# **FX201 Background and Description**

Osteoarthritis (OA) of the knee is a debilitating, degenerative joint disease characterized by chronic pain and inflammation that perpetuates cartilage loss and other structural changes.<sup>1-4</sup>

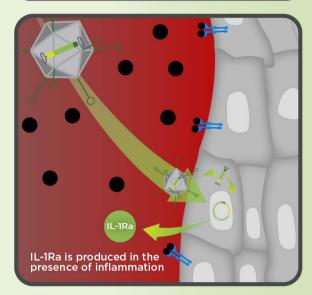
**Interleukin-1 (IL-1)** is considered a key mediator of inflammation, pain, and cartilage destruction in OA.<sup>5-7</sup>

# Helper-dependent adenovirus with DNA IL-1Ra gene Synovial cells Chondrocytes Cartilage **Bone**

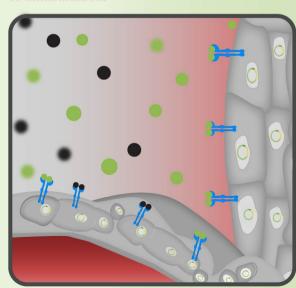
### FX201:

- A helper-dependent adenovirus-based gene therapy
- An investigational compound that may support long-term expression of IL-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1Ra)<sup>8</sup> in chondrocytes and synovial cells after injection into the knee joint

# **Proposed Mechanism of Action**



**FX201** targets chondrocytes and synovial cells.<sup>8</sup> Upon entry, IL-1Ra DNA is maintained episomally in the nuclei of these cells and IL-1Ra protein is subsequently produced and secreted in response to inflammation.<sup>9,10</sup>



IL-1Ra binds to IL-1 receptors on the surface of chondrocytes and synovial cells, suppressing IL-1-mediated inflammatory signals.<sup>11,12</sup>

### **Potential Effects**

Based on preclinical findings, **FX201** has the potential to:



Reduce inflammation and pain



Improve function

and may ultimately modify disease by decreasing:



Cartilage loss



Subchondral bone remodeling

Disclaimer: FX201 is an investigational therapy for the treatment of OA.

# References:

1. Neogi T. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2013;21(9):1145-1153. 2. Alkan BM et al. Mod Rheumatol. 2014;24(1):166-171. 3. Stoppiello LA et al. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2014;66(11):3018-3027. 4. Matsukawa A et al. J Immunol. 1995;154(10):5418-5425. 5. Kapoor M et al. Nat Rev Rheumatol. 2011;7(1):33-42. 6. Li M et al. Acta Pharmacol Sin. 2005;26(2):192-198. 7. Inoue A. J Neurochem. 1999;73(5):2206-2213. 8. Ruan MZ et al. Sci Transl Med. 2013;5(176):176ra34. 9. Flexion Therapeutics, Inc. Data on file. 2019. 10. Flexion Therapeutics, Inc. Data on file. 2019. 11. Arend WP et al. J Clin Invest. 1990;85(5):1694-1697. 12. Flexion Therapeutics, Inc. Data on file. 2019.

