





USC Mann Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science

# **REGISTER NOW!**

### **Regulatory Science Symposium**

### Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products

### Friday, October 20, 2023 | 9AM - 4:30 PM PST | Online via Zoom

#### Agenda

9:00 AM PDT	Introduction
	Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD
	USC Mann, SC-CTSI I Chair & Associate Professor, Dept. of Reg. & Quality Sciences
	Associate Director, DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science
9:30 AM PDT	Regulatory Aspects of Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine
	Nancy Pire-Smerkanich, DRSc
	USC Mann Assistant Professor, Dept. of Reg. & Quality Sciences
10:30 AM PDT	Break
10:45 AM PDT	Translational Approach and Use of Stem Cells for Arthritis and Cartilage Restoration
	Denis Evseenko, MD, PhD Vice Chair for Research, J. Harold and Edna La Briola Endowed Chair   Professor of
	Orthopaedic Surgery   Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Keck School of
	Medicine, USC
12:00 PM PDT	Lunch
1:00 PM PDT	Cell Therapy Manufacturing
	Mohamed Abou-El-Enein, MD, PhD, MSPH
	Associate Professor of Medicine (Clinical Scholar), Pediatrics, and Stem Cell Biology &
	Regenerative Medicine   Executive Director, Joint USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program
2:00 PM PDT	The Marriage of Ophthalmology and Bioengineering
	Mark Humayun, MD, PhD
	Director, Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics   Co-Director USC Roski Eye Institute   Director of Sensory Science Initiatives
2.00 PM PDT	
3:00 PM PDT	Break
3:15 PM PDT	Target Identification for Gene Therapy
	Robert Pacifici, PhD
	Chief Scientific Officer, CHDI, Inc.
4:15 PM PDT	Wrap-Up
	Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD

### Fall 2023 Regulatory Science Symposium Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products Speaker Bios

### Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD

Chair and Associate Professor of Regulatory and Quality Sciences

Associate Director, D. K. Kim International Center for Regulatory Science

Phone: (323) 442-1975

Email: epacific@usc.edu



#### Biography

Dr. Eunjoo Pacifici received her BS in Biochemistry from University of California at Los Angeles followed by PharmD and PhD in Toxicology from University of Southern California. She conducted her graduate research in the laboratory of Dr. Alex Sevanian in the Institute for Toxicology at USC where she studied the mechanism of oxidative damage and repair in endothelial cell membrane. After receiving her graduate degrees, Dr. Pacifici worked at Amgen and gained experience in conducting clinical research with special focus on Asia Pacific and Latin America region. She initially worked in the clinical development group managing U.S. investigational sites and central laboratories and then went on to work in the Asia Pacific/ Latin America group interfacing with local clinical and regulatory staff in Japan, People's Republic of China, Taiwan, and Mexico. She represented regional clinical and regulatory views on the rapeutic product development teams and led satellite task forces in order to align local efforts with U.S. activities. Her additional professional experiences include community pharmacy practice in various settings and clinical pharmacy practice at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan in Los Angeles. Dr. Pacifici currently serves as the Chair and Associate Professor of the Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences and Associate Director of DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science at University of Southern California working to provide the next generation of regulatory scientists with knowledge, tools, and skills to expedite the development of innovative, safe, and effective biomedical products.

### Nancy Pire-Smerkanich, DRSc, MS

Assistant Professor of Regulatory and Quality Sciences

Associate Director, Regulatory Knowledge and Support

Phone: (323) 442-4822

Email: piresmer@usc.edu



### Biography

Dr. Nancy Pire-Smerkanich received her faculty appointment after successfully completing her Doctoral Dissertation on "Benefits Risk Frameworks – Implementation in Industry" in 2015. In addition to teaching in courses related to drug development and clinical trials, she continues to provide regulatory guidance to industry peers. Nancy brings many years of practical regulatory knowledge and experience to academia where she participated in all regulatory aspects of product development, having served as Regulatory Liaison, US Agent, and Global Regulatory Lead across all therapeutic areas. Known for her dedication to education and mentoring across industry, Nancy continues to be recognized for her ability to provide accurate, relevant and dynamic instruction on both the technical and strategic aspects of global regulatory affairs and for her service to professional organizations such as the Drug Information Association (DIA) and The Organization for Professionals in Regulatory Affairs (TOPRA).

### Mohamed Abou-el-Enein, MD, PhD, MSPH

Associate Professor of Medicine (Clinical Scholar), Pediatrics, and Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine

Executive Director, Joint USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program



Email: Mohamed.Abouelenein@med.usc.edu

#### Biography

Dr. Abou-el-Enein is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine (Oncology), Pediatrics, and Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine at USC Keck School of Medicine and serves as the Executive Director of the Joint USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program. He is also a member of the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

He is also the Director of the cGMP Core facility at CHLA and the new unit at USC. Dr. Abou-el-Enein is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in planning and executing clinical development programs, designing and operating academic GMP facilities, and in translating cell and gene therapy products from preclinical stage to clinical applications. He has over 11 years of experience in clinical research and regulatory affairs and has successfully brought several cell-based therapies to early phase clinical trials.

Dr. Abou-el-Enein obtained his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBCh) degree from Mansoura University in Egypt in 2005. In 2014, he completed a Masters of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technologies from the University of Strasburg in France, a Clinical Research Diploma from Harvard Medical School, and a PhD in the Economics of Manufacturing Clinical-Grade Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products from Charité Medical University in Berlin. He obtained an MPH from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a Master in Manufacturing of Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products from the University of Granada in Spain in 2020.

Abou-el-Enein served as Head of the Clinical Development Platform and Head of Translational Research Unit at the BIH Center for Regenerative Therapies and Berlin Center for Advanced Therapies, respectively, both at the Charité Medical University in Berlin. Abou-el- Enein is one of the inaugural Lawrence Goldstein Policy Fellows of the ISSCR, associate Editor-in- Chief of Molecular Therapy – Methods and Clinical Development, served as regional secretary of the International Society of cell and gene therapy as well as on several other organizations and committees. He has been recognized with multiple honors and awards, including the Max-Rubner Prize for Innovation and the Global Eisenhower Fellowship. His publications reflect global leadership in translational development of cell and gene therapy products in toptier journals such as Cell Stem Cell, BMJ, Lancet Oncology, Molecular Therapy, Nature Biotechnology, Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology

Dr. Abou-el-Enein is a strong advocate for equitable access to safe and effective medical innovations. He is committed to addressing the risk associated with the global rise of clinics marketing unproven stem cell interventions.

### Mark S. Humayun, MD, PhD

Professor of Ophthalmology

Cornelius J. Pings Chair in Biomedical Sciences

Director, USC Ginsberg Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics

Co-Director USC Roski Eye Institute

Email: humayun@usc.edu

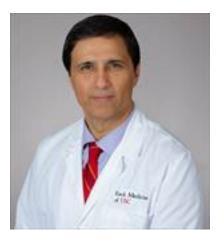
#### Biography

Dr. Mark S. Humayun is an ophthalmologist, engineer, scientist and inventor and the only ophthalmologist ever to be elected a member of both U.S. National Academies of Medicine and Engineering. He is a university professor with joint appointments at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering.

U.S. President Barack Obama named Dr. Humayun a recipient of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation in December 2015. The award recognizes "those who have made lasting contributions to America's competitiveness and quality of life and helped strengthen the Nation's technological workforce."

Dr. Humayun co-invented the Argus Series retina implants, which are manufactured by Second Sight, and are intended to restore sight to the blind. The Argus Series implants were named by Time Magazine among the top 10 inventions of 2013.

He has more than 125 issued patents, and is a member of the National Academy of Inventors.



### Denis Evseenko

Vice Chair for Research, J. Harold and Edna La Briola Endowed Chair

Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Keck School of Medicine, USC

#### Email: evseenko@usc.edu

#### Biography

Dr. Denis Evseenko is currently a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine at USC. Dr Evseenko was trained in both medicine and molecular pharmacology. His research focuses on the development of novel translational stem cell and small molecule-based approaches for prevention of arthritis and restoration of damaged articular cartilage. Dr. Evseenko has been involved in translational research for over 10 years and is the author of numerous peer-reviewed research articles, presentations and patents.

### **Robert Pacifici, PhD**

Chief Scientific Officer, CHDI Foundation

Email: robert.pacifici@chdifoundation.org

#### Biography

Dr. Robert Pacifici is the Chief Scientific Officer of CHDI Foundation, a private, not-for-profit research organization that works with an international network of scientists to



accelerate therapeutics development for Huntington's disease. Previously he was the Site Director and Chief Scientific Officer at the Research Triangle Park Laboratories of Eli Lilly and Company. There he oversaw the company's global screening and quantitative-biology efforts. Prior to joining Lilly, Pacifici was Vice President of Discovery Technologies at Xencor, a privately held biotechnology company that applied rational design principles to the development of protein therapeutics. At Amgen for nearly ten



years, Pacifici held positions of increasing responsibilities including leadership for their automation, high throughput screening, and information technologies groups.

He received a BS in Biochemistry from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Southern California.

Outside of CHDI, Robert currently participates in several external boards and advisory committees including: An adjunct appointment at the University of Southern California's (USC) Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Toxicology; USC Board of Supervisors of the International Center for Regulatory Science; Council member for National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NIH/NINDS) from 2011 util 2014; Panel of Experts for National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at NIH, in the NIH Center for Translational Therapeutics (NCTT). This division is home to two programs that seek to advance promising therapeutic agents through late-stage preclinical development: Therapeutics for Rare and Neglected Diseases (TRND), and Bridging Interventional Development Gaps (BrIDGs); Chair, Working Group for the NINDS Anticonvulsant Screening Program; Member, Spinal Muscular Atrophy Foundation Scientific Advisory Board; Member, DART Rx, Scientific Advisory Board.

Robert has previously served on: Chair, NIH/NINDS Spinal Muscular Atrophy Project's Scientific Steering Committee; Advisor, Marigold Foundation for Myotonic Dystrophy; Advisor, Cooperative International Neuromuscular Group (CINRG) the clinical research arm of the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research Center (DMDRC) and the Center for Genetic Medicine Research at the Children's National Medical Center (CNMC); Member, Science Advisory Board for Edison Pharmaceuticals; Member, TREAT ALS Steering Committee; Member, Pathogenesis of Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy advisory board.

He also serves in the non-scientific capacity of Board Member with the Asia America Symphony Association. Robert, his wife Eunjoo, and his two children Sarina and Noah, live in Palos Verdes Estates, California. Robert is an avid amateur road-cyclist and a classic BMW enthusiast.



# **USC**Mann

Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences *DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science* 



University of Southern California • Children's Hospital Los Angeles



# **Regulatory Science Symposium: Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products**

Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD

Chair and Associate Professor, Regulatory and Quality Sciences Associate Director, DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science October 20, 2023

# Welcome, All!



HYBRID EVENT:

- In-person students (RSCI 606/MPTX 521-Emerging Technologies)
- Online Attendees from Clinical & Translational Science Consortia and Guests

Questions are welcome at the end of each presentation!

- In-person attendees please raise your hand and wait for the microphone
- Online attendees please use the "Chat" feature and your question will be read by our virtual moderator

# SC CTSI Clinical Research Support (CRS)

A single stop for accessing all services an investigator and research team needs to develop, activate, conduct, and report results for human subject research studies.



### <u>Contact</u>

Ari Padilla, MBA Program Manager, Clinical Research Support

Contact Information: <u>crs@sc-ctsi.org</u>



### Services

- Clinical research coordinators for hire
- Research navigation
- Recruitment support
- Budget preparation support



### **Clinical Trials Unit (CTU)**

- Skilled research and nursing staff
- Services to support highlycomplex human subjects research studies
- Specimen processing lab



### **Voucher Program**

 Awards up to \$3,000 to generate new data for development of clinical and/or community research projects

# **Clinical Trial Quality Training Series**

- Module 1: **Monitoring** of a Clinical Trial Site + Ch.4 Addendum Remote Monitoring
- Module 2: Auditing of a Clinical Research Site
- Module 3: Site Readiness for **FDA Inspection (Launching** 2024)

### Access this free resource:

1. Go to: http://uscregsci.remote-learner.net



- 2. Sign In/Create a new account

For new accounts, open your email and confirm

3. Select the module and click "Enroll Me"







# **Georgia CTSA and SC CTSI: Online Course Catalog**

### Earn CE credits for clinical research professionals with self-paced modules

- Registration provides unlimited access to all courses and programs in the Online Course Catalog
- Free, high quality certificate programs for clinical research professionals at novice to expert levels of experience.
- Obtain CE / contact hours can be used to meet renewal requirements for certifications, annual reviews, and advancement.
- To get started: <u>https://twd.ce.emorynursingexperience.com/</u>



# Web Portal

### In Development

- One-stop shop for regulatory resources
- Streamline translation of IITs

to treatment



UP-23-00757





# Calling all Researchers and Investigators

Help us understand your challenges in obtaining regulatory resources to advance your research



Who can participate?

- Clinical research professional
- Work in an academic institution
- <u>></u> 18 years old



Survey responses will be used in the creation of an interactive web portal.

# Find us on our website: <u>https://regulatory.usc.edu/</u>

#### COMPARTMENTS

# **Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences**

# Department of Regulatory & Quality Sciences

### **Advancing the Profession**

One of the first programs in this dynamic arena, the Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences remains a global leader in producing professionals with the knowledge and skills to manage regulated biomedical products worldwide. This rapidly growing and increasingly global field encompasses every aspect of pharmaceutical and medical device development, quality assurance and clinical trials oversight—helping shepherd life-improving and often lifesaving advances to the marketplace.













Faculty















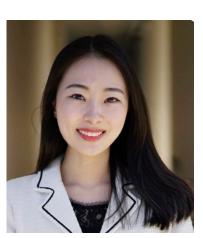




# Our staff

















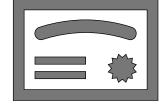


# **Degree Programs**



### Six Graduate Streams

- DRSC
- MS Regulatory Science
- MS Regulatory Management
- MS Management of Drug Development
- MS Medical Product Quality
- MS Clinical Trial Management (COMING Fall 2024)



### **<u>Certificate Programs</u>**

- Food safety
- Regulatory Science
- Early Drug Development
- Clinical Design and Management
- Patient and Product Safety



### Nancy Smerkanich DRSc, MS

Assistant Professor Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences

piresmer@usc.edu

# **MS in Clinical Trial Management**

### **MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL TRIAL MANAGEMENT**

Coming Fall 2024!

#### **Program Information**

#### **Department Contact:**

**Desirae Hernandez, MPA** Program Manager, Department of Regulatory and **Quality Sciences** Email: desiraeh@usc.edu

#### Curriculum Credits

**Required Courses** 

24

**Elective Courses** 8

Total Program Credits 32

**ISC** Mann

Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences

MS Clinical Trial Management USC Health Sciences Campus Hybrid

The Master of Science in Clinical Trial Management program equips students with the knowledge and skills required to work in various fields such as pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, healthcare, biotechnology research, and development, with a focus on clinical trial management, development, and operations.

This 32-unit program provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the biopharmaceutical industry, specifically in conducting clinical trials, using a multi-perspective approach to address real-world issues and problems that may arise in their future employment settings.

Courses will cover topics like medical product regulation; clinical trial project management; science, research, and ethics; and clinical trial writing and document writing.



Desirae Hernandez, MPA Program Manager, **Department of Regulatory** and Quality Sciences Email: desiraeh@usc.edu

# **Regulatory Science Symposiums**

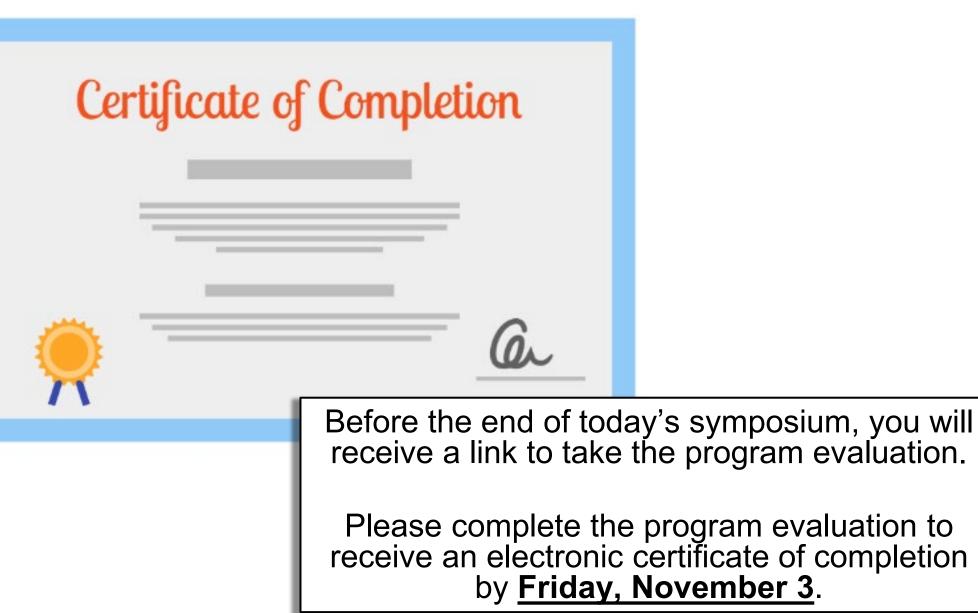
- 2015 Clinical Trial Hurdles
- o 2016 Spring Clinical Trial Startup
- o 2016 Fall Monitoring and Auditing
- o 2017 Spring Clinical Trials in Special Populations
- o 2017 Fall Clinical Trials in the Era of Emerging Technologies and Treatments
- 2018 Spring Regulatory Aspects of Clinical Trial Design
- 2018 Fall Pharmacovigilance and Safety Reporting
- o 2019 Spring Patient-Centered Drug Development and Real-World Evidence/Data
- 2019 Summer Clinical Trials with Medical Devices
- o 2019 Fall Legal Aspects of Conducting Clinical Trials
- **2020 Spring** Quality by Design in Clinical Trials
- 2020 Fall Diversity in Clinical Trials in the Time of COVID-19
- o 2021 Spring Clinical Research Career Pathways (half-day)
- 2021 Spring Principles of Global Clinical Research for Medical Devices
- 2021 Fall Innovation to Translation: Role of Genomics in Medical Product Development
- 2022 Spring Make Informed Decisions: Key Statistical Principles to Clinical Trial Design
- 2022 Fall Emerging Technologies The Digital World
- 2023 Spring Study Designs for Clinical Trials Types and Trends
- 2023 Fall Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products



# We have hosted 18 symposiums!

# **Today's Program: Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products**

9:00 AM PDT	Introduction Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD
9:30 AM PDT	Regulatory Aspects of Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine Nancy Pire-Smerkanich, DRSc
10:30 AM PDT	Break
10:45 AM PDT	<b>Translational Approach and Use of Stem Cells for Arthritis and Cartilage Restoration</b> Denis Evseenko, MD, PhD
12:00 PM PDT	Lunch
1:00 PM PDT	Cell Therapy Manufacturing Mohamed Abou-El-Enein, MD, PhD, MSPH
2:00 PM PDT	The Marriage of Ophthalmology and Bioengineering Mark Humayun, MD, PhD
3:00 PM PDT	Break
3:15 PM PDT	Target Identification for Gene Therapy         Robert Pacifici, PhD
4:15 PM PDT	<b>Wrap-Up</b> Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD





and Pharmaceutical Sciences DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science



# Thank You!

#### www.sc-ctsi.org

University of Southern California • Children's Hospital Los Angeles



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## **USC**Mann

Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences regulatory.usc.edu Phone: (323) 442-3521 Email: regsci@usc.edu Instagram: @epacifici\_uscregsci Facebook: @RegSci

# **Regulatory Aspects of Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine**

Nancy Pire-Smerkanich, DRSc, MS

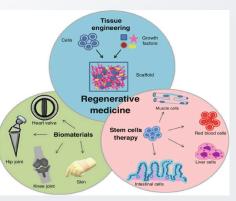
University of Southern California • Children's Hospital Los Angeles





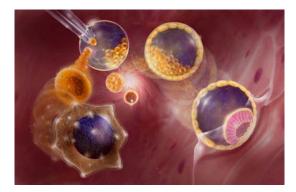
Agenda

Definitions
 FDA Oversight
 Regenerative Medicine
 Expedited Development



# **Definitions**

**Cell Therapy-** involves the transfer of cells with relevant/desired function into the patient.



**Gene therapy** - involves the transfer of genetic material in a carrier or vector and the uptake of the gene into targeted cells.



# Definitions

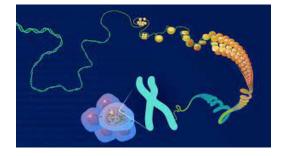
**Regenerative Medicine -** refers to a general approach to restore, replace, or recreate cells, tissues, or organs to treat or mitigate disease.

Involves using stem cells, engineered biomaterials, gene editing, and other technologies



# Definitions

## **NOTE:** Cell and Gene Therapies are **Biologics!** There are some protocols that use both gene and cell therapy For example: stem cells are isolated from the patient, genetically modified in culture to express a new gene, typically using a viral vector, expanded to sufficient numbers and then returned to the patient.





# **Small Molecule (Drug) vs Large Molecule (Biologic)**

Drugs: Simple, well defined, independent of manufacturing process

- Produced by chemical synthesis
- Predictable chemical process
- Identical copy can be made
- Easy to characterize completely
- Stable
- Mostly non-immunogenic

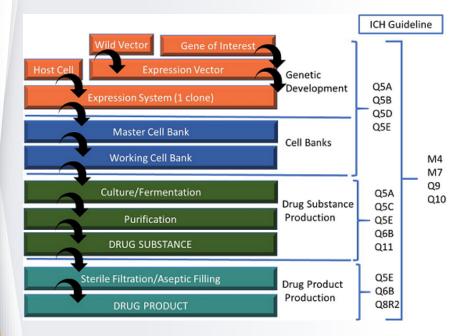
**Biologics** 

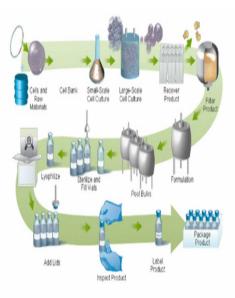
- Complex (heterogeneous), defined by
  - the exact manufacturing process
- Produced in living cell culture
- Difficult to control from starting material to final API
- Impossible to ensure identical copy
- Cannot be characterized completely (e.g., molecular composition and heterogenicity)
- Unstable, sensitive to external conditions



6

# **Biologic Products Depend on Process**





# Regulations

Regenerative medicine therapies (RMTs) are defined in section 506 (g) (8) of the Food Drug & Cosmetic Act <u>except</u> for those regulated solely under section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) and Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 1271 (21 CFR Part 1271)123.

Translation:

Section 361 are the regulations to control communicable diseases (e.g., Covid)

Part 1271 established donor-eligibility, current good tissue practice (GTP), and other procedures to prevent the introduction, transmission, and spread of communicable diseases by HCT/P's

# Human Cells, Tissues, and cellular and tissue-based Products(HCT/P)

- Those products that are regulated under 21CFR1271
  - Human cells or tissues that are intended for implantation, transplantation, infusion, or transfer into a human recipient
  - Examples: Bone, ligament, skin, dura matter, heart valve, cornea, semen, reproductive tissue, epithelial cells on a synthetic matrix, and hematopoietic stem/progenitor cells from peripheral and cord blood

Regulatory Considerations for Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Products: Minimal Manipulation and Homologous Use

Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff

Fer questions on the content of this guidance, contact Center for Biologics Evaluation and Besench (CBER), Office of Communication, Outwork, and Development (OCD) at 1404-02-8010 or 800-835-4709. Fer questions about this document concerning products regulated by Center for Devices and Radioogical Health (CDRH), contact the CDRH product jurisdiction officer at CDRHProduct jurisdictoringfla hair, got (Jyon need additional sustance with regulation of combination products, contact the Office of Combination Products (OCP) at 301-796-83930.

> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research Center for Devices and Radiological Health Office of Combination Products July 2020

# **Regulations for Cell Therapies**

- In addition to 21CFR1271 for GTP these products may have to follow these regulations as part of development:
- 21CFR 312 for Investigational New Drug Applications
- 21CFR 600/610 for Biologics Establishment and Biologic Product Standards
- 21 CFR 210 and 211 for Good Manufacturing Practices

# **FDA Oversight**

CDER (Drugs and Therapeutic proteins) CBER (Vaccines, Blood & Biologics) Medical Devices Office of Combination Products **Other Offices:** Food **Radiation-Emitting Products** Animal & Veterinary Cosmetics Tobacco

# **FDA Oversight/CBER**

- Several "Offices" within CBER
- CBER Regulates blood and blood products, vaccines, tissue and tissue products, and cellular and gene therapies.
- Current Structure:

Office of Therapeutic Products (OTP) A designated "Super Office" since 9/2022 Formerly known as the Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies (OTAT) Increase review capabilities and enhance expertise on new cell and gene therapies.

# **Guidance for Industry**

- 32 Guidance documents since 2007 (1 from 1998)
- Some focusing on therapeutic area (i.e., cancer)
- Some of regulatory requirements (i.e., IND or BLA)
- Many on the requirements/role of manufacturing
- Testing and use of viral vectors
- Most recent guidance (July 2023) on "Manufacturing Changes and Comparability for Human Cellular and Gene Therapy Products", Draft still out for comment

## **OTP Regulated Products**

#### Gene Therapies

- Gene editing
- Ex vivo genetically modified cells
- Non-viral vectors (e.g., plasmids)
- Replication-deficient viral vectors (e.g., adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, lentivirus)
- Replication-competent viral vectors (e.g., measles, adenovirus, vaccinia)
- Microbial vectors (e.g., Listeria, Salmonella)

#### Stem Cells/Stem Cell-Derived

- Adult (e.g., hematopoietic, neural, cardiac, adipose, mesenchymal)
- Perinatal (e.g., placental, umbilical cord blood)
- Fetal (e.g., neural)
- Embryonic
- Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)

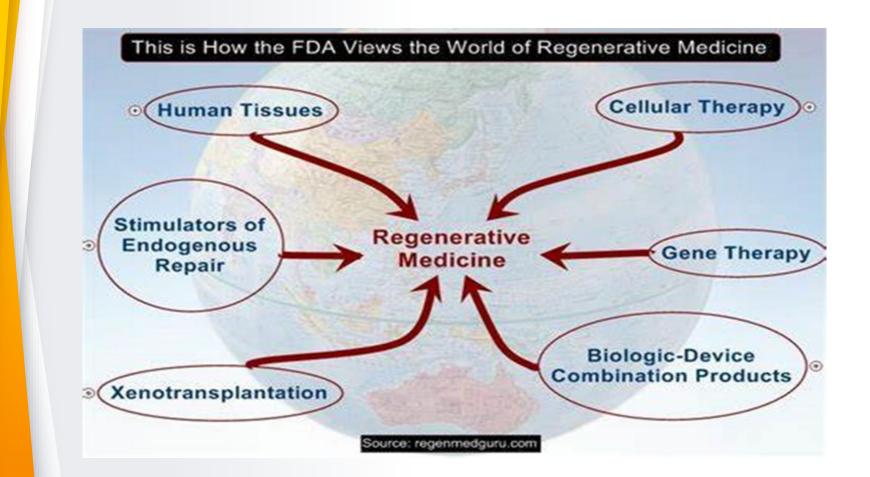
#### Tissues

- Blood- and plasma-derived products
  - Coagulation factors
  - Fibrin sealants
  - Fibrinogen
  - Thrombin
  - Plasminogen
  - Immune globulins
  - Anti-toxins
  - Venom antisera for scorpions, snakes, and spiders
- Functionally mature/differentiated cells (e.g., retinal pigment epithelial cells, pancreatic islets, chondrocytes, keratinocytes)
- Therapeutic vaccines and other antigenspecific active immunotherapies
- Combination products
  - Engineered tissues/organs
- Devices
- Products for xenotransplantation

## **Office of Therapeutic Products (OTP)**

Approved Cellular and Gene Therapy Products | FDA

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Ferring Pharmaceuticals A/S  ALLOCORD (HPC, Cord Blood)	
SSM Cardinal Gennon Children's Medical Center  EREYANZI	
Juno Therapeutics, Inc., a Bristol-Myers Squibb Company CARVYKTI (ciliacabtazene autoleucel)	
Janssen Blotech, Inc. CLEVECORD (HPC Cord Blood)	٩٩
Cleveland Cord Blood Center  Ducord, HPC Cord Blood	<
Duke University School of Medicine  ELEVIDYS	d'
delandistrogene mozeparvovec     GINTUIT (Allogeneic Cultured Keratinocytes and Fibroblasts in Bovine Collagen)	
Organogenesis Incorporated	12:18 PM
HEMACORD (HPC, cord blood)     New York Blood Center	Monday 10/16/2023
HENGENIX     CSL Behring LLC	-
HPC. Cord Blood	-30



## **Regenerative Medicine 101**

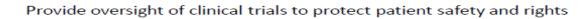
#### FDA's Role in Regulating RMTs





Regulate products over their entire lifecycle–during development and after approval





Advance development by:

- Publishing guidance documents
- Providing advice and education to product manufacturers



Engage stakeholders to facilitate development of innovative products that meet patient needs

## **Regenerative Medicine 101**

## FDA

### Advancing Development: Today, Tomorrow & Beyond

- Gene and cell therapies hold great promise for patients with difficult diseases and few treatment options
- 900+ investigational new drug (IND) applications for ongoing clinical studies for gene and cell therapy treatments
- Gene therapy has great potential for patients with rare diseases:
  - An estimated 80% of rare diseases are caused by a single-gene defect

- New: Bespoke Gene Therapy Consortium (BGTC)
  - Partnership between National Institutes of Health (NIH), FDA, pharmaceutical companies and nonprofit organizations
  - Goal: Accelerate development of gene therapies for the 30 million people in the United States who suffer from a rare disease

### **RMAT**

- Legislatively established as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act to facilitate the development and review of certain RMTs (Ref: Section 3033)
- How to qualify:
  - The product has to be a regenerative medicine therapy (see definition)
  - The product must be intended to treat, modify, reverse, or cure a serious or life-threatening disease or condition;
  - There needs to be preliminary clinical evidence that indicates that the product has the potential to address unmet medical needs for that disease or condition

## **RMAT Designation**

- The request for RMAT designation must be made either concurrently with submission of an Investigational New Drug application (IND) or as an amendment to an existing IND.
- FDA/CBER will not grant a RMAT designation if an IND is on hold or is placed on hold during the designation review

Expedited Programs for Regenerative Medicine Therapies for Serious Conditions

#### **Guidance for Industry**

Additional copies of this guidance are available from the Office of Communication, Outreach and Development (OCOD), 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 71, Rm. 3128, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, or by calling 1-800-835-4709 or 240-402-8010, or email <u>ocod@fda.hhs.gov</u>, or from the Internet at

For questions on the content of this guidance, contact OCOD at the phone numbers or email address listed above.

> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research February 2019

http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guida nces/default.htm.

## **RMAT Designation**

- Same benefits as Fast Track and Breakthrough Therapy Designation including early interactions w/FDA
- 91 Designations so far (230 requests as of Jun 30, 2023)
- Designated products are <u>eligible</u> as appropriate for priority review and accelerated approval \*
- Expanded range of options for fulfilling post approval requirements of accelerated approval \* \*See Peter Marks quote

## **Use of Expedited Programs**

Many of the Biologic License Applications (BLA) have had success with expedited programs and faster, smoother reviews

- Orphan product designation and approval
- Priority review
- Accelerated approval
- ▶ Fast track
- Breakthrough therapy
- Most recent program Regenerative Medicine Advanced Therapies (RMAT) from 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act in December 2016 – 1<sup>st</sup> designation submission came in 1 day after Act was signed into law

## **Early Communication with CBER/OTP**

- From FDA Guidance
- Pre-preIND, now referred to as Interact, meetings
  - Non-binding, <u>informal</u> scientific discussions between CBER/OTP nonclinical review disciplines (P/T & CMC) and the sponsor: INTERACT-CBER@fda.hhs.gov
  - Initial targeted discussion of specific issues
- Pre-IND meetings
  - Non-binding, but <u>formal</u> between FDA and sponsor (minutes generated)
  - Sponsor should provide summary data and sound scientific principles to support use of a specific product in a specific patient population

### **FDA and Sponsor Interactions to Expedite Development**

INitial Targeted Engagement for Regulatory Advice on CBER producTs (INTERACT)\*

- Early interaction with sponsors and replaced the pre-pre-IND meeting process across the Center regarding preclinical, manufacturing and, clinical development plans
- Approximately 30% of requests are granted

## **FDA and Sponsor Interactions to Expedite Development**

CBER Advanced Technology Team (CATT)\*\*

- Interactive mechanism for discussion of advanced technologies or platforms needed for development of CBER-regulated biologics products; CATT allows access to early and ongoing interactions with CBER before filing of a regulatory submission
- Primary focus on platforms for manufacturing

catt

25

<sup>\*</sup>https://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/ResourcesforYou/Industry/ucm611501.htm \*\*https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/industry-biologics/cber-advanced-technologies-team-

### **CBER RMAT Approvals = 5**

#### Data as of June 30, 2023

Application Number	Submission Type and Number	Proprietary Name	Established Name	Applicant	Approval Date	Use
BLA 125720	ORIGINAL-1	ROCTAVIAN	valoctocogene roxaparvovec-rvox	Biomarin Pharmaceutical, Inc.	29-Jun- 2023	For the treatment of adults with severe hemophilia A (congenital factor VIII deficiency with factor VIII activity <1 IU/dL) without pre- existing antibodies to adeno-associated virus serotype 5 (AAV5) detected by an FDA approved test.
BLA 125774	ORIGINAL-1	VYJUVEK	beremagene geperpavec-svdt	Krystal Biotech, Inc.	19-May- 2023	Treatment of wounds in patients 6 months of age and older with dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa with mutation(s) in the collagen type VII alpha 1 chain (COL7A1) gene.
BLA 125685	ORIGINAL-1	RETHYMIC	Allogeneic processed Thymus Tissue	Enzyvant Therapeutics GmbH	08-Oct- 2021	Immune reconstitution in pediatric patients with congenital athymia.
BLA 125730	ORIGINAL-1	StrataGraft	Allogeneic Keratinocyte Cell Line (NIKS), Seeded on Rat Collagen (B0) Conditioned with Human Dermal Fibroblasts (Clonetics)	Stratatech Corporation	15-Jun- 2021	Indicated to promote durable wound closure & regenerative healing in the treatment of adult patients with debrided thermal burns that contain intact dermal elements, and for which surgical intervention is clinically indicated.
BLA 125714	ORIGINAL-1	BREYANZI	lisocabtagene maraleucel	Juno Therapeutics, a Celgene Company	05-Feb- 2021	Treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory (R/R) large B- cell lymphoma after at least two prior therapies.

#### Content current as of:

07/21/2023



<u>CBER Regenerative</u> <u>Medicine Advanced Therapy</u> (RMAT) Approvals | FDA

## **Regenerative Medicine Globally**

From the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine

### **IN FOCUS: THE SECTOR IN 2022**



Note: The totals for clinical trials and upfront investment may appear lower than the total value of each region added together. This is to account for overlap between regions.

## **Regenerative Medicine Globally**

#### **APPROVED THERAPIES IN 2022**

NEW THERAPIES APPROVED

Carvykti (CAR-T) LEGEND BIOTECH & JANSSEN - US AND EU

Roctavian (Gene Therapy) BIOMARIN PHARMACEUTICAL - EU

Upstaza (Gene Therapy) PTC THERAPEUTICS - EU

Hemgenix (Gene Therapy) UNIQURE AND CSL BEHRING - US

Adstiladrin (Gene Therapy) FERRING PHARMACEUTICALS - US

Ebvallo (Cell Therapy) ATARA BIOTHERAPEUTICS - EU THERAPIES APPROVED IN NEW GEOGRAPHIES OR NEW INDICATIONS

Breyanzi (CAR-T) BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB - US AND EU

Kymriah (CAR-T) NOVARTIS - US

Yescarta (CAR-T) KITE PHARMA (GILEAD) - US AND EU

Zyntegio (Gene Therapy) BLUEBIRD BIO INC. - US

Skysona (Gene Therapy) BLUEBIRD BIO INC. - US

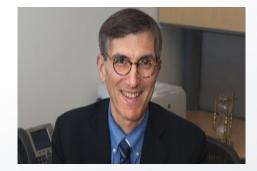
## **Regenerative Medicine Pipeline**

#### **POSSIBLE REGULATORY DECISIONS IN 2023**

UNITED STATES						
AFAMI-CEL (CELL THERAPY) Adaptimmune Therapeutics Advanced synovial sarcoma	BB1111 (GENE THERAPY) bluebird bio Sickle cell disease		<b>B-VEC (GENE THERAPY)</b> <i>Krystal Bio</i> Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa		CTX001 (GENE EDITING THERAPY) Vertex Pharmaceuticals & CRISPR Therapeutics Sickle cell disease, B-thalassemia	
HPC CORD BLOOD (CELL THERAPY) StemCyte Unrelated donor hematopoietic progenitor cell transplantation	LIFILEUCEL (CELL THERAPY) <i>lovance</i> Metastatic melanoma		OMIDUBICEL (CELL THERAPY) Gamida Cell Hematological malignancies		REMESTEMCEL-L (CELL THERAPY) <i>Mesoblast</i> Steroid-refractory Acute Graft Versus Host Disease	
<b>ROCTAVIAN (GENE THERAPY)</b> <i>BioMarin Pharmaceutical</i> Hemophilia A		SRP-9001 (GENE THERAPY) Sarepta Therapeutics Duchenne muscular dystrophy		TAB-CEL (CELL THERAPY) Atara Biotherapeutics Epstein-barr virus associated post transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (EBV-PTLD)		

## **Recent comments from FDA/CBER**

"Use of novel endpoints and clinical trial designs, manufacturing process standardization, enhanced communication with regulatory authorities, and global regulatory convergence together could go a long way toward facilitating the availability of these potentially life-saving treatments. The facilitation of advances in each of these areas could combine to allow those populations both large and small affected by addressable conditions to derive the potential benefits of gene therapy"



Peter Marks, Director CBER <u>Full article:</u> <u>Enhancing gene</u> <u>therapy</u> <u>regulatory</u> <u>interactions</u> (tandfonline.com)

## **Cell and Gene Therapy Resources - US**

Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

Cellular Therapy Products | FDA

Cellular & Gene Therapy Guidances | FDA

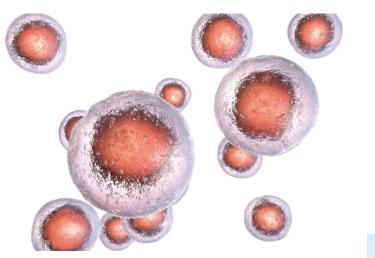
Cellular, Tissue, and Gene Therapies Advisory Committee October 31, 2023 Meeting Announcement - 10/31/2023 | FDA



## Translational Approach and Use of Stem Cells for Arthritis and Articular Cartilage Restoration

Denis A Evseenko MD., PhD Vice Chair for Research, J. Harold and Edna La Briola Endowed Chair, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Keck School of Medicine, USC

USC, October 20, 2023



Keck School of Medicine of <mark>USC</mark>







# Conflict of interest disclosure

Co-founder, consultant and significant shareholder of:

Plurocart - cartilage repair



**REPARRIS** - solutions for healthy aging

# Synovial joints

Synovial joint: a structure where bones connect for the purpose of moving body parts Human adult has ~ 206 named bones and 250 joints (one bone can be part of more than 1 joint) 6 different types of synovial joints: Ball-and-Socket Joints, Condyloid Joints, Gliding Joints, Hinge Joints, Pivot Joints, Saddle Joints



## Benefits and the cost: Diseases of synovial joints

## Injuries





## Arthritis







## Osteoarthritis #1

Cartilage lesions Autoimmune diseases Cristalophathy (e.g. gout) Infectious diseases (septic arthritis)

## Focal cartilage lesions



Focal femoral defect, knee



- Usually young patients, no comorbidities
- No spontaneous regeneration of articular cartilage in adult (no or minimal number of progenitors, no vascularization)
- If not treated usually progresses to osteoarthritis

Ideal situation for the "Replace" approach: local defect, invasive procedures are unlikely to cause any serious adverse events, healthy young patients

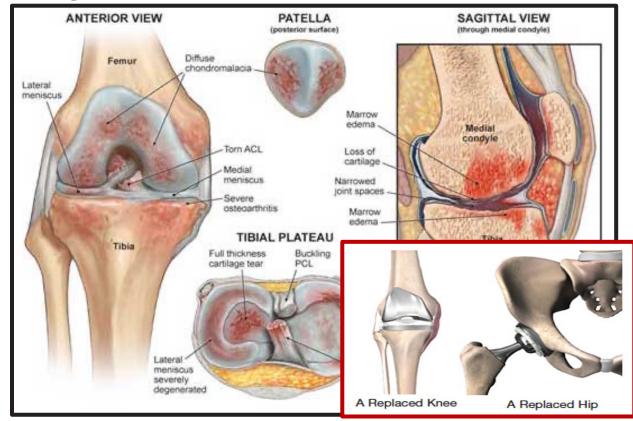
## Focal cartilage lesions often predispose to osteoarthritis

10 % of adult Californians have focal articular cartilage lesions The lab has small molecule-based solutions RCGD family of drugs for this stage <u>but not cells</u> – too late

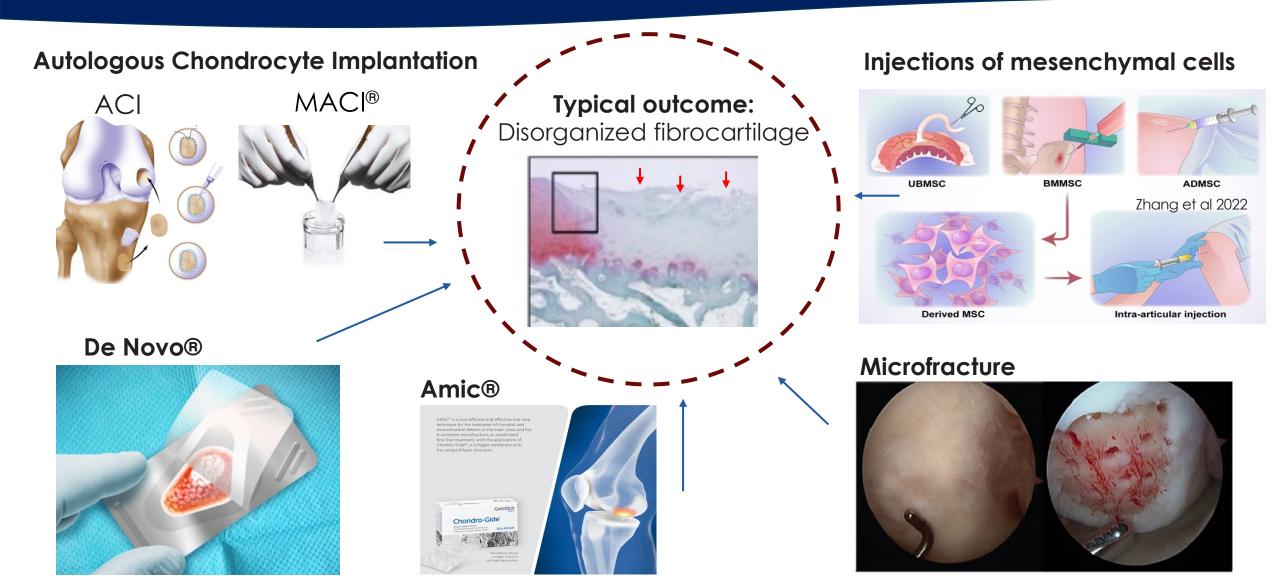
### **Focal defect**



### **Degenerative Joint Disease/Osteoarthritis**



## Articular cartilage defects do not regenerate in adult Current cell-based strategies have limitations



## Autologous chondrocytes - what is missing?

 Very limited number of cells are usually obtained, ex vivo expansion results in a significant loss of the chondrogenic potential

CARTILAGE

(\$)SAGE

2021, Vol. 13(Suppl 1) 526S-539S

sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/1947603519890754

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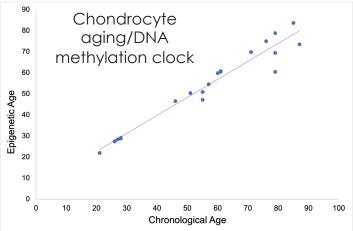
Investigations & Diagnostics

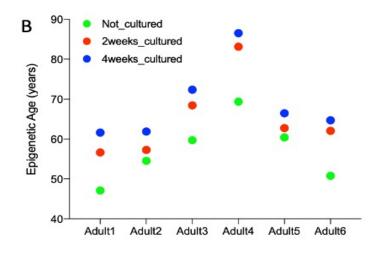
Morphological Assessment of MACI Grafts in Patients with Revision Surgery and Total Joint Arthroplasty

Aswin Beck<sup>1</sup>, David Wood<sup>1</sup>, Christopher J. Vertullo<sup>2</sup>, Jay Ebert<sup>3</sup>, Greg Janes<sup>4</sup>, Martin Sullivan<sup>5</sup>, and Ming-Hao Zheng<sup>1</sup>

Clinically beneficial, but: "Histologically, the predominant tissue was of fibrocartilaginous nature".

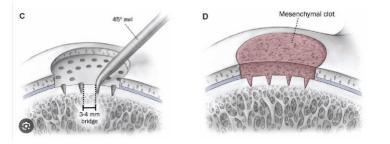
 Phenomenon of <u>accelerated aging</u> ex vivo – NOT "dedifferentiation" during expansion





Sarkar et al, Evseenko; Aging Cell 2023

## MSCs, local or injected systemically-what is missing?



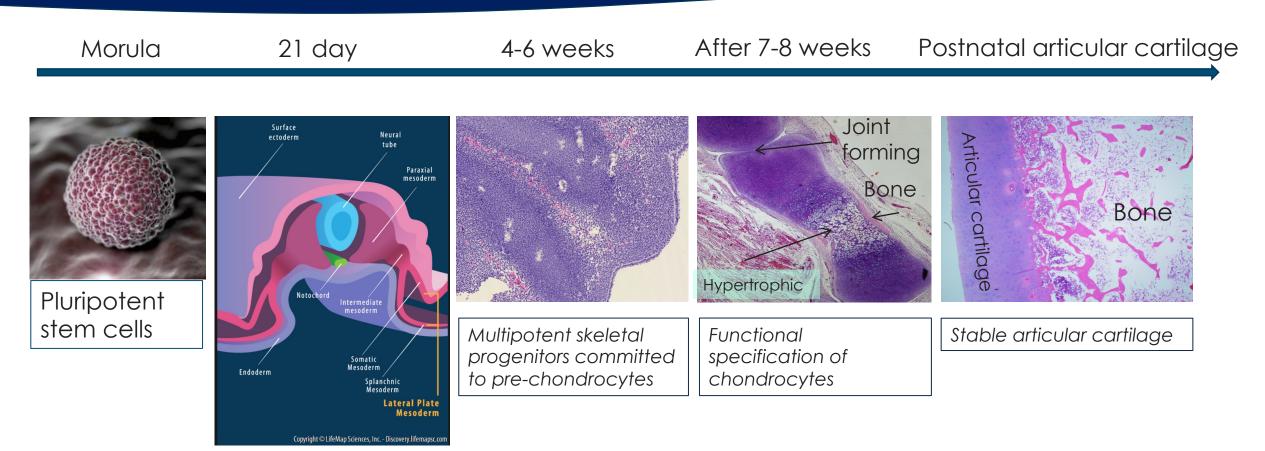
• Microfracture: local cells migrate into the defect but form fibrocartilage



- Injected MSCs these cell types do not show engraftment and long-term functional integration (may be transient positive effects on microenvironment, inflammation, pain etc)
- There is no definitive evidence to date that mesenchymal stromal cells/MSCs of any origin can make proper articular cartilage tissue in vivo.
- > **Reason:** lack of the intrinsic potential or a critical inducive signal is missing.

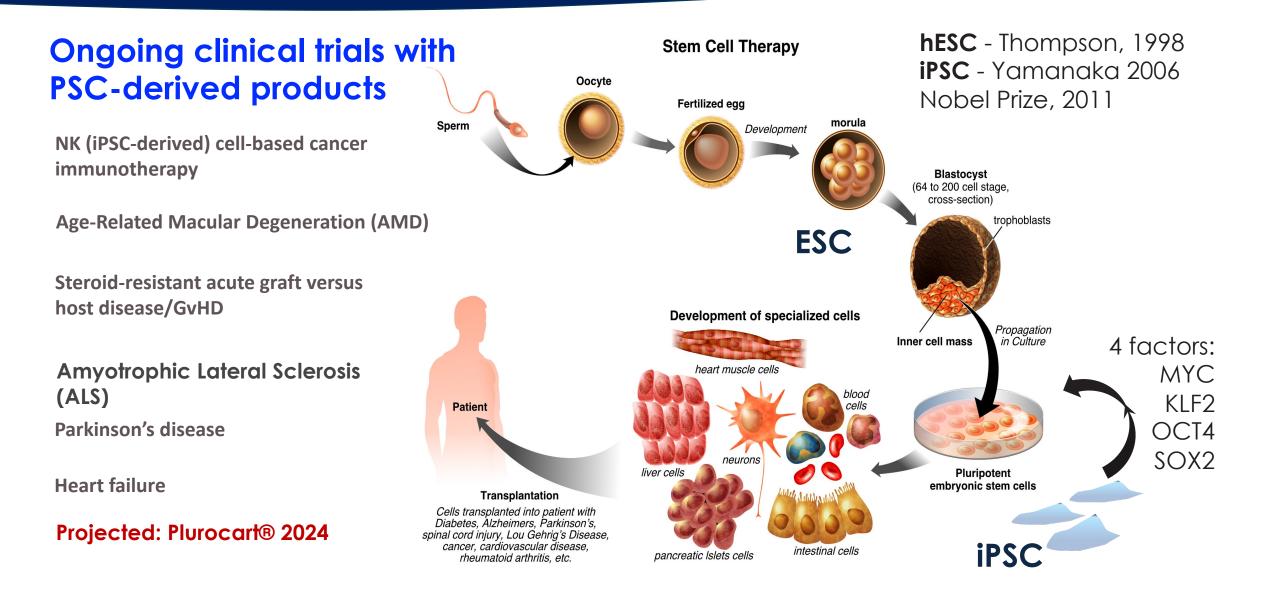
## Specification of articular cartilage cells in humans

Can we reproduce it in the dish?

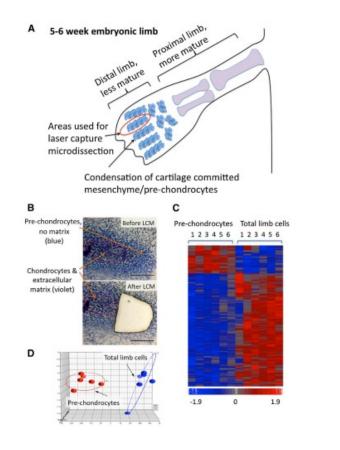


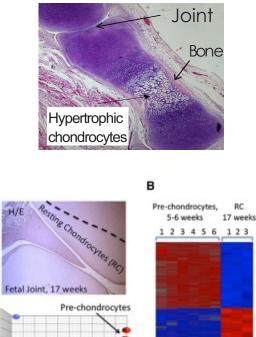
Gastrulation: germ layer specification, mesoderm induction Definitive mesenchymal cartilage progenitors capable of making joint articular cartilage

## Embryonic and induced pluripotent stem cells



## Developmental chondrogenesis - inspired technology





-1.9

1.9

0

	BMP6	$3.56 \times 10^{-5}$	-20.7
	TGFB2	$1.01 \times 10^{-7}$	-37.2
#1	LIF	$2.28 \times 10^{-9}$	-76.8

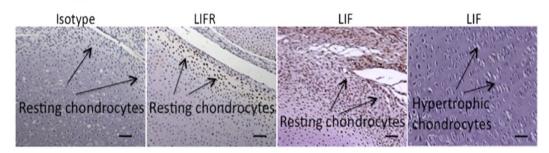
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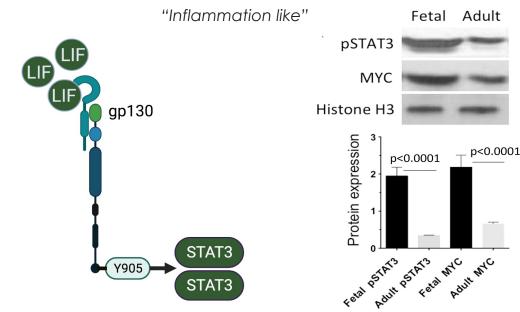
Resting Chondrocytes

Airon 4

#### Fetal cartilage, 12 weeks



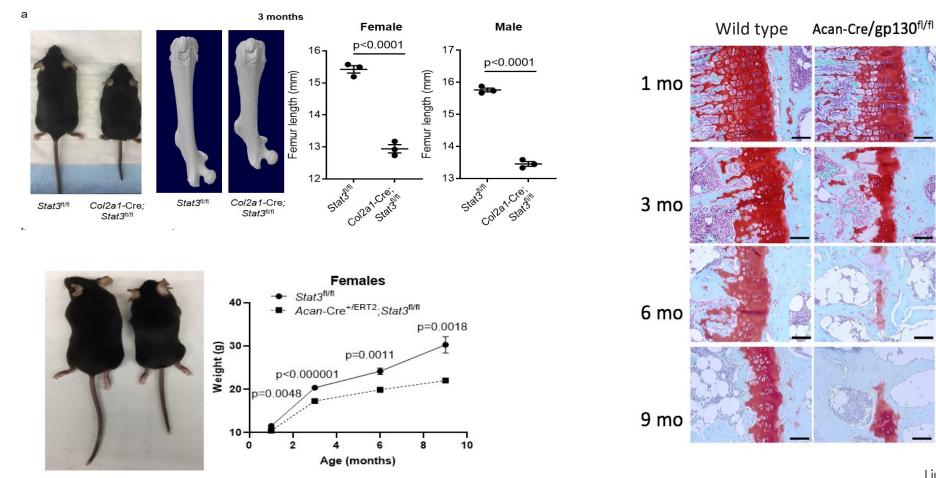
### LIF/gp130/STAT3 in human development



Wu et al., 2013; Shkhyan et al. 2018

# Lifr/gp130/Stat3 in stem cells and development: maintenance of stemness, proliferation, survival

Fetal or neonatal ablation of Lifr, gp130 or Stat3 results in short stature and premature loss of skeletal progenitors in mice



Liu et al, Evseenko; Comm Bio 2022

Acan-Cre/STAT3<sup>fl/fl</sup>

# **10+ years of work:** articular chondrocytes from embryonic stem cells. PLUROCART® technology

### Evseenko et al., 2010

Ferguson et al., 2018

### Mapping the first stages of mesoderm commitment during differentiation of human embryonic stem cells

Denis Evseenko<sup>a</sup>, Yuhua Zhu<sup>a</sup>, Katja Schenke-Layland<sup>b</sup>, Jeffrey Kuo<sup>a</sup>, Brooke Latour<sup>a</sup>, Shundi Ge<sup>a</sup>, Jessica Scholes<sup>a</sup>, Gautam Dravid<sup>a</sup>, Xinmin Li<sup>a</sup>, W. Robb MacLellan<sup>b</sup>, and Gay M. Crooks<sup>a.1</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and Broad Stem Cell Research Center and <sup>b</sup>Cardiovascular Research Laboratory, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095

Edited\* by Owen N. Witte, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, and approved June 25, 2010 (received for review February 19, 2010)



#### Article | OPEN | Published: 07 September 2018

Mapping molecular landmarks of human skeletal ontogeny and pluripotent stem cell-derived articular chondrocytes

Gabriel B. Ferguson, Ben Van Handel, Maxwell Bay, Petko Fiziev, Tonis Org, Siyoung Lee, Ruzanna Shkhyan, Nicholas W. Banks, Mila Scheinberg, Ling Wu, Biagio Saitta, Joseph Elphingstone, A. Noelle Larson, Scott M. Riester, April D. Pyle, Nicholas M. Bernthal, Hanna KA Mikkola, Jason Ernst, Andre J. van Wijnen, Michael Bonaguidi & Denis Evseenko

Nature Communications 9, Article number: 3634 (2018) | Download Citation 🛓

### Stem Cell Reports Wu et al., 2013 Article



R

### Human Developmental Chondrogenesis as a Basis for Engineering Chondrocytes from Pluripotent Stem Cells

Ling Wu,<sup>1,9</sup> Carolina Bluguermann,<sup>1,8,9</sup> Levon Kyupelyan,<sup>1</sup> Brooke Latour,<sup>2</sup> Stephanie Gonzalez,<sup>1</sup> Saumya Shah,<sup>1</sup> Zoran Galic,<sup>3</sup> Sundi Ge,<sup>2</sup> Yuhua Zhu,<sup>2</sup> Frank A. Petrigliano,<sup>1</sup> Ali Nsair,<sup>3,7</sup> Santiago G. Miriuka,<sup>8</sup> Xinmin Li,<sup>2</sup> Karen M. Lyons,<sup>1,6</sup> Gay M. Crooks,<sup>2,3,5</sup> David R. McAllister,<sup>1</sup> Ben Van Handel,<sup>4</sup> John S. Adams,<sup>1,3,5</sup> and Denis Evseenko<sup>1,3,5,\*</sup>

### npj | regenerative medicine

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<u>nature</u> > <u>npj regenerative medicine</u> > <u>articles</u> > article Petrigliano et al 2021

#### Article | Open Access | Published: 23 November 2021

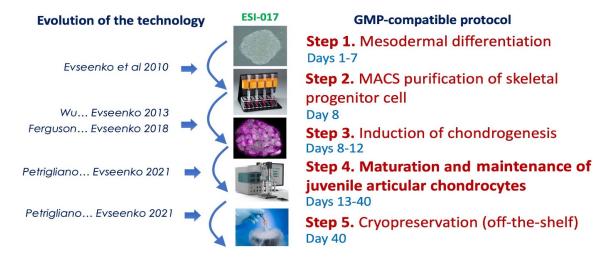
### Long-term repair of porcine articular cartilage using cryopreservable, clinically compatible human embryonic stem cell-derived chondrocytes

Frank A. Petrigliano, Nancy Q. Liu, ... Denis Evseenko 🖂 🚺 + Show authors

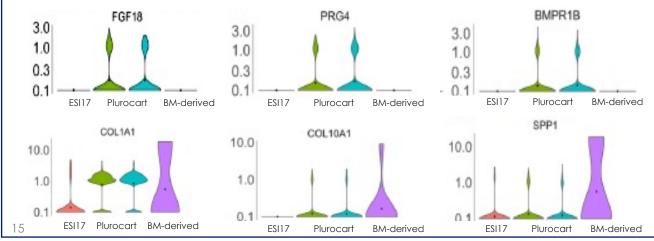
npj Regenerative Medicine 6, Article number: 77 (2021) | Cite this article 2230 Accesses | 79 Altmetric | Metrics

# Clinical grade, embryonic stem cell line ESI17-derived immature articular chondrocyte

### Purity and articular chondrocyte identity, expression profile is similar to primary human fetal cells

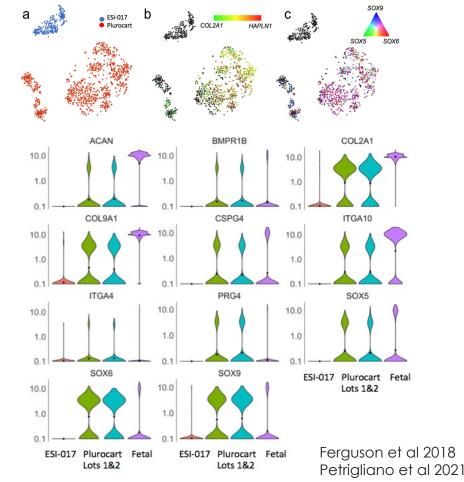


### PSC-derived chondrocytes vs BM MSC-derived chondrocytes



### PSC-derived vs fetal human chondrocytes

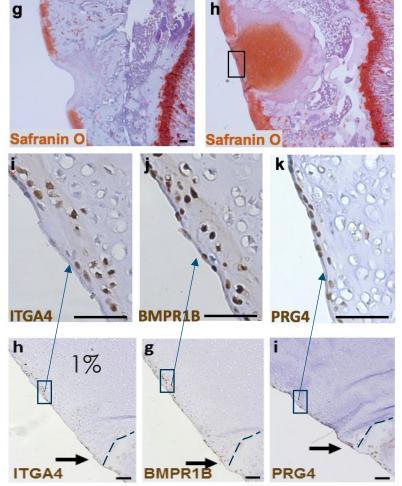
97% of PSC-derived chondrocytes express SOX 5/6/9 and Collagen 2; Articular cartilage markers: PRG4, FGF18, BMPR1B

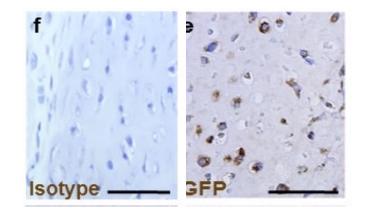


## Proof-of-concept assessment of embryonic stem cell-derived Immature articular chondrocytes in vivo

Miniimplants integrate and spontaneously form the superficial positive for PRG4/lubricin, ITGA4 and BMPR1B





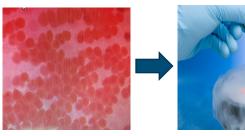


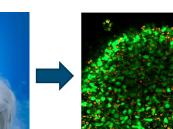
Ferguson et al; Nat Comm 2018

## Development of the ESC-derived cell formulations for articular cartilage repair in a clinically relevant model

### **Formulation 1:** PSC-derived chondrospheres

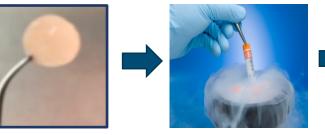
Cryopreserved chondrospheres 70%+ viability



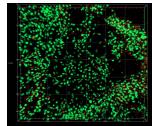


### Formulation 2: collagen membrane with PSC-derived chondrocytes

### Cryopreserved membranes



80%+ viability



6 mm critical size defect in the load-bearing condyle region, knee joint, Yucatan minipig





Sterile foil templates for plug formation

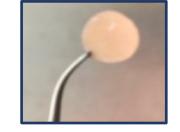
Formed plug is transferred with a fine spatula



Plug with cells implanted in pig cartilage defect



6 mm disc with cells



Focal 6-mm lesion in knee cartilage Fixing membrane with a fibrin glue



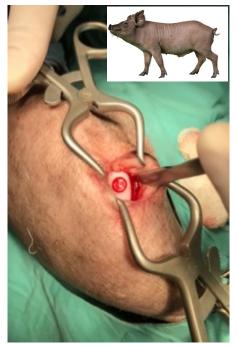
Petrialiano et al., 2021; NPG Regenerative Medicine

### Analysis at 6 months post-transplantation Structural outcomes: hyaline cartilage

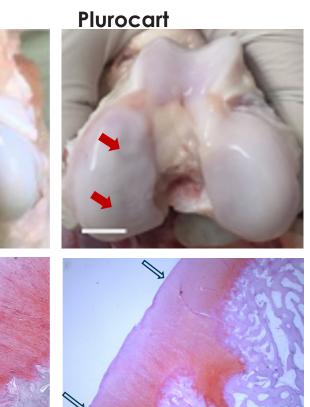
**Plurocart**: collagen membrane with PSC-derived chondrocytes

5 pigs per group; 2 defects, 6 mm; analysis at 6 months

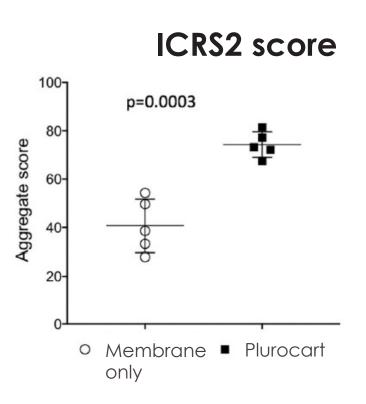
Yucatan minipig



Membrane only



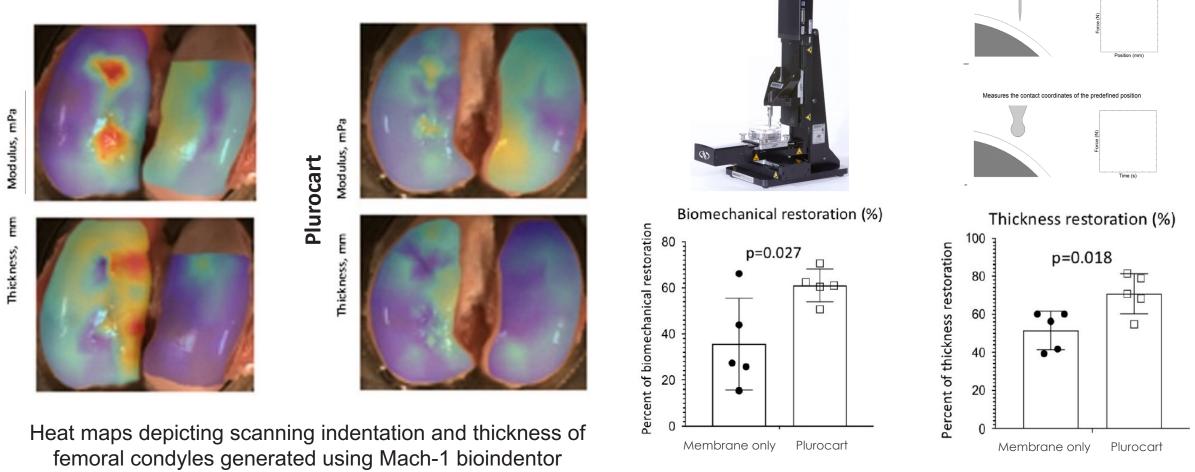
Fast Green



### Analysis at 6 months post-transplantation Biomechanical outcomes: functionally competent tissue

ESC-derived chondrocytes elicit biomechanically superior articular cartilage repair

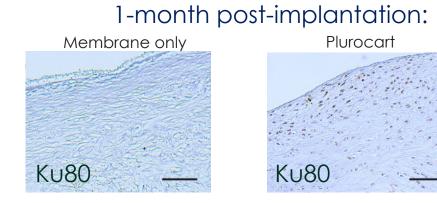
Membrane only



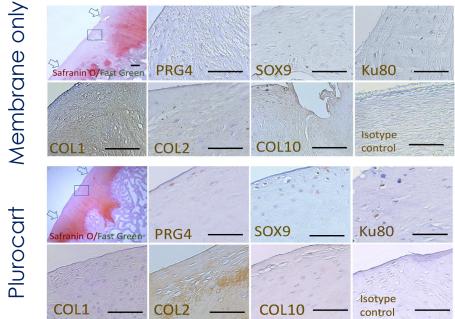
## Analysis at 6 months post-transplantation

Ku80 positive

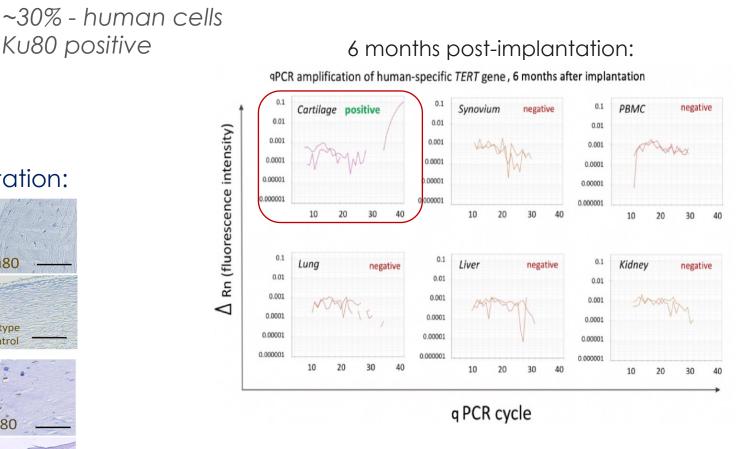
Implanted cells show long-term engraftment and survival in vivo



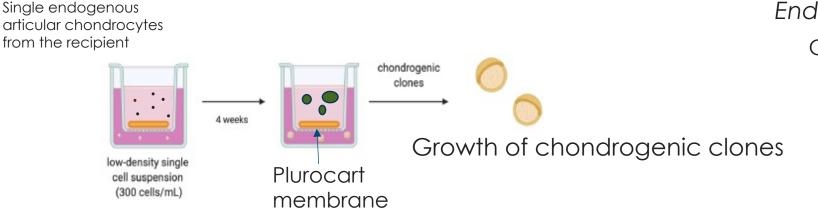
#### 6 months post –post-implantation:



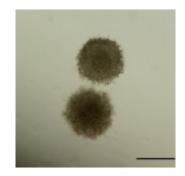
#### Human-specific PCR for TERT gene



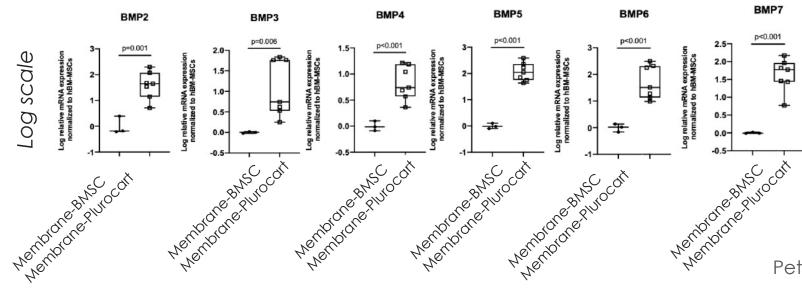
# ESC-derived immature chondrocytes secrete BMPs and support clonal expansion of endogenous cartilage cells

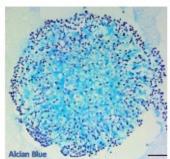


Endogenous articular chondrocytes Clone from a single cartilage cell



#### ESC derived immature chondrocytes express ~100-fold higher levels of BMPs than BMSCs





### Plurocart: off-the-shelf allogeneic ESC-derived chondrocytes

#### Meeting Information Package FDA

Sponsor Name DENIS EVSEENKO, MD, PHD UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES, CA

> Cell Therapy Name PLUROCART

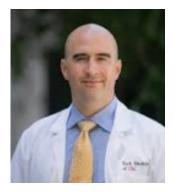
Application or PASTN Number PS005048

> Date of Meeting 10/24/2019

### **Plurocart** implant

- Allogeneic product
- Cell source: Pluripotent Stem Cell (PSC) line ESI-017-derived juvenile articular chondrocytes, 500,000 viable cells per CM<sup>2</sup>
- Final product formulation: Cryopreserved vial
- Device or drug component (s): Cells on a clinical grade collagen membrane
- One step, minimally invasive procedure

## Plurocart program Team



Frank Petrigliano, MD Clinical co-Pl, CIRM corresponding Pl, USC



**Shawna Jackman, PhD** GLP Safety Lead CRL



**Denis Evseenko MD, PhD** Research co-Pl, USC



Vincent Chen, PhD GMP Manufacturing Lead City of Hope



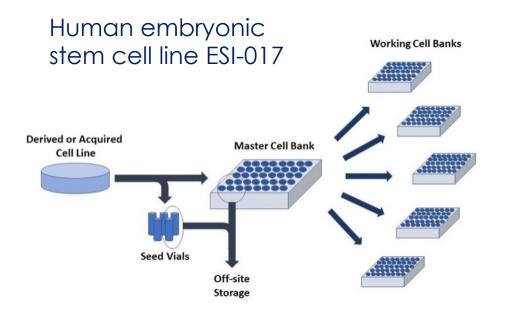
**Program manager,** Angela Donato, PhD IQVIA



**Josh Lee**, Tech Transfer Lead USC

## Manufacturing and controls (GMP)

#### Production and release of Master and Working Cell banks

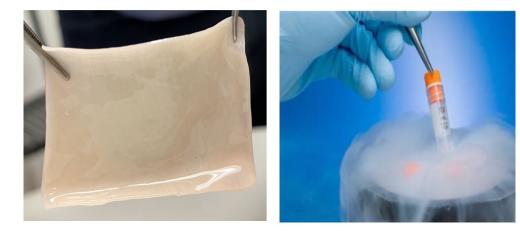


#### MCB (300 vials) Release testing

Assay	Result
Karyotype	Normal
Percentage of OCT4+ cells (FACS)	>80%
Percentage of SSEA4+ cells (FACS)	>80%
Mycoplasmastasis	Negative
Mycoplasma	Negative
In Vivo: Suckling and Adult Mice, Guinea Pigs, Embry. Hen Eggs	Negative
MAP: Mouse Antibody Production Test	Negative
28-day In Vitro Virus Assay GMP, 3 Cell Lines	Negative
Bovine 9CFR In Vitro Assay for 9 Viruses	Negative
Porcine Mod. 9CFR In Vitro Viruses Assay, PT-1 Cells	Negative
Retrovirus Detection by PERT	Negative
Sterility	Negative
Certificate of Analysis Detection of 14 Viruses by Real Time Polymerase Chain	Negative
Reaction Assays (Human Panel I)	
Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV) Serotypes 1, 2, 3, 3B, 4 and 6 by PCR	Negative

## Manufacturing and controls (GMP)

#### Technology Transfer & manufacturing of the Plurocart implants for Phase 1 Clinical Trial under GMP standards



Allogeneic, off-the-shelf

Cryopreserved

#### **Final Product release testing**

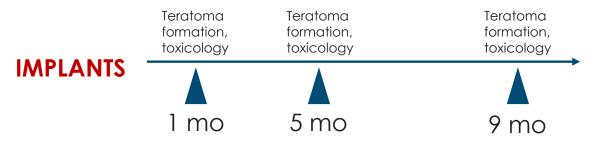
Assay	Result
Residual undifferentiated cells	Relative expression (per cm <sup>2</sup> of the membrane
(quantitative RT-PCR for the pluripotency	with cells) lower than the expression levels in
genes POU5F1 and LIN28b genes).	5,000 undifferentiated ESI-017 cells
Chondrogenic activity (Taqman PCR for COL2A1 and SOX9 (potency 1)	The levels of COL2A1 gene 10-fold or higher and the levels of SOX9 gene 5-fold higherthan the levels in undifferentiated ESI-017
Viability (potency 2)	500,000 viable cells per cm <sup>2</sup>
Mycoplasmastasis	Negative
Mycoplasma	Negative
28-day In Vitro Virus Assay GMP, 3 CellLines	Negative
Sterility	Negative
B&F	Negative
Endotoxin	< 10 EU/mL

## FDA requested GLP safety studies

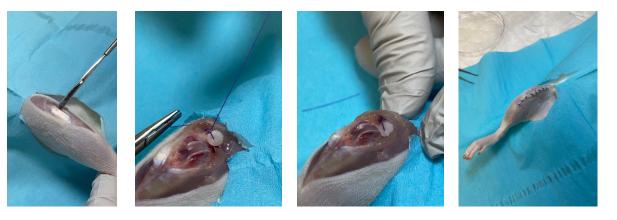
#### Assessment of tumorigenicity and adverse events in vivo



Group	Dosage Level	Number of Rats	
		Males	Females
1 <sup>ª</sup>	Negative Control	15	15
2 <sup>a</sup>	Maximum Feasible Dose	30	30
3p	Positive Control Cells	5	5
4b	1% Spiked Control	5	5
5 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.1% Spiked Control	5	5



#### 4 mm Plurocart implant, knee joint in rat



#### Current stage 1, 5 mo analyzed:

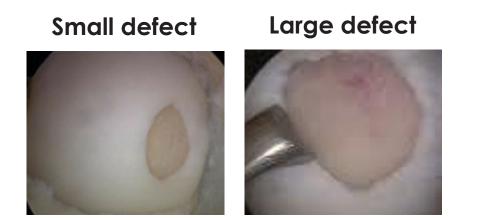
- teratomas: 40% positive in control group (undifferentiated ESI-17 cells)
- no teratomas, no side effects in test article groups (test article=Plurocart)
- ectopic human cartilage in the site of implantation in 70% of rats in test article group

An open-label Phase 1 study (first-in-man) to investigate the safety of Plurocart for the treatment of adults with single full-thickness cartilage defects of the knee

<u>Primary objectives:</u> Safety evaluation of Plurocart as measured via adverse event monitoring. <u>Secondary objectives:</u> Clinical evaluation of Plurocart as measured via 1) patient-reported and knee-related quality of life and symptoms, and 2) MRI. Time of observation: 24 months.

Dose escalation (3-fold) strategy is based on the defect size:



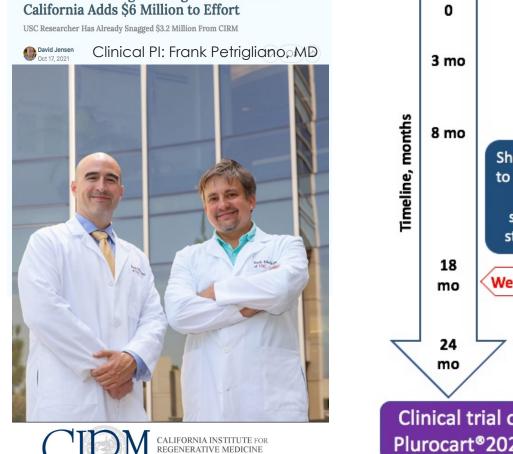


Area range 1-4 cm<sup>2</sup>; average area 2 cm<sup>2</sup> Area range 4-8 cm<sup>2</sup>; average area 6 cm<sup>2</sup>

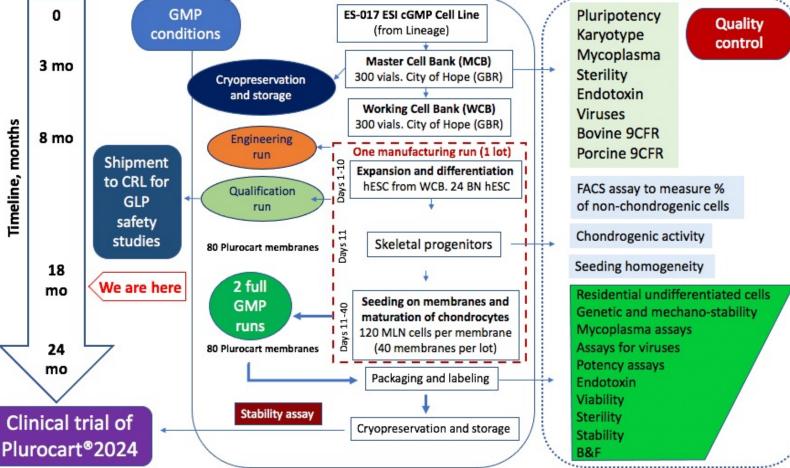
#### Minimally invasive, one stage surgery

## 2022: Clinical Award from CIRM

#### Current status: GMP-grade manufacturing of Plurocart (GMP manufacturing of 80 human implants) for a Phase 1 clinical trial: 2 cm<sup>2</sup> and 8 cm<sup>2</sup> focal lesions in the knee cartilage



Attack on Cartilage Damage and Arthritis:



## Summary

 Systematic analysis of human developmental chondrogenesis defined critical parameters for large-scale manufacturing of functional juvenile articular articular chondrocytes from human PSC

### 2. Plurocart – is a new generation bioimplant

- Allogeneic off-the-shelf product
- Made from "real" stem cells
- Long-term cell engraftment in vivo (> 6 months)
- Generation of functional hyaline articular cartilage in pivotal long-term studies in large animals
- One-stage surgical procedure, surgeon-friendly
- Low cost
- Cons: ES ethical concerns; regulatory, safety in humans is not completely clear, never tested in human patients

#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

#### A Knee or Hip 'Replacement' Without Surgery? It's on the Horizon

Vith better drugs and stem-cell therapies, researchers hope to repair cartilage—or prevent damage—before steoarthritis sets in or an operation is needed



3. "First-in-man" Phase 1 trial of Plurocart for small (2 cm<sup>2</sup>) and large (up to 8 cm<sup>2</sup>) cartilage lesions is scheduled at USC for 2024-2025 (12-16 patients).

## Acknowledgements

Large animal studies: Mark Hurtig, DVM (Guelph, Canada)

Mouse genetic studies: Karen Lyons, PhD (UCLA)

**Epigenetic clocks:** Steve Horvath PhD; Jason Ernst, PhD (UCLA)

#### Key clinical collaborators:

Frank A. Petrigliano, MD (USC) Jay R. Lieberman, MD (USC)

<u>**CROs:</u>** Charles River Labs, IQVIA <u>**GMP production**</u>: City of Hope</u>

#### **Evseenko Lab at USC:**

Nancy Q. Liu, MD (STAT3 in skeletal development) Josh Lee (key PSC work) Jade Tassey (PSC work) Arijita Sarkar, PhD (STAT3 and DNA methylation) Other lab members: Ling Wu, PhD, Gabriel Ferguson, PhD; Xinxiu Li, Jade Tassey, Youngjoo Li, Ruzanna Shkhyan, Jenny Magallanes)

#### **Grant Funding:**

NIH R01AR71734 NIH R01AG058624 DOD: W81XWH-18-1-0511 NIH-NIDCR C\_DOCTOR AWARD CIRM: BBV, TRAN and CLIN Awards





CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

## CAR T-Cell Therapy:

#### Navigating the Development Challenges

Mohamed Abou-el-Enein, MD, PhD, MSPH Executive Director, USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program Director, USC/CHLA cGMP Facility Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine (Oncology), Pediatrics, and Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine

October 20, 2023

Regulatory Science Symposium







The mention of specific commercial products, equipment, instruments, and materials in this presentation does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. Nor should it be interpreted as an assertion that these are the best products available for the intended purpose.





### Agenda

Introduction to CAR T cell therapy and its clinical applications in hematological malignancies

>Addressing key challenges in developing CAR T cell therapy:

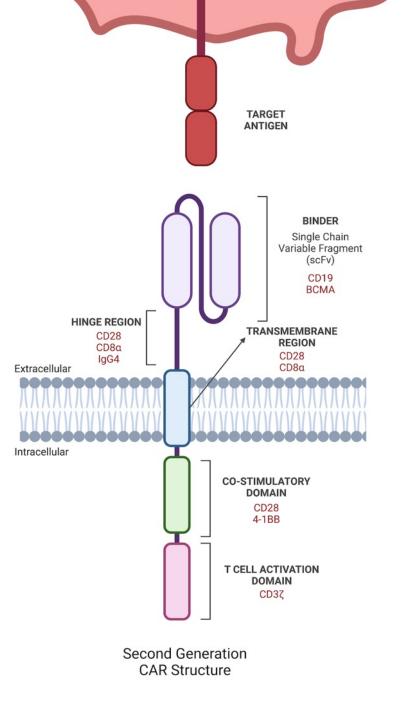
- Limited long-term outcome data
- Difficulty in comparing CAR T cell therapies to standard care for cost-effectiveness analysis
- Complex manufacturing process and potential solutions
- Translational infrastructure required for cell therapy development





### Principles of CAR T cells

- **CAR T cells:** Personalized immunotherapy using patient's own T cells, genetically engineered to target specific tumor antigens for cancer treatment.
- Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) Structure:
- Binder: Ensures antigen recognition, specificity, and affinity
- Hinge region: Provides flexibility and maintains optimal distance to the target
- > Transmembrane Region: Contributes to receptor stability and function
- Co-stimulatory Domain: Augments T cell function, metabolism, and persistence
- T cell activation domain: Facilitates downstream T cell activation and functional responses



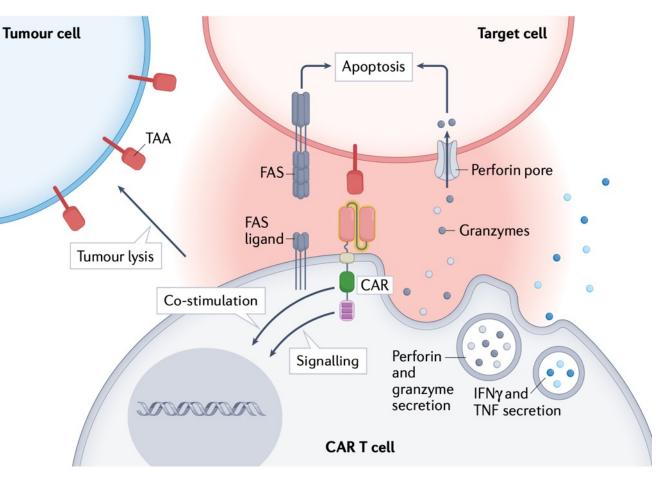




### Principles of CAR T cells

#### CAR T Cell Killing Mechanism:

- Recognize Tumor-Associated Antigen (TAA)
- Form Immune Synapse with Target Cell
- Release Cytotoxic Granules
- Induce Target Cell Apoptosis
- Trigger Cytokine Release & Immune Activation
- Main target: CD19, specifically expressed on Bcells
- Remarkable success in hematological B-cell malignancies as a third line of treatment in Lymphoma and Leukemia
- Recently approved CAR T-cells targeting BCMA for Multiple Myeloma

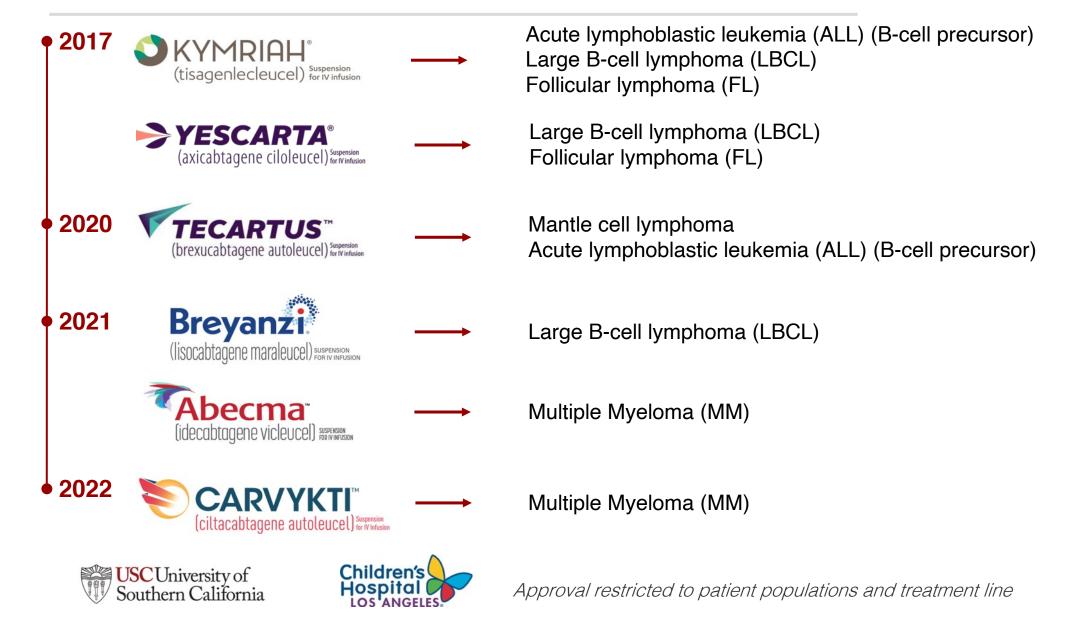


Flugel et al. Nat. Rev. Clin. Oncol. 2022





### FDA Approved CAR T cells



### The Value of CAR T Cell Therapy

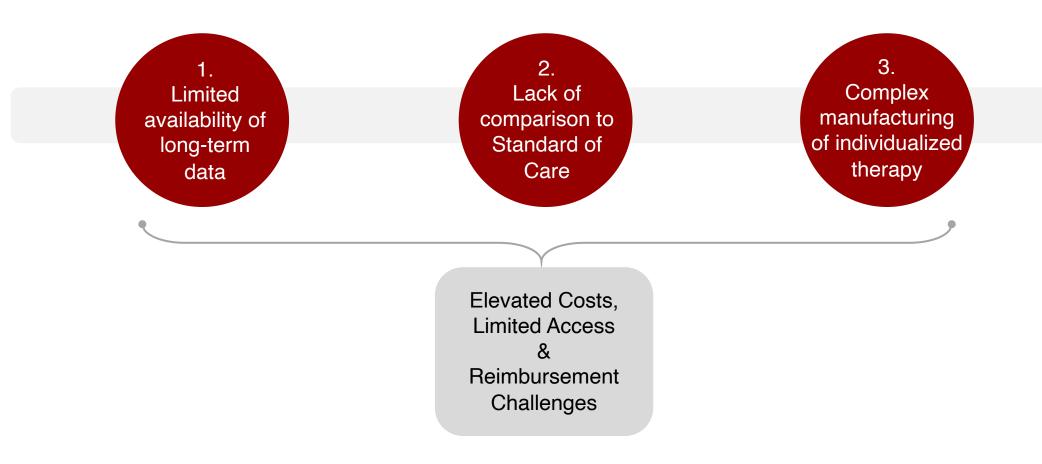
- Primary obstacle for first-line therapy adoption: High cost of CAR T-cell therapy
- Price Range: \$373,000 to \$475,000 for a single dose
- List price does NOT cover hospitalization, pre- and posttreatment, or side effect management. Overall cost ranges from \$500,000 to \$1 million.
- The Medicare reimbursement via MS-DRG 018 doesn't cover the full costs and services (average national reimbursement rate of \$239,933)







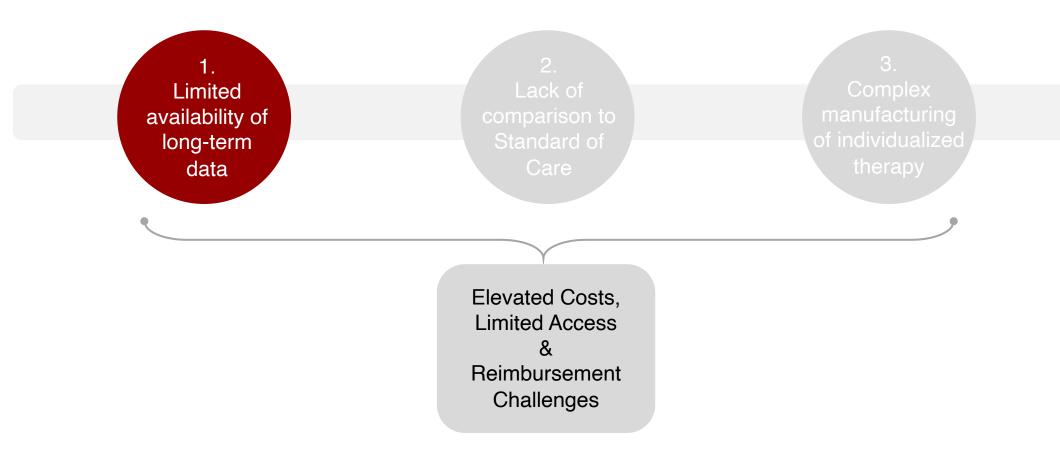
### Roadblocks to CAR T cell Therapy Adoption







### Roadblocks to CAR T cell Therapy Adoption







### Long-Term Outcomes: Meta-Analysis

#### Leukemia (B-ALL)

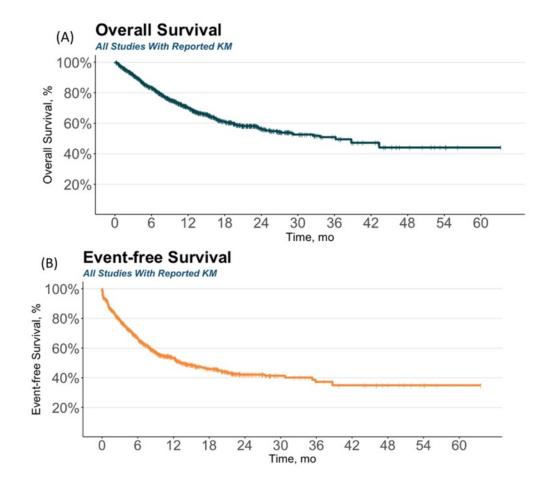
**USC** University of

Southern California

- Analyzed 38 reports of 2,134 patients with relapsed/refractory (r/r) B-ALL
- 5-year overall survival was 44.1%.
- Cytokine release syndrome was reported in 83% of patients and neurotoxicity in 30%.
- Only 4 of 38 studies reported information on participant race/ethnicity.
- African Americans and Asians represented at 6.2% and 4.3%, respectively.

Children's

• Typical 5-year survival: 20%. With CAR T cells: 44.1%, showing long-term benefits.

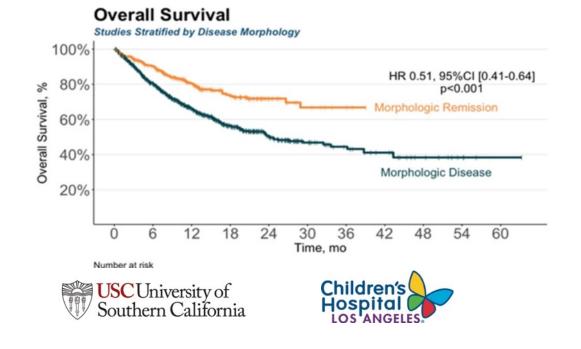


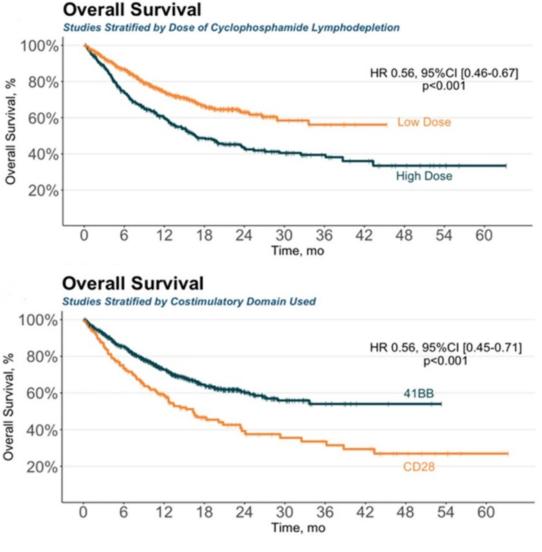
Elsallab et al. (2023), Cancer Gene Therapy

### Long-Term Outcomes: Meta-Analysis

#### Lower survival features:

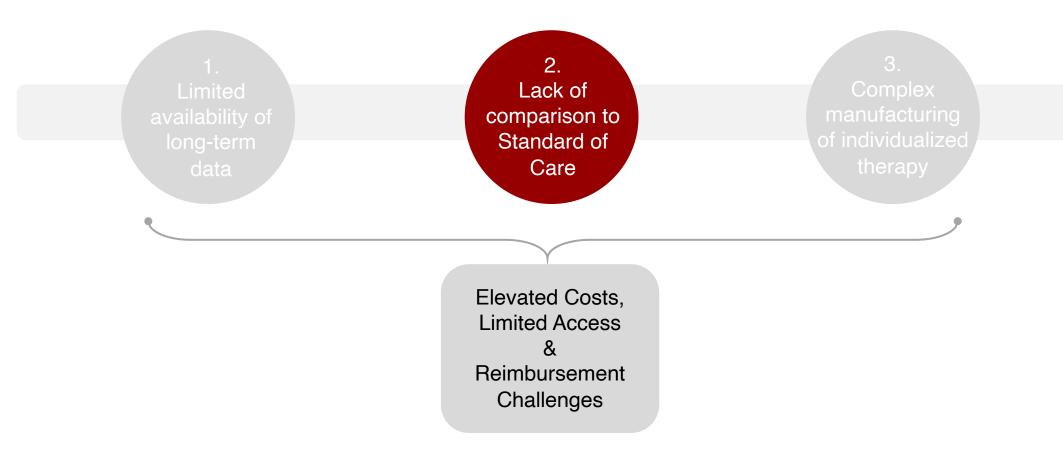
- Patients with morphologic disease prior to treatment
- CD28 domain lower persistence & less sustained response
- Lymphodepletion: High-dose of cyclophosphamide





Elsallab et al. (2023), Cancer Gene Therapy

### Roadblocks to CAR T cell Therapy Adoption







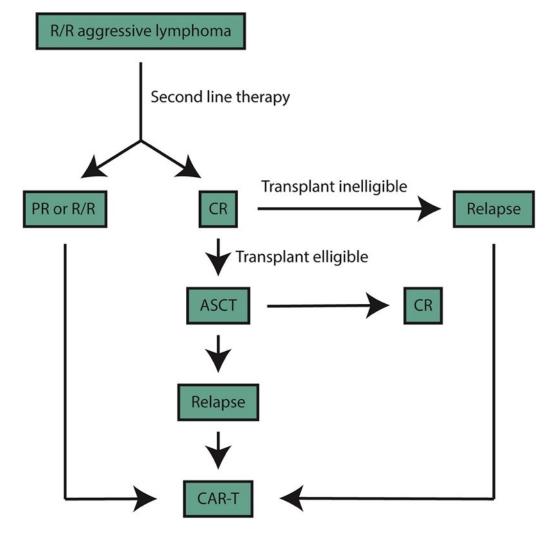
### CAR T vs. Standard Care: Cost-Effectiveness

## Cost-effectiveness analyses are vital for therapy acceptance by health insurance providers

Assessing CAR T-cell therapy faces challenges:

- Limited randomized studies for direct comparison to standard care (3<sup>rd</sup> line)
- ✓ Reliance on historical data
- Variability in bridging therapies and lymphodepletion approaches

As CAR T-cell therapies move towards earlier lines (2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>) of treatment, **cost-effectiveness analysis becomes more feasible.** 



Leick et al. (2021), Molecular Therapy





### CAR T vs. Standard Care: Cost-Effectiveness

#### Large B-cell Lymphoma

- Evaluated CAR T-cell therapies as 2nd-line or 3<sup>rd</sup>-line treatment for r/r DLBCL
- Axicabtagene ciloleucel (2nd-line) and tisagenlecleucel (3rd-line or later) were costeffective at \$150,000/QALY
- Tisagenlecleucel (2nd-line): dominated by standard care
- Clinical outcomes (ZUMA-7 and BELINDA) align with cost-effectiveness
- Despite survival benefits and costeffectiveness, CAR T remains expensive.

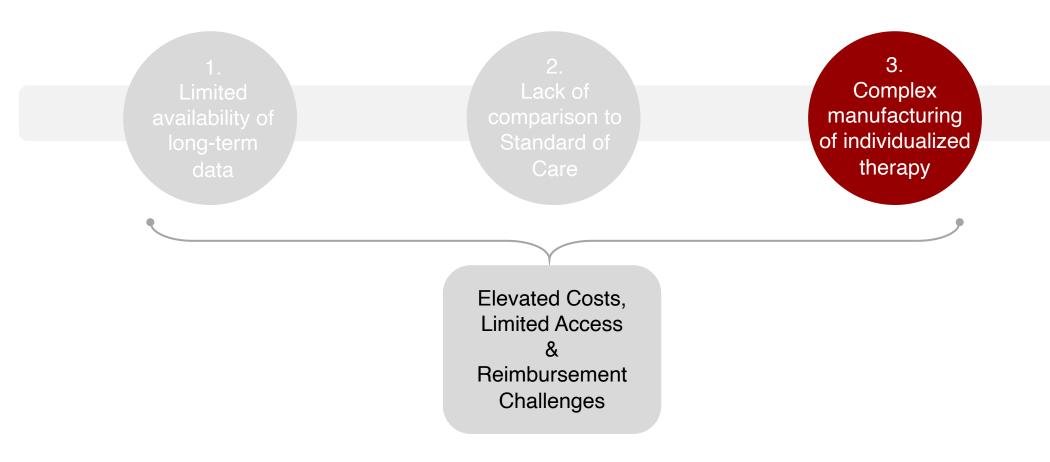
	Incremental		
Analysis perspectives	Costs, \$ <sup>a</sup>	QALYs	ICER per QALY, \$ <sup>a</sup>
Base case			
Health care sector perspectives			
Axicabtagene ciloleucel (2L)	59754	0.60	99 101
Standard care	NA	NA	NA
Tisagenlecleucel (2L)	37 803	-0.02	Dominated <sup>b</sup>
Standard care	NA	NA	NA
Tisagenlecleucel (≥3L)	271 399	2.14	126 593
Standard care	NA	NA	NA
Societal perspectives			
Axicabtagene ciloleucel (2L)	59076	0.60	97 977
Standard care	NA	NA	NA
Tisagenlecleucel (2L)	39 480	-0.02	Dominated <sup>b</sup>
Standard care	NA	NA	NA
Tisagenlecleucel (≥3L)	274 442	2.14	128012
Standard care	NA	NA	NA

Choe et al. (2022), JAMA Network





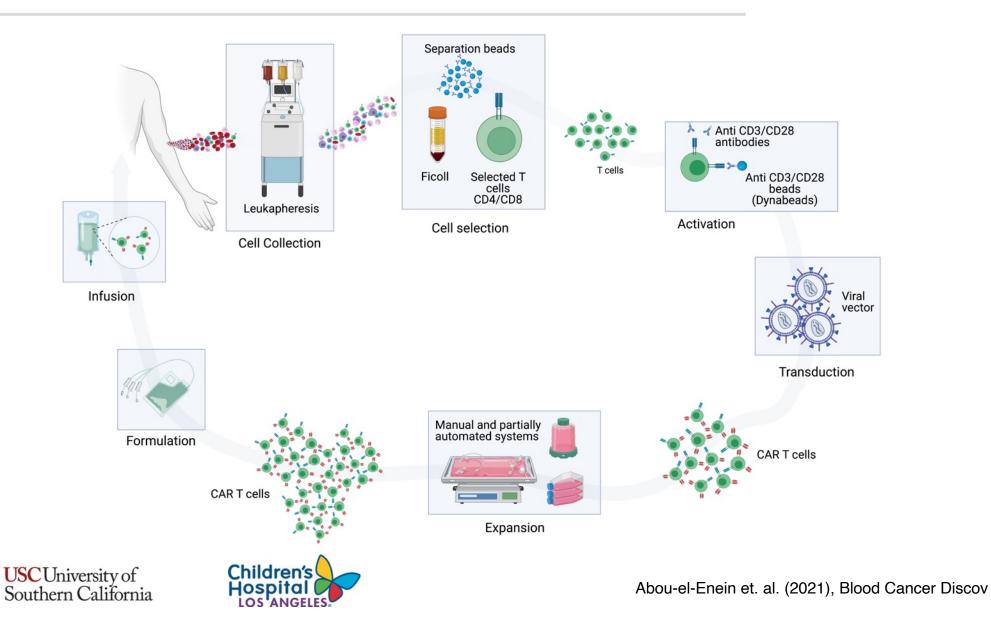
### Roadblocks to CAR T cell Therapy Adoption







#### CAR T Cell Manufacturing



#### Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Overcoming Challenges

CHALLENGE	RESPONSE
Expensive cGMP Facilities add to the overall cost of therapy	Shorten manufacturing times and personnel involvement
<b>Open processes</b> increase contamination risks and may result in operator errors, leading to significant manufacturing delays	Implement automated/closed systems to enhance workflow efficiency and shorten manufacturing time
Autologous cells of poor quality may add complexity and variability to the process, leading to production failures	Develop <b>allogeneic cell therapies</b> to enable large-scale production, catering to a broader range of patients
Viral vectors for genetic delivery pose safety concerns and high costs	Develop & optimize non-viral delivery for improved safety & efficiency





### 1-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: What is cGMP?



Highly controlled and clean environment



maintenance of premises & equipment

:

Identifying deviations, investigating causes, & taking actions

X

Operationally independent quality control (QC) system Specialized Personnel

Rigorous product testing under set acceptance criteria Traceability of starting materials, raw materials and final products

Quality

Management

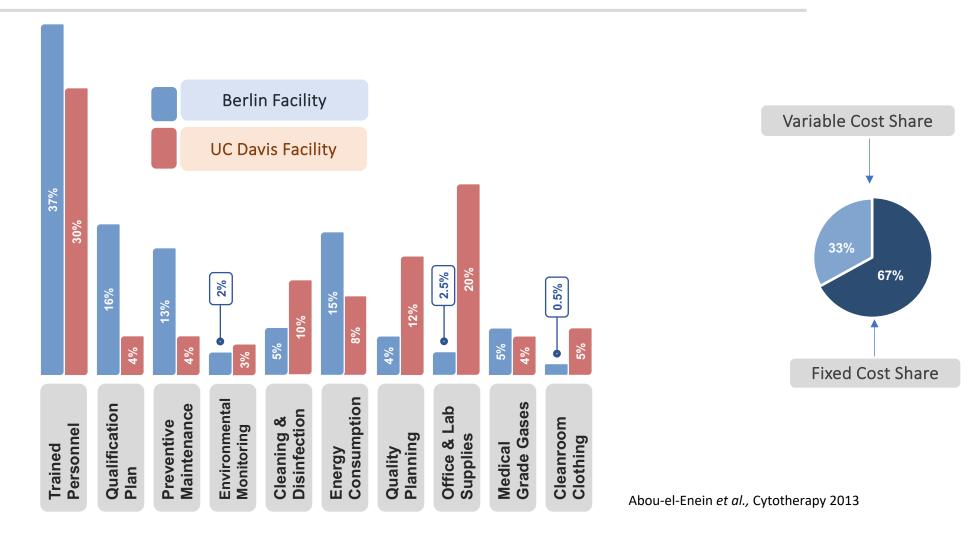
System

5





### 1-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: cGMP costs



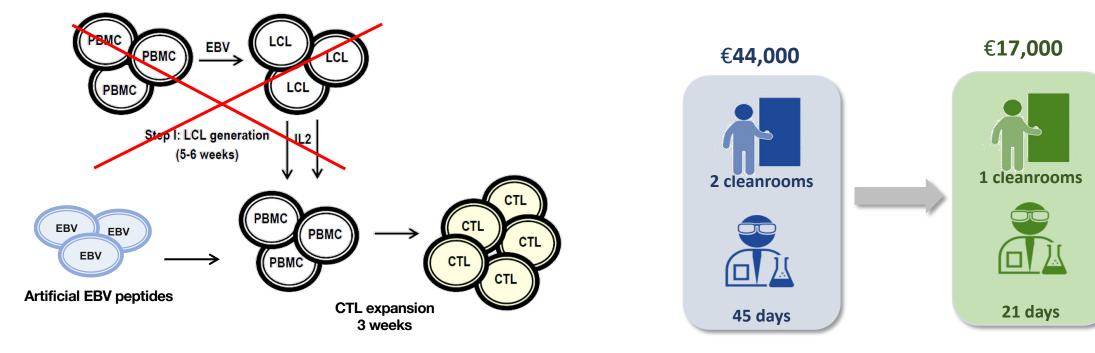




### 1-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: cGMP costs

#### Cost estimation and optimization of EBV-specific T cell therapy

- Optimized manufacturing process (protein-spanning peptide pool)
- Shorter manufacturing duration and reduce cleanroom use



**EBV** = Epstein-Barr virus **LCL** = Lymphoblastoid Cell Lines





Abou-el-Enein M, et. al. Cytotherapy. 2013

### 2-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Closing the Process



- Open systems
- Labor intensive (manual)
- Stringent cleanroom requirements

- Open & semi-closed
- High number of operator interventions
- Additional instruments required

- Semi-closed
- Less operator interventions
- Additional instruments required

- Functionally closed/automated
- Minimal operator interventions
- Less stringent cleanroom requirement

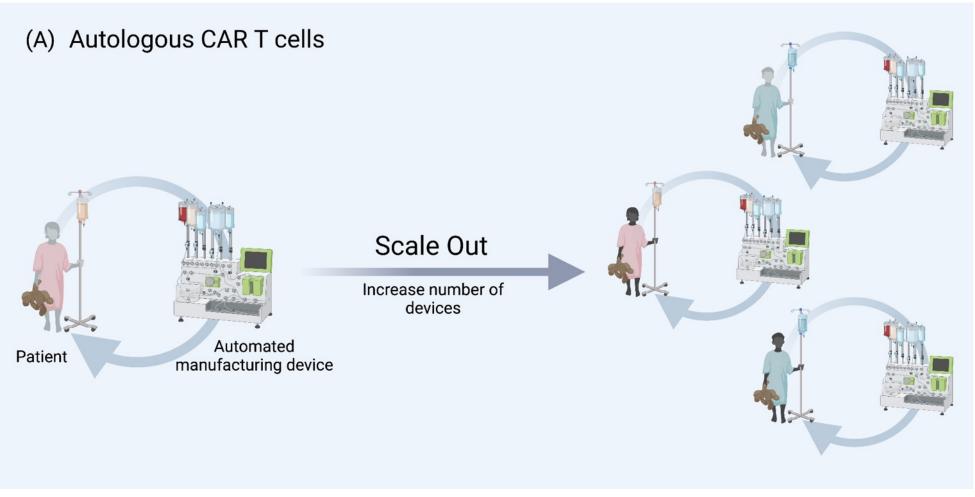
**Closed/automated** 



**Open/Manual** 



### 2-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Closing the Process



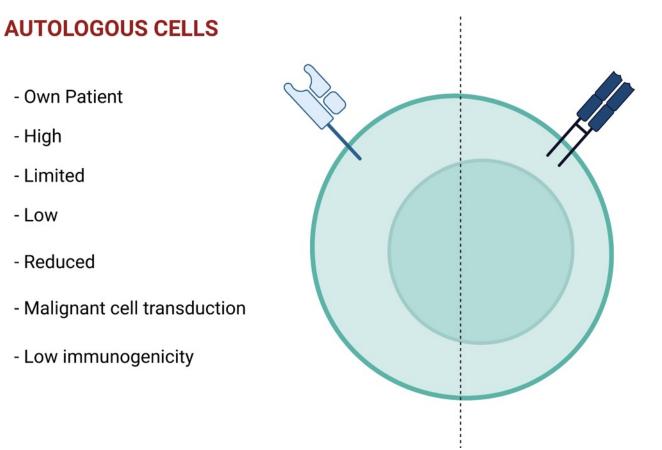
Abou-el-Enein et. al. Blood Cancer Discov., 01 September 2021





#### 3-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Autologous to allogeneic

Origin	- Own Patient
Variability	- High
Availability	- Limited
Quality of SM	- Low
Batch Size	- Reduced
Risks	- Malignant cell transdu
Benefits	- Low immunogenicity



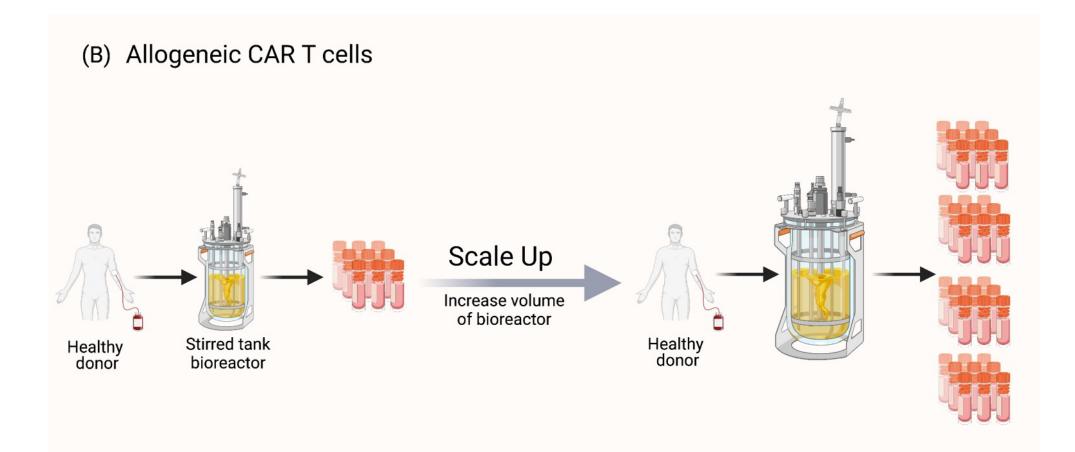
#### **ALLOGENEIC CELLS**

- Healthy Donor
- Low
- On demand
- High
- Large scale
- Alloreactivity & GvHD
- Standardization & scaling





### 3-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Autologous to allogeneic

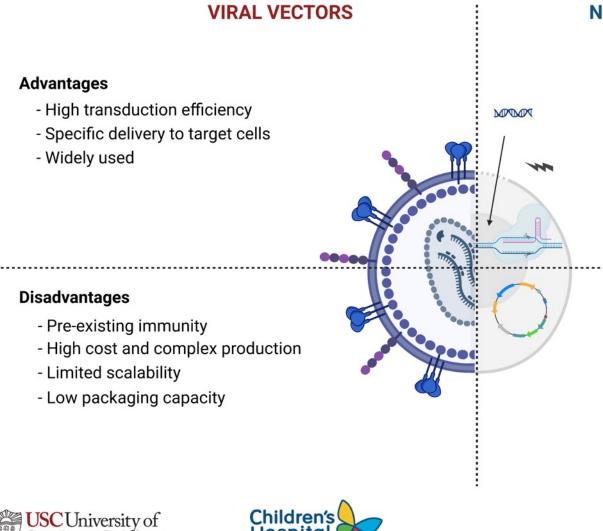






Abou-el-Enein et. al. Blood Cancer Discov., 01 September 2021

## 4-Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Viral to non-viral



Southern California

#### **NON-VIRAL VECTORS**

#### Advantages

- Low immunogenicity
- Low cost
- Scalable
- High packaging capacity
- Enable multiplex editing

#### Disadvantages

- Low transfection efficiency
- Low cell viability
- Need for cell sorting post-engineering
- Limited experience

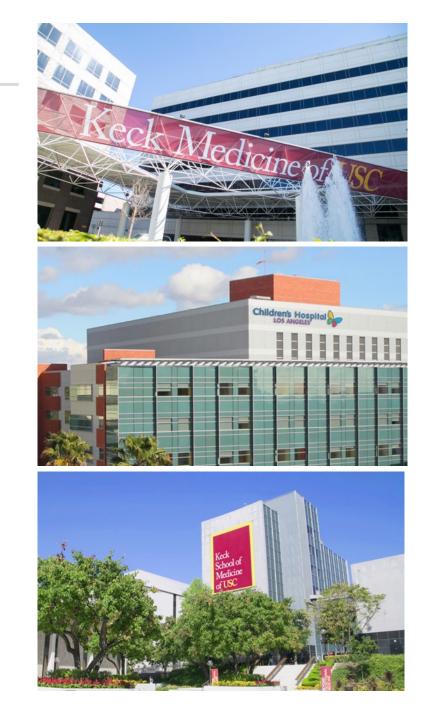
## USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program

- Launched in 2021 with investment from Keck School of Medicine (KSOM) of USC, Keck Medicine (KM) of USC, and Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA).
- Create a mature ecosystem for clinical translation of cell and gene
  therapy research.
- Provide comprehensive support; from strategic planning and training to product manufacturing and quality testing.

The centerpiece is a state-of-the-art cGMP facility

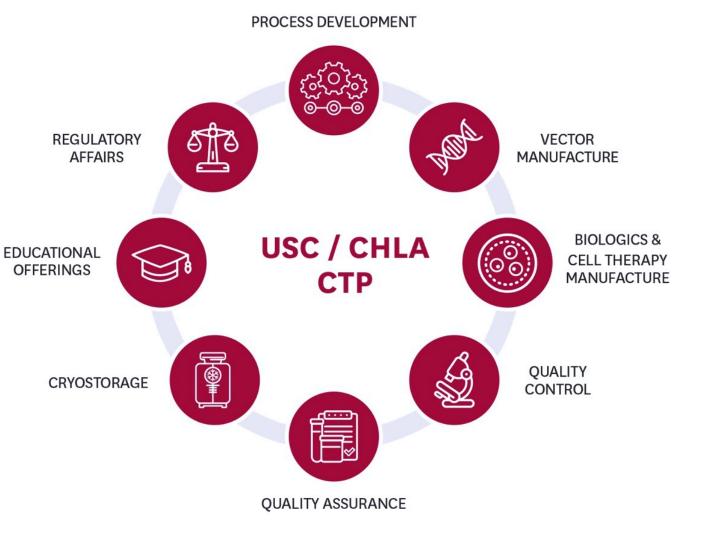






## Cell Therapy Manufacturing: Capabilities

- Serves a **diverse range of clients**, both internal and external.
- Supports **all stages of clinical trials**, from pre-clinical to Phase I, II, and III.
- Offers more than just CDMO services, providing strategic, regulatory, and scientific support.







## USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program: cGMP

#### Opened January 24, 2023.

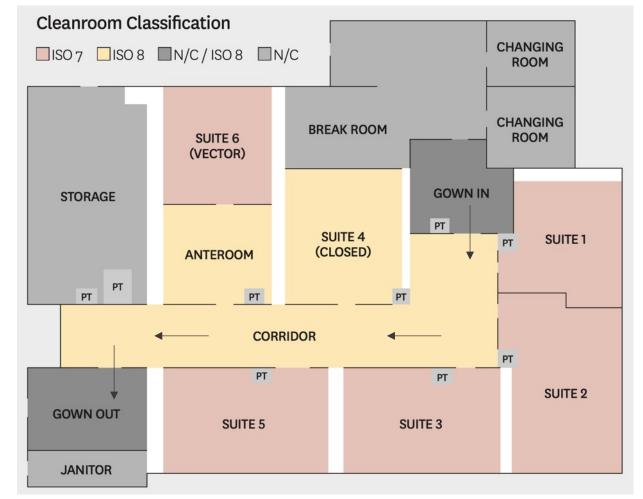
The cGMP facility spans 3,184 sf and has:

- Four ISO-7 cleanrooms for product manufacturing
- One ISO-7 cleanroom for **vector** manufacturing
- One ISO-8 for closed system manufacturing

#### Supporting infrastructure:

- Quality Control (QC) lab
- Process Development (PD) lab
- Vector Engineering lab

Maximum capacity: Approx. 200 patient products per year.







### cGMP CIRM Network

### cGMP CIRM Network \$2M (2024-2025)

- Implemented eQMS to boost efficiency and reduce errors in manufacturing.
- Optimized and scaled cell therapy manufacturing workflow for network-wide use.
- Developed in-house viral vector production.
- Launched cell therapy training, focusing on talent from diverse backgrounds.
- Forged key partnerships with academia and industry leaders.

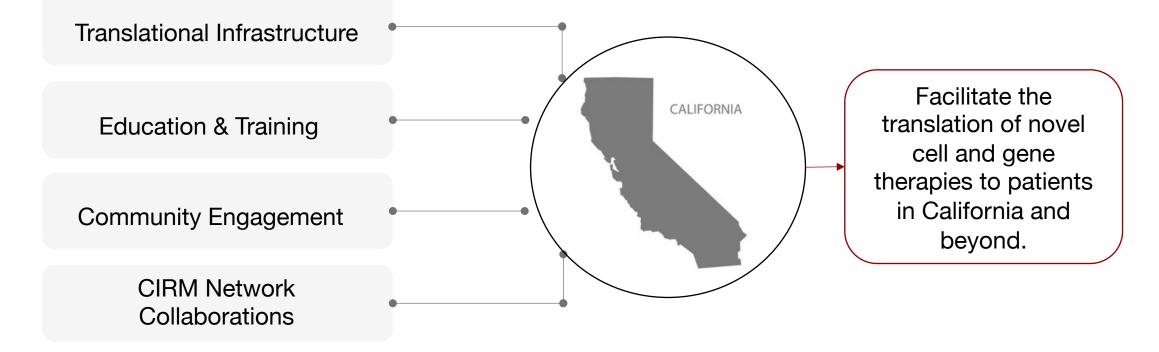






### **CIRM Alpha Clinic**

### USC+CHLA CIRM Alpha Clinic \$8M (2023-2027)









### USC+CHLA CIRM Alpha Clinic

Director: Tom Buchanan



Associate Director: Mohamed Abou-el-Enein

Site PI at CHLA: Alan Wayne

CIRM Network Liaison: Juliane Glaeser





#### **Core Competencies | Offerings:**

- cGMP manufacturing and process development
- Workforce Training: 4-unit course on cell and gene therapy development
- Clinical Trial Quality Training: Three-part series on study monitoring and site inspections
- Vision diseases expertise
- Musculoskeletal diseases expertise
- Craniofacial & Dental disease expertise
- Pediatric diseases expertise
- Community engagement: Support network partners with community outreach strategies.







### Summary

- CAR T-cell therapy has shown remarkable success in treating hematological B-cell malignancies and is moving towards earlier lines of treatment.
- High costs and reimbursement challenges limit their broad adoption
- Addressing challenges such as complex manufacturing can help reduce costs & improve accessibility.
- Automation, allogeneic cell therapies, and non-viral gene delivery methods are being developed to overcome manufacturing challenges.
- Translational infrastructure and manufacturing technologies are critical to advance therapy development and increase access to patients.







### Acknowledgment

### **USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program**

Alix Vaissie Amaia Cadinanos-Garai Xia Wu Victoria Olvera Vivian Quach Michael Woo Nanor Deirbadrossian Chiara Baraldi Ivan Segovia

### Alpha Clinic

Thomas Buchanan Allan Wayne Juliane Glaeser Elia Plascencia Cort Brinkerhoff Brenda Zaragoza-Dorado

### **Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Caryn Lerman Christopher Loertscher Patti Goldberger and many more colleagues....



Keck School of Medicine of USC



USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center Keck Medicine of USC



# CAR T-Cell Therapy:

### Navigating the Development Challenges

#### Thank you!

Dr. Mohamed Abou-el-Enein mabouele@usc.edu



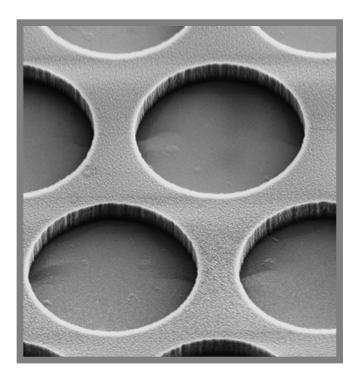
Follow us on LinkedIn & Twitter: USC/CHLA Cell Therapy Program

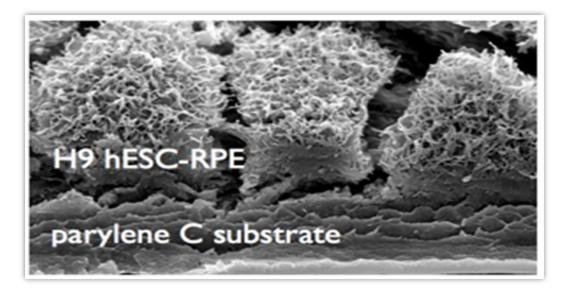






### Stem Cell Implant: For Restoring Sight to the Blind Phase 1/2A Results in Geographic Atrophy



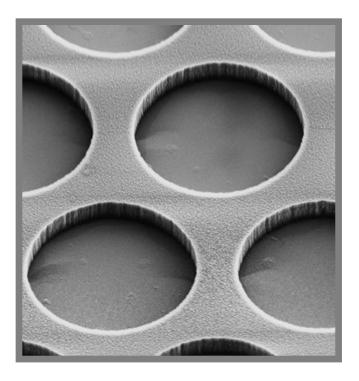


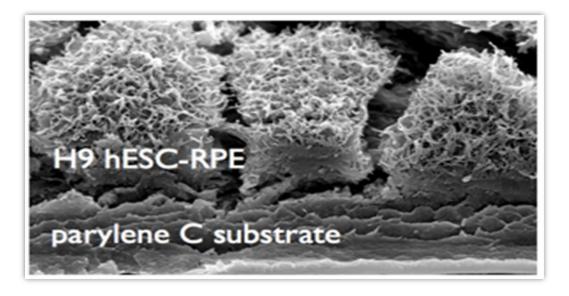
### Mark S. Humayun, MD, PhD

Cornelius Pings Chair in Biomedical Sciences Professor of Ophthalmology and Biomedical Engineering Director USC Ginsburg Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics Co-Director USC Roski Eye Institute



### **Marriage of Ophthalmology & Bioengineering**





### Mark S. Humayun, MD, PhD

Cornelius Pings Chair in Biomedical Sciences Professor of Ophthalmology and Biomedical Engineering Director USC Ginsburg Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics Co-Director USC Roski Eye Institute



# **Impact of Blindness**



## **Macular Degeneration**

### Macular Degeneration

- 196M living with macular degeneration in 2020
- Expected 288 million by 2040
  - The Lancet. Volume 2, No. 2, e106–e116, February 2014
- Global Cost of Visual Impairment due to Age-Related Macular Degeneration
  - ~\$300 billion
  - \$255 billion in direct health care costs
    - Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science April 2011, Vol.52, 5543





## **Eye and Retina**

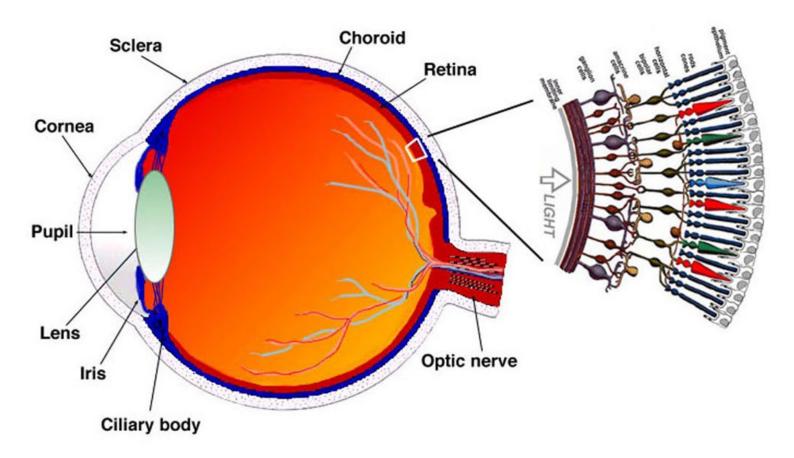


Fig. 1.1. A drawing of a section through the human eye with a schematic enlargement of the retina.



## **Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)**

**Early AMD** 

Dysfunction of retinal

pigmented epithelium

**Degeneration of** 

Bruch's membrane

Accumulation of drusen

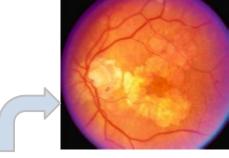
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(RPE)

#### **Advanced AMD**



- Progressive Loss of RPE and photoreceptors
- Loss of Vision

Dry (atrophic) AMD 80-90%

Wet (exudative) AMD 10-20%

USC Roski Eye Institute Keck Medicine of USC

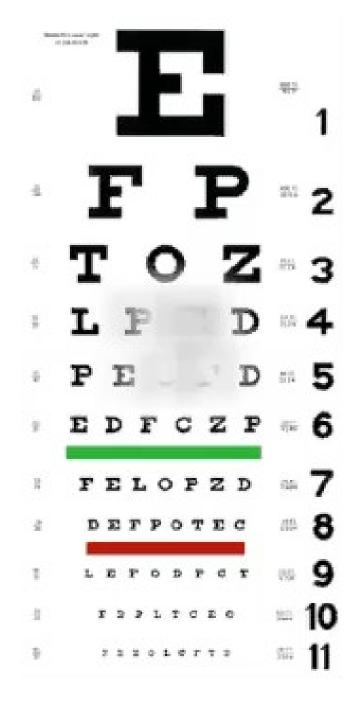
Normal

# The Case for Using Stem Cells to Treat Blindness

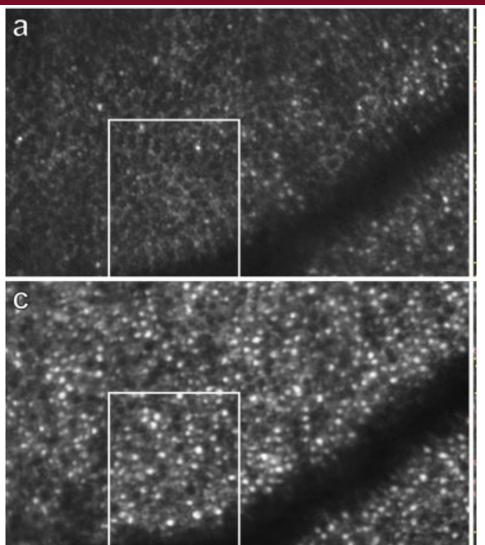


## Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)

- AMD Leads to photoreceptor (rods and cones) function loss
  - Anti-VEGF (vascular endothelial growth factor) for wet AMD
- Bioengineered stem cell derived implant
  - Proposes to re-establish host photoreceptor function
  - May not require a neuronal transplant



### Damaged Cones: Capable of Generating New Outer Segments



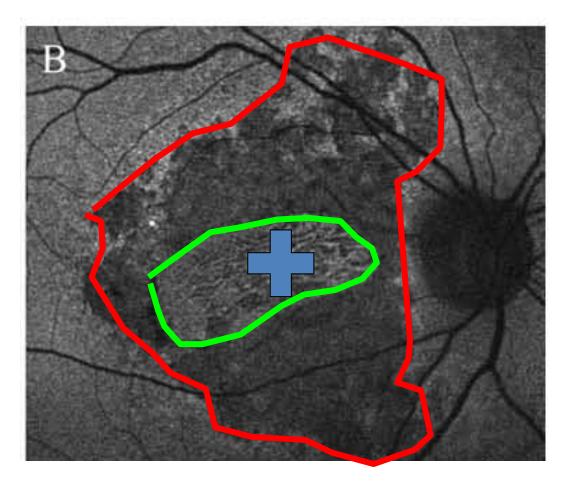
- Imaging with an adaptive optics scanning laser ophthalmoscope (AOSLO) showed depletion of cone outer segments in the affected retina
- A year later visual function had improved, with shrinkage of the enlarged blind spot
- AOSLO imaging *showed repopulation of cone outer segments*, although not returned to normal

Sci Rep. 2015; 5: 12364



### Visual Acuity Improvement after Autologous RPE Transplant





Evidence for heath of retina and choriocapillaris High complication rate (up to 45%)

# **Types of Stem Cells**



## **Types of Stem Cells**

# **Pluripotent:** Can give rise to most cell types

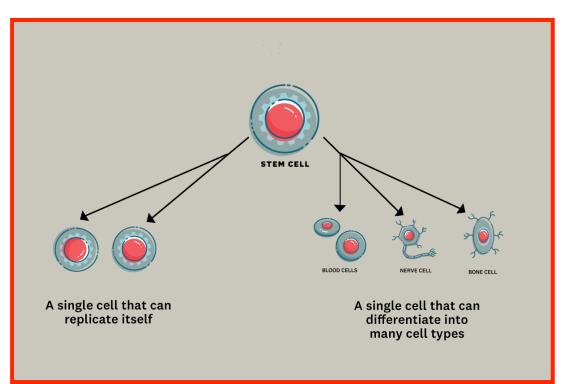
- Embryonic Stem Cells
- Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

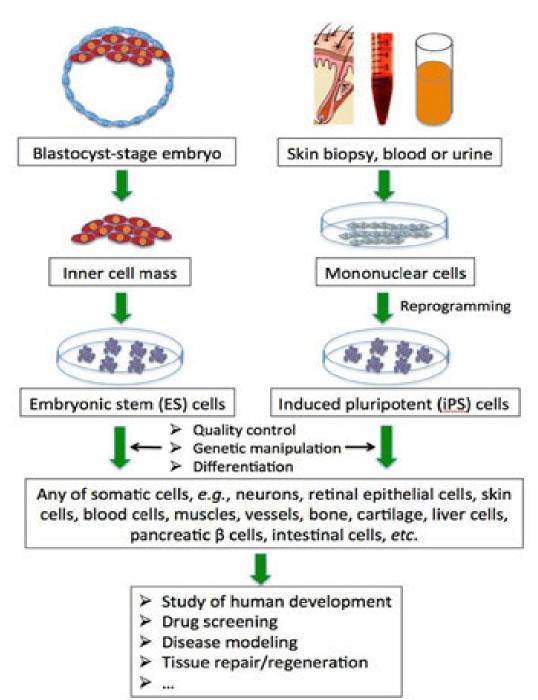
# **Multipotent:** Can give rise to a few cell types

- Adult Stem Cells: fat, bone marrow
- Perinatal Stem Cells: amniotic fluid, umbilical cord blood

### Caution

- Stem cells derived from autologous fat has led to blindness when injected into the eye of patients with AMD
- Risk of Tumor formation and rejection





#### Yamanaka Factors-

group of protein transcriptional factors (Nobel Prize)

#### Oct4, Sox2, Klf4, Myc

UConn-Wesleyan Stem Cell Core

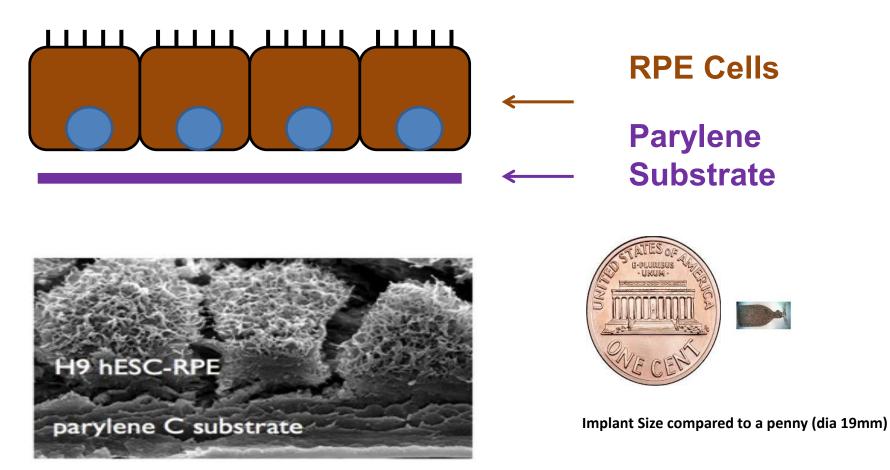
# **Stem Cell Suspension or Sheet**



Therapy	Developer	Status of Product
Suspension hESC-derived RPE Cells	Lineage Cell Therapeutics/ Genentech	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in GA
Suspension hESC-derived RPE Cells	Astellas (Formerly Ocata)	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in GA
Polarized hESC-derived RPE Cells on a Biodegradable Scaffold	University College London	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in Wet AMD
Polarized Autologous iPSC-derived RPE Cells on a Biodegradable Scaffold	National Eye Institute	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in GA
Suspension Adult RPE Progenitor Cells	LuxaBio; Neural Stem Cell Institute	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in GA
iPSC-Derived RPE Cells on an Amniotic Membrane	I-Stem	Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial in GA
Autologous and Haploidentical iPSC- derived RPE Cells in Suspension or on Sheets	Riken Institute, Kobe Eye Center	Pilot Clinical Trials in GA and Wet AMD
Suspension Autologous iPSC-derived RPE Cells	UCLA	Preclinical Development
iPSC-derived RPE Cells in a Fibrin Gel	Seeing Medicine	Preclinical Development

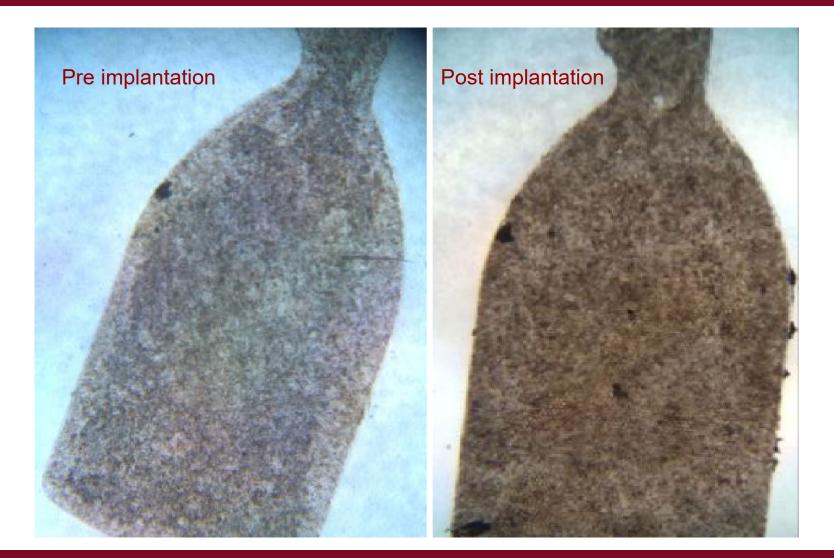
### Stem Cell Derived RPE Patch: Addresses Need for Polarized Monolayer on Basement Membrane

Manufactured by Regenerative Patch Technologies, LLC



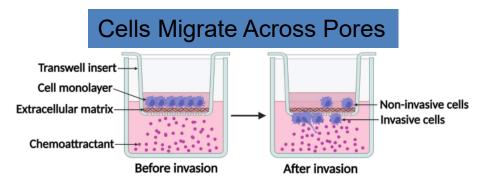


### No Loss of Cells from Implant Due to Insertion Tool

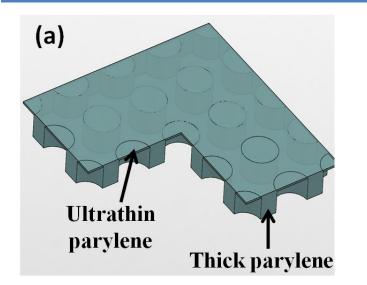




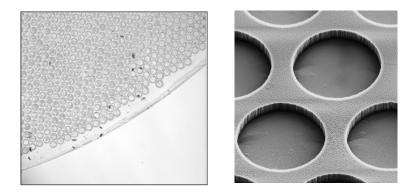
## **Synthetic Non-Porous Biomimetic Membrane**



#### Solution: Non-Porous Membrane

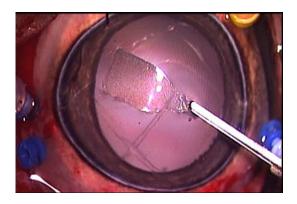


- Thick parylene mesh (6µm) provides mechanical support for surgical handling
- Ultrathin parylene membrane (0.4µm) provides diffusion of nutrients

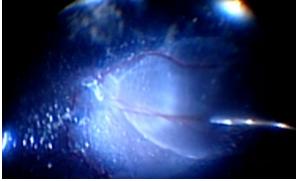




## **CPCB-RPE1 Implantation Procedure**

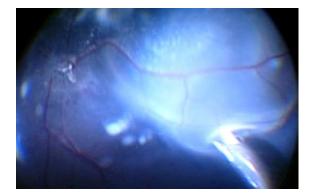




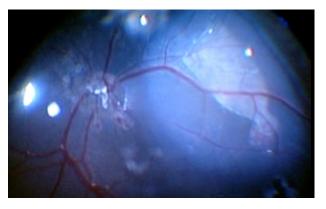


Loading of Implant

**Subretinal Infusion** 



**Subretinal implantation** 



Subretinal position of Implant



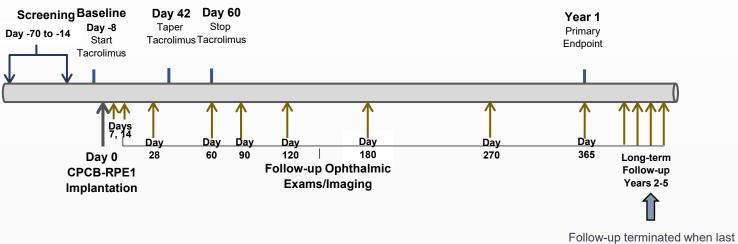
# **First in Human Studies**



## Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial Design: Summary

Study Design and Population	Single Arm Open Label Study in Subjects with Advanced, Dry Age-related Macular Degeneration with Significant Geographic Atrophy Involving the Central Fovea	
Number of Subjects	20 (2 Cohorts of 10 Patients Each) Male or Female Subjects from 55 to 85 Years of Age	
CPCB-RPE1 Implant Delivery	Pars Plana Vitrectomy with Implant to Subretinal Space	
Dose	One Implant	
Primary Endpoint	Test the Safety and Tolerability of CPCB-RPE1 at 1 Year Post Implantation	
Secondary Endpoint	Assess Visual Acuity, Visual Field and Retinal Function After CPCB-RPE1 Administration	
Exploratory Endpoints	Change in Area of Geographic Atrophy, Contrast Sensitivity	
Subject Follow-up	Ophthalmic Exams up to 5 Years; Long-term Follow-up for Additional 10 Years	
Major Inclusion Criteria	GeographicAtrophy, 1 <sup>St</sup> Cohort VisualAcuity ≤20/200; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cohort 20/80 to >20/400	
Major Exclusion Criteria	No Other Retinal Disease but Dry AMD; No History of Retinal Detachment; No History of Glaucoma or Diabetes Mellitus / Diabetic Retinopathy (except mild)	

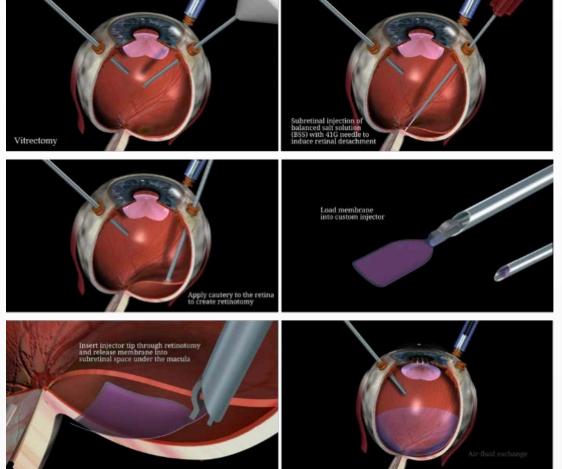
#### -RP1-14-01 Clinical Study Schema



patient reached 3 years of followup

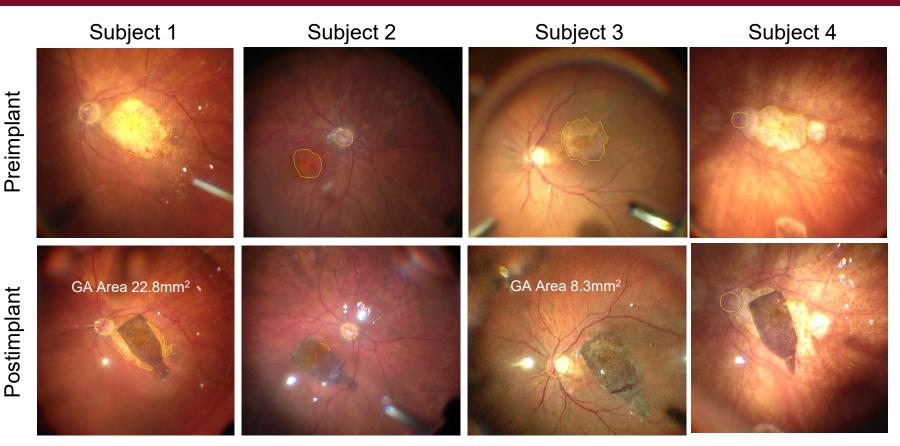


## Surgical Steps



Published in Ophthalmology, Volume 127, Issue 4, April 2020, Pages 436-441

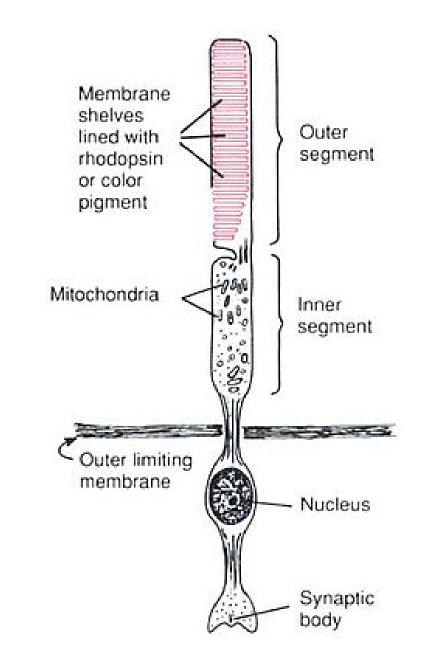
## **Intraoperative Surgical Placement**

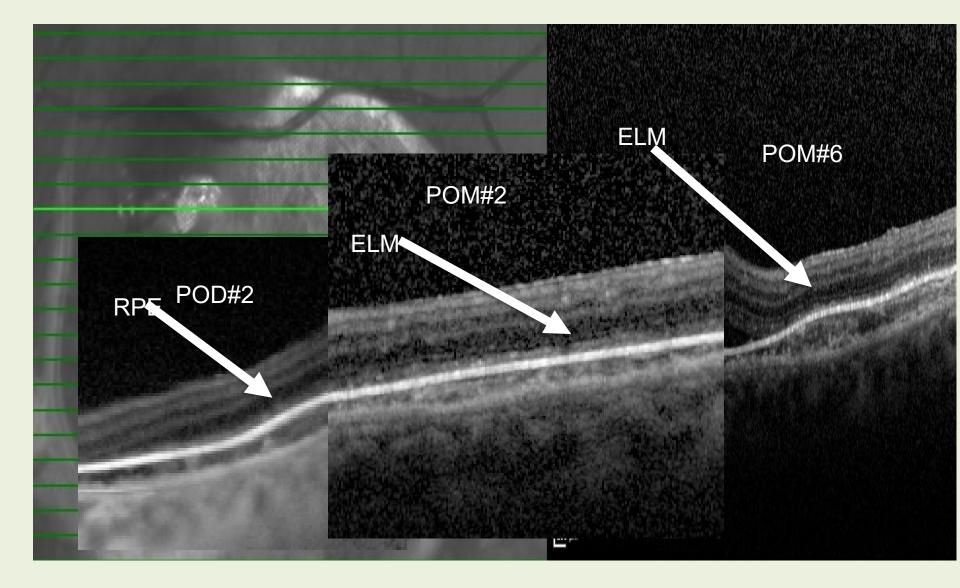


Median GA Size = 13.8 mm<sup>2</sup>; Median coverage by Implant = 87% ; ~ 22mm<sup>2</sup> Published in *Ophthalmol Retina*. 2020; 4(3): 264–273

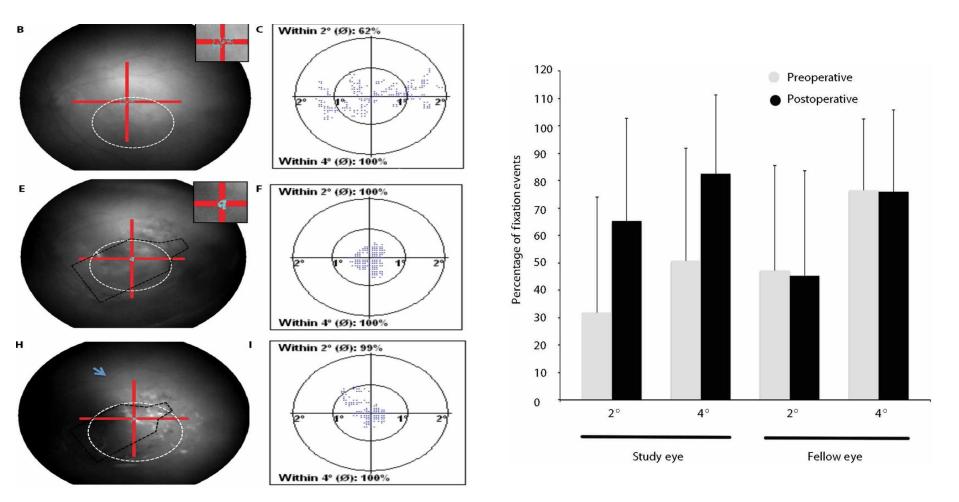


## Dormant Photoreceptors





# **Improved Fixation**



Use deep learning algorithms that are predicative of better outcomes



**USC**Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics

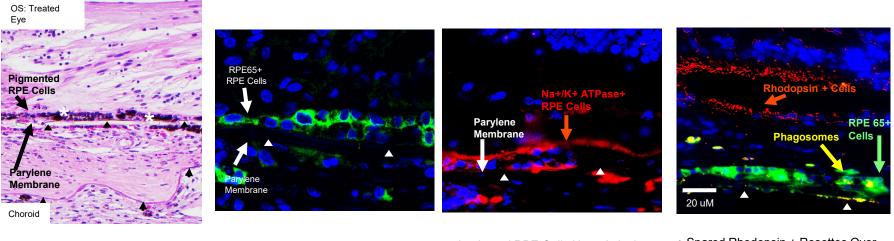
# Science Translational Medicine



# **No Immune Rejection**

### The Transplanted RPE Cells are Polarized, Express Visual Function Proteins with Evidence of Phagocytic Activity

Histological sections through the implant at >2 Years post-administration in deceased subject 125



- Pigmented **RPE Cells Survive** on the Parylene Membrane at Least 2 Years
- Implanted RPE Cells Express RPE65, a Visual Function Protein
- Implanted RPE Cells Have Apical Expression of Na+/K+ATPase, Suggesting Polarized Mature Function.
- Spared Rhodopsin + Rosettes Over Implant
- **Presence of Phagosomes** Suggests Functional Integration of Implant RPE Cells

**14/16 mismatched alleles;** only 1 subject developed "weak antibody response Mean fluorescence intensity between 1000-3000 ; 97- 99 HLA Class I and II

Published in Stem Cell Reports, Vol 17, pp 448-458, March 2022

# **Substantial and Sustained Improvement of Vision**

Changes in BCVA as of Latest Follow-up (mean 34, median 36, range 12-48 mos)

#### 27% (4/15) Subjects Improved 7-15 Letters in treated eyes

Treated Eye % (n/15 Implanted Subjects)	Untreated Eye % (n/15 Implanted Subjects)
27% (4/15)	0% (0/15)
60% (9/15)	20% (3/15)
40% (6/15)	80% (12/15)
	% (n/15 Implanted Subi cts) 27% (4/15) 60% (9/15)

#### 80 % (12/15) Subjects Lost 8-21 Letters In untreated eyes

#### Published in TVST – Special Issue Vol 10, No 10, 2021

One-Year Follow-Up in a Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial of an Allogeneic RPE Cell Bioengineered Implant for Advanced Dry Age-Related Macular Degeneration

# **Summary**



**USC** Institute for Biomedical Therapeutics

# Summary

- Pluripotent stem cells (hESC, and iPSC) are in early clinical trials to address the unmet medical need of blindness
- CPCB (our) Team performed the largest Phase 1 clinical trial of stem cell implant to date showing unprecedented improvement in vision in patients with AMD
- Retina and Eye an ideal location for development of cell-based therapies
  - Relatively immune privileged (potentially requiring local immune suppression)
  - Easy surgical access
  - Allows structural and functional testing using optical instruments
  - Relatively small number of cells required
- Starting Phase 2B trial across US with stem cell implant to restore vision in macular degeneration patients





#### **Regenerative Medicine**

# **Stem Cell Team**

#### USC/UCSB Team

Mark Humayun, USC Dennis Clegg, UCSB Biju Thomas, USC Sunny Lee, USC Dimitri Pollalis, USC Debbie Mitra, USC

Leap Biomedical

Juan Gonzalez

Del White

#### **Clinical Investigators**

Amir Kashani Firas Rahhal Robert Avery Sanford Chen Clement Chan Neal Palejwala

DMC Medical Monitor Sigi Caron



#### **RPT Team**

Jane Lebkowski Britney Pennington Linc Johnson Mohamed Faynus Vignesh Nadar April Ingram Jeff Bailey

#### City of Hope

Joseph Gold David Hsu Yasmine Shad Stephen Lin Wei Dang Larry Couture

# Science Translational Medicine

AA A





Accelerating therapeutic development for Huntington's disease

SC CTSI Symposium: Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products

# Target Identification for Gene Therapy

# Robert E. Pacifici, Ph.D.

Chief Scientific Officer

CHDI Foundation, Inc/ CHDI Management, Inc.

USC Health Science Campus, in the Center for Health Professions

*October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023* 

2:45 pm to 4:30 pm



# **Outline for this Presentation**



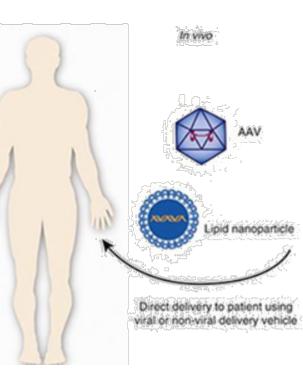
- Gene Therapy: A promising new therapeutic modality!
- <u>Schematic</u>: What are the necessary components?
- **Target Product Profile**: Specifications for safety and efficacy
- Huntington's Disease: An unmet medical need caused by a single gene
- <u>Illustrative Programs</u>: The HD gene therapy portfolio
- Take aways: Closing remarks and some thoughts for the future





# Gene Therapy: FDA Website's Description

- Human gene therapy seeks to modify or manipulate the expression of a gene or to alter the biological properties of living cells for therapeutic use.
- Gene therapy is a technique that modifies a person's genes to treat or cure disease. Gene therapies can work by several mechanisms:
  - Replacing a disease-causing gene with a healthy copy of the gene
  - Inactivating a disease-causing gene that is not functioning properly
  - Introducing a new or modified gene into the body to help treat a disease



• Gene therapy products are being studied to treat diseases including cancer and various genetic disorders.



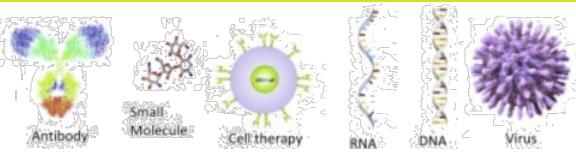
# Why do we need another "therapeutic modality"?



- Each type of drug has unique pro's & con's
  - Small molecules
    - Low cost of goods, orally bioavailable
    - Limited target tractability, chronic administration
  - Gene Therapy
    - All genetic targets are accessible with exquisite selectivity, "one and done" dosing paradigm
    - Limited distribution, difficult and costly API, limited safety data

# • It works! FDA approved therapies include:

- Beta thalassemia gene therapy (Zynteglo®)
- Retinal disorder gene therapy (Luxturna<sup>™</sup>)
- Cerebral adrenoleukodystrophy gene therapy (SKYSONA®)
- Spinal muscular atrophy gene therapy (Zolgensma®)
- CAR T-cell therapy (KYMRIAH<sup>™</sup>) for leukemia and lymphoma



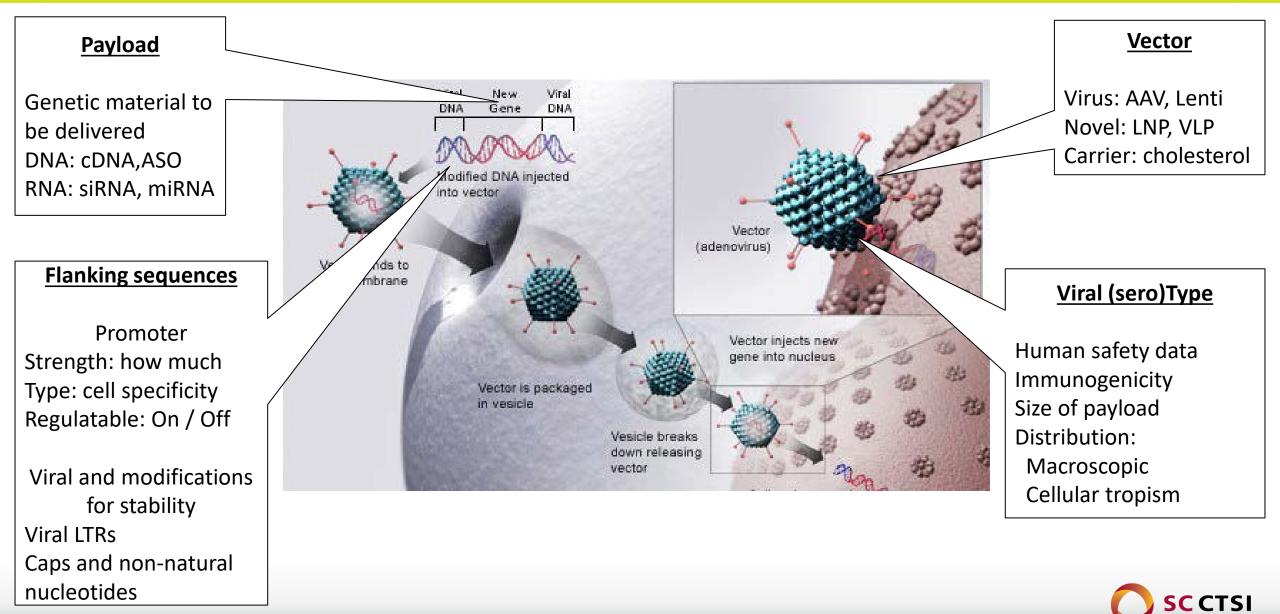






# Schematic: What are the elements of a gene therapy "drug"









# • Target Validation

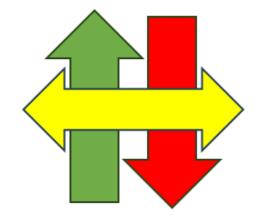
- Which gene(s) is/are associated with the disease?
- Desired Pharmacology
  - More of the gene product: enzyme replacement therapy
  - Less: Gene silencing
  - Different: Exon skipping, gene editing
- Biodistribution
  - Which organ(s)
  - What cell-type(s)
- Route of administration
  - Ex-vivo cellular treatment followed by re-implantation
  - Peripheral administration (liver "sink")
  - Central administration: intrathecal/CSF, intraparenchymal, stereotaxic, convection enhancement, retrograde transport
- Safety: Risk benefit of "irreversible" treatment
  - When to treat prevention/too early versus reversal/too late







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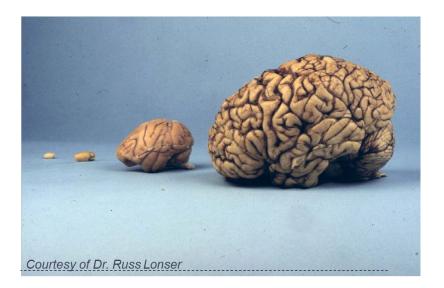
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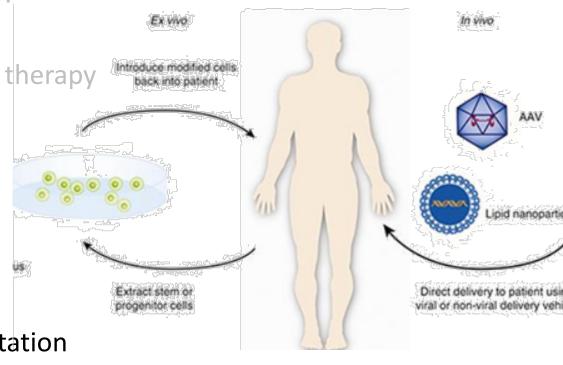
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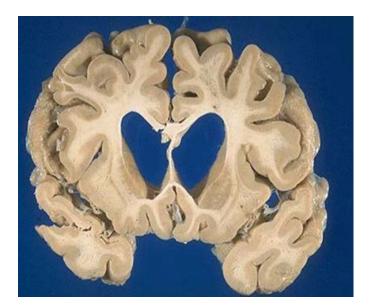








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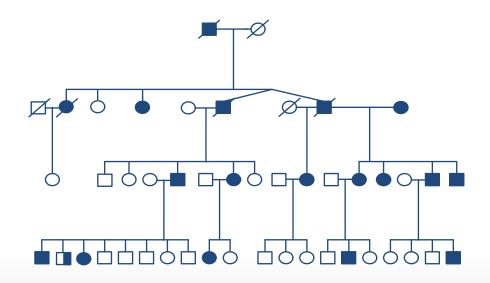


# Huntington's Disease: What I work on & a good example!





MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORTER. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 13, 1872. No. 789.] Vol. XXVI .- No. 15. ORIGINAL DEPARTMENT. Communications. The upper extremities may be the first affected, or both simultaneously. All the voluntary muscles are liable to be affected, ON CHOREA. those of the face rarely being exempted. BY GEORGE HUNTINGTON, M. D., If the patient attempt to protrude the tongue Of Pomeroy, Ohio. it is accomplished with a great deal of diffi-Emay read before the Meigs and Mason Academy of Medi-cine at Middleport, Ohio, February 15, 1872 culty and uncertainty. The hands are kept Chorea is essentially a disease of the ner- rolling-first the palms upward, and then the yous system. The name "chorea" is given to backs. The shoulders are shrugged, and the the disca-e on account of the dancing propen. Teet and legs kept in perpetual motion; the sities of those who are affected by it, and it is toes are turned in, and then everted; one foot a very appropriate designation. The disease, is thrown across the other, and then suddenly as it is commonly seen, is by no means a withdrawn, and, in short, every conceivable dangerous or serious affection, however dis. attitude and expression is assumed, and so tressing it may be to the one suffering from it, varied and irregular are the motions gone or to his friends. Its most marked and char- through with, that a complete description of acteristic feature is a cloule spasm affecting them would be impossible. Sometimes the the voluntary muscles. There is no loss of muscles of the lower extremities are not af-



#### George Huntington

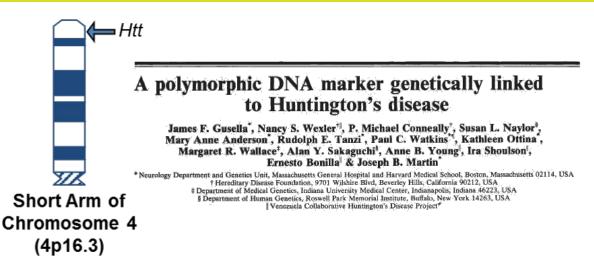
- Family doctor on Long Island
- Publishes his one and only paper in 1872
  - Describes the movement disorder as chorea
- HD is a hereditary disease
  - It runs in families
  - You don't "catch" it
  - You are not possessed by demons
- Autosomal dominant
  - Males and females have same chance
  - No "recessive" carriers
  - Children have a 50:50 chance





# The Hunt Begins to Clone the Causal Gene







#### Monogenic with 100% penetrance

- Everyone that has the "bad" gene will get HD
- Everyone that gets HD has the "bad" gene
- Relatively rare disease (1:10,000)
  - Meets with orphan designation
  - Familial link allows ID of concentrated cohorts
  - Second disease gene to be positionally cloned
- Linkage analysis finds the marker in 1983
- Full gene sequence in 1993



Vol. 72, 971–983, March 26, 1993, Copyright © 1993 by Cell Press

A Novel Gene Containing a Trinucleotide Repeat That Is Expanded and Unstable on Huntington's Disease Chromosomes

The Huntington's Disease Collaborative Research Group\*



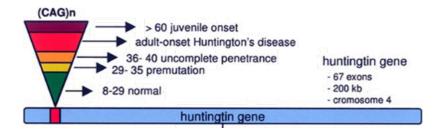


# Big deal, you know the gene...so what?



### • Huntington's disease isn't caused by a point mutation

- Polymorphic expansion of (CAG)<sub>n</sub>
- Trinucleotide repeat or poly glutamine disorder
- (Still) unknown function
- Probably gain of tox versus loss of function
  - Heterozygotes (Dx and KO), Homozygotes
- Enables genetic testing (diagnostic)
  - Predict who is going to get it
  - Estimate age of onset







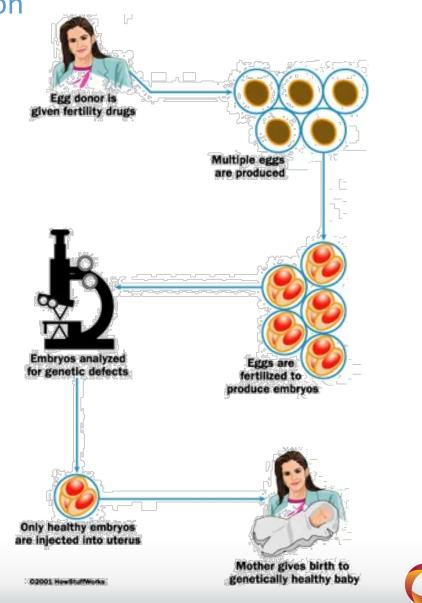


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  - Do I want to take a 50% risk?
  - Pre-Implantation Genetic Diagnosis





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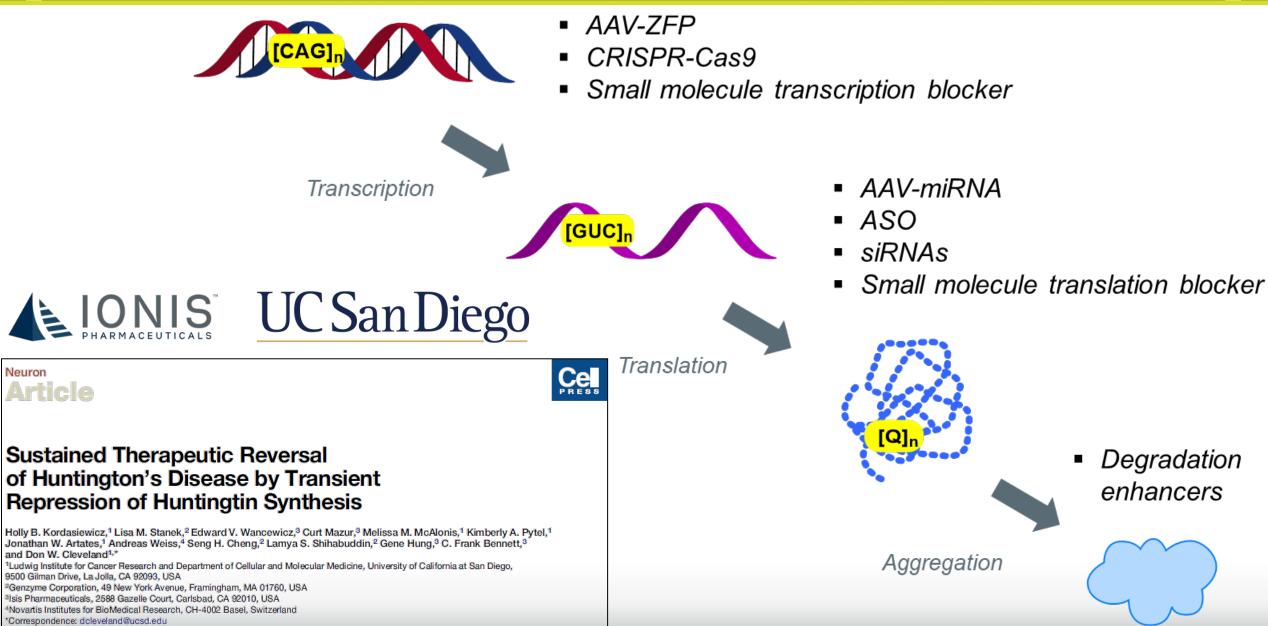
- You can make animal models of HD
  - Insert the "bad" gene
  - All models are "wrong", some are "useful"



DOI 10.1016/i.neuron.2012.05.009

# **Directly enable discovery of HTT lowering drugs**



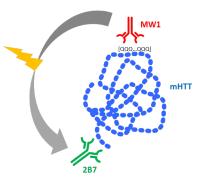


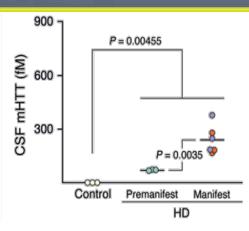


# **Development of pharmacodynamic biomarkers**

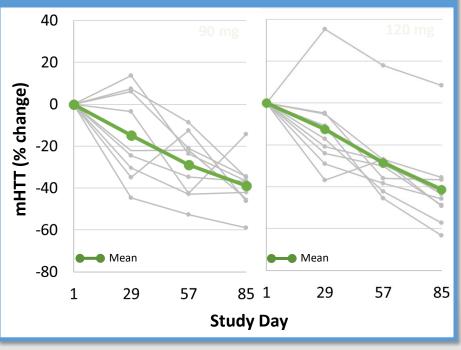








mHTT Protein Percent Change over Time 90mg and 120mg



From 2018 HDSA Annual Convention



Genentech A Member of the Roche Group 16 September 2018

Update on RG6042 (formerly known as IONIS-HTT<sub>Rx</sub>) Huntington's disease global development programme: Two clinical studies to begin by end of 2018



Allele specific!



Roche



# Huntington's Disease Gene Therapy Portfolio



Organization	Therapeutic Approach Category	Therapeutic MOA	Therapeutic Modality	Current Therapeutic Stage (or most recently completed)	Therapeutic Name
Affinia Therapeutics	HTT lowering	Gene therapy, AAV	Gene therapy	Preclinical	tbd
AskBio	Other	24-OH-Cholesterol, AAV-Cyp46A1	Gene therapy	Phase 2	AB-1001 (BV-101)
NeuExcell Therapeutics	Other	AAV-delivered transcription factors to convert reactive astrocytes into neurons	Gene therapy	Preclinical	NXL-002
Passage Bio	HTT lowering	Gene therapy, AAV	Gene therapy	Preclinical	tbd
SOLA BioSciences	HTT lowering	Chaperone-based mHTT targeted gene therapy, AAV (JUMP70 cassette)	Gene therapy	Preclinical	SOL-175
Spark (Roche acquisition)	HTT lowering	HTT lowering, AAV-miRNA	Gene therapy	Preclinical	tbd
Takeda (Shire/Sangamo acquisition)	HTT lowering	HTT lowering, AAV-ZFP	Gene therapy	Preclinical	TAK-686
uniQure BV	HTT lowering	Gene therapy, AAV-miRNA	Gene therapy	Phase 2	AMT-130
VectorY Therapeutics	HTT lowering	HTT lowering, AAV-mAb	Gene therapy	Preclinical	tbd
Voyager Therapeutics	HTT lowering	mHTT and MSH3 KD, AAV-miRNA	Gene therapy	Preclinical	tbd
Vybion	HTT lowering	Intrabody	Gene therapy	Preclinical	INT41



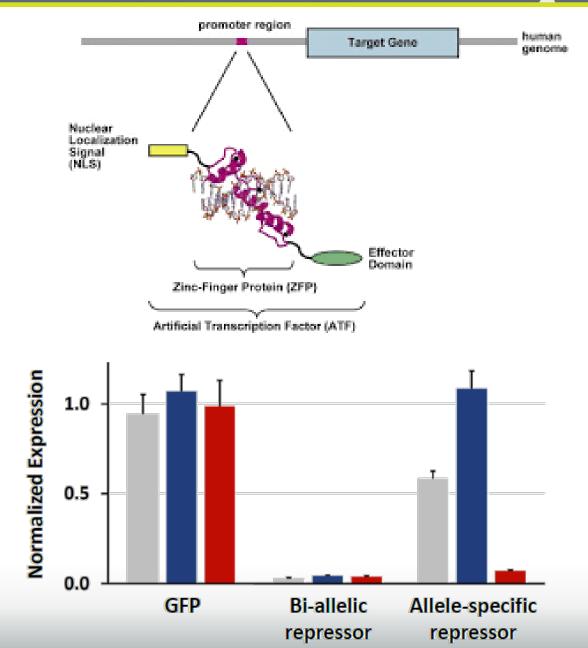






# Illustrative Example 1: Takeda's TAK-686

- Vector: Adeno Associated Virus
- Target: mutant Huntingtin
- Payload: Zinc finger repressor
- Stage: Preclinical
- What's cool:
  - Non-natural engineered chimeric zinc finger protein
  - Selectively binds to the mutant gene and uses a KRAB repressor to lower only mutant huntingtin protein
  - Most proximal target in "central dogma"





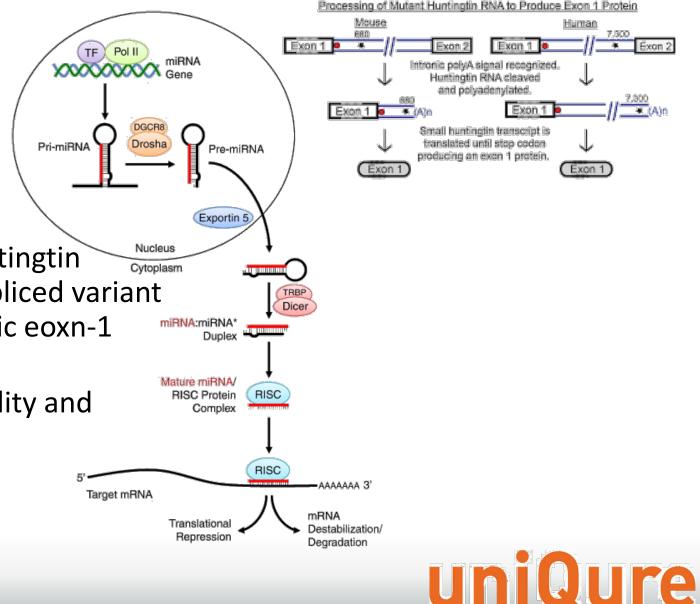


# Illustrative Example 2: uniQure's AMT-130





- Target: Huntingtin exon-1a
- Payload: miRNA
- Stage: Phase 2
- What's cool:
  - Artificial micro-RNA that silences huntingtin expression, including an aberrantly spliced variant that produces a potentially highly toxic eoxn-1 protein fragment.
  - Demonstrated human safety/tolerability and pharmacodynamic effect

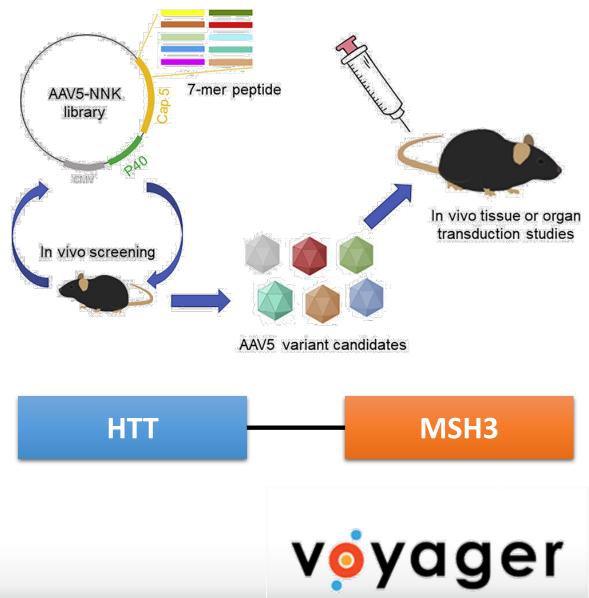




# **Illustrative Example 3: Voyager**



- Vector: Novel AAV
- Target: mHTT & MSH3
- Payload: siRNA
- Stage: Preclinical
- What's cool:
  - Used recursive directed evolution to engineer a new viral capsid that can be administered peripherally but shows excellent central distribution.
  - Bi-cistronic construct that simultaneously targets both mHTT and another gene (MSH3) believed to play a role in regulating the rate of somatic (CAG)n expansion



THERAPEUTICS



# A Few Take Aways



- Despite initial difficulties gene therapy remains an important therapeutic modality
  - Including the tragic death of Jesse Gelsinger in 1999
- There are hundreds of unmet medical needs for which the genetic basis is known and are candidates for gene therapy
  - Including Huntington's disease!
- Significant advances in viral capsids promise
  - Improved safety profiles
  - More facile routes of delivery
  - Precise special and temporal targeting
- Large (and evolving) array of payloads
  - Expression, silencing, editing
- Several challenges remain to be tackled
  - "GMP" manufacturing of API
  - Durability



# Thank You!

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# **Thank You!**

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Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Department of Regulatory and Quality Sciences Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences *DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science* 



University of Southern California • Children's Hospital Los Angeles



# **Regulatory Science Symposium: Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products**

Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD

Chair and Associate Professor, Regulatory and Quality Sciences Associate Director, DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science October 20, 2023

# **Symposium Resource**

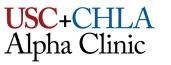




by Friday, November 3.



Alfred E. Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences DK Kim International Center for Regulatory Science



# **Thank You!**

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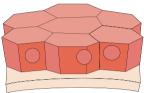


# **Innovations in Regenerative Medicine Products**



Regenerative products (therapies) involve the use of stem cells, engineered biomaterials, gene editing, and other technologies to repair or replace damaged cells, tissues, or organs.

#### **FDA's Role in Regulation**



- Regulate products over their entire lifecycle
- Provide oversight of clinical trials
- Advance development by providing quidance documents and engaging stakeholders throughout the development of innovative products that meet patients' needs

or Regulatory Science

#### **Office of Therapeutic Products (OTP)**

Part of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) who regulate Regenerative Medicine **Products** 



#### Resources

California Institute for Regenerative Medicine https://www.cirm.ca.gov/

#### FDA-Approved Cellular and Gene

#### **Therapy Products**

https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-bloodbiologics/cellular-gene-therapy-products/approvedcellular-and-gene-therapy-products

#### **OTP** Learn

https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-bloodbiologics/news-events-biologics/otp-learn



USC+CHLA Alpha Clinic



# **Types of Regenerative Medicine Products**

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# **Gene Therapy**

**DEFINITION:** Involves the use of genetic material (DNA or RNA) to treat or prevent a disease

Gene Editing: process of editing pieces of **DNA through genetic material** 

Gene Therapy: applied to the body through in-vivo, or to the modified cells via ex-vivo and returned to patient's body

**Vectors:** a means of delivering the therapy into the cell (viral vs. non-viral vectors)



**Ex-Vivo** Extracted cells are modified and reintroduced to the patient's body











Lipid Nanoparticle

DNA RNA

**In-Vivo** 

Modifications are inserted directly into the patient's body through viral or non-viral delivery vehicles

# **Stem Cell Therapy**

**DEFINITION:** A cell which has the ability to divide and create an identical copy. known as self-renewal, and can divide to form cells that mature into cells that make up every type of tissue and organ in the body

Adult Blood **Stem Cells** 



Types of Stem Cells: Adult, fetal, perinatal, embryonic, induced pluripotent stem cells