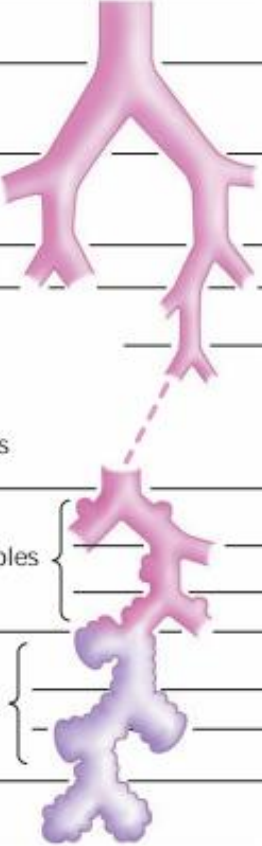


Treatment of acute lung injury using one-component LNP to deliver TGF β mRNA to the lower lung

Jaclynn Meshanni, PhD
Lab of Dr. Drew Weissman
University of Pennsylvania

Clinical need to target the respiratory airway

	Name of branches	Number of tubes in branch
Conducting zone	Trachea	1
	Bronchi	2
		4
		8
	Bronchioles	16
Respiratory zone	Terminal bronchioles	32
		6×10^4
	Respiratory bronchioles	5×10^5
	Alveolar ducts	
	Alveolar sacs	8×10^6



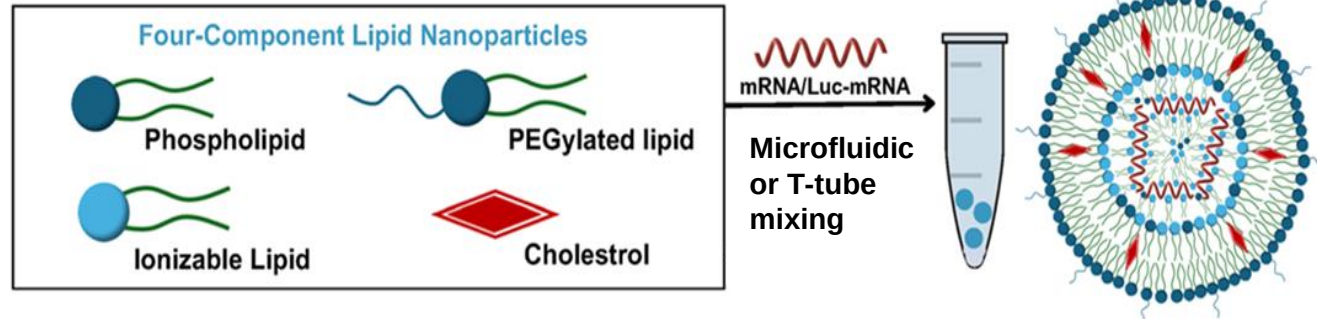
- Two major regions of the lung
- Pathologies in these two areas are diverse
- Therapies that target the respiratory epithelium exclusively are extremely limited

Major clinical gap for treatment of lower airways disease and injury

Image adapted from: <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-44887-1.00006-7>

4-component LNP vs one-component IAJD

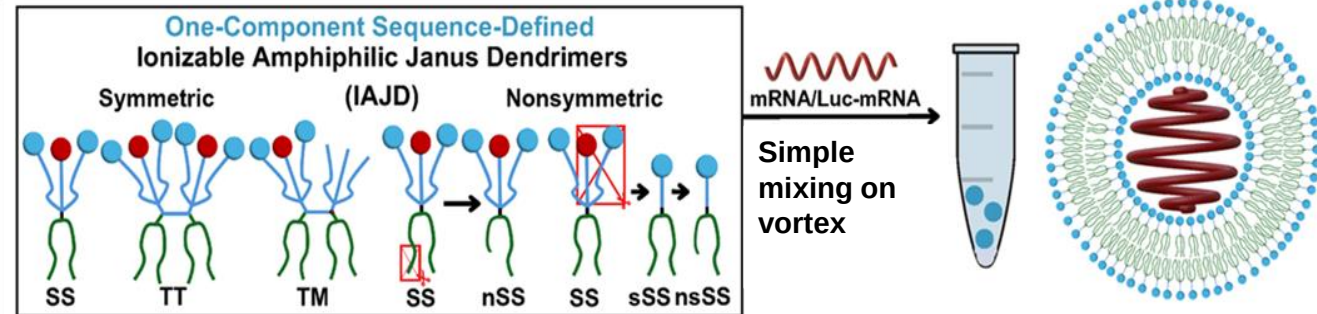
4-Component Ionizable Lipid Nanoparticles (LNP)



4-components

- Microfluidics
- PEG dilemma; adverse reaction
- Storage at -80 °C

1-Component Ionizable Amphiphilic Janus Dendrimers (IAJD)



1-component

- Simple mixing on vortex
- No need for cholesterol or PEG
- Stable
- Cost-effective and fast production

Image adapted from: <https://doi.org/10.3390/pharmaceutics15061572>

Specificity of IAJD for mRNA delivery to the lung

10 µg/mouse, 4 hours post-injection

Whole Body
Radiant Flux (p/s):

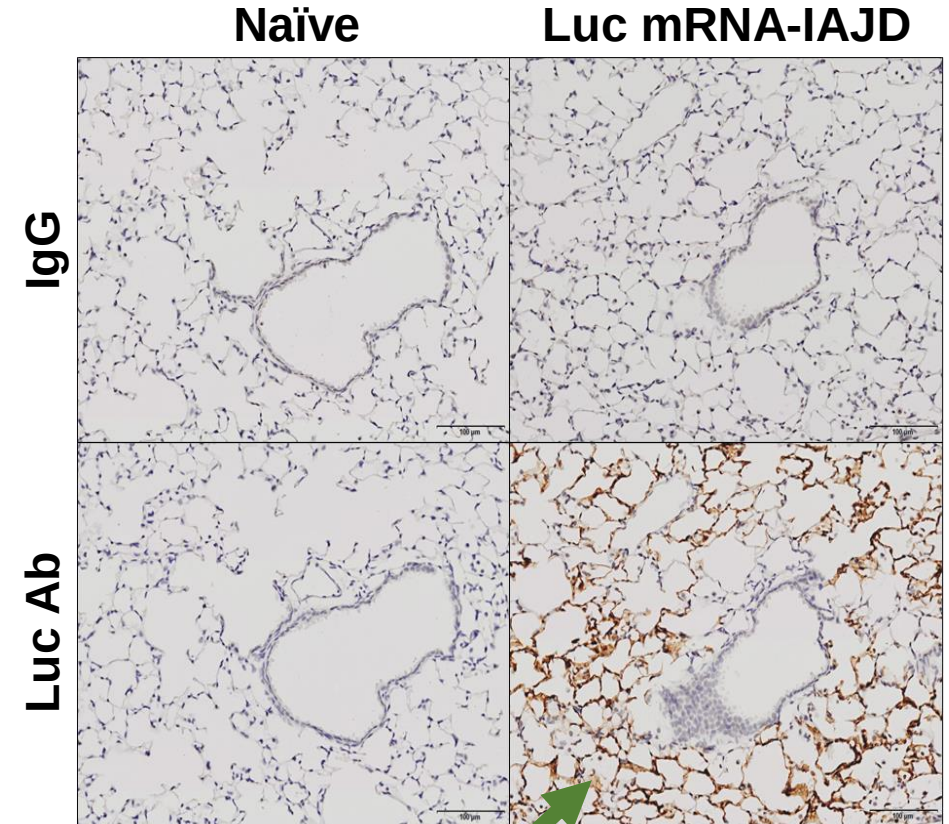
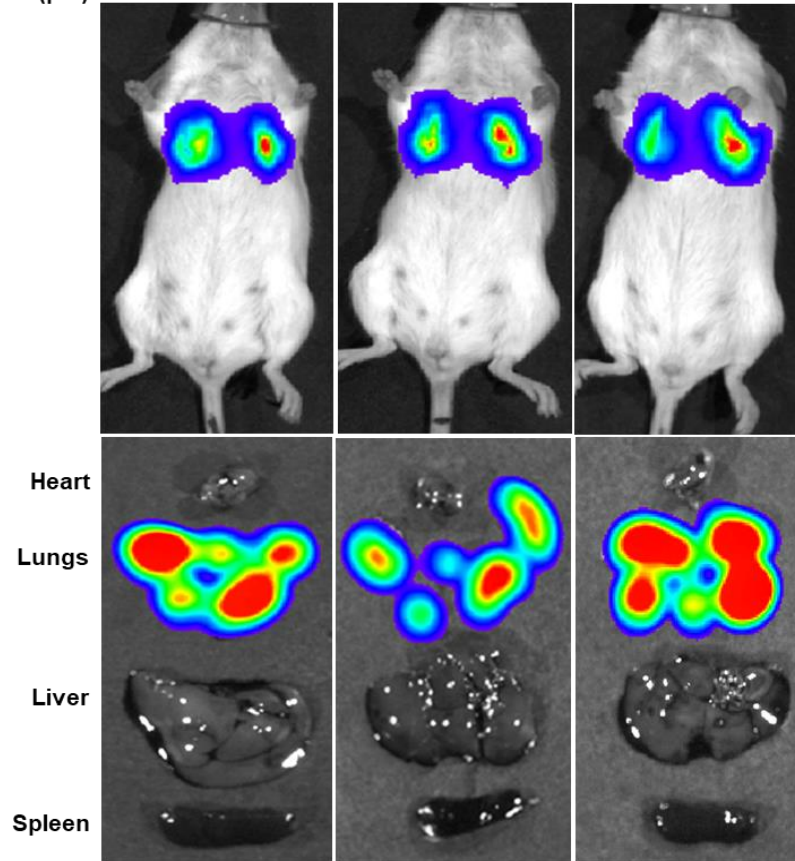
4.07×10^7

3.72×10^7

4.28×10^7



10 µg, R.O.
IAJD34+Luc mRNA



Use of IAJDs to deliver protein therapeutics

- **Key to therapeutic delivery is:**
 - Tissue specificity
 - Time frame
 - Functional processing
- **TGF- β in a model of acute lung injury**
 - Potent anti-inflammatory
- **Can also be done with other mRNAs:**
 - Other cytokines
 - Vaccine components

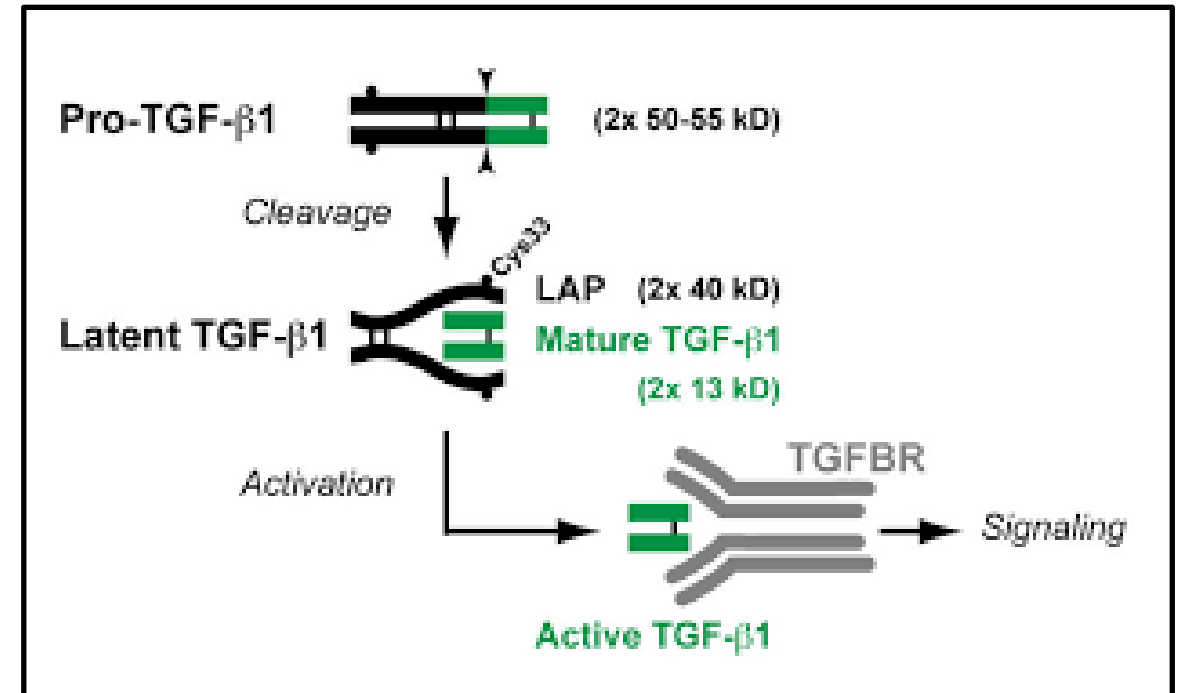
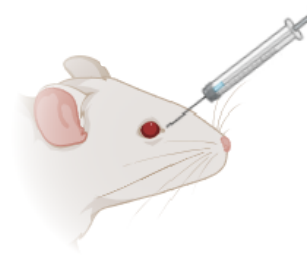
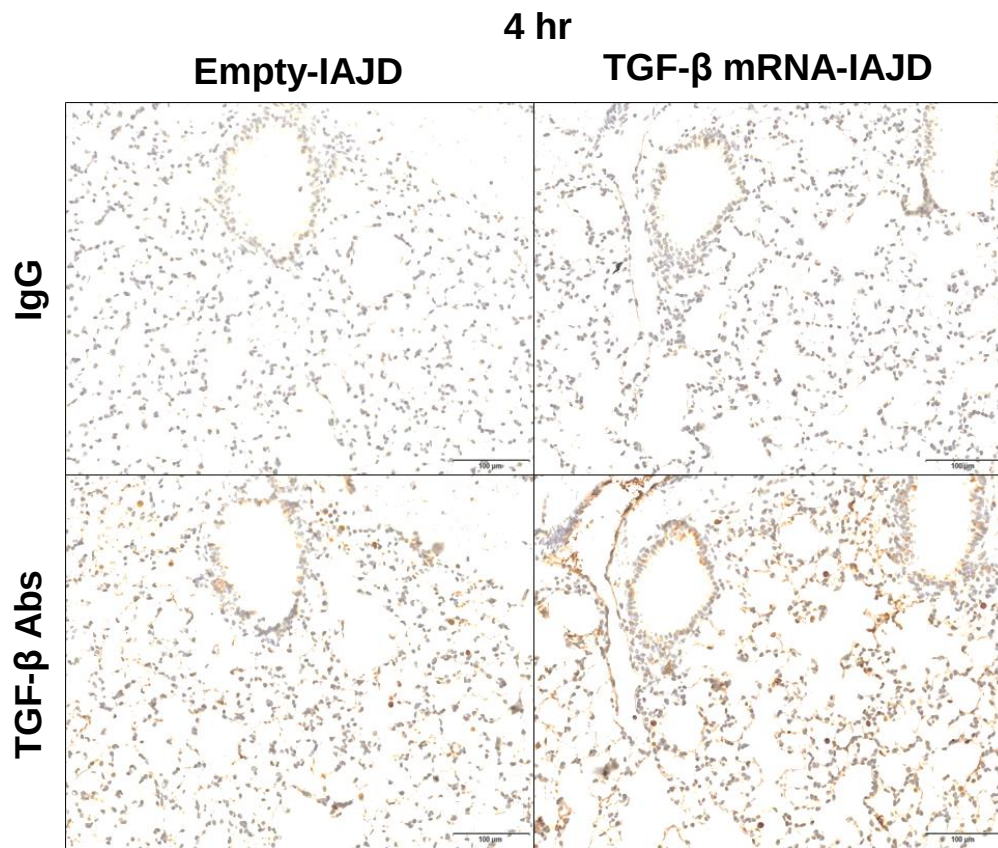
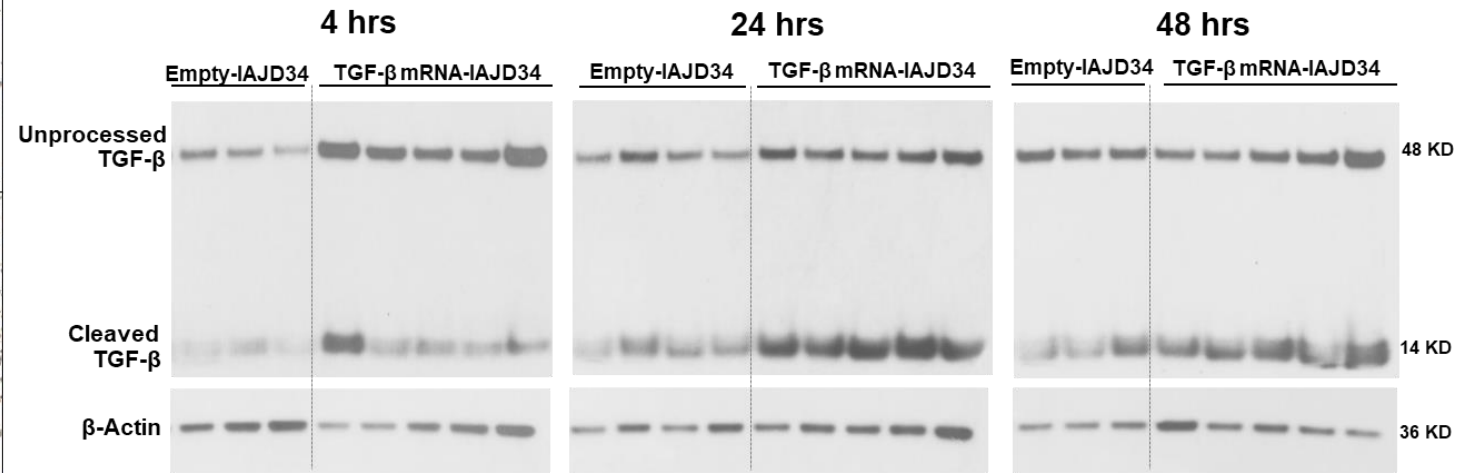


Image adapted from <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0076186>

TGF- β expression following delivery to lung



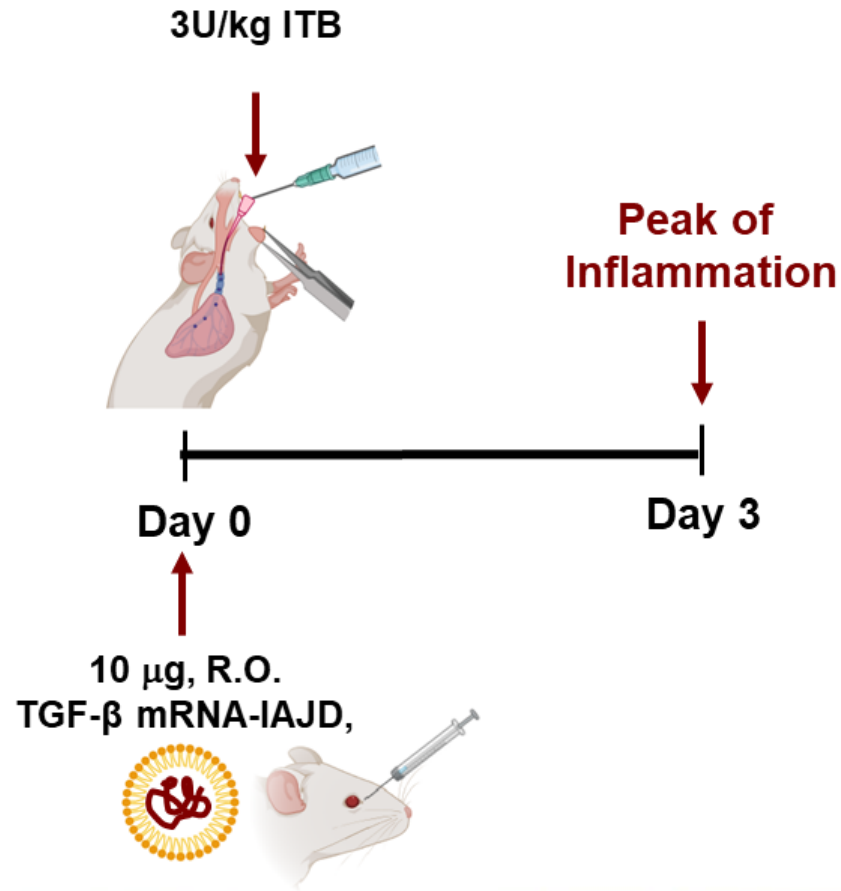
10 μ g, R.O.
IAJD34+TGFb mRNA
Lung tissue



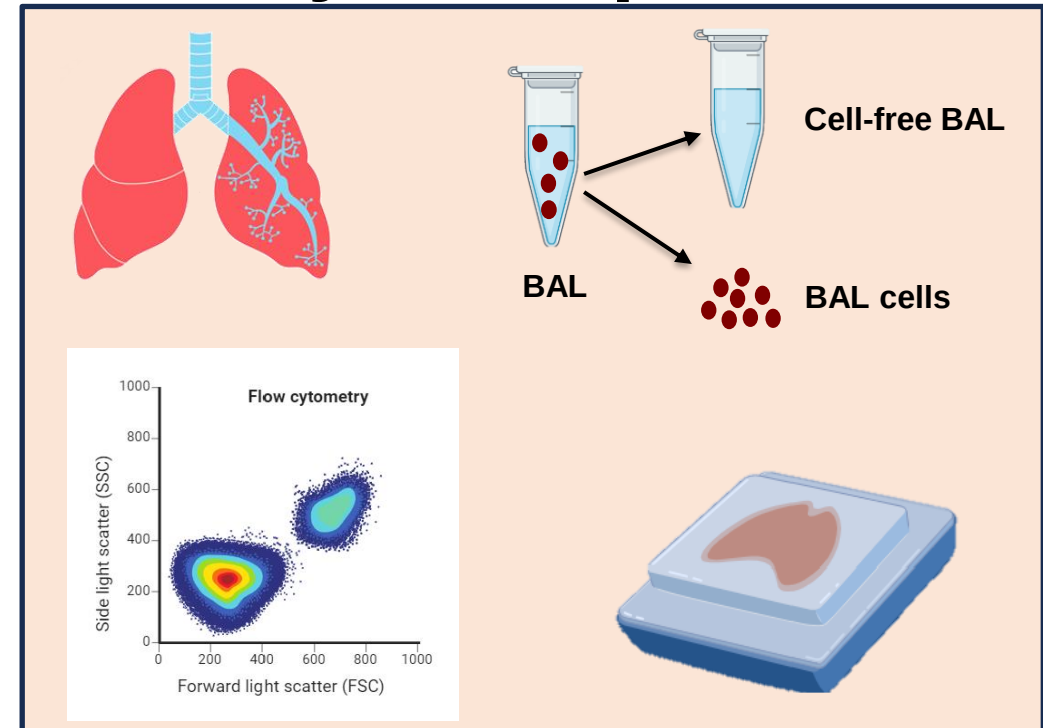
Showed no toxicity in lung, liver, spleen, or kidney

Using TGF- β mRNA-IAJD to treat ALI

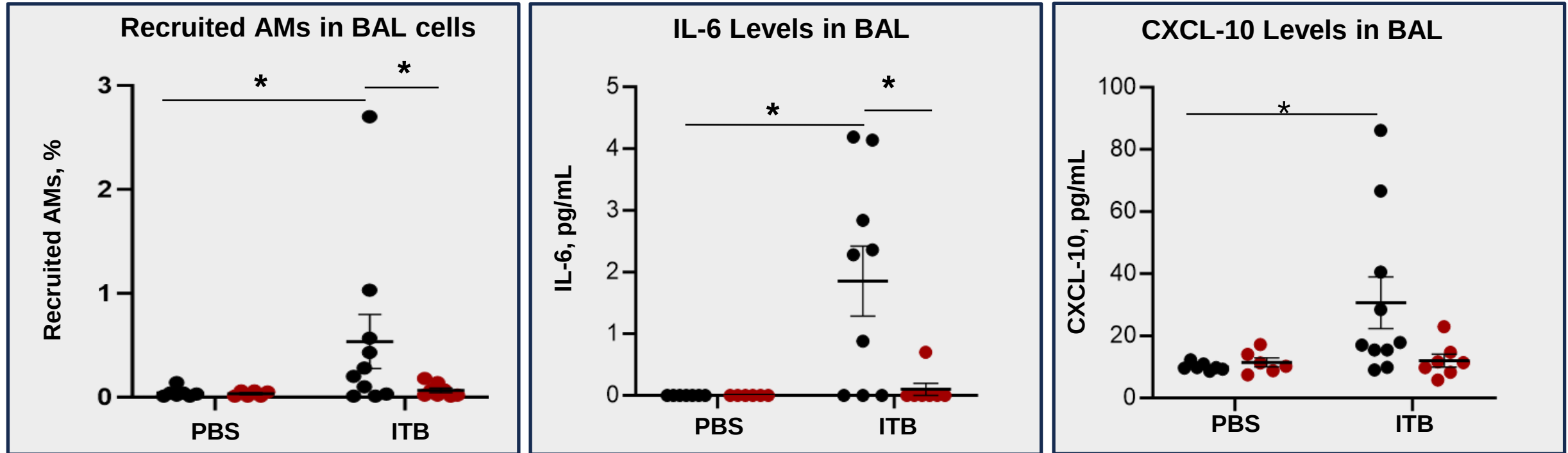
Use Bleomycin (ITB) as a model of Acute Lung Injury (ALI)



Day 3 Endpoints

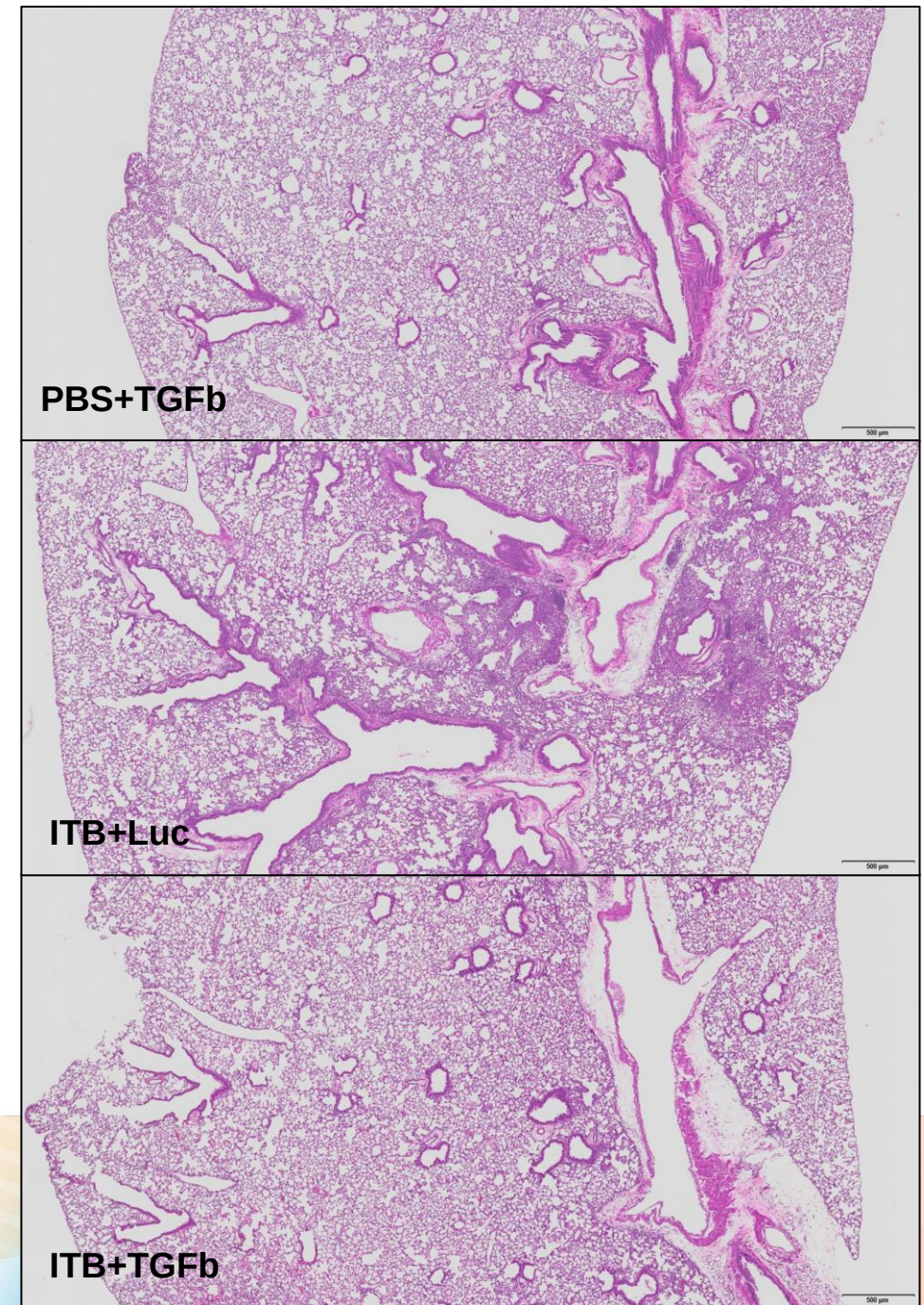
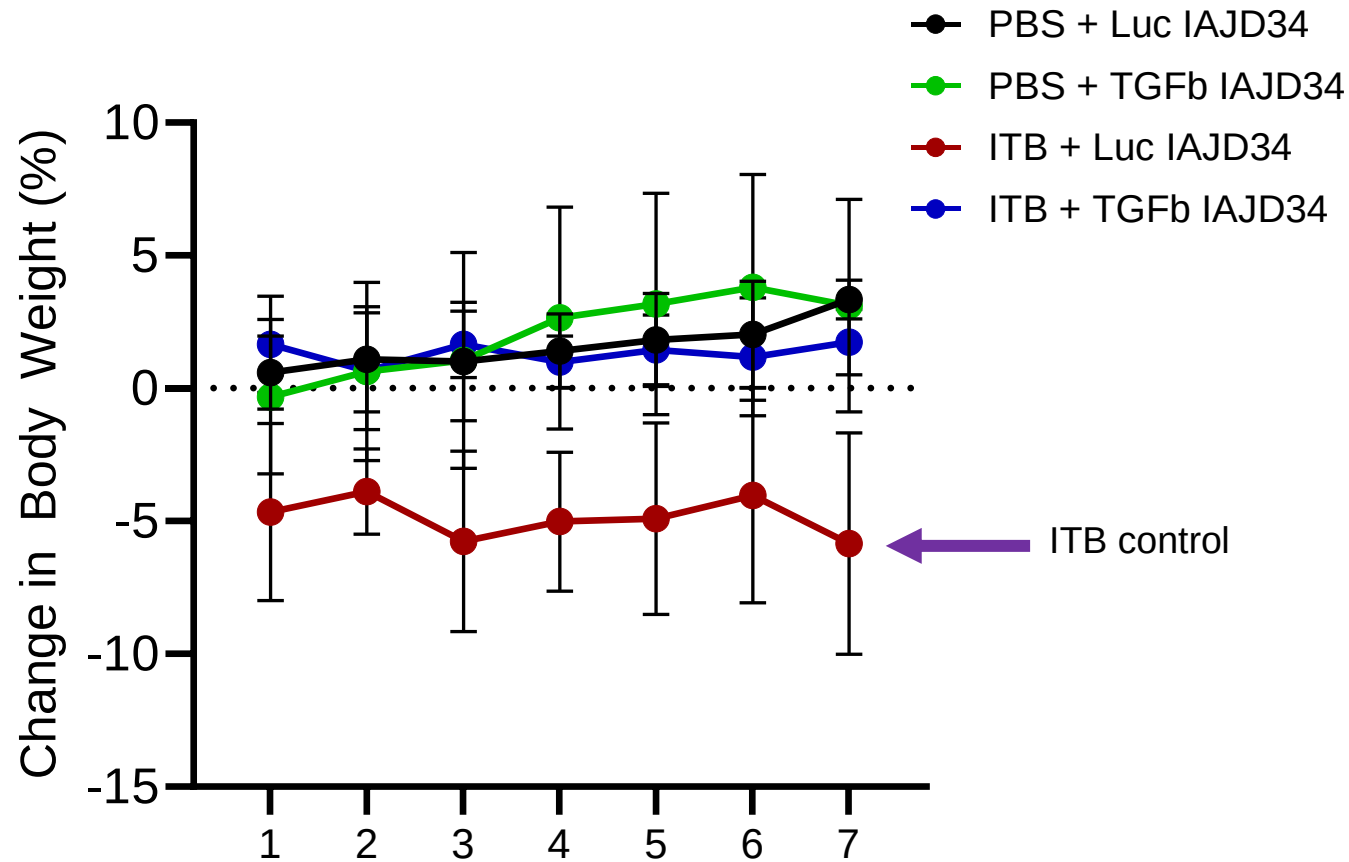


TGF- β mRNA-IAJD treatment reduces ITB injury



● Empty-IAJD ● TGF- β mRNA-IAJD

7 Days post-ITB injury (4U/kg)



n=4-6/group and graphs include 2 independent instillation days

Summary

This proof-of-concept study demonstrates the ability of one-component IAJD, formulated with TGF- β mRNA, to serve as a platform for efficient delivery to the lung

Currently pursuing other therapies for lung parenchyma

- Other mRNAs
- Genetic recovery models

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"Targeted delivery of TGF- β
mRNA to murine lung
parenchyma using one-
component ionizable amphiphilic
Janus Dendrimers." *Nature
communications* 16.1 (2025):
1806.

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