



ASF's Patient Engagement Coordinator, Afton DeLucca, prepared a layman's summary of the following Alport-centric research paper:

A Neutralizing IL-11 Antibody Improves Renal Function and Increases Lifespan in a Mouse Model of Alport Syndrome

Widjaja, Anissa et al.

Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, February 2022.

In a study published in the February issue of the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, authors Anissa Widjaja et al. examined the role of protein interleukin 11 (IL-11) in fibrotic kidney disease and, more specifically, its potential role in Alport syndrome.

The investigators examined the effects of X203, an antibody that neutralizes IL-11, in Alport mice with a Col4a3 mutation versus mice without the mutation. They also assessed the combination of X203 with the ACE inhibitor ramipril.

The findings showed that X203 reduced albuminuria, kidney fibrosis, and kidney inflammation, and increased expression of regenerative markers, which led to an overall increase in renal function. Additionally, the lifespan of the Col4a3 mice was extended by 22% with ramipril alone, 44% with X203 alone, and 99% with ramipril and X203.

The authors concluded that these findings suggest a possible therapeutic concept in targeting and neutralizing IL-11 to improve kidney function in those with Alport syndrome.