

**Corporate Presentation August 2021** 

### **Forward Looking Statements**

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# Advancing the Next Generation of Gene Therapies

Developing a new pharmaceutical modality designed for the cost-effective treatment of a broad range of serious disorders



**Diverse Pipeline** 

### 6 ONGOING CLINICAL PROGRAMS:

- Inherited retinal diseases
- Salivary gland hypofunction
- Parkinson's disease

#### DEEP PIPELINE OF PRE-CLINICAL PROGRAMS

- Wet AMD / DME
- Glaucoma, Uveitis
- Multiple additional IRDs
- Sjogren's, Dry Eye
- ALS



Core Viral Vector Engineering Capabilities

### VIRAL VECTOR DESIGN PLATFORM:

- Synthetic promoter design and screening platforms
- Novel capsids
- Cassette optimization: transgene engineering, sequence optimization, ITR and plasmid backbone optimization, immunogenicity
- Organoids / iPSC preclinical platforms



In-house GMP Manufacturing & Process Development

#### FULL END TO END MANUFACTURING INFRASTRUCTURE:

- cGMP facilities: Scalable and Flexible
- Capacity for clinical through commercial supply for all programs
- QA and QC to support first in man through commercialization
- Fill and Finish
- Process Development facility; proprietary Process Development platform
- Non GMP vector core for preclinical supply
- · GMP plasmid production facility



Inducible Gene Regulation Platform

#### PROPRIETARY GENE REGULATION PLATFORM:

- Riboswitch technology allows control of gene expression with a high dynamic range
- Gene expression is turned on/off with proprietary small molecules

POTENTIAL TO REGULATE ANY GENE: Antibodies, hormones, cytokines, within BBB

### A Deep Pipeline of Transformative Gene Therapies Six clinical studies across multiple therapeutic areas

Product	Indication	Preclinical	Phase 1/2	Phase 3
Ocular				
Inherited Retinal Diseases				
AAV-RPGR* janssen	X-linked RP	PRIME, Fast Track, Orphan Drug		XLRP study
AAV-RPE65	RPE65-Associated Retinal Dystrophy	RPDD, Orphan Drug		
AAV-CNGB3* janssen	Achromatopsia	RPDD, PRIME, Fast Track, Orphan Drug		
AAV-CNGA3* janssen	Achromatopsia	RPDD, Fast Track, Orphan Drug		
AAV-AIPL1	LCA4	Compassionate use under MHRA Specials License		
A007, A008	Undisclosed IRD Targets			
Degenerative Ocular Diseases (r	non-inherited)			
A006	Wet AMD (anti-VEGFR2)			
Neurodegenerative Disease				
AAV-GAD	Parkinson's Disease			
AAV-UPF1	ALS			
Undisclosed Targets				
Salivary Gland				
AAV-AQP1	Xerostomia	Orphan Drug		
	Sjögren's Syndrome			

\*Co-development program with Janssen Pharmaceuticals

### **Diverse Targets Across Multiple Therapeutic Areas**



Clinical studies ongoing across ocular, neurodegenerative and salivary gland indications

In-house vector development & optimization technology create opportunities to treat many indications

## Anticipated Upcoming Milestones and Objectives

Inherited Retinal Disease	<ul> <li>AAV-RPGR for the treatment of XLRP</li> <li>Initiate Phase 3 Lumeos trial: 2H 2021</li> <li>AAV-RPE65 for the treatment of <i>RPE65</i>-associated retinal dystrophy</li> <li>Initiate Phase 3 pivotal trial: 2H 2021</li> </ul>	
Wet AMD and DME	<ul> <li>File IND and initiate Wet AMD clinical study with optimized potent vector and IVT delivery: 2022</li> </ul>	
Neurodegenerative Disease	AAV-GAD for the treatment of Parkinson's disease <ul> <li>File IND and initiate AAV-GAD clinical study: Q3 2021</li> </ul>	
Salivary Gland	<ul> <li>AAV-hAQP1 for the treatment of Grade 2/3 radiation-induced xerostomia</li> <li>Complete enrollment and dosing of AQUAx multi-center, dose escalating Phase 1 trial: 2H 2021</li> </ul>	
Riboswitch Gene Regulation	<ul> <li>Present <i>in-vivo</i> data using proprietary riboswitch and small molecule in multiple tissues using multiple therapeutic genes: 2H 2021</li> </ul>	

- Expect to advance 3-5 additional programs into the clinic by YE 2022
- Potential to have up to 11 clinical stage programs by y/e 2022
- Supported by internal manufacturing, QC and QA infrastructure
- Capacity for the development of all programs from first in man through commercialization

### A Unique, Diverse and Inclusive Culture

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250+ full-time employees

4 locations: US, UK, Netherlands, Ireland

46% female, 54% male

29 different nationalities represented



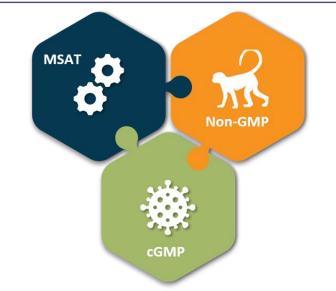


### Industry-Leading cGMP Manufacturing of AAV



# Fully Integrated Manufacturing Ecosystem

#### 120+ FTEs dedicated to best-in-class AAV manufacturing





#### cGMP Manufacturing

- Two independent viral vector production facilities
- Flexible and scalable manufacturing process; fit for commercialization; global regulatory CMC input
- Single use philosophy, closed system unit operations
- Highly flexible and scalable for clinical and commercial needs
- In-house QC hub (end 2021)
- London facility GMP certified 2018 and 2020 facility and quality management systems supports first in man clinical through commercialization
- In-house GMP plasmid production
- In-house fill and finish

#### MSAT Facility: Process Development

- Dedicated MSAT facility adjacent to London cGMP facility; process development and optimization
- Rapid vector-specific process optimization for new products: 2-5 months
- QC and potency assay development, validation and qualification for BLA supporting GMP runs
- Optimized plasmid backbones for producibility driving yield and increasing production capacity
- Vectors optimized for potency (promoters, capsids, gene sequence) may reduce dose, increase efficacy and decrease cost of goods

#### **Non-GMP Vector Core**

- Produce consistent vector batches for pre-clinical studies
- Synergize with MSAT to prepare for vector process optimization pre-tech-transfer to GMP

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# Flexible and Scalable GMP Manufacturing for Clinical & Commercial Production

### **London Facility**

#### © cGMP 29,000 sq ft

- 2 cell suites; 3 viral vector suites
- Each with independent air handling
- Single use philosophy / fully enclosed technologies
- Designed for minimal downtime and maximum flexibility
- Designed to meet MHRA, EMA and FDA regulatory requirements
- Support laboratories: Quality Control
- Adjacent MSAT (Manufacturing Science and Technology) area/pilot plant for process development and optimization
- MSAT to GMP tech transfer

#### **Ireland Facility**

#### CGMP 150,000 sq ft

- Up to 12x viral vector suites with 2x 500L bioreactor per suite (each suite with capacity for multiple 2000L or larger bioreactors)
- Flexible high capacity GMP manufacturing hub for clinical through commercial supply
- Fully scalable automated fill and finish
- Full QC laboratories for global release
- © cGMP plasmid manufacturing facility
- Extensive warehouse and Clinical supply storage
- Covered by QA to support clinical through commercial supply





# Britannia Walk Facility – London, UK





# Shannon Facility – Ireland, EU







# Shannon Facility – Ireland, EU



# **Comprehensive Preclinical Development Capabilities**



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#### Preclinical Development Centers (London – New York – Amsterdam)

Team built with a mix of academic excellence and industrial experience around: AAV engineering, vector engineering and protein engineering

#### In-vivo Platform

- Using a range of relevant animal models (rodents, lagomorphs and non-human primates) for establishing efficacy and toxicology
- IND-enabling data set generation (POC and toxicology) for monogenic and acquired disorders

#### **Organoid and iPSC Platform**

- 3D cellular models for relevant human in-vitro platforms increased relevance and architecture for complex/laminated tissues (CNS)
- Potency assay development across multiple programs

#### In-House non-GMP vector core (Amsterdam)

- Produce consistent vector batches for pre-clinical studies
- Synergize with MSAT to prepare for vector process optimization pre-tech-transfer to GMP

#### **Vectorology Toolkit**

- Promoters, Capsids, gene sequence, optimizing for increased expression and decreased immunogenicity, protein engineering, ITRs, gene regulation
- ITRs packaging efficiency (and impact on vector genome transduction and expression)
- Plasmid backbone design cap/rep organization, stuffer sequences, non-plasmid transfection agent – minicircles, doggybone, linear DNA

# Extensive Vector Engineering Toolkit

ITR

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Vector

Engineering Engine

**cDNA** 

poly A

Promoter

Enhancers

### **Gene Sequence Optimization**

- Promoter-enhancer-intron-exon configuration
- cDNA engineering/Protein Engineering vector stability, transgene size, mini genes, increase protein activity and potency

CAPSID

AAV

- Codon optimization for translational efficiency or inclusion of sequences for immune evasion
- Kozac optimization, Poly A optimization

### **Promoters**

- Bespoke promoter engineering for all vector consructs
- Large scale promoter / enhancer screening program
- Cell specificity, appropriate expression levels, potency
- Inducible promoters, eg: NFkappaB

### **Capsid Optimization**

- Capsid selection for efficacy for each indication and cell type
- Tissue tropism (not targeting) and tissue specific transduction efficiency
- Tissue specific NHP screen for capsid tropism

ITR

### Manufacturability

- ITRs packaging efficiency (and impact on vector genome transduction and expression)
- Plasmid backbone design cap/rep organization, stuffer sequences
- Alternative transfection DNA minicircles, doggybone, linear DNA

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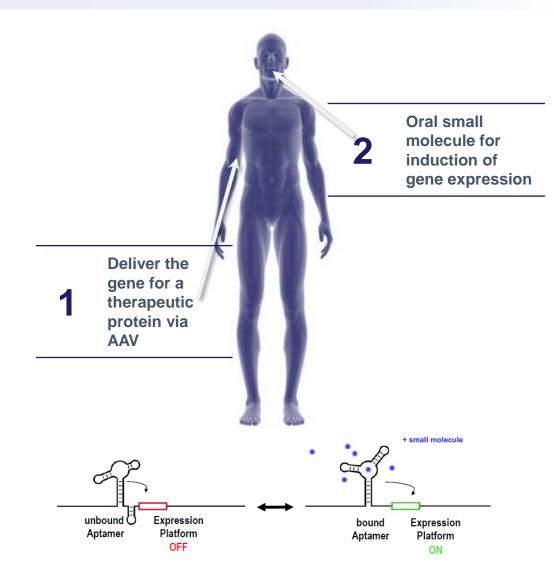
# **Gene Regulation**



### Transforming Gene Therapy with a First of its Kind Gene Regulation Platform

# Small molecule responsive switch enables control of gene expression at high dynamic ranges

- Modular switch based on rationally designed synthetic riboswitches allows activation of gene expression by small molecule inducer
- Riboswitch uses RNA shape does not regulate via the promoter
- Promoter control intact allowing promoter driven specificity and potency with high expression levels and dynamic range
- Unprecedented dynamic range of more than 5,000-fold achieved
- The switch is modular multiple regulation cassettes have been designed
- Cassette can be optimized for expression level and dynamic range depending on the therapeutic need
  - Switch can be designed for a specific dosing need
  - Switch can be driven by different aptamer/small molecule pairs
  - Each gene may be driven by its own small molecule
  - Small molecule can be selected for appropriate PK and distribution for a specific gene and specific indication
- Demonstrated regulation of multiple transgenes, including antibodies, hormones, peptides, enzymes and cytokines
- Demonstrated *in-vivo* gene regulation with several transgenes, with high reproducibility



### Regulatable Gene Therapy Opens the Way to a New Class of Vectorized Biologics

#### **Controlled Expression of Vectorized Biologics**

- Activate production of biologic (e.g. antibodies, enzymes, hormones) within the patient body in response to a small molecule inducer.
- New potential targets for gene therapy, and biologics

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#### **Temporospatial Control in Difficult to Access Regions**

 Activation in sites difficult to access for biologics – e.g. Blood-Brain-Barrier crossing

#### **Better Per-Patient Dosing**

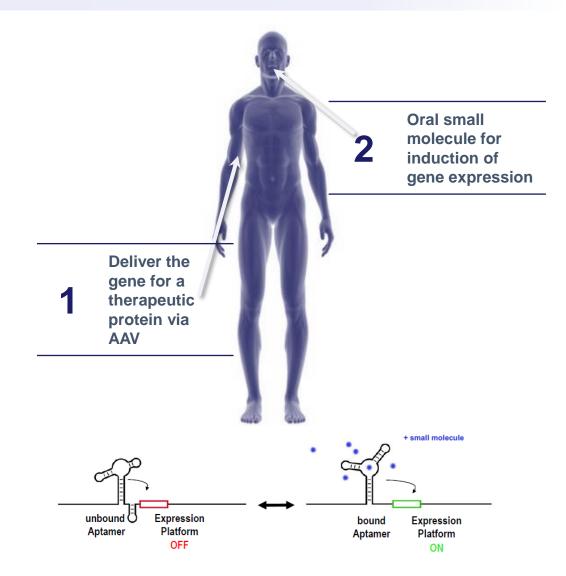
- O Potential to achieve effective dosing of hard to deliver biologic drugs
  - Short acting peptides to be dosed effectively for enhanced efficacy
  - Long lived proteins optimal dosing driven by the PK of the small molecule - enhanced efficacy

#### Potential for Improved safety

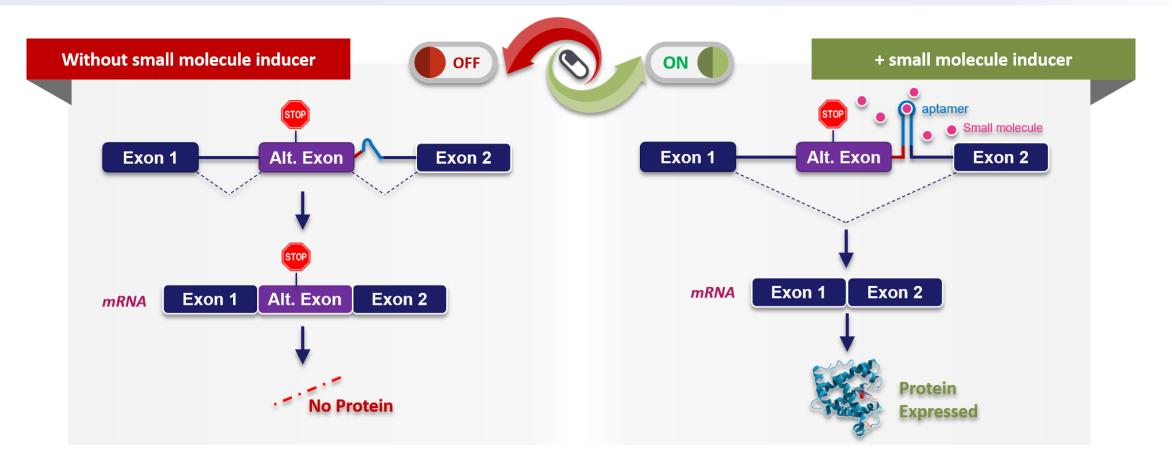
- © Tight regulation of gene expression with a default "off" state.
- Transient activation of gene expression occurs solely following administration of a small molecule with well defined PK profile.

#### New Pricing Model

Gene therapy is no longer a 1-time treatment but dosed with a small molecule over time



# Inducible Gene Expression Platform Based on Novel Synthetic Riboswitches



#### In the absence of small molecule inducer:

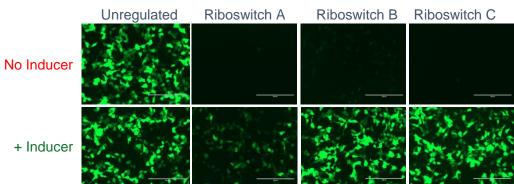
- 1) Alternative 5'ss is accessible
- 2) Stop codon-containing alternative exon is included
- 3) No protein is produced

#### In the presence of small molecule inducer:

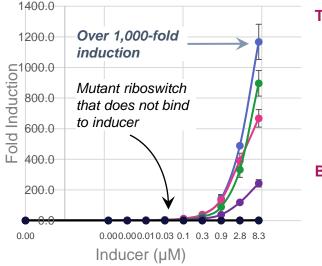
- 1) Alternative 5'ss is sequestered
- 2) Stop codon-containing alternative exon is excluded
- 3) Protein is expressed

### Inducible Gene Expression Driven by Novel Synthetic Riboswitches

#### **Development of Potent and Specific Regulatory Cassettes**







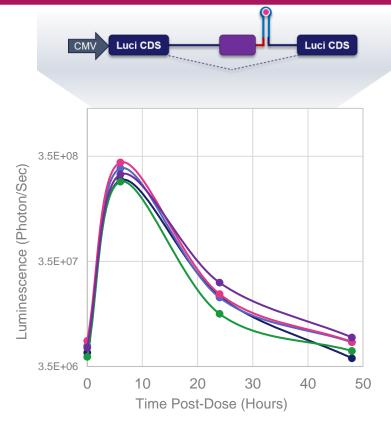
#### **Top Panel:**

- HEK 293 cells transfected with riboswitch-controlled EGFP construct
- Three different switches with Ô different dynamic ranges and total expression levels

#### **Bottom Panel:**

Evolution of novel aptamers: Ô Improvement in dynamic range as riboswitch sequences are mutated, increasing potency and specificity of small molecule binding

#### **Regulated Luciferase Expression in Mouse Liver in Response to Orally Delivered Inducer (30 mg/kg PO)**



- Mice (n=5) transduced via tail vein delivery to the liver, with Ô AAV8 encoding for riboswitch-regulated luciferase
- Reproducible robust induction of gene expression in liver in- $\bigcirc$ vivo (measured by luciferase activity) is observed in response to a single oral dose of the inducer



# **Ocular Pipeline**



# **Ophthalmology Toolkit:** Applied to Large Indications in the Eye

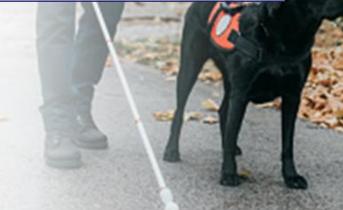
#### Vectorlogy toolkit:

#### Increase Potency

- promoter engineering enhanced potency and activity strong cell specific and ubiquitous promoters from MeiraGTx promoter discovery platform
- Regulatory elements, enhancers, introns, polyA and ITR
- Kozak and Codon optimization
- Intravitreal delivery: Capsid selection
  - Two proprietary intravitreal capsids in NHP head-to-head testing
  - Ongoing NHP directed evolution screen for capsids for different parts of the eye
- Reduced immunogenicity
  - Design elements to reduce innate immune response
  - Codon Optimization
  - Manufacturing: potential alternative to plasmid DNA linear DNA, mini-circles
  - Multiple study experience to optimize steroid regimen
- Retinal organoid technology Ο
- Suprachoroidal Delivery: In development

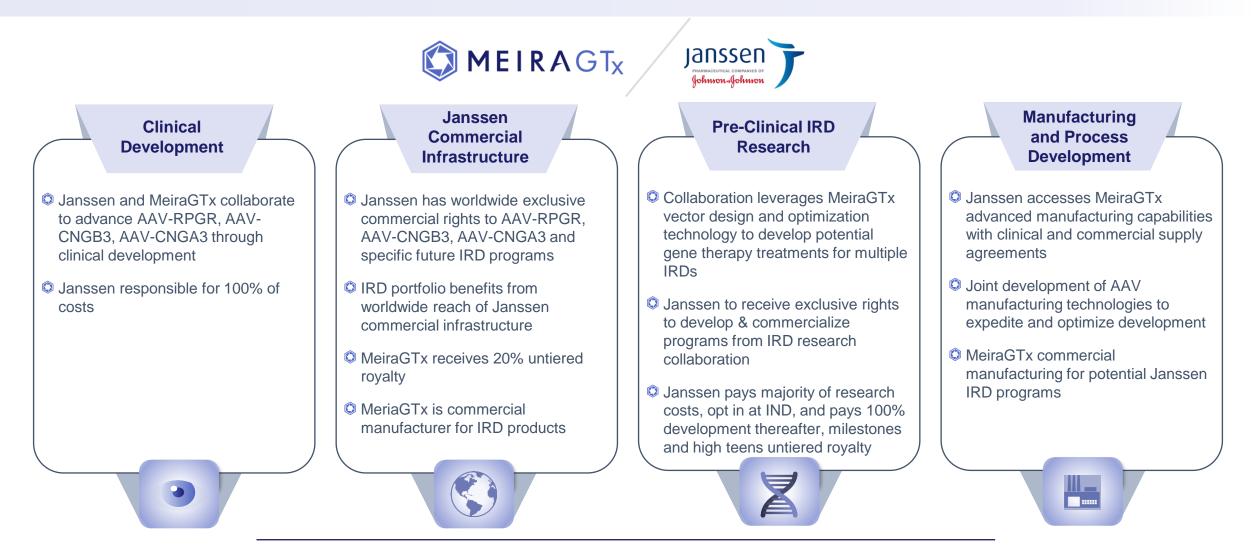
### Large ophthalmology indications in development:

- Wet AMD two novel potent mechanisms
- Dry AMD transformative rod-to-cone technology Ο
- Glaucoma Ο
- Uveitis Ο





# Strategic Collaboration with Janssen in the IRD Space



MeiraGTx retains global rights to all non-inherited ocular programs e.g., Wet AMD, Dry AMD, Glaucoma, Uveitis

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# Inherited Retinal Disease (IRD) Strategy

### **Portfolio Approach to IRDs**

- In the US, 200,000–300,000 people affected by an IRD, which projects a worldwide prevalence estimate of 4.5–6.8 million people that may be caused by one of 270 or more different genes<sup>1</sup>
- Synergies in clinical, regulatory, assay development, manufacturing, and commercialization

#### **Optimized Vector for each Indication**

Each with the best selected capsid, cell specific promoter expressing at appropriate level for the molecular profile of the disease

### **Natural History studies**

- Large prospectively designed natural history study for each clinical indication with 2-5 years of data on each patient
- Rapid enrollment; Well validated endpoints for each disease
- Well characterized patients appropriate for treatment and potential signals of activity

<sup>1</sup>Mansfield BC, Yerxa BR,Branham KH. Implementation of a registry and open access genetic testing program for inherited retinal diseases within a non-profit foundation. Am J Med Genet Part C. 2020;e31825.

# Strong Relationships with Ophthalmology Partners and Centers of Excellence:

- UCL Institute of Ophthalmology One of the world's leading research institutes pioneering ophthalmology gene therapy
- Moorfields Eye Hospital

Provides access to the world's largest catchment of patients with inherited retinal diseases, well characterized patients, prospective Natural History studies

- US footprint through links with University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center, Massachusetts Eye and Ear (MEEI), Casey Eye Institute and other leading centers globally
- Partnership with Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)
- Global expertise in imaging and validated endpoints in each of our target diseases



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# AAV-RPGR: Gene Therapy for XLRP

#### **Disease Overview**

#### **Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP)**

- Group of IRDs which represents the most common genetic cause of blindness
- X-linked RP is the most severe form of RP and accounts for 10-15% of RP patients

#### **Disease progression**

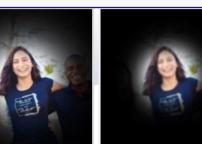
- Loss of night vision
- Progressing into tunnel vision
- Blindness in 4th decade

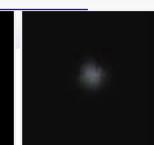
#### Prevalence

- ~1/40,000
- Total patients in US, EU5, Japan: ~20,000

### Patient Experience:







### **Product: AAV-RPGR | Stage: Clinical**

Developed to deliver stable gene sequence to rod and cone photoreceptors, driving expression of functional RPGR protein, resulting in rescue of photoreceptor function and consequently improving vision

#### **Optimized RPGR ORF15 transgene**

Selective deletion in highly repetitive purine-rich region of RPGR ORF15 stabilizes the transgene resulting in expression of functional protein with correct photoreceptor localization

#### AAV5 capsid

Efficiently delivers vector genome to both rods and cones

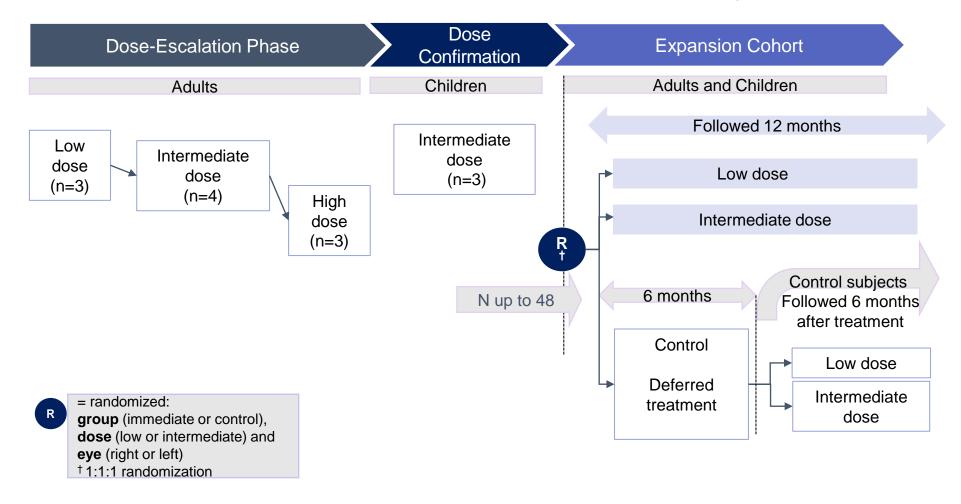
#### Human rhodopsin kinase promoter (hRKp)

Photoreceptor-specific promoter restricts expression of transgene to photoreceptor cells

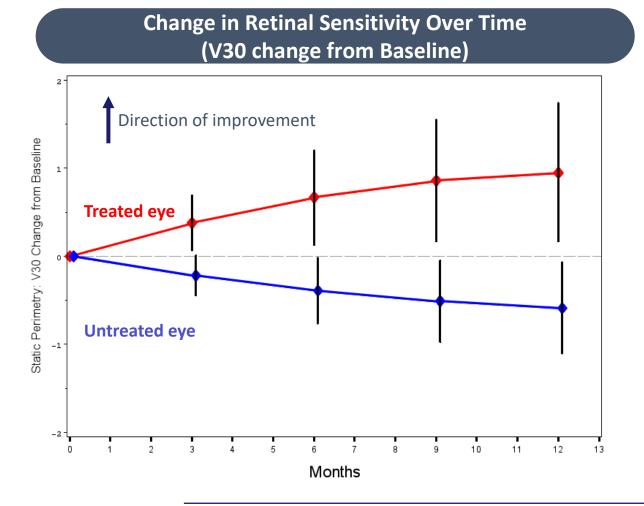


# AAV-RPGR Phase 1/2 Trial: Dose Escalation and Randomized Expansion

Multicenter open-label Phase 1/2 trial of an AAV5-RPGR gene therapy (NCT03252847) conducted at 5 sites across the United States and United Kingdom



# Statistically Significant Improvement in Retinal Sensitivity in Low and Intermediate Dose Cohorts (n=6)



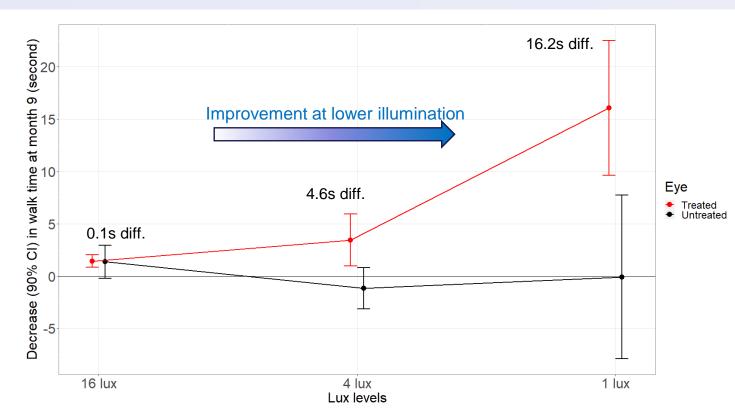
### Change in Retinal Sensitivity @ 12 months (treated – untreated eye)

Mean Retinal Sensitivity (dB)	Treated-Untreated Eye Difference @ 12 months (90% CI adjusted for baseline)	
Low	0.76 (–0.14, 1.66)	
Intermediate	1.05 (0.81, 1.29)*	
High	–1.05 (–1.77, 0.06)	
Central 30° Hill-of Vision (V30, dB-sr/y)	Treated-Untreated Eye Difference @ 12 months (90% Cl adjusted for baseline)	
Low	1.10 (0.10, 2.10)*	
Intermediate	1.26 (0.65, 1.86)*	
High	-0.89 (-1.70, -0.01)	

Response was treated-untreated eye adjusted for baseline (double-delta). \*Statistically significant effects at a one-sided 5% level. Excludes one subject with panuveitis in the low dose.

Significant improvement in retinal sensitivity sustained 12 months after treatment

# Significant Improvement in Vision-Guided Mobility Compared to Baseline (Low and Intermediate Dose, n=6)



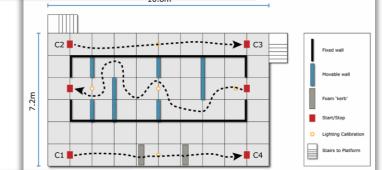
VMA endpoint	Low Dose (n=2)*	Intermediate Dose (n=4)
Number of subjects improving at 1, 4 or 16 lux (treated – untreated < 0 sec)	2/2	3/4
*Eveludes and evide convertisis in the low does		

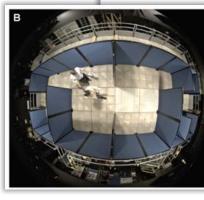
\*Excludes one subject with panuveitis in the low dose.

Maze assessments were not conducted in the high dose cohort at the 9 month timepoint.

\*Maze assessment shown at 9-month time point; maze assessment not conducted at 12 months.







To view the maze assessment please click <u>here</u>

### Summary: 12-Month Dose Escalation Data from Ongoing Phase 1/2 Study of AAV-RPGR in Patients with XLRP

### Significant vision improvement sustained 12 months after treatment

- Meaningful improvement from baseline in retinal sensitivity across multiple metrics and modalities in low and intermediate dose cohorts
- Meaningful improvement from baseline in vision-guided mobility in low and intermediate dose cohorts (mobility testing undertaken at 9-month timepoint)
- Statistically significant improvements from baseline compared to untreated eyes in low and intermediate dose cohorts

### AAV-RPGR was generally well tolerated, with a favorable safety profile

• Most AEs were ocular, anticipated due to the surgical procedure, transient and resolved without intervention

Data support advancing AAV-RPGR into Phase 3 clinical trial

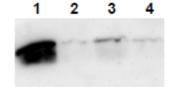


### AAV-RPE65: Optimized Viral Vector for the Treatment of LCA2

#### **Optimization Details**

- AAV5 capsid selected over AAV2 capsid → 4x transfection efficiency of human RPE cells
- RPE cell-specific promoter optimization → 20x protein expression in the RPE cells
- Optimized transgene sequence → 7x protein expression in human cells through <u>codon-optimization</u> and an <u>optimized Kozak</u> sequence
- SV40 intron sequences regulatory sequences to improve RNA processing → 2.5x increased mRNA stability

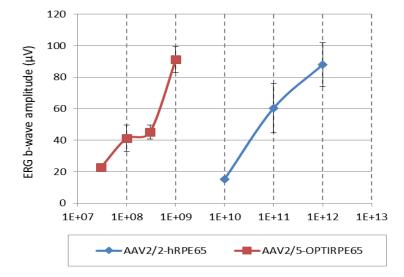
### NA65p INL ONL RPE RPE65p INL ONL RPE



1: AAV. RPE65OPT.GFP 2: AAV. RPE65OPT.GFP (1:20 dilution) 3: AAV.BGL65p.GFP (alt promoter fragment) 4: AAV.hRPE65.GFP

#### **Head-to-Head Comparison**

- Head-to-head comparison in-vivo of AAV2/5-OPTIRPE65 and AAV2/2-hRPE65, the first generation used in the clinical trial
- After subretinal injection into RPE65-deficient mice, AAV2/5-OPTIRPE65 can restore retinal function at 300-1000 fold lower doses than first generation clinical vector AAV2/2-hRPE65



# Summary of Topline Data from Phase 1/2 Trial of AAV-RPE65

AAV-RPE65 STUDY	<ul> <li>15 patients treated</li> <li>9 young adults (16-24) across three dose escalation cohorts</li> <li>6 children (5-12) in a pediatric expansion cohort</li> </ul>	
PRIMARY ENDPOINT: SAFETY	<ul> <li>AAV-RPE65 was generally well-tolerated after six months of follow up</li> <li>AAV-RPE65 safety profile consistent with other approved and investigational ocular gene therapies</li> <li>Subretinal injection targeting the central retina, including the fovea, was demonstrated to be well tolerated</li> </ul>	
SECONDARY ENDPOINTS	<ul> <li>Mobility testing*         <ul> <li>Statistically significant improvement in the time taken to navigate a visually-guided mobility maze was demonstrated across the full spectrum of light levels tested</li> </ul> </li> <li>Retinal Sensitivity**         <ul> <li>Statistically significant improvement in retinal sensitivity at six months compared to baseline (Octopus 900 full-field static perimetry)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Visual Acuity**         <ul> <li>Statistically significant improvement in the ETDRS letter score from baseline to six months</li> <li>Contrast Sensitivity**             <ul> <li>Statistically significant improvement in contrast sensitivity from baseline to six months (Pelli-Robson assessment)</li> </ul> </li> </ul></li></ul>	

\*Statistical significance demonstrated across entire study (cohort 1, cohort 2, cohort 3, pediatric expansion cohort) \*\*Statistical significance demonstrated in subset of adults and children treated at 1x10<sup>11</sup> (cohort 1, pediatric expansion cohort)

### Data support initiation of pivotal trial (2H 2021)

### AAV-CNGB3 & AAV-CNGA3 for the Treatment of Achromatopsia

#### **Disease Overview**

#### Achromatopsia (ACHM) Retinal defect:

- Complete absence of cone photoreceptor function from birth **Disease characterization:**
- Very poor visual acuity from birth (typically 20/200)
- Photophobia (disabling aversion to light)

#### **Prevalence and genes**

- Overall ACHM prevalence is around 1/30,000 in US
- Total patients in US, EU5 and Japan:~24,000
- CNGB3 (~50% of cases), CNGA3 (~40% of cases)
   Natural history study ongoing:
- >90 patients well characterized



### Product: AAV-CNGB3/CNGA3 | Stage: Clinical

#### **Ongoing Clinical Trials:**

#### Phase 1/2 trial of AAV-CNGB3

- Dosing completed, follow up ongoing
- 23 patients treated (11 adults, 12 children)

#### Phase 1/2 trial of AAV-CNGA3

- Dose completed Q1/2021
- 11 patients treated (2 adults, 9 children)

### Update on further clinical studies for AAV-CNGA3 and AAV-CNGB3 in 2H 2021





# **Salivary Gland Pipeline**



### Radiation-Induced Xerostomia (RIX): Large Patient Population with High Unmet Medical Need

# Target Indication: Treatment of Xerostomia persisting >2 years after radiation therapy for head and neck cancer

- 85% of radiation-treated patients experience reduced saliva production, of whom 40% have persistent Grade 2/3 RIX<sup>1</sup> 2 or more years following treatment
- >170,000 existing patients in the US alone who are cancer free 2 or more years post-radiation treatment with Grade 2/3 RIX (orphan drug designation)<sup>2</sup>
- 58,000 new cases of head and neck cancer **per year** in the US
- 650,000 new cases of head and neck cancer worldwide<sup>3</sup>
- Serious, debilitating complications as a result of reduced saliva:
  - Dryness of mouth and lips make it difficult to eat, chew, swallow
  - Sore throat and changes in vocal quality
  - Burning present in 40% of patients with dry mouth<sup>1</sup>
  - · Unable to wear/tolerate dentures
  - Increased risk of dental cavities and tooth loss
  - Increased risk of fungal infection
  - Taste changes loss of taste or food tastes metallic/salty
- Current treatment options for this serious condition are limited

<sup>1</sup>Jensen S.B., *et al.* (2010). A systematic review of salivary gland hypofunction and xerostomia induced by cancer therapies: prevalence, severity and impact on quality of life. *Support Care Cancer.* 18(8):1039-1060.

<sup>2</sup>Cox J.D., *et al.* (1995). Toxicity criteria of the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) and the European Organization for Research and Treatment for Cancer (EORTC). *Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys.* 31(5):1341-1346.

<sup>3</sup> Bray F, Ferlay J, Soerjomataram I, et al. Global cancer statistics 2018: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries. CA Cancer J Clin 2018; 68:394.

### **Radiation-Induced Xerostomia**

### Xerostomia (Dry Mouth)

- One of the most common complications of treatment for head and neck cancer
- Progressive, irreversible, significantly impairs quality of life of potentially cured cancer patients
- Changes in quantity and quality of saliva occur, impacting lubrication, cleansing, antimicrobial effect, digestion and taste
- Often leads to severe and lasting oral issues

### **Clinical Signs and Symptoms**

- Dryness of mouth and lips make it difficult to eat, chew, swallow
- Sore throat and changes in vocal quality
- Burning present in 40% of patients with dry mouth<sup>1</sup>
- Unable to wear/tolerate dentures
- Increased risk of dental cavities and tooth loss
- Increased risk of fungal infection
- Taste changes decreased or food tastes metallic/salty





<sup>1</sup>Rouleau, Tanya S. et al, A retrospective, cohort study of the prevalence and risk factors of oral burning in patients with dry mouth Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol Endod 2011;111:720-725

# Limitations in Current Management of Xerostomia

### **Current Treatment Options**

- Over the counter mechanical and gustatory stimulants
  - Not all patients tolerate frequent gum chewing
  - May exacerbate temporomandibular disorder symptoms
- Parasympathomimetics
  - Cevimeline and Pilocarpine
  - Not well tolerated
    - Side effects flushing, upset stomach, sweating
    - Ineffective in addressing lower salivary function
- Saliva substitutes
  - Carboxymethyl cellulose and mucin
  - Short term benefit

Current options do not modify this condition or adequately address symptoms of reduced salivary output



### AAV-hAQP1 for Radiation-Induced Xerostomia (RIX)

### **Strategy for Repair**

- Water-impermeable duct cells generate an osmotic gradient (lumen > interstitium)
- Introduction of non polarized human aquaporin 1 gene (hAQP1) into remaining salivary gland cells via viral vector, making cells permeable to water
- Allows water to flow into the salivary duct and out to moisten the mouth

### Salivary gland as target for gene therapy

- Non-invasive: allows local administration and avoids systemic exposure
- Isolated and encapsulated
- Small volume of vector
- Additional Indications: Sjogren's Syndrome (dry mouth and dry eye), Dry Eye





Multi-center Phase 1 Trial AQUAx (NCT04043104)

- Dose escalation ongoing
- 5 Centers (4 US + 1 Canada)



#### Phase 1 trial at NIH (NCT02446249)

Dose escalation ongoing



### NIH Study: Phase 1 Dose Escalation of AAV-hAQP1

### **Study Design**

Open label, dose escalation study of a single administration of AAV2hAQP1 to one parotid gland in subjects with IR-induced parotid salivary hypofunction

### Target Enrollment: up to 27 subjects

- Five dose cohorts with minimum of 3 subjects per cohort
- Up to 12 subjects at Maximum Tolerated Dose (MTD)
- Last subject targeted to be treated by June 2022
- All subjects to be followed for 3 years post treatment

### Study Status:

- Completed treatment of first 3 cohorts (N = 9 subjects)
- Two patients treated in Cohort 4 (2020)
- All subjects have tolerated the vector well with no dose limiting toxicity, drug-related SAEs or concerning pattern of AEs observed
- COVID-19-associated hold on new enrollment has been lifted
- Tele-visits continue for active subjects

### Study Endpoints:

#### Primary

 Safety of a single dose of AAV2hAQP1 administered to one parotid gland in adults with IR-induced parotid gland hypofunction

### Secondary

- Effectiveness of AAV2hAQP1 to increase parotid gland salivary flow
- Subjective improvement as measured by questionnaires

Dose Cohort	Dose (in VP/Gland)	
1	1 x 10 <sup>10</sup>	N
2	3 x 10 <sup>10</sup>	
3	1 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	Natio
4	3 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	
5	6 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	



National Institutes of Health

### AQUAx: Phase 1 Study Design

### **Study Design**

 Open label, multi-center, dose escalation study of a single administration of AAV-hAQP1 to one parotid gland in patients with radiation-induced parotid salivary hypofunction and xerostomia

#### Target Enrollment: Up to 30 subjects

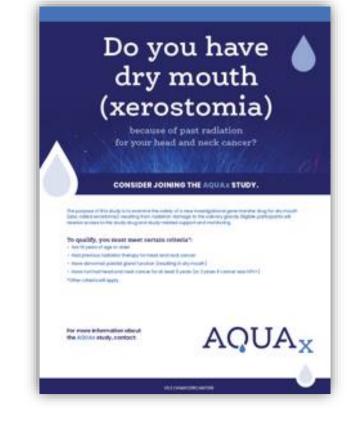
- Four dose cohorts with minimum of 3 subjects per cohort
- May treat up to 9 subjects in dose expansion cohorts
- 5 centers (4 in US, 1 in Canada)
- All subjects to be followed for 1-year post-treatment

### **Primary Endpoint**

• Safety

### **Secondary Endpoints**

- Patient reported measures of xerostomia symptoms
- Unstimulated and stimulated salivary volume



### Phase 1 AQUAx Study

#### Study Status

- 2 centers currently open for enrollment
- All 5 centers to be open during 1H 2021
- Cohort 2 recruitment ongoing

#### AQUAx 1st patient cohort (n=3)

### Administration of AAV-hAQP1:

- Non-invasive procedure
- Easy to perform
- Well tolerated by patients

#### Interim Data from AQUAx Cohort 1 (n=3)

- Treatment was well tolerated
- No serious adverse events or DLTs
- Improvements in patient reported quality of life measures
  - Less pain
  - Less burning
  - Better sleep
  - Fewer throat symptoms
- Increase in salivary output
- Of the three patients treated in Cohort 1, one patient reached the 12-month assessment and two passed the six-month assessment
- The patient who reached 12-months saw complete resolution of symptoms



### **Neuroscience Pipeline**



### AAV-GAD Rationale: Addressing Major Unmet Needs



### Dopamine replacement therapy (L-dopa agonists) over time associated with high complication rates

- Symptomatic relief for around 5 years with reduced benefit over time
- Increased doses required over time with high rates of non-adherence and increased side effects
- Motor fluctuations, dyskinesias, cognitive/affective side effects
- 300,000 PD patients in the U.S. no longer responding adequately to oral medications

### Subthalamic Nucleus (STN) Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Effective but Limited

- Device implants limit patient uptake and have considerable hardware-related complications
- Ongoing management requires proximity to expert centers

AAV-GAD is a Unique, Disease-Modifying Therapy With Potential To Address Many Unmet Needs in Parkinson's Disease

- Local AAV-GAD delivery into the STN reverses basal ganglia dysregulation and creates new polysynaptic connections to modify brain circuitry and normalize motor function
- No residual hardware or post-surgical maintenance increases patient and caregiver acceptance
- Most advanced gene or cell therapy for PD supported by the only positive randomized, blinded trial
- Proximity of STN to substantia nigra makes AAV-GAD the only biological therapy currently in development capable of combining reversal of circuit dysfunction and dopaminergic neuroprotection in a single treatment

### AAV-GAD: Gene Therapy for Parkinson's Disease



### **Disease Overview**

#### Parkinson's Disease (PD)

- Parkinson's disease is a severe and progressive neurodegenerative disorder associated with a range of motor and non-motor symptoms.
- PD affects more than seven million people worldwide. patients suffer from a range of non-motor symptoms

### Current therapy is associated with high rates of complications over time

- Symptomatic relief for around 5 years with reduced benefit over time
- Increased doses required over time with high rates of nonadherence and increased side effects
- Motor fluctuations, dyskinesias, cognitive/affective side effects

### High unmet medical need

• 300,000 PD patients in the U.S. no longer responding adequately to oral medications

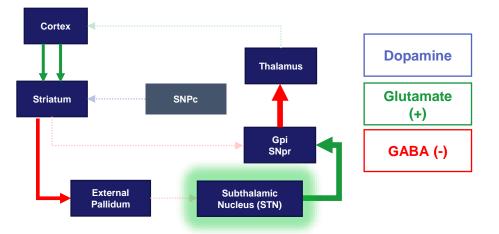
### Product: AAV-GAD | Stage: Clinical

- AAV-GAD is an investigational gene therapy designed to deliver the glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD) gene to the subthalamic nucleus in order to increase production of GABA, the primary inhibitory neurotransmitter in the human brain.
- Non-dopaminergic strategy
  - AAV-GAD potentially applicable to large patient population not adequately treated with currently available therapies
- AAV-GAD previously completed a Phase 2 study and is the <u>ONLY</u> gene or cell therapy to meet primary clinical efficacy endpoint in a randomized, blinded PD trial
  - Imaging biomarker developed which correlates with clinical outcome
  - Routine and brief surgical procedure, minimal OR time, virtually no special training, and without general anesthesia

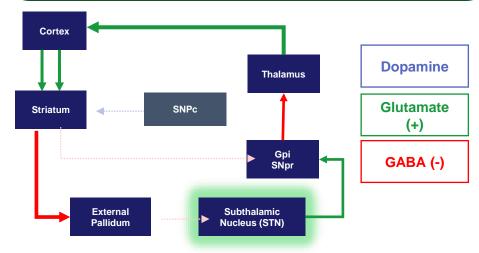
## Rationale for STN as Target for Localized AAV-GAD Treatment in Parkinson's Disease



Dysregulation of basal ganglia in PD leads to STN overactivity due to reduced GABA



### AAV-GAD gene therapy to STN rebalances basal ganglia circuitry to normalize outflow



### STN is a key structure downstream of dopamine circuitry which is overactive in PD

- Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) specifically targets STN to modulate basal ganglion circuitry output
- Direct STN infusion of muscimol, a GABA agonist, reduces motor symptoms in human PD

### AAV-GAD restores glutamate/GABA imbalance in the basal ganglia

- Normalizes STN neuronal firing
- Releases brake on the thalamus and improves motor function

### AAV-GAD Gene Therapy Approach – Local Delivery to STN

### Product

Glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD) is the rate-limiting enzyme in the synthesis of GABA

- GAD catalyzes the conversion of glutamate to GABA
- Key enzyme found in all inhibitory neurons and regulates excitability



### **Preclinical Data**

- STN AAV-GAD improves motor function and normalizes motor circuits in rodent and primate PD models<sup>1,2</sup>
- Extensive preclinical rodent and primate efficacy, safety and toxicology package supports translation into human subjects



1. Luo J. Subthalamic GAD Gene Therapy in a Parkinson's Disease Rat Model. Science. 2002; 298:425-429

Emborg ME. Subthalamic glutamic acid decarboxylase gene therapy: changes in motor function and cortical metabolism. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab. 2007; 27:501-509

### Phase 1 Study of AAV-GAD STN Gene Therapy



- **Study design**: dose escalation study of unilateral STN AAV-GAD delivery in 12 patients (3 cohorts of 4 subjects each)
- Safety findings:
  - Unilateral STN AAV-GAD was safe and well tolerated
  - No evidence of induction immune response or effect on outcome of pre-immunity in two patients
- Efficacy findings:
  - Significant improvement in both "off" and "on" UPDRS largely limited to hemibody opposite treated hemisphere
  - Effects seen starting at 3 months (trend at 1 month) and stable to one year
  - No decline in neuropsych scores or other non-motor parameters
  - Functional imaging demonstrated significant improvement in abnormal circuitry function specific only to treated hemispheres

### Safety & efficacy findings together supported entry into Phase 2

### Phase 2 Study of AAV-GAD STN Gene Therapy



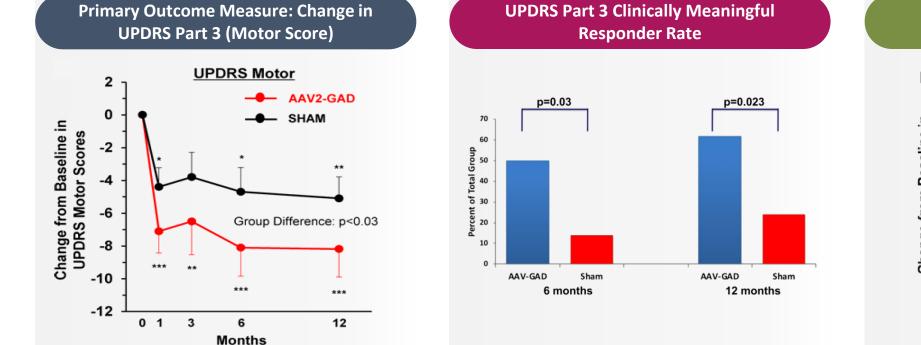
- Study Design: Randomized (n=45,1:1) double-blind study of bilateral STN AAV-GAD vs. Sham surgery
- Efficacy findings:
  - Met primary endpoint: Per protocol group showed significantly greater improvement in off-medication UPDRS part 3 for AAV-GAD subjects compared with sham
  - Positive secondary endpoints for AAV-GAD included greater responder rate at 6 and 12 months
- Safety findings:
  - No adverse effects related to AAV-GAD across all time points
  - Worsening PD as an adverse event in 35% of sham vs. 0% GAD further supports efficacy
- Functional imaging with same findings as phase 1 and new biomarker specific to AAV-GAD treated subjects, which significantly correlated with clinical outcome

### AAV-GAD is the only gene or cell therapy to meet a primary clinical efficacy endpoint in a randomized, blinded multi-center PD trial

Niethammer M. Long-term follow-up of a randomized AAV2-GAD gene therapy trial for Parkinson's disease. JCI Insight. 2017; 2(7):e90133

### Results from Sham-Controlled Phase 2 Study: Meaningful Improvements in Clinical Outcomes Following Treatment with AAV-GAD





в **Duration of LID** 1.0 Change from Baseline in 0.5 Duration of LID 0.0 Interaction: p<0.02 -0.5 -1.0 12 0 1 3 6 Months

**Reduction in dyskinesia duration** 

- Greater improvements in motor scores observed in the AAV-GAD treatment group across all follow-up time points
- Met primary outcome measure: UPDRS 3 improvement vs. sham at 6 months
- Clinically meaningful response, with >9 point reduction in UPDRS Part 3 "off" scores
- Well above moderate clinically important difference (4.5-6.7 points) and close to large clinically important difference (10.7-10.8 points)
- Increase in overall ON time w/o dyskinesias and reduction in dyskinesia duration

Niethammer M. Long-term follow-up of a randomized AAV2-GAD gene therapy trial for Parkinson's disease. JCI Insight. 2017; 2(7):e90133

### Development of an Objective FDG-PET Biomarker: GADRP



#### FDG-PET can be utilized to evaluate brain physiology in multiple ways

•

- Measure changes in specific brain regions of interest
- Determine interactions between brain regions during disease progression
- Determine interactions between brain regions as a biomarker of response to therapy

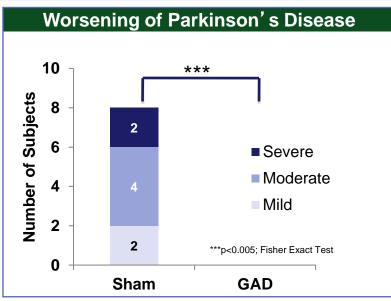


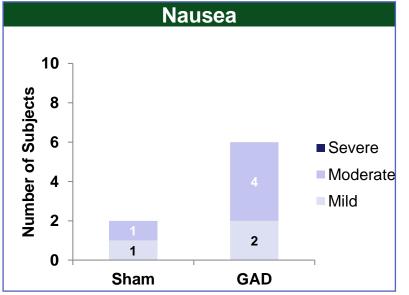
#### Functional Imaging – GAD Related Pattern (GADRP)

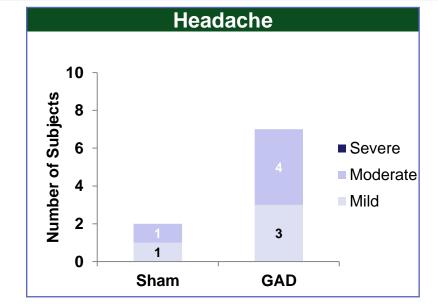
- Subjects that respond to AAV-GAD have a unique FDG-PET imaging pattern (GAD related pattern, GADRP)
- GADRP reflects corrective changes is polysynaptic brain circuitry in response to AAV-GAD treatment
- Statistically significant correlation between UPDRS motor ratings and GADRP expression (p< 0.009)
- GADRP expression correlates with UPDRS response only in AAV-GAD treated subjects and does
   not develop in Sham responders
- The GADRP is a unique imaging biomarker that objectively distinguishes AAV-GAD treatment-driven responses from placebo responses in Sham subjects
- AAV-GAD is the first gene or cell therapy for PD to have an objective imaging biomarker of treatment effect that is significant relative to sham surgery patients and correlates with clinical improvement

## Adverse Events Over 12 Months (20% or Greater Frequency)









Serious Adverse Events* (Number of Subjects)		
	Sham	GAD
Intestinal obstruction		1
Accidental drug overdose		1
Prostatitis		1
Delusion, Hallucination Parkinson's Disease worse	1	

\*All SAEs occurred 4-12 months post-surgery and all resolved

### Summary of Key AAV-GAD Features

### **E**

#### • AAV-GAD is the only gene or cell therapy:

- To meet primary clinical efficacy endpoint in a randomized, blinded multi-center PD trial
- With an imaging biomarker supporting efficacy which correlates with clinical outcome
- With a routine and brief surgical procedure that requires minimal OR time, virtually no special training, no general anesthesia
- Improvement in off-medication clinical ratings, ON time without dyskinesia and complications of medical therapy without declines in neuropsychological function or speech
- Consistency in clinical outcomes and imaging from phase 1 to phase 2
- AAV-GAD could be accessible to more patients than current standard of care
  - Absence of retained hardware
  - No need for specialized post-op care
- Non-dopaminergic strategy
  - AAV-GAD potentially applicable to large patient population not adequately treated with currently available therapies

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## AAV-UPF1: A Novel Gene Therapy Approach for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)



### **Disease Overview**

#### **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)**

- ALS is a neurodegenerative disease affecting motor neurons resulting in progressive paralysis and death usually within 5 years of diagnosis.
- 90% of ALS is sporadic (sALS), whereas only 10% of ALS cases are inherited, familial ALS (fALS).
- In the vast majority (>95%) of ALS patients, both fALS and sALS, cytoplasmic mis-localization and aggregation of the proteins TDP43 or FUS can be detected.

### **Rationale for targeting UPF1**

- UPF1 was identified in a yeast Gain of Function screen that looked for genes that rescue TDP43 and FUS toxic phenotype.
- UPF1 is a key regulator of the Nonsense Mediated Decay (NMD) pathway, which plays a major role in RNA metabolism and is dysregulated in ALS.
- A role of UPF1 in ALS was validated in multiple preclinical models

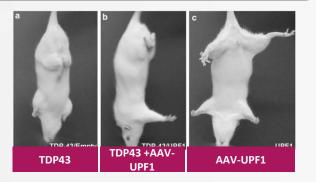
### **Product: AAV-UPF1 | Stage: Preclinical**

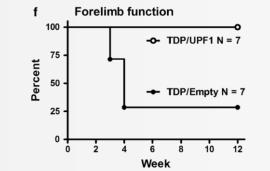
- MeiraGTx is preclinically developing AAV-UPF1, an investigational gene therapy designed to target the underlying cellular defect driving the disease.
- Potential to address both familial and sporadic forms of the disease, may be genotype agnostic, and may have an effect in both ALS and FTD.
- AAV-UPF1 is able to ameliorate ALS disease phenotype in a variety of preclinical models caused by different genotypes:
  - Administration of AAV-UPF1 reduces motor neuron death and gliosis driven by the toxic effects of several different genetic causes of ALS including, TDP43, FUS and C9orf72
  - Improvements in ALS-like symptoms related to limb strength and mobility in rodent models

### Preclinical Data Demonstrates the Therapeutic Potential of AAV-UPF1 in a Variety of ALS Models



#### AAV-UPF1 Protects Rats from Forelimb Impairments Induced by TDP43



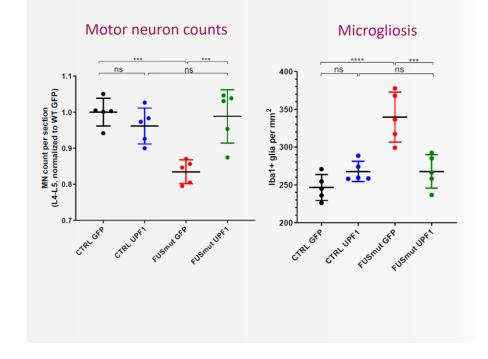


#### Top:

- TDP43 rats exhibit clasping of both hindlimbs and forelimbs in the escape reflex test.
- Co-injection of AAV-hUPF1 and AAV-TDP43
   shows normal forelimb extension

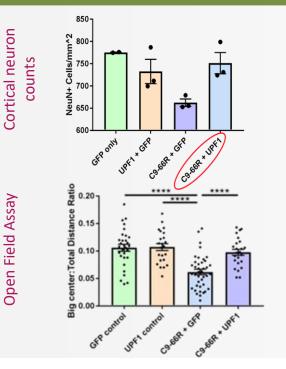
#### Bottom:

 AAV-UPF1 restores forelimb function as assessed by the escape reflex test AAV-UPF1 Rescues Motor Neuron Degeneration in a Conditional FUS Mouse Model



 AAV-hUPF1 prevents motor neuron loss (left) and microgliosis (right) in a FUS conditional mouse model

#### AAV-UPF1 Rescues Neuronal Loss & Motor Deficits in C9orf72 Mouse Model



#### Top:

 AAV-UPF1 rescues cortical neuron loss in a mouse C9orf72 model

#### Bottom:

 Motor deficits improved with UPF1 expression by AAV-UPF1

Jackson et al. (2015): Preservation of forelimb function by UPF1 gene therapy in a rat model of TDP-43-induced motor paralysis

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### Advancing the Next Generation of Gene Therapies



#### **Diverse Pipeline**

### 6 ONGOING CLINICAL PROGRAMS:

- Inherited retinal diseases
- Salivary gland hypofunction
- Parkinson's disease

#### DEEP PIPELINE OF PRE-CLINICAL PROGRAMS

- Wet AMD / DME
- Glaucoma, Uveitis
- Multiple additional IRDs
- Sjogren's, Dry Eye
- ALS



Core Viral Vector Engineering Capabilities

### VIRAL VECTOR DESIGN PLATFORM:

- Synthetic promoter design and screening platforms
- Novel capsids
- Cassette optimization: transgene engineering, sequence optimization, ITR and plasmid backbone optimization, immunogenicity
- Organoids / iPSC preclinical platforms

In-house GMP Manufacturing & Process Development

#### FULL END TO END MANUFACTURING INFRASTRUCTURE:

- cGMP facilities: Scalable and Flexible
- Capacity for clinical through commercial supply for all programs
- QA and QC to support first in man through commercialization
- Fill and Finish
- Process Development facility; proprietary Process
   Development platform
- Non GMP vector core for preclinical supply
- GMP plasmid production facility



Inducible Gene Regulation Platform

#### PROPRIETARY GENE REGULATION PLATFORM:

- Riboswitch technology allows control of gene expression with a high dynamic range
- Gene expression is turned on/off with proprietary small molecules

POTENTIAL TO REGULATE ANY GENE: Antibodies, hormones, cytokines, within BBB



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