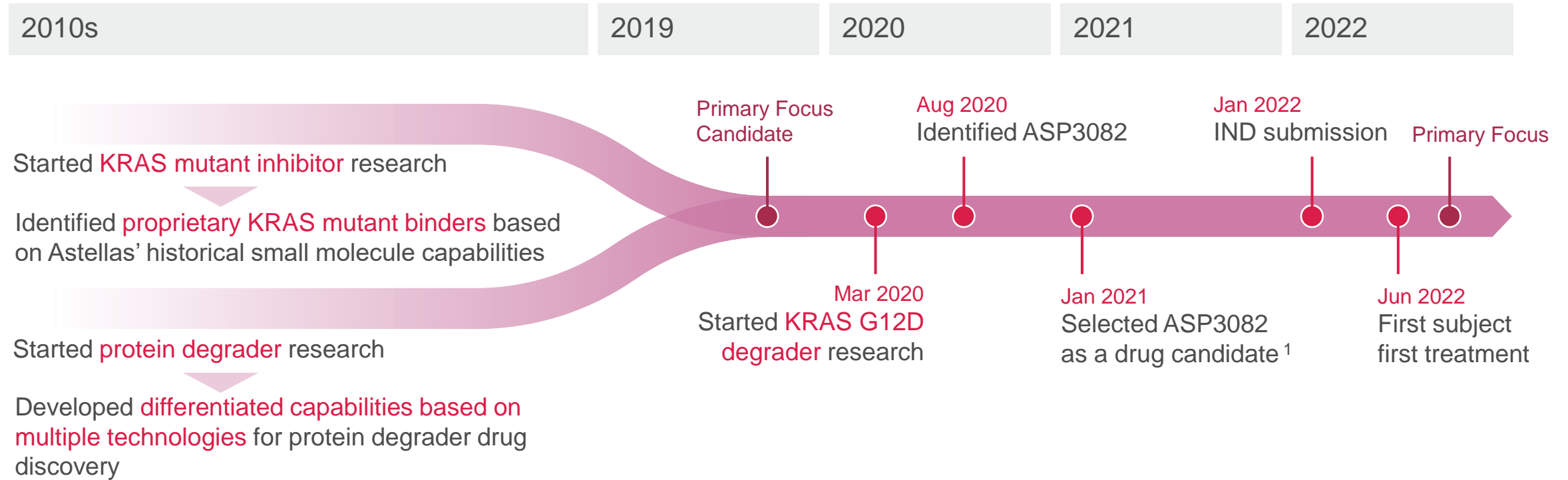
**Capabilities** to continuously  
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**Expandability** of  
the Primary Focus

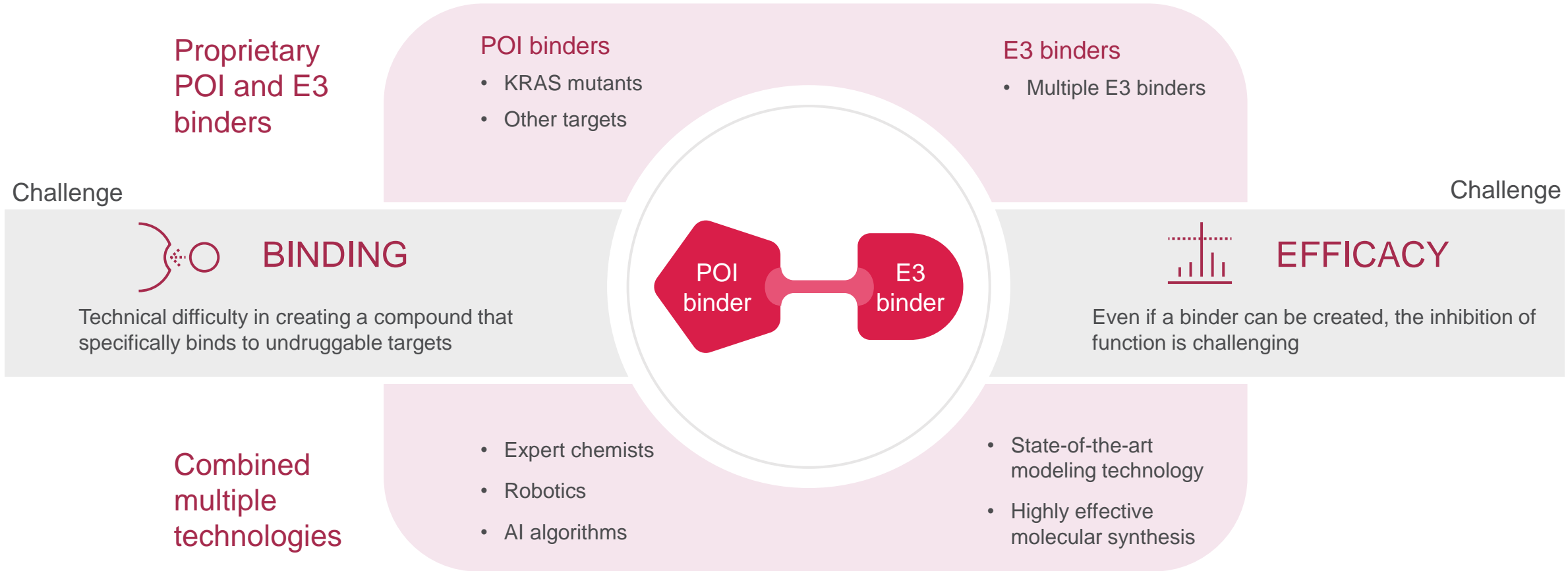
# HISTORY OF IN-HOUSE CHALLENGE IN TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION TO ADDRESS KRAS G12D

*Accumulated proprietary binder assets and capabilities enabled us to create and advance a potential first-in-class protein degrader in an accelerated manner*



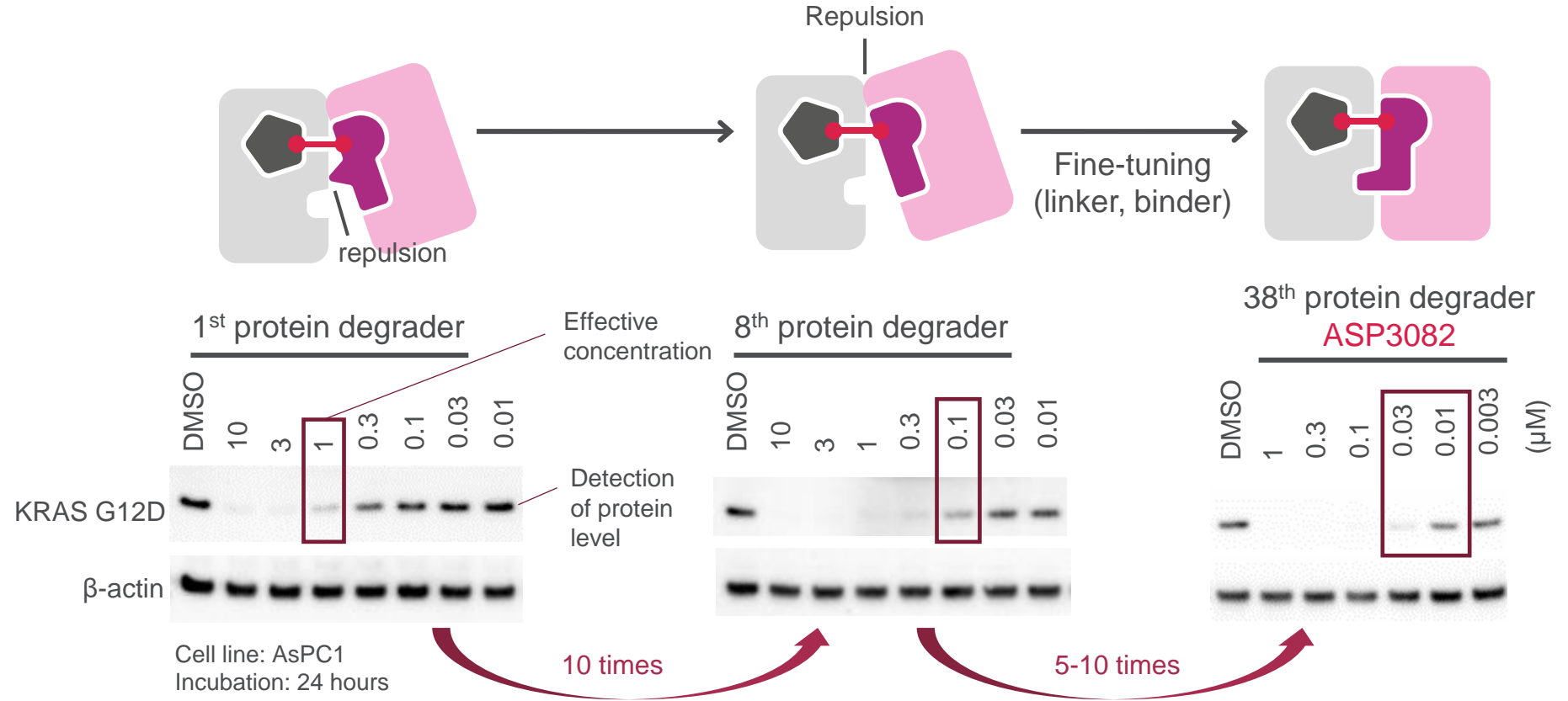
1. Therapeutic entities that entered the preparation phase toward IND application/clinical development. KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homologue, IND: Investigational New Drug

# THE COMBINATION OF UNIQUE BINDERS AND PROTEIN DEGRADER CAPABILITY SETS US APART IN CHALLENGING UNDRUGGABLE TARGETS USING PROTEIN DEGRADATION



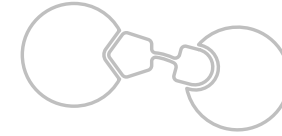
# SPEED AND POTENCY: AN EFFICIENT PROCESS OF OPTIMIZATION

Our modeling system is an integration of **human expertise** and **computer modeling**. It is highly effective, **requiring only five months of optimization** to identify ASP3082.





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# PROTEIN DEGRADERS HAVE VAST PLATFORM POTENTIAL **IN CANCER AND BEYOND**



## Target expandability

Converting **POI binder** to access different targets will allow expansion in multiple indications and disease areas



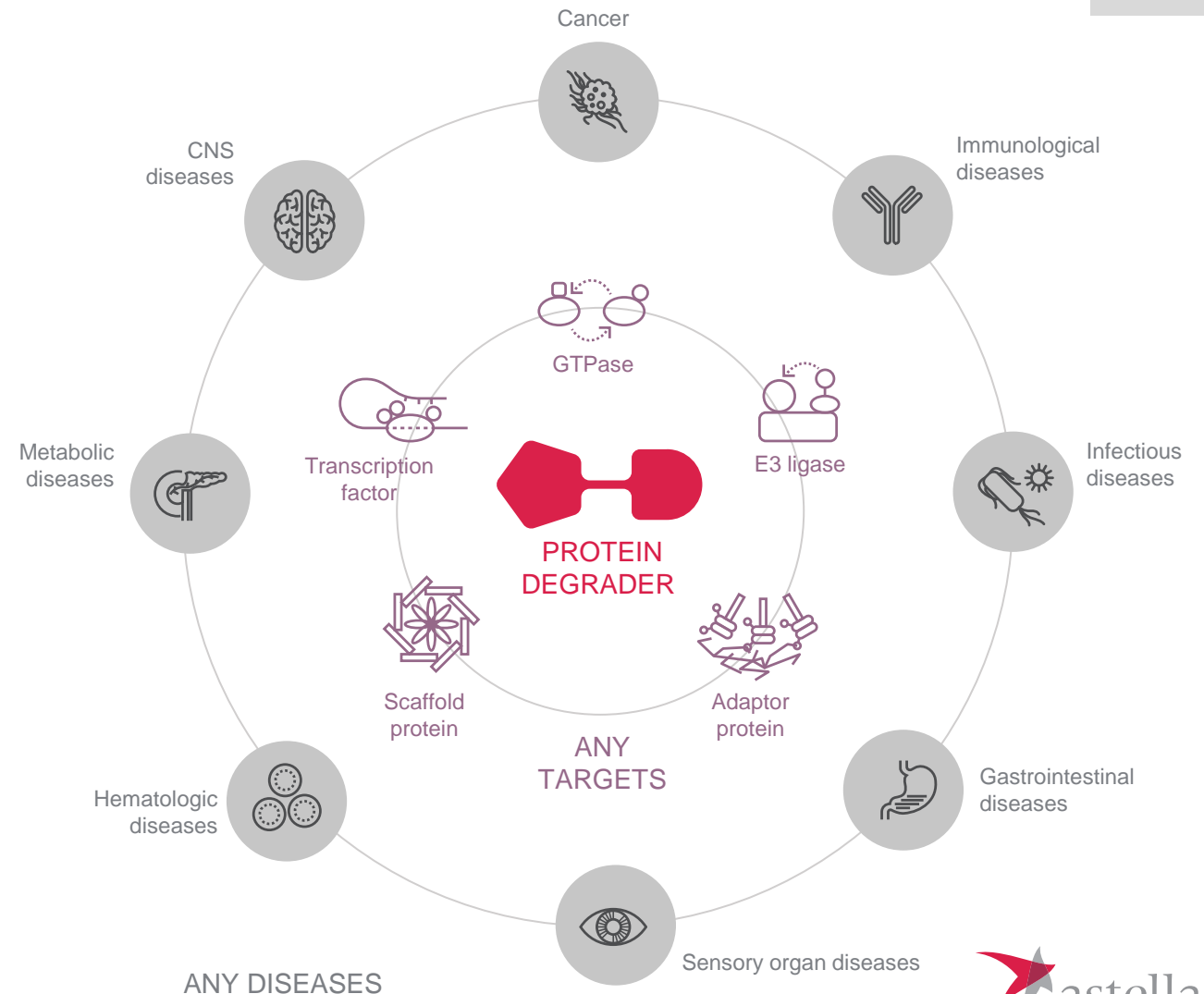
## Functional enhancement

Converting **E3 binder** to access different E3 ligases will allow protein degraders to exert their full potential

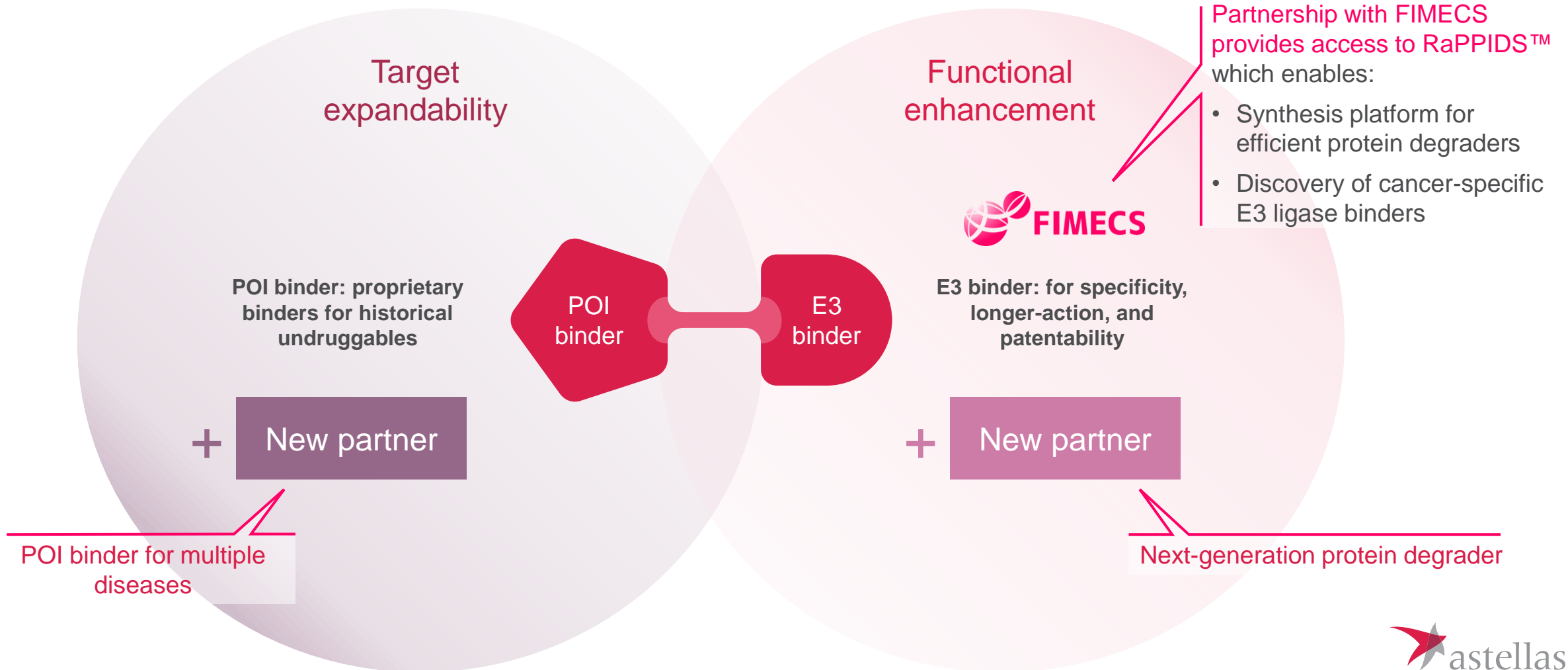


## Partnering

We will continue to actively acquire **external capabilities** to integrate with our **in-house expertise**



# ACCELERATING OUR PROGRESS THROUGH COLLABORATIONS WITH INNOVATIVE PARTNERS













# OVERALL STRATEGY FOR PRIMARY FOCUS TARGETED PROTEIN DEGRADATION

27



# OUR PORTFOLIO CONSISTS OF **DIFFERENTIATED DEGRADERS** AND THEIR BACKUPS – ALL ADDRESSING HISTORICAL UNDRUGGABLES

Program	Target protein	Target disease	Hit Identifying	Lead Optimizing	IND Enabling	Phase 1	Next milestone	Partner
<b>ASP3082</b>	KRAS G12D	KRAS G12D+ solid tumor					Completion of dose escalation part (Mono): FY23	
ASP3082 Back-up	KRAS G12D	KRAS G12D+ solid tumor						
<b>pan KRAS degrader</b>	pan KRAS	KRAS mutation+ solid tumor					IND: FY23	
pan KRAS Back-up	pan KRAS	KRAS mutation+ solid tumor						
Undisclosed Program	Undisclosed	Solid tumor						
Collaboration Program	Undisclosed	Cancer						
Collaboration Program	Undisclosed	Cancer						
Discovery Programs	Undisclosed	Non-oncology diseases						

KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homologue, IND: Investigational New Drug

# CLOSING



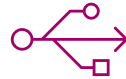
**Yoshitsugu Shitaka, Ph.D.**  
Chief Scientific Officer

## MODIFIED ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE FROM FUNCTION-LED/ HIERARCHICAL TO OBJECTIVE-BASED/AGILE



Assigned top-talented researchers by objective-based

## ON-SITE DECISION-MAKING



Optimal and quick decision-making by experts in the laboratory rather than top-down

## CULTURAL AND BEHAVIORAL TRANSFORMATION



In a flat organization, researchers' original ideas and ambitious plans are shared without fear and reflected in the research plan



Mindset change spills over from Research to Manufacturing and Development Divisions, resulting in entry into clinical trial in record time

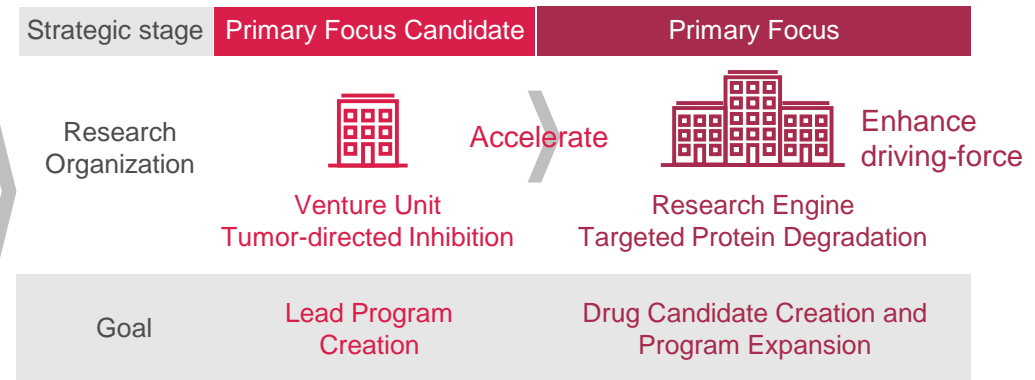
## TIMELY INVESTMENT DECISIONS BY TOP RESEARCH EXECUTIVES



Visualization of investment effects in each objective enables enhancement of achievement-based investment in a timely manner

## CREATION OF A NEW PRIMARY FOCUS AND ACCELERATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

IND for lead program ASP3082 (world's first to target KRAS G12D), leading to robust follow-on pipeline and selection as the Primary Focus at a time that secured competitive advantage



Research organization grows and becomes independent from Venture Unit to Research Engine, with a more significant delegation of authority

Proactively invest in the Primary Focus to maintain growth momentum and continue to create programs



# ON THE FOREFRONT OF HEALTHCARE CHANGE

