### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K
----------

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 12, 2020

### WAVE LIFE SCIENCES LTD.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Singapore (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-37627 (Commission File Number) 00-000000 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

7 Straits View #12-00, Marina One East Tower Singapore

018936 (Zip Code)

	(Address of principal executive offices)		(Zip Code)				
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: +65 6236 3388							
	eck the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is in owing provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):	ntended to simultaneously satisfy the fi	ling obligation of the registrant under any of the				
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)						
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)						
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))						
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))						
Sec	urities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:						
	Title of each class	Trading symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered				
	\$0 Par Value Ordinary Shares	WVE	The Nasdaq Global Market				
cha	icate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging pter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 19 erging growth company	1 1	405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this				
	n emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if	•	1 110				

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

From time to time, Wave Life Sciences Ltd. (the "Company") presents and/or distributes slides and presentations to the investment community to provide updates and summaries of its business. On November 12, 2020, the Company updated its corporate presentation, which is available on the "For Investors & Media" section of the Company's website at http://ir.wavelifesciences.com/. This presentation is also furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

The information in this Item 7.01 is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibit relating to Item 7.01 is furnished and not filed:

Exhibit No.	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Corporate Presentation of Wave Life Sciences Ltd. dated November 12, 2020
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

#### SIGNATURES

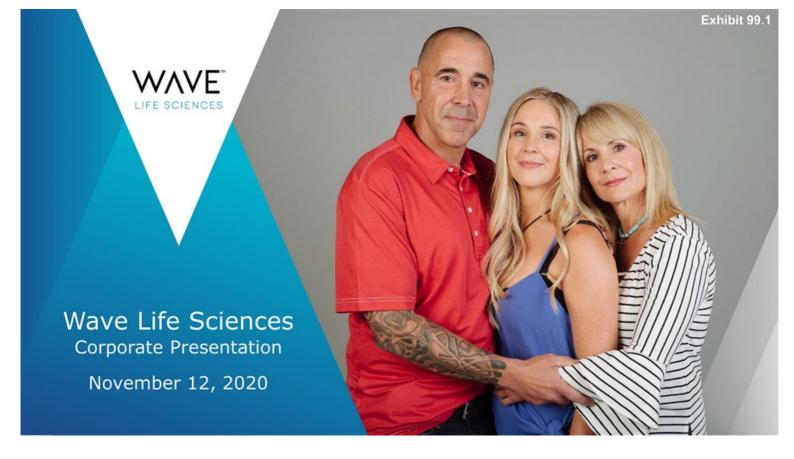
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

#### WAVE LIFE SCIENCES LTD.

By: /s/Paul B. Bolno, M.D.

Paul B. Bolno, M.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 12, 2020



#### ٠,

### Forward-looking statements

This document contains forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this document, including statements regarding possible or assumed future results of operations, preclinical and clinical studies, business strategies, research and development plans, collaborations and partnerships, regulatory activities and timing thereof, competitive position, potential growth opportunities, use of proceeds and the effects of competition are forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Wave Life Sciences Ltd. (the "Company") to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "aim," "anticipate," "could," "intend," "target," "project," "contemplate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions. The forward-looking statements in this presentation are only predictions. The Company has based these forward-looking statements largely on its current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends that it believes may affect the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this presentation and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those listed under Risk Factors in the Company's Form 10-K and other filings with the SEC, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified and some of which are beyond the Company's control. The events and circumstances reflected in the Company's forward-looking statements may not be achieved or occur, and actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Moreover, the Company operates in a dynamic industry and economy. New risk factors and uncertainties may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties that the Company may face. Except as required by applicable law, the Company does not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.



### Building a leading genetic medicines company



#### **INNOVATIVE PLATFORM**

- · Stereopure oligonucleotides
- Novel backbone modifications (PN chemistry)
- Allele-selectivity
- Multiple modalities (silencing, splicing, ADAR editing)
- Strong IP position<sup>1</sup>



development platform



### FOUNDATION OF NEUROLOGY PROGRAMS

- · Huntington's disease
- ALS / FTD
- Neuromuscular diseases
- Ataxias
- Parkinson's disease
- Alzheimer's disease



### CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERTISE

- Multiple global clinical trials ongoing across eight countries
- Innovative trial designs



#### **MANUFACTURING**

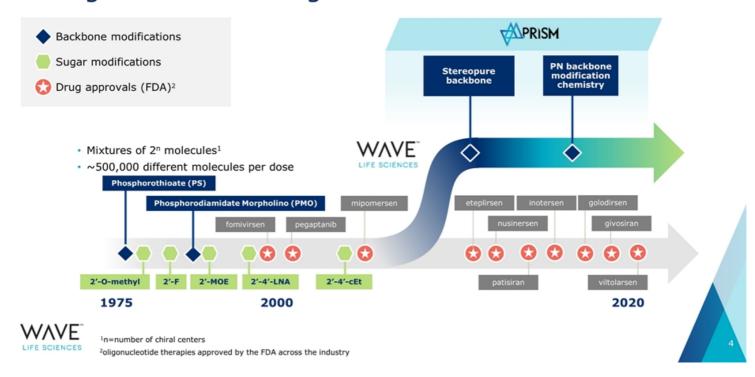
 Established internal manufacturing capabilities to produce oligonucleotides at scale



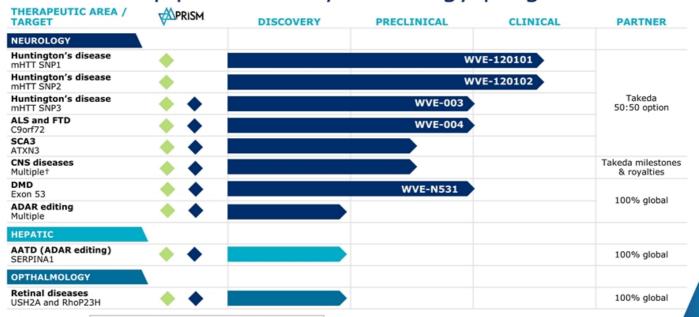
ALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; FTD: Frontotemporal dementia ¹stereopure oligonucleotides and novel backbone chemistry modifications

3

# PRISM has unlocked novel and proprietary advances in oligonucleotide design



### Innovative pipeline led by neurology programs





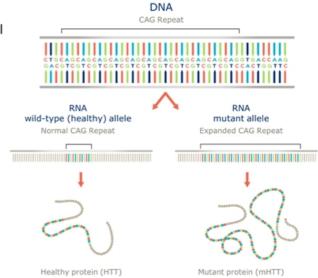
**PRISM** PN chemistry During a four-year term, Wave and Takeda may collaborate on up to six preclinical targets at any one time. ALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; FTD: Frontotemporal dementia; SCA3: Spinocerebellar ataxia 3; CNS: Central nervous system; DMD: Duchenne muscular dystrophy; AATD: Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency

Stereopure



### Huntington's disease: a hereditary, fatal disorder

- Autosomal dominant disease, characterized by cognitive decline, psychiatric illness and chorea; fatal
- No approved disease-modifying therapies
- Expanded CAG triplet repeat in HTT gene results in production of mutant huntingtin protein (mHTT); accumulation of mHTT causes progressive loss of neurons in the brain
- Wild-type (healthy) HTT protein critical for neuronal function; evidence suggests wild-type HTT loss of function plays a role in Huntington's disease
- 30,000 people with Huntington's disease in the US;
   another 200,000 at risk of developing the condition

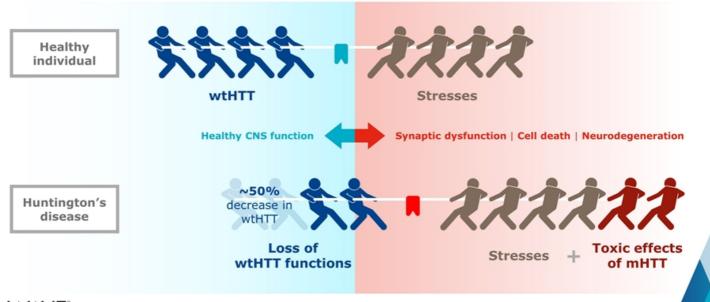




Sources: Auerbach W, et al. Hum Mol Genet. 2001;10:2515-2523. Dragatsis I, et al. Nat Genet. 2000;26:300-306. Leavitt BR, et al. J Neurochem. 2006;96:1121-1129. Nasir J, et al. Cell. 1995;81:811-823. Reiner A, et al. J Neurosci. 2001;21:7608-7619. White JK, et al. Nat Genet. 1997;17:404-410. Zeltlin S, et al. Nat Genet. 1995;11:155-163. Carroll JB, et al. Mol Ther. 2011;19:2178-2185. HDSA "What is Huntington's disease?" https://hdsa.org/what-is-hd/overview-of-huntingtons-disease/ Accessed: 11/2/18; Becanovic, K., et al., Nat Neurosci, 2015. 18(6): p. 807-16. Van Raamsdonk, J.M., et al., Hum Mol Genet, 2005. 14(10): p. 1379-92.; Van Raamsdonk, J.M., et al., BMC Neurosci, 2006. 7: p. 80.

#### Neuro HD

# mHTT toxic effects lead to neurodegeneration, loss of wtHTT functions may also contribute to HD





CNS, central nervous system; HD, Huntington's disease; HTT, huntingtin protein; mHTT, mutant huntingtin protein; wHTT, wild-type huntingtin protein.

1. Ross CA, Tabrizi SJ. Lancet Neurol. 2011;10(1):83-98. 2. Saudou F, Humbert S. Neuron. 2016;89(5):910-926. 3. Cattaneo E, et al. Nat Rev Neurosci. 2005;6(12):919-930. 4. Milnerwood AJ, Raymond LA. Trends Neurosci. 2010;33(11):513-523.

## HD: Wild-type HTT is a critical protein for important functions in the central nervous system

#### NEURON



Promotes neuronal survival by protecting against stress (e.g., excitotoxicity, oxidative stress, toxic mHTT aggregates)<sup>1-8</sup>

#### SYNAPSE



Plays an essential role in the transport of synaptic proteins—including neurotransmitters and receptors—to their correct location at synapses<sup>9-12</sup>

#### BRAIN CIRCUITS



Supplies BDNF to the striatum to ensure neuronal survival<sup>13-16</sup>

Regulates synaptic plasticity, which underlies learning and memory<sup>17-22</sup>

#### **CSF CIRCULATION**



Plays a critical role in formation and function of cilia—sensory organelles that control the flow of CSF—which are needed to clear catabolites and maintain homeostasis<sup>23</sup>



BDNF, brain-derived neurotrophic factor; CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; mHTT, mutant huntingtin protein. Sources: 1. Leavitt 2006 2. Cattaneo 2005 3. Kumar 2016 4. Franco-Iborra 2020 5. Hamilton 2015 6. Ochaba 2014 7. Wong 2014 8. Rui 2015 9. Caviston 2007 10. Twelvetrees 2010 11. Streholw 2007 12. Milnerwood 2010 13. Streholw 2007 12. Milnerwood 2010 13. Streholw 2015 13. Day 2018 15. McAdam 2020 17. Altar 1997 18. Zuccato 2001 19. Gauthier 2004 20. Ferrer 2000 21. Baquet 2004 22. Liu 2011 23. Karam 2015

## Nature publication contributes to weight of evidence on importance of wild-type huntingtin



- Conditional knock-out of Htt in 4-month old mice (postneuronal development)
- · Results suggest that:
  - Htt plays a central role in the regenerating transcriptome (potentially influencing genes such as NFKB, STAT3, BDNF)
  - 2) Htt is essential for regeneration

Indeed, conditional gene deletion showed that Htt is required for neuronal repair. Throughout life, neuronal maintenance and repair are essential to support adequate cellular functioning

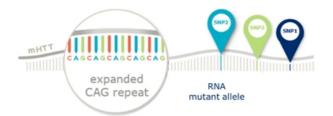


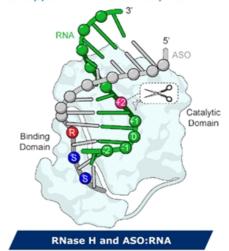
Source: Poplawski et al., Nature, April 2019 Htt: Huntingtin protein

### Wave approach: novel, allele-selective silencing

Aims to lower mHTT transcript while leaving healthy wild-type HTT relatively intact

- Utilize association between single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and genetic mutations to specifically target errors in genetic disorders, including Huntington's disease (HD)
- Potential to provide treatment for up to 80% of HD population



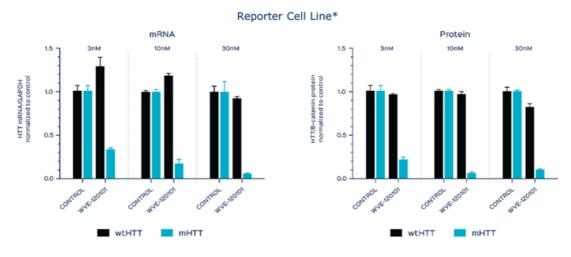


Allele-selectivity possible by targeting SNPs associated with expanded long CAG repeat in HTT gene



Source: Kay, et al. Personalized gene silencing therapeutics for Huntington disease. Clin Genet. 2014;86:29-36.

# WVE-120101: Selective reduction of mHTT mRNA and protein



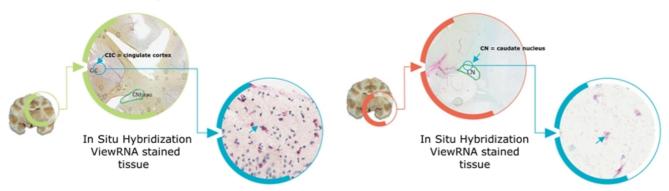
\*These results were replicated in a patient-derived cell line



Source: Meena, Zboray L, Svrzikapa N, et al. Selectivity and biodistribution of WVE-120101, a potential antisense oligonucleotide therapy for the treatment of Huntington's disease. Paper presented at: 69th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology; April 28, 2017; Boston, MA.

### Demonstrated delivery to brain tissue

 WVE-120101 and WVE-120102 distribution in cynomolgus non-human primate brain following intrathecal bolus injection



Red dots are WVE-120101 oligonucleotide

Arrow points to nuclear and perinuclear distribution of WVE- 120101 in cingulate cortex Red dots are WVE-120102 oligonucleotide

Arrow points to nuclear and perinuclear distribution of WVE-120102 in caudate nucleus



Source: Meena, Zboray L, Svrzikapa N, et al. Selectivity and biodistribution of WVE-120101, a potential antisense oligonucleotide therapy for the treatment of Huntington's disease. Paper presented at: 69th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology; April 28, 2017; Boston, MA.

### PRECISION-HD clinical trials

Two Phase 1b/2a clinical trials for WVE-120101 and WVE-120102





#### Trial results expected in 1Q 2021

- PRECISION-HD1 and OLE
- PRECISION-HD2 and OLE

#### Results

- · Safety and tolerability
- Biomarkers
  - mHTT tHTT Nfl
  - Assay development work to measure wtHTT in CSF ongoing



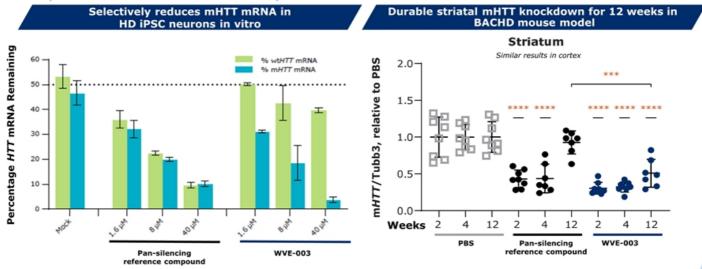
OLE: Open label extension; CSF: cerebrospinal fluid; mHTT: mutant huntingtin; wtHTT: wild-type HTT; tHTT: total HTT

\* Study day may vary depending on patient washout period ¹Hodges-Lehmann non-parametric shift estimates of the difference between treatment and placebo, p<0.05 (Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney non-parametric significance test); ²Multiple Contrast Test (MCT), p=0.03; Interim data announced December 2019

#### Neuro HD

### WVE-003 (SNP3) demonstrates selective, potent, and durable reduction of mHTT in preclinical models

Incorporates PN backbone chemistry



#### CTA submission expected in 4Q 2020



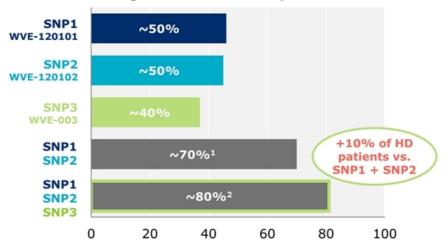
Results from ND50036 iPSC-derived medium spiny neurons. Total HTT knockdown quantified by qPCR and normalized to HPRT1 Oligonucleotide or PBS [100 µg ICV injections through a cannula on days 1, 3, and 5] delivered to BACHD transgenic. Mean ± SD (n=8, \*P<0.0332, \*\*\*P<0.0002, \*\*\*\*P<0.0001 versus PBS unless otherwise noted).

HPRT1, hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl transferase; iPSC, induced pluripotent stem cell; ICV, intracerebroventricular; PBS, phosphate-buffered saline

### Three allele-selective HD programs

Potential to address ~80% of HD patient population

#### % Huntington's Disease Patient Population with SNP

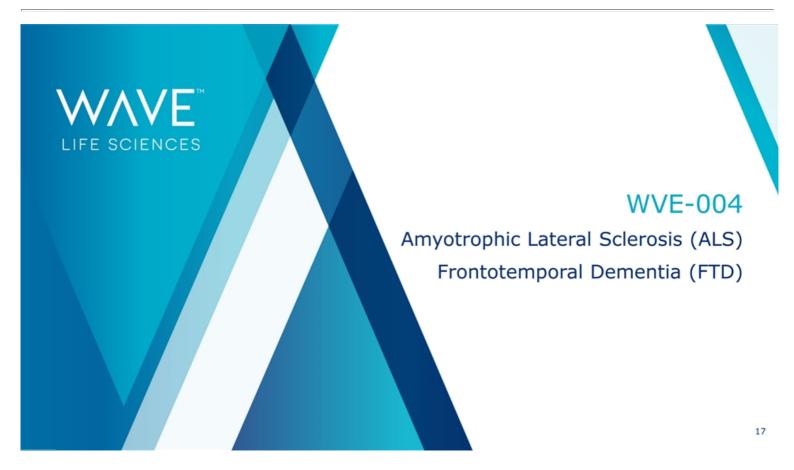


Intend to explore efficacy in early manifest and pre-manifest HD patient populations



 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}\,{\rm Percentage}$  of patient population with SNP1 and/or SNP2

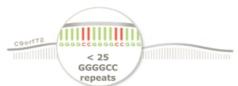
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Percentage of patient population with SNP1, SNP2 and/or SNP3



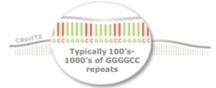


## C9orf72 repeat expansions: A critical genetic driver of ALS and FTD

#### Normal (non-expanded) Allele



#### Expanded Allele



- C9orf72 hexanucleotide repeat expansions (GGGGCC) are the strongest known risk factor for sporadic and inherited forms of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)
- The C9orf72 repeat expansions also lead to accumulation of repeat-containing transcripts, nuclear sequestration of RNA binding proteins and synthesis of toxic dipeptide-repeat (DPR) proteins
- The C9orf72 repeat expansions lead to reduced expression of wild-type C9orf72 and to cellular changes that reduce neuronal viability



Sources: DeJesus-Hernandez et al, Neuron, 2011. Renton et al, Neuron, 2011. Zhu et al, Nature Neuroscience, May 2020



# C9-ALS and C9-FTD: Manifestations of a clinical spectrum

	Disease	C9 specific US population	Mean disease duration	Standard of care
C9-ALS	<ul> <li>Fatal neurodegenerative disease</li> <li>Progressive degeneration of motor neurons in brain and spinal cord</li> </ul>	~2,000	3.1 years	Significant unmet need despite two approved therapies in US
C9-FTD	<ul> <li>Progressive neuronal atrophy in frontal/temporal cortices</li> <li>Personality and behavioral changes, gradual impairment of language skills</li> </ul>	~10,000	6.4 years	No approved disease modifying therapies

#### Two devastating diseases with a shared genetic basis



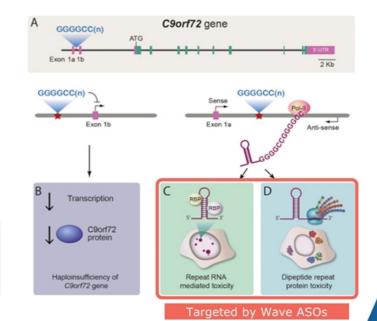
ALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; FTD: Frontotemporal dementia Sources: Cammack et al, Neurology, October 2019. Moore et al, Lancet Neurology, February 2020



## C9orf72 repeat expansions: Mechanisms of cellular toxicity

- C9-ALS and C9-FTD may be caused by multiple factors:
  - Insufficient levels of C9orf72 protein
  - Accumulation of repeat-containing RNA transcripts
  - Accumulation of aberrantly translated DPR proteins
- Recent evidence suggests lowering C9orf72 protein exacerbates DPRdependent toxicity

Variant-selective targeting could address multiple potential drivers of toxicity





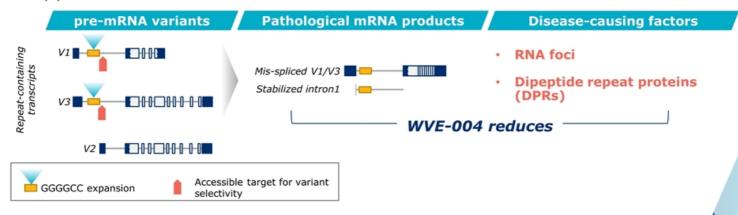
Sources: Gitler et al, Brain Research, September 2016. Zhu et al, Nature Neuroscience, May 2020

20



### C9orf72 targeting strategy spares C9orf72 protein

- Normal C9orf72 allele produces three mRNA transcripts (~80% are V2, ~20% are V1 and V3)
- Pathological allele with expanded repeat leads to healthy V2 and pathological V1 and V3 transcript by-products

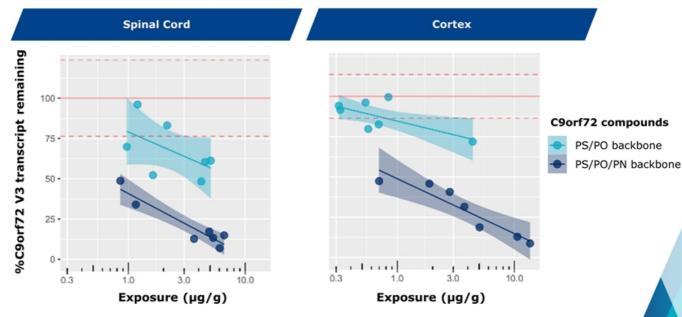




Wave C9orf72 candidate targets only V1 and V3 transcripts, sparing V2 transcripts and healthy C9orf72 protein

#### Neuro C9orf72

# PN backbone chemistry: Improved potency among C9orf72-targeting oligonucleotides in vivo



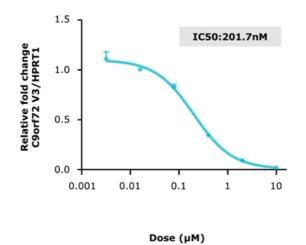


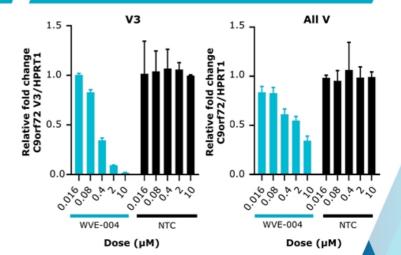
Mice received 2 x 50 ug ICV doses on days 0 & 7; mRNA from spinal cord and cortex quantified by PCR (Taqman assay) 8 weeks later. Oligonucleotide concentrations quantified by hybridization ELISA. Graphs show robust best fit lines with 95% confidence intervals (shading) for PK-PD analysis.

# WVE-004: Potent and selective knockdown of repeat-containing transcripts in vitro

In vitro activity in C9 patient-derived neurons







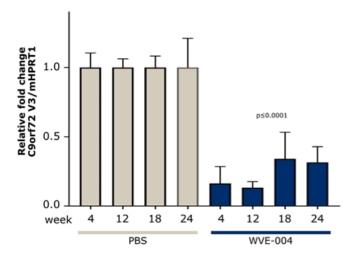


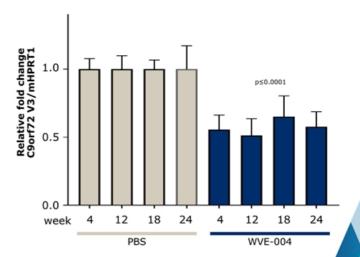
C9 patient-derived motor neurons were treated with C9orf72 candidate and NTC under gymnotic conditions up to 10uM. Taqman qPCR assays were used to evaluating V3 and all V transcripts. NTC- non-targeting control.

#### Neuro C9orf72

# Durable knockdown of repeat transcripts in vivo after 6 months in spinal cord and cortex







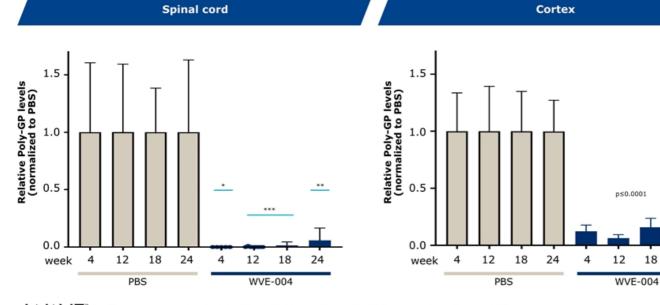


 $Experimental \ description: 2 \times 50 \ ug \ on \ day \ 0 \ and \ day \ 7 \ dosed \ ICV; \ mRNA \ Samples \ were \ analyzed \ using \ quantitative \ PCR \ (Taqman \ assay)$ 

24

Neuro C9orf72

### WVE-004 demonstrates durable reduction of DPRs in vivo after 6 months in spinal cord and cortex



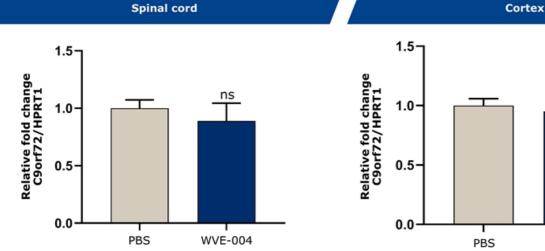
WAVE"

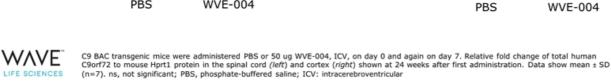
Experimental description: 2 x 50 ug on day 0 and day 7 dosed ICV; DPRs were measured by Poly-GP MSD assay. \*:  $p \le 0.05$  \*\*:  $P \le 0.01$ , \*\*\*:  $P \le 0.001$  ICV: intracerebroventricular; Dipeptide repeat proteins: DPRs

24

ns

## Healthy C9 protein relatively unchanged ~6 months after WVE-004 administration







## WVE-004 proof-of-concept study to include both ALS and FTD patients

- · Patients with documented C9orf72 expansion and confirmed ALS or FTD diagnosis
- Single and multiple ascending doses to be explored
- · Safety and tolerability
- · Pharmacodynamic effects on key biomarkers while on treatment
  - PolyGP
  - NfL
- Key exploratory clinical outcome measures
  - ALSFRS-R and CDR-FTLD

#### CTA submission expected in 4Q 2020



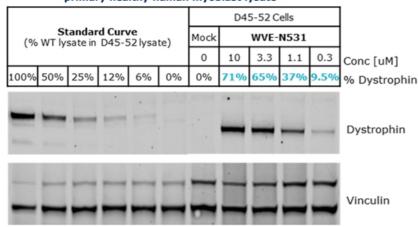
CTA: clinical trial application; NfL: neurofilament light chain; ALSFRS-R: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Functional Rating Scale; CDRFTLD: Clinical Dementia Scale – frontotemporal lobar degeneration



## WVE-N531 *in vitro* dose-dependent dystrophin restoration

#### Dystrophin protein restoration of up to 71%

#### Western Blot normalized to primary healthy human myoblast lysate



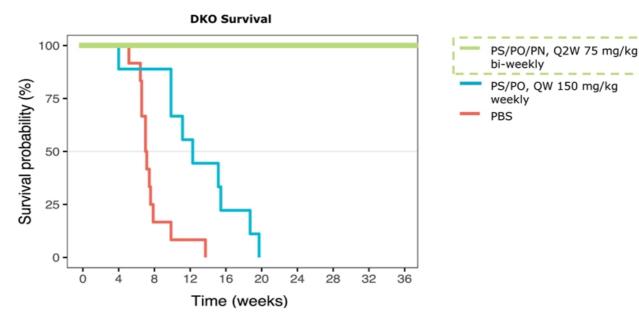
- WVE-N531 contains novel PN chemistry modification
- Free uptake for 6 days in differentiation media with no transfection agent and no peptide conjugated to the oligonucleotide
- Demonstrated a dose-dependent increase in dystrophin restoration in DMD patient-derived myoblasts



Experimental conditions: Δ45-52 (D45-52) patient myoblasts were treated with oligonucleotide for 6d under free-uptake conditions in differentiation media. Protein harvested in RIPA buffer and dystrophin restoration analyzed by Western Blot. Signal normalized to vinculin loading control and to primary healthy human myotube lysate (pooled from four donors) forming a standard curve in Δ45-52 cell lysate.

#### 30

## Substantial increase in survival observed in DKO model using PN chemistry (study ongoing)



WAVE LIFE SCIENCES

Double knock-out (DKO) mice lack dystrophin and utrophin protein and have a severe phenotype. Mdx/utr-/- mice received weekly subcutaneous (SC) 150 mg/kg dose of PS/PO or bi-weekly SC 75 mg/kg PS/PO/PN stereopure oligonucleotide beginning at postnatal day 10. Age-matched mdx/utr-/- littermates were treated with PBS, and mdx mice were not treated. Mice with severe disease were euthanized. DKO: PS/PO/PN 75 mg/kg n=9; PS/PO n=9, PBS n=12

#### Neuro DMD

## Planning underway for clinical trial investigating WVE-N531 in DMD

- DKO data and previously generated preclinical data support advancing WVE-N531 to the clinic
- Unmet need in DMD remains high
  - Support from DMD advocacy community to explore possibility to improve efficiency of exon skipping with novel therapeutic approaches such as PN chemistry
- Planned clinical trial adequately powered to evaluate change in dystrophin production, drug concentration in muscle, and initial safety
  - Open-label study; targeting every-other-week administration in up to 15 boys with DMD
  - Trial planned to be conducted in Europe
- Potential to apply PN chemistry to other exons if successful

#### CTA submission expected in 1Q 2021



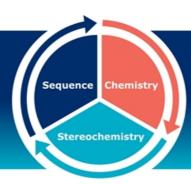




### Enables Wave to target genetically defined diseases with stereopure oligonucleotides across multiple therapeutic modalities

#### **DESIGN**

Unique ability to construct stereopure oligonucleotides with one defined and consistent profile



#### **OPTIMIZE**

A deep understanding of how the interplay among oligonucleotide sequence, chemistry, and backbone stereochemistry impacts key pharmacological properties

Through iterative analysis of *in vitro* and *in vivo* outcomes and machine learning-driven predictive modeling, Wave continues to define design principles that are deployed across programs to rapidly develop and manufacture clinical candidates that meet pre-defined product profiles



Multiple modalities
Silencing | Splicing | ADAR editing

33



# PRISM platform enables rational drug design

## Sequence

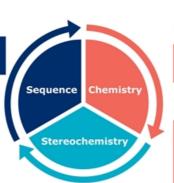
**B**: bases A, T, C, mC, G, U,

other modified bases

## Stereochemistry

Chiral control of any stereocenter

5' modifications, backbone modifications



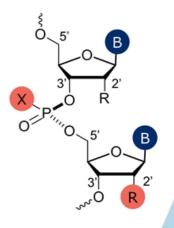
## Chemistry

R: 2' modifications

OMe, MOE, F, other modifications

#### X: backbone chemistry

Phosphodiester (PO), phosphorothioate (PS), Phosphoramidate diester (PN)

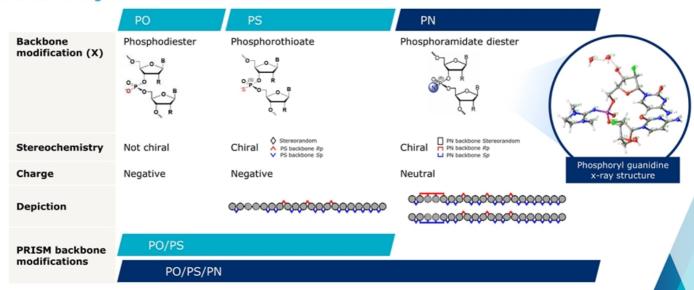




# Expanding repertoire of backbone modifications APRISM. with novel PN backbone chemistry



#### Backbone linkages

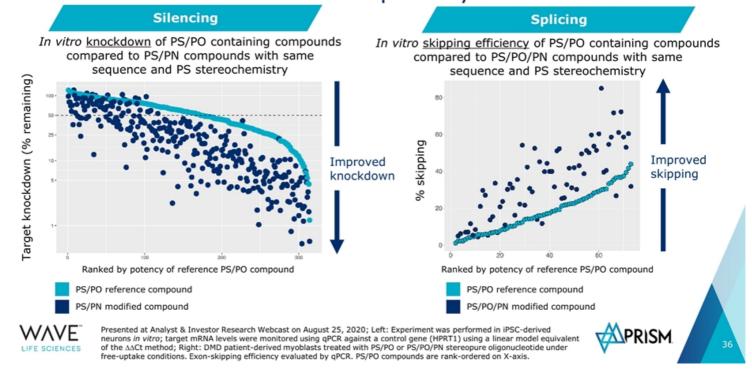




Molecule structure illustrative of backbone modification patterns

# Rational design using PN chemistry backbone modification increases in vitro potency in most cases

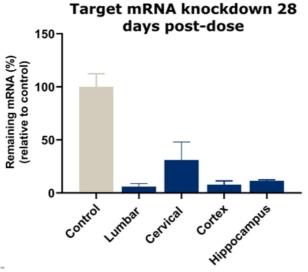




## Lead program in Takeda collaboration reinforces APRISM. potential of PN chemistry in the CNS



Substantial and widespread target mRNA reduction following single intrathecal dose in **NHPs** 



- Single IT dose of 12 mg (n=3)
- Therapeutic candidate widely distributed across brain and spinal cord
- ~90% mRNA knockdown onemonth following single dose

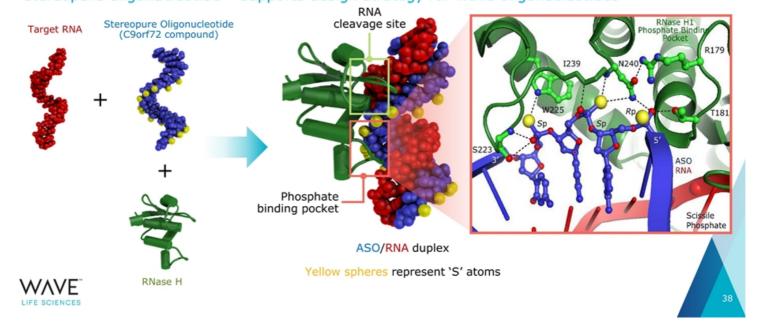


NHPs: Non-human primates; IT: intrathecal NHPs were administered 12 mg on day 1 via IT bolus injection; tissue samples were collected from 3 NHPs at 28 days post-dose.

# PRISM enables optimal placement of backbone stereochemistry



Crystal structure confirms phosphate-binding pocket of RNase H binds 3'-SSR-5' motif in stereopure oligonucleotide – supports design strategy for Wave oligonucleotides



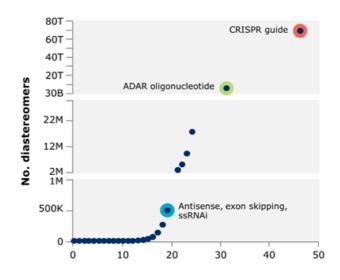


# Importance of controlling stereochemistry

## Stereochemical diversity

# Side view Top view WNVE LIFE SCIENCES Yellow spheres represent 'S' atoms PS: Phosphorothioate

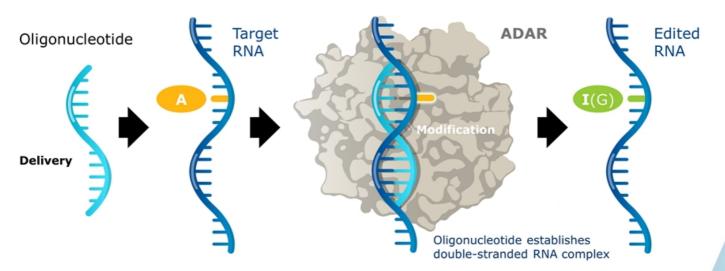
# Exponential diversity arises from uncontrolled stereochemistry



Number of PS linkages in oligonucleotide backbone



# PRISM platform has unlocked ADAR editing



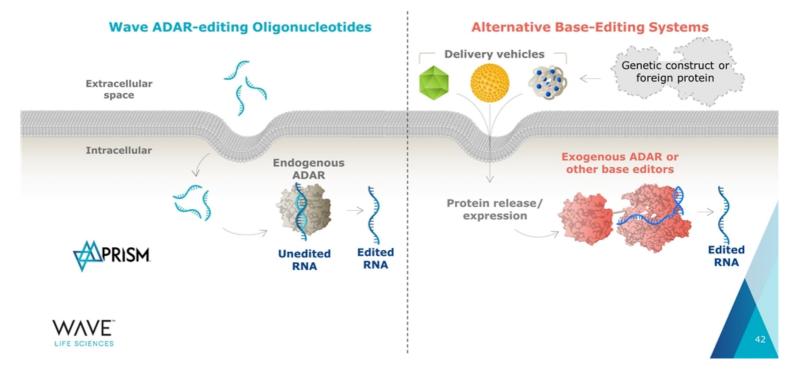
- A-to-I editing is one of most common post-transcriptional modifications
- ADAR is ubiquitously expressed across tissues, including liver and CNS



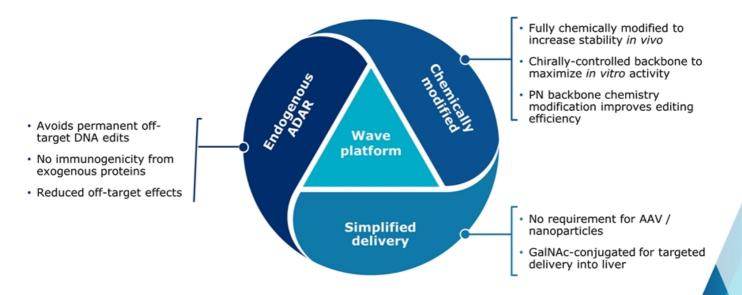
A: adenosine; I: inosine; G: guanosine; Nishikura, K. A-to-I editing of coding and non-coding RNAs by ADARs. Nat. Rev. Mol. Cell Biol. 2016; Picardi, E. et al. Profiling RNA editing in human tissues: towards the inosinome Atlas. Scientific reports 5, 14941, doi:10.1038/srep14941 (2015).

#### ADAR editing

# PRISM enables practical approach to RNA editing without need for viruses or exogenous protein



# Advantages of Wave ADAR editing platform

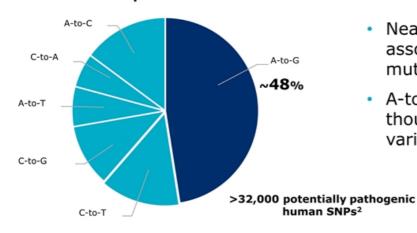




Sources: Chen Biochemistry 2019

# ADAR amenable diseases represent a sizeable opportunity

# Potentially pathogenic human SNPs by base pair corrections



- Nearly half of known human SNPs associated with disease are G-to-A mutations
- A-to-I(G) editing could target tens of thousands of potential disease variants<sup>1</sup>



SNP: single nucleotide polymorphism A: Adenosine I: Inosine G: Guanosine <sup>1</sup>ClinVar database <sup>2</sup>Gaudeli NM et al. *Nature* (2017).





# RNA editing opens many new therapeutic applications

#### **Restore protein function**

- Fix nonsense and missense mutations that cannot be splice-corrected
- · Remove stop mutations
- Prevent protein misfolding and aggregation

Examples:

Recessive or dominant genetically defined diseases

#### **Modify protein function**

- Alter protein processing (e.g. protease cleavage sites)
- Protein-protein interactions domains
- Modulate signaling pathways

Examples:

Ion channel permeability

#### **Protein upregulation**

- miRNA target site modification
- Modifying upstream ORFs
- Modification of ubiquitination sites

Examples:

Haploinsufficient diseases

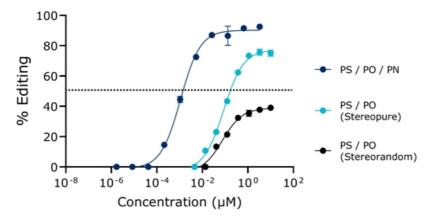


45

# PN chemistry improves editing efficiency

PN backbone modification increased both potency and editing efficiency in vitro

## ACTB editing in primary human hepatocytes using GalNAc-mediated uptake



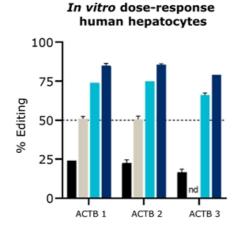


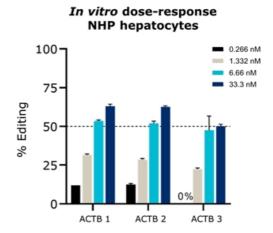
Data from independent experiments; Total RNA was harvested, reverse transcribed to generate cDNA, and the editing target site was amplified by PCR and quantified by Sanger sequencing

#### NDAK editing

# Significant ADAR editing demonstrated in vitro in NHP and primary human hepatocytes

ACTB GalNAc-conjugated oligonucleotides with stereopure PN chemistry modification







NHP: non-human primate; ACTB: Beta-actin; nd= not determined Total RNA was harvested, reverse transcribed to generate cDNA, and the editing target site was amplified by PCR.

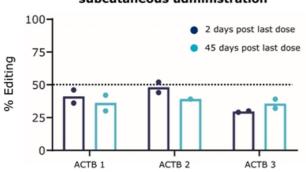


## Efficient ADAR editing translated in vivo in non-human primate study

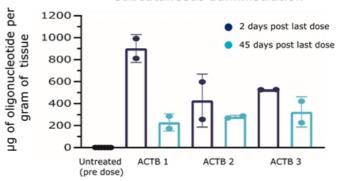
- Up to 50% editing efficiency observed at Day 7, 2 days post last dose
- Substantial and durable editing out to at least Day 50, 45 days post last dose

## subcutaneous administration 100 75

In vivo editing in NHP following



#### Oligonucleotide quantification in NHP following subcutaneous administration



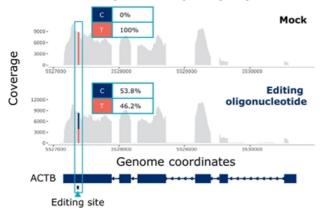


NHP: non-human primate; ACTB: Beta-actin; Left: 5mg/kg SC: Day 1,2,3,4,5; Liver Biopsy for mRNA (ACTB Editing) & eASO Exposure: Day 7

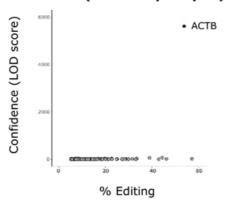
#### ADAR editing

# Wave ADAR editing oligonucleotides are highly specific

## RNA editing within ACTB transcript (human hepatocytes)



## RNA editing within transcriptome (human hepatocytes)





Human hepatocytes were dosed with 1um oligonucleotide, 48 hours later RNA was collected and sent for RNA sequencing. RNAseq conducted using strand-specific libraries to quantify on-target ACTB editing and off-target editing in primary human hepatocytes; plotted circles represent sites with LOD>3

# Advancing Wave's first ADAR editing program in alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD)

- Most common cause is a single G-to-A point mutation on the "Z" allele
- ~250K people have the ZZ genotype, which is most severe
- Current approved therapies modestly increase circulating levels of AAT in those with lung pathology; no therapies address liver pathology

Wave's approach may simultaneously address lung and liver manifestations by using ADAR editing to correct the mutation:

- Increase circulating levels of wild-type AAT protein
- Reduce aggregation in the liver
- · Retain AAT physiological regulation

#### Loss of function in lung

#### Lack of functional AAT in serum:

- Insufficient levels to counteract protease levels, e.g., neutrophil elastase
- Lung damage due to unchecked proteolytic activity and inflammation
- · Other tissues may be affected (e.g. skin)



#### Gain of function in liver

#### Misfolding of AAT in hepatocytes:

- Inability to secrete AAT
- · AAT polymerizes in liver
- · Liver damage/cirrhosis

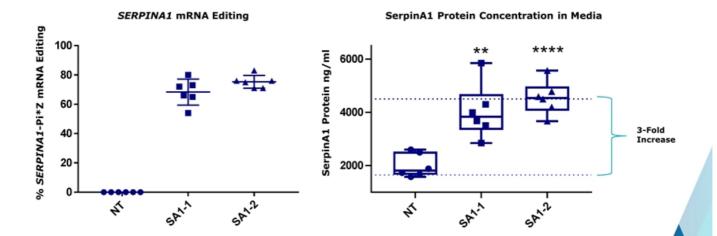


Sources: Strnad 2020; Blanco, 2017 AAT: Alpha-1 antitrypsin

50

# SERPINA1 RNA editing increases protein concentration in vitro

In primary hepatocyte Pi\*Z cell model, editing the Z transcript back to wild-type prevents protein misfolding and increases secretion from hepatocytes

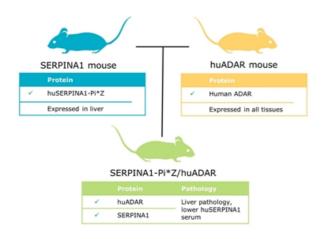




Mouse primary hepatocytes that express SERPINA1-PIZ allele were transfected with 25 nanomolar (nM) of SERPINA1 (SA1-1 and SA1-2) targeting antisense oligonucleotides (ASOs) and a control non-targeting (NT) ASO. Media and RNA was collected at 5 days post transfection. SerpinA1 Protein in media was quantified by Elisa Assay, RNA editing was quantified by RT/PCR/Sanger sequencing. All samples done at N=6 replicates.

#### ADAR editing

# Proprietary humanized mouse model developed to support ADAR platform



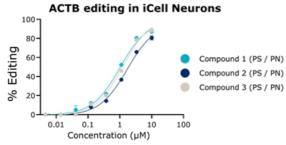
- Expression of huADAR in mouse is comparable to expression in human cells
- Expression of huADAR restores editing of endogenous targets in primary mouse cell types to levels seen in human primary cell types
- huADAR mouse model can be crossed with disease specific mouse models to provide model systems for use across Wave's ADAR editing programs

Model validation and in vivo data expected 1H 2021

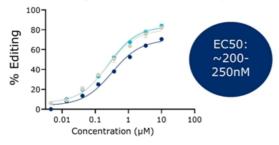


#### ADAR editing

# Multiple opportunities for ADAR editing in neurology



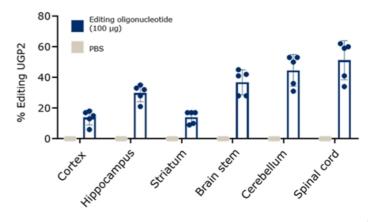
#### **ACTB** editing in human iCell Astrocytes





Gymnotic uptake; Total RNA was harvested, reverse transcribed to generate cDNA, and the editing target site was amplified by PCR and quantified by Sanger sequencing

## In vivo CNS editing in proprietary hADAR transgenic mouse (1 week)



hADAR: human ADAR; UGP2: Glucose Pyrophosphorylase 2; 5 mice in each group were injected with PBS or a single 100uG dose on day 0. Animals were necropsied on day 7. RNA was harvested and editing measured by Sanger sequencing.



53



# Ophthalmology

54

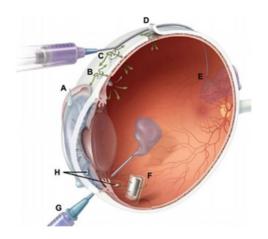
# Stereopure oligonucleotides for inherited retinal diseases (IRDs)

### Wave ophthalmology opportunity

- Oligonucleotides can be administered by intravitreal (IVT) injection; targeting twice per year dosing
- Stereopure oligonucleotides open novel strategies in both dominant and recessive IRDs; potential for potent and durable effect with low immune response

# Successful targeting of *MALAT1* is a surrogate for an ASO mechanism of action

- Widely expressed in many different cell types
- · Only expressed in the nucleus



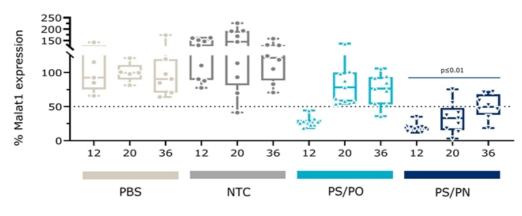
Intravitreal injection



Sources: Daiger S, et al. Clin Genet. 2013;84:132-141. Wong CH, et al. Biostatistics. 2018; DOI: 10.1093/biostatistics/kxx069. Athanasiou D, et al. Prog Retin Eye Res. 2018;62:1-23. Daiger S, et al. Cold Spring Harb Perspect Med. 2015;5:a017129. Verbakel S, et al. Prog Retin Eye Res. 2018:66:157-186.; Short, B.G.; Toxicology Pathology, Jan 2008.

# Durable Malat1 knockdown through 9 months with PN chemistry

~50% Malat1 knockdown at 36 weeks in the posterior of the eye



Time (weeks)

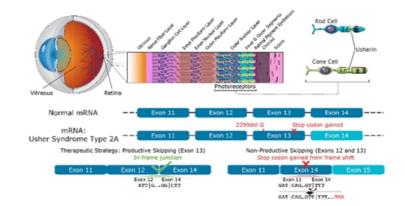


Compound or PBS (1  $\times$  50 ug IVT) was delivered to C57BL6 mice. Relative percentage of Malat1 RNA in the posterior of the eye (retina, choroid, sclera) to PBS-treated mice is shown at 12, 20 and 36 weeks post-single injection. PBS = phosphate buffered saline; NTC= chemistry matched non-targeting control



# Usher Syndrome Type 2A: a progressive vision loss disorder

- Autosomal recessive disease characterized by hearing loss at birth and progressive vision loss beginning in adolescence or adulthood
- Caused by mutations in USH2A gene (72 exons) that disrupt production of usherin protein in retina, leading to degeneration of the photoreceptors
- No approved disease-modifying therapies
- ~5,000 addressable patients in US

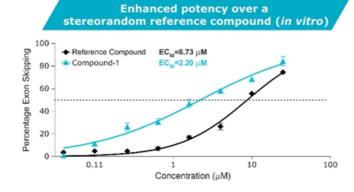


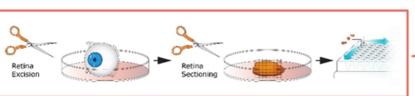
Oligonucleotides that promote USH2A exon 13 skipping may restore production of functional usherin protein

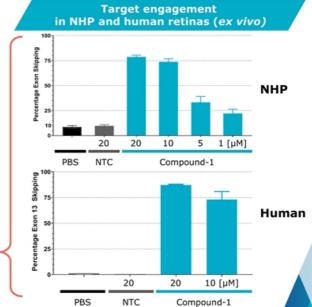


Sources: Boughman et al., 1983. J Chron Dis. 36:595-603; Seyedahmadi et al., 2004. Exp Eye Res. 79:167-173; Liu et al., 2007. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 104:4413-4418.

## Potent USH2A exon 13 skipping with stereopure compound in vitro and ex vivo





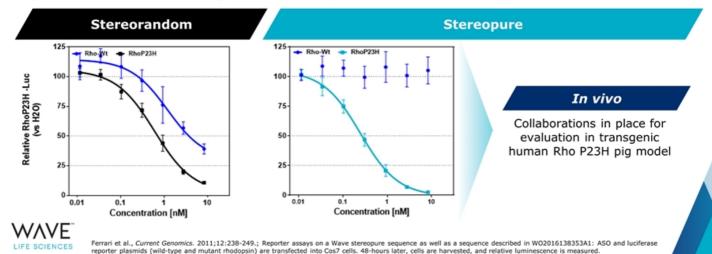




Left: Compounds were added to Y79 cells under free-uptake conditions. Exon skipping was evaluated by Taqman assays. USH2A transcripts were normalized to SRSF9. Data are mean±s.d., n=2. Reference Compound: van Diepen et al. 2018. Antisense oligonucleotides for the treatment of eye disease. W02018055134A1. Compound-1 is a stereopure antisoligonucleotide. Right: Whole NHP and human eyes were enucleated (n=4 and n=2, respectively) and compounds (1=20 µM) were added to extracted retinas under free-uptake conditions. Exon skipping was evaluated by 48 hrs later by Taqman assays on RNA. USH2A transcript levels were normalized to SRSF9. Data are

# Allele-selective reduction of SNP-containing allele for adRP associated with Rhodopsin P23H mutation

- Retinitis pigmentosa (RP): group of rare, genetic eye disorders resulting in progressive photoreceptor cell
  death and gradual functional loss; currently no cure
- ~10% of US autosomal dominant RP cases are caused by the P23H mutation in the rhodopsin gene (RHO)
- Mutant P23H rhodopsin protein is thought to misfold and co-aggregate with wild-type rhodopsin, resulting in a gain-of-function or dominant negative effect in rod photoreceptor cells



## Expected upcoming milestones

### **Huntington's disease**

- 4Q 2020: CTA submission for WVE-003 (SNP3)
- 1Q 2021: PRECISION-HD1 data, including 32 mg cohort, and initial data from OLE trial
- 1Q 2021: PRECISION-HD2 data, including 32 mg cohort, and initial data from OLE trial

#### Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and frontotemporal dementia

• 4Q 2020: CTA submission for WVE-004 (C9orf72)

#### **Duchenne muscular dystrophy**

• 1Q 2021: CTA submission for WVE-N531 (exon 53)

## ADAR editing (Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency)

• 1H 2021: Humanized mouse model validation and in vivo data

#### Dosing in three new clinical trials expected in 2021



ALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; FTD: Frontotemporal dementia; CTA: clinical trial application; OLE: open-label extension

