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**AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH:**



**Ahmed Mousa**  
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**What do you see as the biggest challenges currently facing drug development for IPF?**

The field continues to struggle with limited efficacy and tolerability of current treatments, and a lack of therapies that can truly reverse disease progression.

**How is your team and the wider community working to address these challenges?**

At Vicore, we're advancing buloxibutid, a first-in-class AT2 receptor agonist that activates lung repair mechanisms upstream of fibrosis with the support of the entire community to execute our global Phase 2b study of this compound. We hope that this study will reveal the ability of a differentiated approach to this disease to drive a breakthrough in patient outcomes.

**With recent shifts in the treatment landscape, trends or new approaches are you most excited about in IPF research right now?**

We're encouraged to see a number of academic groups and biopharmaceutical companies focus their research efforts on identifying targets and developing therapies that have the potential to drive lung repair and address this disease in ways that go beyond traditional anti-fibrotics.

**How are you thinking about combination strategies or multi-modal approaches in the context of treating fibrotic lung diseases?**

With well tolerated therapies, we believe that combination strategies make a great deal of sense to treat fibrotic lung disease. In addition, selecting mechanisms that can have a multi-modal effect may also be useful given the profound disease processes associated with IPF and its impact on a range of cellular and tissue compartments of the lung.

**What's one misconception about IPF drug development that you'd like to see corrected across the broader biotech/pharma community?**

That slowing lung function decline is enough. Patients and physicians are looking for therapies that can actually improve lung capacity and quality of life.

**What are you most looking forward to learning or discussing with peers at the 9th IPF Summit?**

We're eager to exchange insights on trial design, biomarkers, and how to accelerate development of better-tolerated, disease-modifying therapies.

**Could you give us a sneak peek into your session? What's one key point or idea you hope the audience will take away from your presentation?**

We'll highlight how buloxibutid's unique mechanism and global Phase 2b ASPIRE trial design position it to potentially shift the treatment paradigm in IPF.

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