

### 2016 MDF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY FOUNDATION

September 15-17 2016, Washington DC

Care and a Cure

# UPDATE ON IONIS-DMPK-2.5<sub>RX</sub>

Laurence Mignon, PhD, Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation Annual Meeting, Sept 2016

## Overview

- Background on Ionis and platform
- □ Preclinical Work
- Clinical Update

## Improving Patient Lives by Treating Diseases...through targeting RNA

- Ionis Pharmaceuticals was founded in 1989
- □ Located in California; ~450 employees
- Drug discovery, early development, manufacturing
- A different approach to treating Disease targeting the RNA









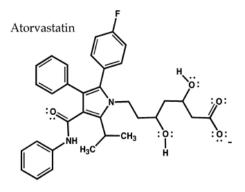






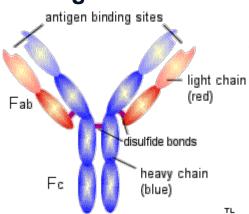
#### **Small Molecules**

#### Lipitor



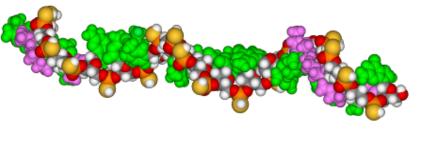
#### **Proteins**

## Antibodies, e.g. Humira



#### **Nucleic Acids**

Antisense drugs, e.g. Kynamro

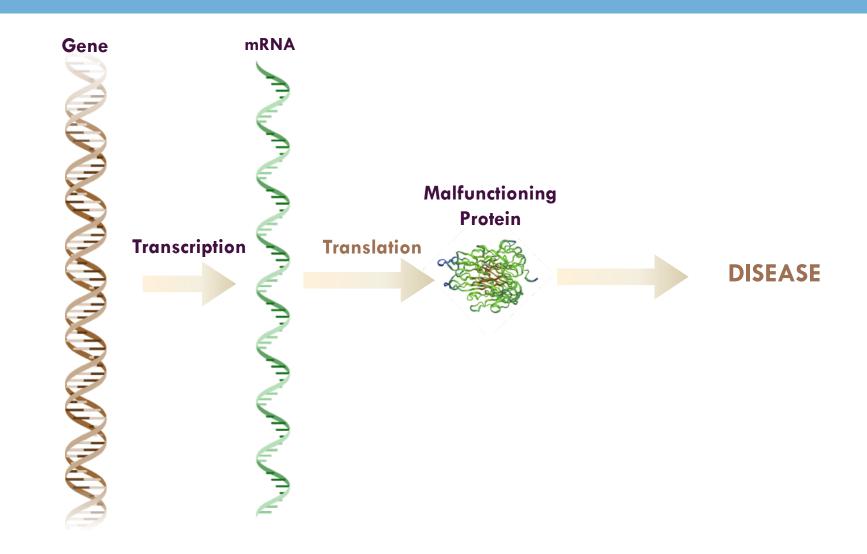


**Human Insulin** 



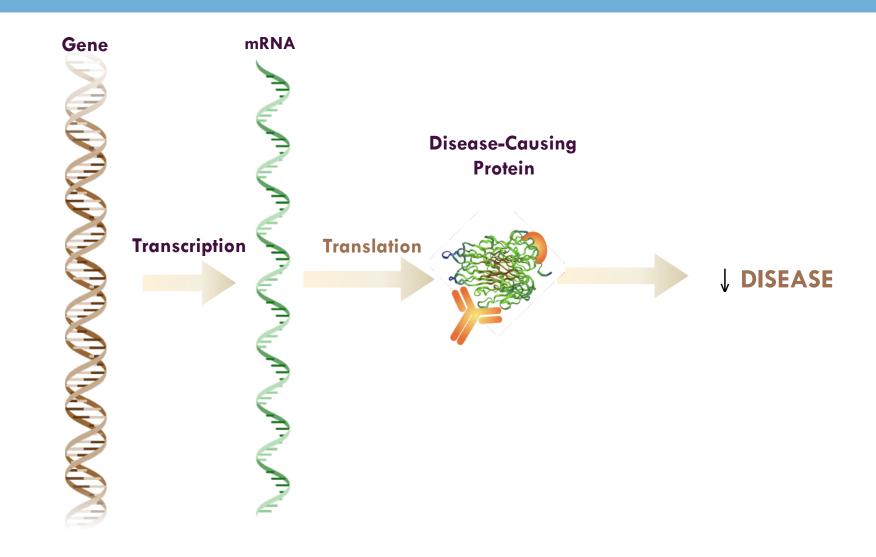
#### How Genetic Information Flows From DNA → Protein:

The "Central Dogma" of Molecular Biology



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## Antisense Drugs Target RNA, Not Proteins

Gene (DNA) mRNA **Antisense Oligonucleotide** drugs Works at the RNA level Transcription **↓ DISEASE** 

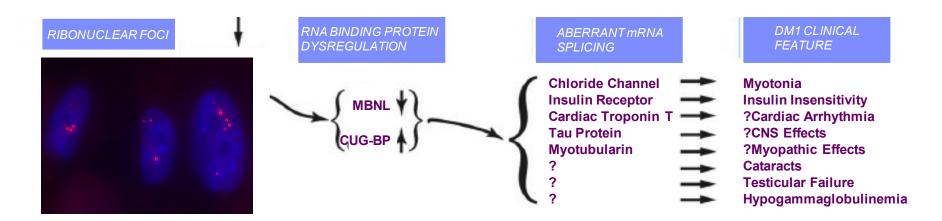
#### The Distinctive Genetic Mechanism of DM1:

A target suited for antisense oligonucleotide drugs

- The gene responsible for DM1 is DMPK (Dystrophia Myotonica-Protein Kinase) & found on chromosome 19.
- □ The disease is characterized by long stretches of repeated base pairs (CTG's) in the DNA of the DMPK gene; located at one end of the gene (3'-UTR).
  - Called a triplet repeat disease because of the repetition of these three DNA base pairs.
  - Toxic RNA clumps in the nucleus and binds to RNA splicing proteins, resulting in altered splicing events
- People with DM1 have expanded repeats which can contain anywhere from 50 to more than 4,000 repeats of the CTG.
  - Healthy people have between 5 and 37 repeats
- Expansion of the section of CTG repeats over each generation results in an earlier-appearing, more severe form of the disease.
   This is called "anticipation

### Myotonic Dystrophy at the Molecular Level

Toxic RNA, sequestration of MBNL proteins

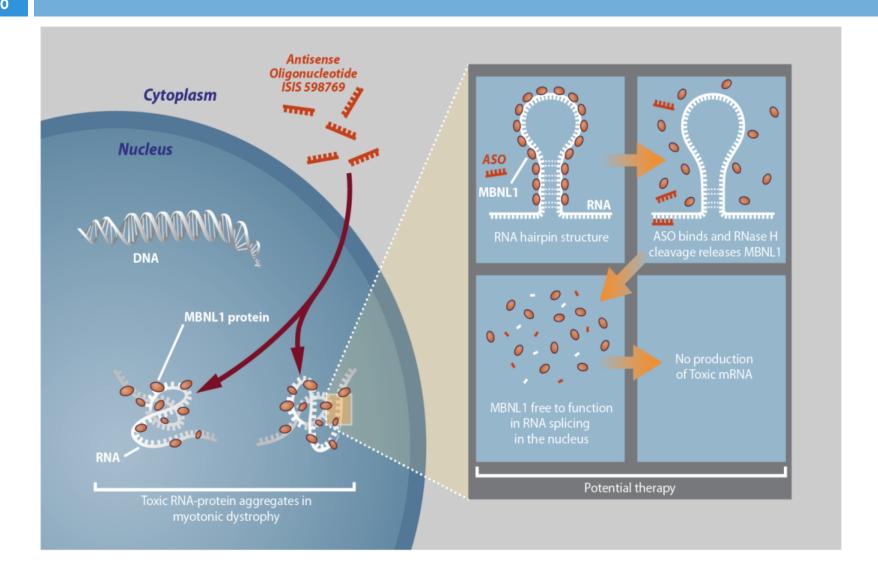


Muscleblind (MBNL), a family of RNA binding proteins, is sequestered by toxic RNA forming clumps in the nucleus

- leads to mis-regulation of splicing events in other genes
- results in disease symptoms

## Mechanism of Action of IONIS-DMPK-2.5<sub>Rx</sub>

Degradation of toxic RNA, release of MBNL proteins



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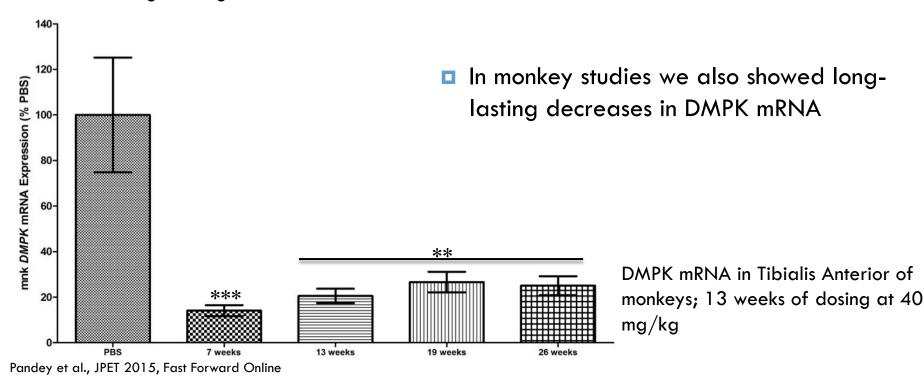
## Preclinical Work with IONIS-DMPK-2.5<sub>Rx</sub>

- □ In different mouse models of DM1, we showed
  - Good knock-down of DMPK in different tissues
  - Improvements in various splicing events
  - Improvements in myotonia
  - Long-lasting effects

## Preclinical Work with IONIS-DMPK-2.5<sub>Rx</sub>

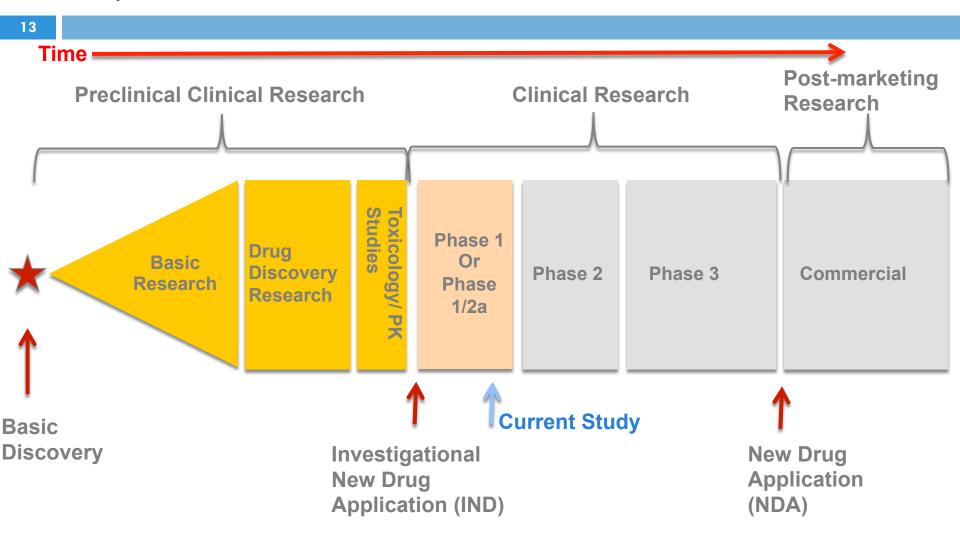
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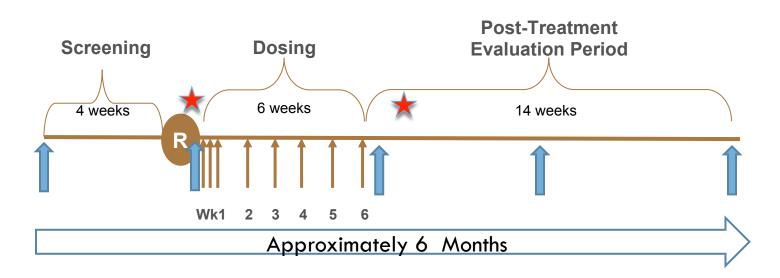
### Drug Discovery

Steps in the Process



## IONIS-DMPK- $2.5_{Rx}$ Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial Study Design

- $\Box$  Phase 1/2a Trial tests the safety of the drug in DM1 patients
  - Multiple-Ascending Dose Study
    - 8 centers in the US
      - University of Rochester, Ohio State, University of Kansas, University of Florida, Kennedy
         Krieger Institute, University of Utah, Stanford University, Houston Methodist



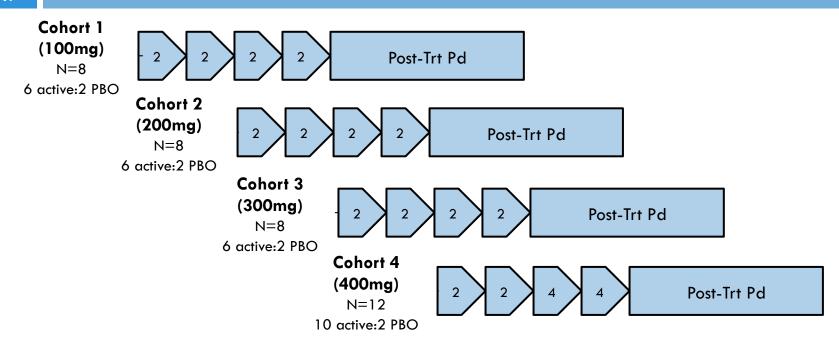
#### Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

- Main Inclusion Criteria
  - Males or females; 20-55 years old
  - BMI < 35 kg.m2</p>
  - □ Genetic confirmation of DMPK CTG repeat length ≥100
  - Onset of disease after age 12
  - Clinically apparent myotonia equivalent to hand opening time of at least 2 seconds
  - Ambulatory
- Main Exclusion Criteria
  - Implanted device for the treatment of cardiac problems (pacemaker, defibrillator)
  - Clinically abnormal ECG or echocardiogram (central cardiac reader)

Study Objectives of this Safety Trial

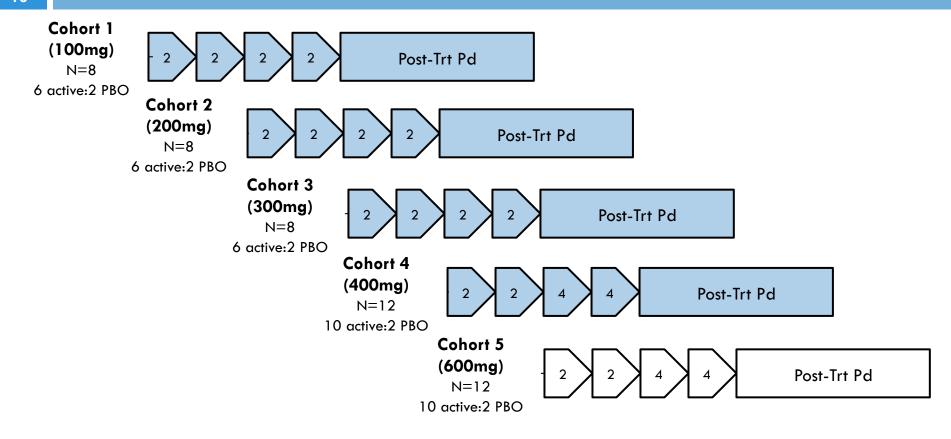
- Primary Objective
  - Safety and tolerability
- Secondary Objectives
  - Blood and urine pharmacokinetics
  - Muscle tissue effects
- Exploratory Objectives
  - Biomarkers and clinical outcomes

Multiple-Ascending Dose Studies Take Time to Complete



4 original cohorts have been enrolled and patients have completed the study

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- Based on safety data we added a higher dose cohort at 600 mg
- Currently analyzing the data to determine steps forward data anticipated end of the year

#### **Subject Demographics**

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	Placebo	100 mg	200 mg	300 mg	400 mg	600 mg
N	10	6	6	6	10	10
Age, Median (min, max)	38 (20, 48)	36 (26, 42)	33 (23, 47)	42 (33, 50)	39 (30, 46)	41 (25, 53)
Gender, Female, n (%)	5 (50%)	5 (83%)	3 (50%)	4 (67%)	8 (80%)	4 (40%)
Race, White, n (%)	8 (80%)	6 (100%)	6 (100%)	6 (100%)	10 (100%)	9 (90%)
Age at Symptom onset Median (min, Max)	23 (12, 31)	22 (13, 33)	16 (13, 35)	23 (13, 45)	17 (12, 29)	30 (19, 44)
Age at Diagnosis onset Median (min, Max)	31 (16, 40)	27 (24, 35)	28 (10, 43)	26 (23, 49)	28 (16, 37)	31 (19, 45)
CTG Repeats Median (min, Max)	432 (107, 1006)	271 (136, 546)	432 (256, 670)	616 (210, 1000)	645 (156, 1026)	368 (1 <i>5</i> 3, 763)

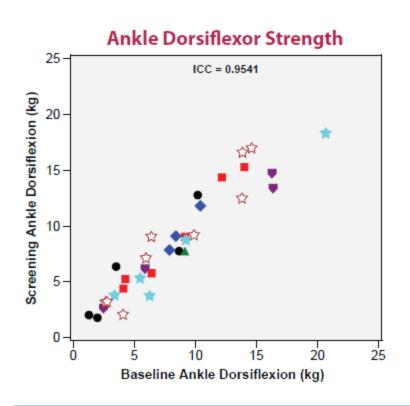
## IONIS-DMPK- $2.5_{Rx}$ Phase 1/2a Clinical Trial Study Visits

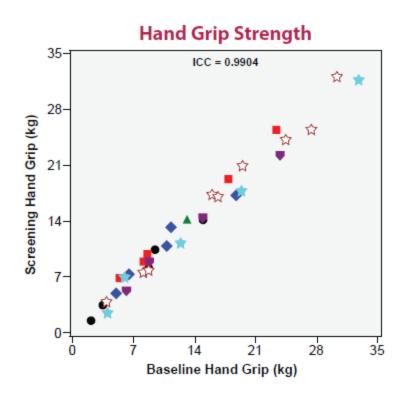
- Study visits are busy for everyone
  - Muscle testing (Manual Muscle Test, Quantitative Muscle Testing)
  - Myotonia testing (electromyography, video hand opening test, isometric handgrip myotonia)
  - Functional tests (6 minute walk test, 30 foot walk/run, climb/ descend 4 steps)
  - Patient-reported outcomes (Myotonic Dystrophy Health Index, SF-36, CGI-I)

Goal is to standardize the tests across multiple sites, familiarize the patients with the procedures, and determine how reproducible the results are.

#### Standardization of Functional Outcomes

#### Quantitative Muscle Testing

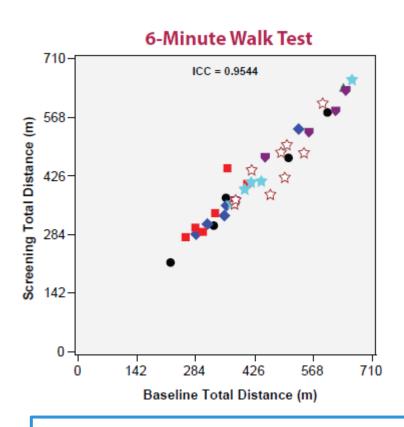


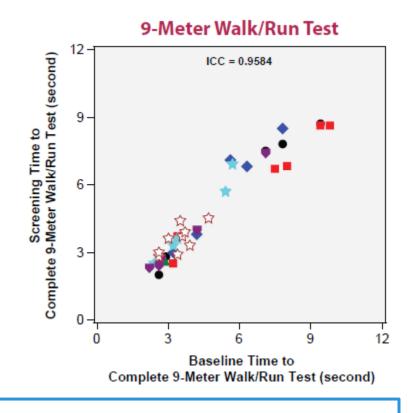


There was good reliability among the sites, and among the raters—there was no evidence for higher variance at different sites.

Standardization of Functional Outcomes

#### **Functional Tests**





There was good reliability among the sites, and among the raters—there was no evidence for higher variance at different sites.

## Summary

- Safety and exploratory data are currently being analyzed data anticipated end of the year
- Due to the heterogeneity of DM1, individual-based analysis will be needed to better understand the relationship between the effects of the drug, splicing changes, and functional outcomes changes
- This analysis will provide important data for designing future studies in DM1

#### Clinical Sites and Partners

#### **University of Rochester**

Liz Leubbe Jeanne Deckdebrun Kathryn Eastwood Lindsay Baker

#### University of Utah

Russell Butterfield Winter Redd Melissa Dixon Susan Bonner Caren Trujillo Evan Pusillo Deanna DiBella

#### **Kansas University**

Jeffrey Statland
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Mazen Dimachkie
Maureen Walsh
Yunxia Wang
April McVey
Kelly Emmons
Gabrielle Rico
Nicole Jenci
Laura Herbelin

#### **Ohio State University**

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#### Stanford

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#### Kennedy Krieger

Kathryn Wagner
William Reid Thompson III
Carla Grosmann
Genila Bibat
Carly Stock

#### University of Florida

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#### Houston Methodist Tetsuo Ashizawa

Erika Simpson Luis Lay Della Brown Wendy Schell Kayla Butler





## IONIS-DMPK-2.5<sub>Rx</sub> & Myotonic Dystrophy

Working with the Community

Working to develop a treatment for myotonic dystrophy



Committed to helping create a healthier future