



UMC Utrecht

Precision Medicine in the epilepsies

Developments and Challenges

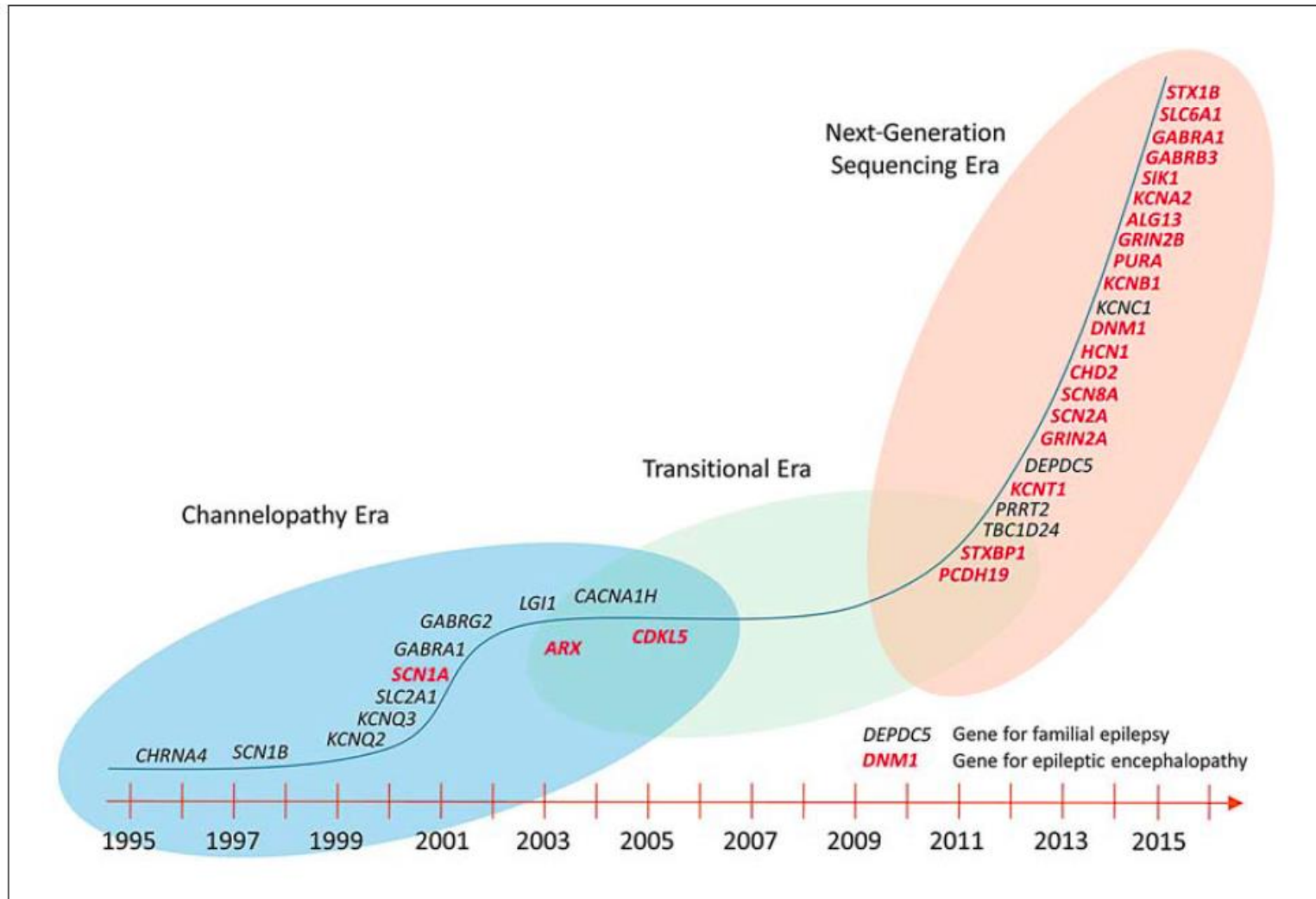


Disclosure belangen spreker

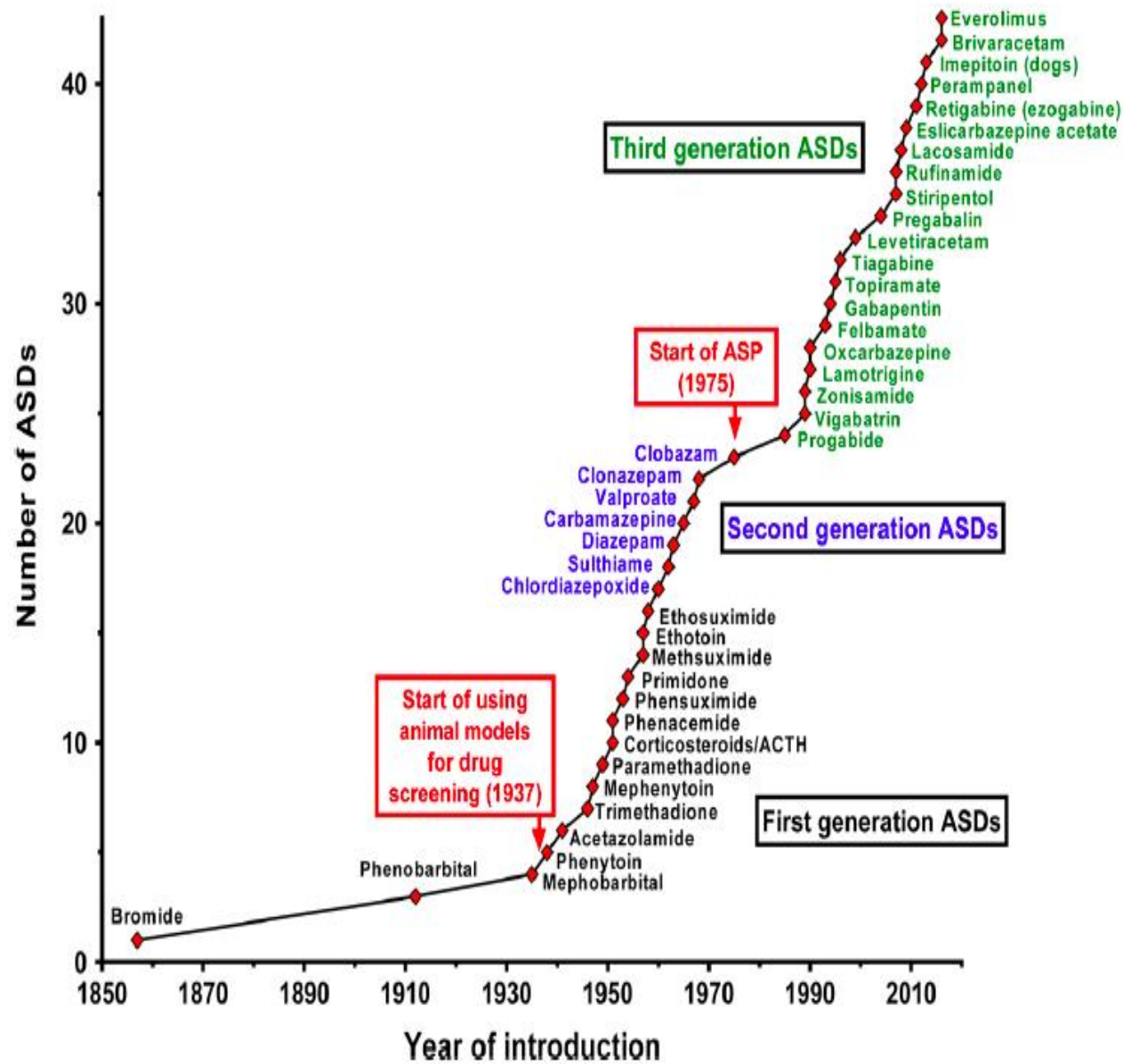
<i>Potentiële Belangenverstrengeling</i>	
Voor bijeenkomst mogelijk relevante relaties met bedrijven	Bedrijfsnaam
Sponsoring of onderzoeksgeld	nvt.....
Honorarium of andere (financiële vergoeding)	nvt.....
Aandeelhouder	nvt.....
Andere relatie, namelijk....	nvt.....

Accelerated discovery of new epilepsy genes

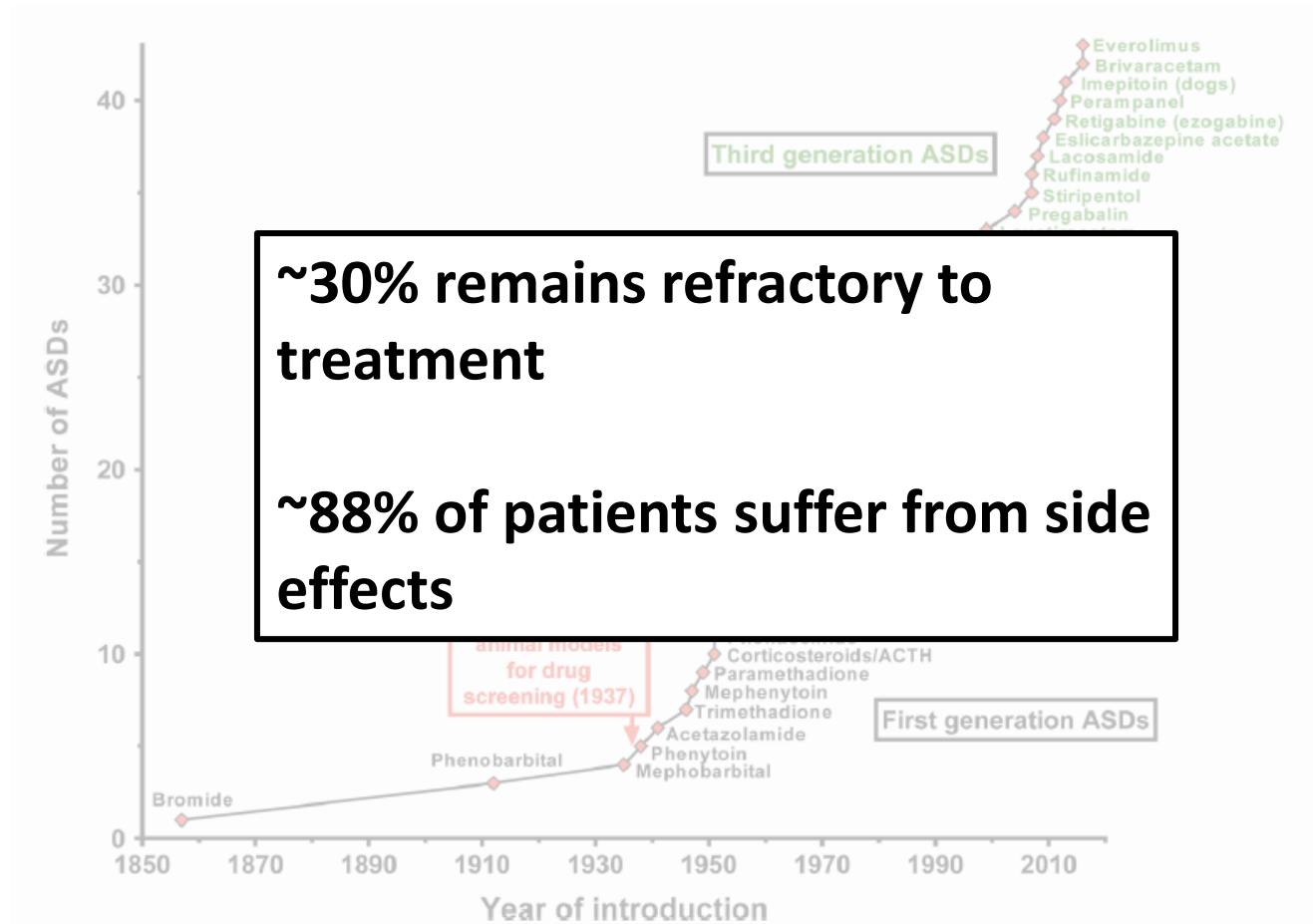
Increased rate DNA-diagnosis (40-70%)



Chronology of antiseizure drugs over the past 150 years



Chronologie van 150 jaar anti-epileptica



↑ GABA

Barbiturates
Benzodiazepines
Gabapentin
Levetiracetam
Tiagabine
Topiramate
Valproate
Vigabatrin



↓ Na⁺

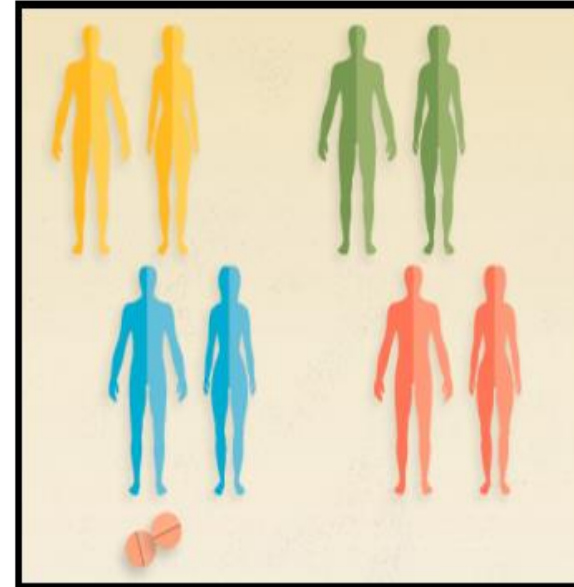
Carbamazepine
Lamotrigine
Oxcarbazepine
Phenytoin
Topiramate
Valproate

↓ Ca²⁺

Ethosuximide
Levetiracetam
Pregabalin
Valproate

We relied on preclinical models to pick targets and estimate efficacy in heterogeneous human populations

It was...



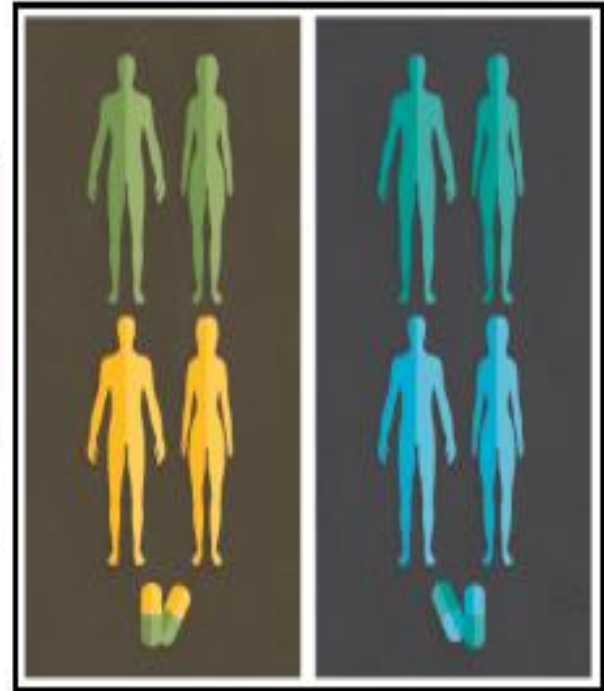
Discovery

Pre-clinical

Phase 1

Humans are the “model organism” of choice for new targets and precision medicine

But today...



Discovery

Pre-clinical

Phase 1

De Novo Pathogenic SCN8A Mutation Identified by Whole-Genome Sequencing of a Family Quartet Affected by Infantile Epileptic Encephalopathy and SUDEP

Krishna R. Veeramah,¹ Janelle E. O'Brien,⁴ Miriam H. Meisler,⁴ Xiaoyang Cheng,⁵ Sulayman D. Dib-Hajj,⁵ Stephen G. Waxman,⁵ Dinesh Talwar,^{6,7,9} Santhosh Girirajan,¹⁰ Evan E. Eichler,¹⁰ Linda L. Restifo,^{2,7,8} Robert P. Erickson,^{3,6} and Michael F. Hammer^{1,*}

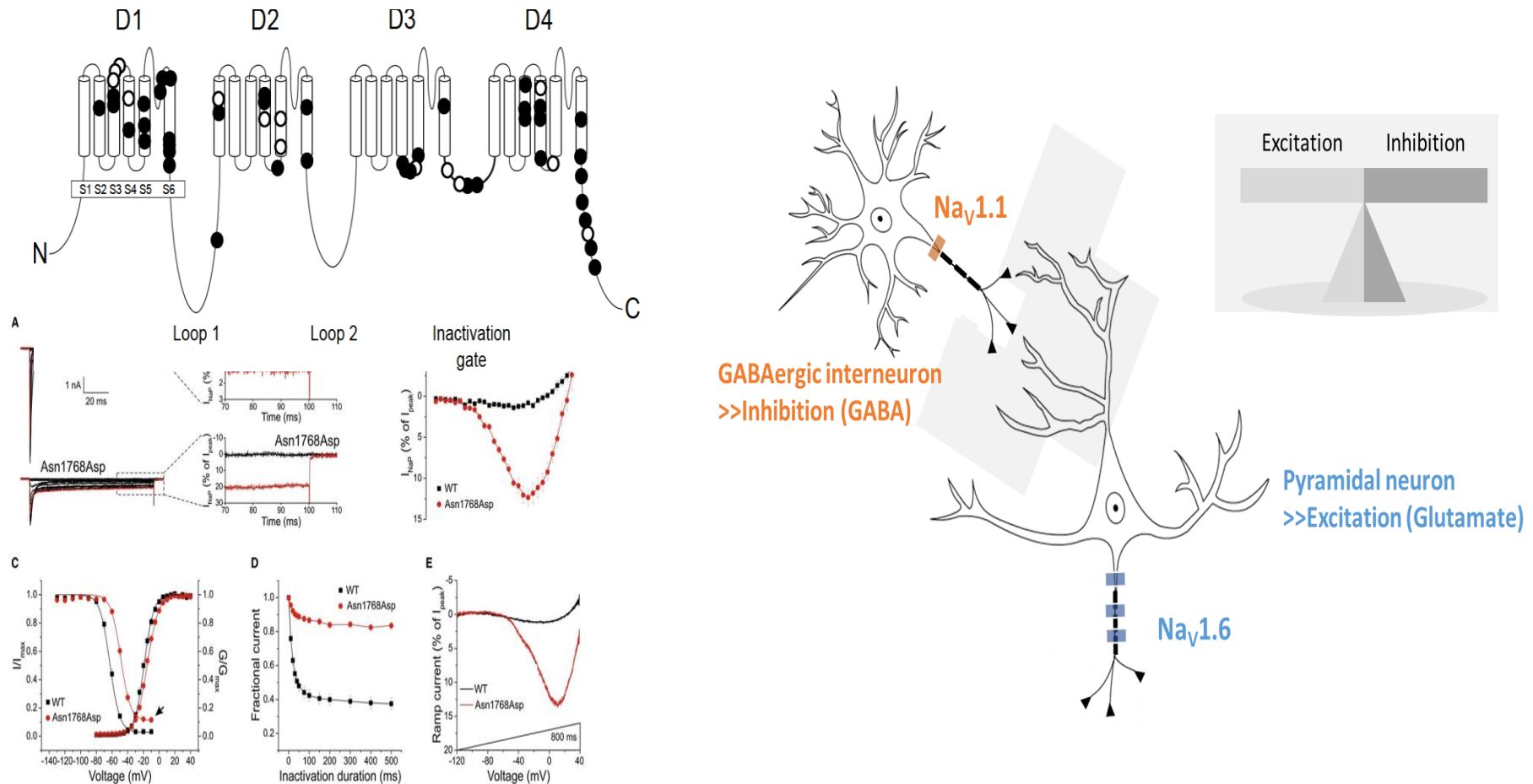


Figure 2. Effect of the De Novo SCN8A Substitution p.Asn1768Asp on Biophysical Properties of the Channel

Important to predict functional effect *SCN8A* mutation for treatment options

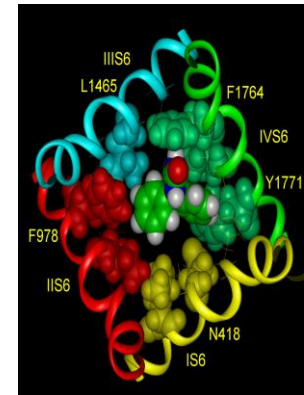
Wagon and Meisler

Mutations of *SCN8A* in epileptic encephalopathy

TABLE 1 | Reported drug response in epileptic encephalopathy due to *SCN8A* mutations.

Amino acid substitution	Channel domain	Effect on function	Effective treatment	Seizure response	Reference
p.Val216Asp	DIS3-4		VPA	Seizure control	(23)
p.Leu407Phe	DIS6		CBZ	75% reduction	(53)
p.Phe846Ser	DIIS4		PHT, LTG, PB KD, VNS	Temporarily effective	(53)
p.Ala890Thr	DIIS5		VPA VPA, OXC	Seizure control	(25, 53)
p.Asn984Lys	Near DIIS6	GOF	PHT, ZNS, PB LEV, CLB	Seizure control	(24)
p.Ile1327Val	DIIS4-5		High PHT	Temporarily effective	(27)
p.Gly1451Ser	DIIS6	LOF	CBZ	Seizure control	(24)
p.Asn1466Lys	Inactivation gate		PHT, TPM, GBP, ACTH, MDL, LD	Temporarily effective	(23)
p.Asn1466Thr	Inactivation gate		TPM, LEV	Seizure control	(23)
p.Val1592Leu	DIVS3		OXC	Seizure control	(25)
p.Ser1596Cys	DIVS3		OXC, LTG, PB, LEV	75% reduction	(53)
p.Ile1605Arg	DIVS3		CBZ	Seizure control	(25)
p.Arg1617Gln	DIVS4		CBZ OXC	Temp. effective Seizure control	(23, 53)
p.Ala1650Thr	DIVS4-5		CBZ, TPM	Seizure control	(23)
p.Asn1768Asp	DIVS6	GOF	VPA, LTG, CLB	Temporarily effective	(15)
p.Arg1872Trp	C-term		TPM, LCM, LEV, VGB, KD	Febrile breakthrough	(23)

ACTH, adrenocorticotrophic hormone; CBZ, carbamazepine; CLB, clobazam; GBP, gabapentin; KD, ketogenic diet; LCM, lacosamide; LD, lidocaine; LEV, levetiracetam; LTG, lamotrigine; MDL, midazolam; OXC, oxcarbazepine; PB, phenobarbital; PHT, phenytoin; TPM, topiramate; VGB, vigabatrin; VNS, vagal nerve stimulator; VPA, valproic acid; ZNS, zonisamide. Drugs classified as sodium channel blockers are indicated in bold.

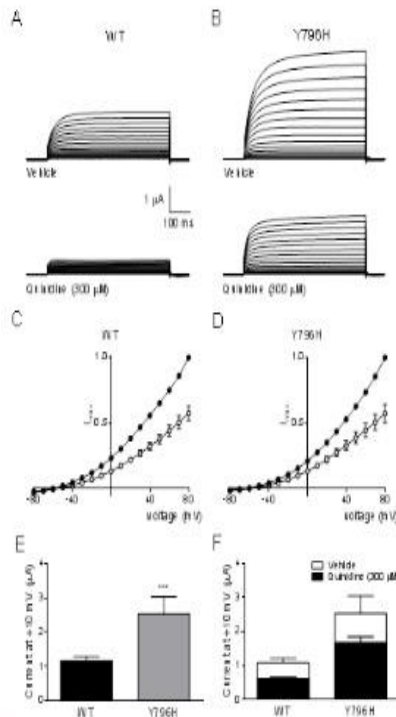


KCNT1 and Epileptic Encephalopathies

- Mutations in KCNT1 have been implicated in two epilepsy disorders
 - Autosomal Dominant Nocturnal Frontal Lobe Epilepsy (ADNFLE)
 - Epilepsy of Infancy with Migrating Focal Seizures (EIMFS)
- Expression of mutant and wild type protein in oocytes shows that all identified mutations are Gain of Function (Petrou Lab)

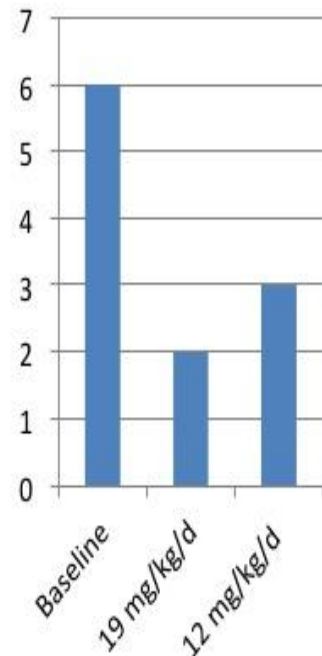
Response to Quinidine Therapy

KCNT1 Y796H



- Quinidine 12 mg/kg/d on first day
- Quinidine 19 mg/kg/d on second day
- Seizures dropped to 2/d, level 1.6 ug/ml (cardiac therapeutic 2-5).
- Dose maintained on 12 mg/kg/day
- Seizures over the next 2 weeks: 3/day, level 0.4 ug/ml
- Improved alertness head control sitting and interaction observed
- Plan to increase dose while monitoring ECG
- Duke a KCNT1 Related Epilepsy Clinic for other patients started

Seizures/day



The promise of Precision Medicine: Repurposing drugs

Table 1. Overview of the currently available or studied precision medicine therapies in genetic epilepsies.

Gene	Effect of mutation	Epilepsy syndrome	Therapy	Status as precision medicine treatment
<i>DEPDC5</i> , <i>NPRL2</i> , <i>NPRL3</i>	mTOR disinhibition	Familial focal epilepsy with variable foci	mTOR inhibitors (everolimus)	Hypothetical
<i>GRIN2A/2B</i>	Gain of function	Epilepsy with infantile spasms and other focal seizures	Maternal mTOR inhibitors	Hypothetical
<i>KCNA2</i>	Gain of function	Dravet syndrome	Retigabine	potential
<i>KCNQ2</i>	Loss of function	Dravet syndrome	Quinidine Beripril	Potential Hypothetical
<i>KCNT1</i>	Gain of function	Epilepsy of infancy with migrating focal seizures, nocturnal frontal lobe epilepsy	Avoid sodium channel blockers	Established
<i>SCN1A</i>	Loss of function	Dravet syndrome	Stiripentol Fenfluramine	established potential
<i>SCN2A</i>	Gain of function	Various	Sodium channel blockers	Potential
<i>SCN8A</i>	Gain of function	Epileptic encephalopathy	Sodium channel blockers	Potential
<i>SLC2A1</i> (GLUT1)	Loss of function	Various	Ketogenic diet	Established
<i>TSC1</i> , <i>TSC2</i>	mTOR disinhibition	Tuberous sclerosis	mTOR inhibitors (everolimus)	Established

~30% remains refractory to treatment

~88% of patients suffer from side effects

Current status of the precision medicine treatment is assessed as follows: 'established': in routine clinical use, 'potential': some case reports on its use in patients available, 'hypothetical': only based on theoretical considerations, data from animal models or single case reports in humans.

What's in it for common epilepsy?

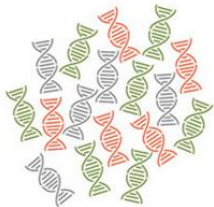
People with epilepsy



People without epilepsy



Compare
Common
Variants



- Insight in biology
- Clinical Biomarkers
- Pleiotropy
- Drug Targets

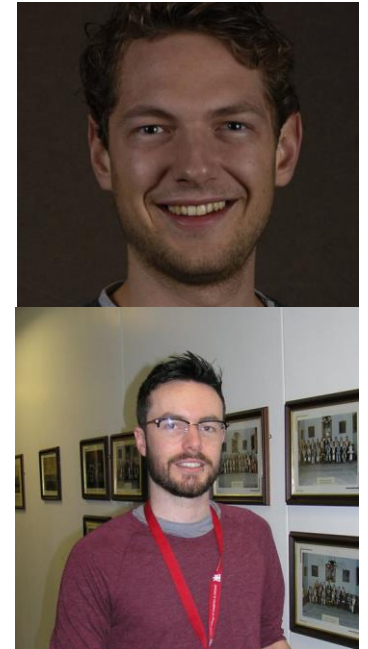
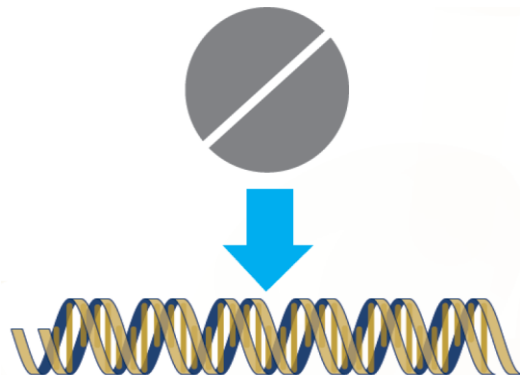
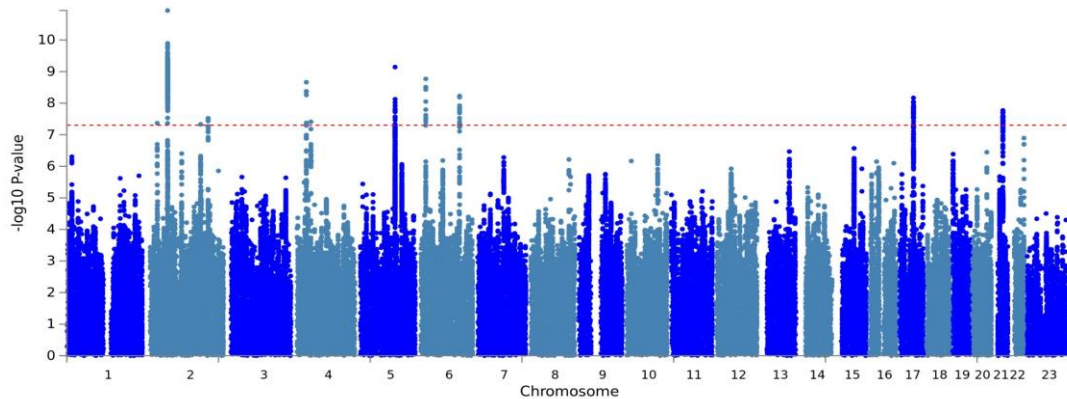


Genome-Wide
Association Study



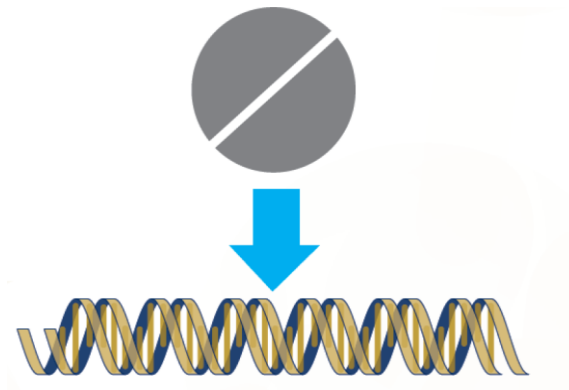
Genome-wide mega-analysis identifies 16 loci and highlights diverse biological mechanisms in the common epilepsies

The International League Against Epilepsy Consortium on Complex Epilepsies



GWAS to identify drug targets

- Prioritized genes are enriched for known epilepsy genes (OR = 61.4, $p = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$)
- 13 out of 24 licensed anti-epileptic drugs target one of the prioritized genes (OR = 101.2, $p = 5.7 \times 10^{-7}$)
- 166 FDA approved drugs target one of the prioritized genes





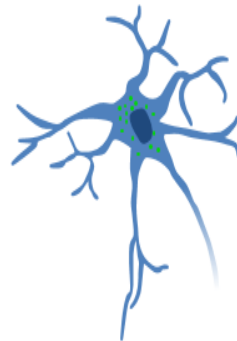
A custommade drug appears to be helping Mila, a 7-year-old born with Batten disease. JULIE AFFLERBAUGH

A tailormade drug developed in record time may save girl from fatal brain disease

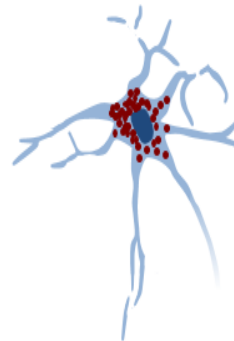
By **Jocelyn Kaiser** | Oct. 19, 2018 , 9:00 PM



- Age at onset 2-10 years
- Neurodegenerative disorder, resulting in vision problems and seizures
- Recessive genetic disorder, associated with mutation in lysosomal genes
- Example is CLN7, a member of Ceroid-Lipofuscinosis Neuronal Protein genes, that have critical function in lysosomes



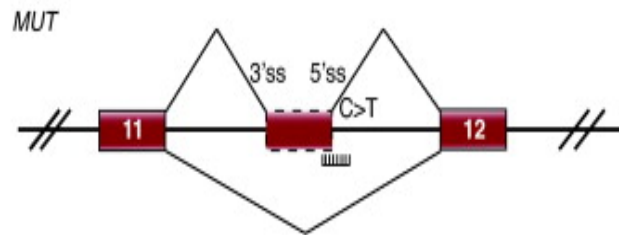
efficient lysosomes
no accumulation
of cellular waste



inefficient lysosomes
abnormal accumulation
of cellular waste



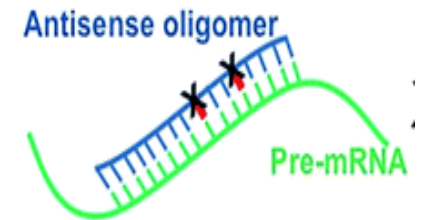
Batten disease



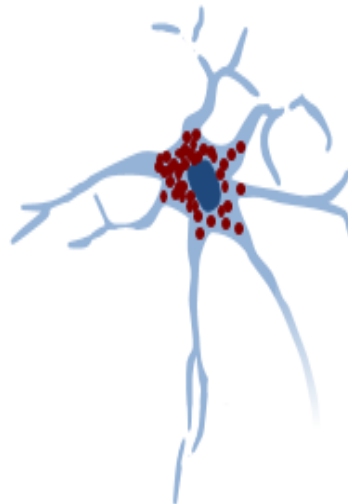
- AON →



+ AON →



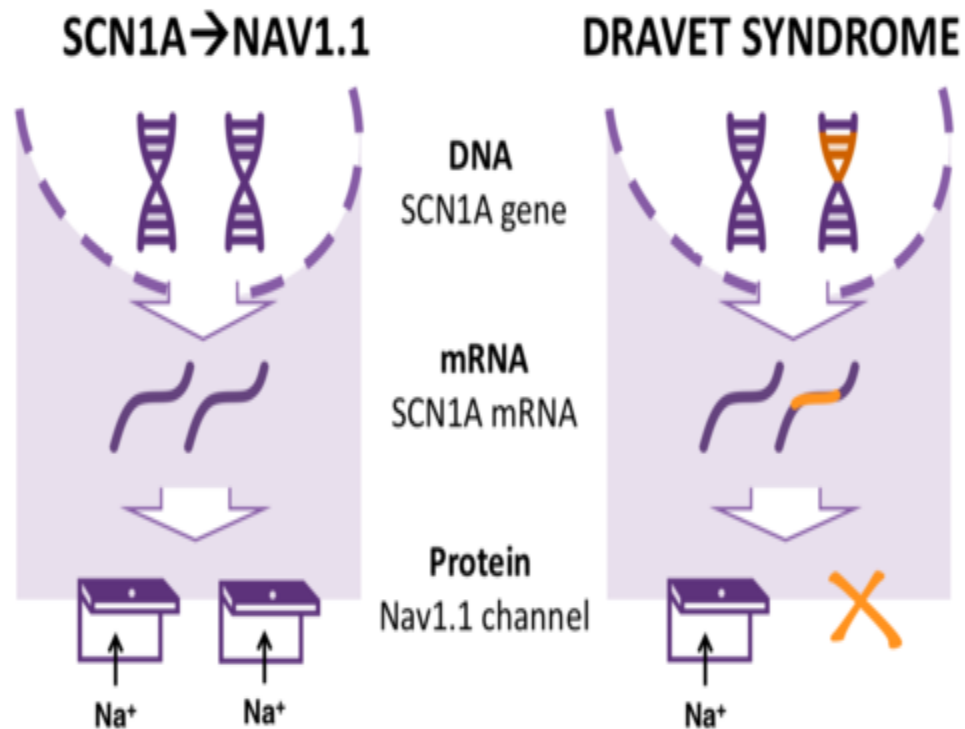
efficient lysosomes
no accumulation
of cellular waste



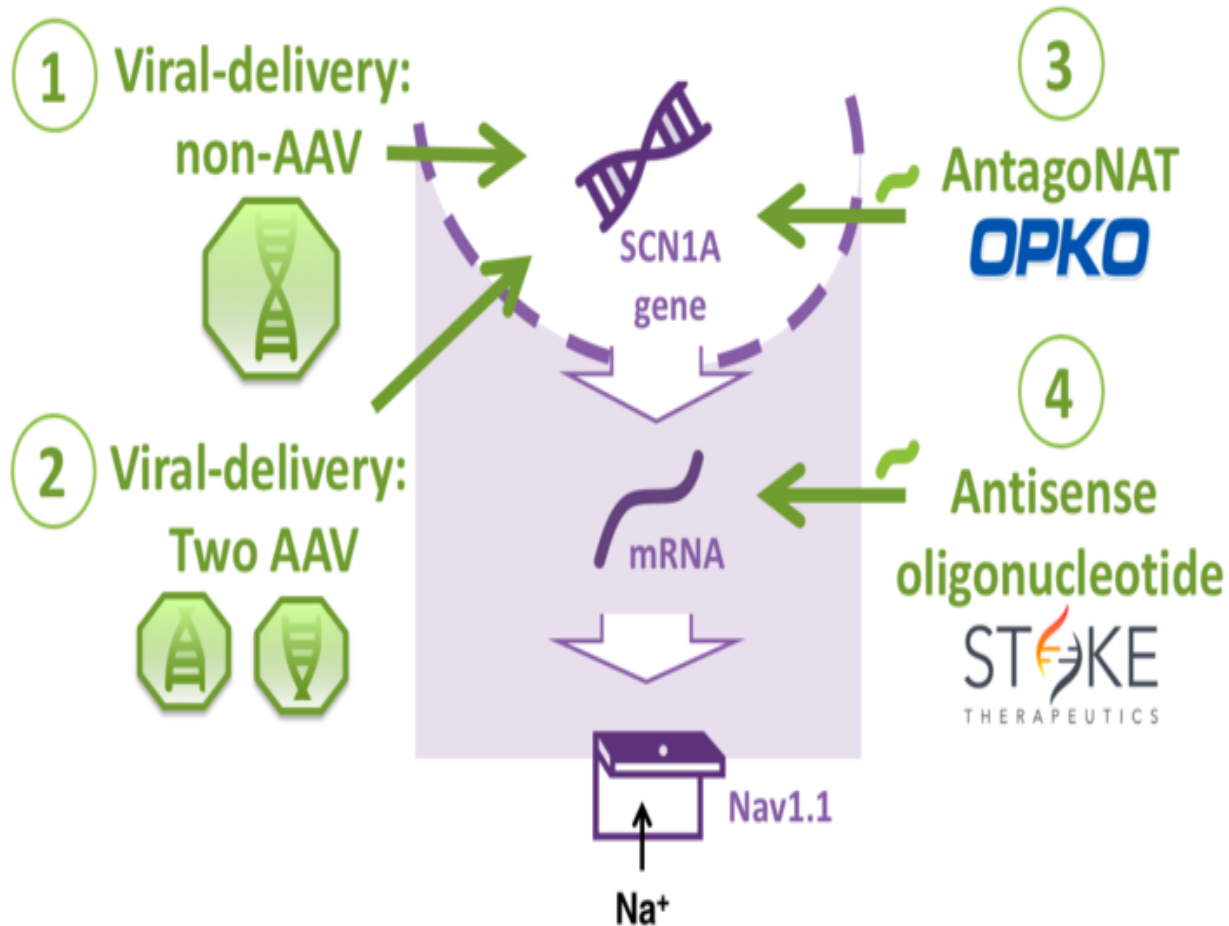
inefficient lysosomes
abnormal accumulation
of cellular waste



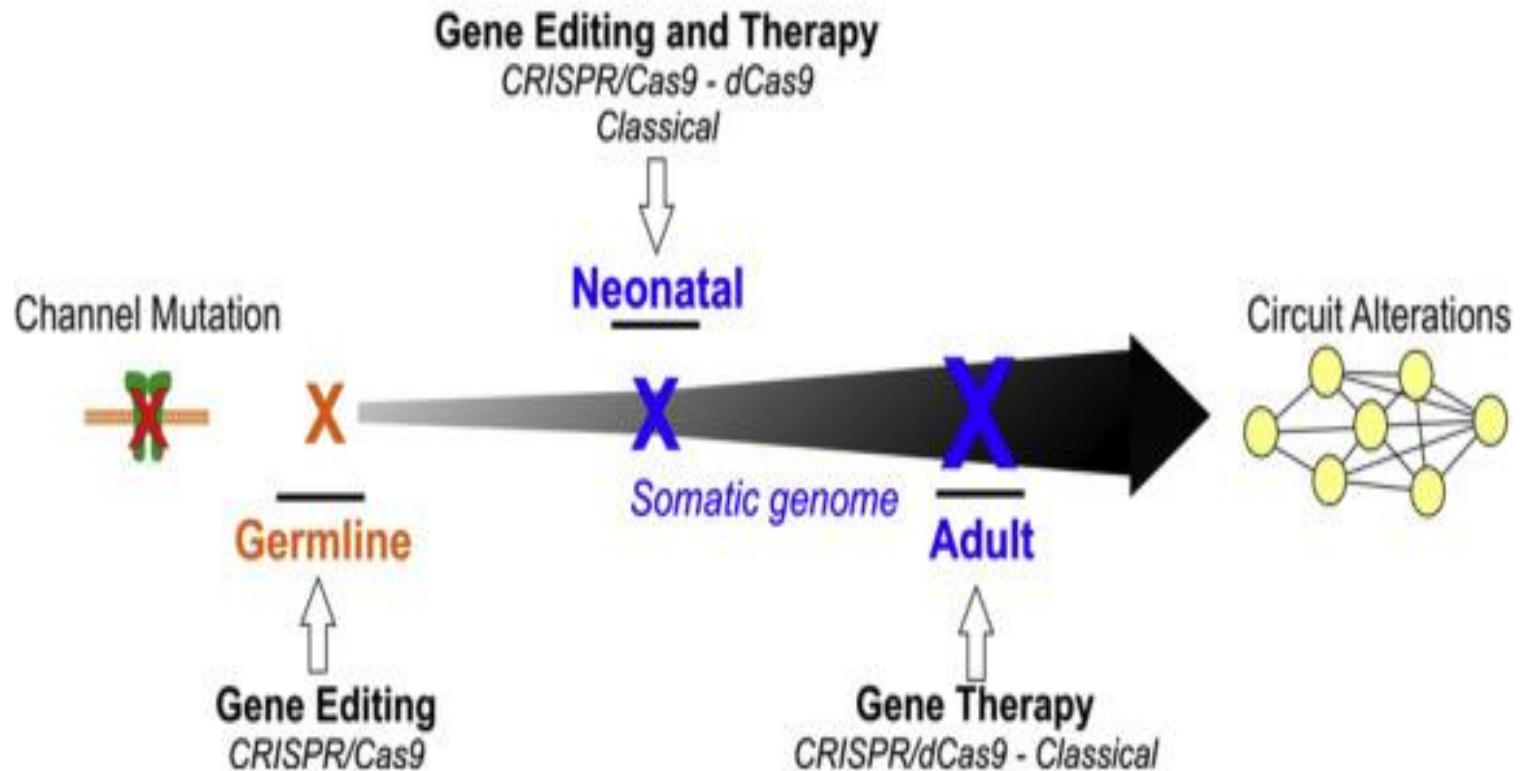
Gene therapies for Dravet syndrome



GENE THERAPY FOR DRAVET SYNDROME



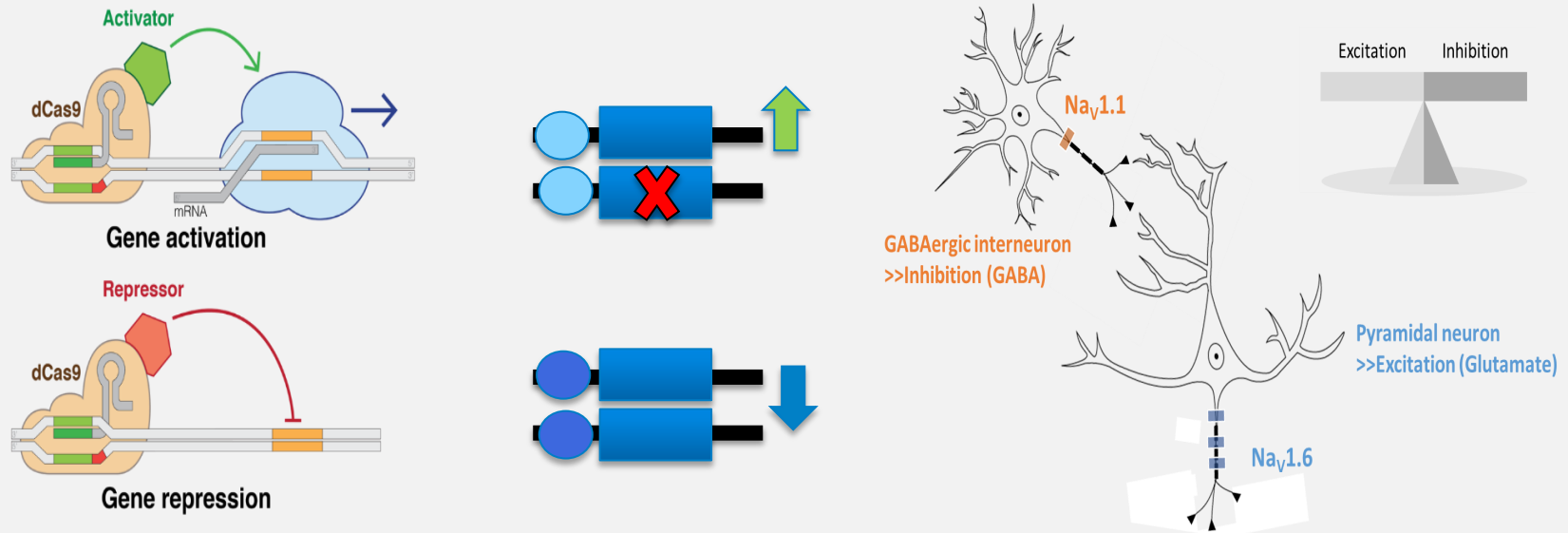
Gene Therapy and Gene Editing for Channelopathies



Wykes et al Neuropharmac 2018

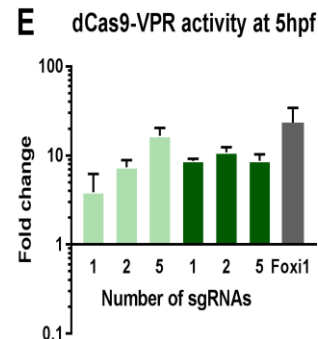
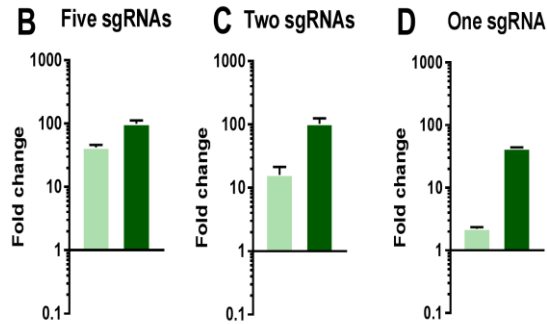
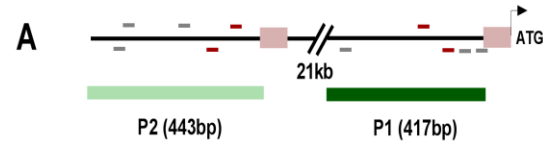
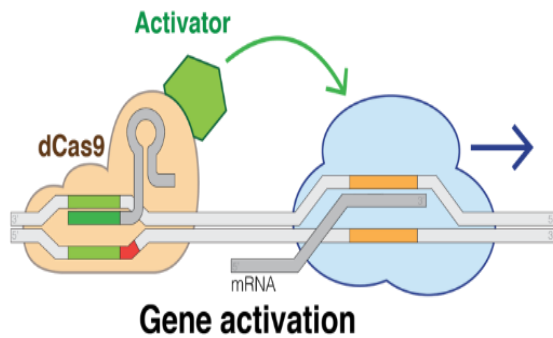
Gene modulation

increasing expression of $\text{Na}_v1.1$ $\leftrightarrow$ inhibiting expression of $\text{Na}_v1.6$

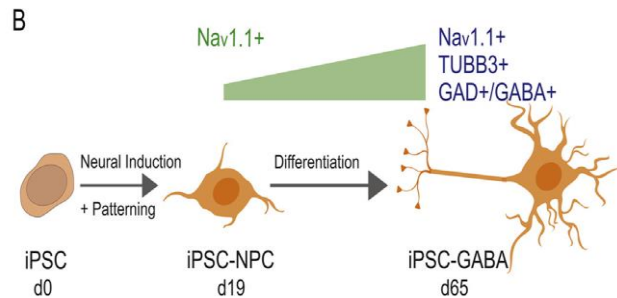


Gene modulation in zebrafish

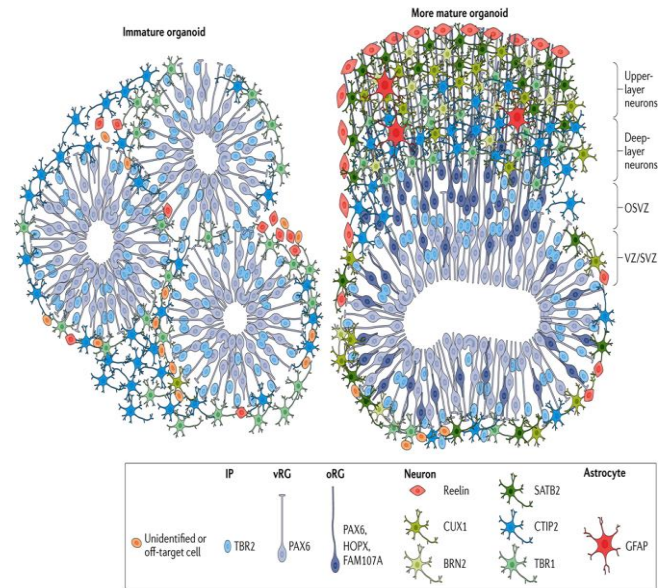
increasing expression of $\text{Na}_v1.1$



From zebrafish to human



Patient-derived iPSC



Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

Patient-derived brain organoids

Thanks to

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International

ILAE Consortium on CE
Euroepinomics CoGie
Euroepinomics CoRes



Nationaal Epilepsie Fonds



ZonMw

