



# Phase 1 dose escalation study of ACE-083 in healthy volunteers: Preliminary results for a locally acting muscle therapeutic

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# ACE-083 Background

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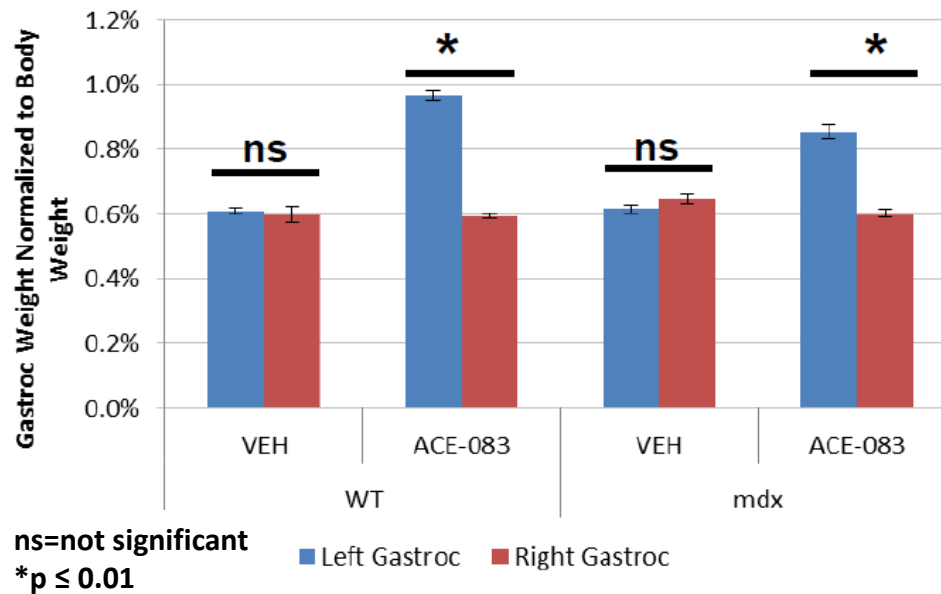
- ACE-083 is a locally acting protein therapeutic that binds GDF8 (myostatin) and activins among other negative regulators of skeletal muscle growth
- ACE-083 was designed to increase muscle mass and strength selectively in the muscle into which the drug is administered

# ACE-083 Pre-Clinical Results



- In both wild type (WT) and the *mdx* mouse model of Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD), local injection of ACE-083 led to localized muscle hypertrophy as well as dose-dependent increases in muscle mass<sup>1,2</sup>

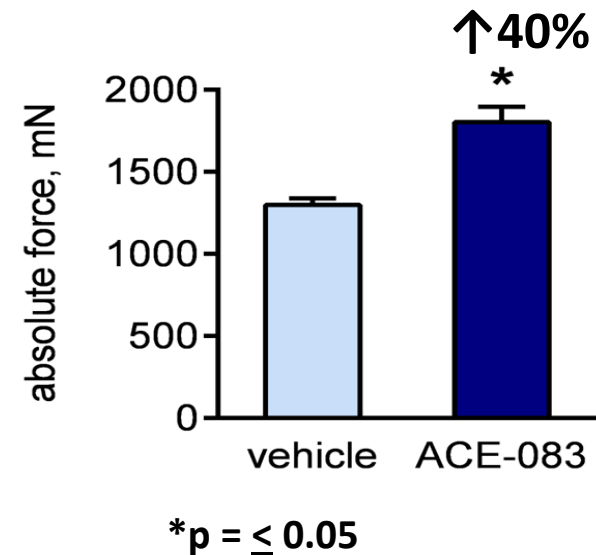
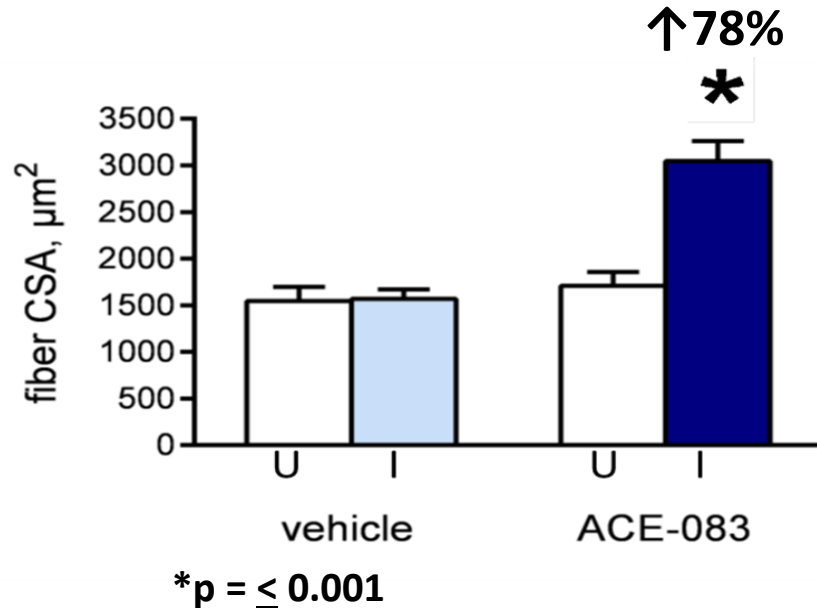
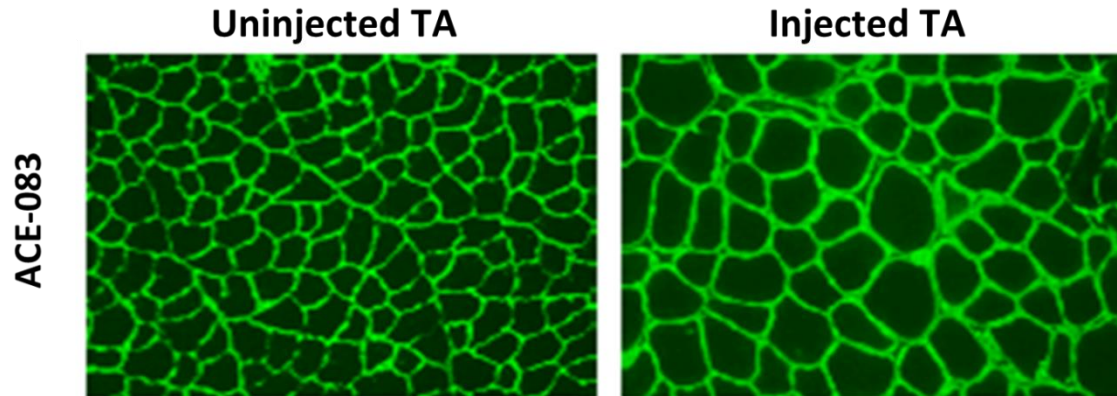
**ACE-083 Increased Muscle Mass in the Injected (L), but not in the Uninjected (R), Leg in WT and *mdx* Mice**



<sup>1</sup>Mulivor et al. 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases, 2014

<sup>2</sup>Mulivor et al. 19<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the World Muscle Society, 2014

# ACE-083 Administration Led to an Increase in Fiber CSA and Peak Tetanic Force of the Tibialis Anterior (TA) in WT Mice<sup>3</sup>



## Study Description

- An ongoing randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, dose-ranging study in healthy post-menopausal women

## Objectives of the Study

- Primary: To characterize the safety and tolerability of single and repeated doses of ACE-083 as a local muscle injection
- Secondary: To estimate systemic exposure and evaluate the pharmacodynamic (PD) effects of ACE-083
  - Changes in muscle volume measured on MRI
  - Changes in strength as measured by Biodex fixed system and hand-held dynamometer

# A083-01 Study Design



Number of Doses	Cohort	Dosing Day(s)	Dose Level (mg)	Injected Muscle	Injections per Dose	ACE-083 Subjects	Placebo Subjects	Status
Single Dose	1	1	50	RF	2	6	2	Completed
	2	1	100	RF	2	6	2	
	3	1	200	RF	4	6	2	
Multiple Doses	4	1, 22	100	RF	2	6	2	
	5	1, 22	200	RF	4	6	2	
	6	1, 22	100	TA	4	6	3	Ongoing
	7	1, 22	150	TA	4	6	3	
<b>Total Number of Subjects (Planned):</b>						<b>42</b>	<b>16</b>	

RF: rectus femoris, TA: tibialis anterior

NCT02257489

# Pharmacodynamic Assessments



- MRI was obtained pre-dose (Day 1) as well as 3 weeks (Day 22 or 43) and 8 weeks (Day 57 or Day 78) post last dose

Number of Doses	Assessment	Day 1	Day 22	Day 43	Day 57	Day 78
Single Dose	Dosing	X				
	MRI	X	X		X	
Multiple Doses	Dosing	X	X			
	MRI	X		X		X

- Strength was assessed by Biodex fixed system at 3 and 8 weeks post last dose
- A handheld dynamometer was also used to evaluate strength weekly throughout the treatment period

# Safety Results: Cohorts 1-5

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- Forty post-menopausal women (97.5% white) with a median age of 56 (range: 45-72 yrs) and median body mass index (BMI) of 25.1 (range: 19.2-31.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) were enrolled into the study
- There were no serious adverse events, dose-limiting toxicities, or discontinuations due to adverse events (AEs)
- All AEs were grade 1-2, transient, and most commonly injection-site related
- Injection site pain was documented at all dose levels (including placebo) and was independent of dose or number of injections



# Adverse Events at Least Possibly Related to Study Drug Occurring in $\geq 10\%$ (3 or more) ACE-083 Treated Subjects

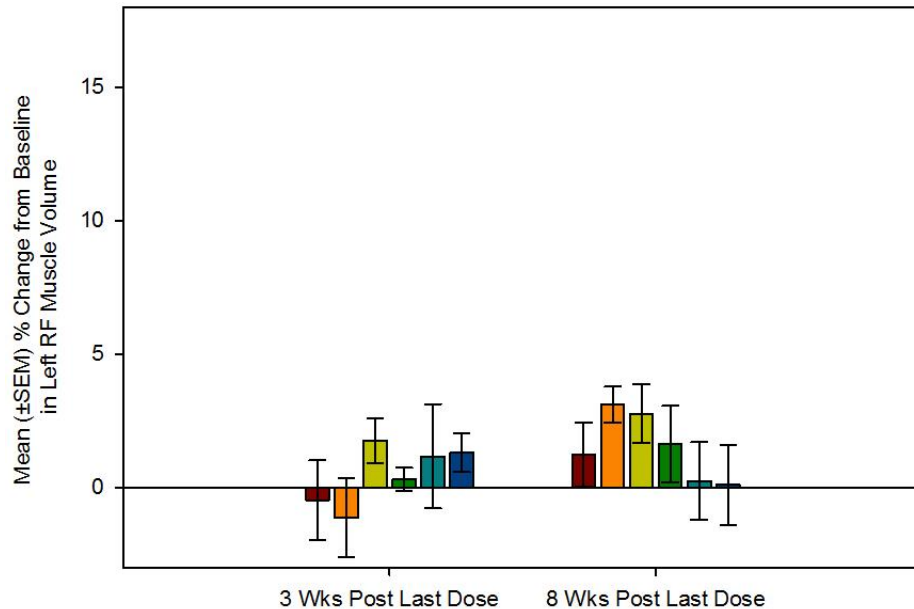


Preferred Term n (%)	Placebo Treated (n = 10)	Single Dose (mg)			Multiple Dose (mg)		ACE-083 Treated (n=30)
		50 (n=6)	100 (n=6)	200 (n=6)	100 (n=6)	200 (n=6)	
Injection site pain	10 (100)	5 (83)	5 (83)	6 (100)	5 (83)	6 (100)	27 (90)
Muscle twitching	3 (30)	0	1 (17)	2 (33)	3 (50)	2 (33)	8 (27)
Myalgia	1 (10)	1 (17)	0	2 (33)	1 (17)	2 (33)	6 (20)
Injection site reaction	1 (10)	0	0	1 (17)	1 (17)	3 (50)	5 (17)
Pain in extremity	2 (20)	0	0	0	3 (50)	1 (17)	4 (13)
Injection site discomfort	1 (10)	0	1 (17)	0	3 (50)	0	4 (13)
Injection site hemorrhage	0	1 (17)	0	1 (17)	0	2 (33)	4 (13)
Limb discomfort	2 (20)	0	0	3 (50)	0	0	3 (10)

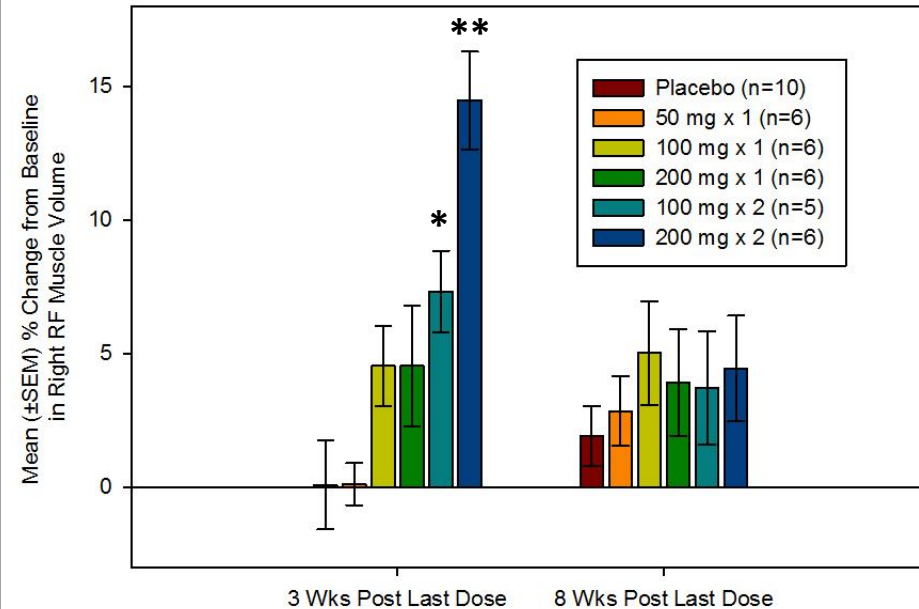
# ACE-083 Produced Significant Increases in Muscle Volume by MRI in the Injected Muscle with No Effect on the Uninjected Muscle



## No Treatment (Left Rectus Femoris)



## ACE-083 Treated (Right Rectus Femoris)



NOTE: Significance level in comparison to placebo using Dunnett's Test: \*p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.001

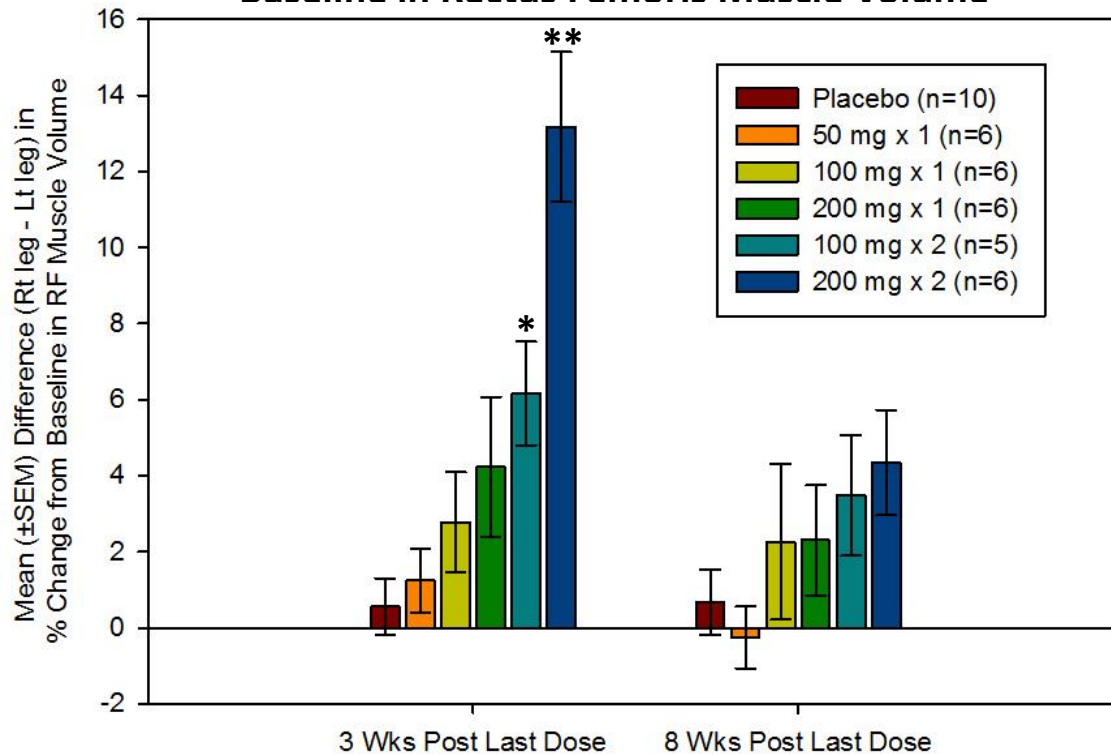
- Changes in the left uninjected RF muscle were used to control for MRI variability

- Three weeks after the last dose of ACE-083, the right RF muscle volume increased from baseline by 7.3% (p<0.05) and 14.5% (p<0.001) in Cohorts 4 and 5, respectively

# A Dose-Dependent Increase in RF Muscle Volume was Observed Following Local Administration of ACE-083



**Mean Difference (Right – Left) in Percent Change from Baseline in Rectus Femoris Muscle Volume**



NOTE: Significance level in comparison to placebo using Dunnett's Test:  
 \*p = < 0.05; \*\* p= < 0.001

- In Cohorts 2-5, RF volume remains increased, though attenuated, at 8 weeks post last dose

# Changes in Strength Following ACE-083 Administration

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- Changes in strength did not correlate with muscle volume changes in these healthy subjects
- RF muscle accounted for only ~13% (range: 10-16%) of the total quadriceps muscle volume in these healthy subjects
- Ongoing cohorts evaluating administration of ACE-083 into the tibialis anterior (TA) will evaluate dorsiflexion strength

# Conclusions

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- ACE-083 is a locally-acting protein therapeutic that acts as a ligand trap for myostatin and other negative regulators of muscle mass
- A083-01 is an ongoing Phase 1 study evaluating ACE-083 administration into the RF and TA in healthy volunteers
- ACE-083 injected into the RF muscle is associated with a favorable safety profile and resulted in dose-dependent and significant increases in RF muscle volume
- These encouraging data support further studies of ACE-083 in a variety of muscle diseases, such as Facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD) and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

# Acknowledgements

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