



**SUZETRIGINE (VX-548)
PHASE 2 RESULTS IN PAINFUL
LUMBOSACRAL RADICULOPATHY**

DECEMBER 19, 2024

SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT

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SUZETRIGINE PHASE 2 STUDY IN PAINFUL LUMBOSACRAL RADICULOPATHY (LSR): KEY POINTS



- Suzetrigine Phase 2 LSR study **met its primary endpoint**: -2.02 within-group change from baseline in NPRS scores at week 12
 - **Statistically significant and clinically meaningful** reduction in NPRS scores
 - Clearly an **active drug**, with **meaningful treatment effect** across pain studies
 - However, **treatment curves did not separate**; placebo effect: -1.98 within-group change in NPRS to week 12
- Suzetrigine was **well tolerated with a lower AE rate than the placebo arm**, adding to the safety profile
- Vertex **believes we can demonstrate success in a Phase 3** study in LSR given:
 1. The suzetrigine **treatment effect was robust and consistent** with prior studies
 2. Insights from post hoc analyses regarding **site variability and placebo effect**
 3. Our belief that we **can better control for the placebo effect** with innovation in clinical trial design
- **Advancing to Phase 3 pending regulatory discussions**, focused on
 1. Study design optimization to manage the placebo effect
 2. FDA requirements to broaden beyond a diabetic peripheral neuropathy (DPN) indication
- Committed to **transforming the treatment of pain with innovations in Na_v1.8/Na_v1.7 research and clinical trial design**

NPRS = numeric pain rating scale, AE = adverse event.

Suzetrigine is *an investigational medicine* for acute and peripheral neuropathic pain, including lumbosacral radiculopathy.

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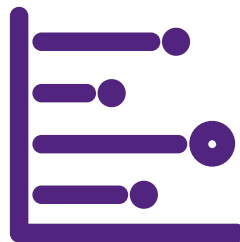
HIGH UNMET NEED AND LIMITED CLINICAL TRIAL EXPERIENCE CREATE SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY IN LSR



>4 million LSR patients in the U.S.



No approved therapies specifically indicated for LSR



- Limited LSR studies:*
 - ~10 published Phase 2 randomized placebo-controlled trials in LSR
 - No studies with $\text{Na}_v1.8$ pain signal inhibitors
 - No Phase 3 study ever completed in LSR



No defined standard for meaningful between-group difference of change in NPRS

*Defined as studies of systemic therapies, does not include devices or procedures

SUZETRIGINE PHASE 2 STUDY DESIGNED TO UNDERSTAND PERFORMANCE OF SELECTIVE NAV1.8 PAIN SIGNAL INHIBITOR AND PLACEBO IN LSR



Study goals

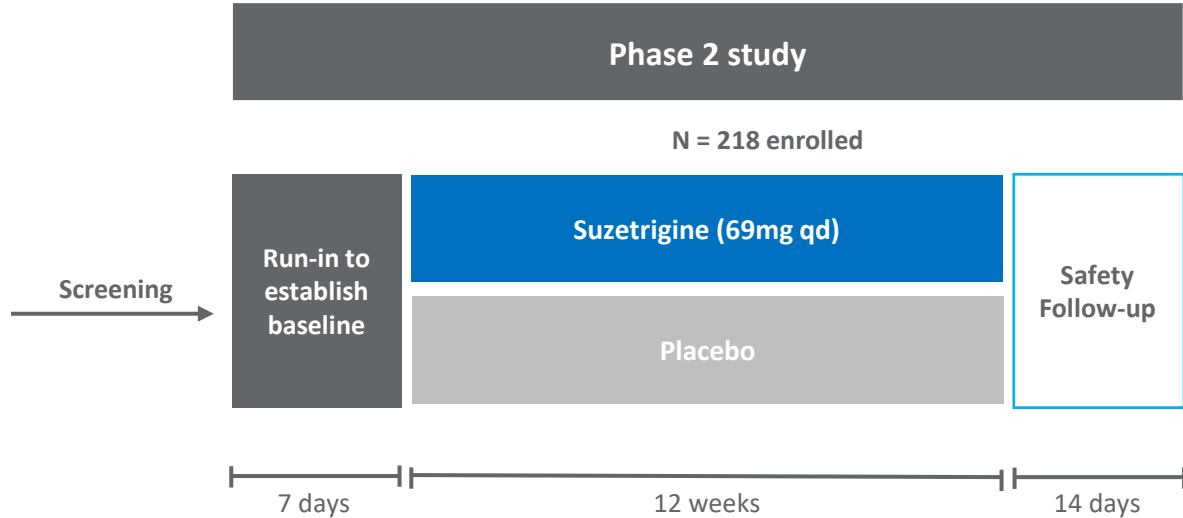
1. Evaluate the magnitude of the treatment effect with suzetrigine, the first selective $\text{Na}_v1.8$ pain signal inhibitor to be studied in LSR
2. Evaluate the effect of placebo in patients with LSR
3. Assess safety and tolerability over 12 weeks of treatment

Translate these learnings into next steps for suzetrigine in LSR



SUZETRIGINE PHASE 2 LSR STUDY DESIGN

Phase 2, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in patients with painful LSR lasting over 3 months



Primary Endpoint:

- Within-group change from baseline in the weekly average of daily leg pain intensity on the NPRS at week 12

Secondary Endpoints:

- Within-group change from baseline in the weekly average of the daily sleep interference scale (DSIS) at week 12;
- Safety and tolerability

N=218 patients*, randomized 1:1 suzetrigine vs. placebo, enrolled across 38 sites. Patients were randomized after a 7-day run-in period to establish baseline. Pain medications, except stable over-the-counter doses of ibuprofen (up to 1600 mg/24-hour) or naproxen (up to 440 mg/24-hour), were stopped at least 14 days prior to first dose. Acetaminophen (up to 500 mg every 4 to 6 hours, as needed) was allowed during the run-in period and throughout the study.

Key inclusion criteria: patients with painful lumbosacral radiculopathy lasting over 3 months, ages 18 to 70; moderate-to-severe pain (NPRS \geq 4 and <10).

Key exclusion criteria: painful neuropathy other than LSR, history of prior lumbar spine surgery.

*202 patients evaluated for efficacy. One site with 15 patients excluded from the efficacy analysis, due to non-compliance. One patient was randomized but not dosed. All patients dosed were included in the safety analysis.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS GENERALLY BALANCED

		Suzetrigine N = 102	Placebo N = 100
Demographics	Age in years, Mean (SD)	53.4 (11.2)	50.9 (12.7)
	Female, %	59.8%	63.0%
	Race, %		
	White	74.5%	69.0%
	Black or African American	21.6%	27.0%
	Asian	1.0%	1.0%
	Other	2.9%	3.0%
Baseline Characteristics	BMI in kg/m ² , Mean (SD)	30.0 (5.5)	29.3 (5.2)
	Years since LSR diagnosis, Mean (SD)	5.2 (6.5)	7.3 (8.8)
	Back Pain associated with LSR, %	92.2%	89.0%
	Baseline NSAID use, %*	43.1%	42.0%
	Dermatome with pain, %		
	L4	23.5%	24.0%
	L5	27.5%	31.0%
	S1	49.0%	45.0%
	Baseline Weekly average of NPRS, Mean (SD)	6.33 (1.22)	6.05 (1.07)
Baseline Weekly average of NPRS category, %			
<7	67.6%	78.0%	
≥7	32.4%	22.0%	

*Note: Acetaminophen, up to 500 mg every 4 to 6 hours, as needed, was allowed during the run-in period and as rescue throughout the study. Acetaminophen use was balanced in both arms.

PRIMARY ENDPOINT: TREATMENT WITH SUZETRIGINE SHOWED STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT & CLINICALLY MEANINGFUL REDUCTION IN LEG PAIN INTENSITY

Baseline leg pain intensity (NPRS score)

	Suzetrigine 69 mg QD N=102	Placebo N=100
Mean (SD)	6.33 (1.22)	6.05 (1.07)

PRIMARY END POINT: Within group change from baseline in the weekly average of daily leg pain intensity on NPRS at week 12; study not powered or designed for between group comparison

	Suzetrigine 69 mg QD N=102	Placebo N=100
LS Mean	-2.02	-1.98
95% CI	(-2.40, -1.64)	(-2.36, -1.60)
<i>P value</i>	<0.0001	<0.0001

NPRS = numeric pain rating scale, LS Mean = least square mean, SD = standard deviation, CI = confidence interval

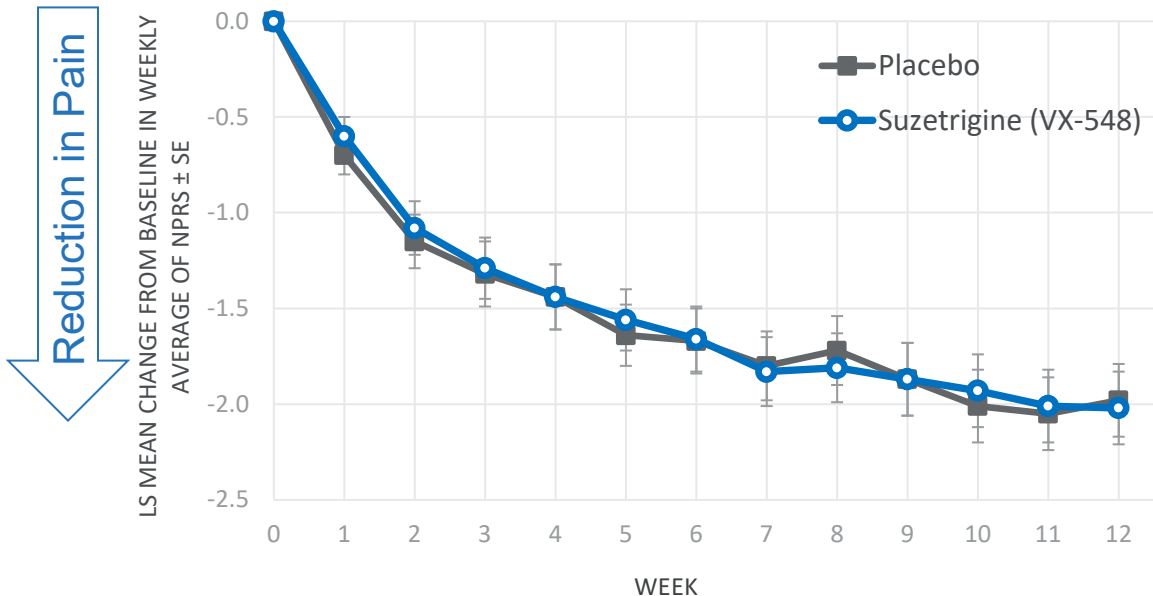
SUZETRIGINE WAS WELL TOLERATED

	Suzetrigine N = 109 n (%)	Placebo N = 108 n (%)
Subjects with any AEs	25 (22.9)	35 (32.4)
Subjects with AEs by strongest relationship		
Not related	16 (14.7)	20 (18.5)
Unlikely related	1 (0.9)	6 (5.6)
Possibly related	6 (5.5)	8 (7.4)
Related	2 (1.8)	1 (0.9)
Subjects with AEs by maximum severity		
Grade 1/Mild	15 (13.8)	17 (15.7)
Grade 2/Moderate	10 (9.2)	17 (15.7)
Grade 3/Severe	0	1 (0.9)
Grade 4/Life-threatening	0	0
Grade 5/Death	0	0
Subjects with serious AEs	1 (0.9)	2 (1.9)
Subjects with AEs leading to treatment discontinuation	0	1 (0.9)
Subjects with AEs leading to death	0	0

**All AEs in subjects who received suzetrigine were mild or moderate; no related SAEs;
no clinically significant trends or patterns in labs, ECGs, or vital signs**

LEG PAIN INTENSITY DECLINED FOR PATIENTS TREATED WITH SUZETRIGINE OVER 12 WEEKS

Placebo had similar response



- Results for secondary and other endpoints were consistent with the primary endpoint

VERTEX INTERPRETATION

1) Suzetrigine is active in LSR

- Statistically significant improvement
- Clinically meaningful ≥ 2 point reduction
- Consistent magnitude of pain reduction for both
 - VRTX $\text{Na}_v1.8$ inhibitors in neuropathic pain
 - medicines approved for neuropathic pain

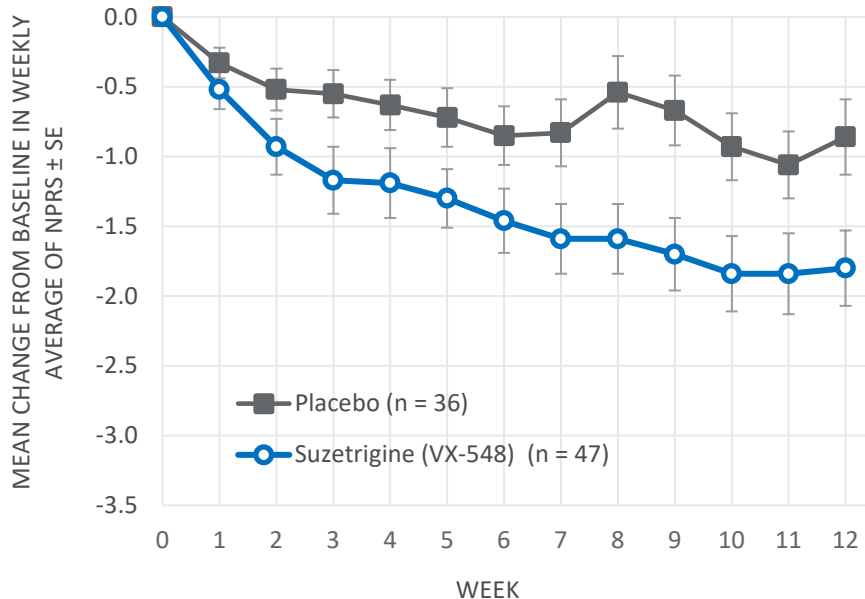
2) Placebo response of equal magnitude to suzetrigine in this study

- High overall placebo response
- High site-to-site variability in placebo response

HYPOTHESIS: The high placebo response was driven by some sites, leading to lack of separation of suzetrigine and placebo curves

TO EVALUATE THIS HYPOTHESIS, POST HOC ANALYSES WERE CONDUCTED OF SITES WITH LOWER PLACEBO RESPONSE

Post hoc analysis of leg pain intensity over time at sites with lower placebo response



Sites that had either no placebo patients or no suzetrigine patients are excluded.

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- Post hoc analyses were conducted to evaluate the placebo response, which varied across sites, a known issue in pain studies
- Approximately 40% of the clinical trial sites had a lower placebo response
- Analyses of the primary and other endpoints *at these sites* showed **suzetrigine arm within-group reduction in pain was consistent with the overall study and had greater separation from the placebo arm**
- As such, we believe that innovation in clinical trial design could allow us to control for the placebo response and separate the treatment effect of suzetrigine from placebo

**VERTEX IS
COMMITTED TO
TRANSFORMING THE
TREATMENT OF PAIN
WITH INNOVATIONS IN
NA_v1.8/NA_v1.7
RESEARCH AND PAIN
CLINICAL TRIAL
DESIGN:**

**LSR TAKEAWAYS AND
NEXT STEPS**

EFFICACY:

- Suzetrigine met its primary endpoint with a **clinically meaningful and statistically significant** reduction in pain scores in LSR
- Suzetrigine is an active drug: **magnitude of the treatment effect was consistent** with our experience with selective Na_v1.8 pain signal inhibitors and the overall treatment effect in the field of neuropathic pain
- Placebo effect in this study was high and **treatment curves did not separate**

SAFETY:

- Today's results **add to the body of evidence on the well tolerated safety profile** of suzetrigine and the selective Na_v1.8 pain signal inhibitor class

NEXT STEPS:

- **Move into Phase 3**, pending regulatory discussions focused on 1) acceptance of novel study design and 2) requirements to broaden beyond DPN indication

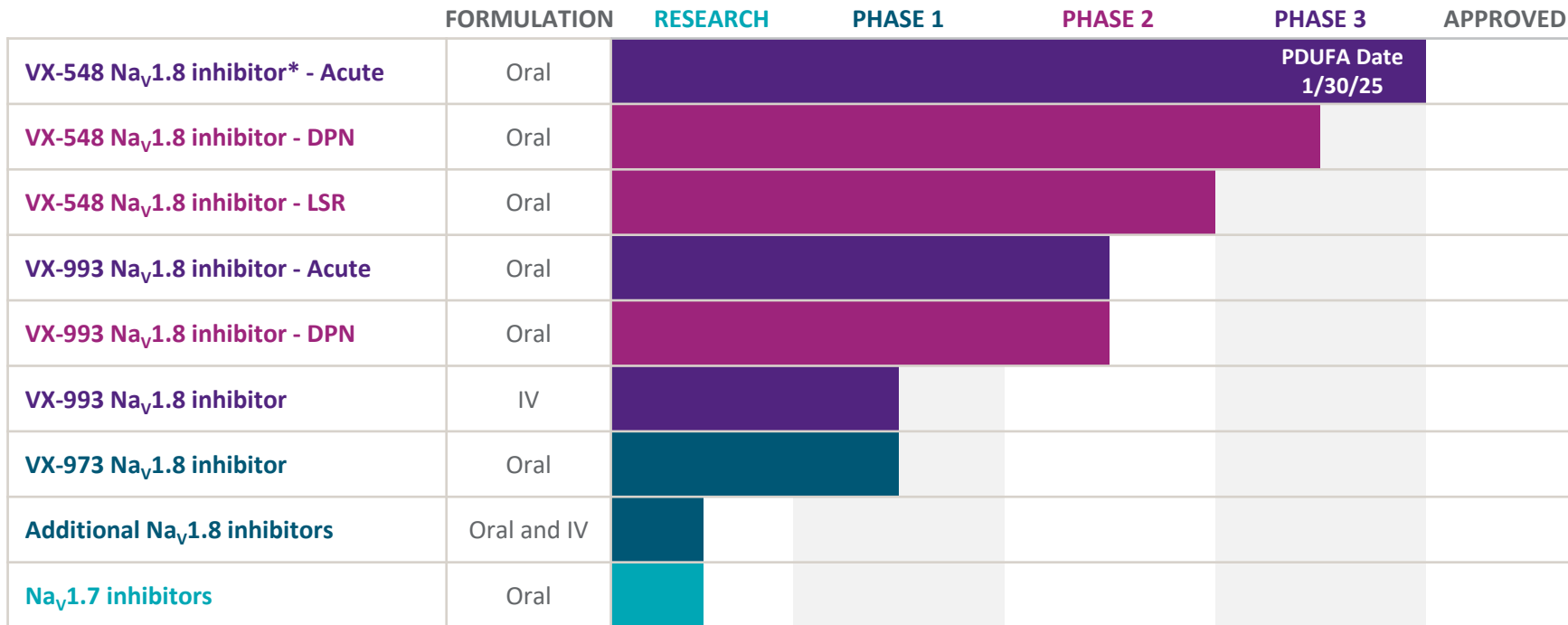
OUTLOOK FOR PHASE 3 SUZETRIGINE LSR SUCCESS DRIVEN BY:

- **Robust and consistent treatment effect** with suzetrigine
- **Insights from post hoc analyses** regarding site variability and placebo effect
- Potential for **innovative clinical trial design** to better control for placebo effect

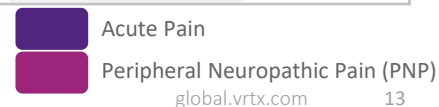


VERTEX IS COMMITTED TO INNOVATING TO TRANSFORM THE TREATMENT OF PAIN

Serial innovation, broad/deep pipeline for leadership in multiple pain states



DPN: diabetic peripheral neuropathy; LSR: lumbosacral radiculopathy; IV: intravenous.
All molecules are investigational for acute and peripheral neuropathic pain.





THE SCIENCE *of* POSSIBILITY

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