Coformulation of a Novel Human α-Galactosidase A With the Pharmacological Chaperone AT1001 Leads to Improved Substrate Reduction in Fabry Mice

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INTRODUCTION

Fabry disease is an X-linked lysosomal storage disorder caused by mutations in the gene that encodes α-galactosidase A and is characterized by pathological accumulation of globotriaosylceramide and globotriaosylsphingosine. Earlier, the authors demonstrated that oral coadministration of the pharmacological chaperone AT1001 (migalastat HCl; 1-deoxygalactonojirimycin HCl) prior to intravenous administration of enzyme replacement therapy improved the pharmacological properties of the enzyme. In this study, the authors investigated the effects of coformulating AT1001 with a proprietary recombinant human α-galactosidase A (ATB100) into a single intravenous formulation. AT1001 increased the physical stability and reduced aggregation of ATB100 at neutral pH in vitro, and increased the potency for ATB100-mediated globotriaosylceramide reduction in cultured Fabry fibroblasts. In Fabry mice, AT1001 coformulation increased the total exposure of active enzyme, and increased ATB100 levels in cardiomyocytes, cardiac vascular endothelial cells, renal distal tubular epithelial cells, and glomerular cells, cell types that do not show substantial uptake with enzyme replacement therapy alone. Notably, AT1001 coformulation also leads to greater tissue globotriaosylceramide reduction when compared with ATB100 alone, which was positively correlated with reductions in plasma globotriaosylsphingosine. Collectively, these data indicate that intravenous administration of ATB100 coformulated with AT1001 may provide an improved therapy for Fabry disease and thus warrants further investigation.

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ERT is effective, the infused enzymes tend to be unstable at neutral pH and body temperature, conditions that mimic the physiological environment during infusion (i.e., the blood), resulting in a short circulating half-life of the properly folded, active enzyme in vivo.\textsuperscript{8,11} In addition, delivery of ERT to certain cell types, tissues, and organs is insufficient to provide the desired therapeutic effects, as suggested by the inability of infused \(\alpha\)-Gal A ERT to significantly reduce GL-3 in cardiomyocytes, distal convoluted tubules, podocytes, and the central nervous system.\textsuperscript{8,13} Furthermore, although ERT for Fabry disease is generally well tolerated, the infused enzymes can be immunogenic, which may impair efficacy and negatively affect tolerability.\textsuperscript{14–16}

Small molecule pharmacological chaperones (PCs) have been proposed as a potential alternative therapy for Fabry disease.\textsuperscript{17} In contrast to ERTs, PCs can be orally available and have broad tissue distribution, including access to the central nervous system.\textsuperscript{18} The iminosugar AT1001 (migalastat HCl; 1-deoxygalactonojirimycin HCl) is an analog of the terminal galactose of GL-3 that acts as a selective, reversible, competitive inhibitor of \(\alpha\)-Gal A,\textsuperscript{19} and can improve the folding, stability, and lysosomal trafficking of multiple endogenous mutant forms of \(\alpha\)-Gal A, a subset of which are referred to as “amenable”.\textsuperscript{17,19–23} Furthermore, AT1001 can reduce the storage of GL-3 in cultured fibroblasts derived from Fabry patients with amenable mutant forms of \(\alpha\)-Gal A.\textsuperscript{23–26} As such, AT1001 is currently in clinical development for the evaluation of its safety and efficacy as a monotherapy for Fabry disease in patients with amenable genotypes.\textsuperscript{27,28}

The effects of PCs on endogenous wild-type lysosomal enzymes have also been described. For example, isofoxagomine, a PC for the enzyme deficient in Gaucher disease known as glucocerebrosidase (GCase), increases cellular GCase levels in healthy human volunteers,\textsuperscript{18} and improves lysosomal targeting of GCase in cultured normal human fibroblasts.\textsuperscript{29} Isofoxagomine also increases GCase levels in tissues, as well as the central nervous system, of wild-type mice.\textsuperscript{29} Similarly, incubation of cultured lymphoblasts or fibroblasts derived from healthy human volunteers with AT1001, or oral administration of AT1001 to healthy human volunteers, results in elevated cellular wild-type \(\alpha\)-Gal A levels.\textsuperscript{23,30} PCs have also shown beneficial effects on several exogenous recombinant enzymes that are used to treat lysosomal storage disorders. For instance, isofoxagomine stabilizes recombinant human GCase, protecting it from thermal and pH-mediated denaturation in vitro, and can increase uptake of functional enzyme into cultured cells.\textsuperscript{31} Similarly, the PCs deoxynojirimycin (DNJ) and N-butyl-DNJ can stabilize recombinant human acid \(\alpha\)-glucosidase, which is used to treat Pompe disease.\textsuperscript{32,33} In vivo, oral coadministration of DNJ increases the circulating half-life of intravenously administered recombinant human acid \(\alpha\)-glucosidase in rodents and leads to significantly greater enzyme levels and substrate reduction in disease-relevant tissues, namely skeletal, smooth, and cardiac muscle, of Pompe mice.\textsuperscript{34} Coadministration of N-butyl-DNJ also resulted in greater recombinant human acid \(\alpha\)-glucosidase levels in the muscles of Pompe mice.\textsuperscript{34} Finally, it was shown recently that AT1001 can slow the denaturation and loss in activity of \(\alpha\)-Gal A ERT at neutral pH and body temperature in vitro\textsuperscript{35} and can increase uptake into cultured Fabry patient-derived cells.\textsuperscript{32,34} Most importantly, oral coadministration of AT1001 increases the circulating levels of active \(\alpha\)-Gal A ERT in rodents and humans.\textsuperscript{34,35} Results in higher tissue \(\alpha\)-Gal A levels in mice and Fabry patients,\textsuperscript{34,35} and leads to greater GL-3 reduction in disease-relevant tissues of Fabry mice compared to administration of \(\alpha\)-Gal A ERT alone.\textsuperscript{34} These data point to the potentially beneficial effects of PC coadministration with manufactured ERTs.

In the current study the authors explored an alternative strategy for using AT1001 in combination with a proprietary recombinant human \(\alpha\)-Gal A, called ATB100 (manufactured by JCR Pharmaceuticals, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan), where the two were “premixed” into a single formulation for intravenous administration, an approach termed “coformulation”. Similar to the published findings with marketed \(\alpha\)-Gal A ERT,\textsuperscript{36} AT1001 physically stabilizes ATB100 in vitro and leads to increased cellular levels of ATB100 in cultured fibroblasts derived from Fabry patients. Intravenous administration of coformulated AT1001 and ATB100 to rodents resulted in a substantially improved pharmacokinetic profile and better tissue targeting and delivery of ATB100. Most importantly, the AT1001-mediated increases in tissue levels of ATB100 resulted in greater GL-3 reduction in Fabry mice that lack endogenous \(\alpha\)-Gal A compared to administration of ATB100 alone. Overall, these results demonstrate the potential therapeutic benefits to be gained by coformulating an ERT with a PC and suggest that additional clinical investigations may be warranted.

RESULTS

AT1001 increases the physical stability of ATB100, and prevents aggregation

AT1001 binds ATB100 with high affinity, with an \(IC_{50}\) value of 27 nmol/l at pH 7.0, and 29 nmol/l at acidic pH 5.2 (data not shown), similar to the affinity for binding to agalasidase \(\beta\) (unpublished observations). The effect of AT1001 binding on the physical stability of ATB100 was assessed using a fluorescence-based thermal denaturation assay as described earlier.\textsuperscript{34,36} At neutral pH, ATB100 was significantly less stable (melting temperature \(T_{m}\) 50 °C) than at acidic pH \(T_{m}\) 59 °C). Importantly, coinubcation with AT1001 at neutral pH resulted in a concentration-dependent stabilization of ATB100, with 10 \(\mu\)mol/l ATB100 shifting the \(T_{m}\) to 54.9 °C, and 100 \(\mu\)mol/l ATB100 shifting the \(T_{m}\) to 59.5 °C, which is similar to the \(T_{m}\) of ATB100 at acidic pH (Figure 1a). These observations are similar to those with agalsidase \(\beta\).\textsuperscript{30} The ability of AT1001 to prevent aggregation of ATB100 was also assessed. ATB100 was incubated in the absence or presence of AT1001 (10 mg/ml) at neutral pH for 4 weeks at 40 °C, then analyzed by size exclusion-high performance liquid chromatography. In the absence of AT1001, ATB100 showed the presence of a high molecular weight peak (Figure 1b) along with a single homodimeric enzyme peak of ~103 kDa. In contrast, coinubcation of ATB100 with AT1001 resulted only in a single homodimeric peak (Figure 1b). In addition, ATB100 (50 mg/ml) was incubated in the absence and presence of AT1001 (10 mg/ml) at neutral pH for 4 weeks at 40 °C and visually inspected. Notably, while the ATB100 alone vialed revealed a white, turbid solution (indicative of aggregation and consistent with the size exclusion-high performance liquid chromatography data), AT1001 coinubcation with ATB100 resulted in a clear solution (Figure 1b, inset). Collectively, these data indicate that AT1001 can increase the physical stability of exogenous \(\alpha\)-Gal
A ERT, including ATB100, in the neutral pH environment of the blood, protecting the enzyme from irreversible unfolding, denaturation, and aggregation, thereby maintaining the enzyme in a longer-lived, active form.

**Coincubation of ATB100 with AT1001 results in greater α-Gal A activity and GL-3 reduction in cultured Fabry fibroblasts compared to incubation with ATB100 alone**

The effects of AT1001 coincubation on the cellular levels of ATB100 were assessed in cultured male Fabry patient-derived fibroblast cell lines. Fabry fibroblasts expressing a C52S variant of α-Gal A have no endogenous α-Gal A activity and show no increase in α-Gal A levels in response to incubation with AT1001 alone. Following a 5-hour coincubation of the cells with ATB100 (0.5 nmol/l) and increasing concentrations of AT1001 (0.1–100 μmol/l), cellular α-Gal A activity was up to fourfold higher than the activity measured in cells incubated with ATB100 alone (Figure 2a and Table 1). Under the same coincubation conditions, cellular GL-3 levels were reduced by up to 45% when measured 10 days postincubation, when compared with a 20% reduction following incubation with ATB100 alone (Figure 2a). The coincubation effect on cellular α-Gal A activity and GL-3 levels was dependent on the concentration of AT1001 (Figure 2a and Table 1). The concentration of ATB100 that yielded 50% of the maximal effect (EC50 value) for increased α-Gal A activity was 2.1-fold lower in the presence of AT1001 when compared with incubation with ATB100 alone (Figure 2b). Similarly, the EC50 value for ATB100-mediated GL-3 reduction was ~2.6-fold lower in the presence of AT1001 when compared with incubation with ATB100 alone (Figure 2b). Hence, the potency for ATB100 uptake and ATB100-mediated GL-3 reduction was greater in the
presence of AT100. Similar results were seen in a different male Fabry fibroblast cell line that endogenously expresses an AT100-sensitive mutant form of α-Gal A, the R301Q variant (Table 1).

**AT100 coformulation increases the circulating half-life and overall exposure of ATB100 in mice**

To investigate the in vivo effects of ATB100 coformulation with AT100, the authors first determined the systemic exposure of AT100 in mice when administered via different routes. Following oral and intravenous (bolus and infusion) administration, AT100 demonstrated dose-proportional increases in plasma exposure (in both area under the curve (AUC) and C_max), with AUCs being similar regardless of the administration route (Supplementary Table S1). Next, 1 mg/kg ATB100 was administered alone or coformulated with 3.66 or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3 and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively) via 30-minute intravenous infusion to 8-week-old male C57BL/6 mice. Plasma samples were collected over the following 24-hour period, and α-Gal A activities were measured to determine the systemic exposure of active ATB100. Infusion of ATB100 alone revealed a half-life of ~7 minutes, whereas coformulation with 3.66 or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 increased the measured half-life to 22 and 34 minutes, respectively (Figure 3a, upper panel). Likewise, the AUC value for ATB100 increased from 17,960 nmol/hour/ml-hour when administered alone to 67,307 and 79,799 nmol/hour/ml-hour when coformulated with 3.66 or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001, respectively (Figure 3a, upper panel). These data indicate that coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 substantially increases the circulating levels of active α-Gal A, with the half-life increasing three- to five-fold, and the AUC increasing 3.8- to 4.4-fold. Similarly, Western blotting revealed greater plasma α-Gal A protein levels following coformulation, supporting the results of the activity measurements (Figure 3a, lower panel). A similar study was conducted in 12-week-old male Gla KO (knockout) mice, in which a single 30-minute intravenous infusion of 1 or 3 mg/kg ATB100 was given alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively). Similar to the findings in wild-type C57BL/6 mice, coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 significantly and dose-dependently increased the circulating levels of active α-Gal A (Figure 3b) and α-Gal A protein (data not shown), confirming the positive pharmacokinetic effects of AT1001 coformulation.

**Coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 increases tissue levels and improves biodistribution of α-Gal A in Gla KO mice**

Twelve-week-old male Gla KO mice were given a single 30-minute intravenous infusion of 1 or 3 mg/kg ATB100, either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively). Fabry disease-relevant tissues, such as skin, heart, and kidney, were collected 7 days...
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Postinfusion, and tissue levels of ATB100 (measured by α-Gal A activity) were determined. With ATB100 alone, the α-Gal A activity in heart and kidney increased in a dose-dependent manner (Figure 4a). With AT1001 coformulation, tissue α-Gal A activity was significantly increased in all three tissues, with up to 2.5-fold higher levels when compared with those seen following administration of ATB100 alone. A modest, apparent dose-dependent effect on α-Gal A activity with AT1001 coformulation was seen in heart and kidney, but not in skin.

Separate studies were conducted to evaluate the effect of coformulation on the biodistribution of ATB100 to disease-relevant cell types. Twelve-week-old male Gla KO mice were given a single intravenous bolus injection of 3 mg/kg ATB100, either alone or coformulated with 3.66, 36.6, or 122 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3, 30, and 100 mg/kg free base, respectively). Tissue samples were collected 24 hours postadministration, and immunohistochemical (IHC) staining was performed on paraffin sections using an antihuman α-Gal A antibody (Figure 4b). The extent of overall ATB100 uptake was examined initially using ×20 original magnification (left panels). In untreated Gla KO mice, no specific α-Gal A IHC signal was detectable in skin (dermis) or heart. With intravenous administration of ATB100 alone, the signals were readily visible, demonstrating ATB100 uptake into these tissues (top left and middle left panels). In kidney, low levels of staining were observed in the proximal tubules of untreated Gla KO mice (bottom left). This background was also associated with a number of other commercially available α-Gal A antibodies (data not shown), and was abolished neither by various blocking
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Coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 leads to greater substrate reduction in Gla KO mice

To determine the effect of AT1001 coformulation on substrate reduction in vivo, 14-week-old male Gla KO mice were administered ATB100 (0.5, 1, or 3 mg/kg), either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively) via intravenous bolus injection (four biweekly administrations). Mice were euthanized 7 days after the final injection, with GL-3 and lyso-Gb3 levels measured in tissues and/or plasma by liquid chromatography in combination with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). Repeat administration of ATB100 alone led to significant, dose-dependent reductions in GL-3 levels in skin, heart, and kidney (Figure 5). Furthermore, coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 generally led to even greater reductions in tissue GL-3 levels when compared with administration of ATB100 alone (Figure 5). Of the three doses of AT1001 that were evaluated, 3 mg/kg tended to show the most beneficial effect on ATB100 efficacy. For example, 1 mg/kg ATB100 alone reduced GL-3 levels in skin, heart, and kidney.

or epitope retrieval methods nor by preabsorption of antibody against acetone powder made from untreated Gla KO mouse kidney (data not shown), suggesting potential cross-reactivity of the α-Gal A antibody with another protein(s). Nevertheless, IHC signals from ATB100 alone showed a significant increase above the background (bottom left) in kidney. Additional dose-dependent increases in ATB100 uptake were seen in all three tissues with AT1001 coformulation compared to ATB100 alone. Higher magnification (Figure 4b, right panels) revealed that AT1001 coformulation resulted in increased ATB100 levels in specific cell types such as dermal fibroblasts (top right, arrows; ×40), dermal blood vessels (top right, asterisk; ×40), cardiomyocytes (middle right, arrowheads; ×100), cardiac vascular endothelial and smooth muscle cells (middle right, large arrow and small arrow in the inset, respectively; ×100), renal distal and proximal tubular epithelial cells (bottom right, d and p, respectively; ×100), and glomerular cells (bottom right, arrows; ×100). Overall, these results indicate that AT1001 coformulation increases the total level of ATB100 in specific disease-relevant cell types.

Figure 4 Coformulation with AT1001 results in greater tissue levels and biodistribution of ATB100 in Gla KO (knockout) mice. (a) Twelve-week-old male Gla KO mice were given a single 30-minute intravenous infusion of 1 or 3 mg/kg ATB100, either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively). Skin, heart, and kidney were collected 7 days postinfusion, and α-galactosidase A (α-Gal A) activities were determined. Each bar represents the mean ± SEM of five to six mice per group. *P < 0.05 compared to ATB100 alone (at the same dose); t-test. (b) Twelve-week-old male Gla KO mice were given an intravenous bolus injection of 3 mg/kg ATB100, either alone or coformulated with 3.66, 36.6, or 122 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3, 30, and 100 mg/kg free base, respectively). Tissues were collected 24 hours postadministration, and IHC staining was conducted on paraffin sections using an antihuman α-Gal A antibody. Original magnifications of the objective are ×20 (left panels), ×40 (top right panels), or ×100 (middle right and bottom right panels, including the inset). In skin, arrows point to the dermal fibroblasts and the asterisk marks the lumen of a blood vessel (top right). In heart, arrowheads point to cardiomyocytes, whereas cardiac vascular endothelial and smooth muscle cells are marked by a large and small arrow (inset), respectively (middle right). In kidney, distal and proximal tubules are labeled as “d” and “p”, respectively (bottom left), whereas arrows point to glomerular cells.
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ATB100 tested in these studies (3 mg/kg), which was very effective e.g. doses (Figure 5; Table 2). Importantly, when coformulated with 3 mg/kg AT1001, even greater GL-3 reductions of 97%, 98%, and 80%, respectively, were seen (Figure 5 and Table 2). Notably, 1 mg/kg ATB100 alone showed modest effects on kidney GL-3 levels, whereas coformulation with 3 mg/kg AT1001 resulted in ~65% greater reduction. In general, the effect of AT1001 coformulation was more pronounced in the presence of lower ATB100 doses (e.g., 0.5 or 1 mg/kg). Nevertheless, even the highest dose of ATB100 tested in these studies (3 mg/kg), which was very effective along and achieved >90% GL-3 reduction in skin and heart, was further improved when coformulated with AT1001, resulting in GL-3 levels that were close to those seen in wild-type mice.

In addition, the GL-3 levels in specific cell types of disease-relevant tissues were assessed qualitatively using IHC methods 7 days after the last ATB100 administration (Figure 6) and also were scored based on visual estimation of the number of GL-3-positive cells (see Supplementary Figure S1). In skin, IHC revealed two major GL-3 storage sites: fibroblasts and vascular smooth muscle cells (Figure 6). The majority of GL-3 accumulated in fibroblasts and was readily reduced by repeat administration of ATB100 alone at the lowest dose (0.5 mg/kg). As a result, the window for further GL-3 reduction on AT1001 coformulation was narrow in fibroblasts. In contrast, dermal vascular smooth muscle cells were less responsive to ATB100 and showed a discernable dose–response with ATB100 alone (Figure 6 and Supplementary Figure S1). In this cell type, further decreases in the GL-3 IHC signals also were observed on coformulation with AT1001 at all three ATB100 dose levels examined. In heart, GL-3 was found mostly in the cardiac vascular smooth muscle cells (Figure 6). Like skin, the frequency and intensity of the IHC signals were reduced dose-dependently by administration of ATB100 alone, with a further decrease seen on coformulation with AT1001. In kidney, GL-3 accumulated primarily in distal tubular epithelial cells of the cortex (Figure 6).

Unlike the tissue GL-3 levels measured by LC-MS/MS, no significant reduction in GL-3 IHC signal was seen in distal tubular epithelial cells following repeat administration of 0.5 mg/kg ATB100 alone (see Figure 6 and Supplementary Figure S1), but the reductions became more pronounced as the dose of ATB100 increased to 3 mg/kg. A further decrease in GL-3 IHC signal was observed on coformulation with AT1001 at all three ATB100 dose levels examined. Overall, these observations are in good agreement with the results from quantitative LC-MS/MS measurements of tissue GL-3, although minor differences can be attributed to tissue handling (paraffin embedding versus tissue lysis), sampling (5 μm section versus tissue lysates), and data acquisition (visual approximation versus quantitative measurement).

Finally, the authors evaluated the effect of AT1001 coformulation on the ability of ATB100 to reduce plasma GL-3 and lyso-Gb3. Similar to tissue substrate, dose-dependent reductions in plasma GL-3 were seen. Although 0.5, 1, and 3 mg/kg ATB100 effectively reduced plasma GL-3 levels by 79%, 86%, and 92%, respectively, AT1001 coformulation resulted in maximal GL-3 reductions of ~89%, 91%, and 93%, respectively (Figure 7a). Importantly, the effect of AT1001 coformulation on the clinically relevant biomarker plasma lyso-Gb3 was also evaluated. Dose-dependent reductions of 57%, 76%, and 92% were seen in lyso-Gb3 levels with
The coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 strategy described in the current study allows the PC to bind to the ERT, facilitating its uptake by the cellular endocytic machinery and enhancing its efficacy. This benefit compared to coadministration. Indeed, our preclinical data suggest that coformulation leads to greater exposure of active enzyme in blood, higher cellular and tissue levels of active enzyme after infusion, and greater substrate reduction. This is not surprising given that the overall systemic exposure of AT1001 following intravenous administration to mice is quite similar to that seen in mice orally administered AT1001, especially with respect to AUC. The AUCs following 30-minute intravenous infusion of 3 or 10 mg/kg AT1001 to mice were ~1,909 ng·hour/ml (12 µmol·hour/l) and 6,525 ng·hour/ml (40 µmol·hour/l), respectively, very similar to those achieved following oral gavage: 1,480 ng·hour/ml (9 µmol·hour/l) and 4,520 ng·hour/ml (28 µmol·hour/l), respectively. In humans, comparable AUCs also were achieved following intravenous administration of 0.3 and 1 mg/kg AT1001 (2,283 ng·hour/ml (14 µmol·hour/l) and 6,868 ng·hour/ml (42 µmol·hour/l), respectively), suggesting that similar beneficial pharmacokinetic effects on ERT might be seen in patients at these AT1001 exposures. Interestingly, in Fabry patients, oral administration of 150 and 450 mg AT1001 led to AUC values of 13,105 ng·hour/ml (80 µmol·hour/l) and 31,847 ng·hour/ml (195 µmol·hour/l), respectively, and resulted in greater α-Gal A activity in plasma and skin when coadministered with ERT. Importantly, these exposures are much higher than those seen in mice at doses that lead to beneficial effects on α-Gal A and GL-3 levels and suggest that lower clinical doses, in a coformulation paradigm, might reveal similar benefit.

The proposed mechanism by which coformulation improves the pharmacological properties of ERT is identical to that postulated for coadministration: the PC binds to the exogenous enzyme and increases its physical stability in the blood, protecting it from denaturation and inactivation. This concomitantly increases the likelihood that the ERT is recognized and bound by cell-surface mannose 6-phosphate receptors that are responsible for endocytosis and lysosomal delivery of proteins that contain mannose 6-phosphate, the core determinant for efficient uptake of many ERTs including agalsidase α and β. Sufficient uptake is key to the treatment of Fabry disease, as disease-relevant cell types that show greater ERT uptake tend to show better response (i.e., substrate reduction). Our in vitro and in vivo coformulation studies support significantly greater cellular and tissue levels of ATB100 when compared with ERT alone. Importantly, AT1001 coformulation also leads to increased tissue α-Gal A levels that

### Table 2 Effect of coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 on tissue GL-3 levels in Gla KO mice

| Tissue | GL-3 (% reduction) |
|--------|-------------------|
|        | Skin | Heart | Kidney |
| ATB100 (mg/kg) |      |       |       |
| 0.5    | 91 ± 3 | 99 ± 1 | 72 ± 2 |
| 1      | 96 ± 1 | 99 ± 1 | 77 ± 4 |
| 3      | 99 ± 1 | 99 ± 1 | 95 ± 2 |
| No AT1001 | 43 ± 3 | 43 ± 3 | 55 ± 7 |
| +1 mg/kg AT1001 | 40 ± 7 | 58 ± 6 | 79 ± 2 |
| +3 mg/kg AT1001 | 66 ± 2 | 80 ± 3 | 76 ± 5 |
| +10 mg/kg AT1001 | 58 ± 5 | 64 ± 6 | 77 ± 5 |

Fourteen-week-old male Gla KO (knockout) mice were administered ATB100 biweekly via bolus tail vein injection with and without AT1001 coformulation for 8 weeks (four injections). Mice were sacrificed 7 days after the fourth ATB100 administration, and tissue GL-3 levels were measured as described earlier. GL-3 levels were normalized to baseline levels in Gla KO (100%) and wild-type C57BL/6 mice (0%). The data presented represent the mean ± SEM for six to seven mice per group.

*P < 0.05 compared to ATB100 alone, as determined by unpaired t-test. GL-3 levels in Gla KO mouse skin, heart, and kidney were 2265, 559, and 778 µg/g tissue, respectively; GL-3 levels in wild-type mouse skin, heart, and kidney were 7, 5, and 75 µg/g tissue, respectively. GL-3, globotriaosylceramide.
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glomerular cells, cell types for which substrate reduction could not be demonstrated in this mouse model because of the lack of GL-3 accumulation. These findings demonstrate that AT1001 coformulation broadly increases the cellular quantity of active ERT, including some cell types that are important for Fabry pathology but which do not demonstrate substantial uptake with ERT alone.

Together with greater cellular and tissue levels of exogenous ERT, our coformulation studies also reveal concomitantly greater GL-3 reduction when compared with ATB100 alone. In vitro, coinoculation of Fabry patient fibroblasts with ATB100 and AT1001 resulted in ~2.6-fold leftward shift in the EC₅₀ value of ATB100 for GL-3 reduction, indicating that AT1001 increases the potency of ATB100. Indeed, AT1001 coinoculation with 0.5 nmol/l ATB100 resulted in robust GL-3 reduction that was similar to the maximum reduction observed following incubation with higher concentrations of ATB100 alone (i.e., 5–50 nmol/l). Increased potency of ATB100 was also observed in Gla KO mice following coformulation with AT1001. This was most evident for the GL-3 reduction seen at the lower two doses of ATB100 tested (i.e., 0.5 and 1 mg/kg): when coformulated with AT1001, the magnitude of GL-3 reduction was similar to that seen at higher doses of ATB100 alone (i.e., 1 and 3 mg/kg, respectively) in skin, heart, and kidney. These data suggest that AT1001 coformulation with ATB100 can attain the same level of efficacy as seen with higher doses of ATB100 alone.

In our studies, ATB100 coformulation with AT1001 led to greater lyso-Gb₃ reduction in the plasma of Gla KO mice when compared with administration of ATB100 alone. Similar to the effects on GL-3, AT1001 coformulation with lower doses of ATB100 (i.e., 0.5 or 1 mg/kg) achieved lyso-Gb₃ reductions that were comparable with, or greater than, those achieved with higher doses of ATB100 alone (i.e., 1 or 3 mg/kg, respectively), indicating that AT1001 also improves the potency of ATB100-mediated reduction of plasma lyso-Gb₃. Interestingly, very strong correlations were observed between plasma lyso-Gb₃ levels and tissue GL-3 levels. It is interesting to note that similar correlations between plasma lyso-Gb₃ levels and kidney interstitial GL-3 levels were seen in Fabry patients in phase 3 studies conducted by Amicus Therapeutics (NCT00925301). Therefore, plasma lyso-Gb₃ could potentially serve as a clinical biomarker to assess long-term treatment outcomes of novel therapeutics in Fabry patients, possibly eliminating the need for invasive procedures to measure substrate levels in tissue biopsies.

In comparison to coadministration, coformulation may offer several additional advantages: first, coformulation of AT1001 with ATB100 allows the chaperone to bind and stabilize the enzyme in the formulation prior to the complex entering the circulation. Thus, coformulation may further minimize the susceptibility of ERT to pH-, temperature-, and/or protease-mediated denaturation/degradation before, during, and after infusion. With coadministration, the chaperone and the ERT enter the circulation independently, with the chaperone binding and stabilizing the enzyme when sufficient concentrations are achieved in the blood. In addition, due to the improved binding efficiency, lower doses of chaperone are sufficient with coformulation compared to coadministration to achieve similar enhancement on the efficacy of ERT. Second, enhanced stability of ATB100 reduces its aggregation/denaturation, which are believed to be key mediators of

Figure 6 Coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 enhances cell type-specific globotriaosylceramide (GL-3) reduction in Gla KO (knockout) mouse tissues. Fourteen-week-old male Gla KO mice were administered ATB1001 (0.5, 1, or 3 mg/kg), either alone or coformulated with 1.22 or 3.66 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1 and 3 mg/kg free base, respectively) via intravenous bolus injection (four biweekly administrations). Tissues were collected 7 days after the final administration, and GL-3 levels were examined by IHC using an anti-GL-3 antibody. GL-3 signals are shown as brown spots in dermal fibroblasts (arrows) and vascular smooth muscle cells of blood vessels (asterisks), cardiac vascular smooth muscle cells (arrows, with lumens marked by asterisks), and renal distal tubular epithelial cells (arrows). Images were taken with a ×40 objective lens for heart and skin, and a ×20 objective lens for kidney.

are sustained above baseline levels for an extended period of time when compared with administration of ATB100 alone (see Supplementary Figure S2). Our IHC results also indicate substantially higher α-Gal A levels in disease-relevant cell types of Gla KO mice, such as smooth muscle cells of cardiac blood vessels and renal distal tubular epithelial cells, both of which demonstrated concomitant reductions in substrate levels. Notably, the IHC data also show greater α-Gal A levels in cardiomyocytes, cardiac vascular endothelial cells, renal proximal tubular epithelial cells, and glomerular cells, cell types for which substrate reduction could not
immunogenicity for various therapeutic proteins as highlighted in many published papers over the last decade. Our data suggest (Figure 1b) that coformulation with AT1001 reduces aggregation and thus may reduce infusion-associated reactions and/or immune responses compared to administration of ATB100 alone, which may provide long-term benefits on immunogenicity, an area to explore in future clinical trials. Third, coformulation followed by intravenous administration provide tighter, more precise control of dose and timing, thereby eliminating the dependency on oral bioavailability of the chaperone (many small molecules have poor oral bioavailability) and removing potential pharmacokinetic challenges associated with the effect of food on systemic exposure (i.e., the absorption of AT1001 is substantially slower and less predictable in the fed state compared to the fasted state, as is the case with many other small molecule drugs).

AT1001 coformulation with ERT is believed to be broadly applicable to the diverse Fabry patient population, and is independent of patient genotype. The majority of beneficial effects of coformulation was demonstrated in cell- and mouse-based models that are deficient in α-Gal A activity and protein, indicating that the efficacy of coformulation is mediated largely through AT1001 stabilizing the exogenous ERT. This is an important distinction from AT1001 monotherapy, where the positive therapeutic effect is dictated by patient genotype and the ability of AT1001 to bind and stabilize the endogenous, mutant form of α-Gal A in the ER, thereby leading to enhanced lysosomal trafficking and substrate reduction.33–35 In this case, AT1001 is administered alone and with a more frequent interval (e.g., every other day, as opposed to every other week in the coformulation paradigm). Amicus Therapeutics has recently completed two phase 3 studies with AT1001 monotherapy in Fabry subjects (NCT00925301; NCT01218659), with clinical efficacy currently under evaluation. Thus, for patients with amenable mutant forms of endogenous α-Gal A, AT1001 monotherapy may become a therapeutic option; the coformulation of AT1001 with ERT, on the other hand, could be applicable to the broad Fabry population, regardless of patient genotype.

Overall, our data indicate that AT1001 coformulation stabilizes the novel, proprietary Fabry ERT ATB100 in a long-lived, active conformation in the circulation, thereby leading to delivery of higher levels of active enzyme to disease-relevant cells and tissues, and translating to subsequently greater substrate reduction in situ, potentially in cell types that typically do not respond well to currently marketed ERTs. Similar to the coadministration paradigm, the potentially beneficial effects of coformulating a PC with a Fabry ERT into a single product that can be administered via the intravenous route also may warrant clinical investigation and, if successful, could serve as a next-generation approach to ERT in Fabry patients. As such, this work also has broad implications for the existing and future ERTs across multiple lysosomal storage disorders, as well as

Figure 7 Coformulation of ATB100 with AT1001 leads to greater plasma globotriaosylceramide (GL-3) and globotriaosylsphingosine (lyso-Gb₃) reductions in Gla KO (knockout) mice. Fourteen-week-old male Gla KO mice were administered ATB100 (0.5, 1, or 3 mg/kg), either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively) via intravenous bolus injection (four biweekly administrations). Plasma samples were collected 7 days after the final administration, and substrate levels: GL-3 (a) and lyso-Gb₃ (b) were measured by liquid chromatography in combination with tandem mass spectrometry. Substrate levels were normalized to those in Gla KO mouse plasma (5 μg/ml and 246 ng/ml, respectively). Each bar represents the mean ± SEM of seven mice per group. *P < 0.05 compared to the ATB100 alone (at the same dose); t test. (c) Correlation between plasma GL-3 and lyso-Gb₃ in mice. (d) Correlation between plasma lyso-Gb₃ and tissue GL-3 levels in mice.
Effects of AT1001 Coformulation on rhα-Gal A

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials. Male Fabry patient-derived fibroblasts (C52S, c.155 G>C; R301Q, c.902 G>A) were from sources described earlier.23 All cell culture reagents were purchased from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, CA), except for characterized fetal bovine serum (HyClone, Waltham, MA). AT1001 (1-deoxylacto-α-nojirimycin hydrochloride; migalastat hydrochloride) was synthesized by Cambridge Major Laboratories (Germantown, WI). ATB100 (recombinant human α-Gal A, JR-051) was a kind gift from JCR Pharmaceuticals. Mouse antihuman GL-3 monoclonal antibody was purchased from Seikagaku Corporation (Tokyo, Japan). Rabbit antihuman α-Gal A antibody was purchased from Sigma–Aldrich (St Louis, MO). Horseradish peroxidase-conjugated goat antirabbit secondary antibody was purchased from ThermoPierce (Rockford, IL). GlA KO mice were obtained from Robert Desnick (Mount Sinai University, New York, NY). Wild-type C57BL/6 mice were purchased from Taconic Farms (Germantown, NY). Animal husbandry and all experiments were conducted under Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approved protocols of Rutgers State University. All other reagents were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich unless noted otherwise.

Thermal stability assay. The stability of ATB100 was assessed using a modified fluorescence thermostability assay 34,52 on an Agilent Strategene Mx3005P system (Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany) in either neutral pH buffer (25 mmol/l sodium phosphate, 150 mmol/l sodium chloride, pH 7.4) or acidic pH buffer (25 mmol/l sodium acetate, 150 mmol/l sodium chloride, pH 5.2). In brief, ATB100 (3.0 µg) was combined with SYPRO Orange (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) and the indicated concentrations of AT1001 in a final reaction volume of 25 µl. A thermal gradient was applied to the plate at a rate of 1 °C/minute, during which the fluorescence of SYPRO Orange was continuously monitored. The fluorescence intensity at each temperature was normalized to the maximum fluorescence after complete thermal denaturation and analyzed by a Boltzman sigmoidal nonlinear regression to determine the melting temperatures (Tm).

Assay to measure aggregation of ATB100. Aggregation of ATB100 in the absence and presence of AT1001 was measured using size exclusion-high performance liquid chromatography detection. ATB100 (5 mg/ml) was incubated in the absence or presence of AT1001 (10 mg/ml) at neutral pH for 4 weeks at 40 °C. After 4 weeks, samples were run on a silica-based TSKG3000SWXL analytical column ( Tosoh, Tokyo, Japan). Nearly 5 µl of ATB100 (concentration adjusted to 5 mg/ml) were loaded onto the column and eluted with phosphate-buffered saline solution (25 mmol/l sodium phosphate, 150 mmol/l NaCl, pH 6.0) at a flow rate of 0.6 ml/minute, with detection at 215 nm. For visual monitoring of aggregation, ATB100 (50 mg/ml) was incubated in the absence or presence of AT1001 (10 mg/ml) at neutral pH for 4 weeks at 40 °C. After 4 weeks, samples were visually inspected for turbidity.

α-Gal A activity assay and immunofluorescence detection of GL-3 in Fabry patient fibroblasts. Cellular levels of ATB100 activity and GL-3 were measured in Fabry patient fibroblasts as described earlier.34

ATB100/AT1001 co formulation studies in wild-type and GlA KO mice. In the study shown in Figure 3a, 8-week-old male wild-type C57BL/6 mice were given a single 30-minute intravenous infusion (via jugular vein cannula) of either 1 mg/kg ATB100 alone or 1 mg/kg ATB100 that was coformulated with 3.66 or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3 and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively). For coformulation, the dosing solutions were prepared by adding saline, followed by AT1001, ATB100 then gentle mixing. The ATB100–AT1001 solution was incubated at room temperature for 30 minutes prior to administration. Blood was collected via eye bleed 15, 30, and 45 minutes, as well as 1, 1.5, and 24 hours after the start of infusion. Plasma was derived by spinning whole blood at 2,700 g for 10 minutes at 4 °C. ATB100 exposure was determined by measuring α-Gal A activity in plasma. In the studies shown in Figures 3b and 4a, 12-week-old male GlA KO mice were given a single 30-minute intravenous infusion of 1 or 3 mg/kg ATB100, either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg free base, respectively). Blood was collected via eye bleed 30 minutes and 1 hour after the start of infusion, and α-Gal A activity was determined in plasma. In the study shown in Figure 4b, 12-week-old male GlA KO mice were administered 3 mg/kg ATB100 either alone or coformulated with 3.66, 36.6, or 122 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3, 30, and 100 mg/kg free base, respectively) via bolus tail vein injection. Mice were euthanized 24 hours after ATB100 administration and tissues were collected for IHC detection of α-Gal A. In the studies shown in Figures 5 and 6, 12-week-old male GlA KO mice were administered ATB100 (0.5, 1, or 3 mg/kg) either alone or coformulated with 1.22, 3.66, or 12.2 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3 mg/kg free base, respectively) via bolus tail vein injection every other week for 8 weeks (total four administrations). In the study shown in Figure 7, 12-week-old male GlA KO mice were administered ATB100 (3 mg/kg) either alone or coformulated with 3.66 mg/kg AT1001 (equivalent to 3 mg/kg free base, respectively) via bolus tail vein injection every other week for 8 weeks (total four administrations). Mice were euthanized 7 days after the final (fourth) ATB100 administration, and plasma GL-3 and lyso-Gb3 levels were measured using LC-MS/MS as described in what follows.

Analytical methods. From all the aforementioned studies, heart, kidney, and skin (shaved and removed from the lower ventral side of the neck) were quickly removed, rinsed in cold PBS, blotted dry, and stored on dry ice. Tissue and plasma α-Gal A activity, plasma α-Gal A protein (by Westerns), and tissue and plasma GL-3 levels were assessed using methodologies described earlier.23,34,53 For plasma lyso-Gb3, the method was similar as used earlier with some modifications. In brief, 50 µl of mouse plasma was added to 50 µl of internal standard working solution (75 ng/ml 13C6-lyso-Gb3, synthesized at Amicus, based on the study by Gold et al.54 in dimethyl sulfoxide:methanol/1:1) and 1.0 ml of MeOH. Five microliters of 1 N HCl were then added, and the samples were shaken for 30–45 minutes (VWR multilube vortexer) and then centrifuged at 3,220 g for 10 minutes. Supernatant was transferred to preconditioned SPE cartridges (Waters, Oasis, MCX, Milford, MA). The SPE cartridges were washed and then eluted with 2.0 ml of 5% NH4OH in MeOH. Samples were then evaporated to dryness at 40 °C under nitrogen gas, reconstituted, and transferred to glass autosampler vials for LC-MS/MS analysis. Liquid chromatography was conducted using a binary mobile phase gradient on a hydrophilic interaction chromatography column (75 × 4.6 mm) with a flow rate of 0.550 ml/minute. MS/MS analysis was carried out under positive electrospray ionization using the lyso-Gb3, and 13C6-lyso-Gb3 MRN transitions of 782 > 282 and 792 > 282, respectively. The ratio of the total lyso-Gb3 area counts to that of the internal standard was determined and used to calculate the final concentration of lyso-Gb3 in each plasma sample. The assay range was 0.200–200 ng/ml, based on a linear least squares fit equation calibration curve (1/x weighting) prepared in DMSO:MeOH/1:1.

Immunohistochemistry. Samples of skin, heart, and kidney were stored in Z-Fix (Anatech, Battle Creek, MI) and processed into paraffin. Sections were cut at 5-µm thickness. The IHC detection of GL-3 was conducted as described earlier.24 The IHC detection of ATB100 in tissues was conducted using a rabbit antihuman α-Gal A antibody (HPA000237, 1:1,000 dilution; Sigma), coupled with rabbit-on-rodent HRP polymer (Biocare Medical, Concord, CA), and developed with DAB betazoid chromogen (Biocare Medical). Heat-induced epitope retrieval was carried out in 0.1 M Tris–5% urea solution (pH 9.5) prior to the addition of the anti-α-Gal A antibody.
**Data analysis.** Determinations of statistical significance were conducted using Excel 2003 (Microsoft, Redmond, WA) or GraphPad Prism, version 6 (Graph Pad Software, San Diego, CA) as defined in the figure and table legends. Linear trends for dose-dependence were calculated using a one-way ANOVA in GraphPad Prism. The half-life ($t_{1/2}$) of ATB100 in plasma was calculated using a nonlinear, one-phase exponential decay curve fitting function in GraphPad Prism. Analysis of the pharmacokinetic profile of AT1001 was conducted using noncompartmental analysis using Phoenix WinNonLin, Version 6.1. For correlations of plasma GL-3 and plasma lyso-Gb$_3$, substrate levels were normalized to the levels in untreated GlA KO mouse plasma (5 µg/ml and 246 ng/ml, respectively). For correlations of tissue GL-3 and plasma lyso-Gb$_3$, tissue GL-3 levels were normalized to the levels in untreated GlA KO mouse tissues after subtracting wild-type levels (GL-3 levels in GlA KO mouse skin, heart, and kidney are 2,265, 559, and 778 µg/g tissue, respectively; wild-type GL-3 levels in skin, heart, and kidney are 7, 5, and 75 µg/g tissue, respectively). The mean values of each treatment group were analyzed for nonparametric Spearman correlation.

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

**Figure S1.** Semi-quantitative assessment of tissue GL-3 levels using a visual scoring method after IHC staining.

**Figure S2.** AT1001 coformulation shows longer sustained tissue α-Gal A levels compared to ATB100 alone.

**Table S1.** Systemic exposure of AT1001 in mice following various routes of administration.

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