

# Ethical Dimensions of FIH Gene Transfer Trials

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**STREAM**

Studies of Translation, Ethics and Medicine

Col disclosure:

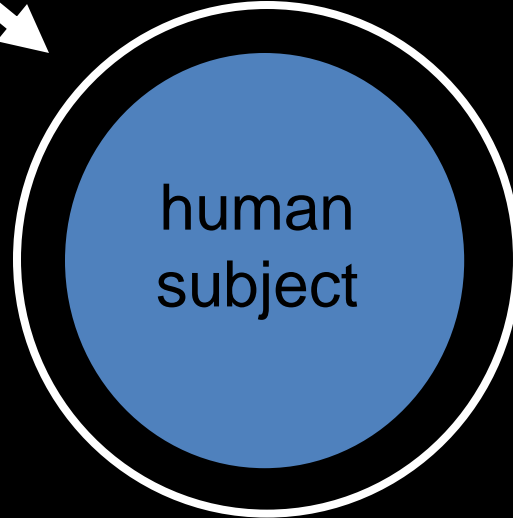
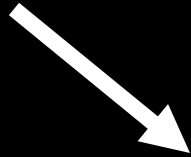
Ultragenyx: DSMB member / <\$5K/yr.

# 1A. fundamentals / ethics

2



researcher



human  
subject



3 parts



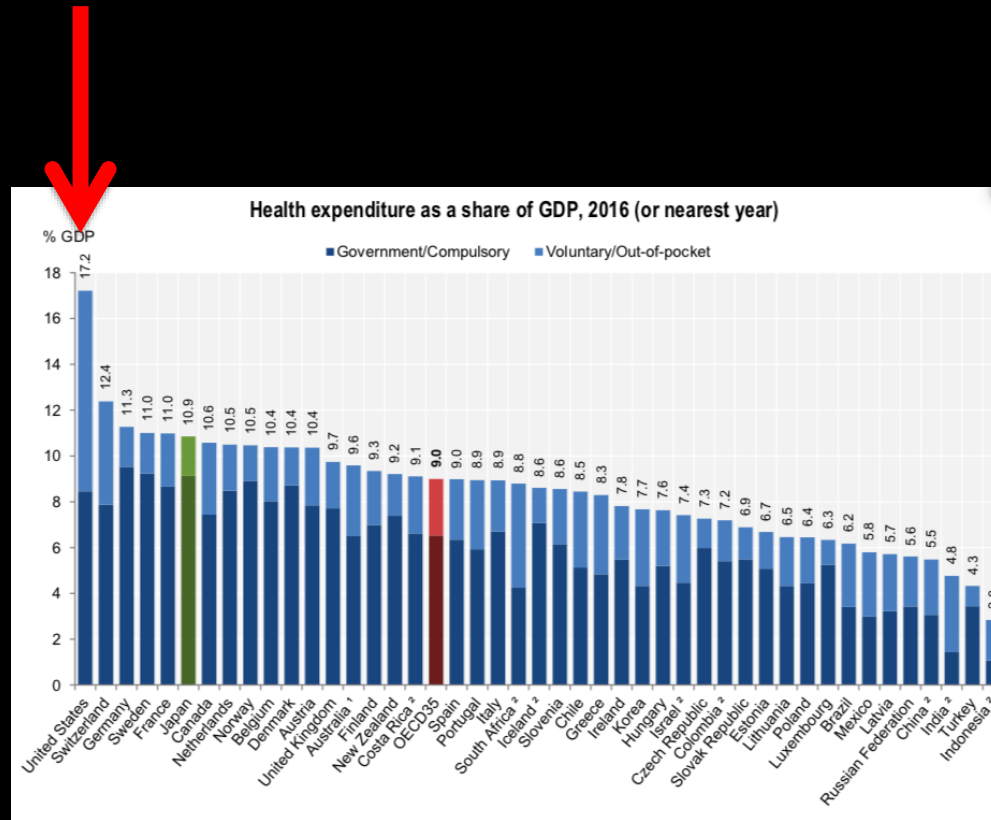
1)



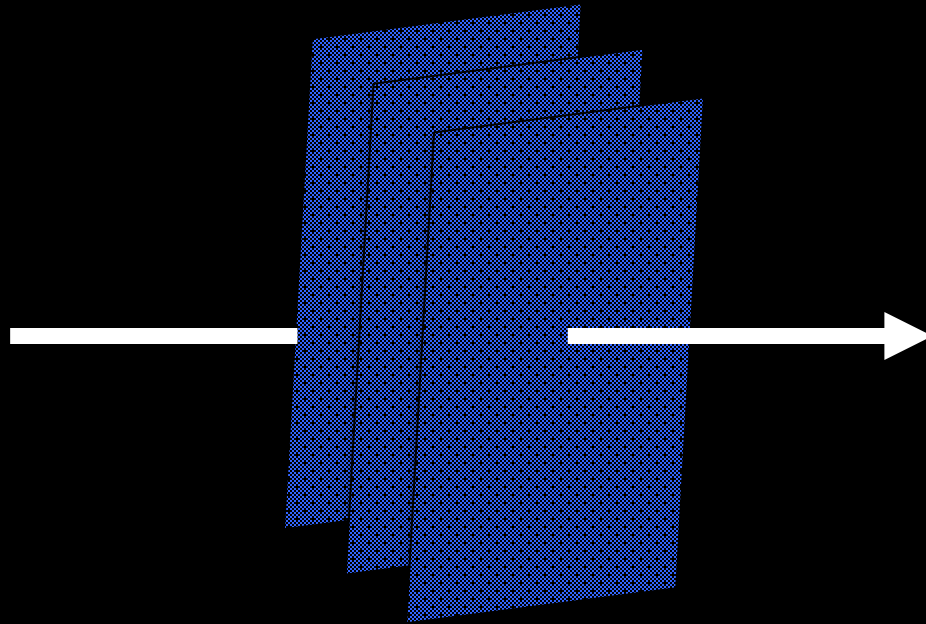
2)



3)



medical  
findings



healthcare  
system

1B. fundamentals / science

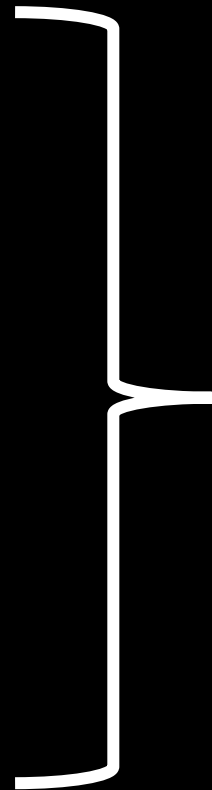


2

materials

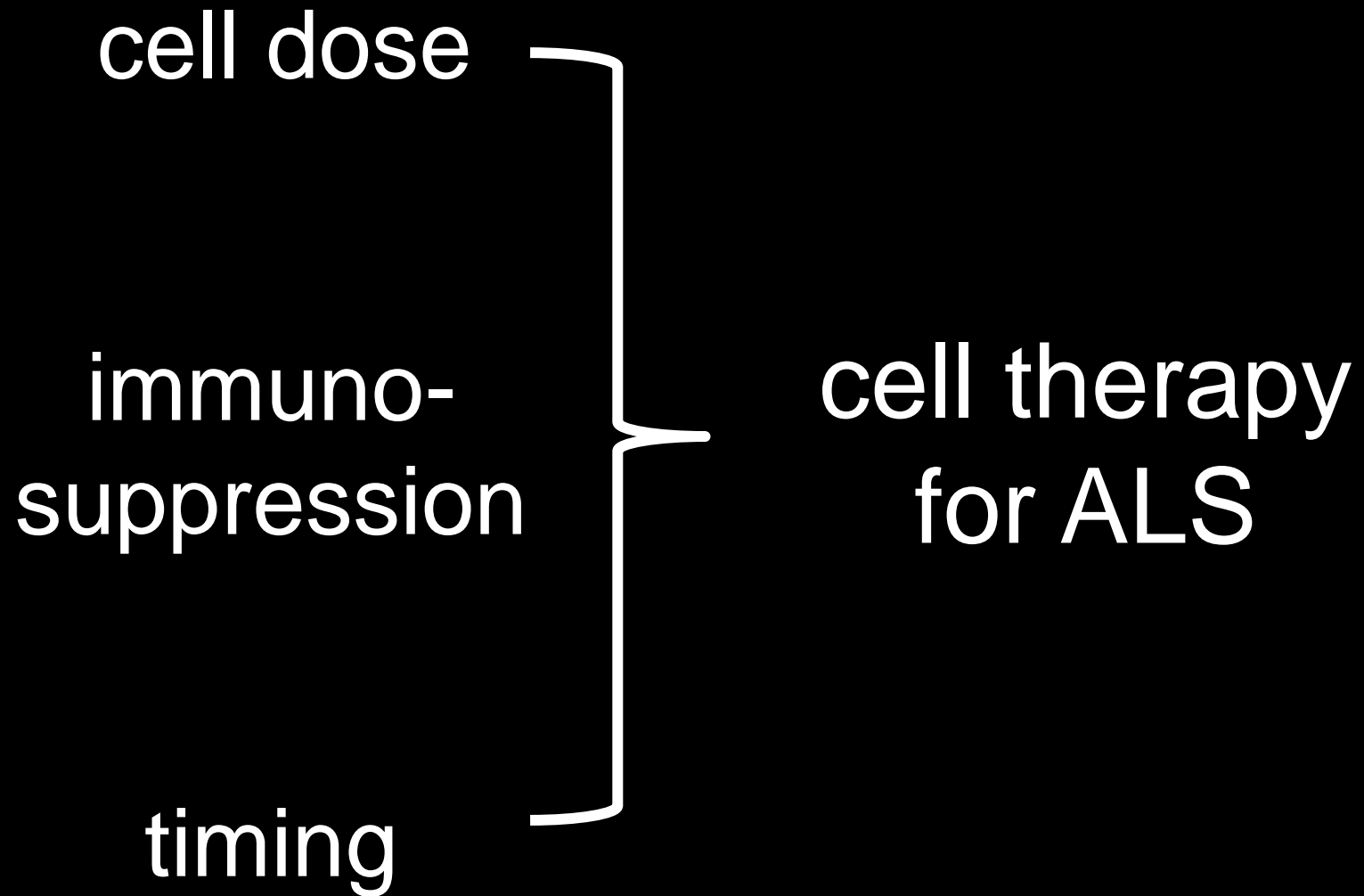
practices

beliefs



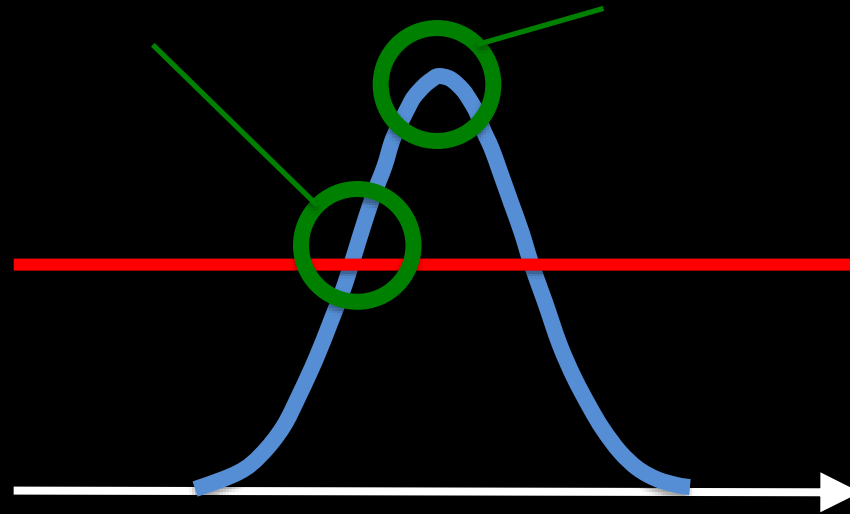
intervention  
ensemble





lower  
bound

optimum





dose  
imm. suppr.  
timing  
etc.

} intervention  
ensemble



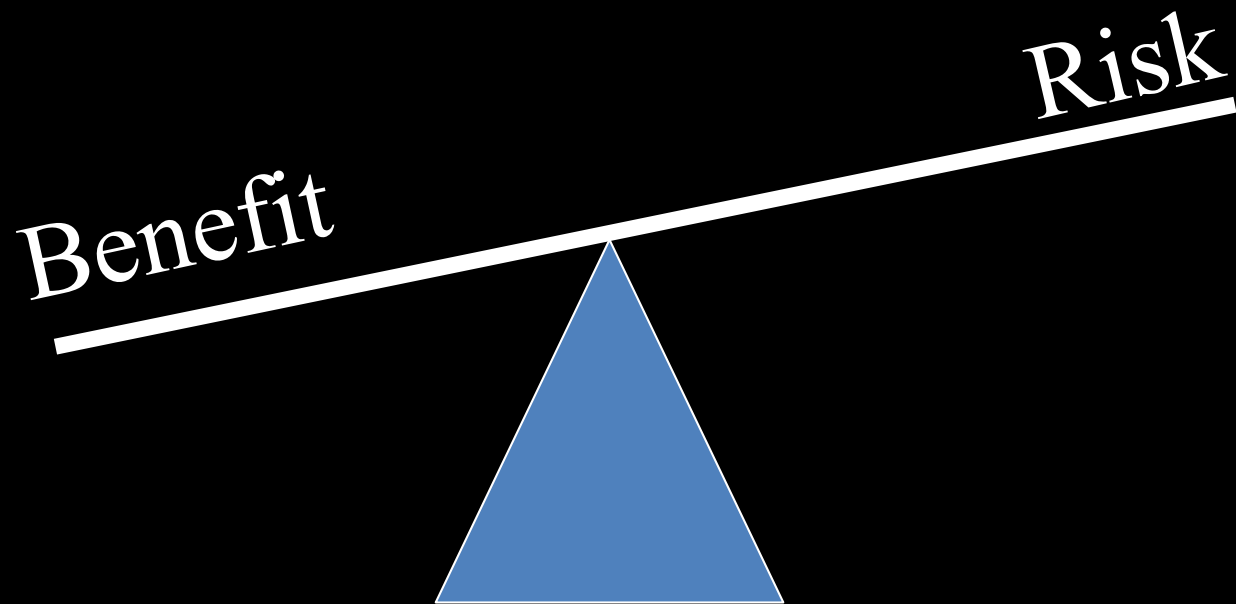


dose  
imm. suppr.  
timing  
etc.

} intervention  
ensemble



## 2. when to begin



# FDA Guidance on INDs for Phase 1

To the extent that such studies may be important to address safety issues, or to assist in evaluation of toxicology data, they may be necessary; however, lack of this potential effectiveness information should not generally be a reason for a Phase 1 IND to be placed on clinical hold.

# FDA Guidance on INDs for GT /CT

## A. Preclinical Program Objectives

The preclinical studies that are conducted are an important element of the overall development pathway for an investigational product. The overall objectives for a sufficient preclinical program for a CGT product include, as applicable:

1. Establishment of biological plausibility.
2. Identification of biologically active dose levels.

of the proposed clinical trial. Features of study design, such as the inclusion of appropriate concurrent controls, randomization, or blinding methods, may increase the strength of the resulting study data, thus should be considered.





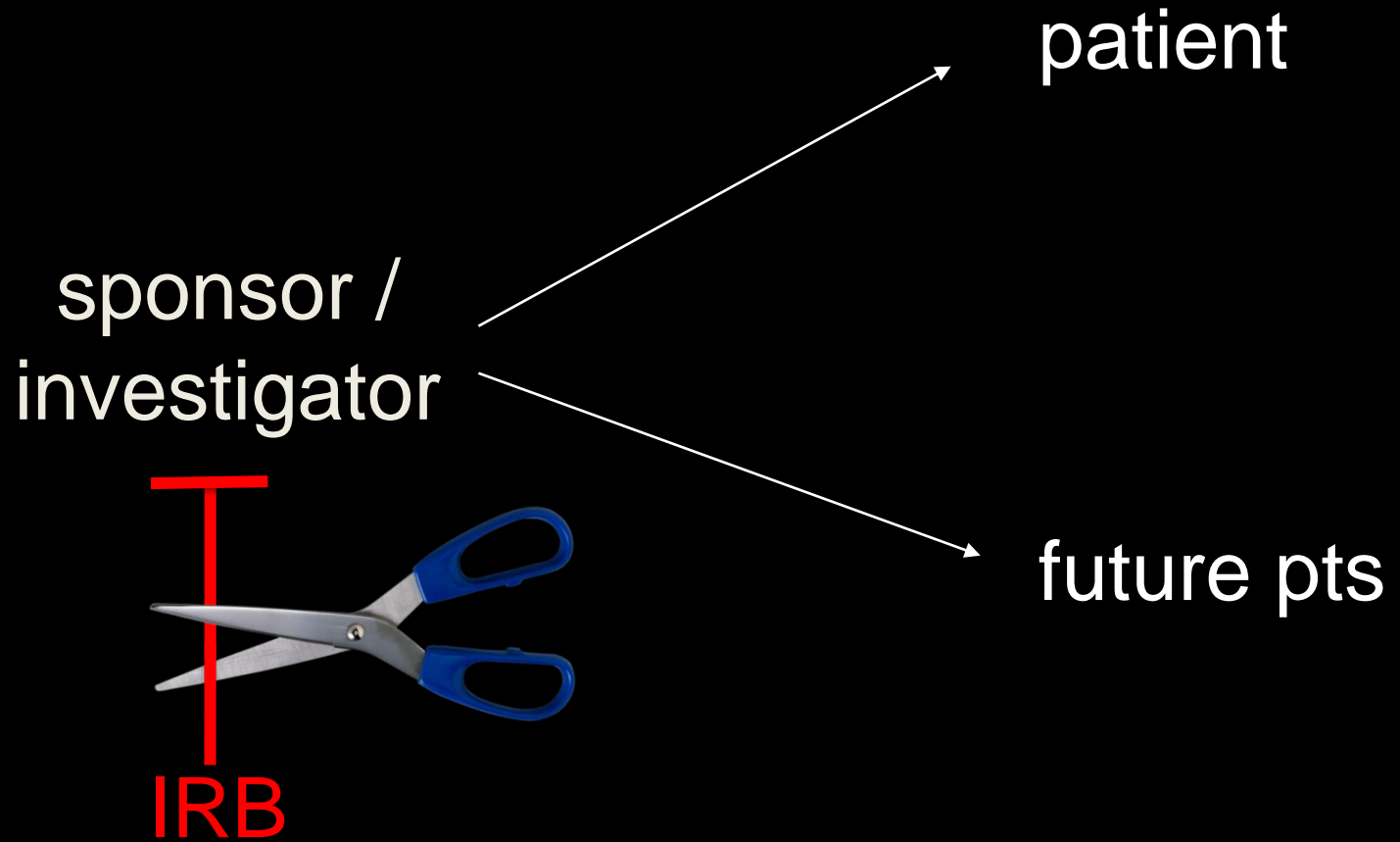
## Preclinical Efficacy Failure of Human CNS-Derived Stem Cells for Use in the Pathway Study of Cervical Spinal Cord Injury

Aileen J. Anderson,<sup>1,2,3,4,\*</sup> Katja M. Piltti,<sup>1,3</sup> Mitra J. Hooshmand,<sup>1,3</sup> Rebecca A. Nishi,<sup>1,3</sup>  
and Brian J. Cummings<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

$p(\text{harm to subject})$

---

$p(\text{benefit to subject}) + p(\text{advance science})$



3. is it 'therapy' ?

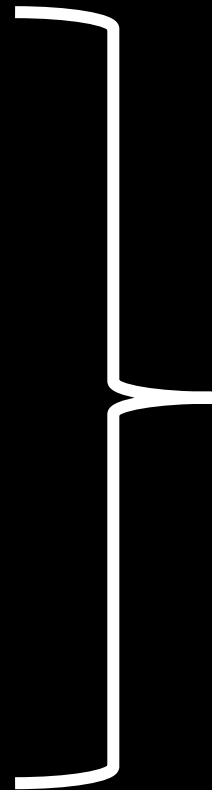
2)

a) principle

materials

practices

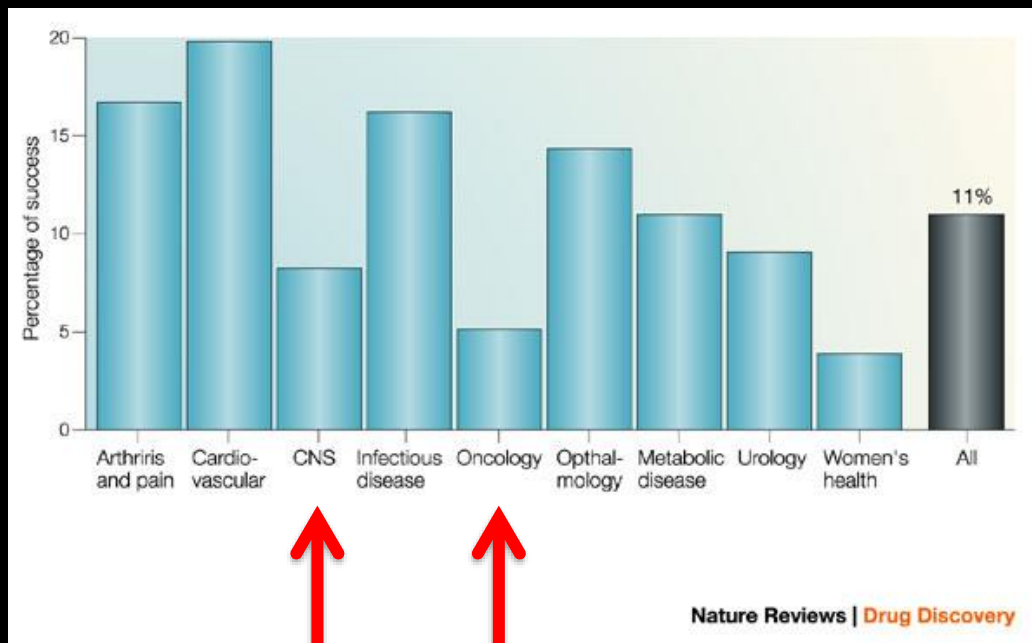
beliefs

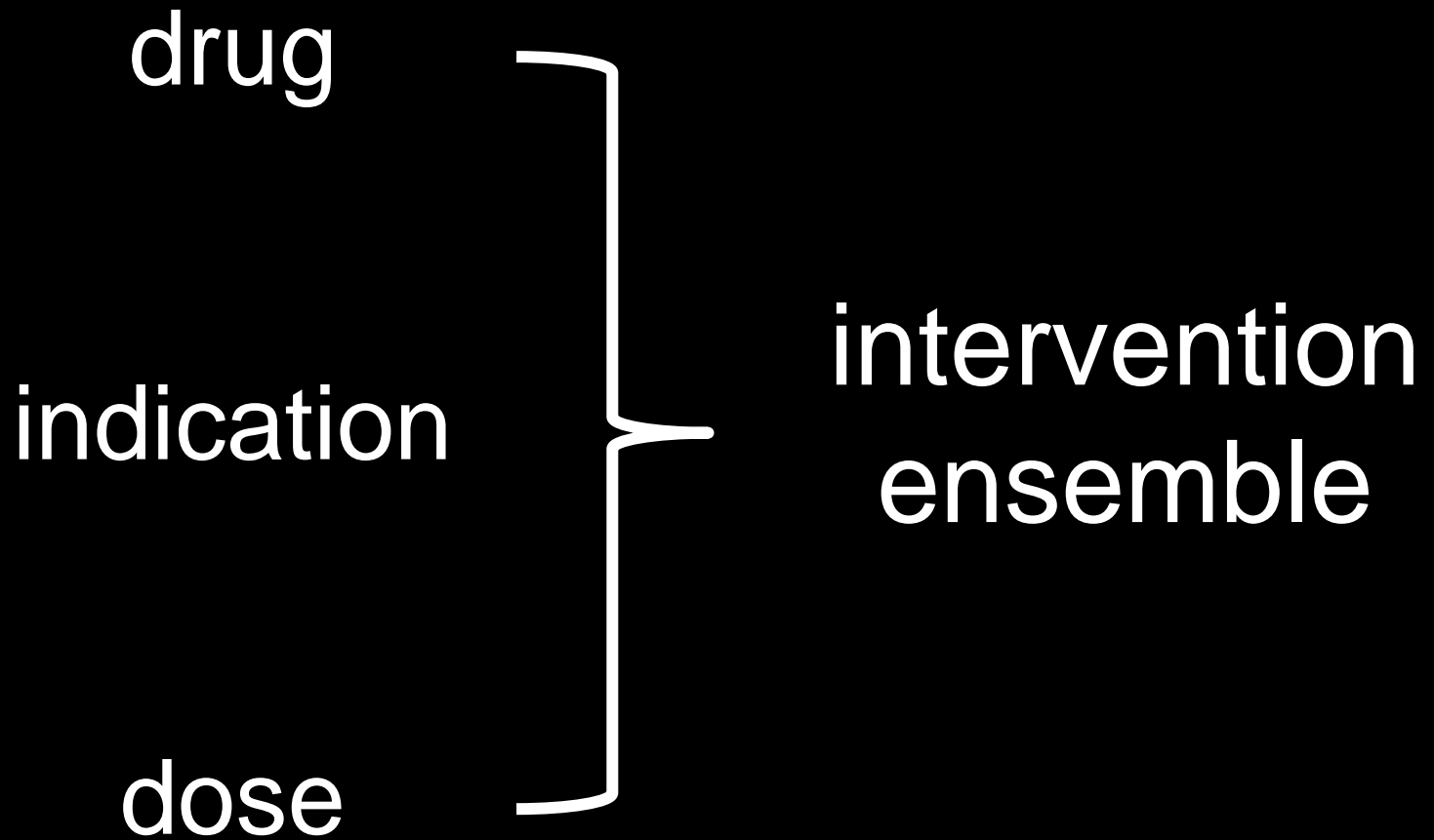


intervention  
ensemble

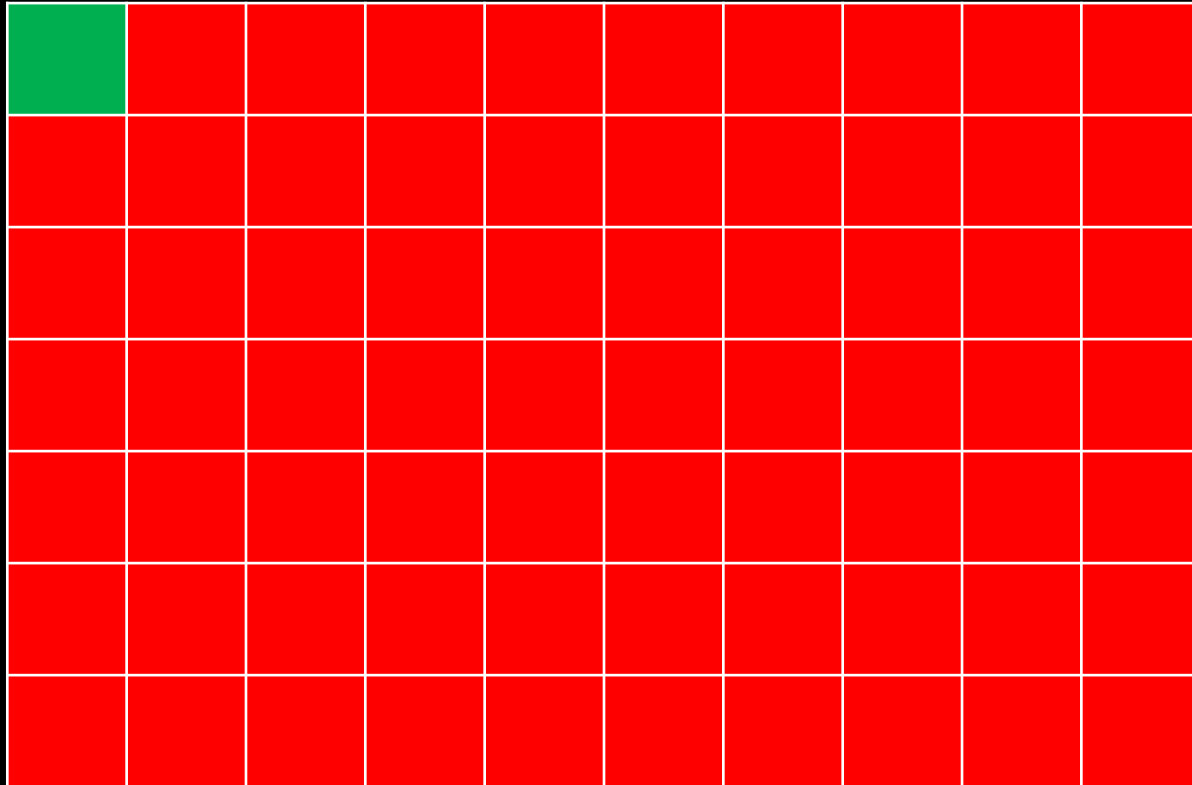
b) evidence







# Phase 1: NNT = 70



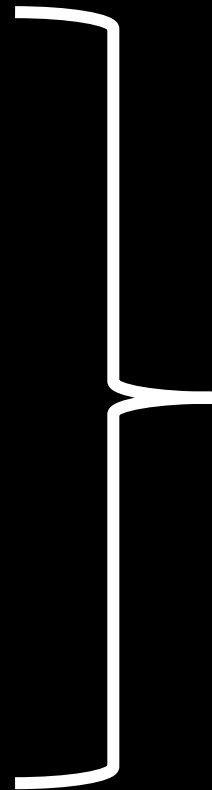
usually non-  
therapeutic

4. how to design ?

materials

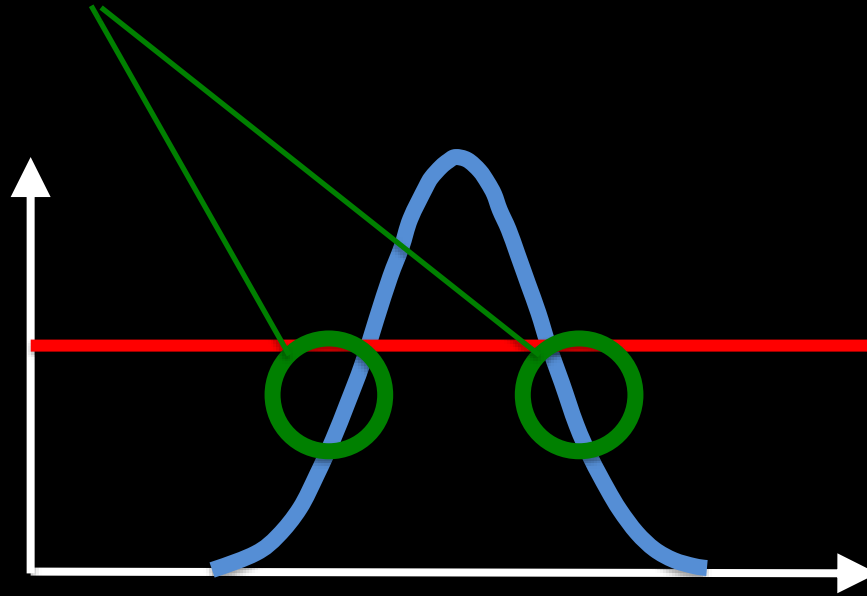
practices

beliefs



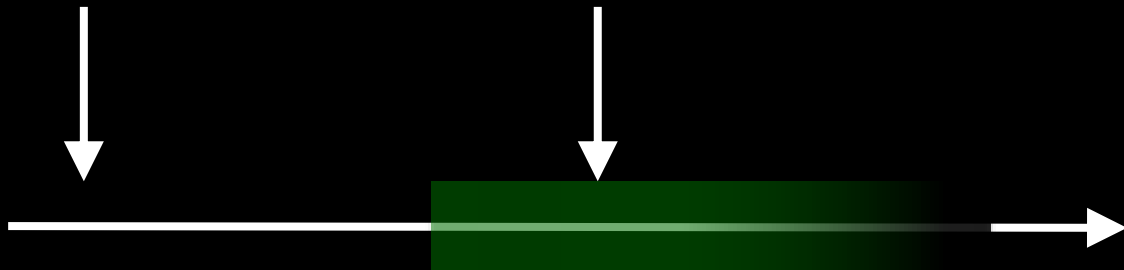
intervention  
ensemble

'edges = 33%'



stroke

treat



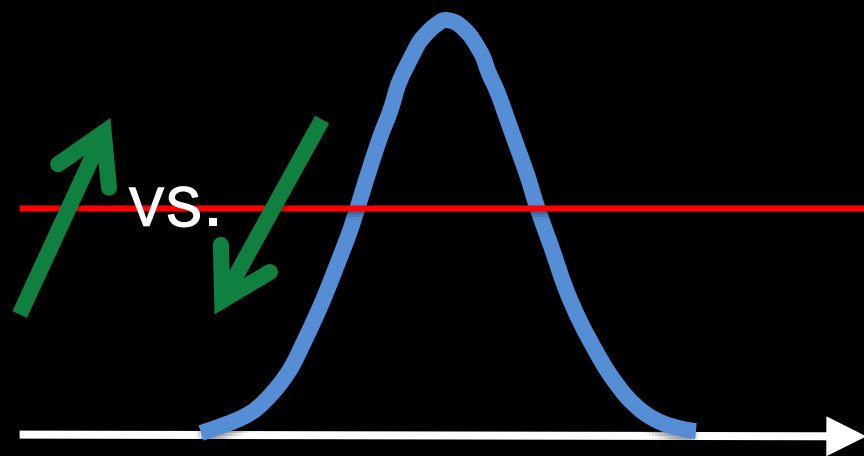
4 hrs.



6 hrs. ?







## 5. informativeness

RELEVANCE



DESIGN



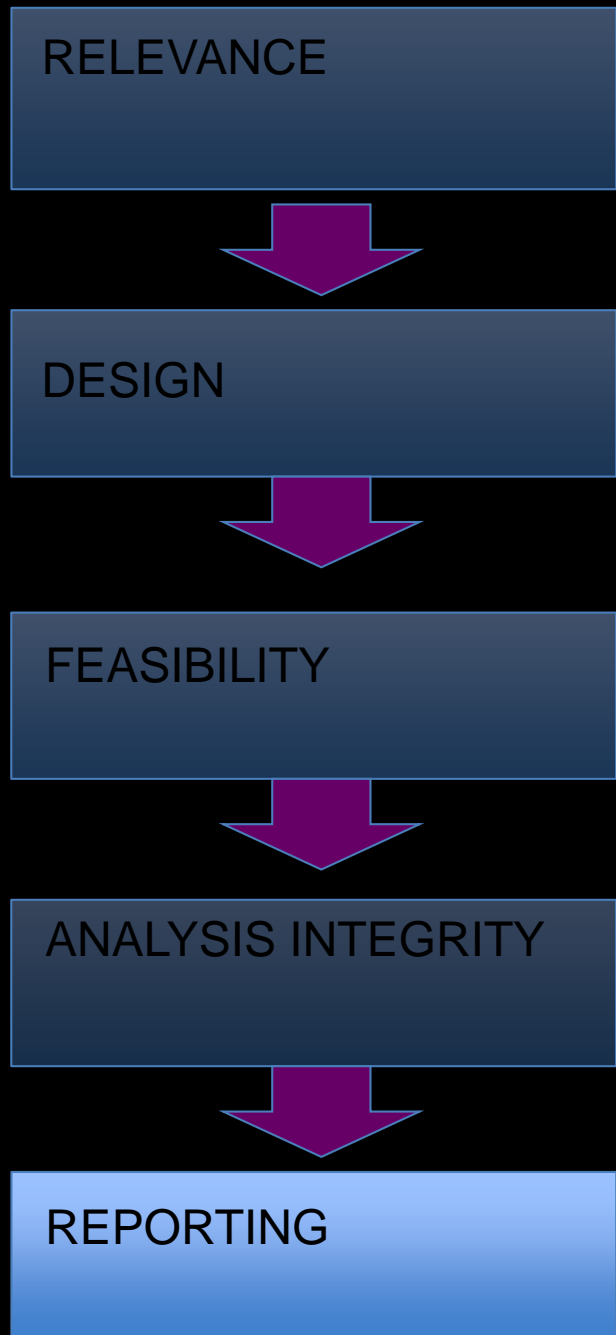
FEASIBILITY



ANALYSIS INTEGRITY



REPORTING



cohort pubs  
no ref standard  
pub delay  
selective report  
nonpublication



## Responsible Translation of Stem Cell Research: An Assessment of Clinical Trial Registration and Publications

Moses Fung,<sup>1,2</sup> Yan Yuan,<sup>1</sup> Harold Atkins,<sup>3</sup> Qian Shi,<sup>1</sup> and Tania Bubela<sup>1,\*</sup>











A custommade drug appears to be helping Mila, a 7-year-old born with Batten disease. JULIE AFFLERBAUGH

## A tailor-made drug developed in record time may save girl from fatal brain disease

By **Jocelyn Kaiser** | Oct. 19, 2018, 9:00 PM

1. when to begin

1 yr, 2 months

Dx

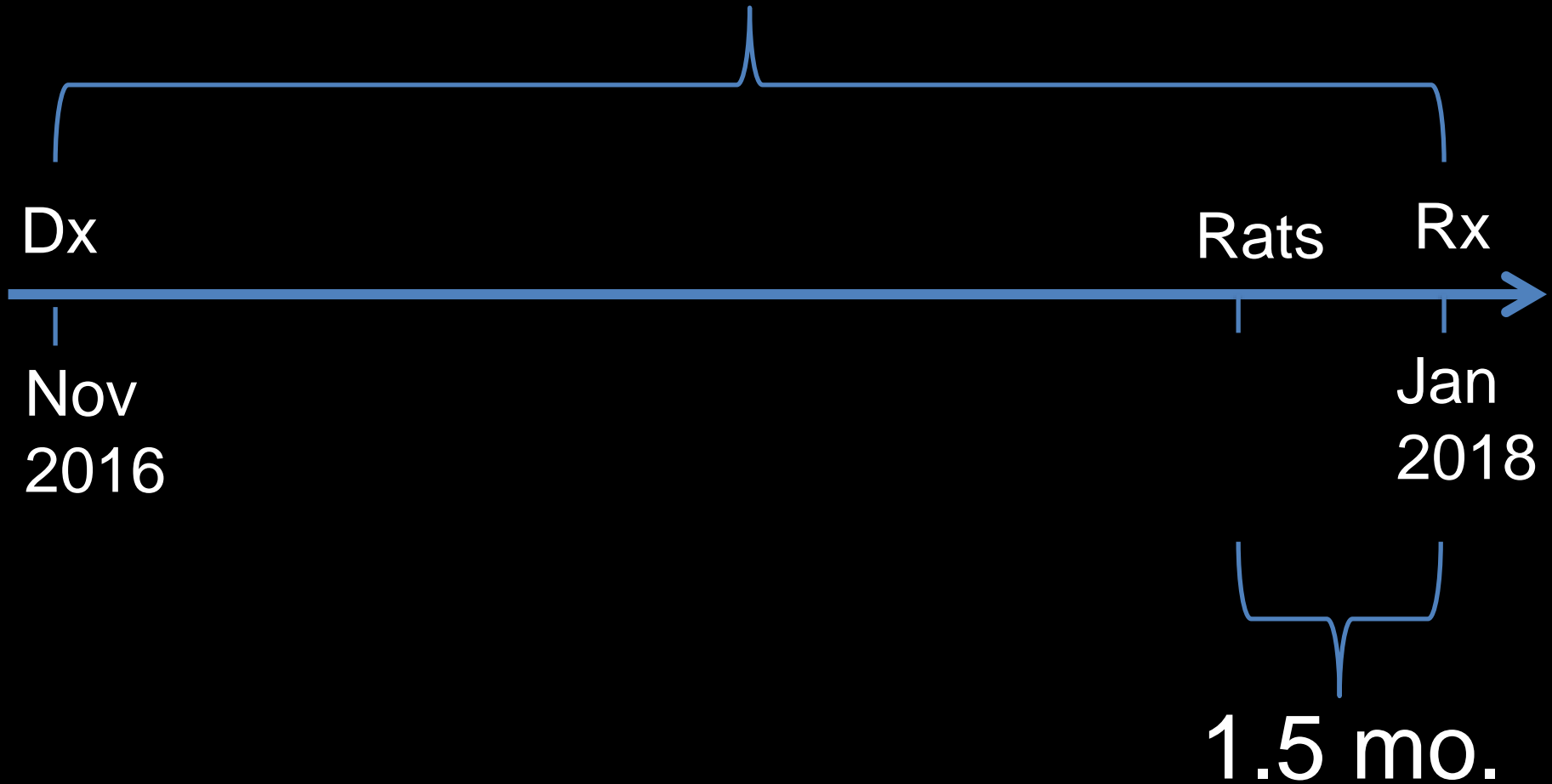
Rats

Rx

Nov  
2016

Jan  
2018

1.5 mo.



2. is it therapy ?

IRB reviewed  
Informed consent  
FDA approved  
Intensive baseline  
Protocol

~~Peer reviewed~~  
~~Pre-registered~~  
~~Primary endpoint~~  
~~No data analysis plan~~  
~~Path to license~~

### 3. informativeness

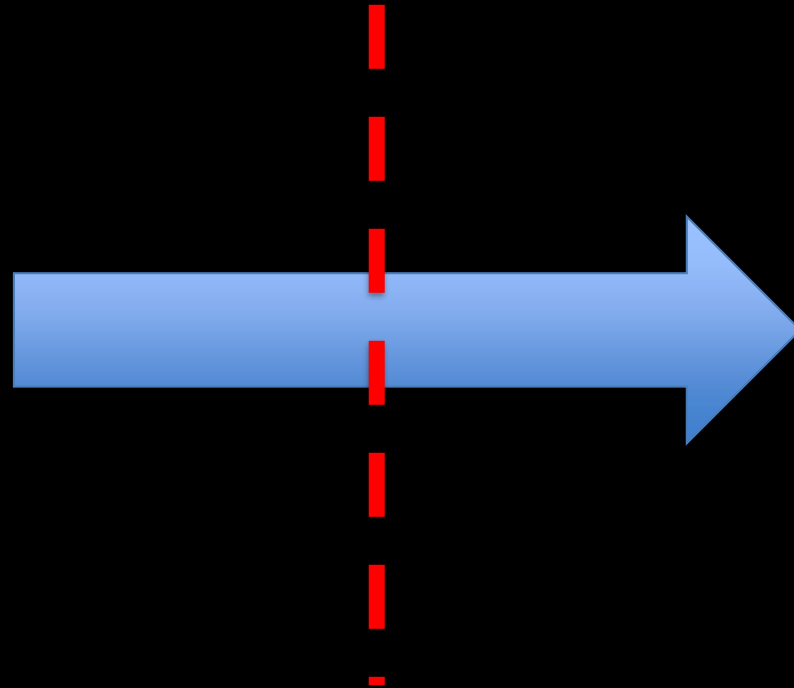


Milasen



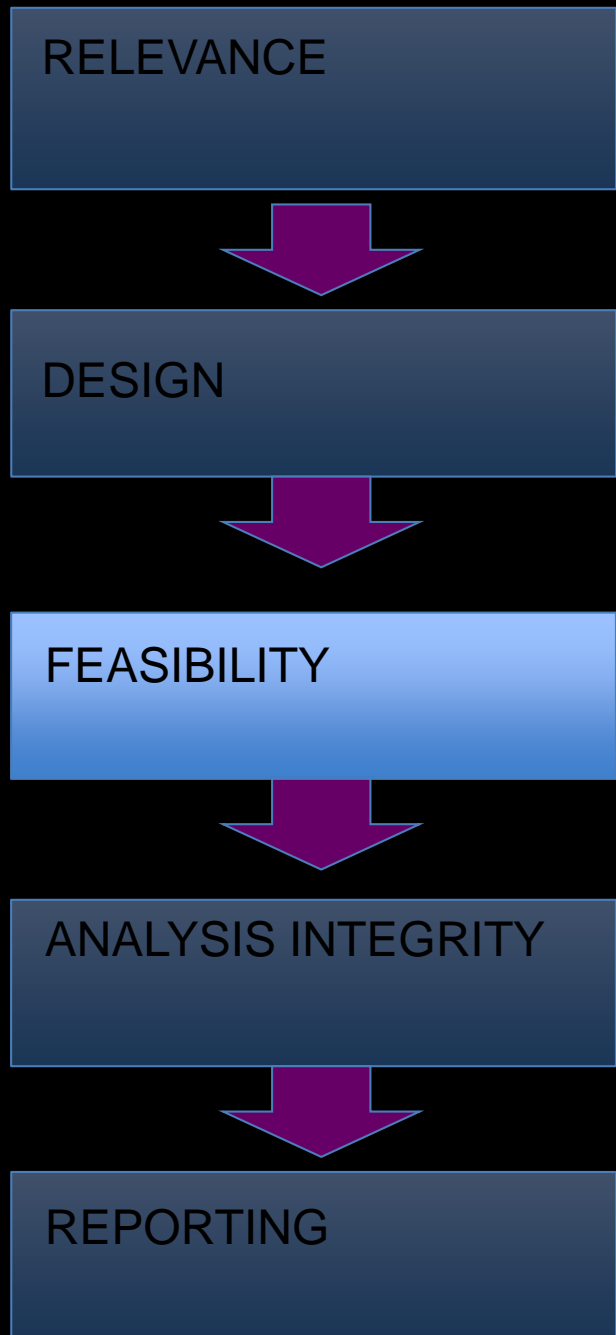
randomized  
trials

early  
phase,  
early  
cohort



practice





recruitment

budget { sustained commercial interest

manufacturing

stable science

# Safety and Dose Finding Study of *////* in Adults with Hemophilia

Estimated enrollment: 18

Actual enrollment: 6

Recruitment Status ⓘ : Terminated (Sponsor decision; not due to any safety concerns related to [REDACTED] 1.)

First Posted ⓘ : December 2, 2015

Results First Posted ⓘ : November 14, 2018

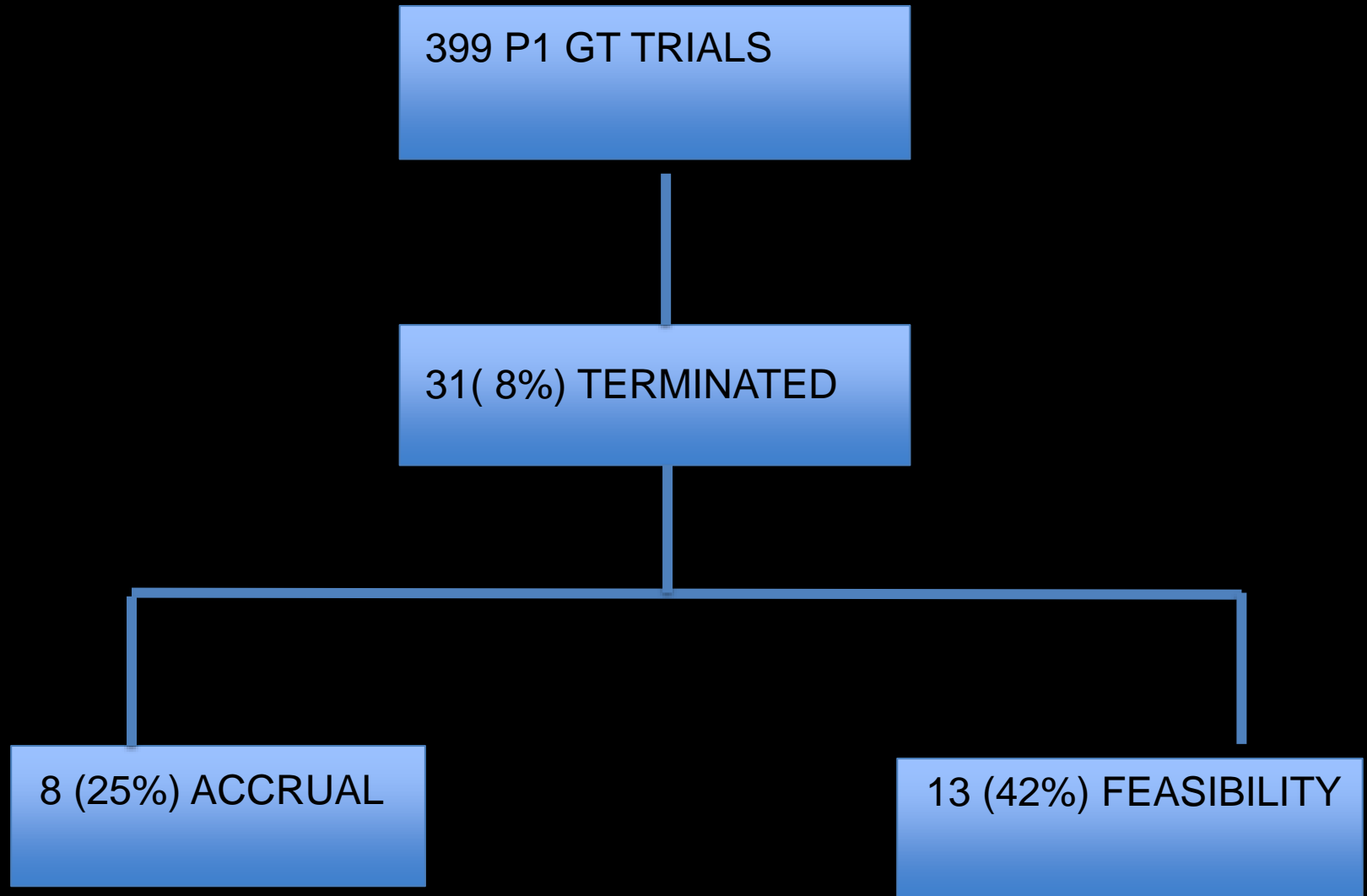
Last Update Posted ⓘ : November 14, 2018

399 P1 GT TRIALS

31( 8%) TERMINATED

8 (25%) ACCRUAL

13 (42%) FEASIBILITY



# Cardiac stem cells in patients with ischaemic cardiomyopathy (SCPIO): initial results of a randomised phase 1 trial



Roberto Bolli, Atul R Chugh, Damiana D Amaria, John H Loughran, Marcus F Stoddard, Sohail B Ram, Garth M Beeche, Stephen G Weiss, Annarosa Lai, Toru Hosoda, Fumihiko Sanada, Julius B Elmore, Poiana Gochberg, Donato Cappetta, Nareesh K Solanki, Ibrahim Fahed, D Gregg Rokach, Mark S Slaughter, Jan Kojima, Piero Anversa

## Summary

**Background** c-kit-positive, lineage-negative cardiac stem cells (CSCs) improve post-infarction left ventricular (LV) dysfunction when administered to animals. We undertook a phase 1 trial (Stem Cell Transfusion in Patients with Ischemic cardiomyopathy [SCPIO]) of autologous CSCs for the treatment of heart failure resulting from ischaemic heart disease.

**Methods** In stage A of the SCPIO trial, patients with post-infarction LV dysfunction (ejection fraction [EF]  $\leq 40\%$ ) before coronary artery bypass grafting were consecutively enrolled in the treatment and control groups. In stage B, patients were randomly assigned to the treatment or control group in a 1:1 ratio by use of a computer-generated block randomisation scheme. 1 million autologous CSCs were administered by intracoronary infusion at a mean of 113 days (SE 4) after surgery; controls were not given any treatment. Although the study was open label, the echocardiographic analyses were masked to group assignment. The primary endpoint was short-term safety of CSCs and the secondary endpoint was efficacy. A per-protocol analysis was pre-specified. The trial is registered with ClinicalTrials.gov, number NCT00474461.

**Findings** This study is still in progress. 16 patients were assigned to the treatment group and seven to the control group; no CSC-related adverse effects were reported. In the CSC-treated patients who were analysed, LVEF increased from  $30.3\%$  (SE 1.9) before CSC infusion to  $32.6\%$  (2.1) at 4 months after infusion ( $p=0.007$ ). By contrast, in seven control patients, during the corresponding time interval, LVEF did not change ( $30.1\%$  [2.4] at 4 months after CABG vs  $30.2\%$  [2.5] at 8 months after CABG). Importantly, adverse effects of CSCs were even more pronounced at 1 year in eight patients (eg, LVEF increased by 12.5 percentage fraction units [2.1] vs baseline,  $p=0.0007$ ). In the seven treated patients in whom cardiac mass could be determined, infarct size decreased from  $32.6\text{ g}$  (6.3) by  $7.8\text{ g}$  (1.7; 24%) at 4 months ( $p=0.004$ ) and  $9.8\text{ g}$  (1.3) at 1 year ( $p=0.04$ ).

**Interpretation** These initial results in patients are very encouraging. They suggest that intracoronary infusion of autologous CSCs is effective in improving LV systolic function and reducing infarct size in patients with heart failure after myocardial infarction, and warrant further, larger, phase 2 studies.

**Funding** University of Louisville, Research Foundation and National Institutes of Health.

## Introduction

Heart failure is a prevalent, disabling, and expensive disorder. Its prevalence in industrialised nations has reached epidemic levels (ie, about 1 million cases in the UK<sup>1</sup> and nearly 6 million in the USA<sup>2</sup>), and continues to rise. Despite advances over the past 30 years, the prognosis for patients who are admitted to hospital with heart failure remains poor, with a 5-year mortality that is nearly 50%<sup>3</sup>—worse than that for patients with breast or colon cancer.<sup>4</sup> The most common cause of heart failure in the west is ischaemic heart disease.<sup>5</sup> Available treatments do not address the fundamental problem of the loss of cardiac tissue. As a result, interest in attempts to repair the failing heart with the use of stem cells has been increasing, since this approach has the potential to regenerate dead myocardium and thus alleviate the underlying cause of heart failure.<sup>6</sup>

The adult heart contains cardiac stem cells (CSCs) that express the surface receptor tyrosine kinase c-kit.<sup>7,8</sup> These cells are self-renewing, clonogenic, and multipotent—ie, they differentiate into all three major cardiac lineages (myocytes, vascular smooth muscle cells, and endothelial cells).<sup>9–12</sup> Results of many studies have shown that transplantation of CSCs in animal models of post-myocardial-infarction heart failure attenuates left ventricular (LV) remodelling and improves LV function in the settings of acute and chronic myocardial infarctions.<sup>13–18</sup> Despite these encouraging preclinical results, however, the effects of CSCs in patients have not been investigated. We therefore undertook a phase 1 clinical trial of CSCs in patients with heart failure after myocardial infarction to assess the safety and feasibility of intracoronary CSC infusion and to test the hypothesis that this intervention would improve the contractile

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See Comment page 1827

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