

Jumping aboard the Claudin18.2 bandwagon



[Jacob Plieth](#)

When earlier this month the Chinese company [Dragon Boat Pharmaceutical received the green light to begin human trials](#) of an anti-Claudin18.2 antibody it joined numerous others pursuing this pharmacological approach. A month ago Carsgen enrolled the first patient into its potentially registrational phase 2 gastric cancer study of CT041, an anti-Claudin18.2 Car-T project, while Innovent dosed the first human subject with IBI389, a Claudin18.2-targeting T-cell engager. Shortly afterwards this nascent though burgeoning field was endorsed by [Astrazeneca, which handed across \\$25m up front for rights to Harbour Biomed's HBM7022](#), another T-cell engager MAb. The only other big pharma group with a presence in Claudin18.2 is Amgen; its MAb AMG 910 still has an active clinicaltrials.gov listing, but it no longer appears in the group's R&D pipeline. Claudin18.2 is thought to be overexpressed on some cancers, in particular gastric and pancreatic, and it is noteworthy that many, but not all, clinical trials set expression of this protein as an inclusion criterion. *Evaluate Pharma* identifies no fewer than 17 assets in the clinic, many owned by Asian developers, the most advanced of which is Astellas's zolbetuximab.

Selected Claudin18.2-targeting projects

Project	Company	Mechanism	Indication
Phase 3			
Zolbetuximab/ IMAB362	Astellas Pharma	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve gastric/GEJ cancer
Phase 2			
TST001	Transcenta Holding	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve biliary tract cancer
CT041	Carsgen Therapeutics	Anti-Claudin18.2 Car-T	Claudin18.2+ve pancreatic adenocarcinoma
Phase 1			
SPX-101	Sparx Therapeutics	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Solid tumours
AMG 910	Amgen	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve gastric/GEJ cancer
BNT141	Biontech	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve solid tumours
NBL-015	Novarock Biotherapeutics	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Solid tumours
CPO102	CSPC Pharmaceutical	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Pancreatic & gastric cancers
RC118	Remegen	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Solid tumours
AB011	Carsgen Therapeutics	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve solid tumours
CMG901	Keymed Biosciences	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb-drug conjugate	Claudin18.2+ve gastric & pancreatic cancers
BA1105	Luye Pharma	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve solid tumours
BC008	Dragon Boat	Anti-Claudin18.2 MAb	Claudin18.2+ve solid tumours
LB1904/ LCAR-C182A	Legend Biotech	Anti-Claudin18.2 Car-T	Claudin18.2+ve gastric & pancreatic cancers
Q-1802	Qurebio	Anti-Claudin18.2 x PD-L1 bispecific MAb	Solid tumours
TJ-CD4B/ TJ033721	I-Mab	Anti-Claudin18.2 x 4-1BB bispecific MAb	Solid tumours
IBI389	Innovent	Anti-Claudin18.2 T-cell engager MAb	Solid tumours
Preclinical			
BC007	Dragon Boat	Anti-Claudin18.2 x CD47 bispecific MAb	Not specified (IND filing 2022)
PT886	Phanes Therapeutics	Anti-Claudin18.2 x CD47 bispecific MAb	Gastric & pancreatic cancers (IND filing Q2 2022)
HBM7022	Harbour Biomed/ Astrazeneca	Anti-Claudin18.2 T-cell engager MAb	Gastric & pancreatic cancers
ABP-150	Abpro	Anti-Claudin18.2 T-cell engager MAb	Gastric cancer
BNT212	Biontech	Anti-Claudin18.2 Car-T	Solid tumours

Source: Evaluate Pharma, clinicaltrials.gov & company filings.

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