

# Delivering Scalable, Cost-Effective, Mass-Market Gene Therapy to Patients with Significant Unmet Needs

---

American Pharma Manufacturing and Outsourcing Summit 2025

R. Andrew Ramelmeier, PhD, CTO  
November 2025

ADVERUM






Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



Limited Patient Access



Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges



High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses



Redosing vs Potential for a cure



## Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



Limited Patient Access



Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges

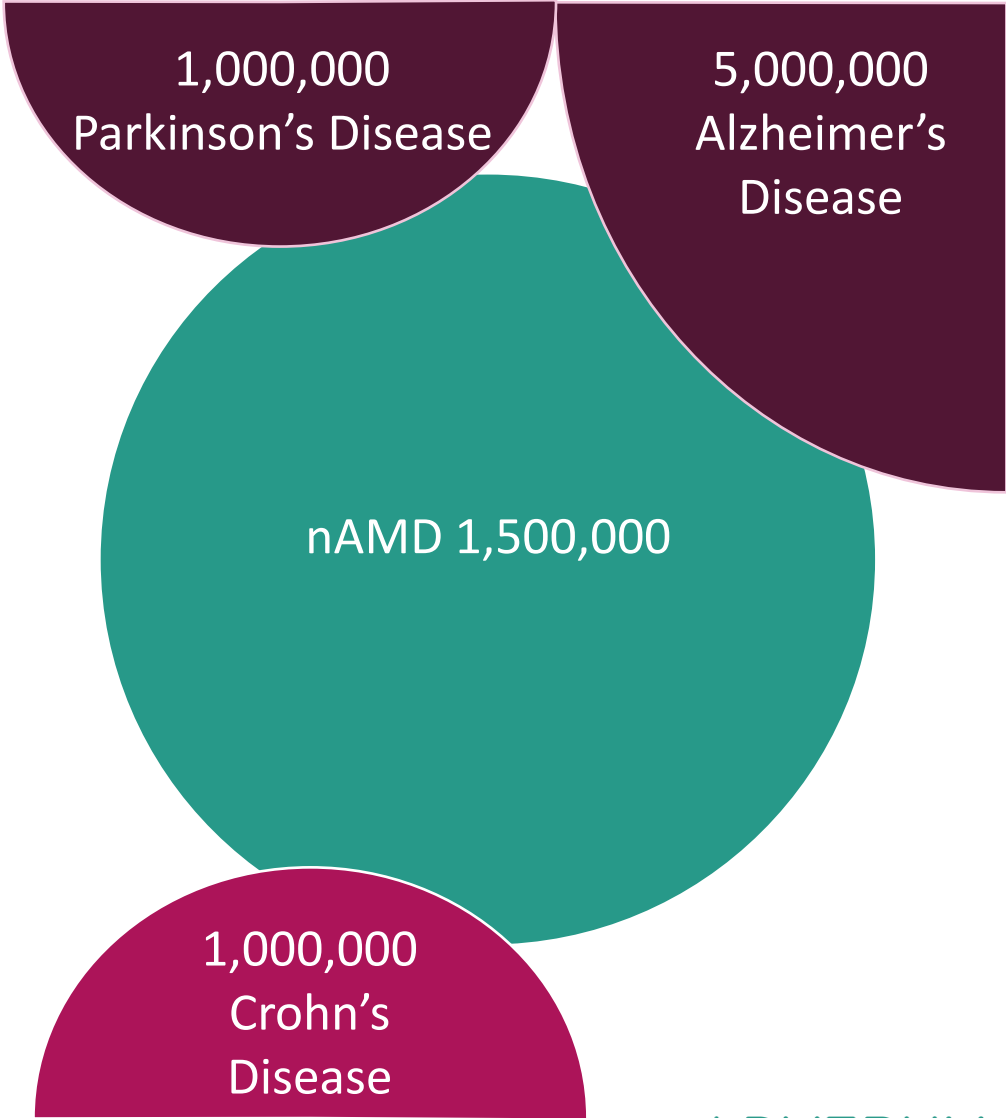
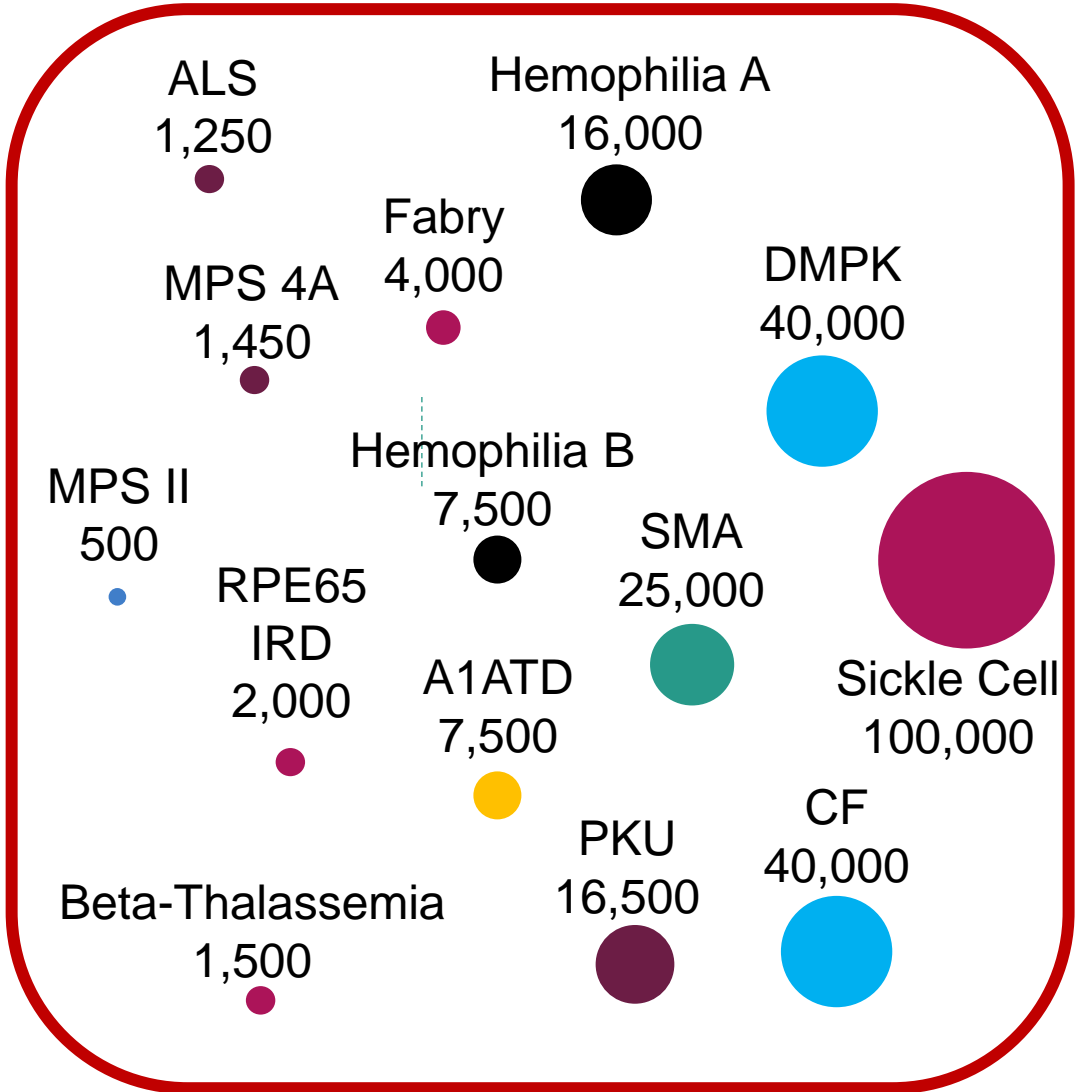


High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses



Redosing vs Potential for a cure

## Rare Diseases > 10k





Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



**Limited Patient Access**



Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges

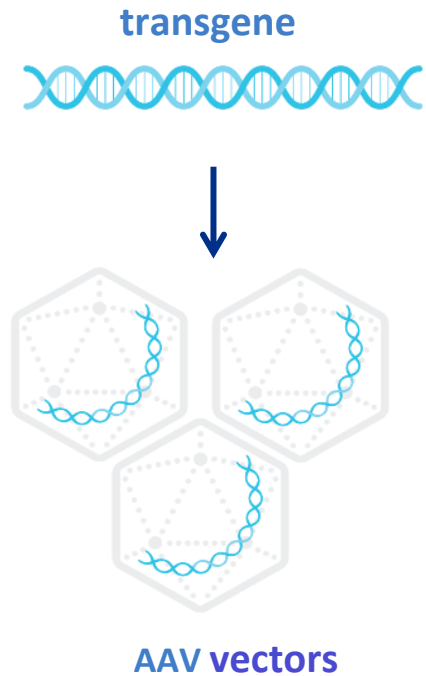


High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses

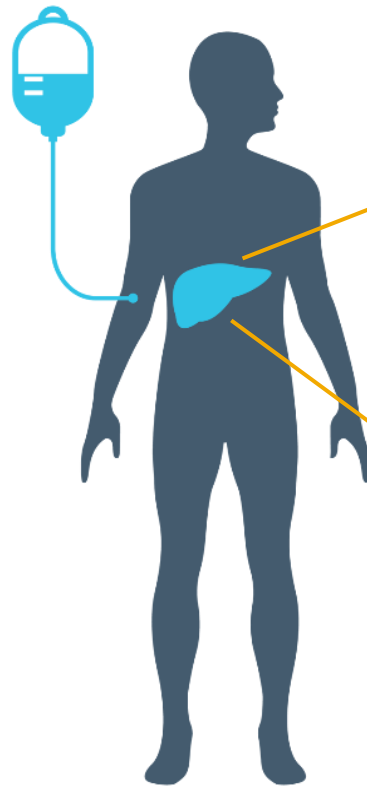


Redosing vs Potential for a cure

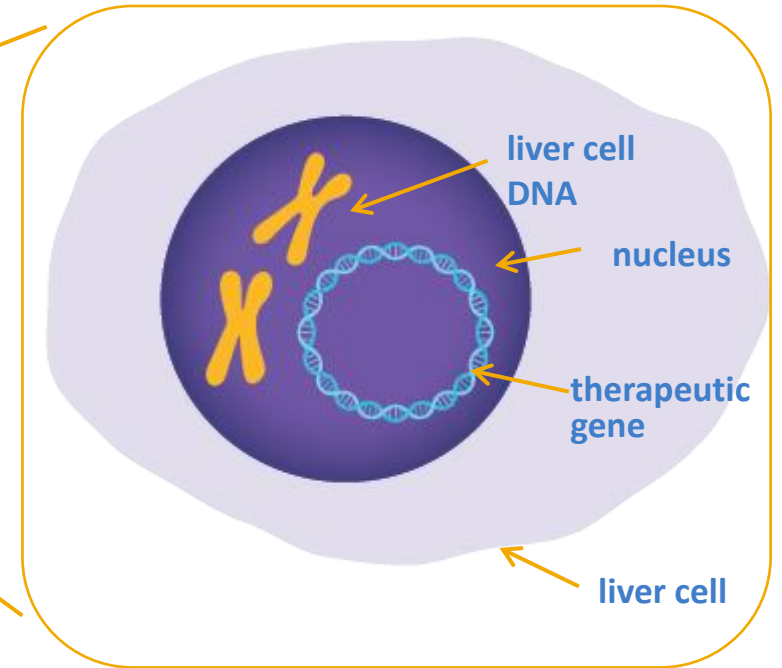
## Packaging into AAV vectors



## IV Delivery\*



## In the Liver



\*Administered at specialized gene therapy centers



Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



Limited Patient Access



**Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges**



High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses



Redosing vs Potential for a cure

From Peter Marks,  
former Director CBER, FDA



1-100

>100-10,000

>10,000

Total Treatment Population



Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



Limited Patient Access



Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges



**High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses**



Redosing vs Potential for a cure

## Market price for approved AAV gene therapies<sup>1</sup>

Gene therapy	Approval year	Mfg system	Disease	Dose <sup>2</sup>	Price per dose <sup>3</sup> (\$)
Roctavian <sup>®</sup>	2024	Sf9 insect cells	hemophilia A	6E13 vg/kg	2,300,000
Hemgenix <sup>®</sup>	2022	Sf9 insect cells	hemophilia B	2E13 vg/kg	3,500,000
Zolgensma <sup>®</sup>	2019	HEK 293 human cells	spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)	1.1E14 vg/kg	2,100,000
Luxturna <sup>®</sup>	2017	HEK 293 human cells	RPE65 inherited retinal dystrophy	1.5E11 per eye	425,500 (per eye)

### How much to manufacture these AAV therapies?

- Depending on cell system and titers, COGs can be \$100,000s of dollars per dose
- With new developments in these production systems, COGs <\$100k per dose are expected



Limited Market Size (Rare Diseases)



Limited Patient Access



Inefficient Platforms and Scalability Challenges

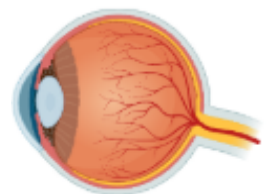
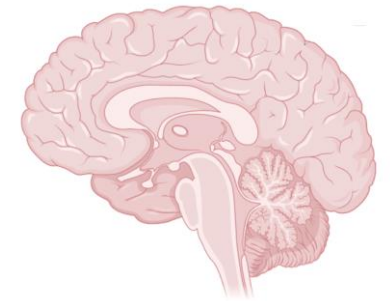
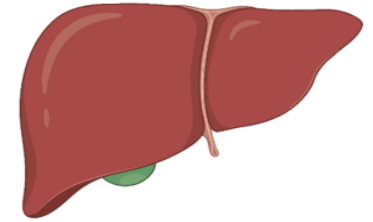


High Unit Costs driven by high COGs and Doses

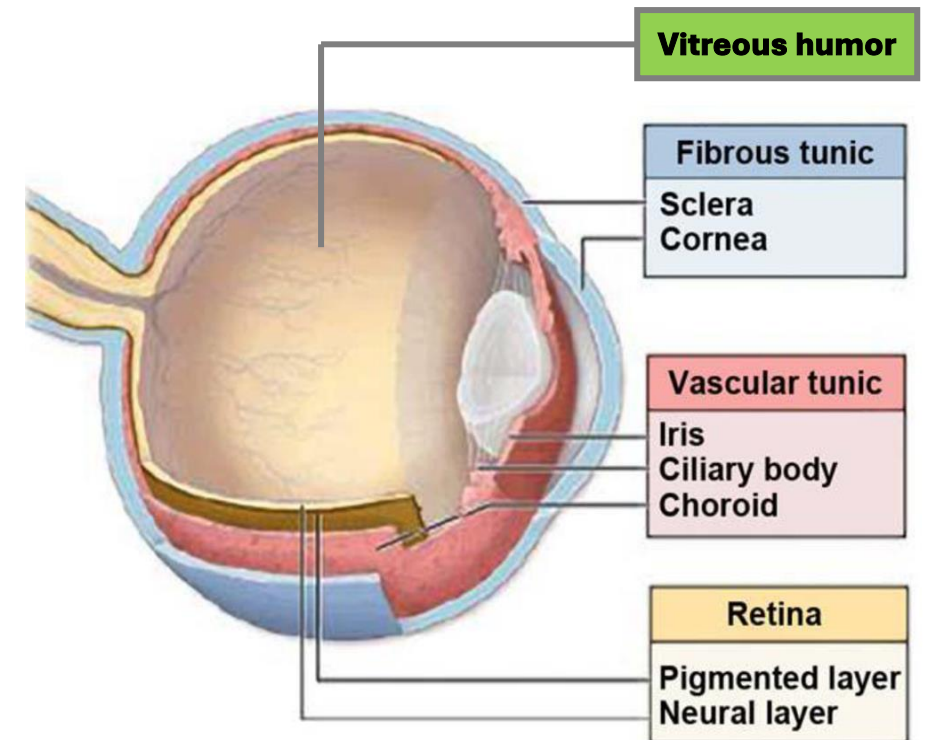


**Redosing vs Potential for a cure**

- Many of the current gene therapy target the liver, which constantly renews itself; at most, a liver cell will survive 10 years.
- Gene therapy targeting the liver will need to be re-dosed. Neutralizing antibodies will interfere with that re-dosing.
- Ideally for a potential cure, gene therapy should target cells and tissues that do not regenerate, such as within the brain, spinal cord, heart muscle, the ear and the eye.
- Or use gene editing to target a patient's DNA to recover permanently the functions of critical proteins



- The eye is small and compartmentalized requiring low doses and favoring viral-mediated gene therapy
- Some eye cells, particularly in the retina, do not regenerate so a gene vector there theoretically could last a lifetime
- In 2017 LUXTURNA<sup>®</sup> became the first approved gene therapy in the US as a treatment for an inherited retinal disease
- >100 active investigational gene therapy clinical trials in ophthalmic diseases to potentially treat millions of patients, including wet AMD



**Globally, the leading causes of vision impairment and blindness are:**

Age-related macular degeneration

Geographic Atrophy

Diabetic retinopathy

Cataract

Glaucoma

Refractive errors

## Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration

*A leading cause of vision loss among older adults*

**1.5M**  
US Patients

**20M**  
Worldwide

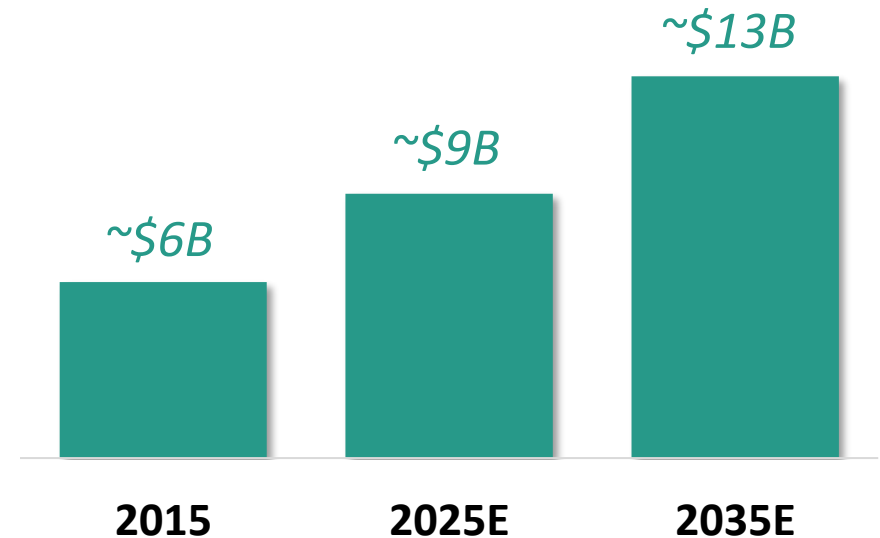
*~200K US patients diagnosed annually*

*Up to 42% of patients develop bilateral disease within 2-3 years of initial diagnosis*

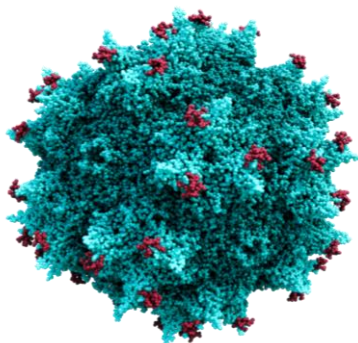
## Multi-Billion Dollar Market Opportunity

*Growth driven by aging population and product innovation*

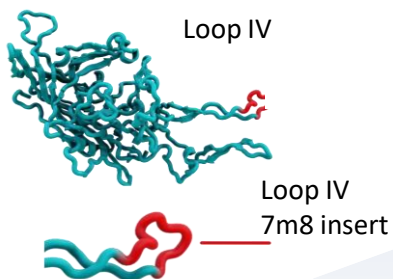
*Global Wet AMD Sales*



**AAV.7m8**



**AAV.7m8 monomer**



**Ixo-vec**

Gene therapy designed to preserve vision with a single intravitreal injection

**AAV.7m8: Created by Directed Evolution**



**Single clinically routine in-office injection**



**Gold standard vector for IVT gene therapy**

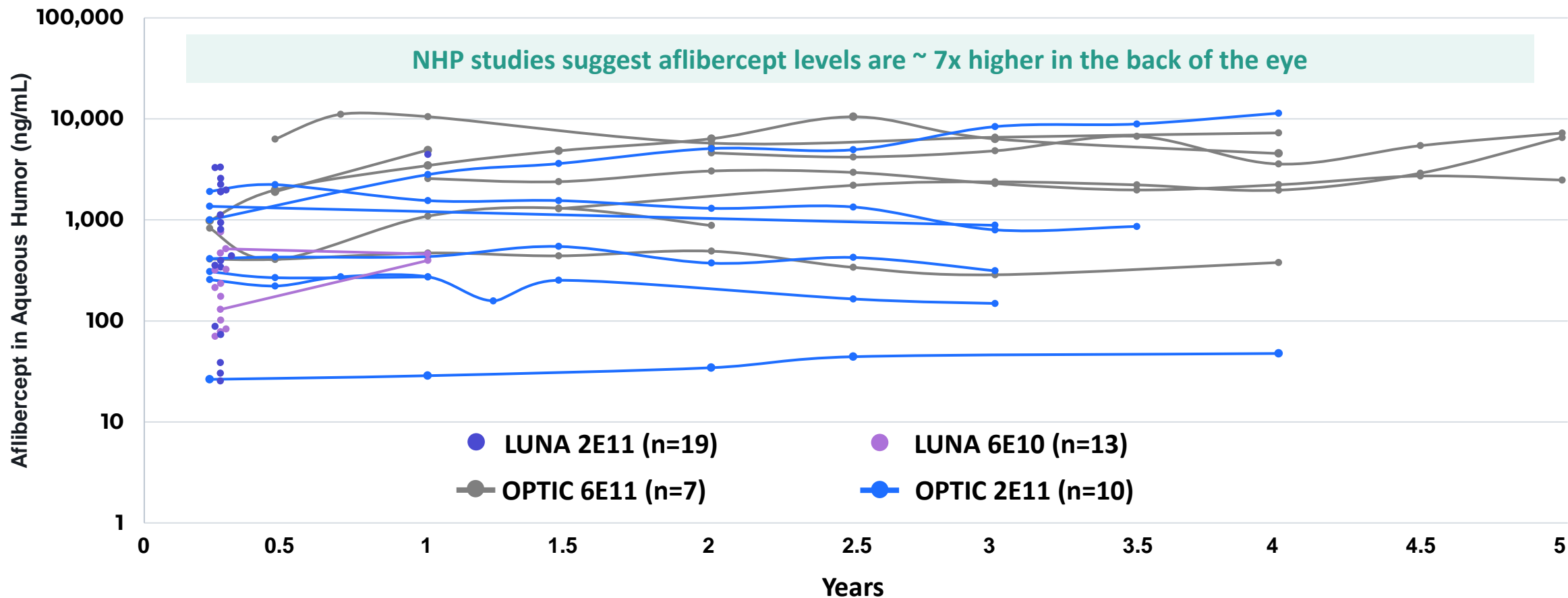


**Transgene encoding aflibercept, a clinically validated anti-VEGF protein**



**Biofactory approach for durable therapeutic levels**

## Early aflibercept levels are associated with sustained long-term protein expression



In OPTIC, all subjects tested had quantifiable aqueous humor aflibercept levels (one subject had levels above and below the limit of quantification of the assay [25 ng/mL] at multiple time points).

In LUNA, 32 of 38 subjects (84%) had quantifiable aqueous humor aflibercept levels; the patients who had aflibercept concentrations measured below the limit of quantification (BLOQ) included patients at both doses who remained injection free or experienced treatment burden reduction. Measurements BLOQ of the assay or within 8 weeks of supplemental aflibercept injections are not shown. LUNA revised to stop collection of AH samples. NHP data: Kiss, Szilárd et al, Molecular Therapy Methods & Clinical Development, Volume 18, 345 - 353



**First IVT AAV Platform Developed via *in vivo* Directed Evolution**

*AAV.7m8 capsid is gold standard for ocular transduction\**



**First Clinical Administration of IVT Gene Therapy for Mass Market Indication**

*First company to successfully advance an IVT gene therapy for retinal disease to the clinic*



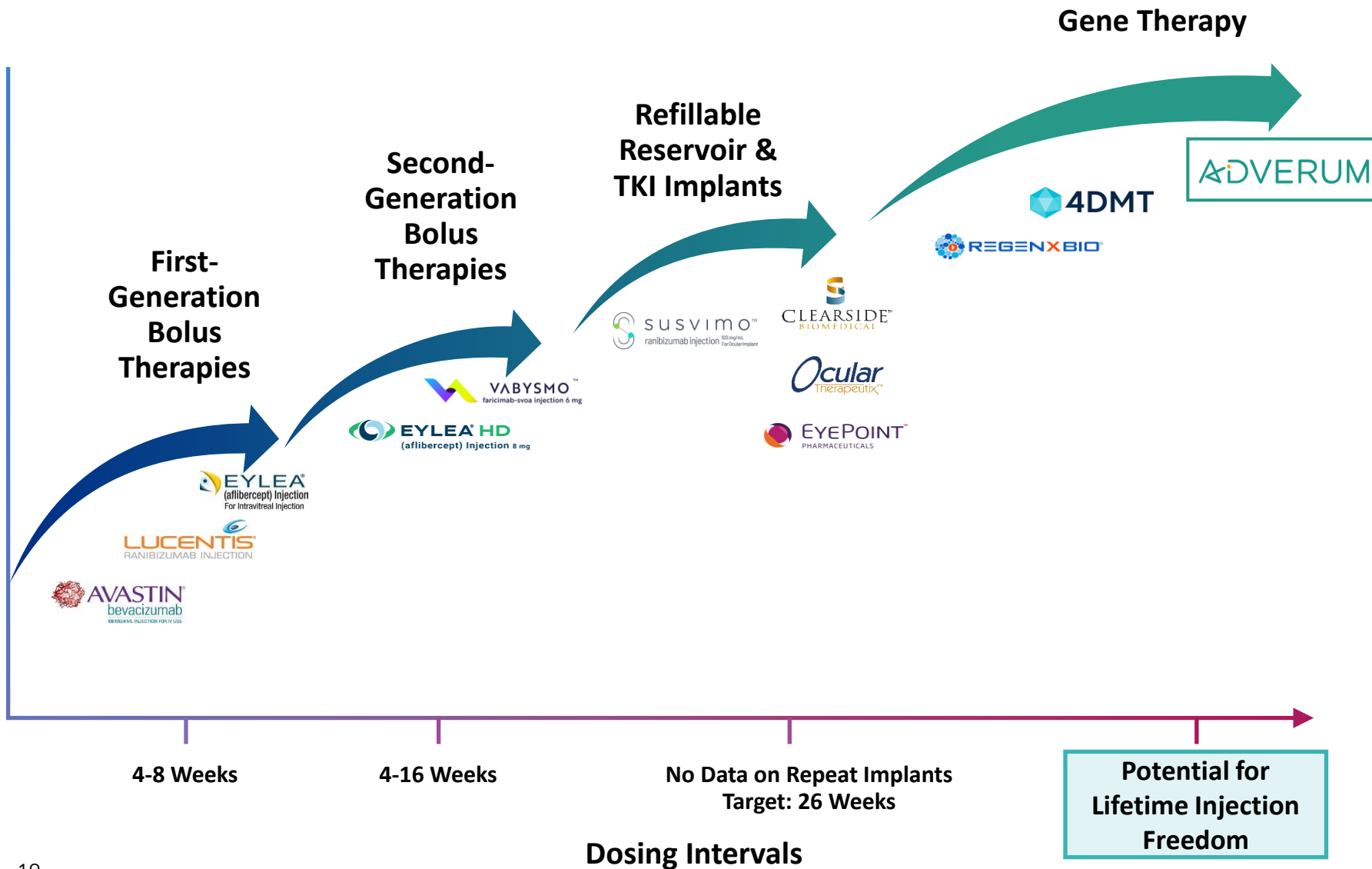
**First To Show Multi-Year Durability From Single IVT Injection**

*OPTIC study demonstrated sustained aflibercept levels through 5 years*



**Strong Clinical Momentum**

- ▶ Phase 3 Wet AMD program in a broad patient population ongoing
- ▶ First IVT gene therapy to complete screening for Phase 3 study
- ▶ Granted RMAT designation by FDA, PRIME designation by EMA



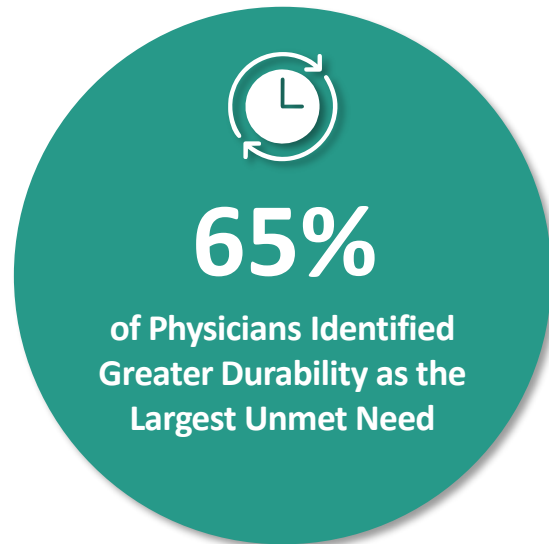
## Ixo-vec:

Designed to deliver stable, continuous local aflibercept production

Potential for:

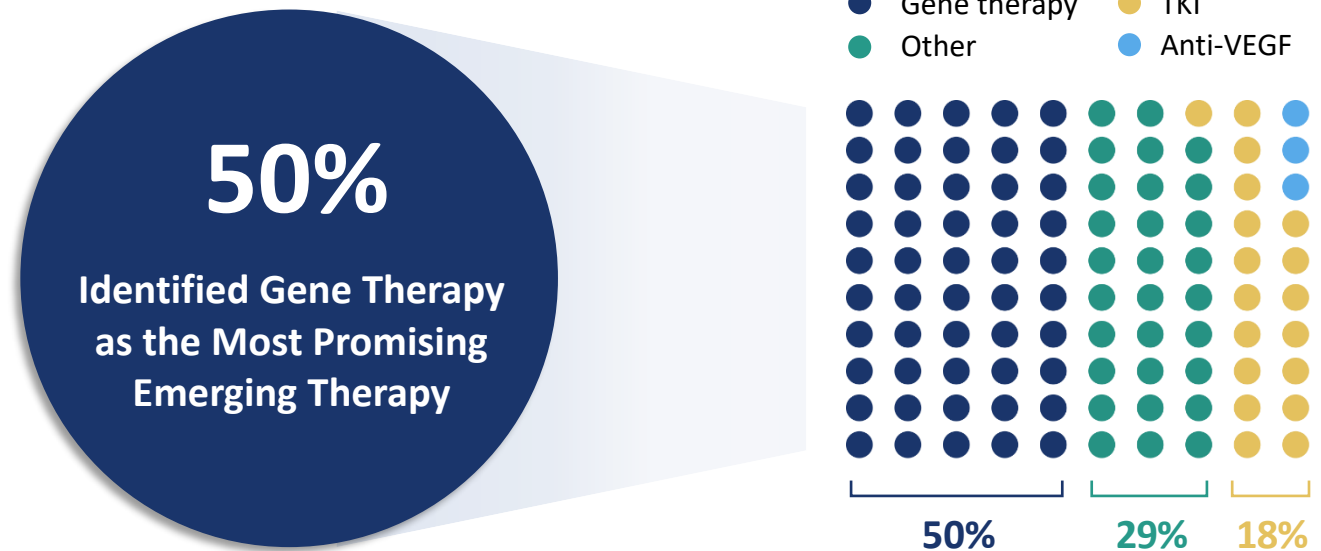
- Reduced treatment burden
- Life-long vision preservation
- Sustained aflibercept mitigates patient drop-off

## The Largest Unmet Need in Wet AMD Treatments<sup>1</sup>



Broad consensus among retina specialists on the need for more durable treatments

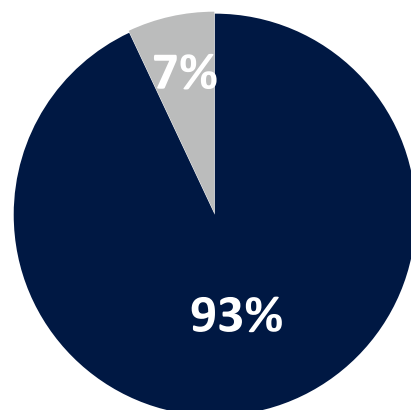
## Gene Therapy Identified as the Most Promising Emerging Therapy in Wet AMD<sup>1</sup>



Retina physicians believe in the transformative potential of gene therapy for patients with wet AMD

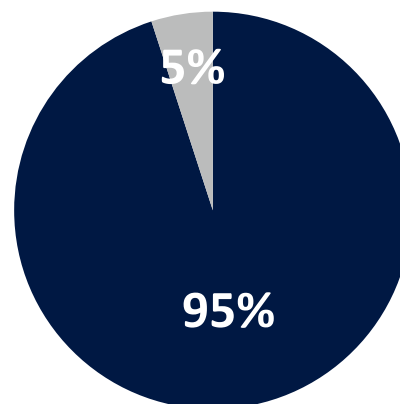


**Would you prefer Ixo-vec over the prior treatment(s)?**



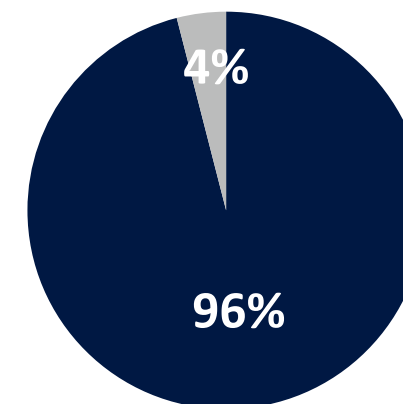
**Total Study  
(n=56)**

**Would you want Ixo-vec in your other eye if you bilateral AMD?**



**Total Study  
(n=56)**

**Would you recommend Ixo-vec to your family or friends?**

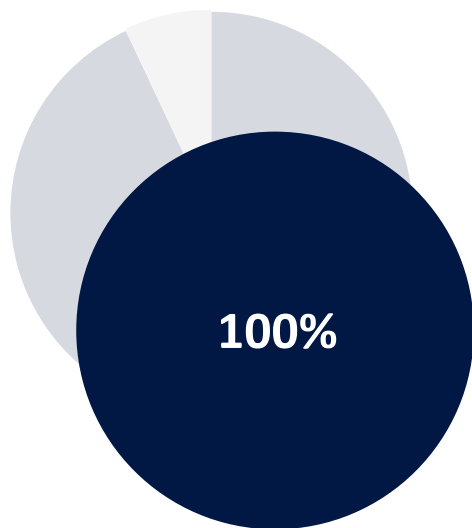


**Total Study  
(n=56)**

**■ Yes ■ No**

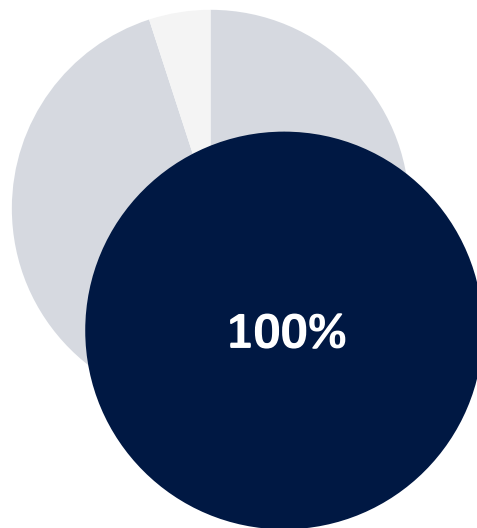


**Would you prefer Ixo-vec over the prior treatment(s)?**



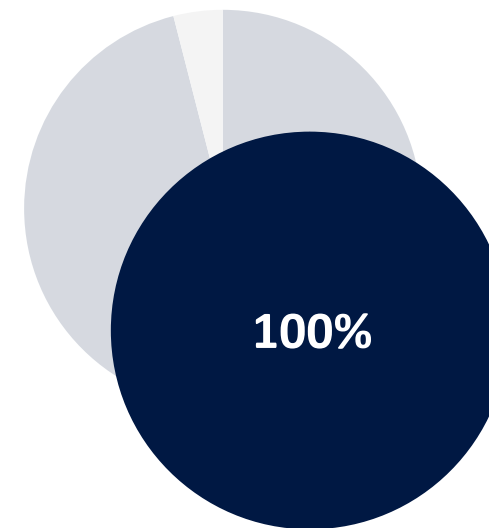
**6E10 + Difluprednate  
(n=10)**

**Would you want Ixo-vec in your other eye if you bilateral AMD?**



**6E10 + Difluprednate  
(n=10)**

**Would you recommend Ixo-vec to your family or friends?**



**6E10 + Difluprednate  
(n=10)**

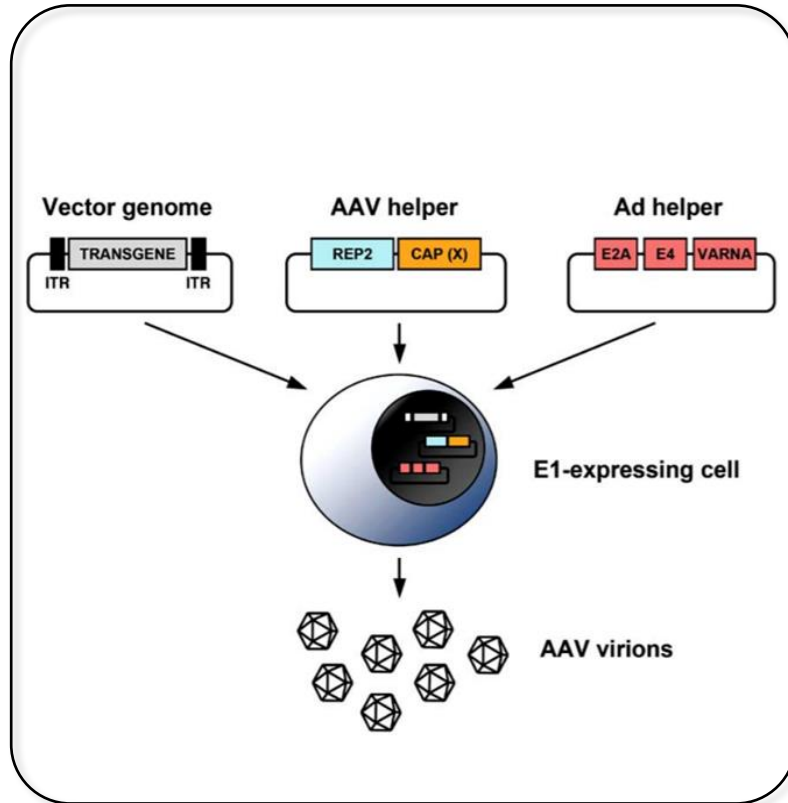
**Yes** **No**

Ixo-vec is an investigational therapy and has not been approved by the FDA for any use

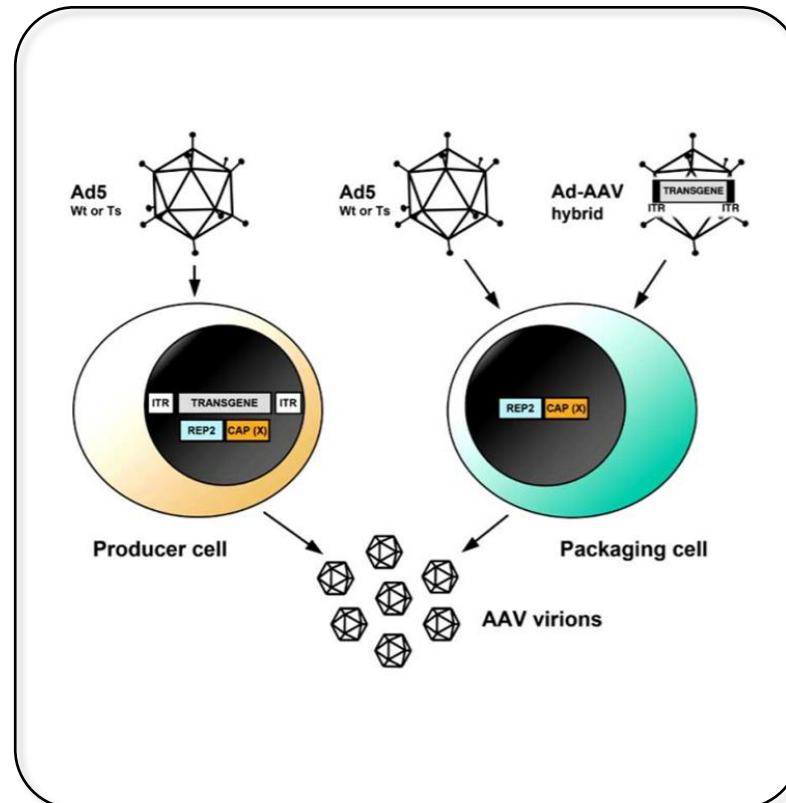
## Key CMC considerations

- Stable and efficient production systems to make AAV
- Ability to make hundreds of thousands of doses, annually
- Reasonable manufacturing costs
- Robust CMC strategy for commercial readiness
- Leverage Commercial-scale manufacturing expertise and capacity at global CDMO

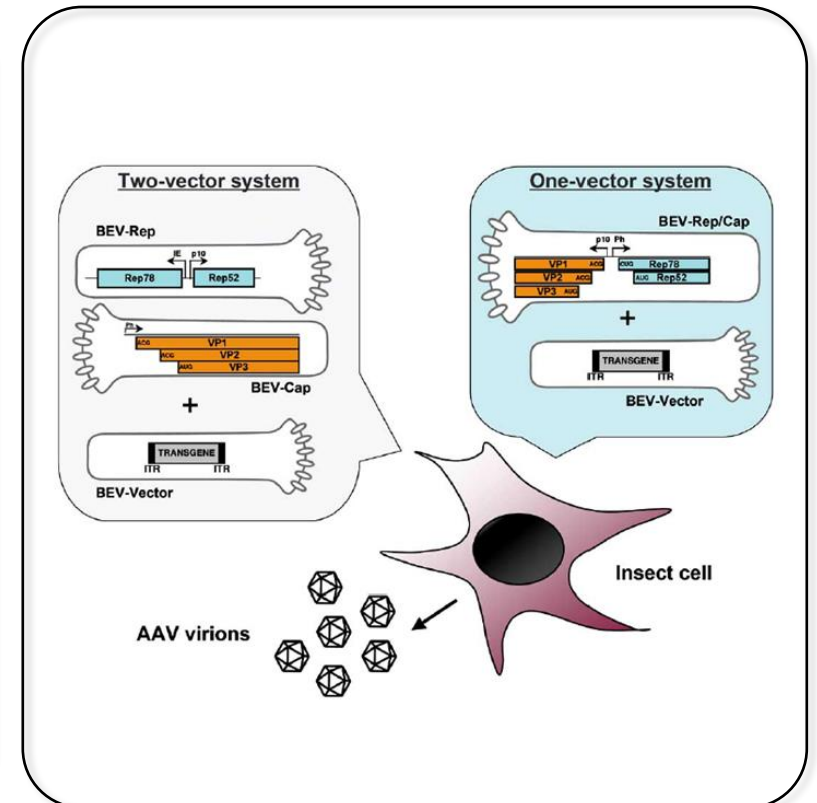
## Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids



## Producer/Packaging Cell Line



## Sf9/Baculovirus



	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Slow/Medium
<b>Potency</b>	High	Low/medium
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll 50\%$ )	Medium/High ( $> 50\%$ )
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Slow/Medium
<b>Potency</b>	High	Low/medium
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll$ 50%)	Medium/High ( $>$ 50%)
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Slow/Medium
<b>Potency</b>	High	Low/medium
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll 50\%$ )	Medium/High ( $>50\%$ )
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Slow/Medium
<b>Potency</b>	High	Low/medium
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll 50\%$ )	Medium/High ( $> 50\%$ )
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Ixo-vec already in Ph3!
<b>Potency</b>	High	Ixo-vec potency high! High VP1 ratio
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll$ 50%)	Medium/High ( $>$ 50%)
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Ixo-vec already in Ph3!
<b>Potency</b>	High	Ixo-vec potency high! High VP1 ratio
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low (<<50%)	Medium/High (>50%)
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Ixo-vec already in Ph3!
<b>Potency</b>	High	Ixo-vec potency high! High VP1 ratio
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low (<<50%)	Medium/High (>50%)
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

	Triple Transfection HEK 293 w/plasmids	Sf9/Baculovirus
<b>Titer (vg/L)</b>	~1E+14	~1E+15 (10x better than HEK)
<b>Scalability</b>	Low (adherent) Medium (suspension)	High
<b>Raw material cost</b>	High (many plasmids, lots)	Low
<b>Speed to clinic</b>	Fast	Ixo-vec already in Ph3!
<b>Potency</b>	High	Ixo-vec potency high! High VP1 ratio
<b>% Full capsid at Harvest</b>	Low ( $\ll$ 50%)	Medium/High ( $>$ 50%)
<b>Safety concern</b>	adventitious agents (human viruses)	rhabdovirus clearance

## **IVT Gene therapy for wet AMD involves a very small dose**

- At  $6E10$  vg per eye versus  $>1E13$  vg/kg patient ( $>1E15$  vg total) for systemic IV therapies
- Most efficient production system will ensure best COGs
- $6E10$  dose could translate to a COGs 1000-fold lower per dose, per eye for highly prevalent indication – critical to address millions of patients who have wet AMD globally



**Established a robust process early in development (Phase 1-2) and target commercial process and analytics at Phase 3**

---



**Cost-efficient Sf9 suspension process and low dose enables very effective COGS**

---



**Commercial-scale manufacturing at global CDMO, analytics developed and testing in-house**

---



**Supported by robust regulatory CMC input**



# Thank You!

## Acknowledgments:

- Nicole Wood
- Erin Carlson
- Adverum Management Team
- Dina Akasheh
- Pauravi Gandhi
- Ken Glasscock

ADVERUM

[www.adverum.com](http://www.adverum.com)

Preserving Sight for Life®