

**Edition 04 | December 2024**

# **INVESTOR NEWSLETTER**

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**Amplia**  
THERAPEUTICS

# Note from Dr Chris Burns

## ATX CEO and MD

**It has been an intensive and productive period at Amplia since our last investor newsletter.** Our ACCENT trial in pancreatic cancer continues to generate promising data, with our latest analysis showing nine confirmed partial responses and significant improvements in how long patients are staying on treatment. These results, which you can read about in detail on page 3, further reinforce our confidence in narmafotinib's potential to make a meaningful difference for patients with pancreatic cancer.

**This strong clinical progress has been complemented by important regulatory milestones, with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granting Fast Track Designation for narmafotinib in advanced pancreatic cancer.** This designation not only validates the potential of our approach but also provides opportunities for more frequent FDA interactions and possible accelerated approval pathways.

Our clinical footprint continues to expand, with the recent opening of a new trial site at the Calvary Mater Hospital in Newcastle, which has generated community interest. An NBN News crew joined me on my recent visit to the hospital, highlighting both the critical need for new pancreatic cancer treatments and the important role of clinical trials. The segment featured inspiring patient advocate Lorraine Gibbs, whose willingness to share her story helped bring attention to the vital importance of clinical research in advancing treatment options for pancreatic cancer patients.

We've also made strategic moves to enhance our understanding of narmafotinib's potential through a new collaboration with Next&Bio in Korea. This partnership allows us to explore synergistic opportunities with emerging therapies, particularly kRas inhibitors, potentially opening new treatment avenues for pancreatic cancer patients.

The strong support from the investment community during our recent capital raising was particularly encouraging. The institutional placement and entitlement offer attracted strong demand from our existing institutional shareholders while also introducing several new institutional investors to our register. Together with support from our retail shareholders, we successfully raised \$13 million. This funding puts us in a strong position to achieve our key objectives of completing the ACCENT trial and initiating our planned US trial investigating narmafotinib in combination with FOLFIRINOX. The success of this capital raise reflects growing confidence in our clinical program and recognition of narmafotinib's therapeutic potential.

**With recruitment for the final cohort of the ACCENT trial progressing ahead of schedule and over 75% of the total trial now recruited, we are well-positioned to complete enrolment by the end of Q1 2025. The continued strong support from clinicians and patients, coupled with our strengthened financial position, sets us up for an exciting and productive year ahead.**

**Dr Chris Burns**  
CEO & MD



# ACCENT Trial Update

The ACCENT clinical trial continues to make significant progress, with recent data supporting the expansion of the study to complete recruitment of all planned participants. The trial is investigating Amplia's best-in-class FAK inhibitor narmafotinib in combination with standard-of-care chemotherapy for patients with advanced pancreatic cancer.

## Promising Interim Results

The latest analysis of data (up to 6 December 2024) from the trial's Phase 2a stage has revealed encouraging outcomes. Of the initial 26-patient cohort, nine (9) patients have now achieved confirmed partial responses, meaning their tumours have decreased in size by at least 30% and maintained this reduction for two or more months, with no new tumour lesions apparent. This represents an objective response rate of approximately 35%, significantly exceeding the 23% reported in historical trials for standard-of-care therapy alone.

The trial data is particularly promising when compared to historical results for standard chemotherapy alone. Thus, for the first 26 patients

- Nine (9) confirmed partial responses have been recorded up to 6 December
- Patients are remaining on trial longer (meaning longer disease control), with a median duration on trial of 172 days as of 6 December - a 47% improvement over the historical benchmark of 117 days for standard-of-care alone
- Three (3) patients recorded progressive disease (PD) as best response, while two (2) participants were considered ineligible, and one withdrew from the trial
- Of the 24 evaluable patients from the first 26 patient cohort, 19 have recorded a decrease in tumour size as best response at any scan
- Preliminary analysis indicates patients have a faster response to therapy in terms of tumour reduction, compared to historical data for chemotherapy alone
- Eleven patients from the initial cohort of 26 remain active in the trial.



*Continued next page*

# ACCENT Trial Update

## Moving Forward

Based on these positive results, Amplia has begun recruiting the final cohort of 24 patients, bringing the total Phase 2a enrolment to 50 participants. The trial is now active at multiple sites across Australia and South Korea, including a newly opened site at the Calvary Mater Hospital in Newcastle.

Amplia's CEO and MD, Dr Chris Burns, commented:

*"We are very pleased to begin recruitment of the remaining patients for the ACCENT trial. The data we're seeing is exciting, particularly in terms of how quickly patients are responding to the treatment and how long these responses are being maintained."*

The completion of patient recruitment is expected by the end of Q1 2025, marking another important milestone in the development of narmafotinib for this challenging disease.

## New ACCENT Trial Website Launched

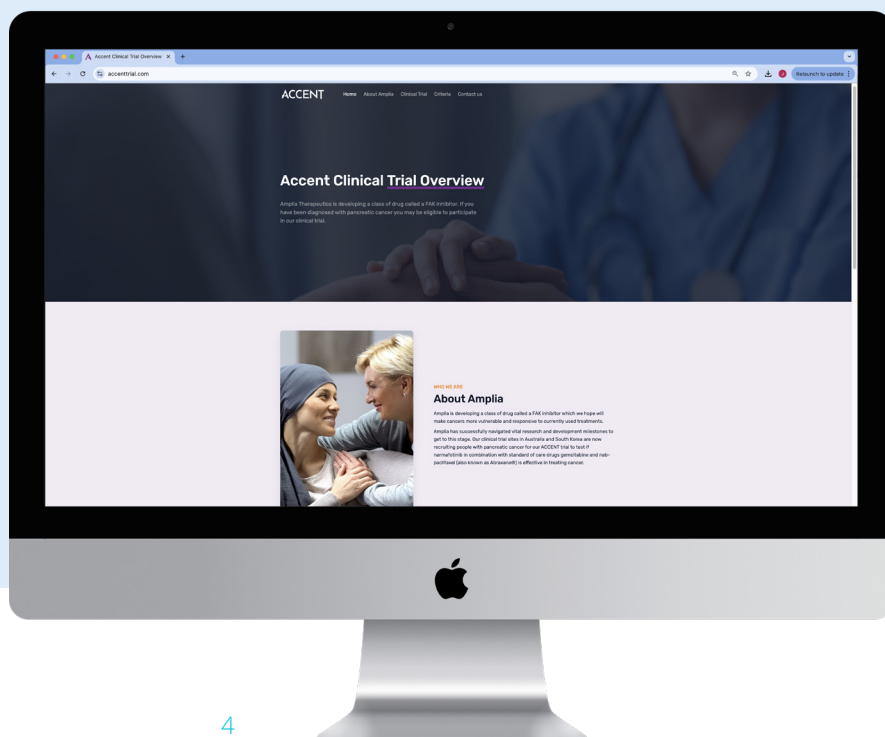
Amplia has launched a dedicated website for the ACCENT trial at [www.accenttrial.com](http://www.accenttrial.com), making it easier for patients, caregivers, and healthcare providers to access information about the trial.

The new website provides comprehensive details about the study, including:

- Trial eligibility criteria
- Participating trial locations across Australian and Korea
- Resources for patients and healthcare providers
- Contact information for trial participation inquiries

The new ACCENT trial website provides a user-friendly interface for patients and healthcare providers to learn more about the study.

# ACCENT TRIAL



# Global Milestones

## FDA grants Fast Track Designation

In a significant milestone for Amplia's development program, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Fast Track Designation to narmafotinib for the treatment of advanced pancreatic cancer. This important designation acknowledges the potential of narmafotinib to address unmet needs in this challenging disease area.

Fast Track Designation is designed to speed the development of drugs that may provide advantages over existing therapies in treating serious conditions. For Amplia, this designation brings several key benefits:

- More frequent meetings and written communication with the FDA
- Potential eligibility for Accelerated Approval and Priority Review
- Opportunities to expedite the development process

The designation adds to narmafotinib's existing Orphan Drug Designation in pancreatic cancer, further strengthening its regulatory position.

Amplia CEO & MD, Dr Chris Burns, said: *"Fast Track Designation for narmafotinib is a significant milestone for the Company. With this designation, we can work more closely with the FDA to accelerate our clinical program and gather the most compelling evidence for regulatory approval in this devastating disease."*

The timing of this designation aligns well with Amplia's expanding clinical program. While the ACCENT trial continues in Australia and South Korea, plans are advancing for a US-based trial following the recent clearance of the Company's Investigational New Drug (IND) application by the FDA.

## Amplia Secures Key Patent Protection in Japan and Europe

Amplia marked a milestone in its intellectual property strategy with the granting of a key patent for its lead drug candidate narmafotinib in both Japan and Europe. This development substantially strengthens the company's IP position in two major pharmaceutical markets.

The patent, which specifically covers the salt and crystal form of narmafotinib, now extends protection to at least 2040 in these territories, providing crucial long-term market exclusivity.

The significance of this patent lies in its coverage of the specific form of narmafotinib currently being evaluated in clinical trials. This particular formulation offers improved stability and manufacturability, along with enhanced drug levels upon dosing - critical factors for any commercially viable pharmaceutical product.

Securing patents in these major jurisdictions bodes well for approvals in other key markets, including the United States and Australia. The timing is particularly strategic as the Company progresses its Phase 2a ACCENT trial in advanced pancreatic cancer.

For more information about patent protection, read the Q&A with FPA Patent Attorneys on Page 8.



# Notable Achievements

## Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation

Amplia Therapeutics CEO Dr Chris Burns and long-time collaborator Professor Andrew Wilks were awarded the Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation at Parliament House in Canberra in October.

The award celebrated their development of momelotinib, a breakthrough cancer drug now helping patients with myelofibrosis, a rare bone marrow cancer. The pair developed the drug while working at Melbourne biotechnology company Cytopia, adding to Australia's track record in medical innovation.

Momelotinib made Australian pharmaceutical history in 2023 as only the second Australian-invented drug to receive US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval. It is now helping patients in the United States under the brand name Ojjaara.

In response to receiving the award, Dr Burns said:

*"I am extremely honoured to be the co-recipient of the 2024 Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation. Australia does a lot of fantastic early-stage research. What we've done in the discovery and development of momelotinib shows that incredible research can be translated here in Australia."*

The Prime Minister's Prizes for Science are Australia's most prestigious awards for achievements in scientific research, research-based innovation and science teaching. Specifically, the Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation is awarded for the innovative translation of scientific knowledge into a commercially available product, service or process with economic, social or environmental benefits.



L to R: Prof. Andrew Wilks;  
Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science;  
Dr Chris Burns

# Notable Achievements

## Dr Chris Burns elected to Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS)

Dr Chris Burns was recently honoured with election as a Fellow to the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS).

The AAHMS Fellowship represents one of the highest honours in Australia's medical and health sciences sector, reserved for individuals in recognition of their outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions to the sector.

The Company extends its warmest congratulations to Dr Burns on this well-deserved recognition.



## Upcoming Events in 2025

### 13—16 January **SAN FRANCISCO**

JP Morgan Health Care Conference, San Francisco

### 18—21 January **BANFF**

Keystone Symposium - Tumor Microenvironment: Metastasis and the Host

### 5—7 March **CANBERRA**

ANZGOG ASM

### 11—13 March **SEOUL**

Global Clinical Supplies Group APAC conference

### 17—19 March **MILAN**

BioEurope Spring

### 25—30 April **CHICAGO**

American Association of Cancer Research

### 12—15 May **CAPE SCHANCK**

Cell Signalling and its Therapeutic Implications 2025: Focus on Cancer

### 16—19 June **BOSTON**

BIO International Convention

# In Conversation with Karen Bentley and Dafydd Jones FPA Patent Attorneys

Patent protection is a critical yet complex component of drug development that requires expert guidance from the earliest stages of research through to commercialisation. Building and maintaining a robust patent portfolio is essential to protect valuable intellectual property and secure long-term commercial potential.

Karen Bentley and Dafydd Jones from FPA Patent Attorneys work closely with Amplia to develop and execute the Company's patent strategy. FPA is an independent, top-tier, Australian based, private incorporated registered attorney firm.



## **Q: Let's start with the basics - what exactly is a patent, and what does it protect?**

A patent protects the way something works. At its core, it's a monopoly right that gives the holder the ability to exclude others from using their invention. This is particularly important in biotech, where it's not just about having the right to do something yourself, but preventing others from using your innovation without permission.

## **How critical is patent protection for biotech companies, like Amplia, in terms of securing investment and maintaining competitive advantage in the marketplace?**

For small biotech companies, particularly in their early stages before they have an approved product, patents are often their most valuable asset. It serves both practical and commercial purposes - protecting your invention from being copied by competitors while also providing confidence to investors, collaborators, and potential acquirers who need to see that the intellectual property is secure.

## **Q: What's involved in filing for a patent, and does the process differ across different territories?**

The process typically starts with filing an initial provisional patent application, which sets what we call the priority date. This is the date at which the patent will be assessed against all that has gone before (i.e. the prior art base) during examination. Filing a provisional patent gives you 12 months to further develop your invention and gather additional data. After that, you will need to file a "complete application" which can either be filing your application in individual countries where you want protection, or filing what many mistakenly call the "worldwide patent" - actually a PCT application. This doesn't give you worldwide protection, but rather the opportunity to decide which individual countries you want to file in at a later date. Once you choose which countries to file in, each jurisdiction then conducts its own examination process - just because the US for example grants a patent doesn't mean Europe will follow suit and vice versa. Each jurisdiction has their own requirements and may have different tests for obviousness or different disclosure requirements. The time lines also vary. You might get something granted in Australia in 12 months, while it can take three to four years elsewhere.



# In Conversation with Karen Bentley and Dafydd Jones FPA Patent Attorneys

## Q: What's the typical lifespan of a patent?

Patents last 20 years from the complete filing date, but pharmaceutical companies can get additional considerations. Importantly, in some jurisdictions, pharmaceutical companies may be eligible to secure extensions beyond the standard 20-year term for their drug patents, recognising the significant time required for clinical trials and regulatory approval before they can start generating revenue from their invention.

## Q. Could you explain the importance of building a robust patent portfolio around a lead asset like narmafotinib, rather than relying on a single patent?

Drug development is a journey of continuous innovation. The initial patent might cover the basic compound, but as development progresses, companies create new formulations, discover different ways to manufacture the drug, identify new diseases it might treat, and develop combination therapies with other drugs. Each of these developments represents valuable intellectual property that needs protection. It's not about creating a patent thicket - it's about protecting genuine innovations that emerge through the development process.

## Q: What should investors understand about the investment timeline for patents?

The timing of patent protection is absolutely critical - and it needs to start much earlier than most people realise. Even standard business activities, like ASX announcements, can affect patent rights, if not handled carefully. Patent strategy needs to be integrated into business planning from day one, not treated as an afterthought once development is underway.

Patent protection is not a set-and-forget process - it's a constantly evolving strategy that requires active management. Companies need to think ahead while managing current challenges. The investment in comprehensive patent protection isn't just about defending intellectual property - it's about securing the future value of innovations that could transform patient care. For biotech companies developing breakthrough therapies, this protection is absolutely fundamental to long-term success.

