

Design of a Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Open-label Study of Nipocalimab or IVIG in Pregnancies at Risk for Fetal and Neonatal Alloimmune Thrombocytopenia (FREESIA-3)

James B. Bussel,^{1,2,*} Pamela Baker,³ Edwin Lam,³ Paige Meizlik,³ Hein Fennema,³ Rebecca Zaha,³ Hillary Van Valkenburgh,³ Kattayoun Kordy³

¹Department of Pediatrics, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY, USA; ²NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY, USA; ³Janssen Research & Development, LLC, a Johnson & Johnson Company, Spring House, PA, USA



Scan QR code. The QR code is intended to provide scientific information for individual reference, and the information should not be altered or reproduced in any way.

*Presenting author.

Key Takeaway



The open-label FREESIA-3 trial will assess the efficacy and safety of nipocalimab in at-risk FNAIT pregnancies

Background

- Fetal and neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (FNAIT) is a rare, life-threatening condition that leads to intracranial hemorrhage (ICH) in the most severe cases¹
 - FNAIT is caused when maternal immunoglobulin G (IgG) alloantibodies against fetal human platelet antigens (HPAs) cross the placenta, most likely through neonatal Fc receptors (FcRn), during pregnancy² and bind to fetal platelets and megakaryocytes, leading to platelet destruction and thrombocytopenia (Figure 1A)
- HPA-1a and HPA-5b are the most common HPA subtypes, occurring in 80% to 85% and 7% to 16% of FNAIT cases, respectively^{1,3,4}
- Currently, there is no routine prenatal screening for HPA alloimmunization
- Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) with or without prednisone is the standard-of-care treatment for FNAIT in most countries and has been described in literature for use in at-risk pregnancies^{1,5-8}
- Nipocalimab is a fully human, IgG1, high-affinity, aglycosylated, FcRn-blocking monoclonal antibody that inhibits transplacental IgG transfer and lowers circulating maternal IgG levels available for transfer (Figure 1B)⁹
- Nipocalimab showed proof-of-concept efficacy in preventing or delaying fetal anemia with an acceptable safety profile in an open-label, phase 2 study of an analogous condition, early-onset severe hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03842189)⁹
 - These findings have supported the potential of nipocalimab for the treatment of other IgG alloantibody-mediated perinatal diseases, including the ongoing, pivotal, phase 3 clinical development program of nipocalimab in FNAIT (FREESIA-1 [ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT06449651] and FREESIA-3 [ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT06533098])
- As nipocalimab reduces the transfer of both pathogenic IgG and beneficial IgG antibodies from mother to fetus, potential risks of nipocalimab may include hypogammaglobulinemia and infection in mothers and their neonates, and further investigation is warranted to understand its safety profile in neonates at risk of FNAIT

Objective

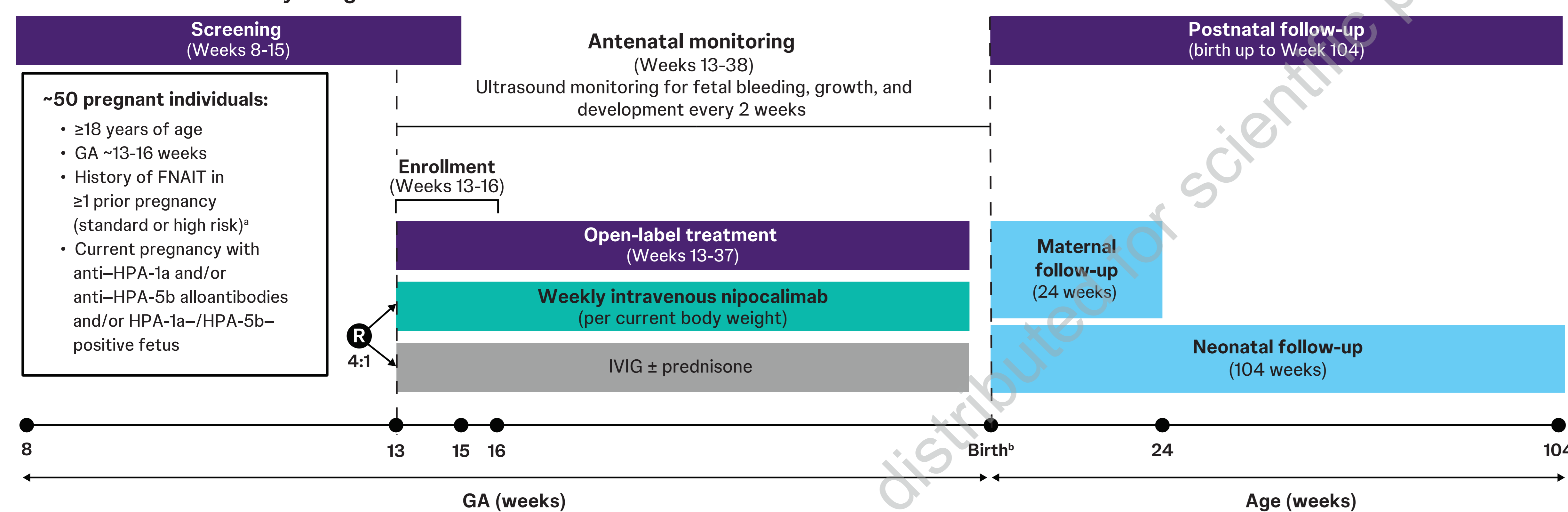
To present the design of the open-label FREESIA-3 study, which aims to evaluate the efficacy and safety of nipocalimab with a contemporaneous reference arm of IVIG with/without prednisone in pregnancies at risk for FNAIT

Methods

Study Design

- FREESIA-3 is an open-label, multicenter, randomized, phase 3 study enrolling HPA-1a- and/or HPA-5b- alloimmunized pregnant individuals with an HPA-1a- and/or HPA-5b- positive fetus and a prior FNAIT-affected pregnancy without fetal/neonatal ICH or severe bleeding (standard risk) or with fetal/neonatal ICH or severe bleeding (high risk; Figure 2)
- HPA incompatibility subtypes will be considered as the 2 cohorts in this study
 - Cohort 1: participants with anti-HPA-1a antibodies
 - Cohort 2: participants with anti-HPA-5b antibodies
- Participants from each cohort will be randomized (4:1) to weekly intravenous nipocalimab or IVIG with/without prednisone at 13 to 16 weeks of gestation
 - The IVIG reference arm will provide contemporaneous information on outcomes associated with the current standard of care for pregnancies at risk for FNAIT⁹
- Maternal participants will receive ultrasound monitoring for fetal bleeding and fetal growth and development every 2 weeks during the treatment period
- At birth and prior to hospital discharge, neonates will undergo cranial ultrasound to scan for perinatal/neonatal ICH, assess platelet count, and, if necessary, receive platelet transfusion as per protocol
- Postnatal follow-up periods are 24 weeks for maternal participants and 104 weeks for neonates/infants

FIGURE 2: FREESIA-3 study design

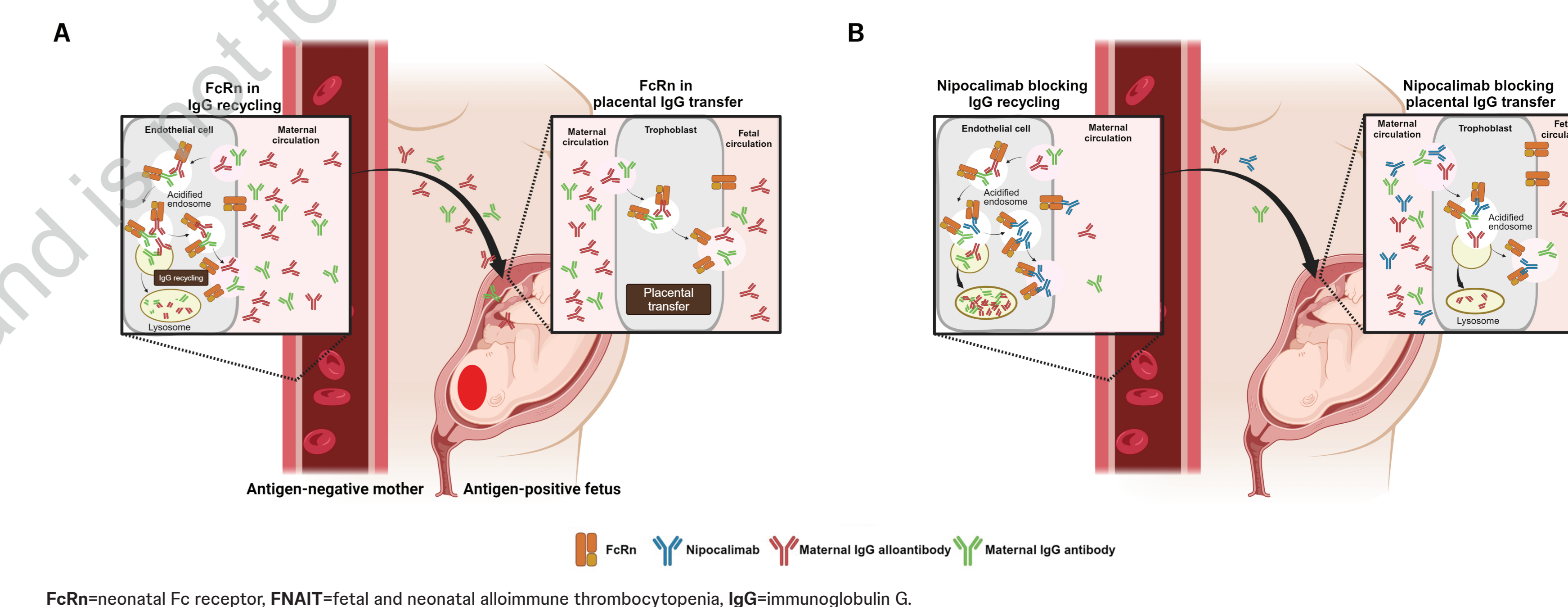


*Standard risk: neonatal platelet count $<150 \times 10^9/L$ with no fetal/neonatal ICH or severe hemorrhage. High risk: fetus/neonate with a history of ICH or severe hemorrhage in a previous child.
⁹Delivery is planned at 38 weeks but may occur earlier at the discretion of the investigator and the study participant.
 FNAIT=fetal and neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia, GA=gestational age, HPA=human platelet antigen, ICH=intracranial hemorrhage, IVIG=intravenous immunoglobulin, R=randomization.

Key Inclusion Criteria

- Individuals ≥ 18 years of age who are pregnant at an estimated gestational age of 13 to 16 weeks
- History of FNAIT in ≥ 1 prior pregnancy
- Current pregnancy with the presence of alloantibody titers for anti-HPA-1a and/or -HPA-5b and an HPA-1a- and/or HPA-5b- positive fetus diagnosed by cell-free fetal DNA

FIGURE 1: Development of FNAIT (A) and anticipated prevention of FNAIT by nipocalimab (B)



Primary composite endpoint

Fetal/neonatal death or adjudicated severe bleeding (including ICH) in utero up to the first week post birth, or a neonatal platelet count at birth $<30 \times 10^9/L$

Secondary endpoints

Neonatal platelet count at birth
 Adverse outcome of death of a fetus/neonate
 Neonatal platelet count at birth $<10 \times 10^9/L$
 Neonatal platelet count at birth $<30 \times 10^9/L$
 Neonatal platelet count at birth $<50 \times 10^9/L$
 Neonatal platelet count at birth $<150 \times 10^9/L$
 Nadir neonatal platelet count over the first week post birth
 Neonate requiring platelet transfusion(s), including the number of platelet transfusions and number of donor exposures for platelet transfusions
 Adjudicated fetal and neonatal bleeding up to the first week post birth
 Neonate requiring IVIG or platelet transfusions for the treatment of thrombocytopenia



A neonate with a treatment-emergent adverse event of infection

Selected exploratory endpoints



Patient- and caregiver-reported outcomes over time

- 36-Item Short Form Health Survey version 2 Acute scores
- EuroQol 5-dimension 5-level questionnaire scores
- Infant health-related Quality of Life Instrument scores

Pharmacokinetics

- Nipocalimab concentration in maternal blood over time during pregnancy and postpartum
- Nipocalimab concentration in colostrum/breast milk at birth up to 4 weeks postpartum
- Nipocalimab concentration in the neonate over time

Pharmacodynamics (eg, IgG reduction, alloantibody levels)

Immunogenicity