

**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**

**March 24, 2021
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)**

Forte Biosciences, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-38052
(Commission
File Number)

26-1243872
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**1124 W Carson Street
MRL Building 3-320
Torrance, California**
(Address of principal executive offices)

90502
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (310) 618-6994

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations 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)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-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:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	FBRX	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

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 2.02. Financial Statements and Exhibits

On March 24, 2021, Forte Biosciences, Inc. issued a press release reporting its financial results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. A copy of the press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

The information furnished in this Current Report under Item 2.02 and the exhibit attached hereto shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

A copy of a slide presentation that the Company intends to present to investors is attached to this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated herein solely for purposes of this Item 7.01 disclosure.

The information furnished in this Current Report under Item 7.01 and the exhibit attached hereto shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated March 24, 2021
99.2	Investor Presentation
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the 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.

Forte Biosciences, Inc.

Date: March 24, 2021

By: /s/ Paul Wagner
Paul Wagner
Chief Executive Officer

FORTE BIOSCIENCES, INC

FORTE BIOSCIENCES, INC. ANNOUNCES 4Q AND FULL YEAR 2020 RESULTS AND PROVIDES A GENERAL BUSINESS UPDATE

TORRANCE, CA – MARCH 24, 2021 – Forte Biosciences, Inc. (www.fortebiorx.com) (NASDAQ: FBRX), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company announces fourth quarter and full year 2020 results and provides a general business update on March 24, 2021.

“Forte made significant progress in the fourth quarter of 2020. In September, we initiated a randomized trial of FB-401 in atopic dermatitis patients, including adults and children 2 years of age and older. We are very pleased to announce that patient enrollment is now complete. This is a significant milestone that represents the culmination of the entire team’s effort and is particularly impressive in the context of the many challenges associated with the current pandemic. Another notable milestone was the granting of Fast Track designation to FB-401 by the FDA in recognition of the unmet need and seriousness of the disease. Additionally, we strengthened our balance sheet with a successful public offering in November” said Paul Wagner, Ph.D., CEO of Forte Biosciences. “Following the close of the quarter, two additional patents were issued, further bolstering our robust IP protection and bringing the total U.S. patent portfolio to nine.”

Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2020 Results

Fourth Quarter Business Highlights

In September 2020, Forte initiated a multi-center, placebo-controlled clinical trial of its lead product candidate, FB-401 which was expected to enroll approximately 124 pediatric, adolescent and adult atopic dermatitis subjects aged 2 years of age and older. Enrollment is now complete with 154 subjects. Additional information about our Phase 2 trial can be found at ClinicalTrials.gov using the identifier NCT04504279.

In October 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) granted Fast Track Designation to FB-401 for the treatment of atopic dermatitis.

On November 2, 2020, Forte completed a public offering of 1,614,035 shares of its common stock at \$28.50 per share, which includes the over-allotment option exercised by underwriters to purchase an additional 210,526 shares for gross proceeds of \$46.0 million.

Forte ended the year 2020 with approximately \$58.8 million in cash and cash equivalents which Forte believes is sufficient to fund operations for at least the next 12 months. Cash burn for the fourth quarter 2020 was \$4.1 million. Forte had approximately 12.8 million shares of common stock outstanding as of December 31, 2020. In February 2021, Forte issued 673,463 shares of its common stock pursuant to cashless exercises by certain warrant holders.

Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2020 Operating Results

Research and development expenses were \$3.0 million and \$1.2 million for the three months ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively, and \$10.0 million and \$2.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The increases in 2020 were primarily due to manufacturing and clinical development costs as Forte continues to advance FB-401 through Phase 2 clinical trials.

General and administrative expenses were \$1.5 million and \$0.4 million for the three months ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively, and \$4.2 million and \$1.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The increases in 2020 were primarily due to professional fees for legal, auditing, tax and business consulting services, and personnel expenses as Forte transitioned to being a public company.

In the second quarter of 2020, Forte recognized a charge of \$32.1 million for acquired in-process research and development related to the reverse merger with Tocagen which closed on June 15th, 2020.

Losses per share were \$0.37 and \$0.74 for the three months ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively, and \$6.32 and \$1.93 for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Balance Sheet Data

Forte Biosciences, Inc. Consolidated Balance Sheets

(in thousands, except share and par value data)

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 58,765	\$ 6,939
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,133	567
Total current assets	<u>59,898</u>	<u>7,506</u>
Property and equipment, net	97	152
Other assets	1,244	—
Total assets	<u>\$ 61,239</u>	<u>\$ 7,658</u>
Liabilities, convertible preferred stock and stockholders' equity (deficit)		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,569
Accrued liabilities	1,019	343
Total current liabilities	<u>2,259</u>	<u>1,912</u>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 5)		
Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, \$0.001 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized and 0 and 3,177,744 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively; aggregate liquidation preference of \$0 and \$10,821 at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively	—	10,515
Stockholders' equity (deficit):		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value: 200,000,000 shares authorized as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019; 12,830,598 and 2,108,266 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019, respectively	13	2
Additional paid-in capital	110,424	199
Accumulated deficit	<u>(51,457)</u>	<u>(4,970)</u>
Total stockholders' equity (deficit):	<u>58,980</u>	<u>(4,769)</u>
Total liabilities, convertible preferred stock and stockholders' equity (deficit)	<u>\$ 61,239</u>	<u>\$ 7,658</u>

Forte Biosciences, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2020	2019
Operating expenses:		
Research and development	\$ 10,004	\$ 2,684
General and administrative	4,221	1,380
In-process research and development assets acquired	32,057	—
Total operating expenses	<u>46,282</u>	<u>4,064</u>
Loss from operations	(46,282)	(4,064)
Other expenses, net	(205)	(5)
Net loss	<u>\$ (46,487)</u>	<u>\$ (4,069)</u>
Per share information:		
Net loss per share - basic and diluted	\$ (6.32)	\$ (1.93)
Weighted average shares outstanding, basic and diluted	7,358,931	2,108,266

Additional detail on our financial results for the full year 2020 can be found in Forte's Form 10-K as filed with the SEC on March 16, 2021. You can also find more information in the investor relations section of our website at www.fortebiorx.com.

Conference Call and Webcast Information

Forte management will host a conference call and webcast on Wednesday, March 24th at 8:30 AM Eastern Time. Participants may access the call by dialing 877-705-6003 (Domestic) or 201-493-6725 (International). The conference ID number is: 13717632.

Participants may also access the webcast through the following link:

<https://callme.viaavid.com/?callme=true&passcode=13712591&h=true&info=company-email&r=true&B=6>

A replay of the call will be available through March 31st from the investor relations section of Forte's website at <https://www.fortebiorx.com/> or at <http://public.viaavid.com/index.php?id=143943>.

About Forte

Forte Biosciences, Inc. is a clinical-stage, biopharmaceutical company developing a live biotherapeutic, FB-401, for the treatment of inflammatory skin diseases. FB-401 has completed Phase 1/2a testing in adult and pediatric (3 years of age and older) patients with atopic dermatitis. There is a significant unmet need for safe and effective therapies particularly for pediatric atopic dermatitis patients. In September 2020, Forte initiated a multi-center, placebo-controlled clinical trial of FB-401 which has enrolled pediatric, adolescent and adult AD subjects aged 2 years of age and older. Additional information about our Phase 2 trial can be found at ClinicalTrials.gov using the identifier NCT04504279.

Forward Looking Statements

Forte cautions you that statements included in this press release that are not a description of historical facts are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “could,” “intend,” “target,” “project,” “contemplates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential” or “continue” or the negatives of these terms or other similar expressions. These statements are based on the Company’s current beliefs and expectations. Forward looking statements include statements regarding Forte’s beliefs, goals, intentions and expectations regarding the potential impact of Fast Track designation to accelerate development and approval of FB-401 and achieve potential clinical development milestones in the future and the Phase 2 trial of FB-401. Actual results and the timing of events could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements as a result of these risks and uncertainties, which include, without limitation: risks related to Forte’s ability to obtain sufficient additional capital to continue to advance Forte’s product candidates and preclinical programs; uncertainties associated with the clinical development and regulatory approval of Forte’s product candidates, including potential delays in the commencement, enrollment and completion of clinical trials; the risk that interim results of clinical trials do not necessarily predict final results and that one or more of the clinical outcomes may materially change as patient enrollment continues, following more comprehensive reviews of the data, and as more patient data become available; the risk that unforeseen adverse reactions or side effects may occur in the course of developing and testing product candidates; risks associated with the failure to realize any value from product candidates and preclinical programs being developed and anticipated to be developed in light of inherent risks and difficulties involved in successfully bringing product candidates to market; and risks related to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on Forte’s operations, the biotechnology industry and the economy generally. Information on these and additional risks, uncertainties, and other information affecting Forte’s business and operating results is contained in Forte’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 16, 2021 and in its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements in this press release are current only as of the date hereof and, except as required by applicable law, Forte undertakes no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statement, or to make any other forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. This caution is made under the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Contact:

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FORTE BIOSCIENCES

*TOPICAL LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC FOR THE TREATMENT OF
INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASE*

CORPORATE PRESENTATION

MARCH 2021

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

- Certain statements contained in this presentation regarding matters that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995, known as the PSLRA. These include statements regarding management's intention, plans, beliefs, expectations or forecasts for the future, and, therefore, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on them. No forward-looking statement can be guaranteed, and actual results may differ materially from those projected. Forte Biosciences, Inc. ("we", the "Company" or "Forte") undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except to the extent required by law. We use words such as "anticipates," "believes," "plans," "expects," "projects," "intends," "may," "will," "should," "could," "estimates," "predicts," "potential," "continue," "guidance," and similar expressions to identify these forward-looking statements that are intended to be covered by the safe-harbor provisions of the PSLRA.
- Such forward-looking statements are based on our expectations and involve risks and uncertainties; consequently, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in the statements due to a number of factors, including, but not limited to, risks relating to the sufficiency of the Company's cash balance to fund the Company's activities, and the expectation with respect thereto; the business and prospects of the Company; Forte's plans to develop and potentially commercialize its product candidates, including FB-401; the timing of initiation of Forte's planned clinical trials; the timing of the availability of data from Forte's clinical trials; the timing of any planned investigational new drug application or new drug application; Forte's plans to research, develop and commercialize its current and future product candidates; Forte's ability to successfully enter into collaborations, and to fulfill its obligations under any such collaboration agreements; the clinical utility, potential benefits and market acceptance of Forte's product candidates; Forte's commercialization, marketing and manufacturing capabilities and strategy; Forte's ability to identify additional products or product candidates with significant commercial potential; developments and projections relating to Forte's competitors and its industry; the impact of government laws and regulations; Forte's ability to protect its intellectual property position; Forte's estimates regarding future revenue, expenses, capital requirements and need for additional financing following the proposed transaction; and the impact of COVID-19 on the Company, the Company's industry or the economy generally.
- The known risks and uncertainties are described in detail under the caption "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2020. Forward-looking statements included in this presentation are based on information available to Forte as of the date of this presentation. Accordingly, our actual results may materially differ from our current expectations, estimates and projections. Forte undertakes no obligation to update such forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this presentation.

SUMMARY OF FORTE BIOSCIENCES: FB-401 – POTENTIAL FIRST-IN-CLASS TOPICAL LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC FOR THE TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASE

LATE-STAGE CLINICAL ASSET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2a trial in atopic dermatitis completed including pediatrics 3 years and older, FB-401 was well tolerated and demonstrated clinical improvement. Randomized Phase 2 trial in adults and pediatrics 2 years and older with atopic dermatitis (AD) data readout expected in 3Q-2021
LARGE MARKET WITH UNMET NEED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-20% of children in industrialized countries develop atopic dermatitis (AD) In the U.S., AD affects 17 million people (over 50% are children) Significant unmet need for safe and effective AD therapy for pediatrics
POTENTIAL FIRST- IN-CLASS TOPICAL LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical data demonstrates FB-401 was well-tolerated and active Phase 2a study, including pediatrics, demonstrates potential for acceptable safety profile and significant reduction in atopic dermatitis disease and pruritus, as well as control of S. aureus while tapering/eliminating steroid use
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive license to NIH-owned patent families as well as Forte owned IP. Coverage includes composition and method of use patents Patent coverage through at least 2037 (9 U.S. patents issued)
FINANCING / MANAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experienced life science investor base including Alger, ArrowMark, BVF Partners LP, Franklin Templeton and OrbiMed Additional high-quality investors brought in with \$46 m secondary offering in November 2020 Management team with significant drug development, innovation and corporate strategy experience

FORTE BIOSCIENCES: OVERVIEW OF FB-401

- **FB-401 drug product consists of 3 therapeutic bacterial strains of commensal Gram-negative *R. mucosa* specifically selected based on screening for impact on inflammatory skin disease parameters**
- **Topical application of the specifically selected therapeutic bacterial strains of *R. mucosa* drug product:**
 - Drives immune pathways that are defective
 - Suppresses *Staphylococcus aureus* growth
 - Improves skin barrier function
- **Clinical data demonstrates FB-401 live biotherapeutic therapy was well-tolerated and active in both adults and pediatric**
 - Phase 2a study, including pediatrics, well tolerated and demonstrated clinical improvement in atopic dermatitis disease and pruritus, as well as control of *S. aureus* while tapering/eliminating steroid use
 - Randomized Phase 2 trial readout in mid/3Q-2021
- **FDA granted FastTrack designation to FB-401 for the treatment of atopic dermatitis**

EXPERIENCED MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORY TEAMS

- Forte BioSciences team has extensive experience in microbial manufacturing, quality, regulatory and clinical development in dermatology

Paul Wagner, Ph.D. – CEO



LEHMAN BROTHERS

Dan Burge, MD – Head of Clinical Development



IMMUNEX

Tony Riley – Chief Financial Officer



Hank Talbot, Ph.D. – Head of Process Development and Quality



PFEnex

Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)

- Prof. Amy Paller, MD – Chair, Department of Dermatology Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
- Prof. Lawrence Eichenfield, MD – Chief of Pediatric and Adolescent Dermatology at Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego, Editor in Chief of Pediatric Dermatology
- Prof. Eric Simpson, MD – Professor of Dermatology, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland
- Dr. Patricia Walker, MD, Ph.D. – Former CMO of Allergan Medical and Dermatology TA Head

ATOPIC DERMATITIS

- Atopic dermatitis (AD) is characterized by itching, a scaly rash, dry skin, and cutaneous sensitization to allergens. The underlying pathology of AD consists of a triad of defective skin barrier function, susceptibility to *Staphylococcus aureus* skin infection, and immune imbalance (overactive adaptive immunity in lieu of innate immunity)
- 10-20% of children in industrialized countries develop atopic dermatitis with increasing incidence. 80% of children with severe disease continue to have lifelong exacerbations
- There is currently no cure for AD
- In the US, the prevalence of atopic dermatitis is approximately 17 million
 - More than half of that prevalence is pediatric (<17 years old)
 - Treatment options for pediatrics are very limited

Affects flexural areas of neck, elbows, knees, wrists, and ankles



Lichenified, erythematous plaques behind the knees

Erythematous, excoriated papules with overlying crust in the antecubital fossa



Erythematous ill-defined patches with overlying scale and erosions on her cheeks



FDA Pediatric Subcommittee October 29-30, 2003
American Academy of Dermatology

SKIN MICROBIOME



The skin is a complex barrier organ characterized by symbiotic relationship between microbial communities and host tissue via complex signals provided by the innate and the adaptive immune systems

Exposure to various endogenous and exogenous factors impact the system balance potentially leading to inflammatory skin conditions comprising infections, allergies or autoimmune diseases

Researchers in microbiology and dermatology identified and characterized the microorganisms present on the skin, to evaluate the bacterial diversity and their relative abundance and to understand how microbial diversity may contribute to skin health and dermatological conditions

Recent work has revealed that the skin microbiome is significantly different between healthy controls and patients with AD and that symptoms are associated with a loss of commensal diversity

Dreno et al. *European Academy of Dermatology and Venerology* 2016, 30, 2038-2047
Kong HH et al. *Genome research*. 2012; 22(5):850-859

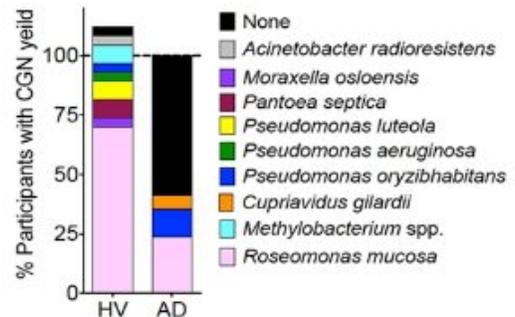
SKIN MICROBIOME DIFFERENCES IN ATOPIC DERMATITIS

Genetic-based microbiome identification revealed significant differences in the Gram-negative skin biome between atopic dermatitis (AD) patients and healthy controls (HV)

NIH (Myles et.al.) identified substantial differences in the gram-negative microbiome present on the skin of AD patients and healthy volunteers

The predominant species of skin commensal Gram-negative bacteria (CGN) in HV found to be *Roseomonas mucosa*

Over 50% of AD patients did not have any culturable Gram-negative flora, consistent with DNA-based analysis



Myles IA, Williams KW, Reckhow JD, et al. *JCI Insight*. 2016;1(10)
Kong HH et al. *Genome research*. 2012;22(5):850-859

MECHANISM OF FB-401

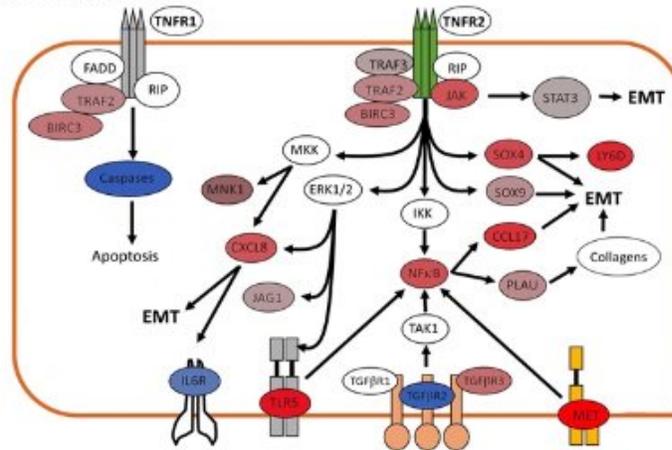
Extensive preclinical work by Forte in collaboration with NIH, investigating the activity of FB-401 has demonstrated:

- 1) FB-401 activates tissue repair and anti-inflammation pathways in keratinocytes, dendritic cells and fibroblasts
 - 1) Gene sequencing of the FB-401 strains and mRNAseq highlights the activation of TLR5, TNFR and CXCR2 (IL-8 signaling)
- 2) FB-401 inhibits *S.aureus* through metabolites produced by the 3 strains of *R.mucosa*
 - 1) The 3 strains of *R mucosa* were specifically selected based on their ability to suppress different strains of *S aureus* including methicillin resistant *S.aureus* (MRSA)
 - 2) Phosphatidylcholine and phosphatidylethanolamine metabolites produced by FB-401 suppress *S. aureus*

MULTIPLEX GENE PATHWAY ANALYSIS (RNASEQ): FB-401 ACTIVATES TISSUE REPAIR/ANTI-INFLAMMATION PATHWAYS

Gene	FB	ESC	KC	DC
GP2Y02	2.76			
TLK5	2.50			
LY6D	1.99			
SOX9	0.46			
KAR	-0.33			
CYP27B1	-0.78			1.21
CXCL8	1.39		1.25	1.68
CSTMI	-3.29			
SFBF5		1.39		
MWAK1		1.58		-0.47
SOX8		1.24		0.61
USP1		-0.91		
RAP1001		-2.40		
HDZ26		-3.41		
AC013271.2			2.88	
FJARE			2.43	
OPOM1			2.29	
RP12-291C20.5			2.23	
GRAMD3B			1.97	
AC009396.24			1.96	
RP4-621J18.2			1.58	
BIRC3			0.81	1.06
DACF2			-1.56	
RTL1			-2.76	
CM89-7641.1			-2.99	
CC135				1.63
CC120				1.76
TNFAIP6				1.84
CXCL5				2.01
WNT5A				5.81
GLI2				2.36
PNPLA1				2.27
JAG2				2.23
WDR2				2.05
CD350R1				-3.01
PRUNE2				-2.62
CCDM1				1.09
CCNFID204969				3.43

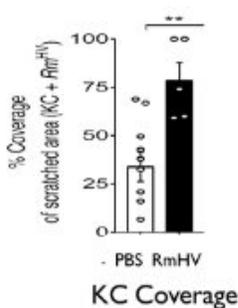
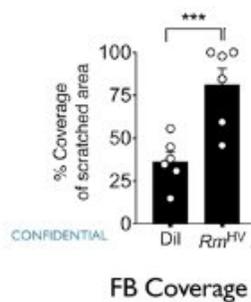
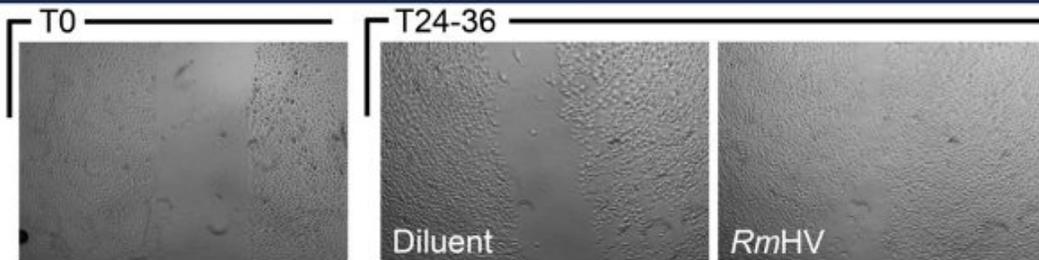
Fibroblast, keratinocyte, embryonic stem cell and dendritic cell demonstrate tissue repair pathway activation following exposure to FB-401 including TLR5, TNFR and CXCR2 driving epithelial to mesenchymal transition (EMT) tissue repair/anti-inflammation



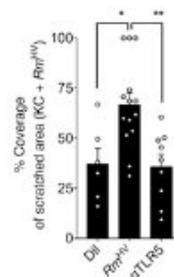
Myles IA et al. Science Translational Medicine. 2020; 12

Skin Fibroblast (FB), keratinocyte (KC), Embryonic Stem cell (ESC) and Dendritic cell (DC)

FIBROBLAST AND KERATINOCYTE SCRATCH MODELS CONFIRM TISSUE REPAIR THROUGH TLR5 PATHWAY ACTIVATION BY FB-401

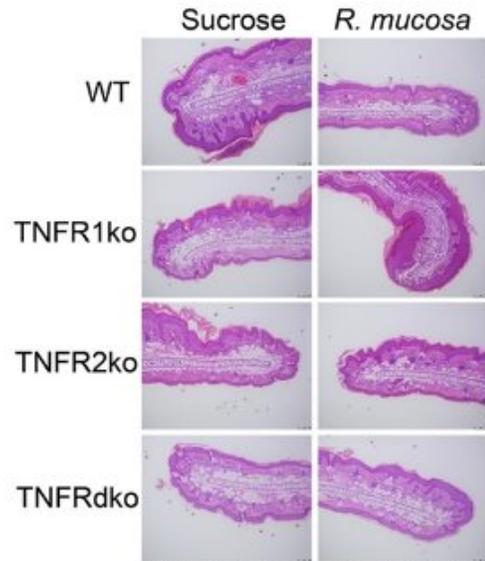
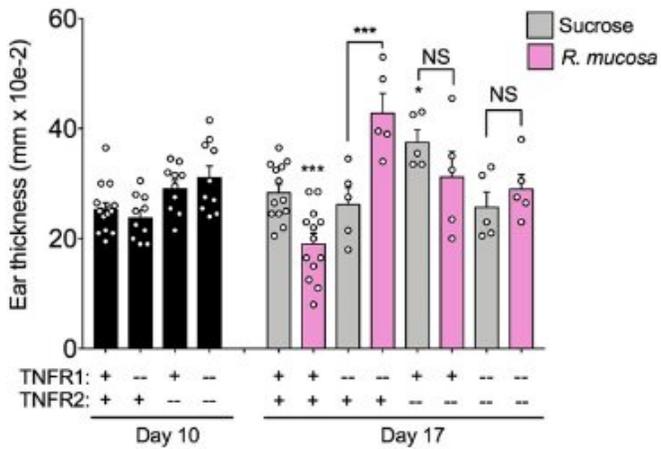


Scratch model for both keratinocytes and fibroblasts demonstrates tissue repair by FB-401



Blocking TLR5 (anti-TLR5 antibody) prevents tissue repair by FB-401

TNFR KNOCK OUT MOUSE MODELS CONFIRMS RESPONSE TO FB-401 IS DEPENDENT ON TNFR SIGNALING

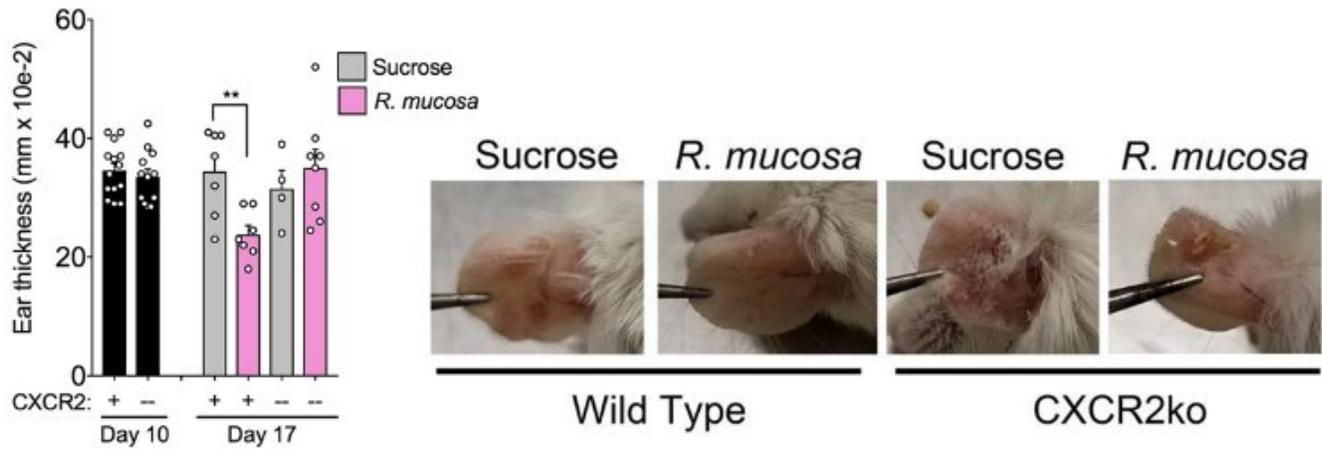


Myles IA et al. Science Translational Medicine. 2020; 12

CONFIDENTIAL

- TNFR wild type mice demonstrate atopic dermatitis activity of FB-401
- TNFR knockout inhibits FB-401 activity

CXCR2 KNOCK OUT MOUSE MODEL DEMONSTRATES RESPONSE TO FB-401 IS DEPENDENT ON IL-8 SIGNALING



CONFIDENTIAL

- CXCR2 wild type mice demonstrate atopic dermatitis activity of FB-401
- CXCR2 knockout inhibits FB-401 activity

PHASE 2A FIRST HUMAN STUDY OF FB-401 - CUTANEOUS LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC FOR THE TREATMENT OF ATOPIC DERMATITIS

How to Administer the Investigational Drug Treatment for Atopic Dermatitis



NIH
National Institutes of Health and Infectious Diseases

Drug product:FB-401 (3 specifically selected therapeutic *R.mucosa* strains) lyophilized and reconstituted with sterile water in single-use, self-administered spray

Design:Phase 1/2a enrolled 2 cohorts:

- Initial cohort enrolled 10 adult atopic dermatitis patients 18 years and older
- Following positive safety assessment from cohort 1, the second cohort of 20 pediatric patients was enrolled

Primary Objective: To evaluate the safety and activity of *R mucosa* as a live biotherapeutic for treatment of AD

Secondary Objective: To evaluate the effect of *R mucosa* live biotherapy on quality of life of participants with AD

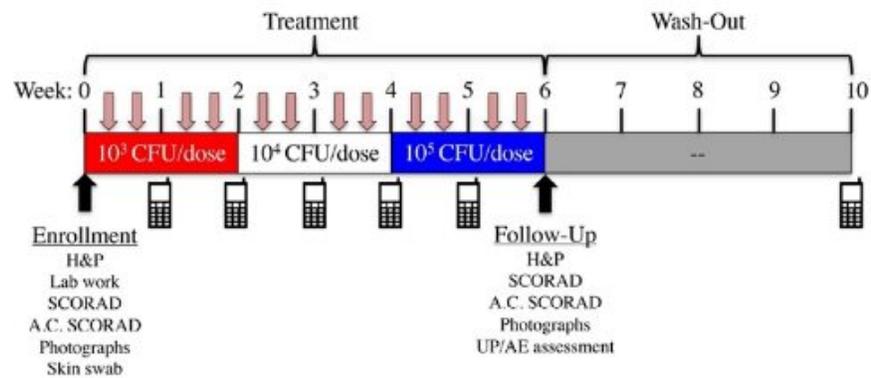
Exploratory Objectives

- Measure trans epidermal water loss (TEWL)
- Characterize changes to total and specific IgE
- Evaluate potential changes to pre-diagnosed asthma and/or food allergies
- Evaluate incidence of *S aureus* infections that require treatment
- Persistence of *R mucosa* colonization after treatment



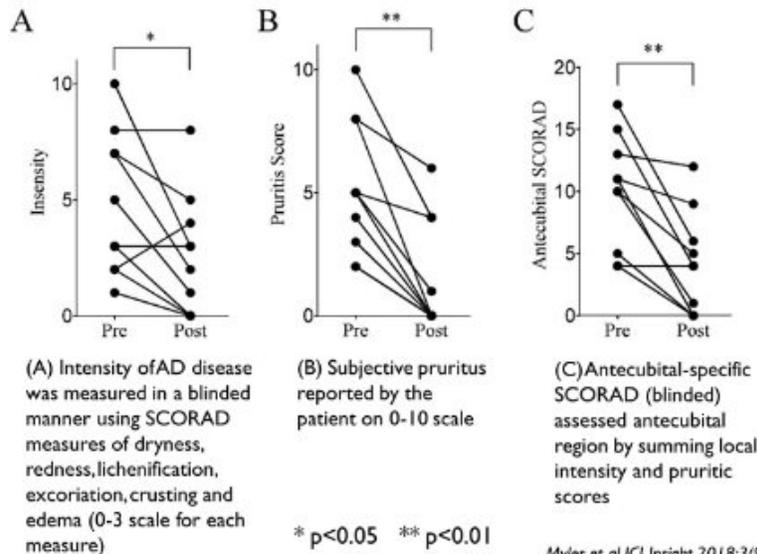
• Your kit should have Two (2) items per treatment

COHORT I COMPLETED TREATMENT OF 10 ADULTS WITH AD



Ten adultAD patients ages 18 years and older were treated in 2-week intervals with 10³, 10⁴, and then 10⁵ CFU of *R mucosa* twice per week (BIW) for a total of 6 weeks

STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT, DOSE-DEPENDENT IMPROVEMENTS OBSERVED IN ADULT COHORT OF PHASE 1/2a STUDY



Only treated areas responded. No AD lesions that were untreated resolved over the course of the study

Results from Cohort I indicate that six patients responded (60%) with mean improvement of 85%, one patient reported partial response with 44% improvement and three were non responders with 9% mean improvement

Myles et al, *JCI Insight*, 2018;3(9):e120608

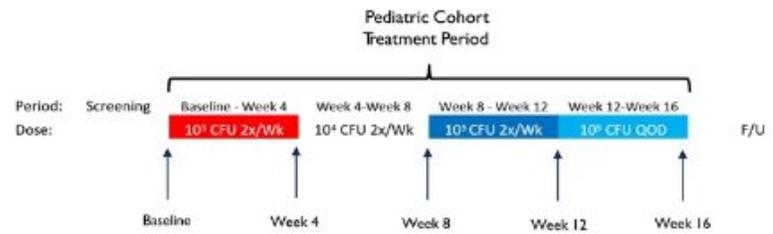
COHORT 2: FB-401 TREATMENT OF 20 CHILDREN WITH AD

20 pediatric/adolescent patients with active AD:

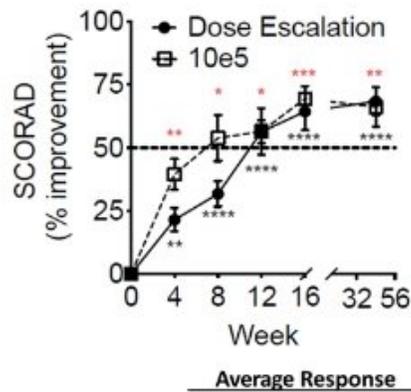
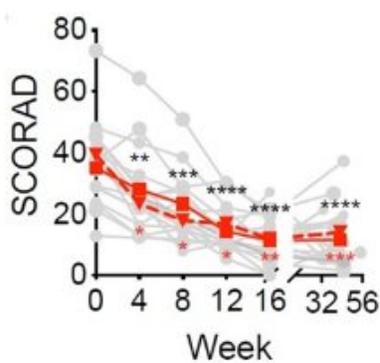
- First 5, ages 7-17
- Remainder, ages 3-17
- Baseline SCORAD >10

Design:

- Treat AD-involved skin with FB-401
 - 10^3 CFU BIW for 4 weeks
 - 10^4 CFU BIW for 4 weeks
 - 10^5 CFU BIW for 4 weeks
 - 10^5 CFU QOD for 4 weeks
- Efficacy assessments at baseline and Q4W
- SCORAD, pruritus, EASI (%), TEWL, FDLQI, CDLQI
- Microbiome assessment
- Adverse events throughout and at F/U



PEDIATRIC PATIENT DATA SHOWS SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY – TREATMENT THROUGH W16, FOLLOW UP 6 MAFTERTREATMENT COMPLETION



Dotted lines are data from patients that went direct to 10⁵
Solid lines are dose escalation patients

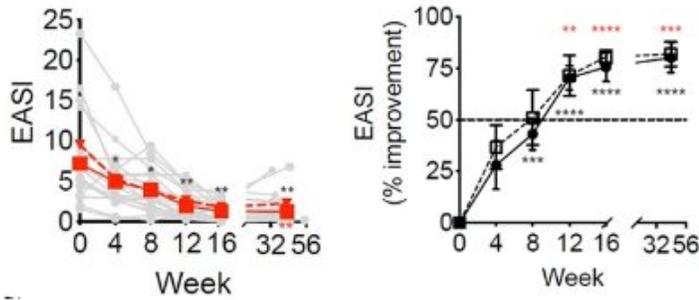
* p<0.05
** P<0.01
*** p<0.001
**** p<0.0001

SCORAD (50% improvement)	N	Ave baseline SCORAD	Responder	%	All	Responders
	20	36.1	17	85.0%	65.6%	73.2%

PRURITIS (ITCH) SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED OVER COURSE OF THERAPY

Pruritus Measures	Part 2A N=15	Part 2B N=5	Total N=20
Mean baseline pruritus score	6.4	7.1	6.6
Mean Week 16 pruritus score	2.3	3.4	2.6
Mean % improvement	59.7%	51.0%	57.6%

PEDIATRIC PATIENT EASI EFFICACY DATA SHOWS SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY



- Dotted lines are data from patients that went direct to 10⁵
- Solid lines are dose escalation patients

* p<0.05
 ** P<0.01
 *** p<0.001
 **** p<0.0001

EASI Severity
 Mild<7
 Moderate 7-21
 Severe>21

				Average Response	
	Ave baseline			All	Responders
	N	EASI	Responders	%	
EASI-50	20	7.8	18	90.0%	76.8% 83.6%
	Ave baseline				
	N	EASI	Responders	%	
EASI-75	20	7.8	14	70.0%	
	Ave baseline				
	N	EASI	Responders	%	
EASI-90	20	7.8	6	30.0%	

20

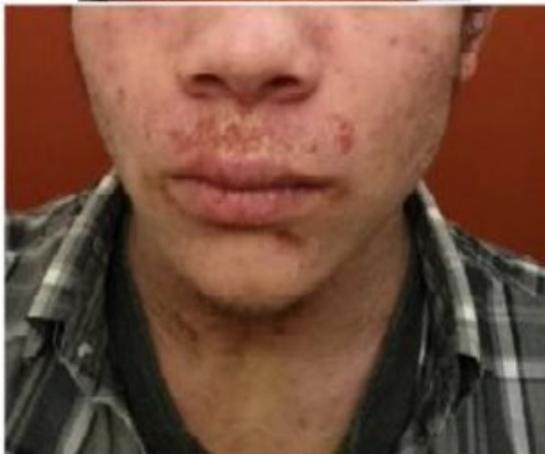
CONFIDENTIAL

PEDIATRIC PATIENT EFFICACY DATA SHOWS SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY ACROSS DISEASE SEVERITY

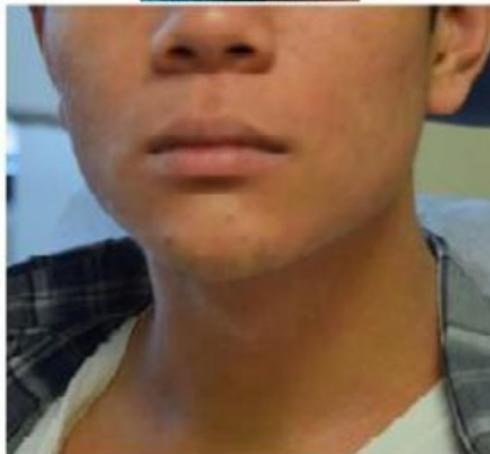
	Mild Disease EASI=<7 at baseline N=11	Moderate/Severe Disease EASI>=7 at baseline N=9	Trial Protocol EASI =>5 at baseline N=14	Total N=20
EASI 50	81.8% (9/11)	100% (9/9)	100% (14/14)	90% (18/20)
EASI 75	54.5% (6/11)	88.9% (8/9)	78.6% (11/14)	70% (14/20)
EASI 90	27.2% (3/11)	33.3% (3/9)	35.7% (5/14)	30.0% (6/20)

TREATMENT WITH FB-401 DEMONSTRATES SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT

Pre-Treatment



Week 10



Myles et al JCI Insight, 2018;3(9):e120608

REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING THERAPY

Week 0



Week 16



REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING THERAPY

Week 0



Week 16



REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING THERAPY

Week 0



Week 16



CONFIDENTIAL

Myles IA et al. *Science Translational Medicine*. 2020; 12

REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING THERAPY

Week 0



Week 16



REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE OF IMPROVEMENT FOLLOWING THERAPY

Week 0



Week 4



Week 8



PLANNED FB-401 RANDOMIZED PHASE 2 STUDY

- Randomized, placebo-controlled, multi-center study
- Includes children (2 years and older), adolescents and adults with mild to moderate atopic dermatitis
- Subjects randomized 1:1 to receive FB-401 or placebo for 16 weeks
- Endpoints include Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI), Investigator Global Assessment (IGA), pruritus

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OVERVIEW

- Exclusive license to NIH-owned patent family focused on treatment of AD with a consortia of Gram-negative bacteria from healthy donors
 - Patent coverage through at least 2037
 - 9 US patents issued
 - Entered in >15 Ex-US jurisdictions
- Company-owned IP directed to compositions for treatment of skin conditions associated with dysbiosis
 - Broadly covers use of Gram-negative bacteria for treatment of atopic disorders

SUMMARY OF FORTE BIOSCIENCES: FB-401 – POTENTIAL FIRST-IN-CLASS TOPICAL LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC FOR THE TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASE

LATE-STAGE CLINICAL ASSET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2a trial in atopic dermatitis completed including pediatrics 3 years and older, FB-401 was well tolerated and demonstrated clinical improvement. Randomized Phase 2 trial in adults and pediatrics 2 years and older with atopic dermatitis (AD) data readout expected 3Q-2021
LARGE MARKET WITH UNMET NEED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-20% of children in industrialized countries develop atopic dermatitis (AD) In the U.S., AD affects 17 million people (over 50% are children) Significant unmet need for safe and effective AD therapy for pediatrics
POTENTIAL FIRST- IN-CLASS TOPICAL LIVE BIOTHERAPEUTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical data demonstrates FB-401 was well-tolerated and active Phase 2a study, including pediatrics, demonstrates potential for acceptable safety profile and significant reduction in atopic dermatitis disease and pruritus, as well as control of S. aureus while tapering/eliminating steroid use
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive license to NIH-owned patent families as well as Forte owned IP. Coverage includes composition and method of use patents Patent coverage through at least 2037 (9 U.S. patents issued)
FINANCING / MANAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experienced life science investor base including Alger, ArrowMark, BVF Partners LP, Franklin Templeton and OrbiMed Additional high-quality investors brought in with \$46 m secondary offering in November 2020 Management team with significant drug development, innovation and corporate strategy experience