

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 13, 2020

Arbutus Biopharma Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

British Columbia, Canada <small>(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)</small>	001-34949 <small>(Commission File Number)</small>	98-0597776 <small>(IRS Employer Identification No.)</small>
701 Veterans Circle Warminster, Pennsylvania <small>(Address of principal executive offices)</small>	18974 <small>(Zip Code)</small>	

(267) 469-0914

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communication pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communication pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Shares, without par value	ABUS	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On January 13, 2020, Arbutus Biopharma Corporation (the "Company") disclosed in an updated corporate presentation that its unaudited cash position as of December 31, 2019 was \$90.8 million. Included in the Company's unaudited cash position as of December 31, 2019 was approximately \$18.9 million of net proceeds from the sale of the Company's common stock under its at-the-market offering program made throughout the year ended December 31, 2019.

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On January 13, 2020, the Company posted an updated corporate presentation on its website at www.arbutusbio.com. A copy of the presentation is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Corporate Presentation, dated January 13, 2020.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Arbutus Biopharma Corporation

Date: January 13, 2020

By: /s/ David C. Hastings
Name: David C. Hastings
Title: Chief Financial Officer



Singularly Focused on HBV

January 2020

NASDAQ: ABUS

www.arbutusbio.com

Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Canadian securities laws. Forward-looking statements that are not historical facts are hereby identified as forward-looking statements for this purpose and include, among others, statements relating to: the potential for HBV to have a larger market opportunity than HCV; our ability to meet a significant unmet medical need; the sufficiency of our cash and cash equivalents to extend into mid 2021; our expected cash burn rate for 2020; our expectation for AB-729 for preliminary results from our Phase I trial to be available in the first quarter of 2020; our expectation to make a go/no go decision regarding AB-452 in early 2020; our objective to complete IND enabling studies for AB-836 in the second half of 2020; the potential for AB-836 to be low dose with a greater therapeutic window and to address known capsid resistant variants T33N and I105T; the potential for AB-836 to be once daily dosing; our expectations regarding the timing and clinical development of our product candidates; the timeline to a combination cure for HBV; and statements relating to our future operations, future financial performance, future financial condition, prospects or other future events.

With respect to the forward-looking statements contained in this presentation, Arbutus has made numerous assumptions regarding, among other things: the receipt of expected payments; the effectiveness and timeliness of preclinical studies and clinical trials, and the usefulness of the data; the timeliness of regulatory approvals; the continued demand for Arbutus' assets; and the stability of economic and market conditions. While Arbutus considers these assumptions to be reasonable, these assumptions are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, market and social uncertainties and contingencies. Forward-looking statements herein involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, events or developments to be materially different from the future results, events or developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others: anticipated pre-clinical and clinical trials may be more costly or take longer to complete than anticipated, and may never be initiated or completed, or may not generate results that warrant the continued development of the tested drug candidate; changes in Arbutus' strategy regarding its product candidates and clinical development activities; Arbutus may not receive necessary regulatory approvals for the clinical development of Arbutus' products; economic and market conditions may worsen; and market shifts may require a change in Arbutus' strategic focus. A more complete discussion of the risks and uncertainties facing Arbutus appears in Arbutus' Annual Report on Form 10-K and Arbutus' periodic disclosure filings which are available at www.sec.gov and at www.sedar.com.

The forward-looking statements made in connection with this presentation represent our views only as of the date of this presentation (or any earlier date indicated in such statement). While we may update certain forward-looking statements from time to time, we specifically disclaim any obligation to do so, even if new information becomes available in the future.



Investment Highlights

Singular therapeutic focus - curing chronic Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Infection

Significant Unmet Medical Need in HBV

Global HBV prevalence double that of HCV, potential for larger market opportunity

Goal of Functional Cure

Delivered through finite duration treatment with a combination of drugs with different modes of action

Broad HBV Portfolio

HBV assets include:
RNAi
HBV RNA Destabilizers
Capsid Inhibitors
PD-L1

Strong Financial Position

\$90.8M* unaudited cash at 12/31/19 with cash runway into mid 2021 and expected burn rate of \$54-\$58M in 2020

Team With Antiviral Expertise Proven Track Record

Applying knowledge gained from HIV and success to find HBV cure through proprietary drug combination

Proven Leadership Team

Successful track records in the discovery, development, and commercialization of multiple antivirals including sofosbuvir, etravirine, rilpivirine, telaprevir and simeprevir



William H. Collier

President and CEO



Michael J. Sofia, PhD

Chief Scientific Officer



Gaston Picchio, PhD

Chief Development Officer



David C. Hastings

Chief Financial Officer



Elizabeth Howard, PhD, JD

EVP, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer



Michael J. McElhugh

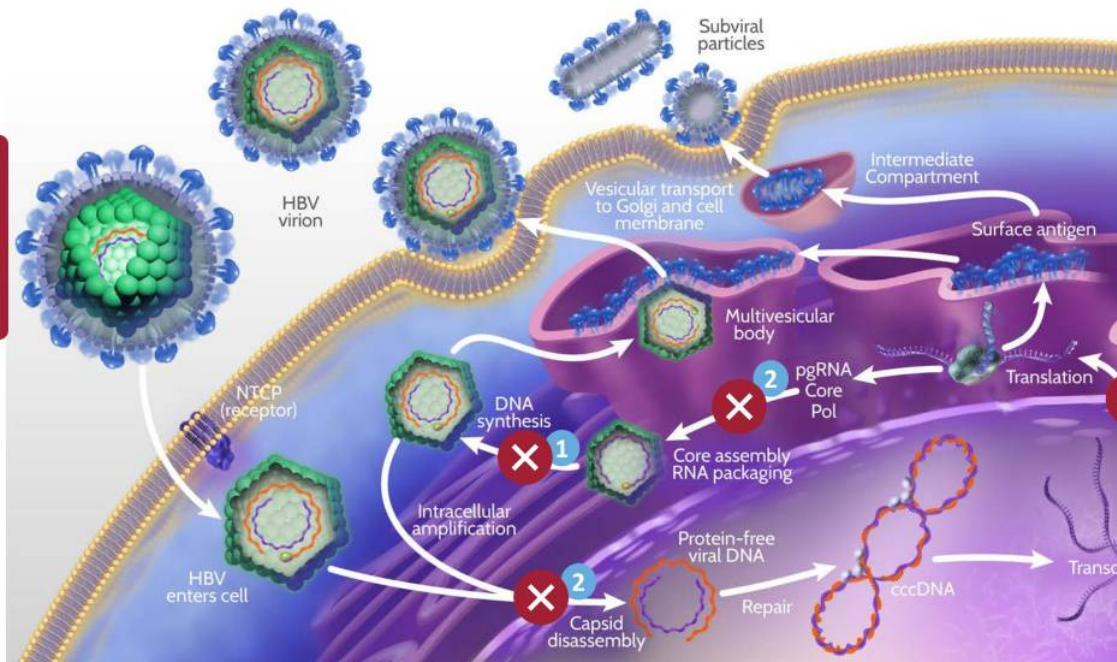
Chief Business Officer



HBV Lifecycle Illustrates Key Points for Intervention

A combination of agents with complementary MOA is needed to cure HBV

- 1 – Nucleoside Analogue
- 2 – Capsid Inhibitor
- 3 – RNAi & RNA Destabilizer

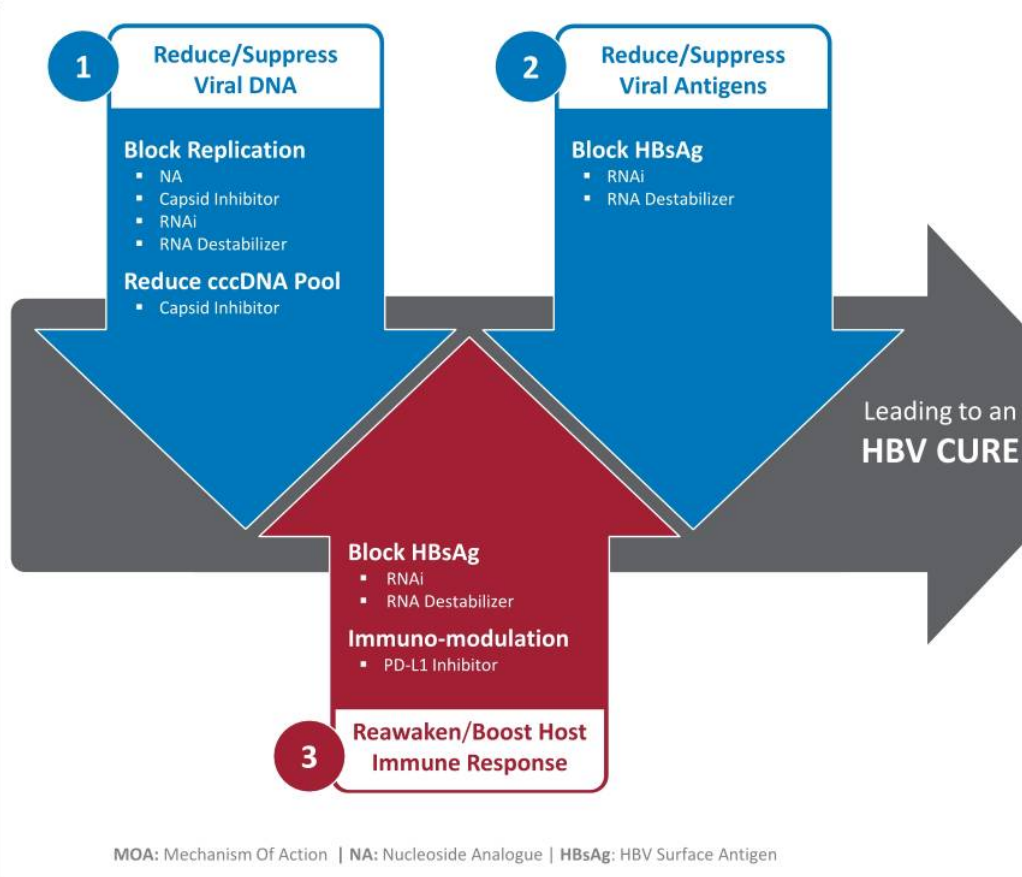


Keys to Therapeutic Success

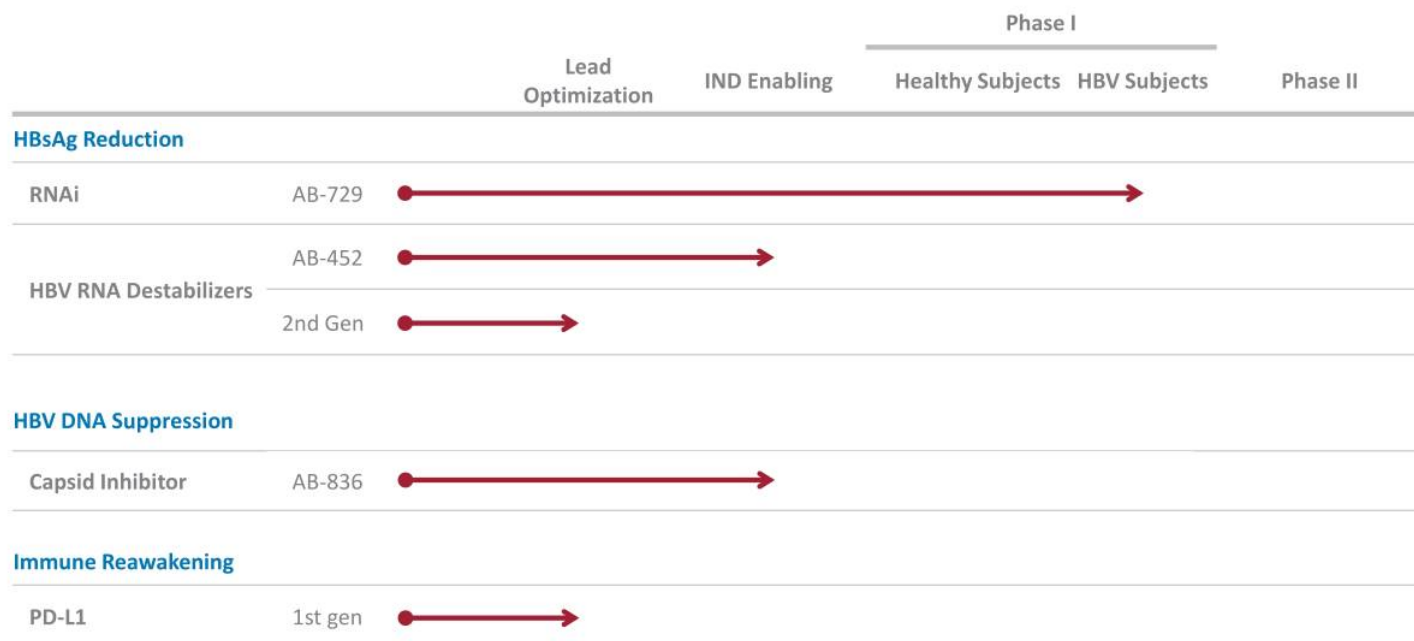
Suppress HBV DNA and viral antigens

Reawaken host immune response

Therapeutic success will require a combination of agents with complementary MOAs



Arbutus HBV Pipeline



AB-729

RNAi Therapeutic

Proprietary GalNAc-conjugate delivery technology provides liver targeting and enables **subcutaneous dosing**



Single trigger RNAi agent targeting all HBV transcripts

Inhibits HBV replication and lowers all HBV antigens

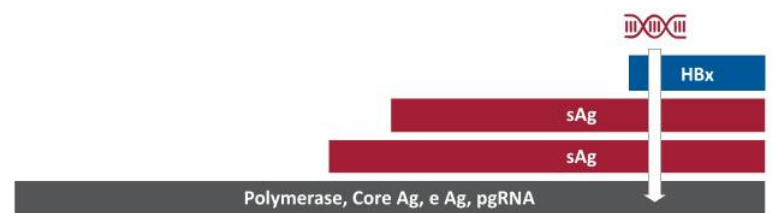
Pan-genotypic activity across HBV genotypes

Duration of HBsAg reduction supports once per month dosing

Demonstrated complementarity with capsid inhibitors

Phase I initiated in July 2019

Preliminary results in healthy volunteer and HBV subjects expected in late Q1 2020



AB-729

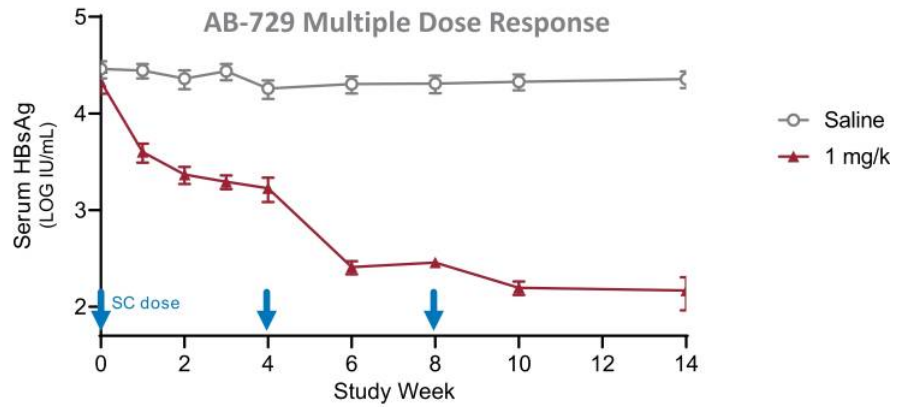
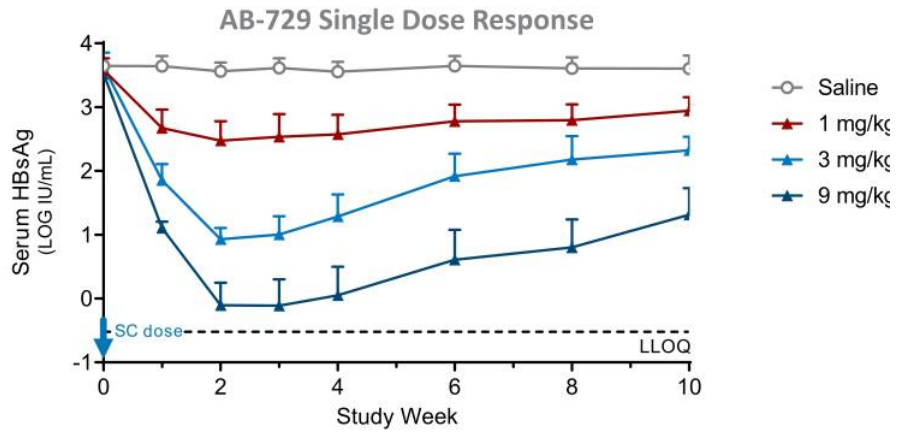
In Vivo Single & Multiple Dose Response & Duration

Strong dose response in AAV mouse model

Stepwise reduction of HBsAg with monthly repeat dose administration



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AB-729

Phase 1a/b Study Design

Preliminary results
anticipated **late Q1 2020**

Part 1: Blinded SAD in Healthy Volunteers	Part 2: SAD in HBV Subjects	Part 3: 3 and 6 Month Multi dose in HBV Subject
Starting dose 60 mg	Starting dose selected from Part 1	Dose selected from pa
6 subjects per cohort (4 active, 2 placebo)	6 subjects per cohort	7 subjects per cohort
	CHB on stable NA Rx (HBV DNA neg-), HBeAg pos+ or neg-	CHB on stable NA Rx (H DNA neg-), HBeAg pos neg-
	Naïve CHB, HBeAg pos+ or neg-	Rx Naïve CHB, HBeAg p or neg-

AB-452 - A Small Molecule HBV RNA Destabilizer



1 AB-452 causes a reduction in HBV RNA which leads to:

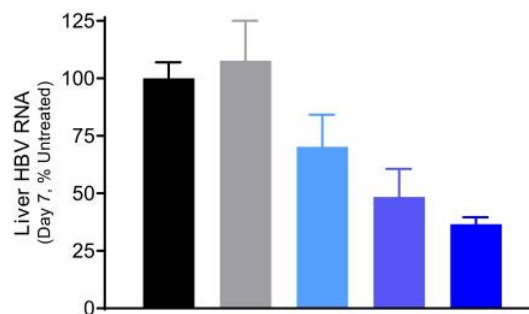
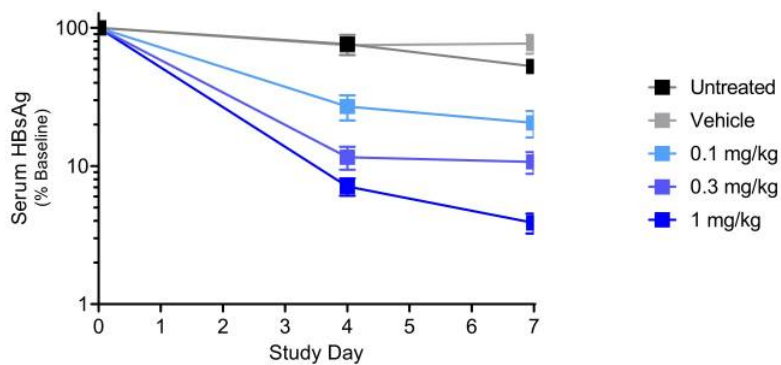
2 Inhibition of viral protein producti

3 Inhibition of HBV DNA replication

4 Inhibition of HBV virus assembly

AB-452 - A Small Molecule HBV RNA Destabilizer

Dose-dependent reduction in HBsAg correlates with reduction of liver HBV RNA



PO BID for 7 days in AAV mouse

AB-452 and Next Gen RNA Destabilizer Program

- Multiple evaluations of AB-452 nearing completion
- On track for AB-452 go/no go decision in early 2020
- Active program evaluating next generation small molecules

AB-836

Capsid Inhibitor

IND enabling studies ongoing

Potential for **increased potency** and **enhanced resistance profile**

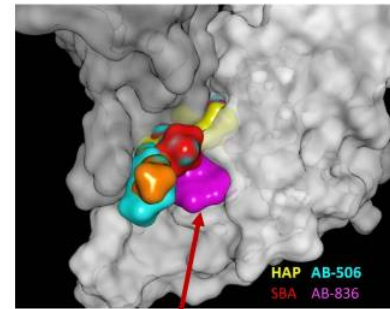
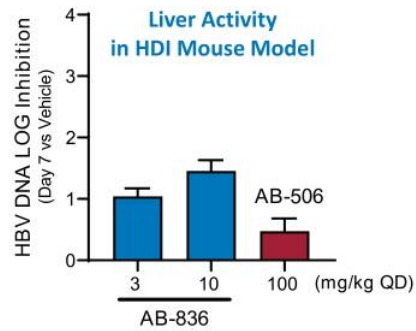
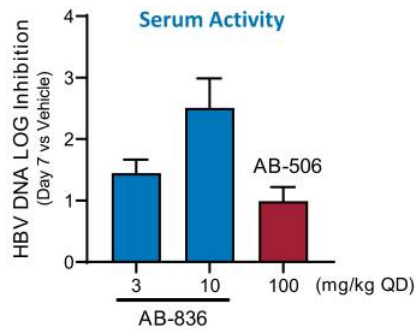


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- Novel chemical series differentiated from AB-506 and other competitor compounds in the Class II capsid inhibitor space
- Leverages a novel binding site within the core protein dimer-dimer interface
- Improved intrinsic potency with $EC_{50} \leq 10$ nM
- Active against NA resistant variants
- Potential to address known capsid resistant variants T33N and I105T
- Provides the potential for low dose and wide therapeutic window
- Projected to be once daily dosing
- Pangenotypic
- Combinable with other MOA agents

AB-836: A Next Generation Capsid Inhibitor

Compound	HBV DNA / 1° Mechanism				cccDNA Formation / 2° Mechanism	Human Ser Shift
	HepDE19 (EC ₅₀ μM)	HBV infected PHH (EC ₅₀ μM)	HBV infected HepG2-NTCP-C4 (EC ₅₀ μM)	Core I105T Mutation (EC ₅₀ μM)	HBV infected HepG2-NTCP-C4 (HBsAg EC ₅₀ μM)	(FC in EC ₅₀ in Human Ser)
AB-506	0.077	0.032	0.101	23.23	1.430	6x
AB-836	0.010	0.002	0.012	0.725	0.196	2x



Key Objectives for 2020 Supported by Cash Runway Int Mid-2021

1Q 2020

AB-452 Go/no go decision	AB-729 Preliminary Phase 1a/1b data, single dose
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2H 2020

AB-729 Multiple dose data	AB-836 Complete IND enabling studies
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