#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 8-K

#### **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 27, 2023

### **PepGen Inc.**

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-41374 (Commission File Number) 85-3819886 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

321 Harrison Avenue 8th Floor Boston, Massachusetts (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

02118 (Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: 781 797-0979

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Dere-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

	Trading	
Title of each class	Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	PEPG	Nasdaq Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ⊠

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On March 27, 2023, PepGen Inc. (the "Company") updated its Corporate Presentation, a copy of which is being furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference. The information in this report (including Exhibit 99.1) is being furnished pursuant to Item 7.01 and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing. This report will not be deemed an admission as to the materiality of any information in this Item 7.01 (including Exhibit 99.1).

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Corporate Presentation updated on March 27, 2023
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within Inline XBRL document)

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

PEPGEN INC.

Date: March 27, 2023

By: /s/ Noel Donnelly

Noel Donnelly, Chief Financial Officer



EMPOWERING OLIGONUCLEOTIDE THERAPEUTICS

COMPANY PRESENTATION MARCH 2023



This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. These statements may be identified by words such as "aims," "anticipates," "believes," "could," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "goal," "intends," "may," "plans," "possible," "potential," "seeks," "will," and variations of these words or similar expressions that are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Any such statements in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, statements about our clinical and preclinical programs, product candidates, including their planned development and therapeutic potential, plans for future development, preclinical studies and clinical trials in our programs, including the planned initiation of a Phase 2a MAD trial of PGN-EDO51 in DMD patients, achievement of milestones, and corporate and clinical/preclinical strategies.

Any forward-looking statements in this presentation are based on current expectations, estimates and projections only as of the date of this release and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially and adversely from those set forth in or implied by such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to that we may fail to successfully complete preclinical studies and clinical trials of our product candidates or to obtain regulatory approval for marketing of such products; initial preclinical study or clinical trial results for one or more of our product candidates may not be predictive of future trial results for such candidates; our product candidates may not be safe and effective; there may be delays in regulatory clearance or changes in regulatory framework that are out of our control; we may not be able to nominate new drug candidates within the estimated timeframes; our estimation of addressable markets of our product candidates may not be able to nome frequence or competing treatments may emerge; we may be involved in disputes surrounding the use of our intellectual property crucial to ur success; we may not be able to attract and retain key employees and qualified personnel; earlier-stage trial results may not be predictive of later stage trial outcomes; and we are dependent on third parties for some or all aspects of our product manufacturing, research and clinical testing. Additional risks concerning PepGen's programs and operations are described in its most recent annual report on Form 10-Q on file with the SEC. PepGen explicitly disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements except to the extent required by law.



#### PEPGEN'S EDO TECHNOLOGY IS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE DELIVERY CHALLENGES THAT LIMIT OLIGONUCLEOTIDE THERAPEUTICS

#### THE CHALLENGE

# Unconjugated oligonucleotides are not readily distributed to muscle, and are not efficiently taken up into cells and the nucleus

#### PepGen

#### THE EDO SOLUTION



Our EDO platform is engineered to optimize the **tissue penetration, cellular uptake and nuclear delivery** of oligonucleotide therapeutics

#### **DYSTROPHIN PRODUCTION (%)**



#### THE POWER OF EDOs

## Enhanced Delivery Oligonucleotides are well-characterized therapeutic PMO oligonucleotides conjugated to proprietary delivery-enhancing peptides



## A NEXT-GENERATION OLIGONUCLEOTIDE DELIVERY PLATFORM WITH THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM PATIENT OUTCOMES

<ul> <li>PGN-EDO51 for DMD Exon 51</li> <li>PGN-EDO51 treatment resulted in the highest levels of oligo delivery &amp; exon 51 skipping in humans following a single dose*</li> <li>Highest level of exon 51 skipping in NHP skeletal muscle at tolerable target dose levels, and highest level of dystrophin production in mdx mouse skeletal muscle**</li> <li>Generally well-tolerated</li> <li>CONNECT1-EDO51 Ph2 patient MAD trial anticipated to open in 1H23, CONNECT2-EDO51 in 2H23***</li> <li>EDO technology delivered to human muscle levels of oligonucleotide which were pharmacologically active in DM1 mouse model</li> <li>Foci reduction and liberation of MBNL1 observed in patient cells</li> <li>EDO-mediated delivery of therapeutic oligonucleotides to the CNS observed in NHP studies</li> <li>FREEDOM-DM1 patient SAD trial anticipated to open in 1H23***</li> </ul>	Empowering oligonucleotide therapeutics	Our <b>Enhanced Delivery Oligonucleotide (EDO)</b> platform is engineered to offer enhanced therapeutic activity and improved tolerability, with <b>greater skeletal</b> , <b>diaphragm and cardiac muscle penetrance</b>
<ul> <li>EDO technology delivered to human muscle levels of oligonucleotide which were pharmacologically active DM1 mouse model</li> <li>Foci reduction and liberation of MBNL1 observed in patient cells</li> <li>EDO-mediated delivery of therapeutic oligonucleotides to the CNS observed in NHP studies</li> <li>FREEDOM-DM1 patient SAD trial anticipated to open in 1H23***</li> <li>Lead assets target potentially large, multi-\$B market opportunity</li> <li>Detertial for EDO plotform to address 50% of DMD even elvipning amenable patients</li> </ul>	PGN-EDO51 for DMD Exon 51	<ul> <li>PGN-EDO51 treatment resulted in the highest levels of oligo delivery &amp; exon 51 skipping in humans following a single dose*</li> <li>Highest level of exon 51 skipping in NHP skeletal muscle at tolerable target dose levels, and highest level of dystrophin production in <i>mdx</i> mouse skeletal muscle**</li> <li>Generally well-tolerated</li> <li>CONNECT1-EDO51 Ph2 patient MAD trial anticipated to open in 1H23, CONNECT2-EDO51 in 2H23***</li> </ul>
Lead assets target potentially large, multi-\$B market opportunity     Detection for EDO platform to address 50% of DND even akimping amonghis patients	PGN-EDODM1 for DM1	<ul> <li>EDO technology delivered to human muscle levels of oligonucleotide which were pharmacologically active in DM1 mouse model</li> <li>Foci reduction and liberation of MBNL1 observed in patient cells</li> <li>EDO-mediated delivery of therapeutic oligonucleotides to the CNS observed in NHP studies</li> <li>FREEDOM-DM1 patient SAD trial anticipated to open in 1H23***</li> </ul>
Broad NMD therapeutic portfolio	A robust pipeline	<ul> <li>Lead assets target potentially large, multi-\$B market opportunity</li> <li>Potential for EDO platform to address 50% of DMD exon skipping amenable patients</li> <li>Broad NMD therapeutic portfolio</li> </ul>

#### SCALABLE EDO TECHNOLOGY DESIGNED TO ENABLE BROAD PORTFOLIO

PROGRAM	INDICATION TARGET	DISCOVERY	PRECLINICAL	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	REGISTRA- TIONAL*
PGN-EDO51	Duchenne muscular dystrophy Exon 51					
PGN-EDODM1	Myotonic dystrophy type 1 DMPK					
PGN-EDO53	Duchenne muscular dystrophy Exon 53					
PGN-EDO45	Duchenne muscular dystrophy Exon 45					
PGN-EDO44	Duchenne muscular dystrophy Exon 44					
FUTURE PIPELINE OPPORTUNITIES						
Additional neuror	nuscular indications					
Neurologic indica	itions					

## ANTICIPATE INITIATING THREE PATIENT CLINICAL TRIALS IN 2023, WITH CLINICAL READOUTS EXPECTED IN 2024

<b>PGN-EDO51</b> DMD Exon 51	<ul> <li>CONNECT1-ED051: Ph2 open-label MAD study in patients (planned initiation 1H23)</li> <li>Initial dystrophin, exon skipping and safety data anticipated in 2024</li> </ul>	Connect 1 EDO51
	<ul> <li>CONNECT2-ED051: Ph2 randomized, double-blind, placebo- controlled MAD study in patients (planned initiation 2H23)</li> <li>Potential to support accelerated approval</li> </ul>	Connect 2 EDO51
PGN-EDODM1 DM1	<ul> <li>FREEDOM-DM1: Ph1 randomized, double-blind, placebo- controlled SAD study in patients (planned initiation 1H23)</li> <li>Initial clinical function, correction of mis-splicing and safety data anticipated in 2024</li> </ul>	Freedom DM1
	ans are subject to alignment with regulatory authorities	8

#### PEPGEN: EXPERIENCED TEAM OF COMPANY BUILDERS, SCIENTISTS, AND CLINICIANS





## PGN-EDO51 FOR DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

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## DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY IS A DEBILITATING, PROGRESSIVE MUSCLE-WASTING DISEASE

ROOT CAUSE OF DISEASE	EXON 51 PATIENT POPULATION*	EXON 51 THERAPEUTIC LANDSCAPE	PEPGEN'S TREATMENT APPROACH
<ul> <li>Caused by mutations in the dystrophin gene</li> <li>Absence of dystrophin leads to muscle degeneration</li> </ul>	~2,000 (US) ~3,200 (EEA) ~700 (JP)	<ul> <li>Exondys51<sup>®</sup> approved in US on the basis of &lt;1% dystrophin restoration</li> <li>Not approved in EEA or JP</li> </ul>	Exon 51 skipping to drive production of a truncated, yet functional dystrophin protein



\*DMD patient numbers: 15k US + 25k EEA + 5k JP whole population (range used: Crisafulli et al 2020 – 7.1/100k males; Orphanet 2021 – 4.78/100k pop). Exon 51 population 13% of total.

## AN ABSENCE OF THE DYSTROPHIN PROTEIN DRIVES THE PATHOLOGIES OBSERVED IN PEOPLE WITH DMD

#### **ROLE OF DYSTROPHIN**

- Acts as a shock absorber to protect muscle cells from mechanical stress
- DMD patients produce little or no dystrophin
- In the absence of this critical protein, muscles cells are no longer protected from contractile forces, leading to replacement of muscle with fatty/fibrotic tissue and muscle degeneration

#### STAGES OF DISEASE

- Early ambulatory (childhood): difficulty walking (may walk on toes), motor delays, enlarged calves
  - Late ambulatory (late childhood): walking, climbing stairs, rising from floor becomes increasingly difficult, cognitive impairment may become apparent
    - Early non-ambulatory (early adolescence): fulltime wheelchair use, upper limb function impaired
      - Late non-ambulatory (adolescence/adulthood): life-threatening heart and respiratory conditions common, DMD is typically fatal by early adulthood

We believe dystrophin restoration is a compelling therapeutic strategy – levels of >10% of normal may halt, slow or even reverse disease progression



Sources: Busby et al, Lancet Neurol 2010;9:77-93; https://www.parentprojectmd.org/care/care-guidelines/by-stage/

## PGN-ED051 WAS ENGINEERED TO TRANSFORM THE TREATMENT OF DMD AMENABLE TO EXON 51 SKIPPING

#### PGN-ED051 DEVELOPMENT DATA SUMMARY





\* Comparative statements are based on cross-trial comparisons with publicly-available data for other exon skipping approaches that have been assessed following a single dose in humans, and on both head-to-head and cross-trial comparisons with other exon 51 skipping therapeutics that have been assessed in NHP.



## PRECLINICAL DATA

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# THE ACTIVITY OF OUR EDO PLATFORM IN DMD HAS BEEN EVALUATED IN MULTIPLE PRECLINICAL MODELS

		Species	Key readouts observed
	Patient cells PGN-EDO51	DMD patient	High levels of exon 51 skipping
Non-GLP	Single & repeat dose PGN-EDO23	mdx	<ul> <li>Normalization of serum creatine kinase</li> <li>High levels of exon 23 skipping and dystrophin restoration</li> <li>Accumulation of exon skipping and dystrophin levels with repeat dosing</li> </ul>
studies	Single dose PGN-EDO51	WT	High levels of exon 51 skipping
	<b>Repeat dose</b> PGN-EDO51	WT	<ul> <li>High levels of exon 51 skipping</li> <li>Accumulation of exon skipping levels with repeat dosing</li> </ul>

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#### MDX MICE: A SINGLE DOSE OF PGN-ED023 WAS OBSERVED TO NORMALIZE CREATINE KINASE, A MARKER OF MUSCLE DAMAGE



#### SERUM CREATINE KINASE

Protocol: peptide-PMO conjugate and a saline control were administered intravenously (IV) to *mdx* and WT mice; serum creatine kinase measured 7 days after injection. Mean  $\pm$  SD; \*\*\*\* = p≤0.001; ns = p≥0.05; n = 3 for control groups and 5 for treated group.

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# MDX MICE: SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN DYSTROPHIN OBSERVED WITH REPEAT DOSING



# NHP: MARKEDLY HIGHER SINGLE DOSE EXON SKIPPING LEVELS OBSERVED FOR PGN-ED051 COMPARED TO $\rm R_6G\textsc{-}PMO$



#### NHP: Q2W REPEAT DOSE EXON SKIPPING LEVELS OF >70% OBSERVED IN SKELETAL MUSCLES AT 30 MG/KG



**EXON SKIPPING** 

## NHP: EXON SKIPPING LEVELS ACCUMULATED WITH Q4W REPEAT DOSE ADMINISTRATION OF PGN-ED051 BY BOTH RT-PCR AND ddPCR



NHP protocol: Single (30 min) or repeat (60 min) IV doses with PGN-EDO51 were performed in male NHP. For repeat evaluation, NHP received 4 doses with 4-week intervals between doses. Tissue samples were collected 1-week post-final dose as indicated on graphs. Exon skipping was performed by RT-PCR and ddPCR. Graph is presented as mean ± SD; *n* = 3-8 per group.



#### PH1 HEALTHY VOLUNTEER (HV) TRIAL SUMMARY



## HV: HIGHEST LEVELS OF OLIGO DELIVERY & EXON 51 SKIPPING OBSERVED, SUPPORTING FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF PGN-ED051



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\* Comparative statements are based on cross-trial comparisons with publicly-available data for other exon skipping approaches that have been assessed following a single dose.

## HV: HIGHEST LEVELS OF EXON 51 SKIPPING OBSERVED IN HUMANS FOLLOWING A SINGLE DOSE

**EXON SKIPPING (BICEPS)** 



Protocol PGN-EDOS1-101: Phase 1, first in human, randomized double blind, placebo controlled single ascending dose study in healthy adult volunteers. Single dose of either PGN-EDOS1 or Placebo were administered by IV influsion at doses indicated. Participants were followed for 28 day period following dose administration to evaluate safety. tolerability, pharmacokinetics (PK), and pharmacodynamics (PD). Needle biopsise of biops muscle were taken on Day 10 and Day 28. Exon skipping measured by ddPCR. Shown as mean ± SD; n = 6 PGN-EDOS1: 2 Placebo per cohort (n = 5 for D10 at 15 mg/kg). Asterix indicates that values were under the lower limit of quantitation. Comparative statements are based on cross-trial comparisons with publicly-available data for other exon skipping approaches that have been assessed following a single dose.

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## HV: HIGH, PERSISTENT TISSUE CONCENTRATIONS OF OLIGONUCLEOTIDE WERE OBSERVED

#### **TISSUE CONCENTRATION (BICEPS)**



Protocol PGN-EDO51-101: Phase 1, first in human, randomized double blind, placebo contro infusion at doses indicated. Participants were followed for 28 day period following dose admin concentration measured by ELISA. Shown as mean ± SD; n = 6 PGN-EDO51: 2 Placebo per solled single ascending dose study in healthy adult volunteers. Single dose of either PGN-ED051 or Placebo were administered by IV nistration to evaluate safety, tolerability, PK, and PD. Needle biopsies of biceps muscle were taken on Day 10 and Day 28. Tissue r cohort (n = 5 for D10 at 15 mg/kg. Asterix indicates that values were under the lower limit of quantitation.

#### SAFETY & TOLERABILITY SUMMARY

#### At 10 mg/kg:

- All participants (n = 6) completed the study with **no discontinuations**.
- All related treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) were assessed as **mild and resolved without any intervention**.
- Serum cystatin C, the recommended biomarker to assess renal function in DMD, did not change.
- There was no evidence of hypomagnesemia.

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Healthy Volunteers (HV) with ≥1 AE, n (%)	Placebo (n=8)	Cohort A: 1 mg/kg (n=6)	Cohort B: 5 mg/kg (n=6)	Cohort C: 10mg/kg (n=6)	Cohort D: 15 mg/kg (n=6)	PGN-EDO51 Total (n=24)
Any AE	4 (50)	4 (66.7)	2 (33.3)	5 (83.3)	6 (100)	17 (70.8)
Related to study drug	1 (12.5)	2 (33.3)	0	4 (66.7)	6 (100)	12 (50)
Serious AE related to study drug	0	0	0	0	1 (16.7)	1 (4.2)
AE leading to discontinuation	0	0	0	0	0	0
AE leading to death	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Related TEAEs by CTCAE v5.0 grading*						
Grade 1 (Mild)	1	1	0	7	12	20
Grade 2 (Moderate)	0	1	0	0	3	4
Grade 3 (Severe)	0	0	0	0	1	1

#### PH1 TRIAL SAFETY & TOLERABILITY SUMMARY



\* No Grade 4 or 5 recorded; There were transient, reversible changes in kidney biomarkers that resolved without intervention at higher doses. At 15 mg/kg there was one non-life threatening serious adverse event (SAE) related to changes in kidney biomarkers that were transient and reversible. This HV was admitted to the hospital for less that hare 24 nours, received hydration and then was re-admitted to the Phase 1 unit and completed the study. Transient ind (Grade 1) to moderate (Grade 2) hyoomagneemia was observed in two participants at the 15 mg/kg dose and did not require any intervention. In light of higher than anticipated oligo brevies in and completed the study. Transient ind Grade 1) to moderate (Grade 2) hyoomagneemia was observed in two participants at the 15 mg/kg dose and did not require any intervention. In light of higher than anticipated oligo brevies and exon skipping levels in muscle observed at 5 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg. (urther dose secialiton was not deemed necessary by sponsor. Under this Phase 1 protocol any non-life-threatening SAE was considered a dose-limiting toxicity (DLT), however study was not hated by the SRC nor put on hold by Health Canada.

## IN NHP REPEAT DOSE STUDY, KIDNEY BIOMARKER ELEVATIONS WERE REDUCED AFTER FIRST DOSE OF PGN-ED051



#### REPEAT-DOSE SERUM CREATININE LEVELS (HIGH-DOSE COHORT)

PD = pre-dose. Protocol: PGN-EDO51 was administered to NHP by IV infusion over 30 min at a given dose level (n=3). Q2W, three doses administered, saline control. Shown as mean ± SD; n = 3 per group. Study was not powered for statistical significance. Grey bar shows normal range.



## PH 2 CLINICAL PLANS

1 H II I

#### FOLLOWING ENCOURAGING PH1 HV DATA IN 2022, WE ANTICIPATE OPENING TWO PH2 DMD MAD PATIENT STUDIES IN 2023



#### TWO PH2 MAD STUDIES SUPPORT CLINICAL DATA READOUT ANTICIPATED IN 2024 AND POTENTIAL ACCELERATED APPROVAL



#### **CONNECT1-ED051** Ph2 open-label MAD study in patients

controlled MAD study in patients

**CONNECT2-ED051** 

(planned initiation 2H23)

approval

(planned initiation 1H23) Initial dystrophin, exon skipping and safety data anticipated in 2024





Dystrophin, exon skipping and safety data anticipated in 2024

 Preclinical data suggests Q4W repeat dosing has the potential to drive meaningful clinical benefit in individuals with DMD

- Studies to be conducted in parallel
- Designed to provide potential • path to accelerated approval



Clinical plans are subject to alignment with regulatory authorities

Potential to support accelerated

# MARKED INCREASE IN EXON SKIPPING OBSERVED IN NHP WITH Q4W REPEAT DOSING REGIMEN



week intervals betweet doses in Size samples were collected 1-week post-final dose as indicated on graphs. Exon skipping was performed by ddPCR. Graph is presented as mean ± SD; *n* = 3-8 per group. HV protocol: see slide 25. SD = single dose, RD = repeat dose

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PGN-EDODM1 FOR MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY TYPE 1 (DM1)

## MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY TYPE 1 IS A PROGRESSIVE, DEBILITATING NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDER WITH GREAT UNMET NEED

ROOT CAUSE OF DISEASE	PATIENT POPULATION**	THERAPEUTIC LANDSCAPE	PEPGEN'S TREATMENT APPROACH
<ul> <li>Due to a CTG repeat expansion mutation in the <i>DMPK</i> gene</li> <li>Leads to downstream dysregulation of a broad set of proteins</li> </ul>	~40,000 <i>(US)</i> ~75,000 <i>(EEA)</i> ~15,000 <i>(JP)</i>	<ul> <li>No approved disease-modifying therapeutics</li> <li>Standards of care focused on symptom management</li> </ul>	PGN-EDODM1 binds <i>DMPK</i> transcript, reducing toxic foci and liberating MBNL1 to restore physiological splicing

\* CNS symptoms include cognitive deficits, excessive daytime sleepiness and behavioral impairments.
\*\* Johnson et al 2021, NORD (1 in 8,000 prevalent population)

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#### PGN-EDODM1 WAS ENGINEERED TO LIBERATE MBNL1 FROM DMPK-CUG<sub>exd</sub> TOXIC FOCI AND CORRECT MIS-SPLICING

#### **PGN-EDODM1 DEVELOPMENT DATA SUMMARY**

- > Correction of mis-splicing observed in preclinical models with long and short CTG repeats
- > Reduction of toxic foci and liberation of MBNL1 observed in patient cells
- In DM1 mouse model, robust mis-splicing correction and reversal of myotonia observed with a single dose; durable mis-splicing corrections observed through 24 weeks
- > Observed to be well-tolerated through 90 mg/kg in NHP single-dose GLP toxicology studies
- Not designed to degrade CUG-containing transcripts, including DMPK a potentially important safety feature
- No impact observed on other transcripts containing >10 CUG repeats
- > EDO technology observed to enable:
  - > Delivery of pharmacologically active levels of oligonucleotide to muscle in humans
  - Delivery of oligonucleotides to the CNS in NHPs



## DM1 IS A MULTI-SYSTEMIC DISEASE THAT HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON QUALITY OF LIFE

**Musculoskeletal:** Myotonia (a temporary inability to relax a muscle after contraction), muscle weakness & wasting

Cardiac: Conduction defects

**Respiratory:** breathing difficulties, sleep apnea

**GI:** Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing), constipation, IBS



**CNS:** Cognitive impairments, behavioral / psychologic disorders, excessive daytime sleepiness

Vision: Early-onset cataracts, retinal damage

Endocrine: Thyroid dysfunction, diabetes

Other pathologies: skin, immune, reproductive, increased cancer risk

**QoL considerations: Shortened lifespan:** ~45 – 55 years for more severe forms of disease, 60+ for milder forms; **genetic anticipation:** disease severity may increase, and age of onset may decrease in subsequent generations

We believe that a potential therapeutic approach with a broad biodistribution profile may allow for the treatment of such multi-systemic pathologies



Sources: https://www.mda.org/disease/myotonic-dystrophy/signs-and-symptoms; www.musculardystrophy.com; Mathieu J et al, Neurology. 1999;52:1658-62

#### OLIGO-BASED THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES FOR DM1 ARE FOCUSED ON TWO DISTINCT MECHANISTIC APPROACHES



#### KEY ADVANTAGES OF OUR PGN-EDODM1 APPROACH

- PGN-EDODM1 targets MBNL1 binding to DMPK transcripts
  - This may provide greater tolerability no degradation of DMPK or risk of haploinsufficiency
  - Avoids potential disconnect between DMPK knockdown and correction of mis-splicing
- PGN-EDODM1 PMO does not require RISC or RNAseH proteins potentially better accessibility to toxic aggregated DMPK-CUG<sub>exp</sub> nuclear foci
- Considerably higher levels of oligonucleotide delivery observed in human muscle tissue when compared to competing approaches in DM1\*
- > EDO platform has demonstrated successful delivery of therapeutic PMOs to the nucleus

PepGen \* Comparative statements are based on cross-trial comparisons with publicly-available data for other approaches

# THE PHARMACOLOGY OF PGN-EDODM1 HAS BEEN EVALUATED IN MULTIPLE PRECLINICAL MODELS

		Species	Key readouts observed
	Patient cells PGN-EDODM1	DM1 patient	<ul> <li>Reduction in nuclear foci, liberation of MBNL1</li> <li>Correction of downstream transcript mis-splicing</li> </ul>
Non-GLP pharmacology studies	Single dose PGN-EDODM1	HSALR	<ul><li>Correction of downstream transcript mis-splicing</li><li>Normalization of myotonia</li></ul>
	Duration of effect PGN-EDODM1	HSALR	Correction of downstream transcript mis-splicing for at least 24 weeks post-dose
Non-GLP dose-range	Single dose PGN-EDODM1	WT	Doses identified for GLP toxicology studies
finding (DRF) studies	Repeat dose PGN-EDODM1	WT	No change observed in <i>DMPK</i> levels

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#### PGN-EDODM1 ACTIVITY HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN PRECLINICAL MODELS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF CTG REPEATS

#### **CTG REPEAT LENGTH** PRECLINICAL MODELS ASSESSED 3,500 DM1 patient cells: 2,600 CTG repeats Reduction of nuclear foci and correction of 3,000 downstream transcript mis-splicing observed 2,500 Full spectrum of patient CTG 2,000 repeats addressed in preclinical testing 1,500 1,000 HSA<sup>LR</sup> mouse model: 220 – 250 CTG repeats Correction of downstream transcript mis-splicing 500 and normalization of myotonia observed 0 **DM1** patients

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#### **FOCI REDUCTION & LIBERATION OF MBNL1**

Immortalized myoblasts from healthy individual or DM1 patient with 2600 CTG repeats were cultured then differentiated for 4 days into myotubes. Cells were treated with PGN-EDODM1 and harvested for analysis 24h after treatment. Visualisation with FISH and immunofluorescence microscopy.

#### IN VITRO: PGN-EDODM1 CORRECTED DOWNSTREAM TRANSCRIPT MIS-SPLICING EVENTS

#### **MIS-SPLICING CORRECTION**



#### HSALR MOUSE DISPLAYS MOLECULAR AND FUNCTIONAL DM1 PHENOTYPE



## HSALR: PGN-EDODM1 ACHIEVED >68% CORRECTION OF MIS-SPLICING AND COMPLETE REVERSAL OF MYOTONIA AT 30 MG/KG



#### HSALR: SPLICING CORRECTION TRANSLATED TO PHENOTYPIC IMPROVEMENT OF DM1 MICE TREATED WITH PGN-EDODM1







Protocol: PGN-EDODM1 was administered intravenously (IV) to WT and HSALR mice at 50 mg/kg (n=4-16); myotonia assessed two weeks post-administration.

#### HSALR: SINGLE DOSE TREATMENT OF PGN-EDODM1 LED TO DURABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN SPLICING THROUGH 24 WEEKS

#### **CORRECTION OF MIS-SPLICING**



#### HUMAN: PGN-EDO51 TISSUE CONCENTRATIONS WERE COMPARABLE TO THOSE ACHIEVED IN HSALR MOUSE MODEL WITH PGN-EDODM1



We believe that PGN-EDODM1 has the potential to achieve concentrations in DM1 patients that could lead to clinically-meaningful outcomes, supporting further development of this candidate



Protocol: PGN-EDODM1 was administered IV to HSA<sup>LR</sup> mice at 30 (n=8) mg/kg against a wild-type (WT) saline control (n=8). Tissue concentration in the gastrocnemius muscle assessed by HPLC.

## IN VITRO + NHP: OUR STERIC BLOCKING MECHANISM OF ACTION WAS NOT OBSERVED TO TARGET *DMPK* FOR DEGRADATION



#### **DMPK TRANSCRIPT LEVELS**



#### TRANSCRIPT LEVELS IN HSALR MOUSE (QUADS)

#### No evidence of off-target effects in human cell, mouse and NHP studies with PGN-EDODM1



Protocol: PGN-EDODM1 was administered once intravenously (IV) to HSA<sup>LR</sup> mice at 30 mg/kg; quadriceps muscle harvested 2,-12 or 24 weeks postadministration; graph plotted as mean ± SD; n=7 for 0 timepoint, 8 for 2- and 12-week timepoints; 5 for 24-week timepoint. Transcript levels measured by qPCR and normalized to *RpIp0*. NT = not treated.

## NHP: IND-ENABLING STUDIES DOSED THROUGH 90 MG/KG, RESULTS SUPPORT ANTICIPATED INITIATION OF PATIENT TRIAL IN 1H23

#### NHP SINGLE-DOSE GLP TOXICOLOGY STUDIES





Protocol: PGN-EDODM1 was administered as a single dose by intravenous infusion of 60 minutes to cynomolgus monkeys at a range of dose levels, and safety and tolerability endpoints were assessed.



## CLINICAL PLANS

1 H II I

# BUILDING ON A ROBUST PRECLINICAL DATASET, WE ANTICIPATE ADVANCING TO THE CLINIC IN 2023

#### FREEDOM-DM1 PH1 STUDY ANTICIPATED TO OPEN IN 1H23, WITH PATIENT DATA IN 2024





## EDO PIPELINE

## PEPGEN'S LEAD PROGRAM TARGETS LARGEST EXON SKIPPING PATIENT POPULATION IN DMD



# PGN-ED053: SINGLE-DOSE EXON SKIPPING LEVELS ALMOST 7X HIGHER THAN FOR $\rm R_6G$ -PM053 COMPARATOR



## **PGN-ED045:** HIGH, DOSE-DEPENDENT LEVELS OF EXON 45 SKIPPING WERE OBSERVED IN WILD-TYPE HUMAN MYOBLASTS



# PGN-ED044: HIGH, DOSE-DEPENDENT LEVELS OF EXON 44 SKIPPING WERE OBSERVED IN WILD-TYPE HUMAN MYOBLASTS





#### CURRENT MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES DESIGNED TO SUPPORT ALL PLANNED CLINICAL TRIALS AND COMMERCIALIZATION





## CONCLUSION

		2023	2024		
PGN-EDO51 DMD Exon 51Highest level of single-dose exon skipping & oligo delivery in humans*> 1H: Initiation of CONNECT1- EDO51 (Canada Ph2 MAD) > 2H: Initiation of CONNECT2- EDO51 (global Ph2 MAD)> Dystrophin, exon skipping and safety data in DMD patients					
PGN-EDODM1 DM1	Differentiated approach with robust preclinical dataset	1H: Initiation of FREEDOM-DM1 (Ph1 SAD)	<ul> <li>Functional assessments, correction of mis-splicing and safety data in DM1 patients</li> <li>Initiation of Ph2 patient MAD</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Pipeline</li> <li>Five neuromuscular disease candidates in pipeline</li> <li>Work underway to leverage EDO platform to expand to new tissues and new indications</li> </ul>					
PepGen * Comparative statements are based on cross-trial comparisons with publicly-available data for other exon skipping approaches that have been assessed following a single dose. 6					



## THANK YOU