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The NLRP3 inhibitor ACI-19764 mitigates obesity-driven neuroinflammation and insulin resistance

Davide Basco, PhD | EASD 2025 | 16 September 2025



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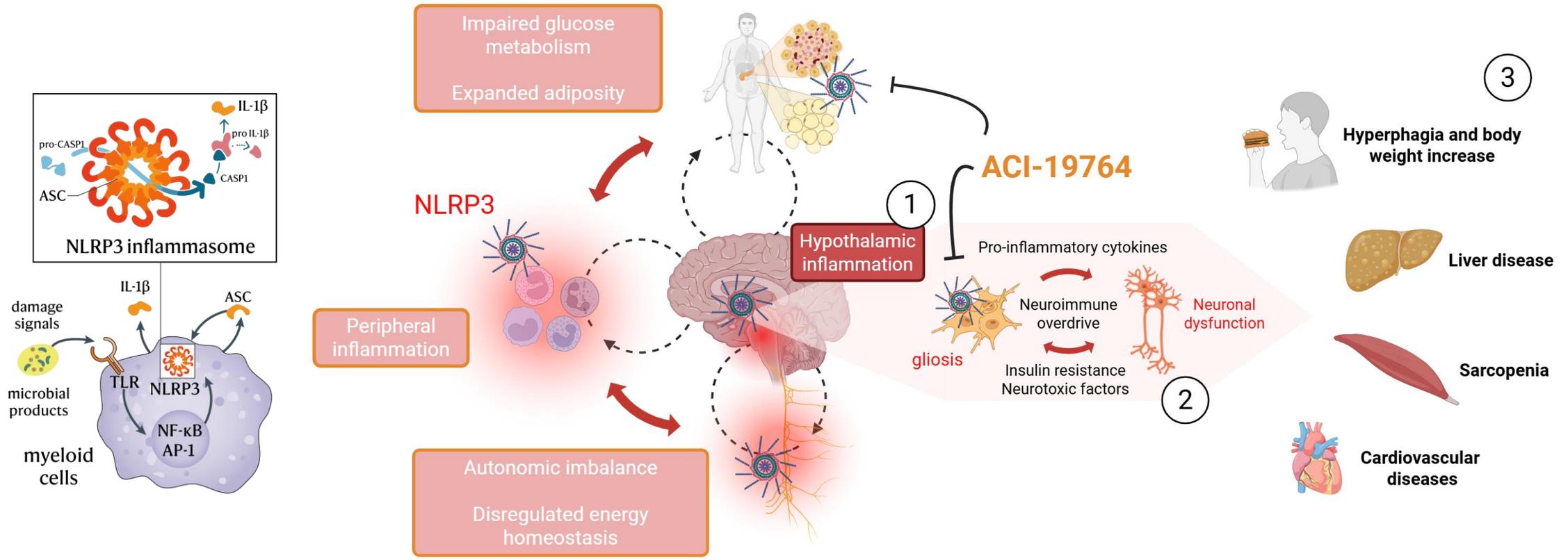
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Davide Basco is an employee of AC Immune entitled to stock options

Targeting obesity with the CNS-penetrant NLRP3¹ inhibitor ACI-19764



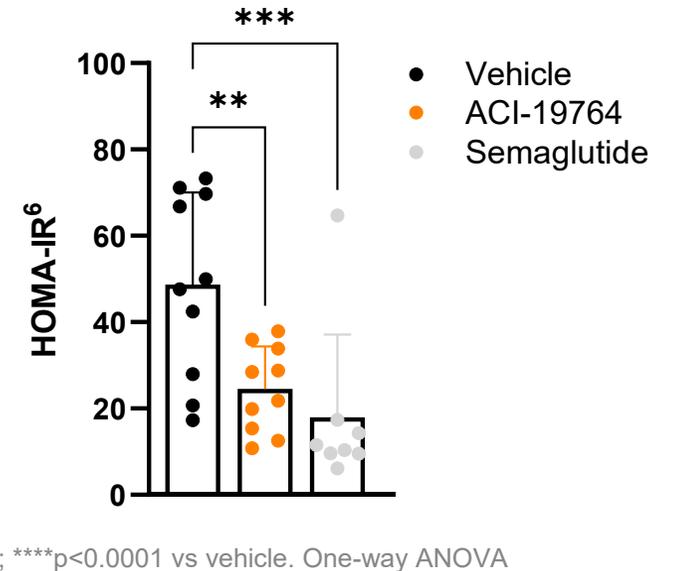
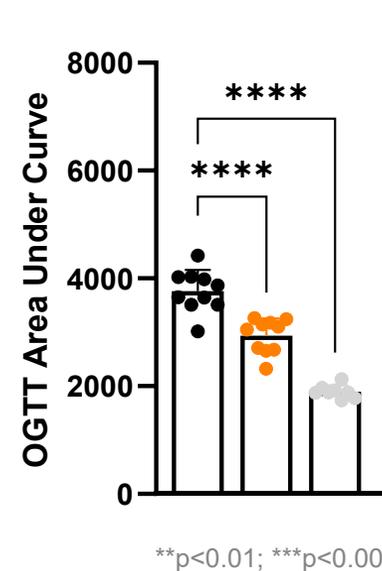
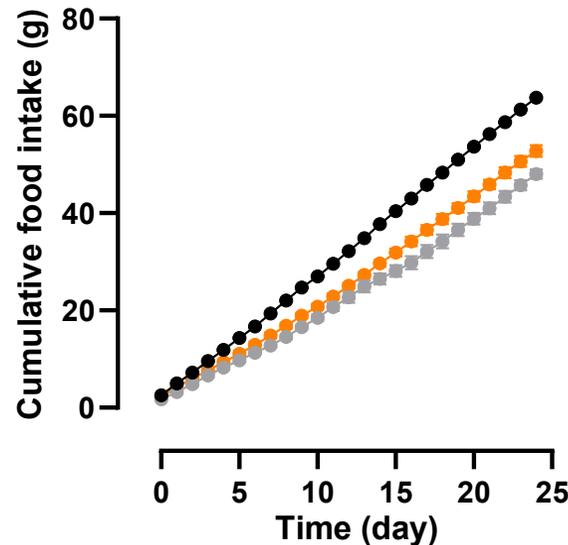
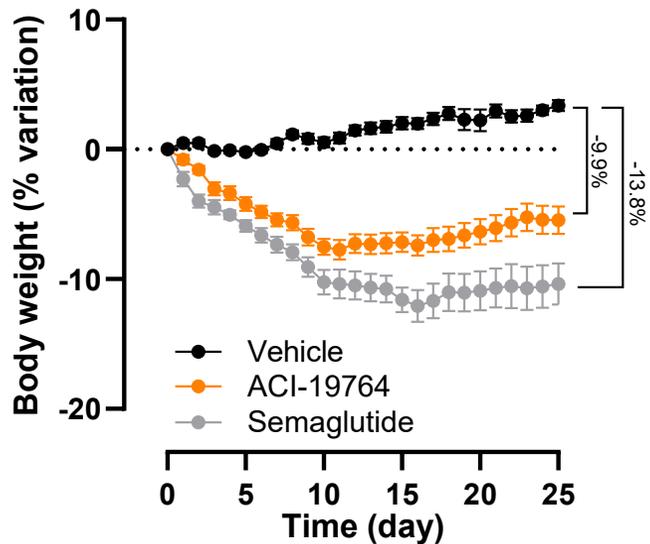
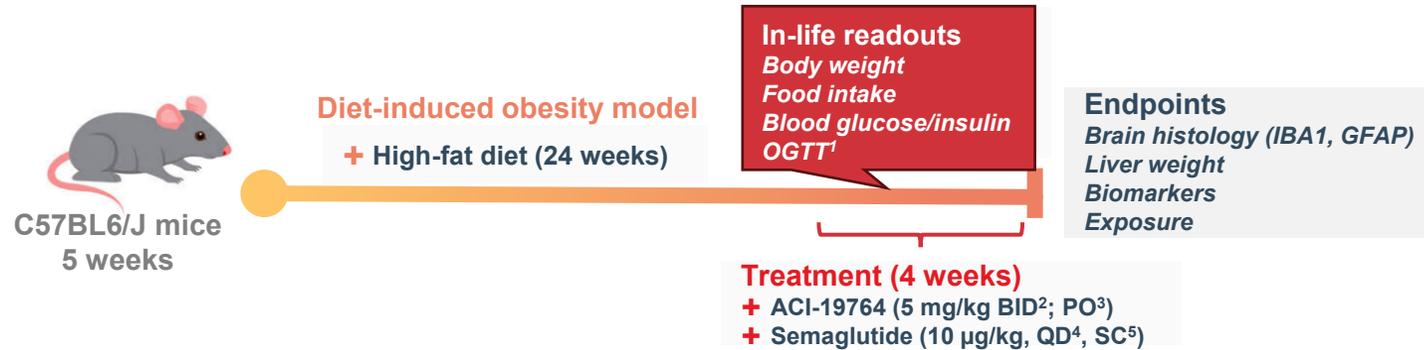
- ① NLRP3-mediated inflammatory crosstalk links peripheral to hypothalamic inflammation
- ② Pharmacological NLRP3 inhibition in the brain restores hypothalamic regulation of physiological functions
- ③ Therapeutic impact extended to peripheral systems by addressing obesity-related complications

■ A brain penetrant NLRP3 inhibitor may restore physiological functions in the hypothalamus and other regions controlling food intake and energy homeostasis

(1) NOD-like receptor protein 3

Efficacy of the NLRP3 inhibitor ACI-19764 in a mouse model of obesity

Reduced body weight and improved insulin sensitivity

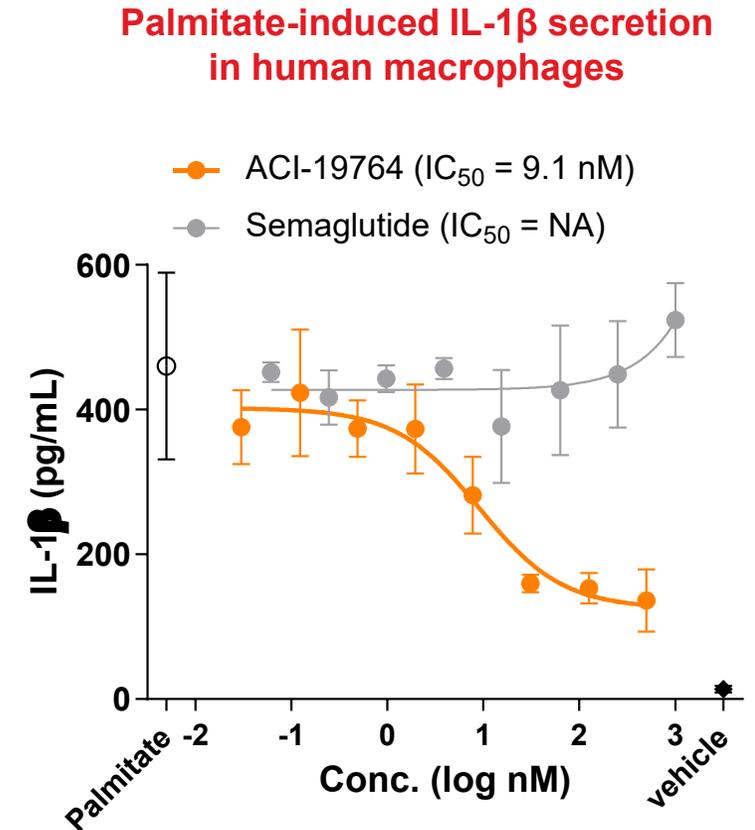
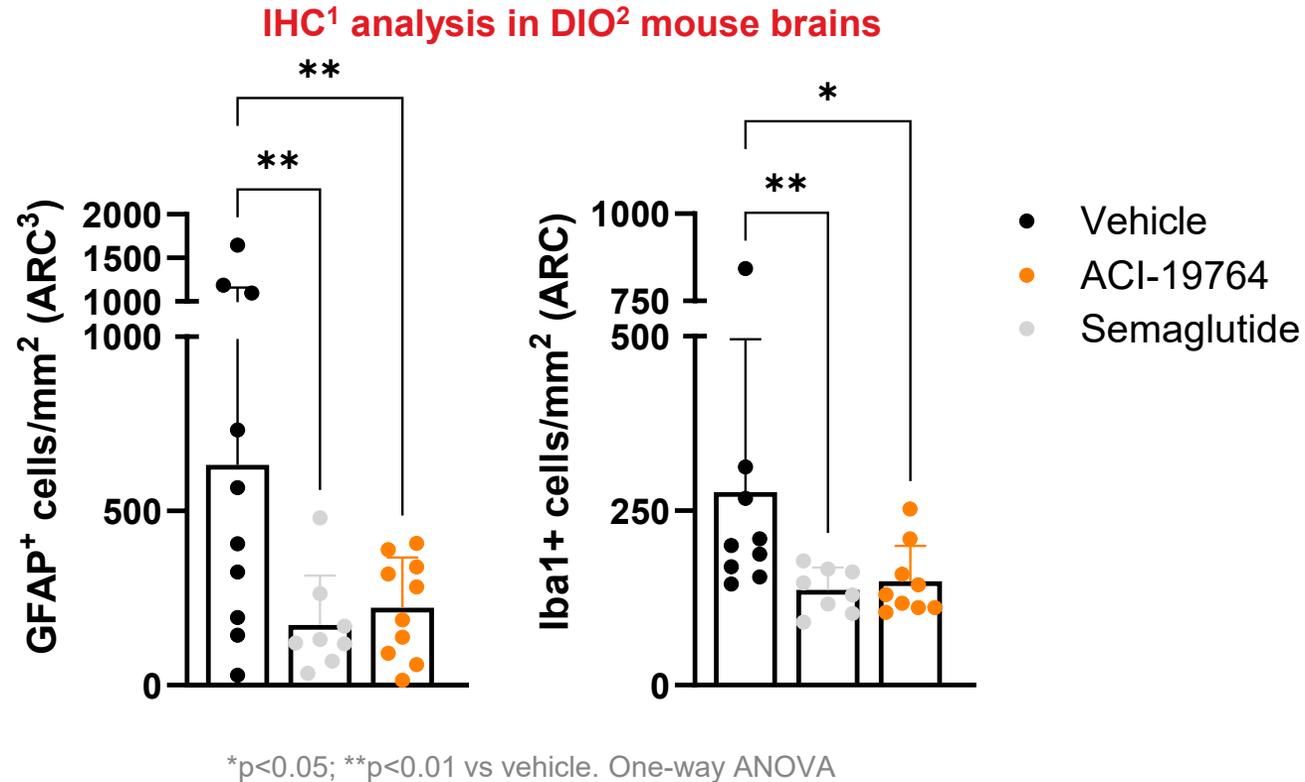


ACI-19764 significantly improved key metabolic readouts in diet-induced obesity (DIO) mouse model

(1) Oral Glucose Tolerance Test; (2) Twice daily; (3) per os; (4) once daily; (5) subcutaneously; (6) Homeostatic Model Assessment of Insulin Resistance

ACI-19764 reduced neuroinflammation in the hypothalamus

A different mechanism of action as compared to semaglutide



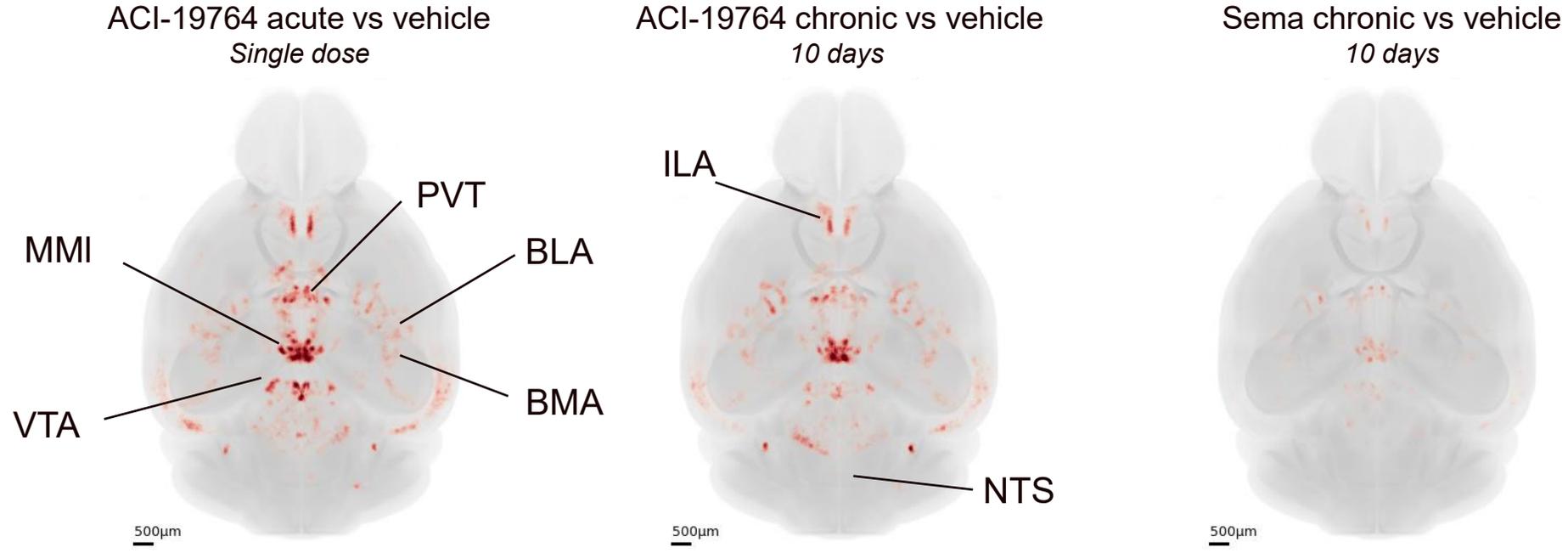
AC Immune, unpublished data

- ACI-19764 and semaglutide significantly reduced neuroinflammation in the brain region regulating food intake through a different mechanism of action than semaglutide

(1) Immunohistochemistry; (2) Diet-Induced Obesity; (3) Arcuate Nucleus of the Hypothalamus

Compound effect on neuronal activity in DIO brains

c-Fos activation brain mapping by light sheet microscopy



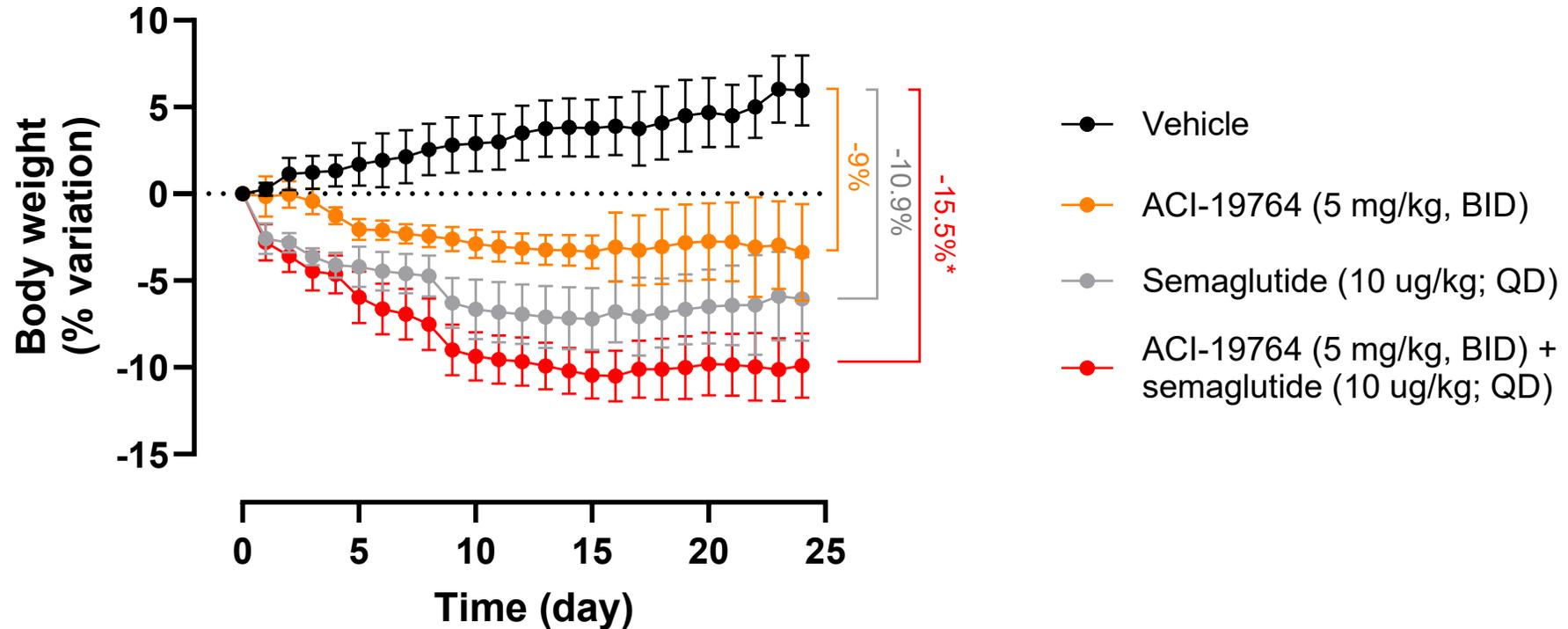
AC Immune, unpublished data

- ACI-19764 activated multiple brain regions involved in the regulation of homeostatic feeding, food reward sensitivity, and energy expenditure
- The broader effect of ACI-19764 as compared to the non-CNS penetrant semaglutide provides biological rationale for combination therapy

PVT: Paraventricular nucleus of the Thalamus; MMI: Medial mammillary nucleus, lateral; ILA: Infralimbic Area; BLA/BMA: BasoLateral/BasoMedial Amygdala; VTA: Ventral Tegmental Area; NTS: Nucleus of the Solitary Tract

ACI-19764 combined with semaglutide maximized body weight loss

Body weight analysis



- ACI-19764 significantly reduces body weight showing cumulative effect when combined with semaglutide suggesting a synergy of the two mechanisms of action

(1) bis in die; (2) per os; (3) quaque die; (4) subcutaneously. *at least $p < 0.05$ vs other monotherapies

Conclusions

- The CNS-penetrant NLRP3 inhibitor ACI-19764 showed efficacy in DIO mouse model of obesity reducing body weight and key metabolic biomarkers
- ACI-19764 exerts a broad influence on neuronal activation in key circuits governing food intake, energy expenditure and reward system
- ACI-19764 mechanism of action is different and complementary to the one of semaglutide, supporting the rationale for a combination therapy for obesity and other metabolic disorders
- Based on excellent efficacy, safety and tolerability data, along with low predicted efficacious doses in human, ACI-19764 has the potential to be best-in-class CNS NLRP3 inhibitor

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