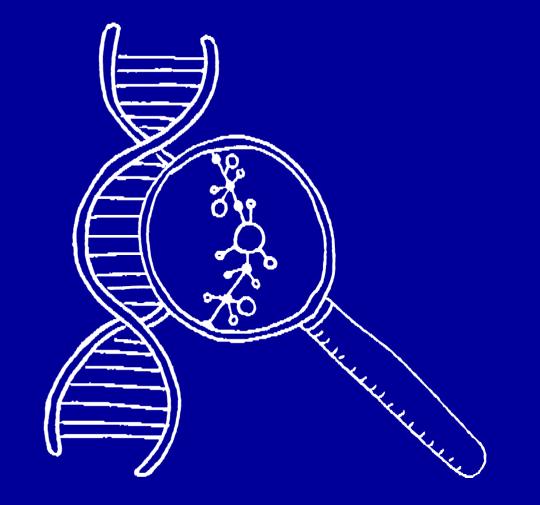


#RESEARCHNEVERSTOPS

# Evotec Gene Therapy

Experienced team, novel capsids and non-AAV viral platform



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## **Executive Summary**

EVOgenes - Adding value to our partners' research

The Scope	<ul> <li>Applying clinically proven modalities with focus on developing novel and differentiated viral vector platforms for improving the applicability of genetic medicines</li> <li>Open to entry within development partnerships, spin-off or service models</li> </ul>
The Novel Platform	<ul> <li>Identification and engineering of novel vectors with attractive attributes i.e. increased therapeutic cargo size, tissue targeting; potential for redosing (tbd)</li> <li>Multi-year collaboration with world-leading academic institution</li> </ul>
AAV and Beyond	<ul> <li>Novel AAV vector identification through rational design and directed evolution in large animal species</li> <li>AAV - swap technology: Innovative and novel approach leveraging defined capsid domains of selected serotypes. Unlocking the potential for combined best attributes in a novel proprietary capsid platform.</li> </ul>
The Therapies	<ul> <li><i>"Adapt the vector to the patient, and not the patient to the vector"</i></li> <li>Novel platform: Pursuing genetic medicines in diseases not fully addressable with other delivery system</li> <li>AAV: Addressing unmet medical need in proven disease arena with trans-correction of enzyme deficiency</li> </ul>
The Track-Record	<ul> <li>High performing teams with several decades of expertise across the GT development spectrum</li> <li>Multiple development programs, patents and applications within biotech field</li> <li>Three successful gene therapy IND submissions supporting clinical trial initiation</li> </ul>

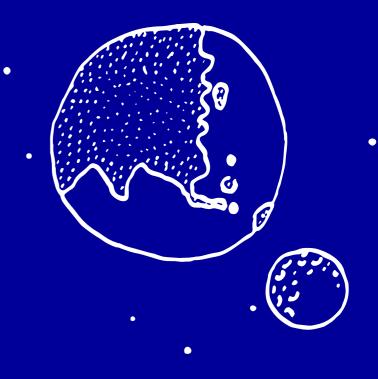


- 1. General capabilities
- 2. Novel non AAV-viral platform
- 3. Novel AAV capsids
- 4. Viral Gene Therapy safety prediction
- 5. Therapeutic programs





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### **Leadership** A team of experts

Friedrich Scheiflinger EVP, General Manager Gene Therapy >30 years Academia and Pharma Hematology, Immunology. Rare Diseases, Metabolic diseases, LSD's / IEM.	Hanspeter Rottensteiner SVP, Head <i>In vitro</i> Gene therapy >20 years Academia and Pharma Gene expression and regulation, Cell Biology, Rare Diseases, Hematology	Werner Höllriegl VP, Head <i>In vivo</i> Gene therapy >20 years Pharma <i>In vivo</i> Translational Research, Nonclinical Development, Rare Diseases		<b>Georg Feichtinger</b> Lead Vectorology >15 years Academia and Entrepreneurship Synthetic biology, Gene expression & delivery, Musculoskeletal diseases, Regenerative medicine	(R.3)
TSRI, Immuno AG, Baxter Int., Baxalta, Shire, Takeda	Baxter, Baxalta, Shire, Takeda	AstraZeneca, Novartis IBR, Baxter, Baxalta, Shire, T	Fakeda	Univ. of Leeds, UCL, Univ. of York, LBI Trauma, Ph	ycosera
Barbara Plaimauer	Vera Schoft				
Lead Biology >20 years Pharma Transgene Biology, Biochemical and cell-based assays, Rare diseases	Vera Schoft Sen. Res. Scientist Novel Technologies >15 years Academia and Contract Research Molecular Biology, Epigenetics, Genome editing	Helmut Glantschnig Lead <i>In vivo</i> Sciences >20 years Pharma Molecular Pharmacology, Preclinical Sciences, Musculoskeletal diseases		<b>Eva Mihailovska</b> Lead Novel Platform >15 years Academia and Pharma Molecular cell biology, Neuro-degenerative disease. Vaccine Dev. (non-clinical and clinical).	

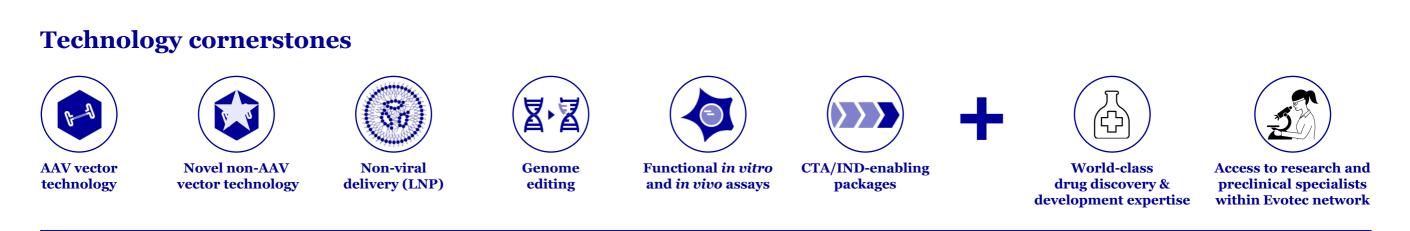
#### Strong Track-Record

- Highly experienced teams spanning decades of expertise in biologics, gene therapy & gene-editing development
- Numerous development programs, patents, and applications in the biotech field
- Successful submission of three gene therapy IND applications, paving the way for clinical trial initiation

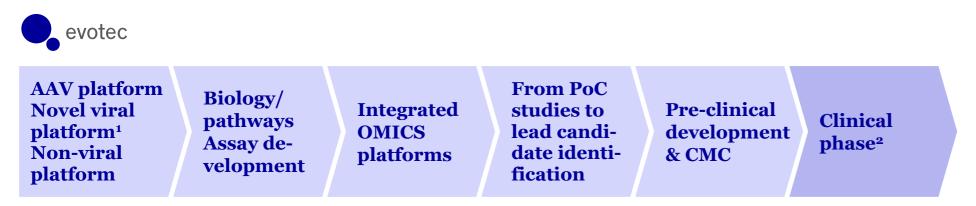


## **Evotec Gene Therapy – Technical expertise**

Covering viral and non-viral transduction technology



#### Flexible deal structures for EVOgenes: Integrated collaborations & stand-alone services



Relative contribution of Evotec and the respective partner at each phase is mutually agreed on a project-by-project basis

Accelerate and maximize our partners' success

- mRNA
  - mRNA research grade expression
  - LNP delivery
- DNA transfection
  - LNP delivery



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## Novel capsid technology is in high demand

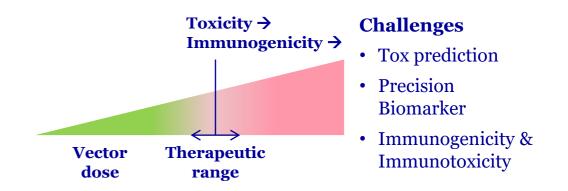
Clinical success is limited by high vector doses and insufficient tissue specificity

- Viral capsid sequences dictate *in vivo* cell type/tissue specificity, cell transduction efficiency and therapeutic vector dose
- High tissue specificity results in better targeted therapies and lower toxicity hence driving a favourable benefit/risk profile
  - High capsid titres (infectious and empty particles) negatively impact the riskbenefit profile
  - Recent FDA Adcomm asks for increase of efforts to close translational gap<sup>1</sup>
- Industry invests heavily in the growing proprietary engineered capsid space however, the associated IP space gets pretty crowded
  - Expensive license agreements
  - Sameness rules of FDA<sup>2</sup> increase pressure on available AAV technology
- Novel viral transduction systems other than AAV or Lentivirus are actively researched

## The field is expanding from AAV to more innovative viral transduction and gene transfer technologies

Novel engineered virus capsids with tailored tropism





The translational challenge: Gene Therapy is a highly tissue/cell type specific therapeutic modality



### Novel platform: Addressing key challenges

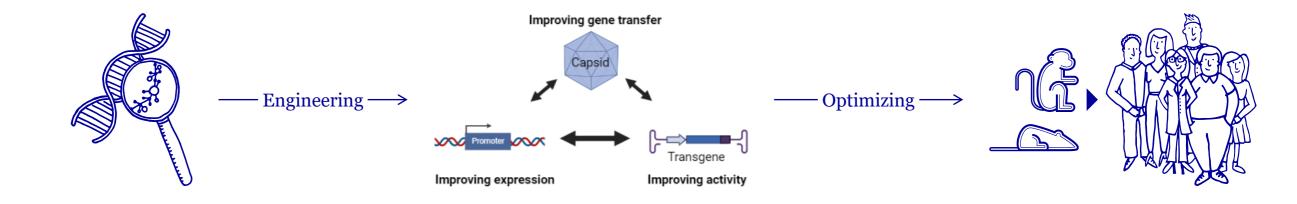
Designed to differentiate from AAV

#### Druggability: Cargo size, Tissue Tropism

- Extended payload capacity expands the design space, amplifies the potential for drug development and therapeutic interventions
  - Enables efficient gene editing
  - Allows packaging of genes too large for AAV
- Leveraging distinct tissue tropism compared to AAV can enhance therapeutic efficacy and target specific organs or tissues
- Leveraging high-throughput RNA sequencing for robust data acquisition
- Innovative scaffold designs are expected to be recognized as unique within FDA guidelines on drug similarity

#### Supportive technology platforms:

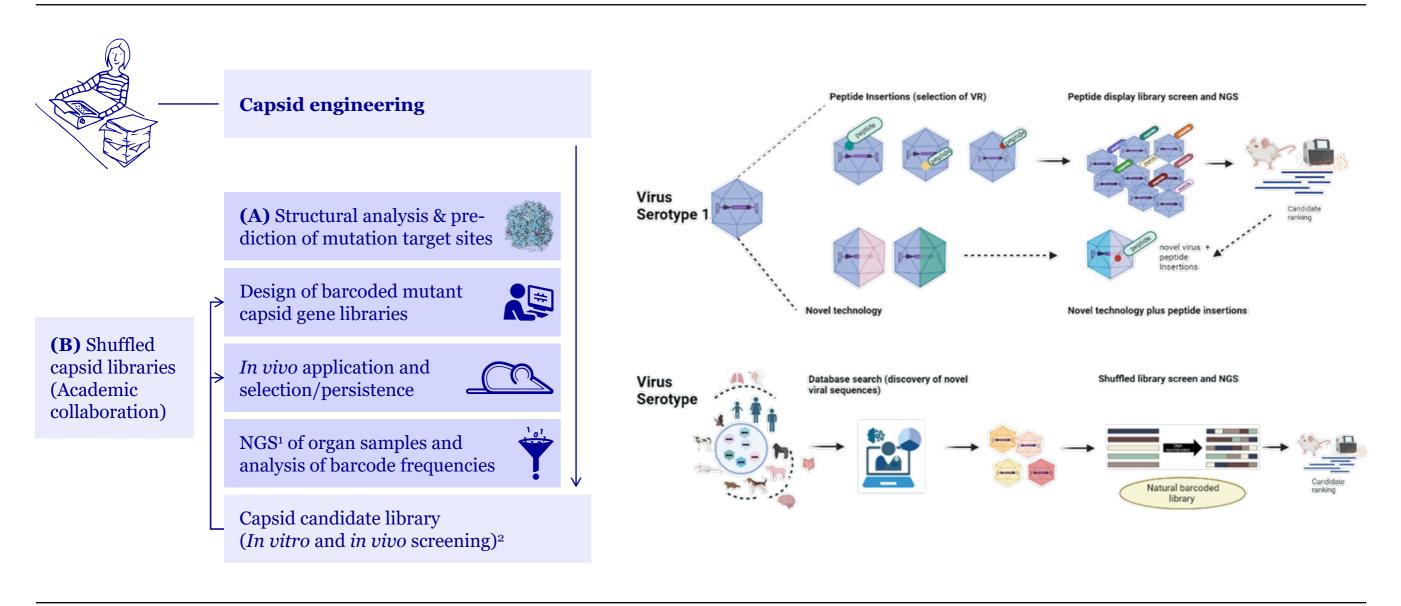
- Achieving superior pre-clinical safety profiles, through proteomics based **"safety prediction**" technology allowing to uncover potential development threats i.e. dose-related Drug-Induced Liver Injury (DILI)
- Utilizing proteomics and metabolomics for comprehensive analysis of differential protein **expression profiles** and **biomarker** expression
- Closing the translational gap by utilizing human **iPSC technology** in addition to NHP studies to efficiently bridge the preclinical to clinical stages of drug development





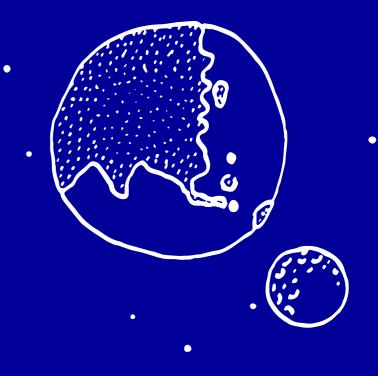
### Novel vector platform development

Capsid engineering





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## **Novel and differentiated AAV Capsids**

Evotec's cutting edge RNAseq/bioinformatics based in vivo capsid discovery

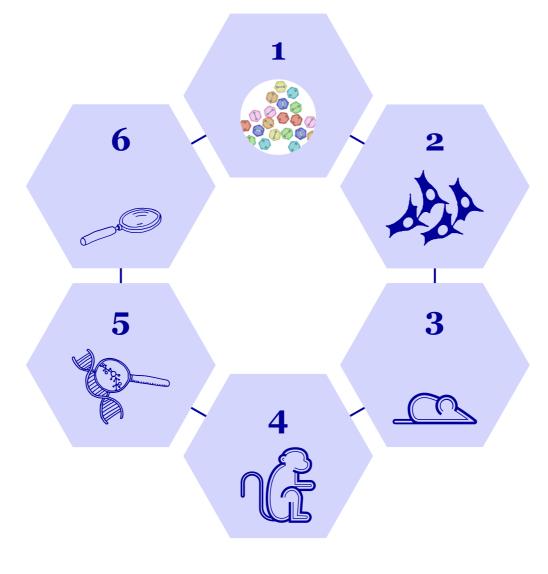
- **6 Validation**
- Validate improved attributes of leads
- In-vitro/in-vivo prioritization

#### **5** Capsid engineering

- Rational or random substitutions
   Peptide display, chimera, shuffling
- Medium to high complexity libraries
- In vitro analytical and functional QC
- RNAseq-compatible library design

#### 4 NHP

- Administration to NHPs
- Transduction in focused or broad multi-tissue approach according to customer needs



#### **1** Customizible EVOlibrary<sup>1</sup>

- Flexible design space
- Engineered AAV serotypes
- Barcoded for comparative analyses

#### 2 Functionality

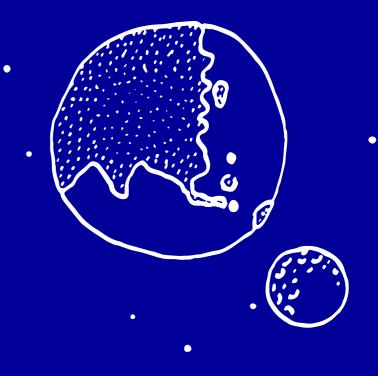
- Transduction in human cells / organoids
- RNAseq and bioinformatics for *in vitro* transduction functional QC tests

#### 3 In vivo testing

- Transduction in humanized mice
- Ranking by tissue- or single-nuclei RNAseq and bioinformatics
- Selection and/or decision to bioengineer

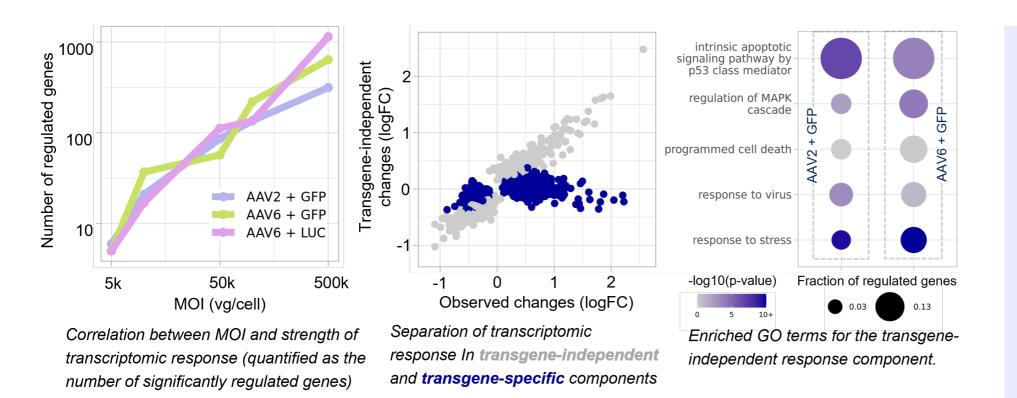


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## **Towards Safety Prediction for AAV based gene therapy**

High-throughput method to quantify transduction efficiency and analyze transcriptomic response



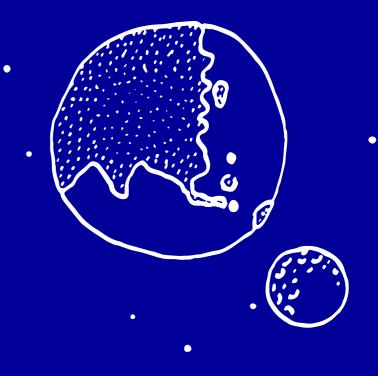
#### Results

- ScreenSeq enables unbiased analysis of transcriptomic response to transduction
- The Pilot study showed that the transcriptomic response can be decomposed in transgene-independent and transgene-specific components

#### ScreenSeq is a powerful tool to analyze AAV in in vitro studies



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Evotec's strong expertise in rare diseases and gene therapy solutions

- Rare monogenic disease high mortality in untreated children<sup>1</sup>
- Defective skeletal mineralization, deformity and seizures<sup>2</sup>
- Effective ERT but burdensome, life-long treatment & high costs

- AAV Lead is potent and durable
- Exquisite liver-specific expression and selectivity. Active suppression in non-target tissue feasible.
- Cross-correction of disease
   phenotypes in mouse model of HPP



High unmet medical need

Market attractiveness

Innovation platform Partnership opportunity



 >1B USD market dominated by STRENSIQ<sup>2</sup> franchise without entry of competing therapies on the horizon

- GT dose curative and safe in mice
- No known clinical development

- Precedence for path to IND and clinical development
- Potential to spin off asset in an external company
- Evotec GT to perform preclinical development work

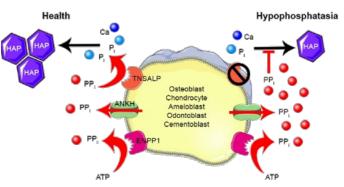


### Hypophosphatasia

Viral vector delivery of bone-targeted TNAP1 has potential to treat HPP

# Tissue nonspecific alkaline phosphatase (TNAP):

- TNAP hydrolyses pyrophosphate, a mineralization inhibitor and pyridoxal 5`-phosphate (phospho-Vitamin-B6)
- Expressed in the skeleton, liver, kidney and other tissues



TNAP (TNSALP) regulates pyrophosphate (PPi) and phosphate (Pi) ratios in the mineralization of hydroxyapatite (HAP).

**Genetics:** >400 substitutions in TNAP gene (*Alpl*). Estimated prevalence for severe or moderate HPP is 1:300,000 or 1:6,370, respectively<sup>3</sup>.

**Clinical presentation:** Onset prenatal to adulthood correlates with residual TNAP activity. Defective skeletal mineralization, soft bones prone to fracture and deformity, pyridoxine-responsive seizures, hypercalcemia/calciuria, myopathy and dental manifestations.



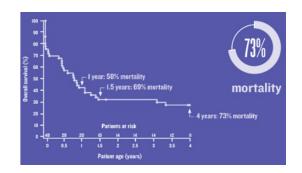
Nature Reviews | Endocrinology

4-month-old girl has developed infantile HPP. Prominent fontanel, proptotic eyes, chest retraction, and rachitic changes<sup>2</sup>.



Nature Reviews | Er

a) Stillborn neonate, b) Almost no mineralization of the skeleton by radiographic examination<sup>2</sup> **Mortality:** 73% from birth to 5-years of age in untreated patients (hypophosphatasia.com)



## Gene Therapy for cTTP (Upshaw-Schulman syndrome)

Evotec's strong synergistic core expertise in ADAMTS13/cTTP and gene therapy solutions

- Rare monogenic disease high mortality if untreated with plasma infusion
- Disseminated microvascular thrombi, serious health problems
- Life-long intravenous ERT expected (candidate effective in Phase-3)

- AAV-based front-runner candidate
- Exquisite liver-specific expression and PoC in mouse model of cTTP
- Potential preclinical candidate selection 4Q23



High unmet medical need



Market attractiveness

Innovation platform Partnership opportunity



 Estimated total direct costs/patient undergoing regular transfusion \$1.2M - \$1.7M<sup>2</sup>

- No gene therapy candidate has entered the development space
- Potential therapeutic expansions

- Precedence for path to IND and clinical development
- Evotec GT to perform AAVtherapeutic development work
- Potential to spin off asset in an external company

1 https://www.nature.com/articles/d42473-020-00432-1

2 Oladapo et al., ISTH Congress 2019, (life time costs) https://academy.isth.org/isth/2019/melbourne/264771/abiola.oladapo.cost.of.illness.28coi29.of.congenital.thrombotic.thrombocytopenic.htm

cTTP, Congenital thrombotic thrombotic thromboty openic purpura; ERT, Enzyme Replacement Therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, Gene therapy; ADAMTS13, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13; PoC, proof of concept; GT, GENE type 1 motif, member 14, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 14, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 14, a dis not provide type 1

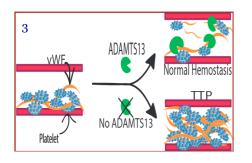


## **Congenital TTP**

Viral delivery of ADAMTS13 has potential to treat cTTP

#### ADAMTS13 function:

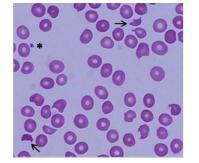
- the protease responsible for the cleavage of VWF
- expressed by liver stellate cells, to a lesser degree by endothelial cells
- severe deficiency at <10% of normal values</li>
- >150 mutations in cTTP have been reported



**Genetics:** Autosomal recessive trait with inactivating substitutions in ADAMTS13 gene. The prevalence and annual incidence is estimated at less than 1/1,000,000<sup>1,2</sup>. 600 prevalent cases of cTTP (and 5,401 cases of aTTP) in the US (2020).

#### **Clinical presentation:**

- Disseminated microvascular platelet rich-thrombi can block the flow of oxygen-rich blood to organs, such as the brain, kidneys, and heart
- Low platelet count and bleeding tendencies inside the body, underneath the skin, or from the surface of the skin. Injuries may bleed longer than normal.
- Occurs suddenly and lasts for days or weeks, or months, with frequent repeat episodes that need to be treated
- Consequently, serious health problems cause a significant burden on healthcare facilities. Approximately two thirds of patients have relapses every 2-3 weeks.



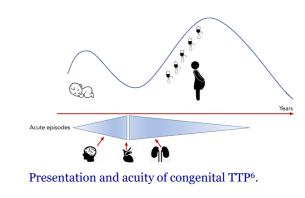
TTP: Peripheral blood smear showing schistocytes (arrows) and a marked decrease in platelet numbers.



Spontaneous bruising in a woman with critically low platelets



- Rapidly fatal disease (> 90%) w/o treatment. Therapeutic plasma exchange/infusion has led to a decrease in the mortality rate (15%).
- Projected life expectancy for patients with cTTP (mean age; 19.1 years at diagnosis) 31.1 years, compared with 60.6 years in the general population<sup>4</sup>



Orphanet <u>https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/OC\_Exp.php?lng=EN&Expert=93583</u>
 JN George Congenital TTP: toward a turning point, 2019 (Blood 133:1615, https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pi

2 JN George Congenital TTP: toward a turning point. 2019 (Blood 133:1615. <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/s</u> 3 https://www.tamingthes<u>ru.com/blog/annals-of-b-pod/b-pod-case/thrombotic-thrombocytopenic-purpura</u> 5 https://www.marketresearch.com/DelveInsight-v4028/Thrombotic-Thrombocytopenic-Purpura-TTP-Insight-30196545/ 6 Scully M (2021) Congenital TTP, next stop acuity and therapy. Blood 137:3469 VWF, von Willebrand Factor; cTTP, congenital thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura; aTTP, acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

<sup>4</sup> Oladapo et al., ISTH Congress 2019, https://academy.isth.org/isth/2019/melbourne/264771/abiola.oladapo.cost.of.illness.28coi29.of.congenital.thrombotic.thrombocytopenic.html 5) Loirat et al., Pediatric Nephrology 24:19–29 (2009)

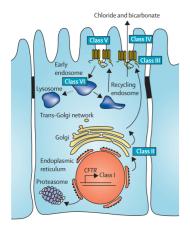


## **Cystic Fibrosis**

Novel vector platform for *genotype-agnostic* CF gene therapy with full length CFTR

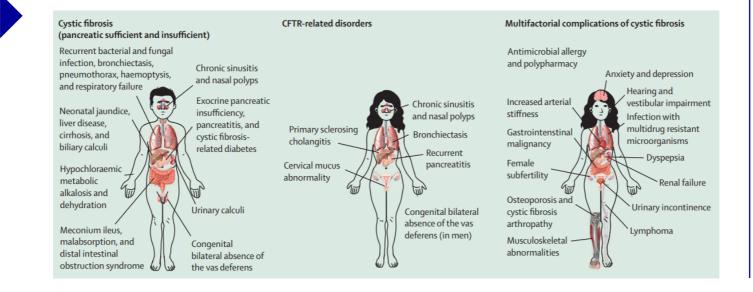
#### Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene<sup>1</sup>

Encodes a chloride/ bicarbonate ion channel (1480 aa) expressed in epithelial cells of lung and other organs. Impaired Cltransport leads to salt/ water imbalance and mucus build up on epithelial surfaces.



**Genetics:** >350 recognized recessive CF-causing mutations in the *CFTR* gene affect protein quantity (transcription/ translation, intracellular trafficking) or function, with variable phenotypes.

**Clinical presentation:** Affects all exocrine glands and damages the lung and digestive system. Pancreatic insufficiency and recurrent respiratory infections. The sweat chloride test confirms a CF diagnosis. Affects 30,000 patients in US and >70,000 globally.



#### Unmet need:

- Genotype-specific CFTRmodulators and other therapies, improve median predicted survival to about 50 years<sup>2</sup>. Long-term tolerability & compliance of new therapies are not known.
- World-wide estimate: only 64.9% are diagnosed and only 12% receive triple modulator combination therapy<sup>3</sup>
- 10% of patients are not eligible for *genotype-specific* modulator therapies

1 Images from Michal Shteinberg et al., Lancet 2021; 397: 2195 (2021) 2 Allen et al., Nature Comm 14:693 (2023) 3 Guo et al J Cystic Fibrosis 3:456 (2022) CF, Cystic Fibrosis; CFTR, Cystic fibrosis trans-membrane conductance regulator; aa, aminoacids; Cl–, chloride ion



- Highly experienced gene therapy team
- Broad gene therapy related technical capabilities (viral and non-viral gene transfer)
- Development of a novel and potentially superior viral, but non-AAV, gene transfer platform
- Development of novel, highly tissue specific AAV capsids
- Development of a safety prediction methodology
- Support of gene therapy development programs through access to iPSC technology and biomarker discovery



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