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## ATMPs in paediatric haematology

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***Prof Rob Wynn***

Consultant Paediatric Haematologist & Director of Paediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Programme

***Chaired by Ian Hollingsworth***

ATTC programme manager, Cell and Gene Therapy catapult

Funded by



UK Research  
and Innovation

Coordinated by

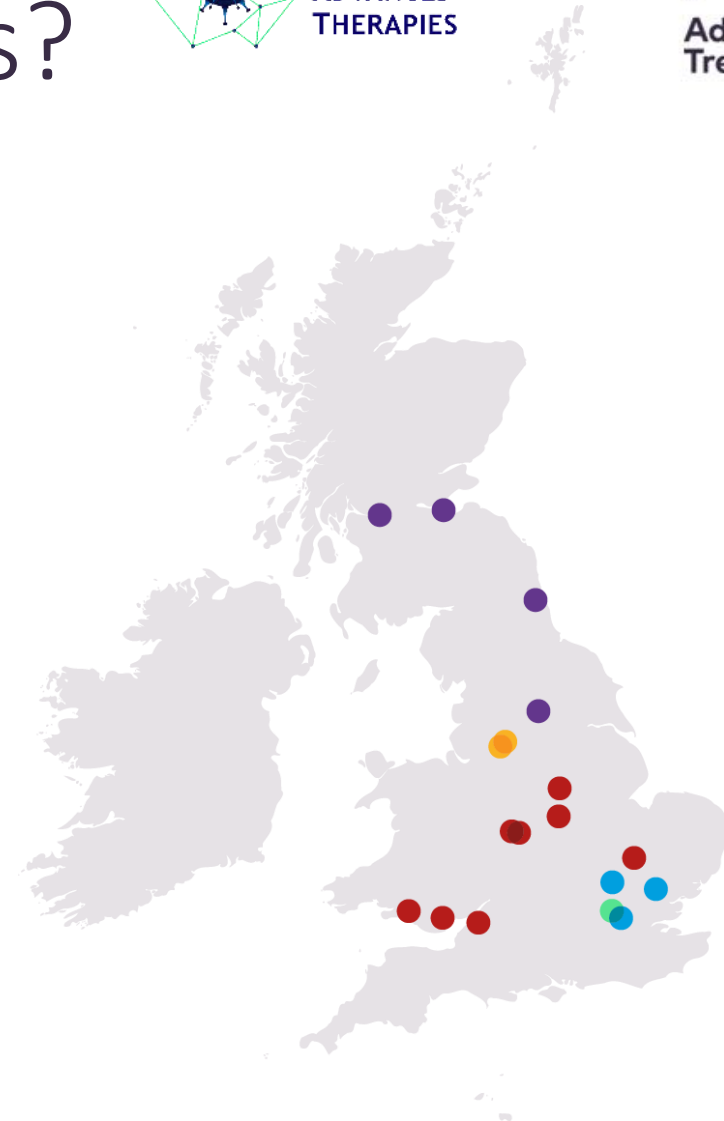
**CATAPULT**  
Cell and Gene Therapy

# Who are LAT and the ATTCs?



- The ATTC (Advanced Therapy Treatment Centre) network is funded by Innovate UK and the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund
- London Advanced Therapies (LAT) is funded by Research England
- The centres are working together, along with the Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult to specifically look at the training requirements for the current workforce and what needs to be put in place for them to be ready to deliver the treatments that are currently being developed.
- This series of webinars is designed to help increase the awareness of advanced therapies and their impact in the clinic
- Find out more at <https://www.theattcnetwork.co.uk/>

Please add questions to the chat box as we go along





# Stem cell and Gene therapies in Paediatrics in Manchester

Rob Wynn, BMT, RMCH and University of Manchester

# Summary of Talk

- My disclosures are those of an (NHS) transplant physician, of a clinician, rather than those of a laboratory scientist
- The future arises from our recognition of the utility of stem cell and gene therapies in correcting our diseases, the diseases we see on our wards, and in our patients
- Imperative that clinicians are involved in this science of bench-to-bedside translation, as it builds on the successes or failures of previous therapies
- For me, it was work in BMT that leads to newer therapies. Where BMT works? Where does it not work? Why does it not work? What are its toxicities?
- Clinicians will run the trials and understand the regulatory process that accompany the introduction of these therapies



# Summary of Talk

- GENE THERAPY in genetic diseases and in cancer therapies
- STEM CELL therapies
- Our current and future work in BMT in Manchester
- This field as part of our future

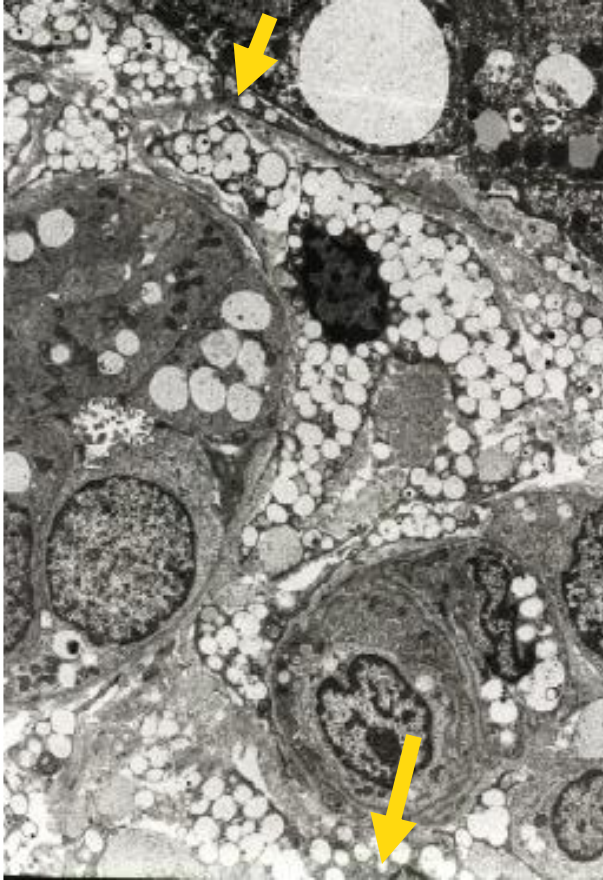


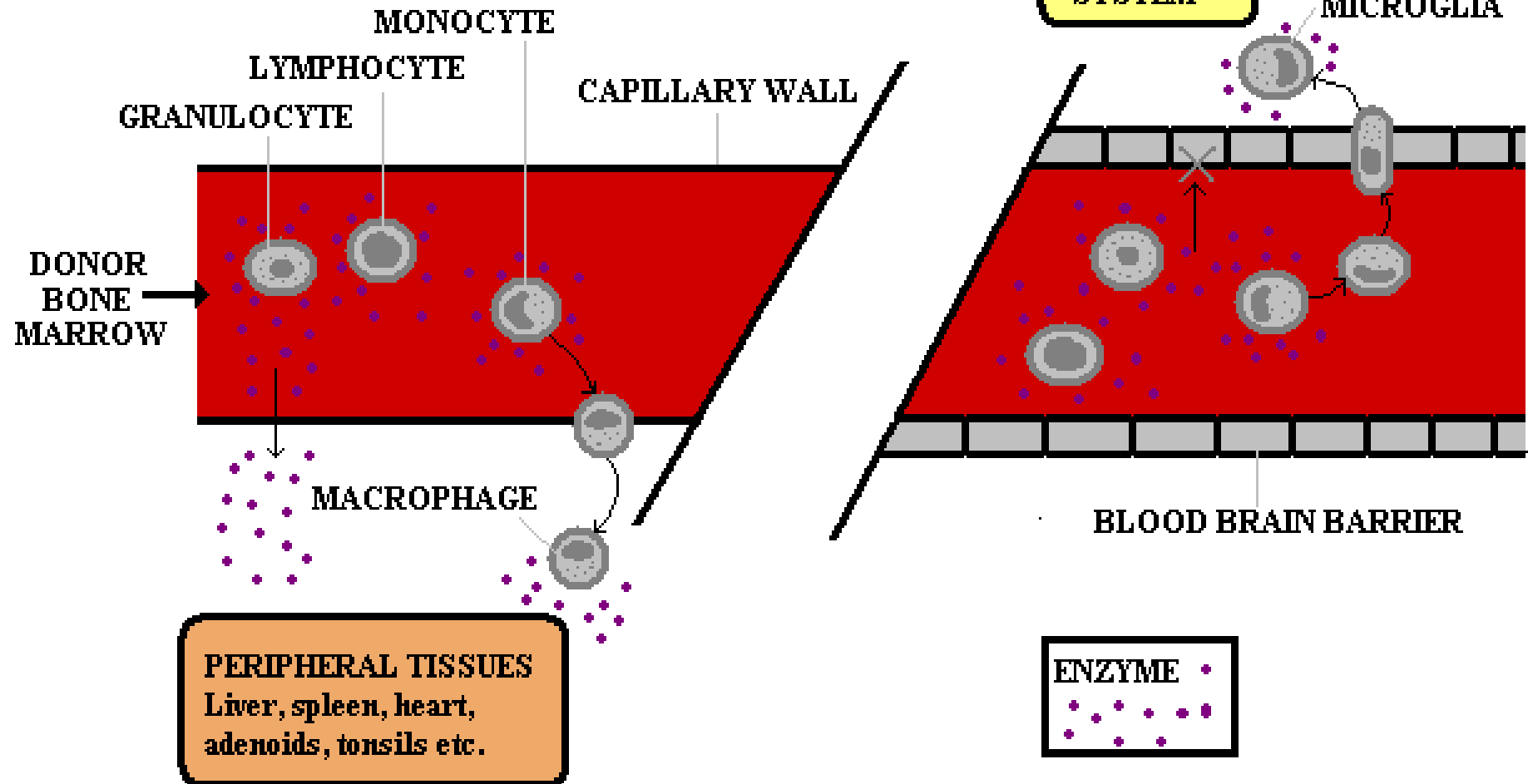


- Metabolic SC GT programme
- CAR-T and cancer gene therapy programme
- MSC and inflammatory disease, and metabolic bone disease gene therapy programme



## Lysosomal Storage of GAGs







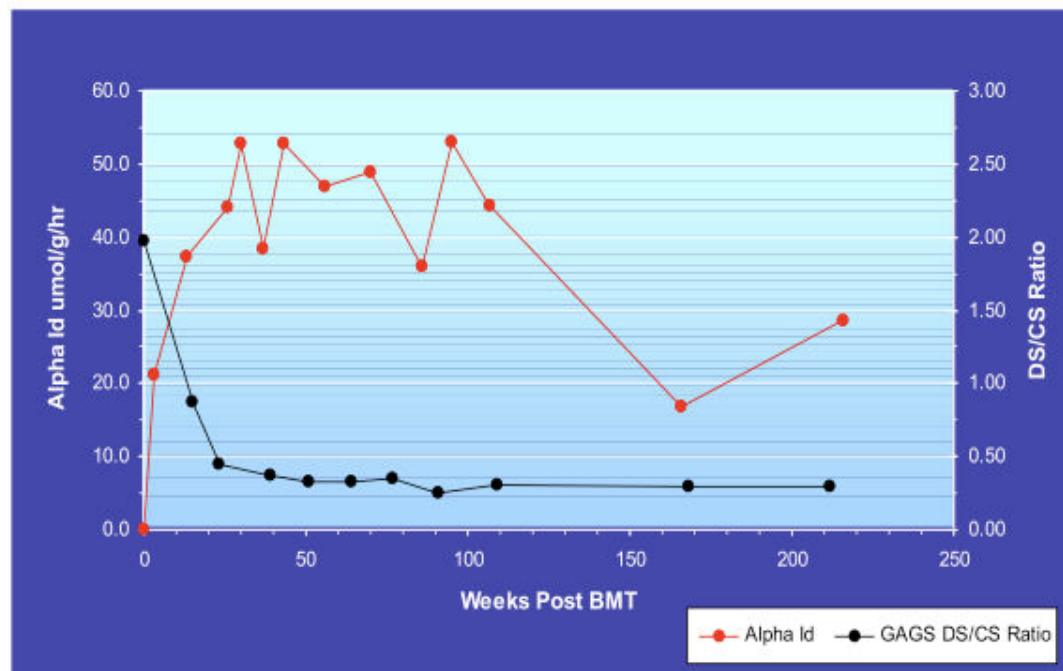
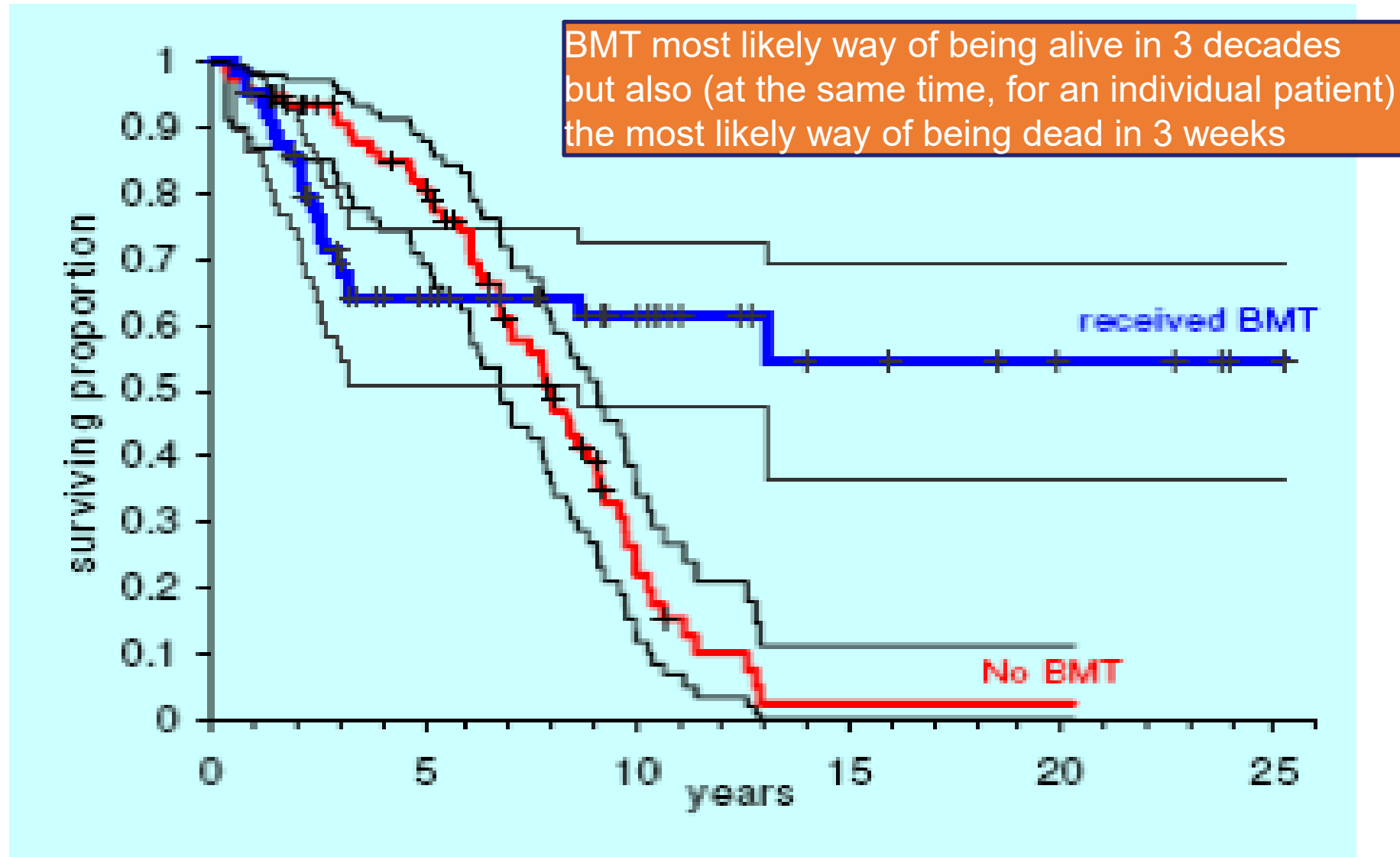


Figure 7a

This patient has undergone HSCT from a normal donor and has fully engrafted (100% donor). Iduronidase activity shows natural fluctuation within the normal range. Residual GAGs have fallen in the initial 6 months post transplant, reaching a plateau that shows a DS/CS ratio consistently  $<0.5$ . These data are typical of patients showing full engraftment from normal donors.

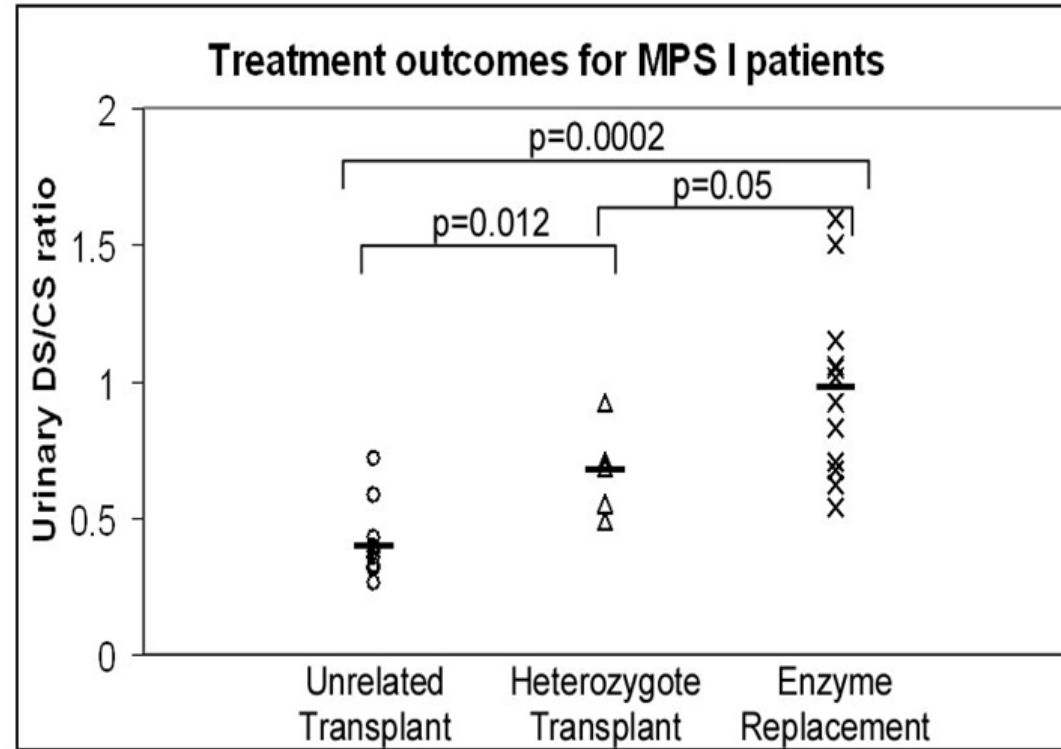


Successful SCT influences long term survival of HS patient (n=196)



Haemopoietic system delivering a (transgene)  
protein in a multisystem fashion ...

what other proteins might it be able to deliver?



(Wynn et al, J Peds, 2009)



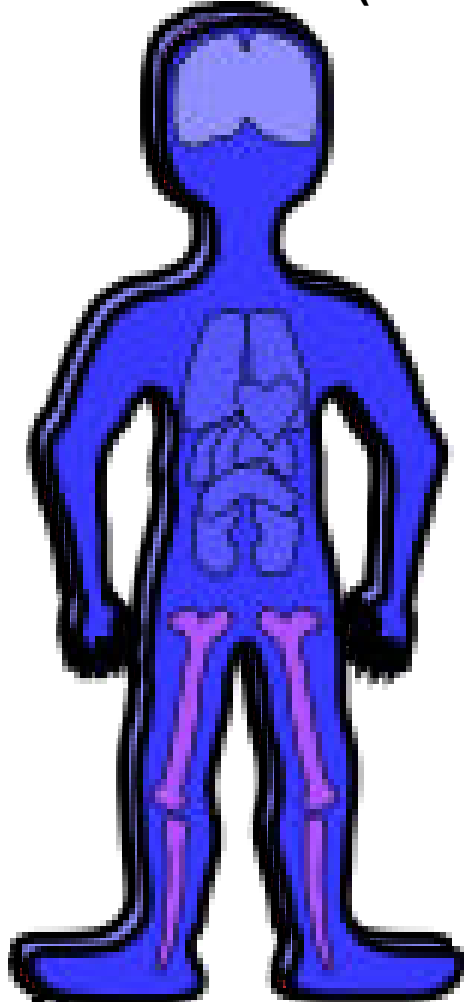
# Enzyme Delivery (following cell – transplant – therapy)

- Gene copy number (wild type vs carrier in Hurler)
- Gene expression (Promoter)
- Secretion from cell

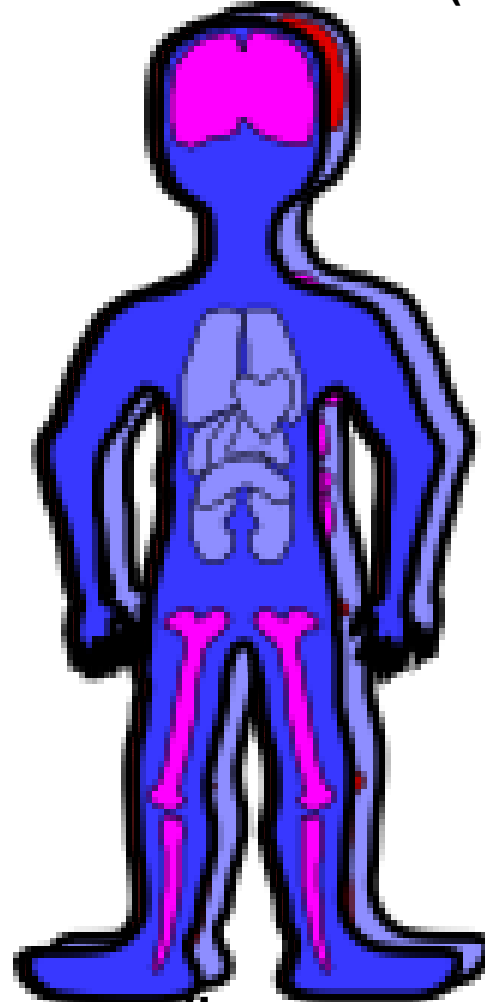


What's the problem? Why is HSCT variable in LSDs; Cells or Enzyme Dose?

**Permissive disease (MPS IH)    Intractable disease (MPS III)**



Medium enzyme  
High enzyme



Medium enzyme  
High enzyme

High

GAGs

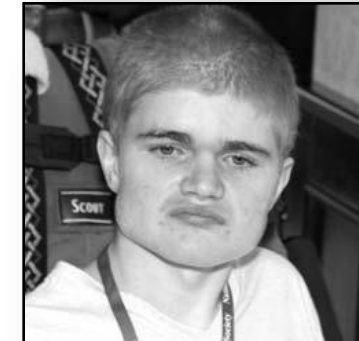
Low



# Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIA

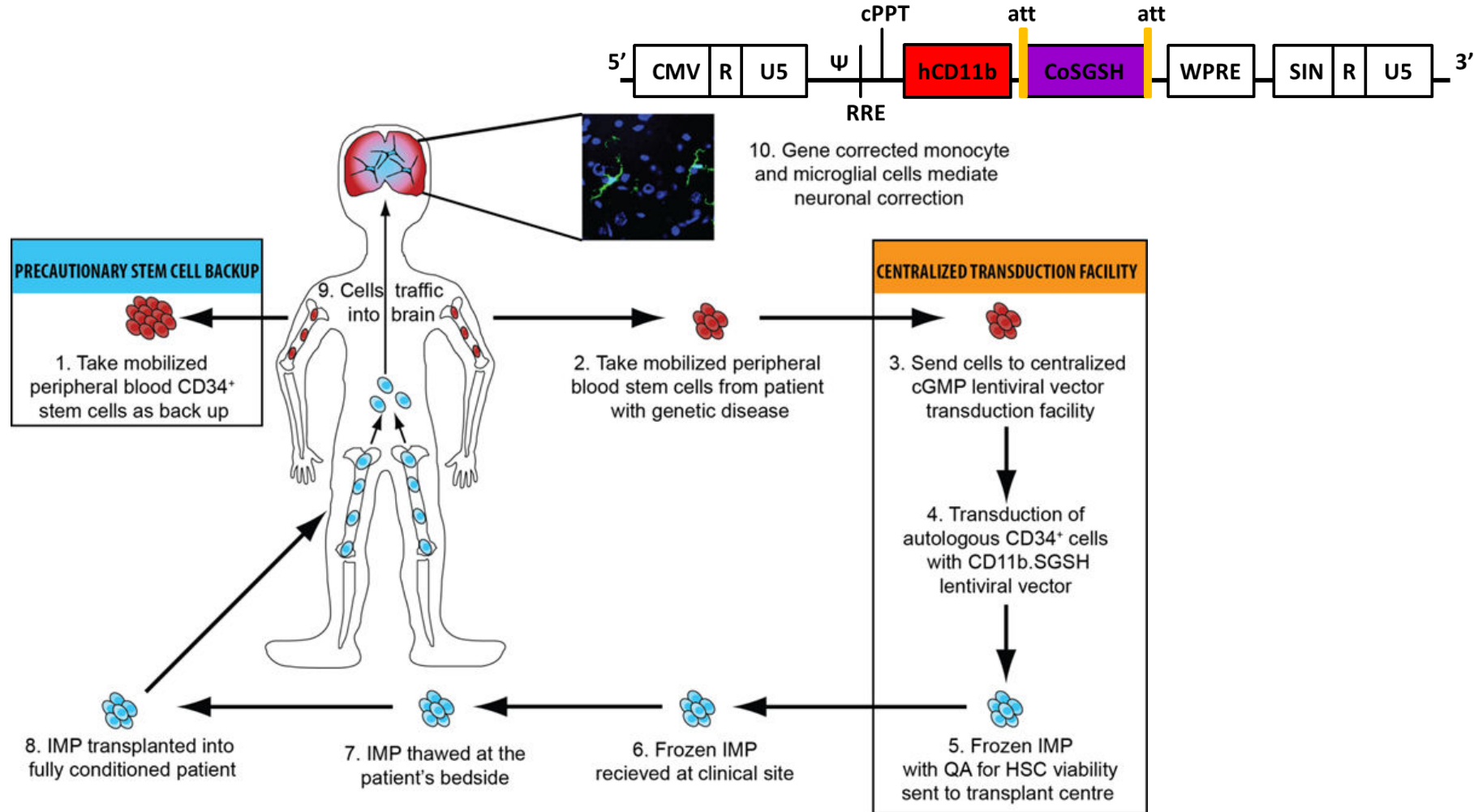
- MPS III (Sanfilippo) describes 4 clinically similar neurodegenerative, lysosomal storage diseases
- MPSIIIA caused by mutations in the *SGSH* gene
- Partially degraded heparan sulphate (HS) glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) accumulate in lysosomes and ECM
- HS accumulation results in lysosomal swelling, secondary storage and cellular dysfunction
- The disease affects children in early life, with progressive cognitive and later motor decline, behavioural problems, hyperactivity and ultimately death in their mid teens
- Enzyme can cross-correct cells – but cannot cross BBB

Speech Age $\pm$ SD (yrs)	Cognitive Function Age $\pm$ SD (yrs)	Motor Function Age $\pm$ SD (yrs)
Impairment of speech <b><math>2.8 \pm 1.9</math></b>	Deterioration of cognitive function <b><math>3.0 \pm 1.4</math></b>	Clumsy walking <b><math>4.1 \pm 3.6</math></b>
Speech difficult to understand <b><math>5.7 \pm 2.7</math></b>	Loss of interest in environment <b><math>8.2 \pm 3.7</math></b>	Aided walking <b><math>9.9 \pm 4.3</math></b>
Loss of speech <b><math>8.2 \pm 3.7</math></b>	Unresponsiveness <b><math>13.1 \pm 4.2</math></b>	Wheel chair/immobile <b><math>12.4 \pm 5.3</math></b>

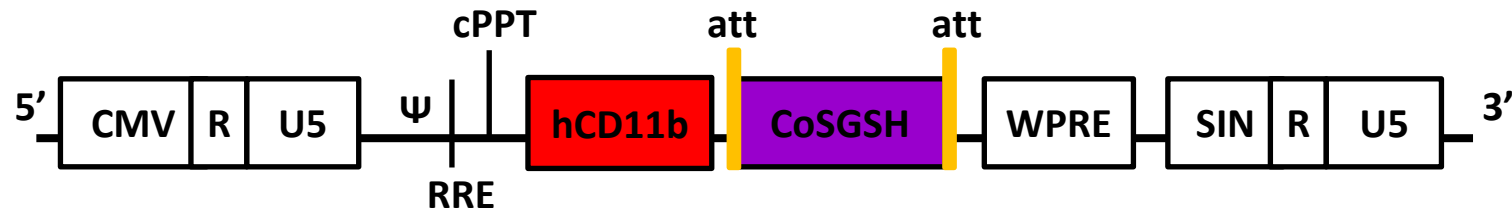


# Trial outline for LV-HSC Gene Therapy in MPS IIIA

- Clinical trial outline for MPSIIIA – Cryopreserved IMP with transduction enhancers

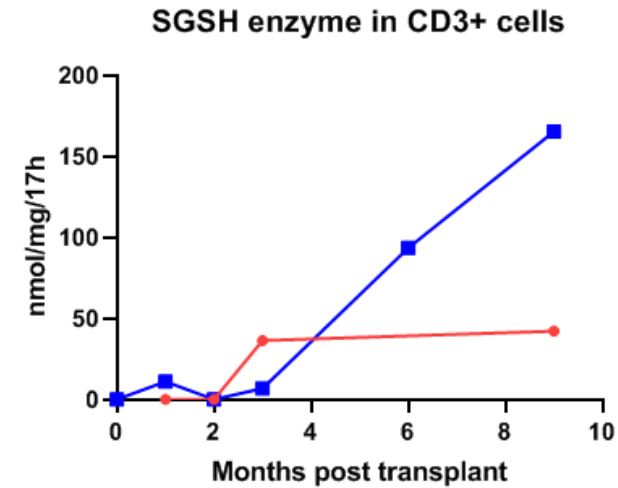
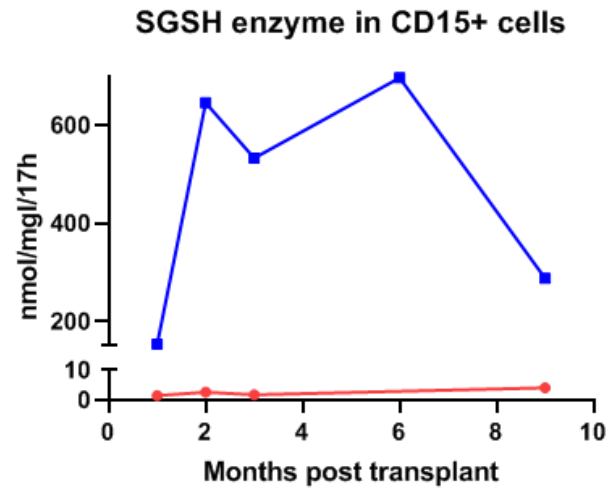
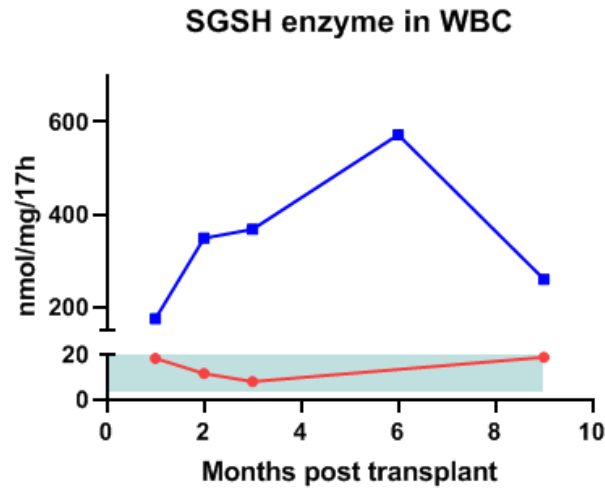
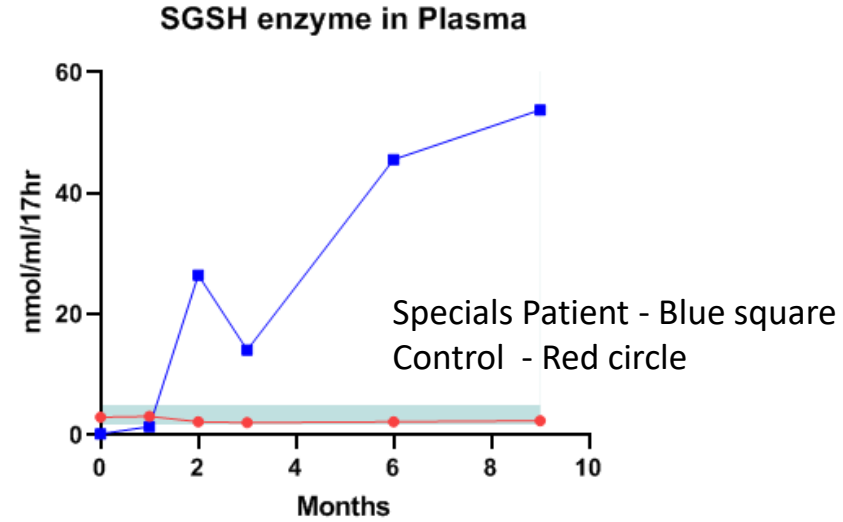
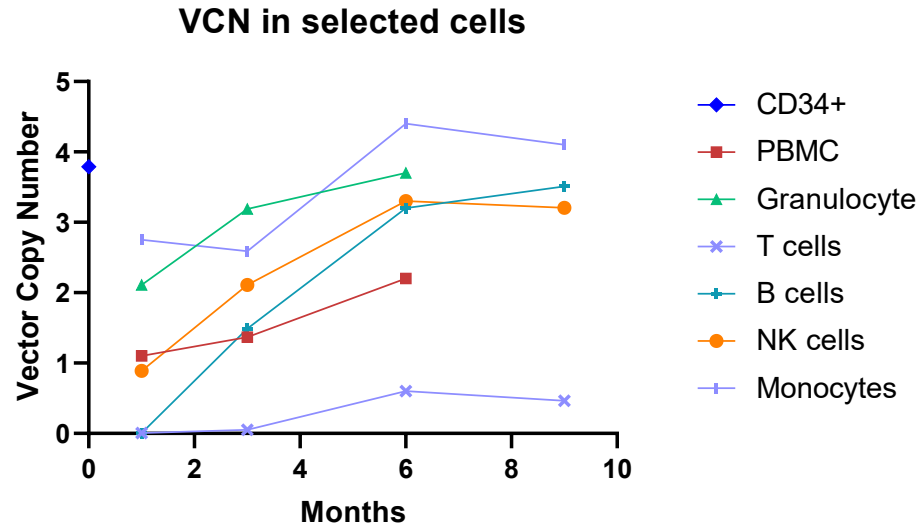


MPSIIIA patient transplanted  
with CD34+ cells transduced with CD11b.SGSH LV



- 2.5 yr old male MPSIIIA patient treated at RMCH by Rob Wynn (Specials)
- Apheresis RMCH 13-18 Dec 2018
- Product Manufacture GOSH/UCL18-20 Dec 2018
- Special product release and shipping to RMCH -18 Jan 2019
- VCN 3.79 (d7), 84% viability, SGSH 4.94 uM 4MU/ug/17h (24 fold normal)
- 5 days full intensity busulfan - target cumulative AUC 90mg/L/h 22-27Jan
- Infused with  $13 \times 10^6$  CD34+ cells/kg at VCN of 3.79 -28 Jan 2019
- Neutrophil engraftment ( $ANC > 500/mm^3$ ) -16 days
- Platelet engraftment ( $> 20,000/mm^3$ ) -39 days

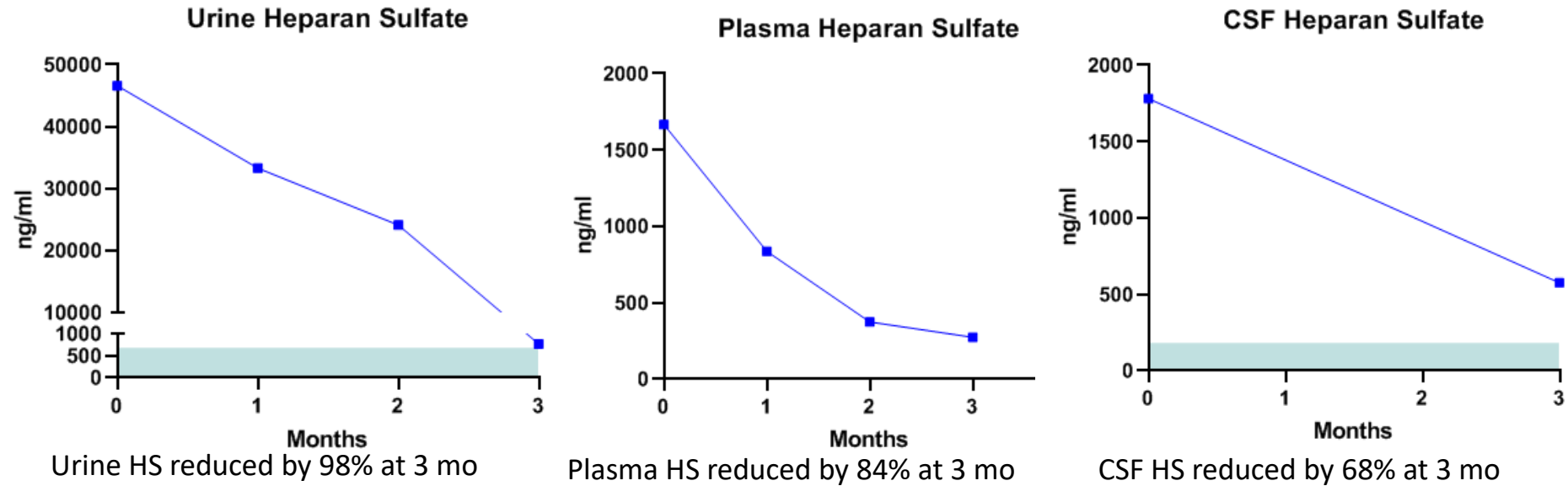
# Enzyme and VCN



- VCN has stabilised close to input value of 3.79
- Plasma enzyme 11 fold upper limit of normal, WBC enzyme 13 fold normal, CD15 100-300 fold normal,
- CD3 enzyme rises as T cell chimerism increases

# Primary Storage

Specials Patient - Blue square



- Urine GAG reduced by 98% after 3 months
- Plasma and CSF HS levels both reduced significantly within 3 months

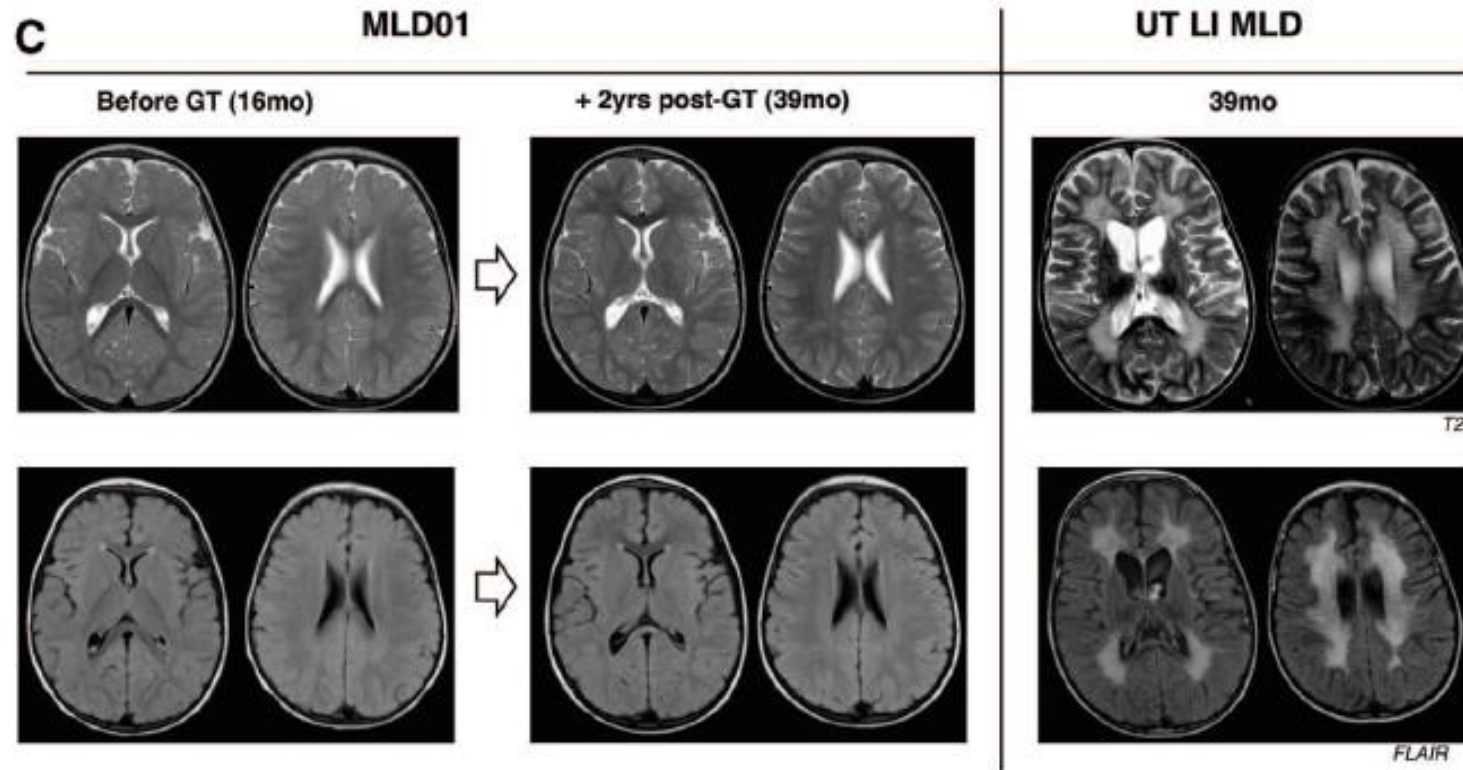
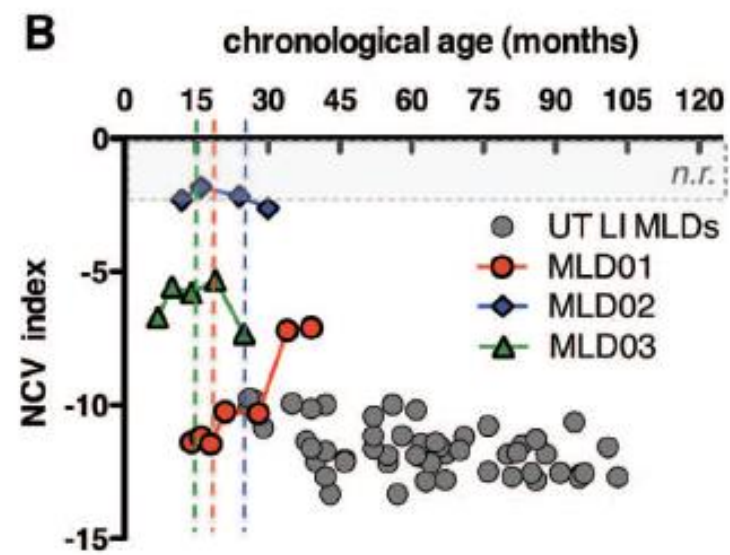
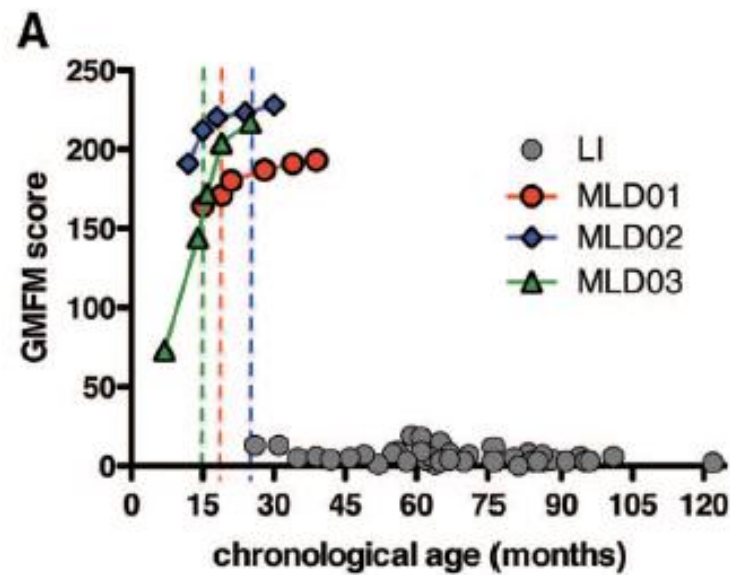
# **Lentiviral Hematopoietic Stem Cell Gene Therapy Benefits Metachromatic Leukodystrophy**

Alessandra Biffi,\* Eugenio Montini, Laura Lorioli, Martina Cesani, Francesca Fumagalli, Tiziana Plati, Cristina Baldoli, Sabata Martino, Andrea Calabria, Sabrina Canale, Fabrizio Benedicenti, Giuliana Vallanti, Luca Biasco, Simone Leo, Nabil Kabbara, Gianluigi Zanetti, William B. Rizzo, Nalini A. L. Mehta, Maria Pia Cicalese, Miriam Casiraghi, Jaap J. Boelens, Ubaldo Del Carro, David J. Dow, Manfred Schmidt, Andrea Assanelli, Victor Neduva, Clelia Di Serio, Elia Stupka, Jason Gardner, Christof von Kalle, Claudio Bordignon, Fabio Ciceri, Attilio Rovelli, Maria Grazia Roncarolo, Alessandro Aiuti, Maria Sessa, Luigi Naldini\*

23 AUGUST 2013 VOL 341 SCIENCE

*Published by AAAS*





# AAV

- Non pathogenic virus, different serotypes
  - Non-integrating
  - Therefore use is restricted to non-mitotic tissue (otherwise cell insertion would be diluted through cell division)
  - Immune response to capsid, and retreatment difficult
- 
- EYE (Leber's congenital amaurosis)(AAV2)
  - LIVER (e.g. haemophilia)
  - CNS (e.g. SMA)

# *The* NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

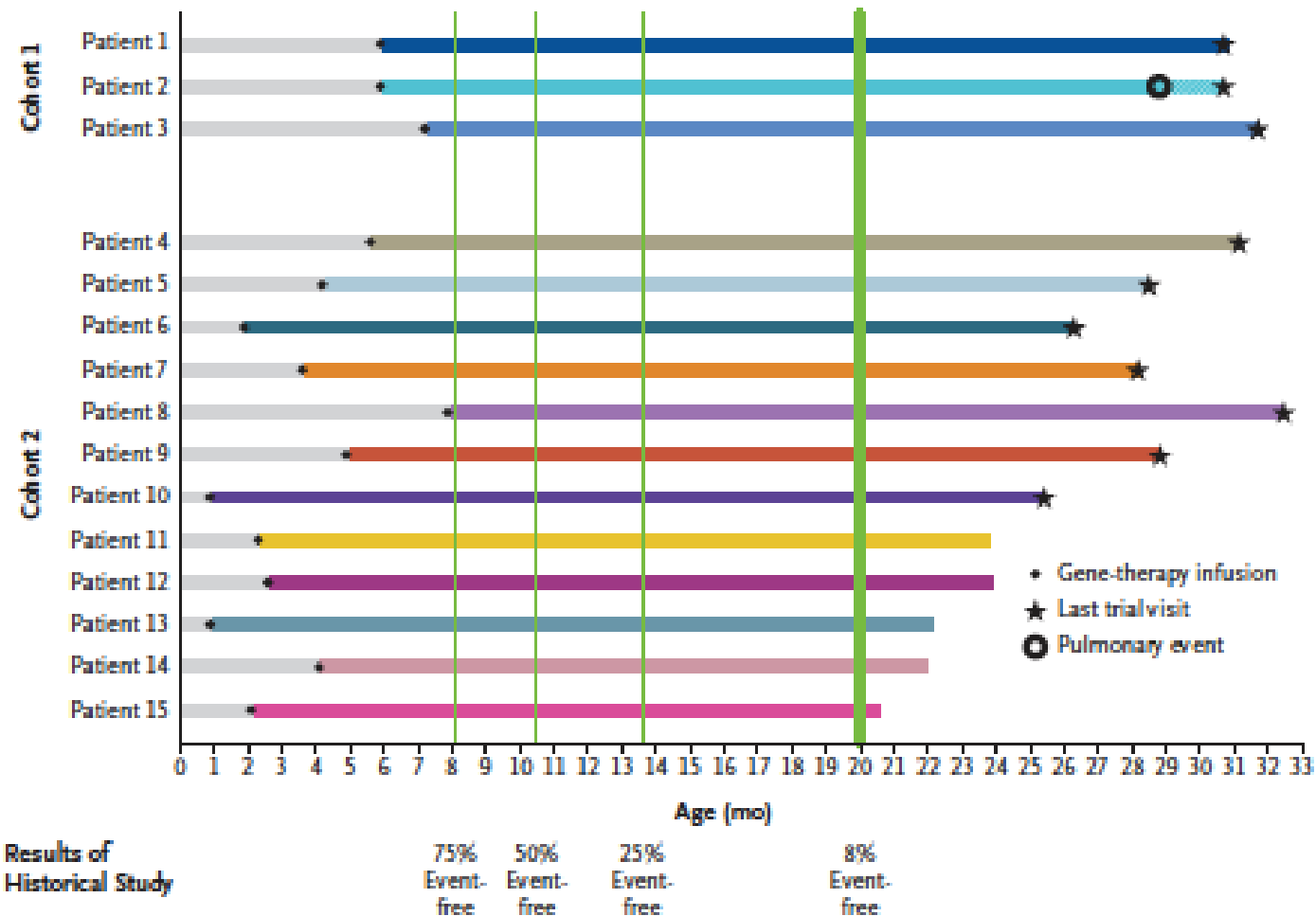
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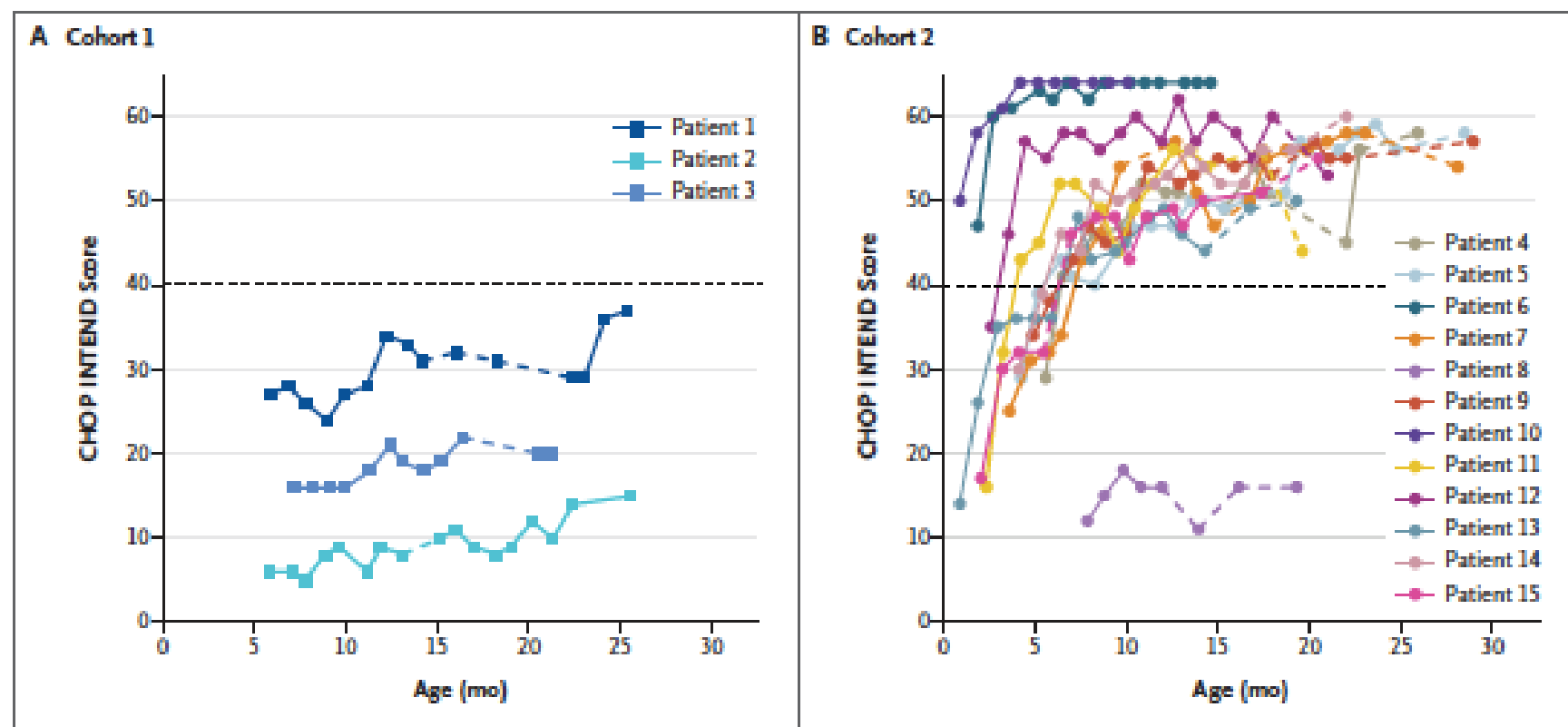
## Single-Dose Gene-Replacement Therapy for Spinal Muscular Atrophy

J.R. Mendell, S. Al-Zaidy, R. Shell, W.D. Arnold, L.R. Rodino-Klapac, T.W. Prior, L. Lowes, L. Alfano, K. Berry, K. Church, J.T. Kissel, S. Nagendran, J. L'Italien, D.M. Sproule, C. Wells, J.A. Cardenas, M.D. Heitzer, A. Kaspar, S. Corcoran, L. Braun, S. Likhite, C. Miranda, K. Meyer, K.D. Foust, A.H.M. Burghes, and B.K. Kaspar



**Figure 1. Survival Free from Permanent Ventilation in the 15 Study Patients.**

Shown is the duration of survival free from the need for permanent ventilation for the 3 patients in cohort 1, who received a low dose of adeno-associated viral vector containing DNA coding for SMN ( $6.7 \times 10^{13}$  vg per kilogram), and the 12 patients in cohort 2, who received a high dose ( $2.0 \times 10^{14}$  vg per kilogram). Stars indicate the completion of the ongoing 2-year safety follow-up. The percentages of patients who were event-free in a historical study of spinal muscular atrophy conducted by the Pediatric Neuromuscular Clinical Research Network<sup>4</sup> are provided at the bottom of the graph for a control comparison, as indicated by the vertical green lines. The thicker vertical line indicates the benchmark of 20 months, at which time only 8% of the patients with this disease typically survive without permanent ventilation.



**Figure 2. Motor Function after Gene Therapy.**

Shown are changes in the score for motor function on the CHOP INTEND (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Infant Test of Neuromuscular Disorders) scale among the 3 patients in cohort 1 (Panel A) and the 12 patients in cohort 2 (Panel B) who received gene therapy with adeno-associated viral vector containing DNA coding for SMN. The scale ranges from 0 to 64, with higher scores indicating better motor function; historical controls with spinal muscular atrophy type 1 never reach 40 points (indicated by the black dashed line). The dashed lines on the individual patient curves indicate either a missed assessment or a partial assessment because of illness, lack of cooperation, or fatigue of the patient; such data were not included in the analyses. The timing of the administration of gene therapy in Figure 1 can be matched with the data shown here for each patient.

This article is more than **11 months old**

## The \$2m drug reveals medical research as a casino culture

*Kenan Malik*

Does Zolgensma, a revolutionary one-off treatment for spinal muscular atrophy, really need to cost so much?

Sun 26 May 2019 06:00 BST



How much is a life worth? \$2.15m? That's the staggering price of a drug produced by the pharmaceutical giant Novartis that has just come on the market. Zolgensma is a one-off gene therapy treatment for spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a rare degenerative disorder. Infants with the most severe form usually die within two years. For parents of babies born with SMA, any price is worth paying to save the child's life. Novartis argues that spread across a lifetime, \$2.15m is "cost-effective".

It points out, too, the expense of developing such innovative drugs. In this case, though, Novartis did not develop Zolgensma but bought up, for £8.7bn, AveXis Inc, the company that did. The *Wall Street Journal* described the acquisition as a "bet". The price of Zolgensma is the return necessary for that gamble to be successful.





- **Metabolic SC GT programme**
- CAR-T and cancer gene therapy programme
- MSC and inflammatory disease, and metabolic bone disease gene therapy programme

# Indications

- MALIGNANT (HAEMATOLOGICAL) DISEASE
- NON-MALIGNANT HAEMATOLOGICAL (Gene therapy in most cases!)

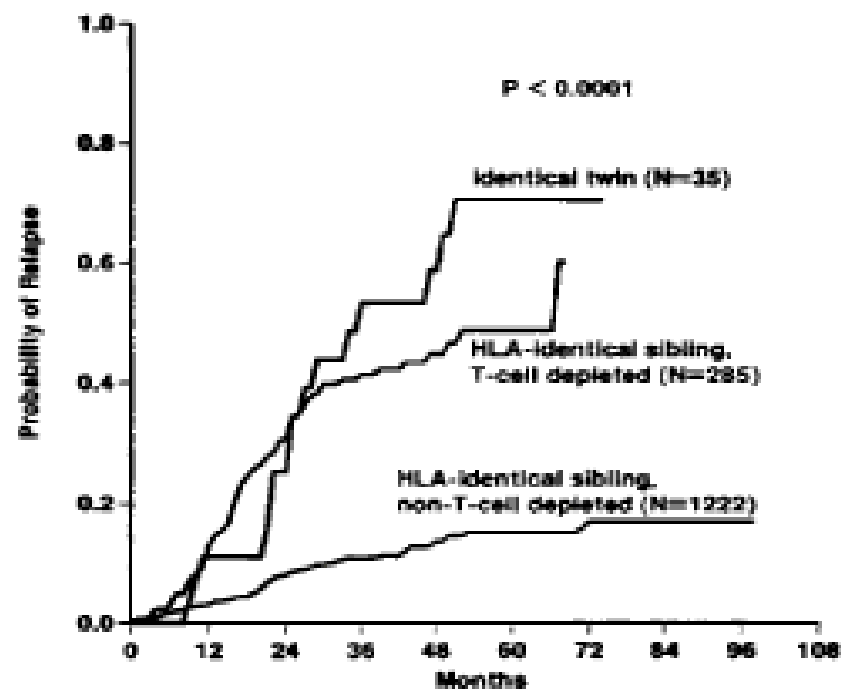
(Disorder of stem cell number or function, or number or function of their mature progeny)

- NON-MALIGNANT, NON-HAEMATOLOGICAL (Gene therapy!)

(METABOLIC DISEASES)



## Graft-versus-Leukemia Effect



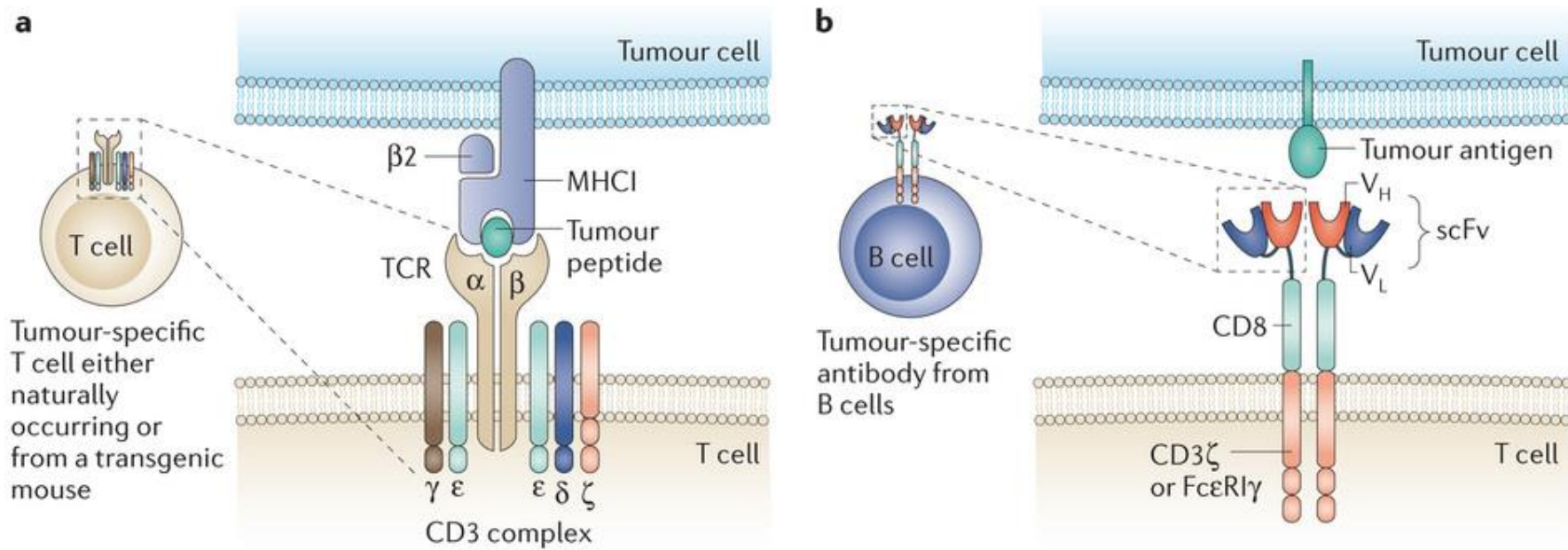


# Graft versus Leukaemia, Manchester strategies

- Transplant as a platform for immune therapies in leukaemia
- JMML, AML, T-ALL more than B-ALL
- Optimising GvL
- Using cord blood (granulocytes?) and choosing mismatch
- T-replete grafts
- Donor Lymphocyte Infusions where mixed T-cell chimerism







Nature Reviews | Cancer



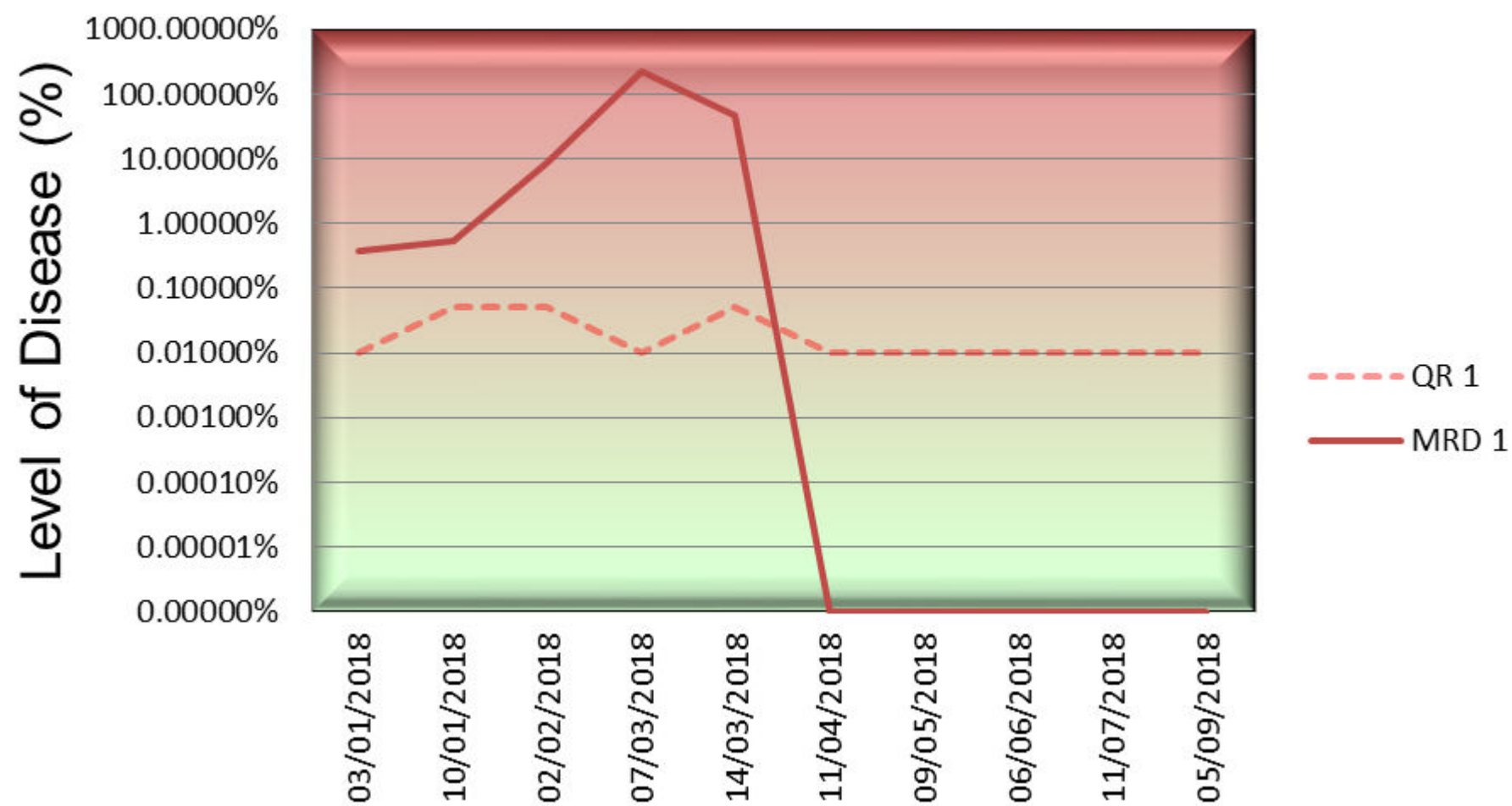


# Toxicities

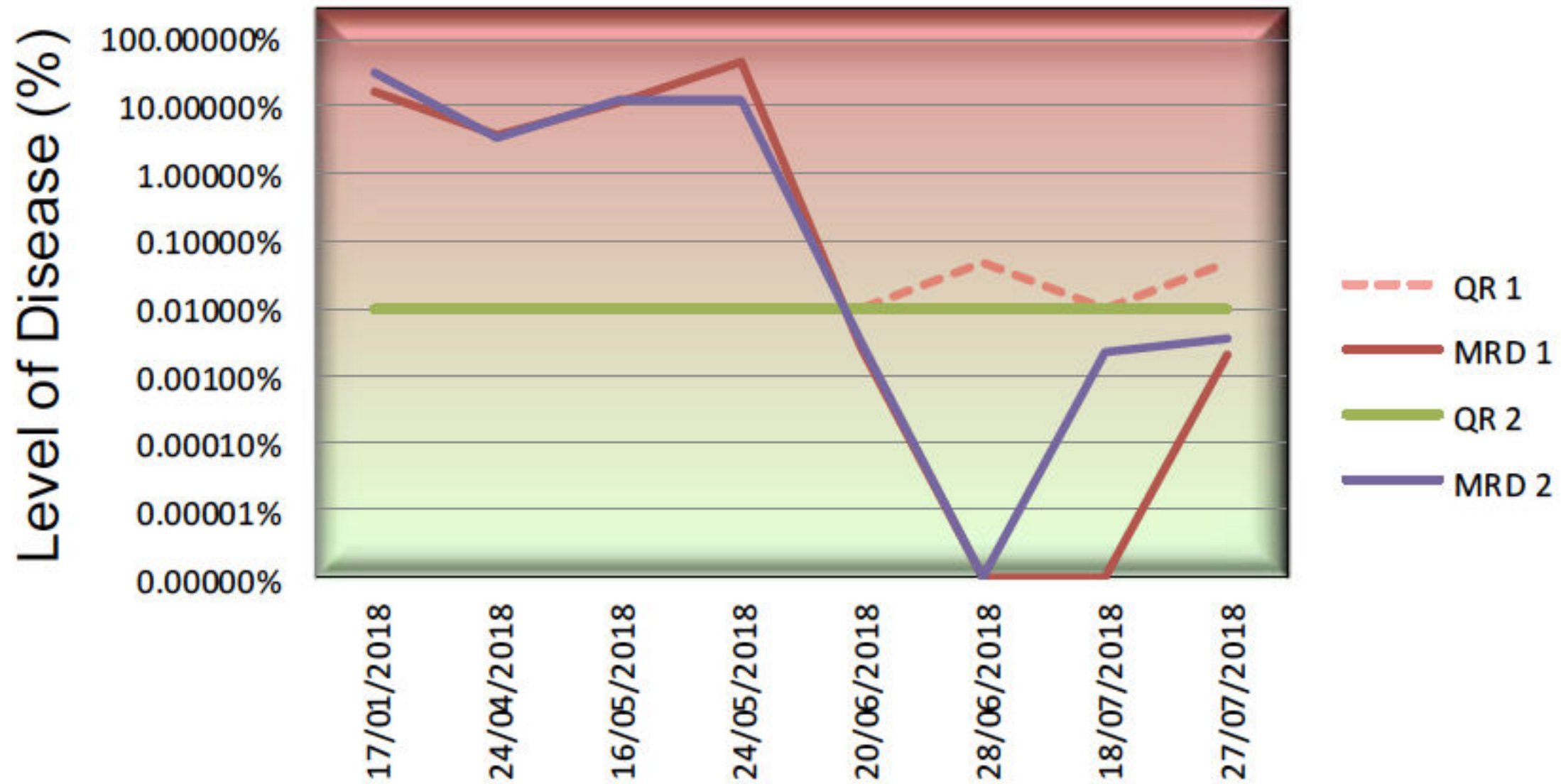
- Of leucapheresis, taking T-cells,
- Of lymphodepletion
- Of infusion, a cryopreserved stem cell product
- CRS, expanding, activated T-cells – we have not seen beyond grade 2 in Manchester, so none to ICU, no inotrope support (related to tumour burden)
- Reverse with tocilizumab, anti-IL6
- Neurology
- B cell aplasia, and need for IVIG



## MRD Monitoring



## MRD Monitoring



# Relapse after CAR-T

- Loss of target antigen expression
- Evolution of leukaemia with loss of target antigen expression
- Particularly described in MLL leukaemia
  
- Loss of CAR-T

## Role of CAR-T?

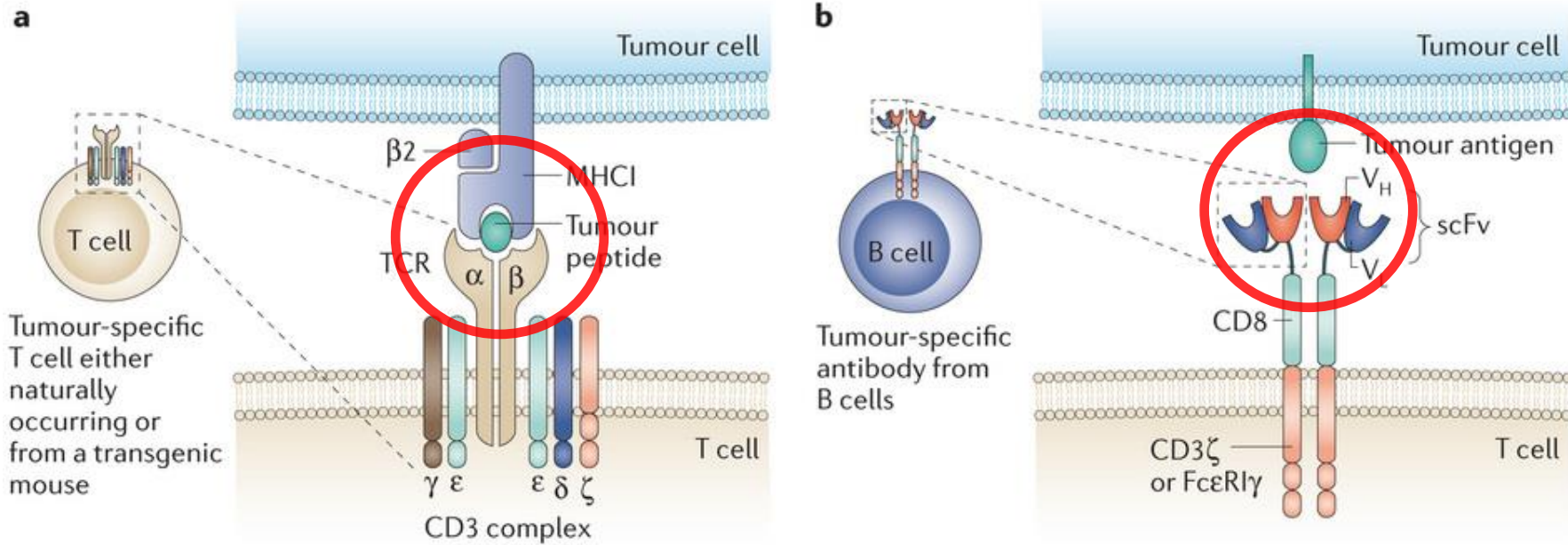
- Bridge to transplant, Final therapy?
- Non-lymphoid leukaemias (targets)



# Future of CAR-T cell therapies

- Combination with checkpoint inhibitors
- Turn on, turn off, incorporation of suicide genes
- Beyond ALL, into solid tumours
  - ❖ Getting the T-cell into the tumour
  - ❖ Antigen selection
  - ❖ An immune suppressant tumour microenvironment
- Identification of antigens specific to solid tumours (to reduce on-target, off tumour toxicity ... B-cell aplasia is ok, can manage)





Nature Reviews | Cancer

Intracellular antigen, expressed at cell surface,  
By class I

Bespoke TCR gene therapy – individual as HLA-specific





# Summary of Talk

- Role of transplant, its utility, its imitations and therefore our future direction in:
  - Childhood cancer (Allo transplant to CAR, and back?)
  - Genetic illnesses (PID, Haematology, Metabolic, and beyond?)



## **BMT, MANCHESTER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

BMT, Denise Bonney, Prashant Hiwarkar, Helen Campbell,  
Helametha Doss,

FELLOWS, and RESEARCH FELLOWS

PHARMACY, Tas Khalid and team

STEM CELL Wendy Ogden and Lab

TRANSPLANT Kay Poulton and Lab

NURSES, WARD, EVERYONE

## **NATIONAL and INTERNATIONAL**

Simon Jones, Manchester, Paul Veys, London

Rod Skinner, Newcastle

Jaap Jan Boelens, MSK

Paul Orchard, Minnesota

Caroline Lindemans, Utrecht

Maria Ester Bernardo, Milan

Arjan Lankaster, Leiden

## **LABORATORY**

Brian Bigger, Manchester, and team

**Professor Ed Wraith, RMCH**





## Q&A

Please add any question you have into the Q&A box

Please fill in feedback survey, your input is really valuable to us

Upcoming webinars,

**Covid vaccines and ATMP likeness, 25th May at 3pm,**

Peter Openshaw, *Professor of Experimental Medicine, Imperial College London*

**ATMP treatments for diabetes, 10th June at 4pm,**

James Shaw, *Professor of Regenerative Medicine for Diabetes, Newcastle University*

<https://www.theattcnetwork.co.uk/network/advanced-therapy-education-webinar-series>