

# Semaglutide Depot (SG Depot), a Long-Acting Injection of Semaglutide Administered Once Every Four Weeks to Demonstrate Pharmacokinetic Modeling and Human-based Allometric Scaling

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## Introduction and Objective

Semaglutide Depot is a microspheres-based extended-release drug product intended for once every 28 days SC administration. Semaglutide Depot efficacy and pharmacokinetic (PK) profile were evaluated in mice (db/db) and in minipig models. PK modeling was utilized to provide human-based allometric scaling towards a first in human clinical trial.

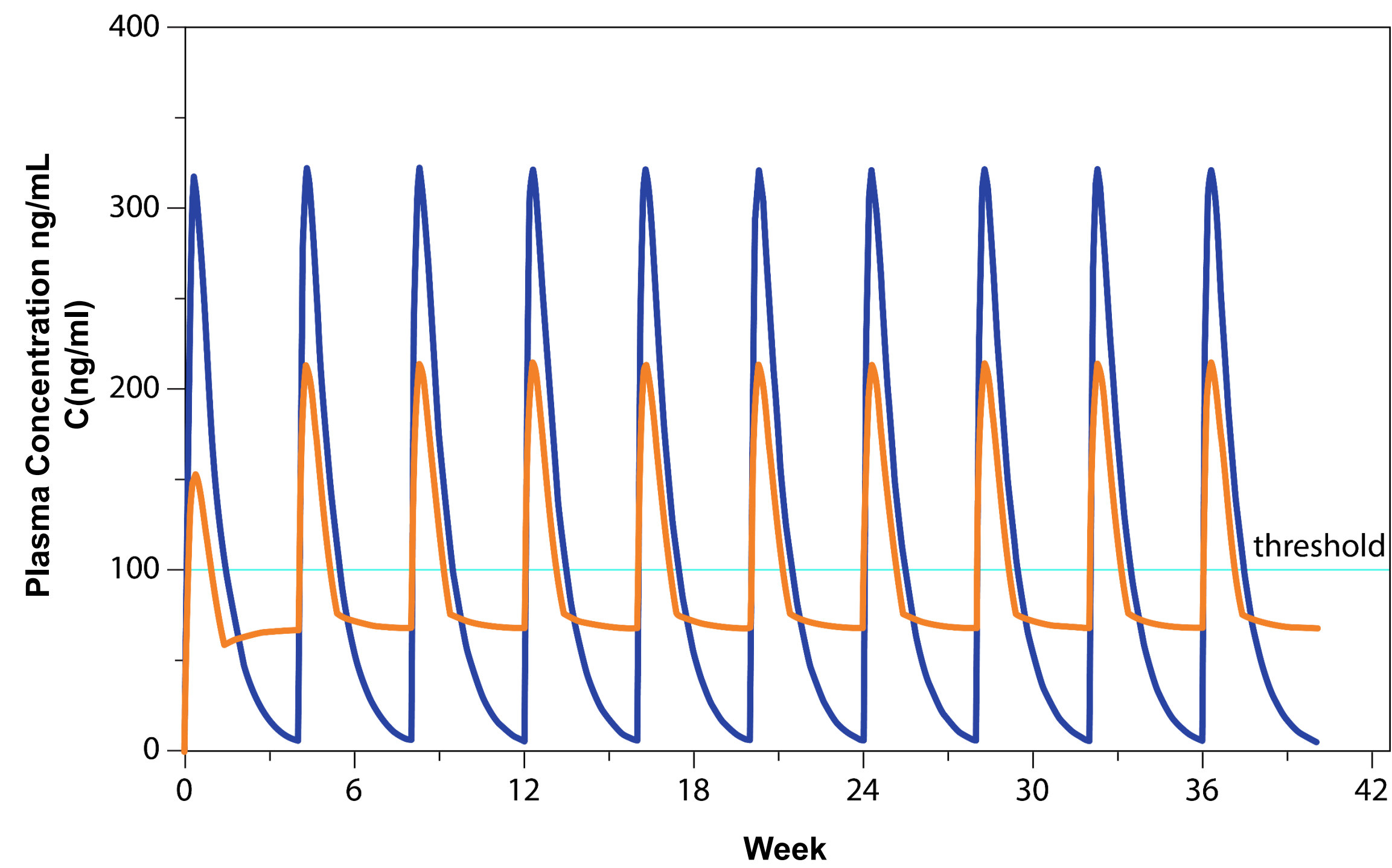
## Design/Methods

- Allometric scaling was done using PK data from nonclinical trials (rodent and non-rodent) to predict human drug exposure for a range of drug doses. Phoenix non-linear mixed effect modeling software was used to perform individual, population and pooled data analyses.
- Litrature based assumptions of drug half-life and allometric scaling were verified using empirical data. Due to the sparseness of the empirical data, the following assumptions were made to ensure plausible efficient modeling:
  - Depot and API share the same volume of distribution and global clearance, hence only the absorption process must be modelled separately.
  - For mice, Semaglutide Depot data show two distinct absroption and eliminations processes.
  - For minipigs these process are confounded.

## Results

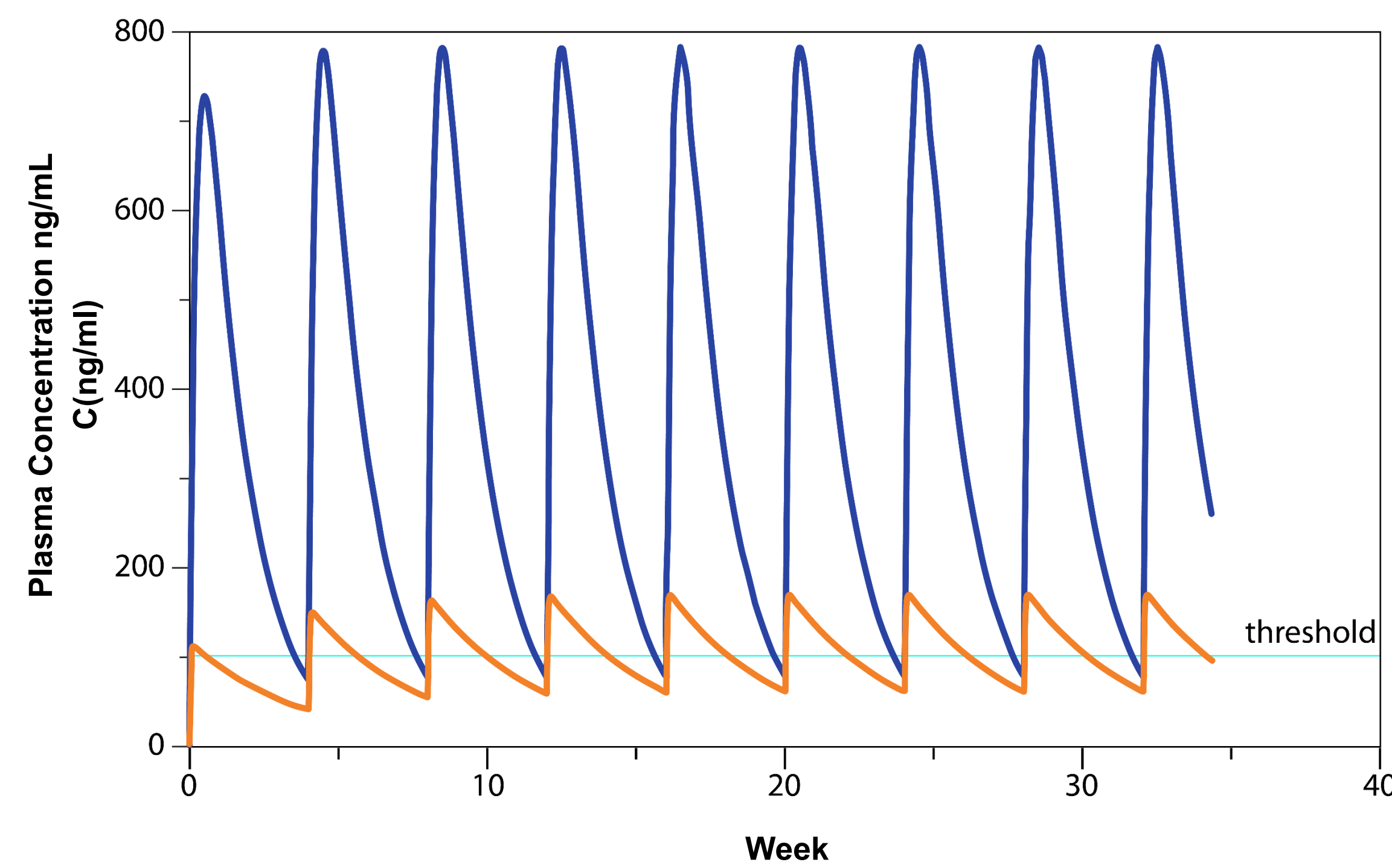
- Based on the model properties and mice or minipigs PK data, Semaglutide Depot administration to humans in dose of 4-8 mg every 4 weeks would lead to the target mean steady state plasma level of 100ng/ml.
- In both animal models, extrapolation to humans demonstrated a significant formulation effect on the PK profile, when compared to the plasma profile of identical posology of non-formulated API.
- Semaglutide Depot showed significantly lower Cmax values and reduced fluctuations in the Semaglutide plasma concentrations (lower Cmax/Cmin), which is anticipated to be translated into reduced side effects and better dose stability of the formulated product as compared to immediate release Semaglutide.

**Figure 1:** Simulated Human PK Profiles of 4 mg Semaglutide Formulations at Steady State, based on mice data



Simulated steady state plasma concentration-time curves for 4 mg Semaglutide administered every 28 days as immediate-release API (**Blue**) versus extended-release depot formulation (**Orange**). Model predictions derived from allometric scaling of preclinical data (mice) using nonlinear mixed-effects modeling. The depot formulation maintains plasma concentrations above the therapeutic threshold (100 ng/mL, dashed line) while demonstrating attenuated Cmax and reduced peak-trough fluctuation (Cmax/Cmin ratio).

**Figure 2:** Simulated Human PK Profiles of 8 mg Semaglutide Formulations at Steady State, based on mini-pigs data



Simulated steady state plasma concentration-time curves for 8 mg Semaglutide administered every 28 days as API (**Blue**) versus depot microspheres (**Orange**). The depot formulation achieves sustained therapeutic concentrations (mean 104 ng/mL) with flattened pharmacokinetic profile, maintaining target engagement while potentially mitigating concentration-dependent adverse effects.

## Conclusions

Based on the pre-clinical results Semaglutide Depot given once every 28 days in doses of 4 to 8 mg is expected to reach the target human PK profile equivalent to four weekly Semaglutide injections while offering an improved safety profile. Phase I/IIa clinical study is planned to explore Semaglutide Depot PK, safety and efficiency in humans including these dose ranges.