



# **New Data in MC4R Pathway Heterozygous (HET) Obesity and Next Steps**

March 2019

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## **Stratifying MC4R pathway heterozygous (HET) patients into cohorts based on genetic variants and believed impact on pathway function**

- Estimate >20,000 high-impact loss-of-function (LOF) HET patients in the United States

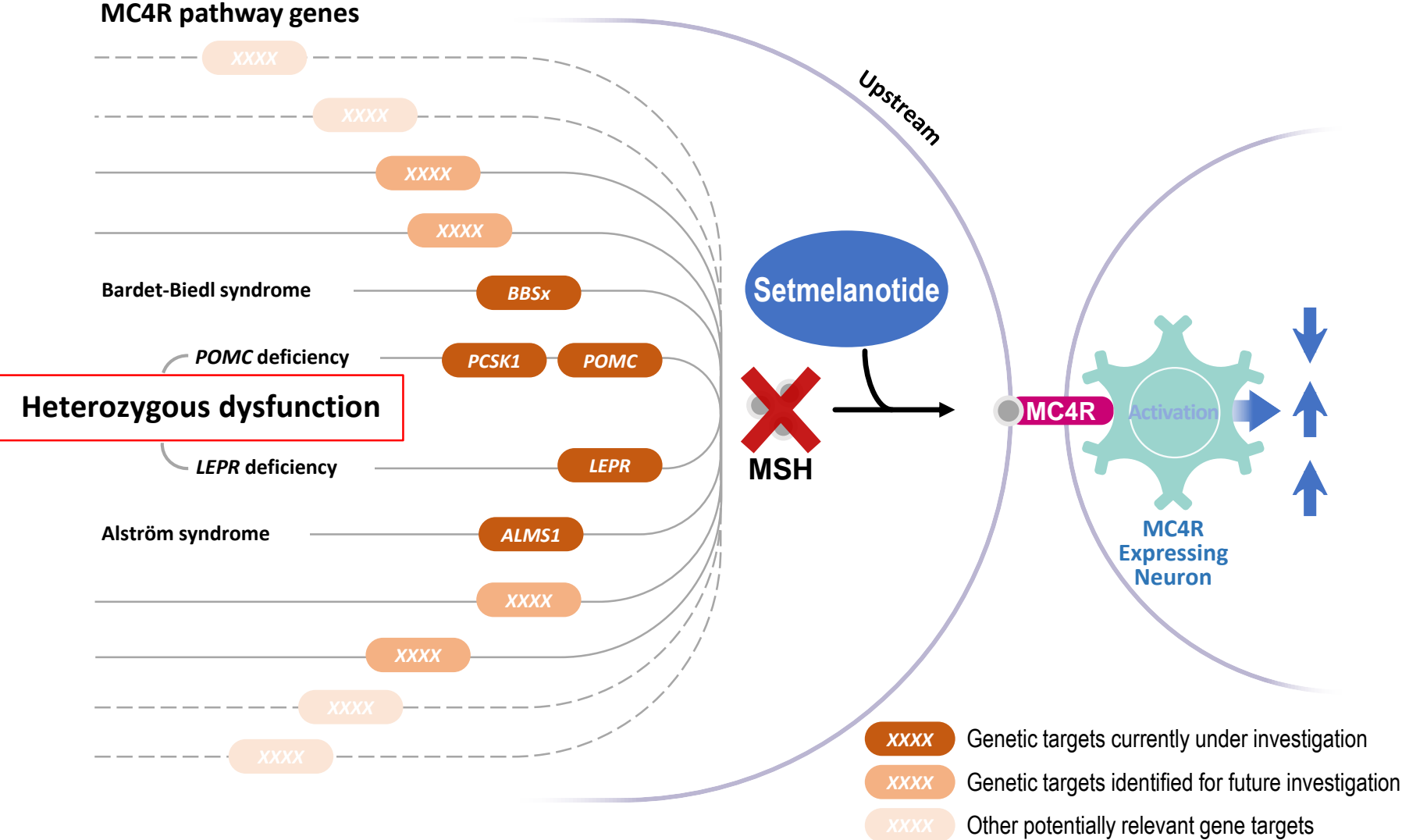
## **Updated data shows greater, more consistent weight loss in HET patients with high-impact LOF variants**

- All four high-impact LOF patients appear setmelanotide-responsive
- Nine patients in other LOF subgroups have more variable responses




**Ongoing focus: expanding pool of high-impact variants; identifying and enrolling HET patients in study**

**Continuing to enroll HET patients in Phase 2 basket study through at least the remainder of 2019**

# Rhythm Focus: Genetic Defects in the MC4R Pathway



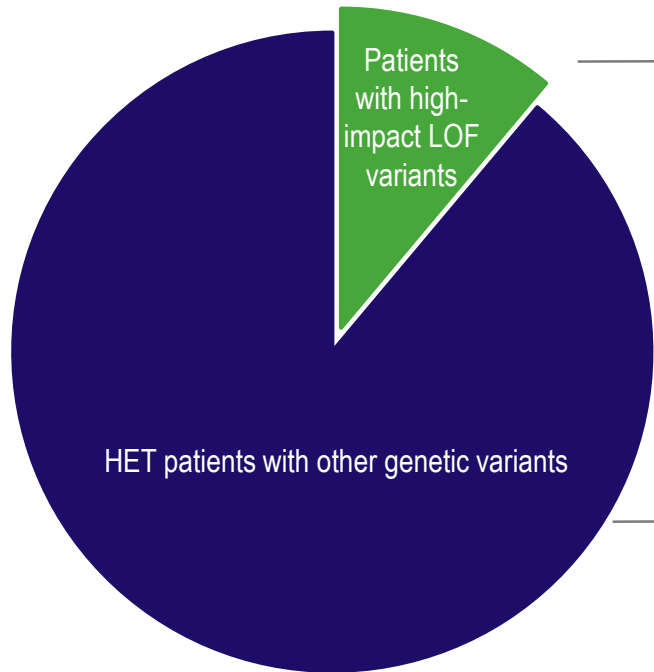
# Defining MC4R Pathway Heterozygosity

			
Genotype	<b>Wildtype</b>	<b>Homozygote</b>	<b>Heterozygote</b>
Definition	No genetic variant <sup>1</sup>	The same loss-of-function genetic variant present on both copies of a gene	One loss-of-function genetic variant present on one copy of a gene
Phenotype	No POMC deficiency obesity	e.g. POMC deficiency obesity <sup>2</sup>	e.g. POMC heterozygous obesity

<sup>1</sup>A genetic variant (mutation) is a difference in DNA sequences between an individual and the population; <sup>2</sup>Currently POMC, LEPR, BBS and AS deficiency obesity indications are being studied in pivotal trials

# Stratifying HET Patients Based on Genetic Variant: Significant Population

Rhythm estimates >20,000 high-impact LOF patients in U.S.<sup>1</sup>



*graph not drawn to scale*

## Rhythm's Approach

### INITIAL SUBGROUP FOCUS:

- **Well-characterized, published high-impact variants, expected to be most responsive to setmelanotide**
  - **Genetic Focus:** Truncations (nonsense); frame shift; splice site variants; as well as well-characterized, high-confidence, published missense variants
  - **Clinical Focus:** HET patients with severe, early-onset obesity and hyperphagia
- **Goal:** Achieve proof-of-concept to support design of pivotal trial

### ADDITIONAL SUBGROUPS:

- **Other HET genetic variants:**
  - Uncharacterized missense variants
  - Partial loss-of-function variants
  - Newly discovered variants
  - Less rare variants
- **Composite HET** (more than one variant in more than one gene)
- **Goal:** Better understand HET biology and enlarge potential patient pool

<sup>1</sup>Calculated based on the following assumptions: US pop 327 million; 1.7% has early onset, severe obesity; High impact HET allele frequency based on Rhythm genetic sequencing (Feb 2019)

# All High-Impact LOF Patients Appear Setmelanotide-Responsive

Preliminary data – March 2019

All patients ongoing:

Patient	Total treatment duration <sup>1</sup> (weeks)	Baseline Weight (kg/(lbs))	Weight Loss (kg/(lbs))	Weight loss	Change in Hunger Score (10 pt scale)	Hunger score reduction
1	37	204 (451)	18.4 (40.5)	9.0%	-9	90.0%
2	29	129 (284)	22.3 (49.0)	17.3%	-5	71.4%
3	4	187 (412)	7.1 (15.6)	3.8%	-4	40.0%

Fourth patient, still very early in dose titration, showing promising weight loss and hunger score decreases

<sup>1</sup>Total treatment duration including any titration period which can last 6-12 weeks. <sup>2</sup>Too early in treatment to provide data, but initial weight and hunger score reductions were noted. Note: these are all new patients since last update.

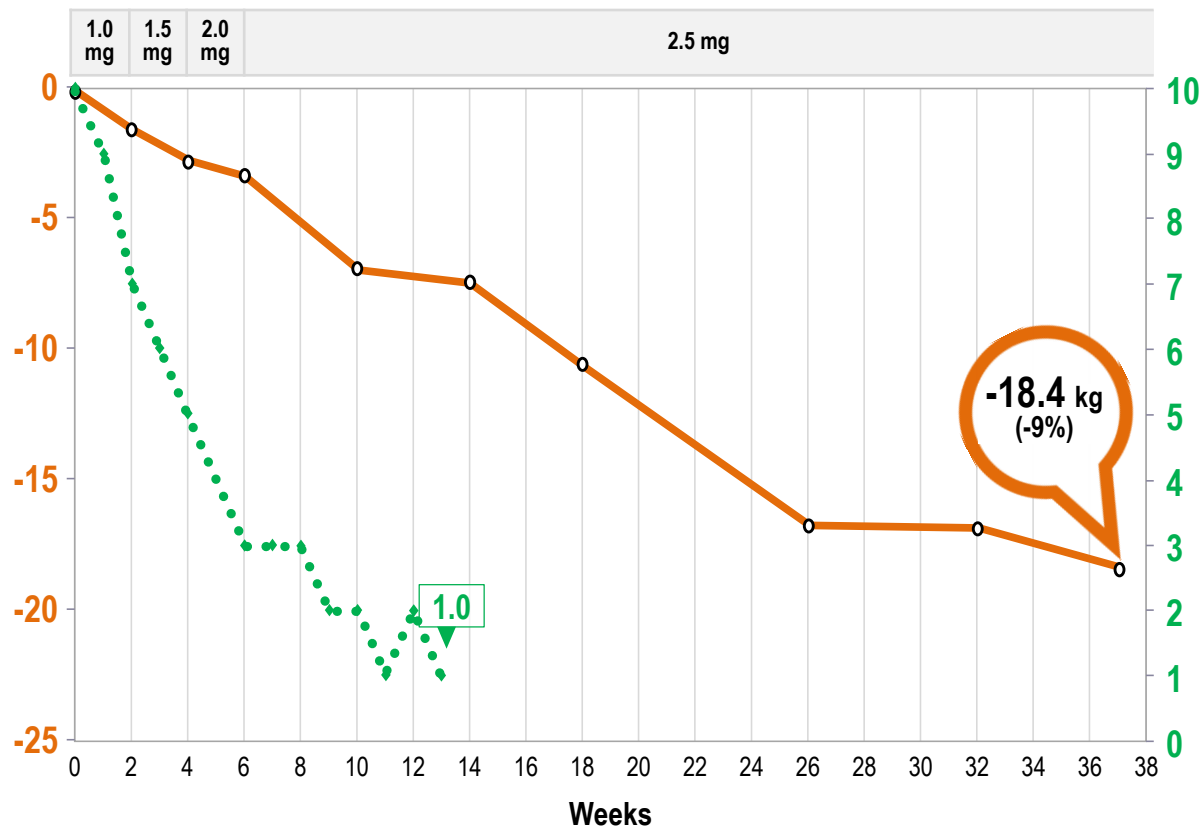
# High-Impact LOF Patients #1 & 2

**22 yr old female**

Starting weight = 203.8 kg

Starting BMI = 79.6

Starting hunger score (worst) = 10.0 pts<sup>1</sup>



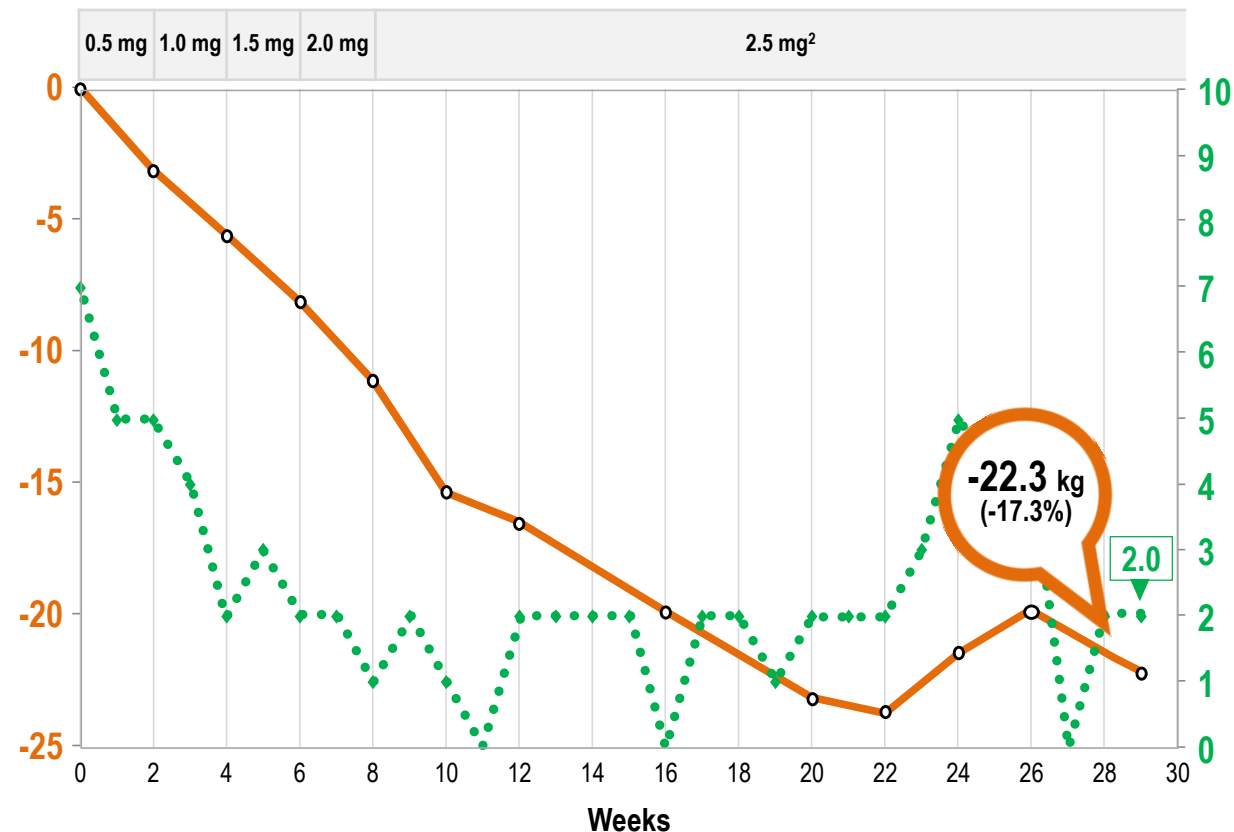
○ Weight Change (kg)  
● Worst Hunger Score

**40 yr old female<sup>2</sup>**

Starting weight = 128.8 kg

Starting BMI = 41.6

Starting hunger score (worst) = 7.0 pts



○ Weight Change (kg)  
● Worst Hunger Score

<sup>1</sup>For some patients whose site uses paper based methods, hunger data lags in Rhythm's systems. <sup>2</sup>Patient 2 went on per protocol optional withdrawal period from Weeks 22-26.



# Patients in Other Subgroups Have More Variable Responses

## Five patients ongoing<sup>1</sup>:

Patient	Total treatment duration <sup>2</sup> (weeks)	Baseline Weight (kg/(lbs))	Weight Loss (kg/(lbs))	Weight loss	Change in Hunger Score (10 pt scale)	Hunger score reduction
1	74	150 (330)	12.1 (26.6)	8.0%	-7	78.0%
2	66	147 (323)	7.5 (16.5)	5.1%	-1	20.0%
3	20	118 (259)	15.0 (33.0)	12.8%	-6	75.0%
4	16	106 (232)	7.2 (15.8)	6.9%	-7	70.0%
5	7	150 (330)	4.6 (10.1)	3.0%	NA	NA

## Four patients discontinued treatment:

- One patient due to lack of efficacy at 14 weeks<sup>3</sup>
- Three patients with  $\leq 4$  weeks of total therapy, so efficacy not able to be assessed:
  - Two patients due to AE (tanning, muscle cramps)<sup>3</sup>
  - One patient withdrawn by site for patient non-compliance

<sup>1</sup>Two of these patients were reported in June 2018. <sup>2</sup>Total treatment duration including any titration period, which can last 6-12 weeks. <sup>3</sup>These three patients were reported in June 2018. AE = adverse event

## **Safety profile for all 13 HET patients:**

- Setmelanotide continues to be well-tolerated
- No serious adverse events (AEs) reported
- No new discontinuations due to AEs since those reported in June 2018
- Overall safety profile remains consistent with previous updates

# Meet Katy: HET Patient with Severe, Early-Onset Obesity & Hyperphagia

“[My disease] causes extreme unrelenting hunger and excessive eating. As a child...the fridge and food was controlled massively...but nobody could understand that I was desperately hungry and just wanted to stop that feeling.”

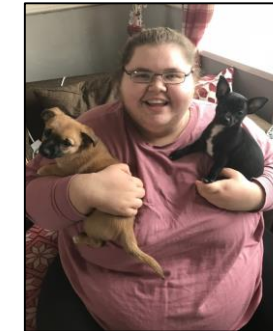
3 YEARS



11 YEARS, 231 POUNDS



23 YEARS, 450 POUNDS



## INFANCY:

“Normal” weight at birth, but begins to rapidly gain weight at 9 weeks

## 4 YEARS:

Diagnosed with POMC Heterozygous Deficiency Obesity

## CHILDHOOD:

Self-isolation and missed school days  
Asthmatic, increased pain and pressure on her knees make play and PE difficult

## ADOLESCENCE:

Put on anti-depressants  
Numbness and agonizing back pain  
Abnormal pubertal development

## 23 YEARS:

Sleep apnea; some cardiac issues; insulin resistance.  
Cracked and bleeding skin

# Key Imperatives for Execution of HET Development Plan

**ADD TO POOL OF  
HIGH-IMPACT LOF  
VARIANTS**



Screen and classify potential new and uncharacterized variants:

- Computational model for assessing variants
- Biochemical analysis of variants in *POMC*, *PCSK1*, *LEPR*

*Rhythm estimates thousands of potential new and uncategorized HET variants in MC4R pathway genes*

**CONTINUE AND  
EXPAND GENOTYPING  
EFFORTS**



Through GO-ID and other ongoing genotyping efforts, identify additional patients and new genetic variants tied to MC4R loss of function

**ENROLL ELIGIBLE  
PATIENTS IN BASKET  
STUDY**



- Confirm proof-of-concept in high-impact LOF variants
- Explore impact of setmelanotide in other HET variants
- Inform regulatory strategy in HET obesity and design of pivotal studies

# Rhythm Expects Significant Progress in 2019 and 2020



Updated interim data for HET obesity

**3Q19**

Topline data from both POMC and LEPR Phase 3 studies

**4Q19-1Q20**

Initial NDA submission filings for setmelanotide in POMC and LEPR

**2H19**

Complete pivotal enrollment in BBS and Alström Phase 3 study

**2019**

Update on ongoing efforts to increase patient identification

**2019**

Expand Phase 2 basket studies into additional MC4R pathway disorders

**2020**

Topline data from BBS and Alström Phase 3 study

**2020**

Additional data in HET obesity

# Conclusions

- 1 Updated data shows promising and consistent weight loss in HET patients with high-impact LOF variants
- 2 Rhythm believes there is a significant, distinct opportunity for setmelanotide in high-impact HET patients
- 3 Rhythm is exploring the potential for opportunities among broader HET population
- 4 Rhythm is progressing multiple efforts to expand pool of high-impact variants, and to identify and enroll additional HET patients in basket study



# Scientific Support for HET Contribution to Obesity

## Preclinical Data:

- MC4R pathway **heterozygous (+/-)** mice show intermediate levels of obesity versus knockout and wild-type mice




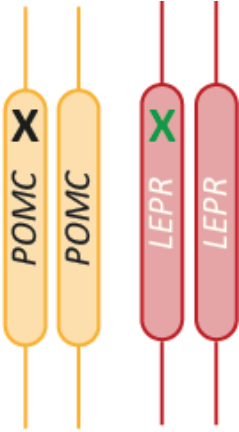
## Clinical and Genetic Evidence:

- The HET population is larger and more complex than the homozygous population
  - Individuals with heterozygous MC4R pathway variants have variable penetrance<sup>1</sup> of obesity
- A comprehensive understanding of impact of variants on obesity limited by variant rarity
- Less rare HET variants are associated with obesity
- Published research includes numerous individual case histories of HET obesity patients with severe, early-onset obesity and hyperphagia

<sup>1</sup>Penetrance: translation of a genetic variant to an obesity/hyperphagia phenotype, or symptomatology



# Composite HET: Multiple Impairments of the MC4R Pathway

				
<b>Genotype</b>	<b>Wildtype</b>	<b>Homozygote</b>	<b>Heterozygote</b>	<b>Composite Heterozygote</b>
<b>Definition</b>	No genetic variant	The same loss-of-function genetic variant present on both copies of a gene	One loss-of-function genetic variant present on one copy of a gene	<b>At least one loss-of-function genetic variant in each of two different genes</b>
<b>Phenotype</b>	No POMC deficiency obesity	e.g. POMC deficiency obesity*	e.g. POMC heterozygous obesity	<b>e.g. MC4R-pathway composite obesity</b>

- Strong genetic evidence that composite HET variants impact obesity<sup>1</sup>
- Potential setmelanotide-responsive subgroup of HET obesity from among other HET genetic variants

<sup>1</sup>Ayers, et al. JCEM 2018; 103: 2601–2612.