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LIFE SCIENCES

# Towards the development of a therapeutic RNA editing platform

Chikdu Shivalila

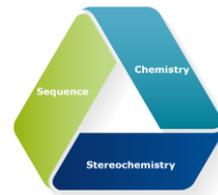
Presented at Deaminet 2022  
January 24, 2022

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# Forward-looking statements

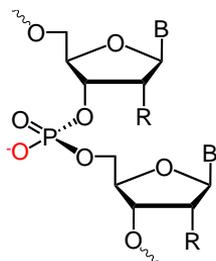
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# Innovating stereopure backbone chemistry



## PRISM backbone linkages

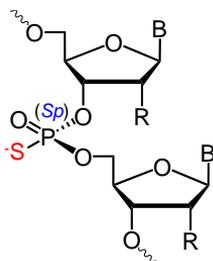
PO



**Chirality**  
None

**Negative charge**

PS

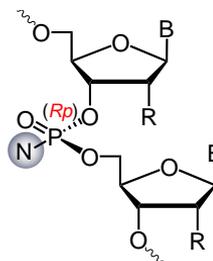


**Chirality**

▲ PS backbone *Rp*  
▼ PS backbone *Sp*

**Negative charge**

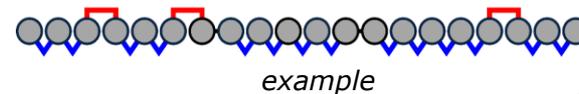
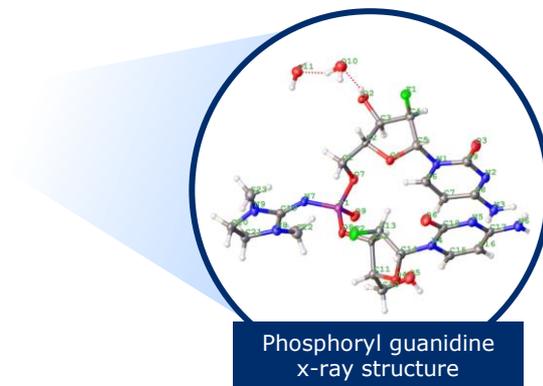
PN



**Chirality**

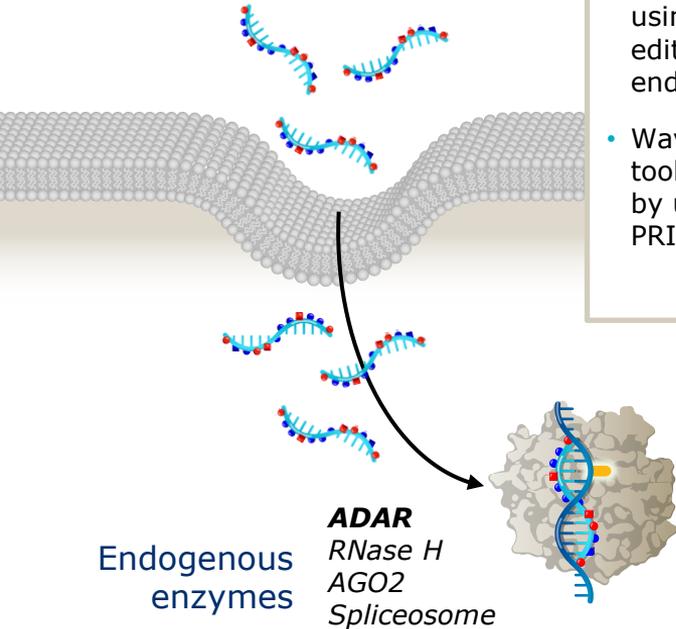
□ PN backbone *Rp*  
□ PN backbone *Sp*

**Neutral charge**



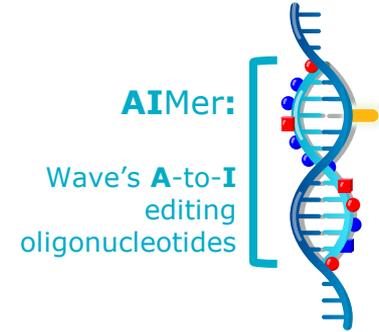
# RNA editing with AIMers: A-to-I editing oligonucleotides

Free-uptake of chemically modified oligonucleotides



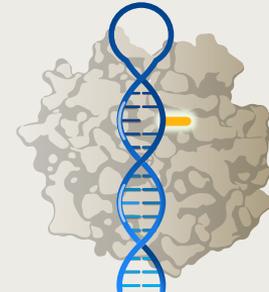
- First publication (1995) using oligonucleotide to edit RNA with endogenous ADAR<sup>1</sup>
- Wave goal: Expand toolkit to include editing by unlocking ADAR with PRISM oligonucleotides

- ✓ Learnings from biological concepts
- ✓ Applied to ASO structural concepts
- ✓ Applied Wave's proprietary PRISM chemistry



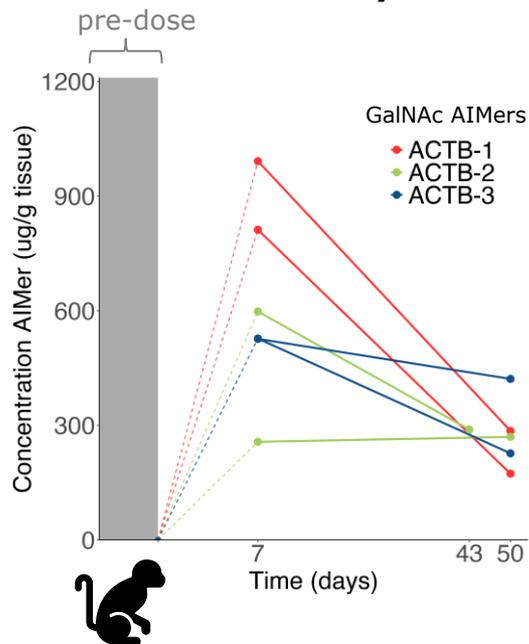
## ADAR enzymes

- Catalyze conversion of A-to-I (G) in double-stranded RNA substrates
- A-to-I (G) edits are one of the most common post-transcriptional modifications
- ADAR1 is ubiquitously expressed across tissues, including liver and CNS

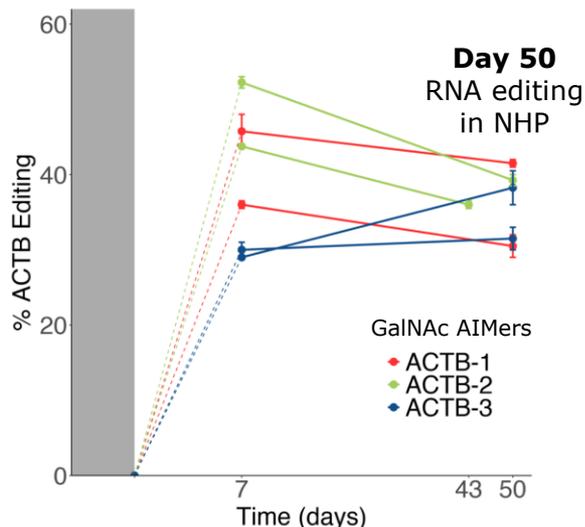


# GalNAc-AIMers enable durable and specific editing out to day 50 in liver of NHPs

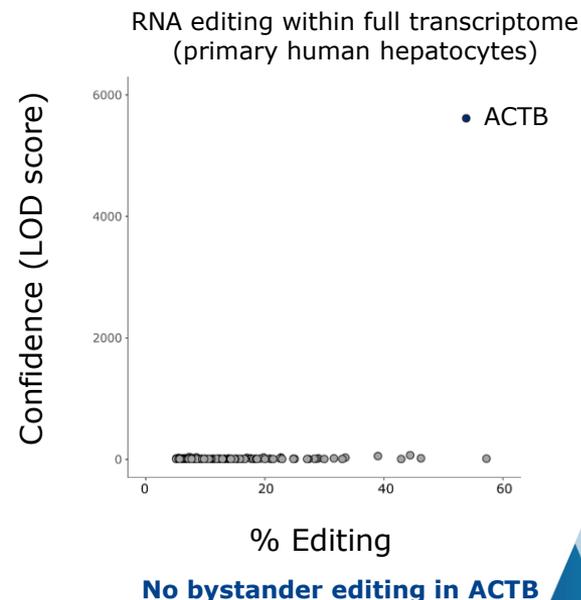
## AIMers detected in liver of NHP at day 50



## Substantial and durable editing in NHP liver *in vivo*

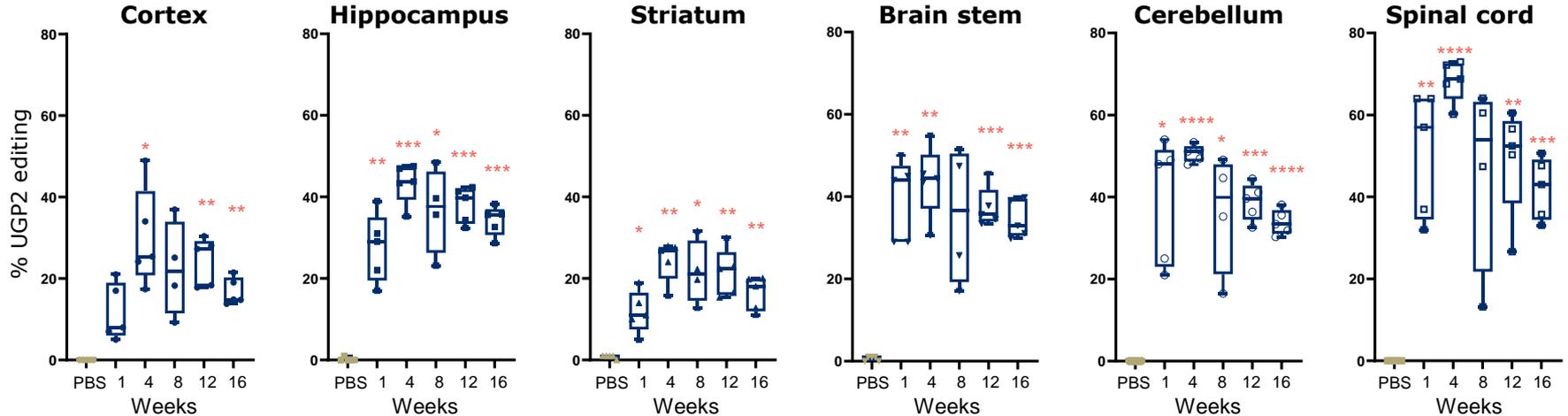


## ADAR editing with ACTB AIMER is highly specific



# Efficient and durable editing in mouse CNS with unconjugated Aimer

Peak editing observed 4-weeks post-single ICV dose across tissues

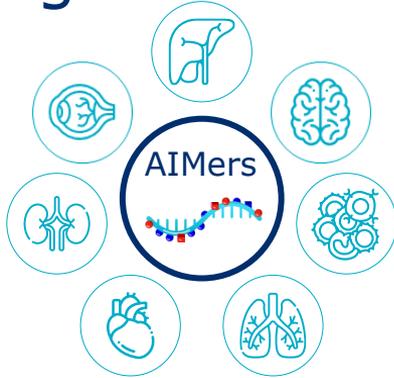


	Cortex	Hippocampus	Striatum	Brain stem	Cerebellum	Spinal cord
Peak editing	30%	>40%	25%	>40%	50%	>65%

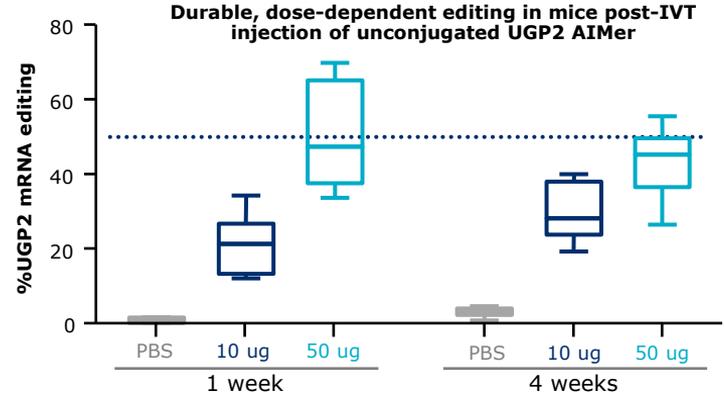
Transgenic huADAR mice were administered 100  $\mu$ g Aimer or PBS on day 0 and evaluated for UGP2 editing across CNS tissues at 1, 4, 8, 12 and 16-weeks post dose. Percentage UGP2 editing determined by Sanger sequencing. Stats: 2-way ANOVA with post-hoc comparison to PBS (n=5 per time point per treatment) \*P<0.05, \*\*P<0.01, \*\*\*P<0.001, \*\*\*\*P<0.0001. ICV intracerebroventricular; PBS phosphate buffered saline



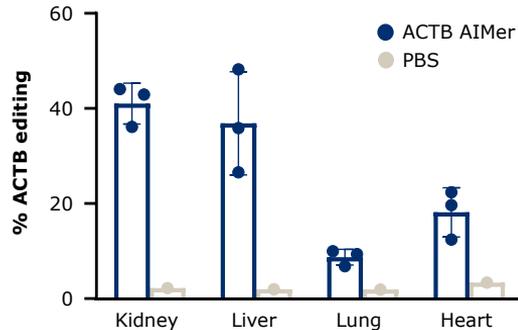
# Productive editing beyond liver and CNS with unconjugated AIMers



Ophthalmology



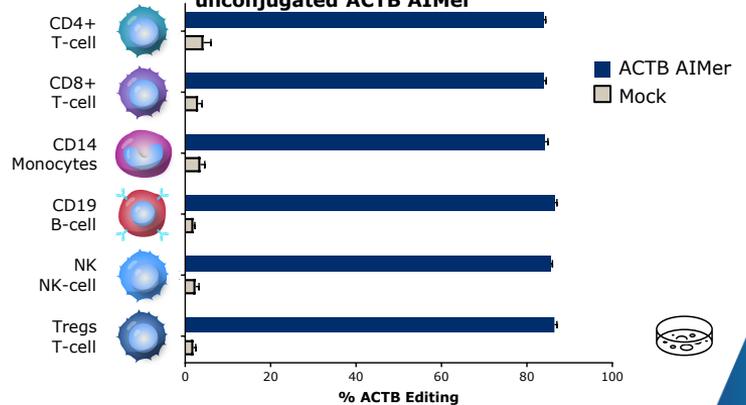
**Editing in NHP 1-week post-single SC dose unconjugated ACTB AIMER**



Kidney, liver, lung, heart

Immune cells

**Editing in human PBMCs *in vitro* unconjugated ACTB AIMER**

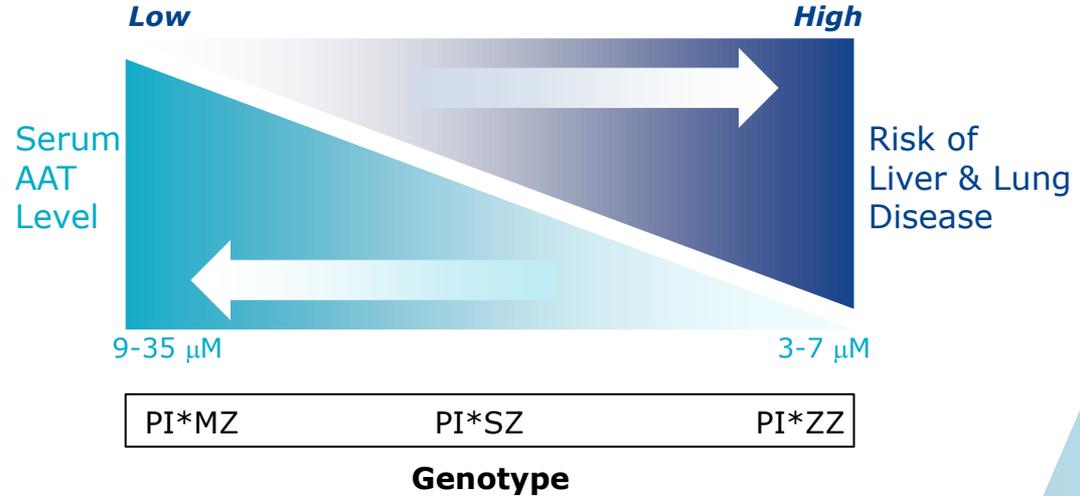


# An ADAR editing approach to correct Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD)

## Objectives

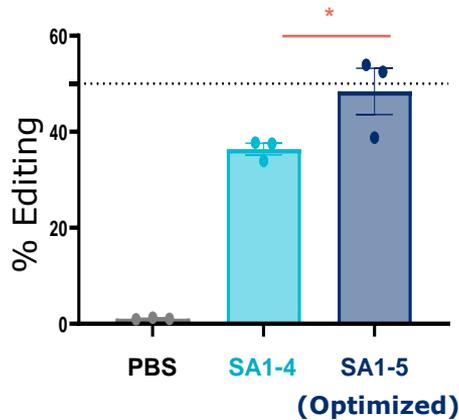
- Recruit endogenous ADAR enzyme to edit SERPINA1 Z mRNA
- Restore circulating M-AAT protein to expected therapeutic threshold (11  $\mu\text{M}$ )
- Confirm functionality of M-AAT
- Confirm specificity of SERPINA1 editing

## Inverse relationship between circulating AAT levels and disease risk

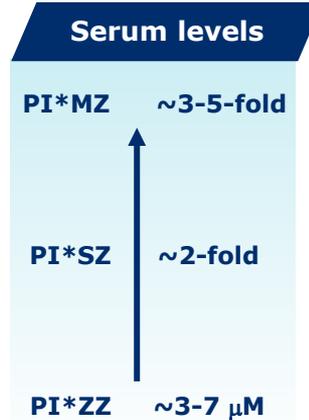
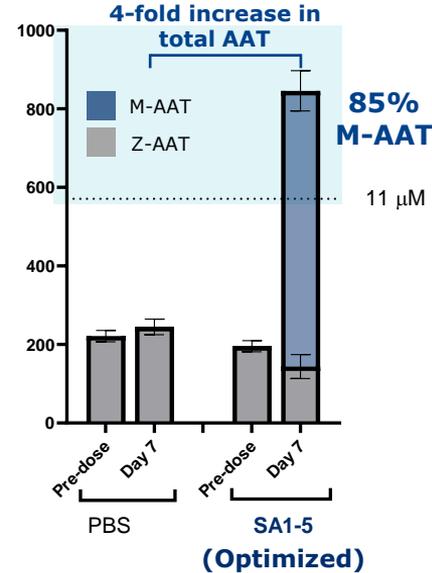
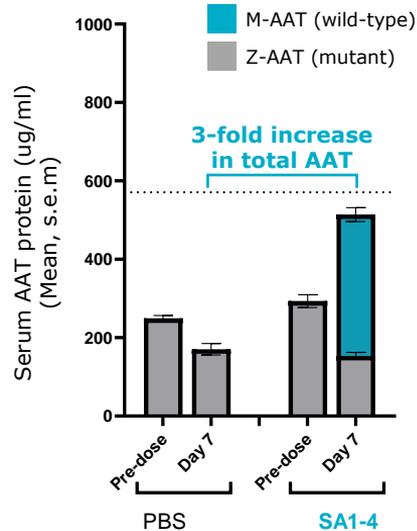


# Optimized AIMers achieve ~50% mRNA editing and restore AAT protein well above therapeutic threshold in mouse model

**SERPINA1 RNA editing huADAR mouse**  
(3x5 mg/kg, SC)



**AAT protein concentration in serum**  
(3x10 mg/kg, SC)

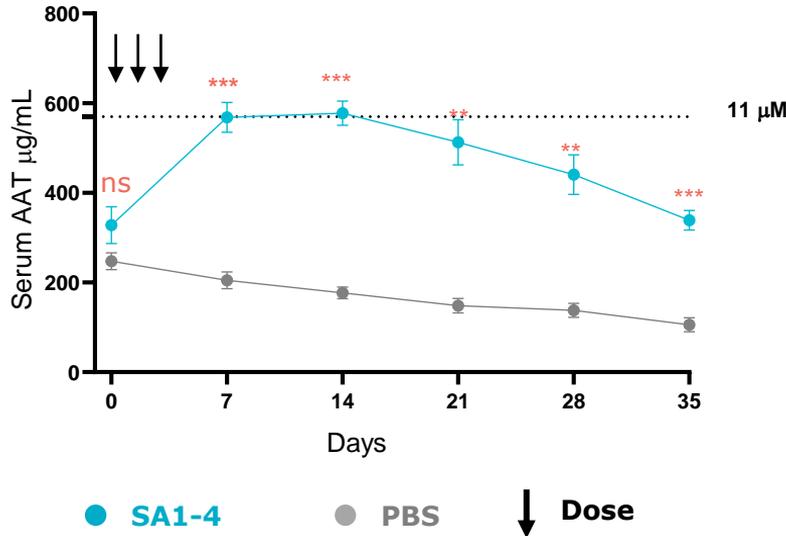


✓ Z allele mRNA editing *in vivo*

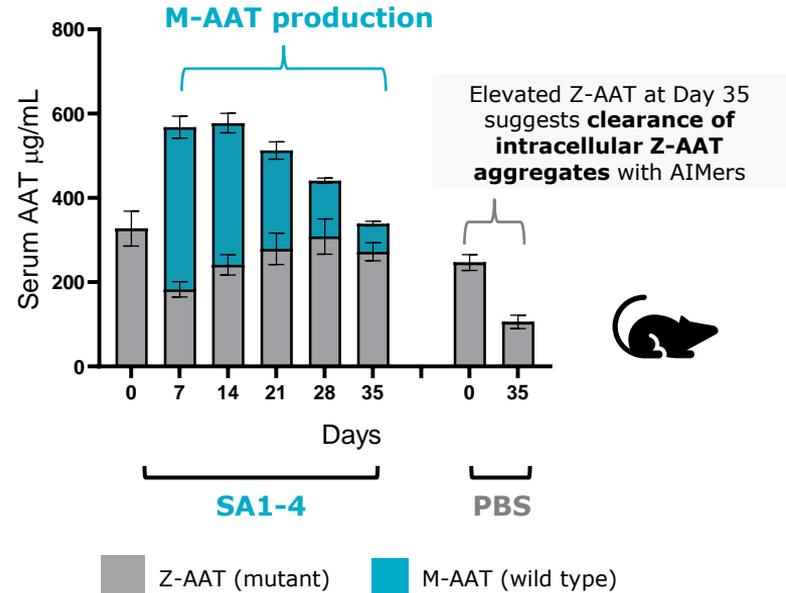
✓ Restoration of AAT protein expression *in vivo*

# Durable restoration of functional, M-AAT protein with ADAR editing

Human AAT serum concentration  $\geq 3$ -fold higher over 30 days post-last dose

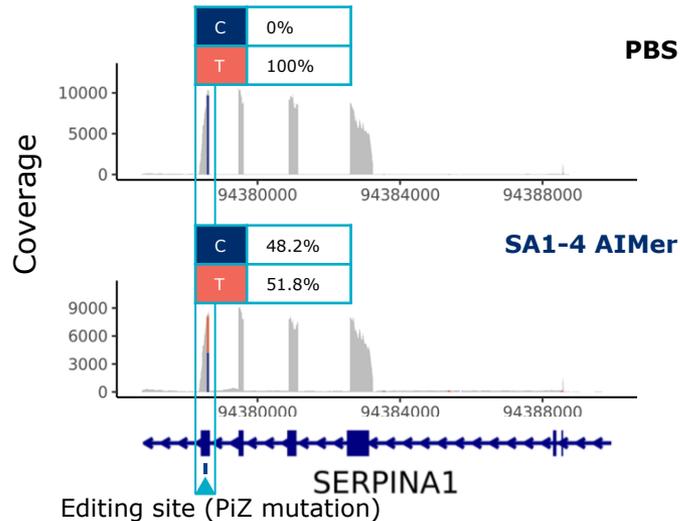


Restored wild-type M-AAT detected over 30 days post-last dose

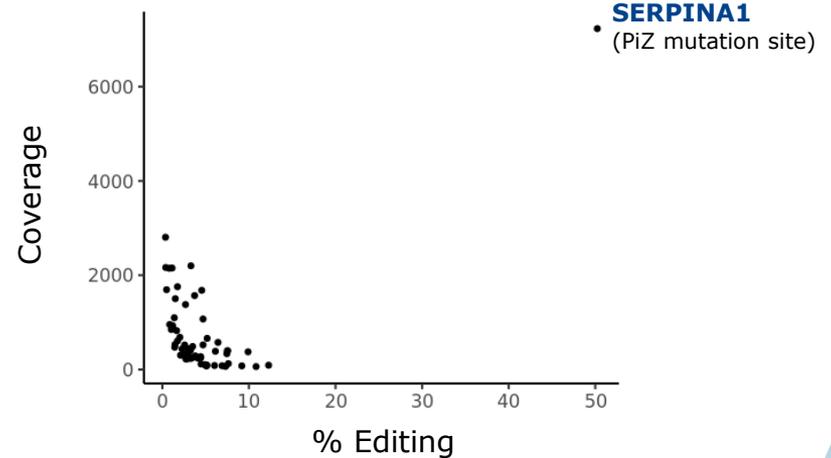


# ADAR editing is highly specific; no bystander editing observed on SERPINA1 transcript

**RNA editing only detected at PiZ mutation site in SERPINA1 transcript**  
(mouse liver)



**RNA editing within transcriptome**  
(mouse liver)



**No bystander editing in SERPINA1**

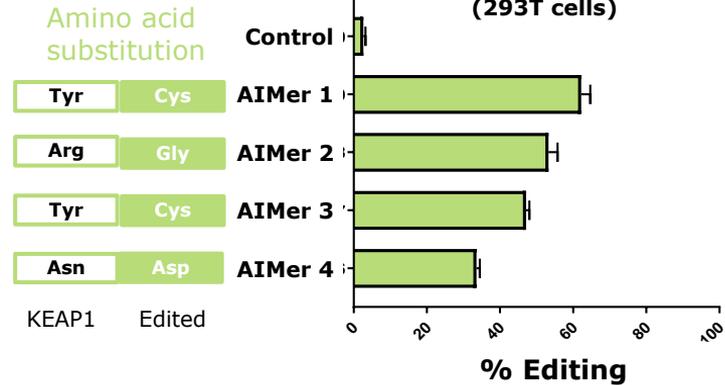
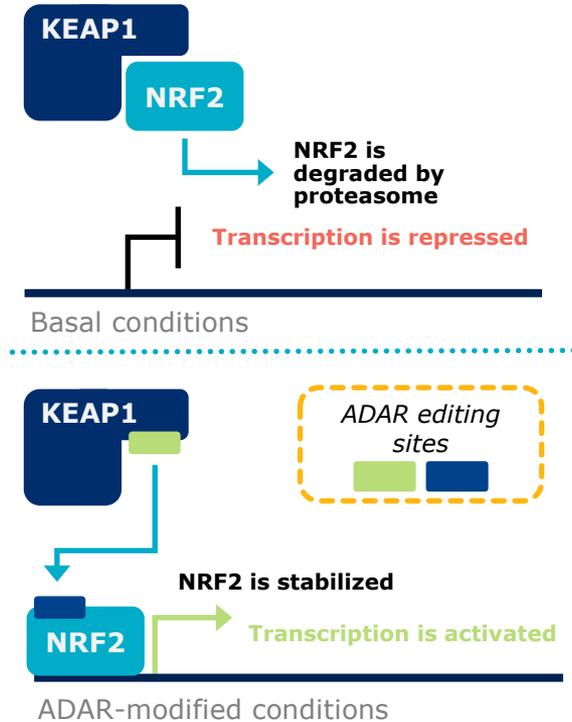


**Editing is specific *in vivo***

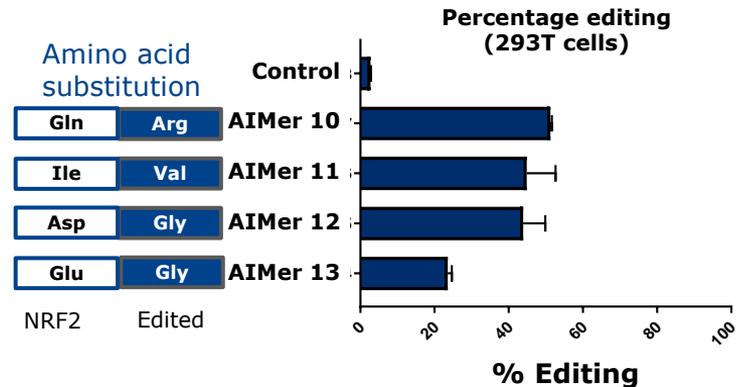


# Apply AIMers to modify protein-protein interactions

## KEAP1 editing

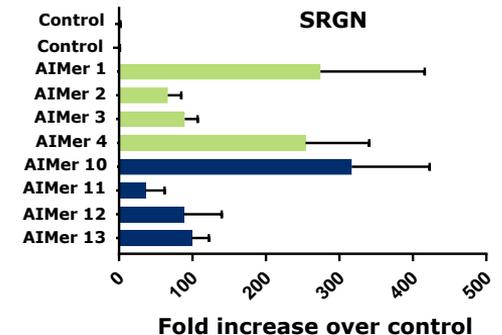
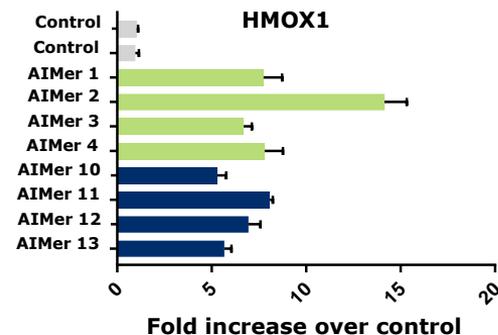
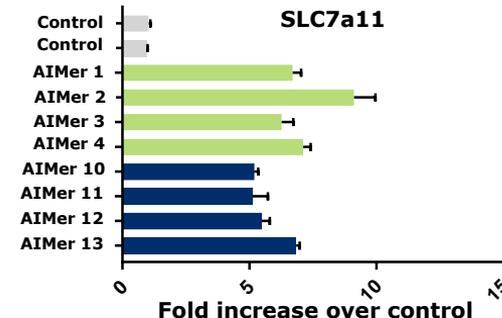
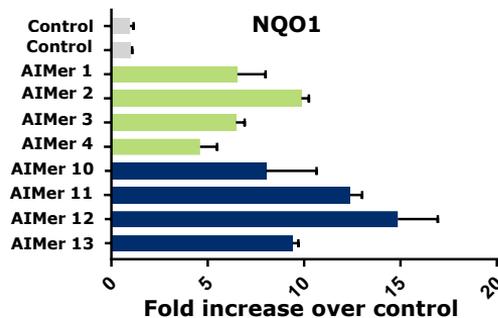


## NRF2 editing



# ADAR editing activates multiple genes, confirming disrupted protein-protein interaction *in vitro*

ADAR editing of either KEAP1 or NRF2 directs gene activation



# Summary

- AIMers represent Wave's therapeutic RNA editing platform that leverages endogenous ADAR proteins
  - Achieve potent and specific editing
  - Support durable activity
  - Amenable to multiple routes of administration
  - Active in animals as GalNAc-conjugates or unconjugated
- AIMers restore expression of functional protein
  - Correct SERPINA1 Z mutation in mouse hepatocytes to durably express functional, secreted Z-AAT protein
- AIMers modulate protein-protein interactions
  - Disrupt KEAP1-NRF2 interface to activate downstream transcription in cells