

# Annexon's C1q Series: Neurodegeneration Franchise

September 27, 2021



# Welcome



## 2<sup>nd</sup> C1q Series: Neurodegeneration

#### Doug Love, Esq.

President & Chief Executive Officer

**Annexon Biosciences** 

#### **Forward-looking Statements**

#### ANNEXON biosciences

This presentation and accompanying oral presentation contain "forward-looking" statements about Annexon, Inc. and our industry that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements other than statements of historical facts, including statements regarding our clinical and preclinical programs, timing and commencement of future nonclinical studies and clinical trials and research and development programs, timing of clinical results, strategic plans for our business and product candidates, including additional indications which we may pursue, our financial position, cash runway, size of addressable markets and anticipated milestones, are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "aim," "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "contemplate," "continue," "could," "design," "due," "estimate," "expect," "focus," "goal," "intend," "may," "objective," "plan," "positioned," "predict," "seek," "should," "target," "will," "would" and other similar expressions that are predictions of or indicate future events and future trends, or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology.

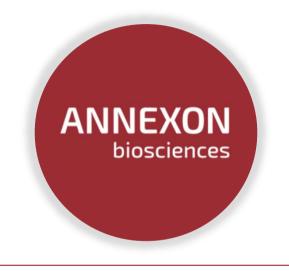
Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and events to differ materially from those anticipated, including, but not limited to, risks and uncertainties related to: our history of net operating losses; our ability to obtain necessary capital to fund our clinical programs; the early stages of clinical development of our product candidates; the effects of COVID-19 or other public health crises on our clinical programs and business operations; our ability to obtain regulatory approval of and successfully commercialize our product candidates; any undesirable side effects or other properties of our product candidates; our reliance on third-party suppliers and manufacturers; the outcomes of any future collaboration agreements; and our ability to adequately maintain intellectual property rights for our product candidates. These and other risks are described in greater detail under the section titled "Risk Factors" contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and our other filings with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC). All forward-looking statements in this presentation speak only as of the date of this presentation. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

This presentation concerns drugs that are under clinical investigation and which have not yet been approved for marketing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). These are currently limited by federal law to investigational use, and no representation is made as to their safety or effectiveness for the purposes for which they are being investigated.

## Agenda

TIME (A.M.)	ΤΟΡΙϹ	PRESENTER
10:00-10:10	Welcome—2 <sup>nd</sup> C1q Series on Neurodegeneration	<b>Doug Love</b> , Esq. President & Chief Executive Officer, Annexon Biosciences
10:10-10:30	C1q and Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)	<b>Ted Yednock,</b> PhD Chief Scientific Officer, Annexon Biosciences
10:30-10:40	Neurofilament Light (NfL), an Established Measurement of Neurodegeneration	<b>Prof Henrik Zetterberg</b> , MD, PhD Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry, University of Gothenburg, Sweden; Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK
10:40-10:55	CMND and Huntington's Disease (HD): Anti-C1q as Neuroprotective Approach in HD	<b>Prof Beth Stevens,</b> PhD Assistant Professor of Neurology, Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
10:55-11:05	Huntington's Disease (HD): Clinical Perspective on HD, Including use of NfL	<b>Prof Ed Wild</b> FRCP, PhD Consultant Neurologist, NHNN Queen Square Associate Director, UCL Huntington's Disease Centre
11:05-11:15	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS): Clinical Perspective on ALS, Including use of NfL	Angela Genge, MD, FRCP (C) Director, Clinical Research Institute Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital
11:15-11:30	Overview of Annexon's CMND Clinical Programs	Sanjay Keswani, MBBS, FRCP Chief Medical Officer, Annexon Biosciences
11:30-12 noon	Closing Remarks and Q&A	<b>Doug Love</b> , Esq. President & Chief Executive Officer, Annexon Biosciences

## **Unlocking a New Generation of Complement Medicines**



**2** Disease processes

**3** Therapeutic franchises:

Autoimmune, Neurodegeneration, Ophthalmology

**3** Clinical-stage candidates

**1** mission:

**Bring game-changing therapies** to patients suffering from serious complement-mediated diseases **5** Phase 2+ clinical trials underway

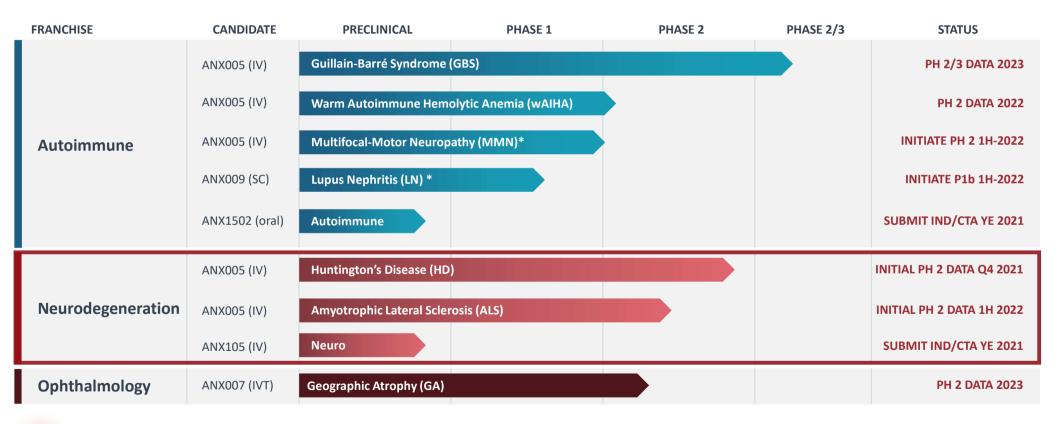
**7** Clinical data readouts by 2023

\$302M in cash and cash equivalents (runway through 2023)



## **Diverse Wholly-Owned Classical Complement Pipeline**

Neurodegeneration TA poised to answer early questions and drive immense value

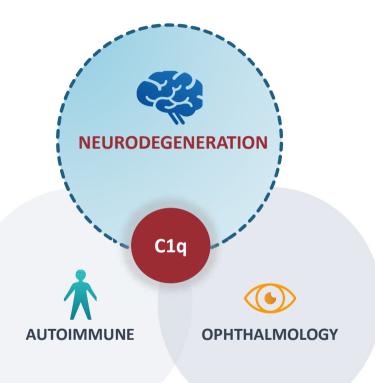


IV, intravenous; IVT, intravitreal; SC, subcutaneous.

\* Newly announced indications



## **Groundbreaking Approach Targeting Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)**



#### **Unique Potential of Anti-C1q Platform**

- **Pioneering approach to treat CMND:** Preserve functioning synapses, neuronal health & function
- **Broad therapeutic potential:** CMND major driver of neurodegeneration in a host of brain & eye diseases
- Established biomarker in early trials (NfL): Correlates with patient disability; reduction shown to correlate with clinical benefit in multiple diseases
- Early platform promise: NfL reduction shown in three therapeutic areas (GBS Ph1 POC, HD & ALS preclinical)





#### C1q and Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration

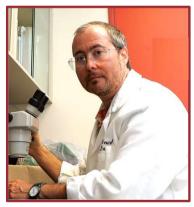


# Ted Yednock, PhD Chief Scientific Officer

**Annexon Biosciences** 

#### **Executive Summary: Complement Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)**

- C1q-mediated synapse loss is a common pathway of neurodegeneration and disability
- Occurs in multiple diseases independent of inciting etiology (e.g., Aβ, tau, intraocular pressure)
- Synapse loss precedes loss of neurons and correlates with functional decline
- Protecting synapses with anti-C1q protects synapses, cognitive behavioral and motor function
- Important to inhibit classical pathway at the start to block all synapse damaging components

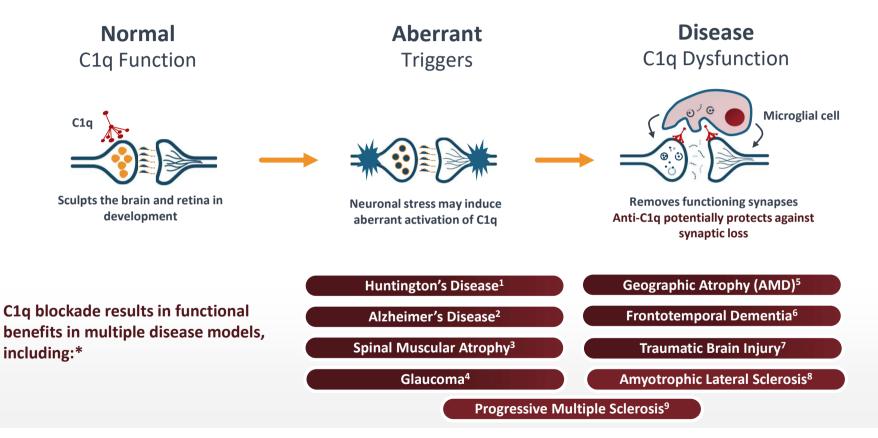


*CMND discovered by Annexon co-founder, the late Dr. Ben Barres and Dr. Beth Stevens* 



Ben Barres

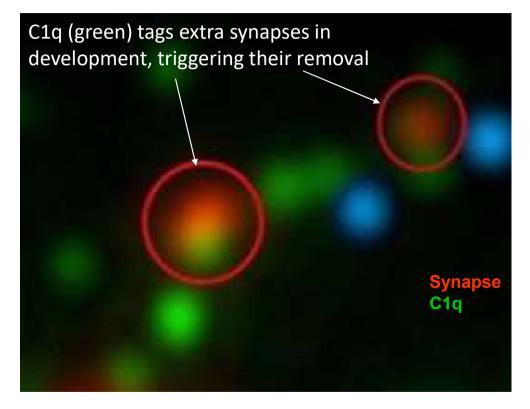
#### **CMND Involves Aberrant Activation of the Classical Pathway to Cause the Loss of Functioning Synapses and Neuronal Decline**



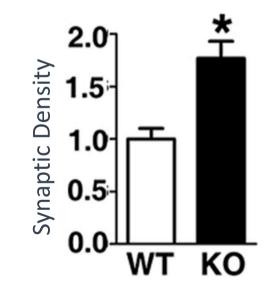
<sup>\*1</sup>Wilton and Stevens, Harvard, unpublished. <sup>2</sup>Fonseca, 2004, J Neurosci; Hong, 2016, Science; Dejanovic, 2018, Neuron; <sup>3</sup>Vukojicic, 2019, Cell Reports; <sup>4</sup>Howell, 2011, J Clin Inves; Williams, 2016, Mol Neurodegen; <sup>5</sup>Jiao, 2018, Mol Neurodeg; <sup>6</sup>Lui, 2016, Cell; <sup>7</sup>Krukowski, 2018, Int.J Mol Sci; Holden, 2021, Science; Annexon NfL reduction in SOD1 model, unpublished; <sup>9</sup>Absinta, Nature, 2021



## C1q Normal Function For Synapse Elimination During Early Development



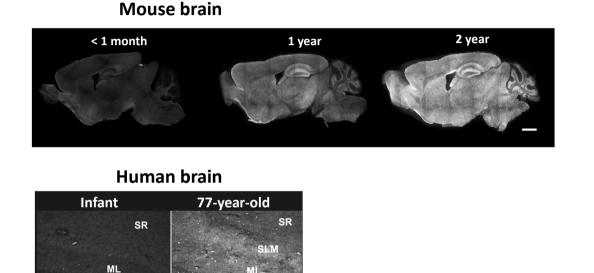
Mice with genetic deletion of C1q retain more functional synapses throughout development



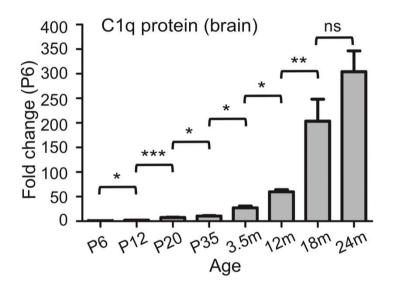
Nearly 2X more synapses survive in the C1q KO mouse



## C1q Accumulates on Synapses During Normal Aging, But Remains Silent



#### Accumulation of C1q in CNS of mice with age



- Aging is the biggest risk factor for neurodegenerative disease
- C1q accumulation / CMND important components of this risk



# The Role of C1q as a Major Driver of Synaptic Loss and Neurodegeneration is Well-Researched

Traumatic Brain Injury in A

Chronic Microglia Activati

Zika virus replicate

Cell Report

Neuron Changes in t Rescue of T

Original discoveries of Annexon co-founder, the late Dr. Ben Barres and Dr. Beth Stevens, on the role of C1q in neurodegenerative diseases

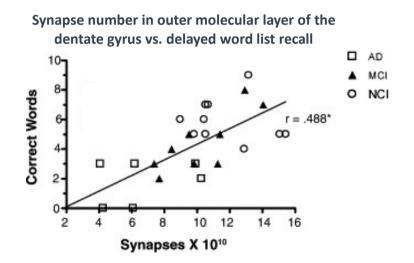
- Spawned entire field that has been validated in laboratories across the world
- Synapse loss is a major driver of neurological disability and blindness
- Precedes loss of neurons
- Correlates with functional loss/cognitive decline

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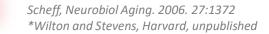
#### Why Synapse Loss Matters in Neurodegeneration:

- Precedes loss of neurons
- Correlates with disease progression, decline in cognitive and motor function\*

**Early Synapse Loss in Alzheimer's Disease** 



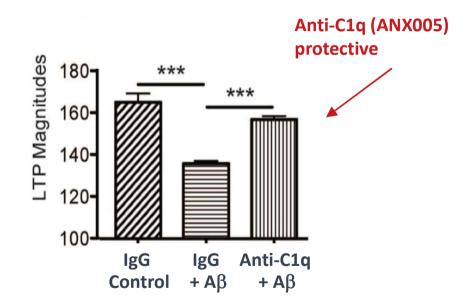
Similar result obtained in patients with Huntington's disease\*





#### **C1q Inhibition Prevents Synapse Loss and Preserves Function**

Anti-C1q prevents  $A\beta$ -induced loss of neuronal function in an acute *ex vivo* model of Alzheimer's disease (AD)

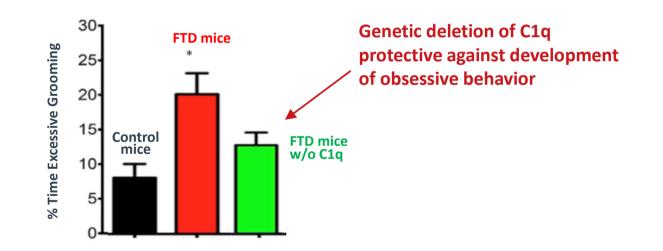


Ex vivo brain slides: % baseline long term potentiation (electrophysiology)



#### ... C1q Genetic Deletion Protects Behavioral Function

Mouse Model of Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) (progranulin deletion)

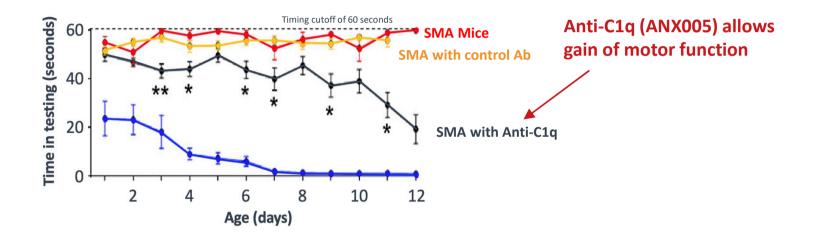


Mouse model of FTD with genetic deletion of progranulin



#### ... and C1q Inhibition Protects Motor Function

Allows Gain of Motor Function in Mouse Model of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)



Transgenic SMN-Δ7 mouse model of SMA

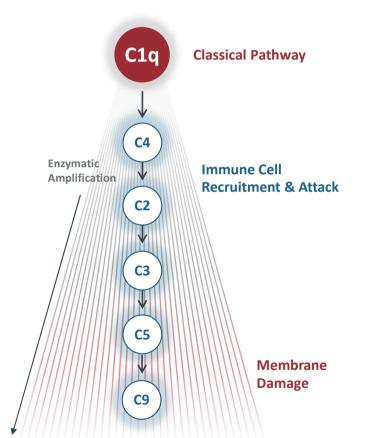


#### ANNEXON biosciences

### Blocking C1q / Classical Complement in CMND

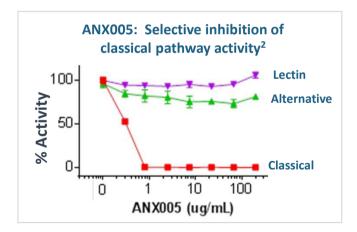
## **C1q Inhibition Stops Classical Complement Activity at the Start**

Prevents downstream activation of all tissue-damaging components



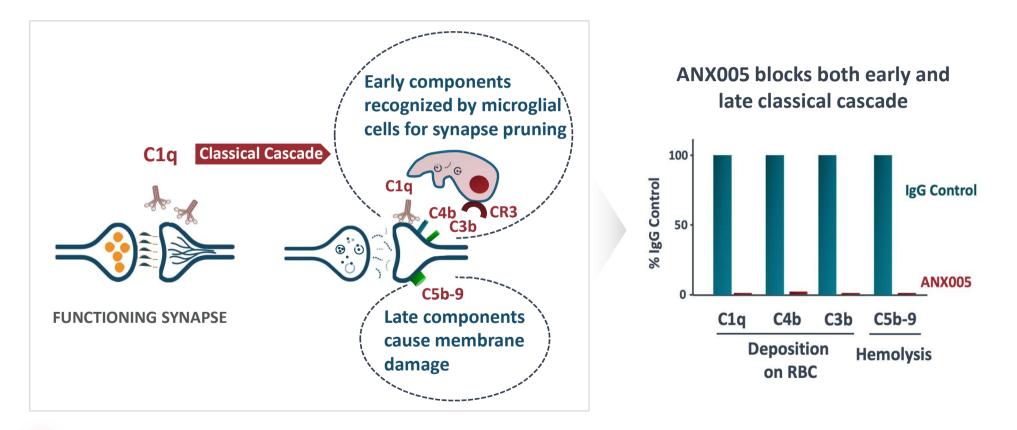
#### **ANNEXON**

- Targeting Enhanced Efficacy: Shuts down all tissue-damaging components of classical pathway (C1q, C4, C3, C5, C9)<sup>1</sup>
- Targeting Enhanced Safety: Allows normal immune functions of lectin and alternative complement pathways<sup>1</sup>





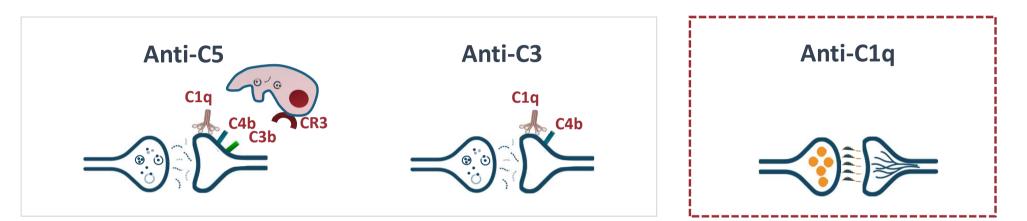
#### Important to Inhibit Early Components of the Classical Complement Cascade to Block All Aspects of CMND





## **Anti-C1q Differentiated from Other Approaches**

Only Way to Block All Early Classical Complement Components involved in CMND



- C1q, C4b and C3b are the major opsonins of the classical pathway for microglial cell attack
- With high or chronic activation, C1q and C4b can drive C3/C5 bypass activity\*
- Important to obtain CNS target engagement to protect against central neurodegeneration

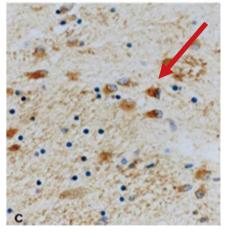


#### ANNEXON biosciences

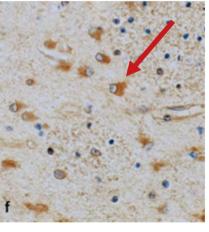
#### C1q Inhibition in Lead Indications: HD and ALS

### **Evidence of Classical Complement Activation in Disease-Specific Regions of the CNS in Huntington's Disease**

#### **Classical Complement Pathway** Activation in the Striatum of HD Brain

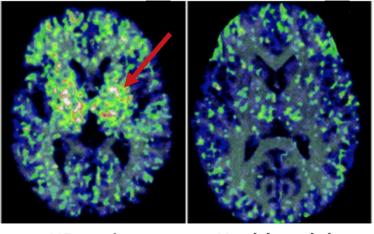


C1q



C3b

Microglial Cell Activation in the Striatum of HD Brain – Cellular source of C1q

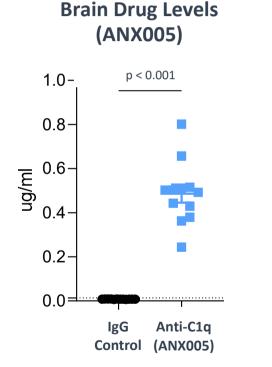


**HD** patient

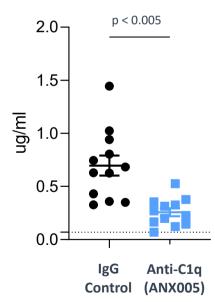
**Healthy adult** 



#### Systemic Treatment with Anti-C1q Blocks C1q in the CNS in HD Mouse Model (R6/2)

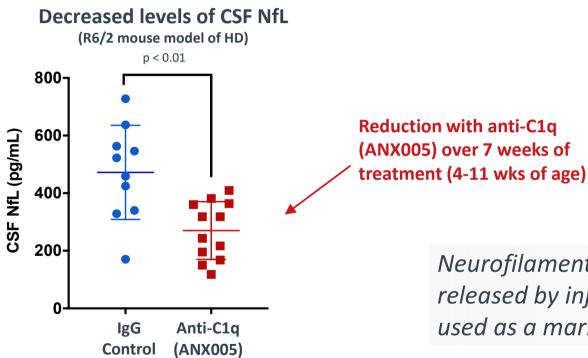








#### C1q Inhibition Protected Against Neurodegeneration in HD Mouse Model as Measured by NfL

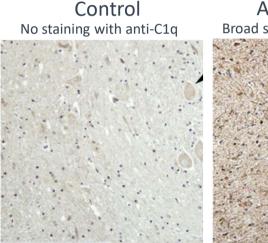


Neurofilament Light Chain (NfL) is released by injured neurons and is used as a marker of neuronal damage



#### **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS): CNS and PNS Disorder with Evidence of Classical Complement Activation**

#### Enhanced C1q expressed / deposited within the CNS (spinal cord)



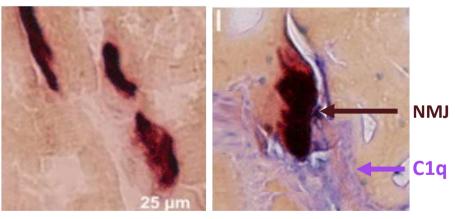
ALS Patient Broad staining with anti-C1q



#### C1q deposition on the neuromuscular junction (NMJ) prior to denervation in the PNS

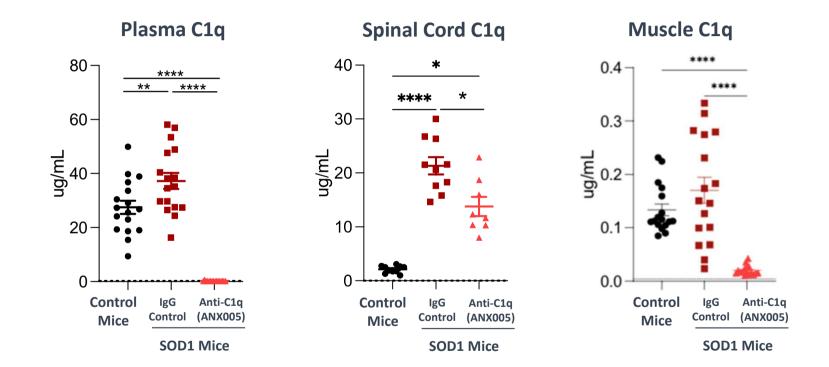
#### Control

**ALS Patient** 





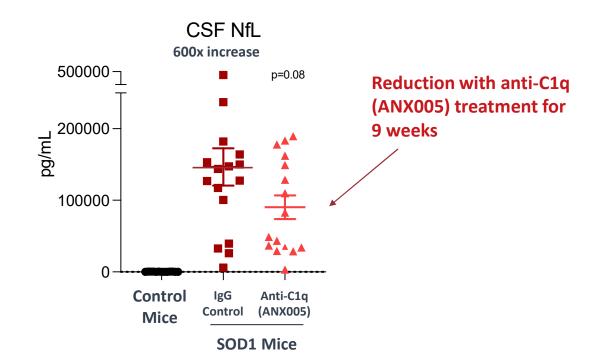
#### Systemic Administration of Anti-C1q (ANX005) Blocks Peripheral and Central C1q in ALS Mouse Model (SOD1)





#### Anti-C1q (mANX005) Protected Against Neurodegeneration as Measured by NfL in ALS Mouse Model (SOD1)

- NfL increases in CSF by 600x with disease
- Anti-C1q reduces NfL in CSF similar reduction in plasma

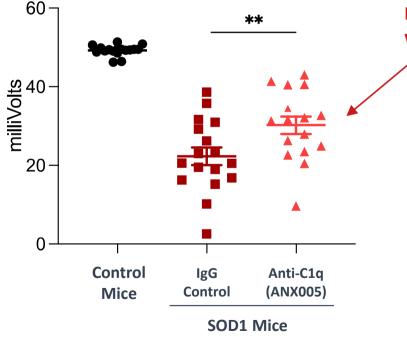




# Anti-C1q Protects Neuronal Function / Muscle Force at the Neuromuscular Junction

#### **Compound Muscle Action Potential**

(Base to Peak Amplitude)



# Increase in muscle force with anti-C1q (ANX005)

Preclinical CMAP and neurofilament heavy chain translated to efficacy with Tofersen in ALS patients



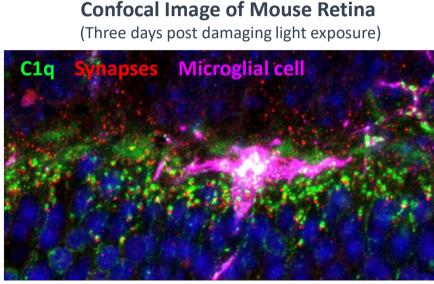
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### **Executive Summary: Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)**

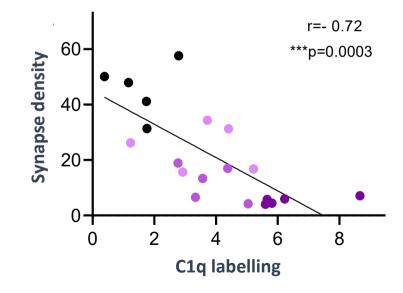
- C1q-mediated synapse loss is a common pathway of neurodegeneration and disability
- Occurs in multiple diseases **independent of inciting etiology** (e.g., Aβ, tau, intraocular pressure)
- Synapse loss precedes loss of neurons and correlates with functional decline
- Protecting synapses with anti-C1q protects synapses, cognitive behavioral and motor function
- Important to inhibit classical pathway at the start to block all synapse damaging components

## Next Time: CMND in Ophthalmic Diseases / Geographic Atrophy

- C1q rapidly tags synapses on photoreceptor neurons with recruitment of microglial cells post light damage
- C1q tagging correlates with synapse decline and precedes loss of photoreceptor neurons



**Photoreceptor neurons** 



#### C1q Labelling vs. Synapse Density



# **Neurofilament Light (NfL)** An Established Measurement of Neurodegeneration



#### Henrik Zetterberg, MD, PhD

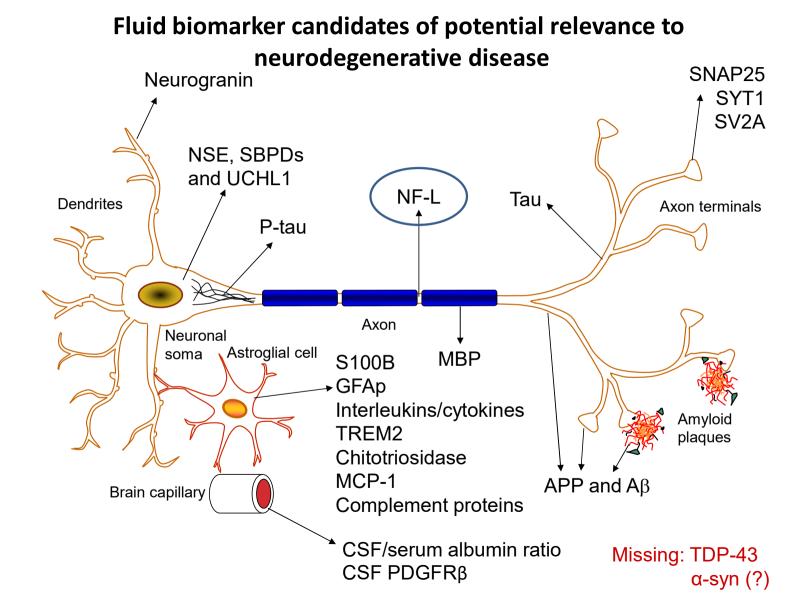
Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry University of Gothenberg, Sweden Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK UK Dementia Research Institute





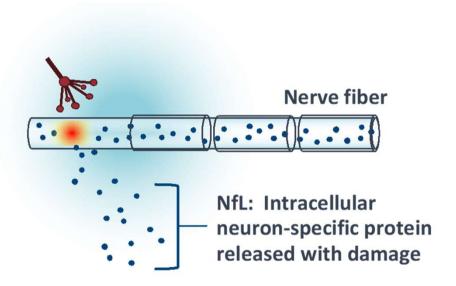
#### Perspective on neurofilament light

Henrik Zetterberg, MD, PhD Department of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry, University of Gothenburg, Sweden; Institute of Neurology, UCL, UK

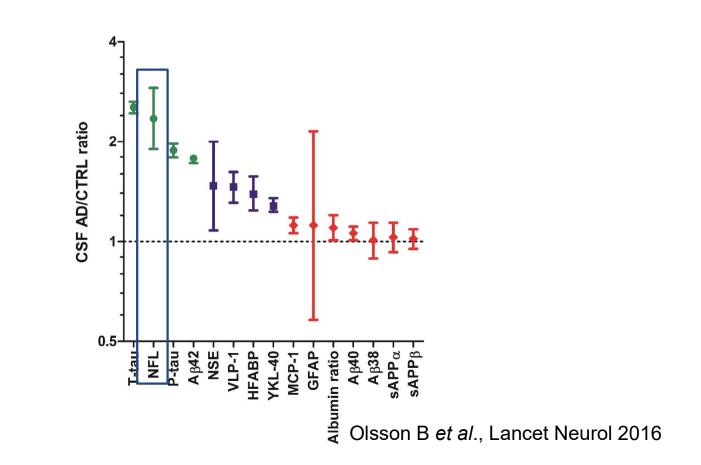


#### Neurofilament Light Chain (NfL) as a Biomarker for Clinical Development

- Sensitive measure of neuronal damage / degeneration
- Correlates w/ patient disability and predicts outcomes in several diseases (e.g., SMA<sup>1</sup>, MS<sup>2</sup>, GBS<sup>3</sup>, HD<sup>4</sup>, ALS<sup>5</sup>)
- Reduced by effective therapies for MS and SMA within 3 months of treatment

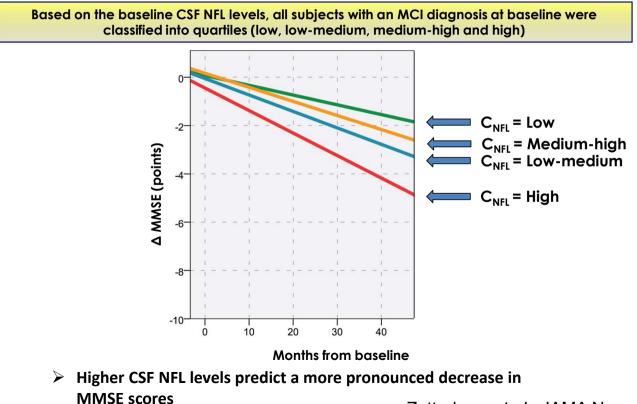


CSF neurofilament light – an N marker in the A/T/N criteria for Alzheimer's disease?



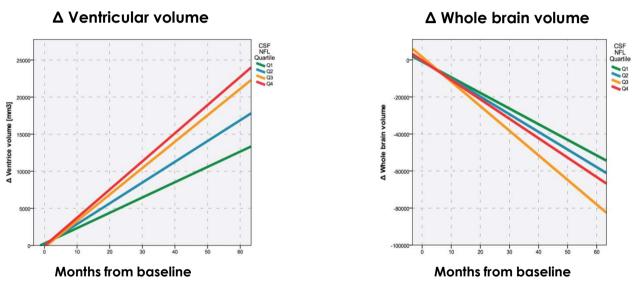
## CSF NFL as a predictor of disease progression in MCI

Association with longitudinal change in MMSE



Zetterberg et al., JAMA Neurol 2016

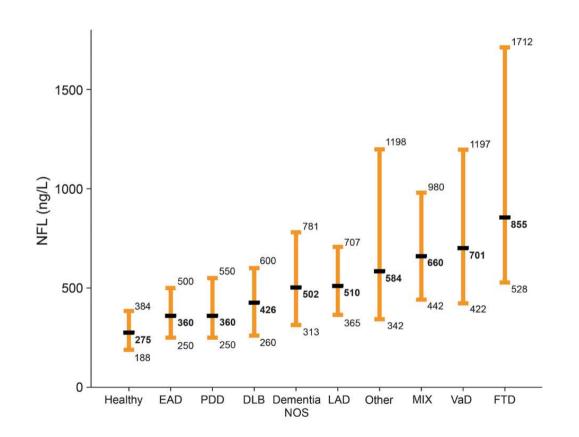
## **CSF NFL in relation to brain structure**



Higher CSF NFL levels are associated with faster brain atrophy over time as measured by total brain volume and ventricular volume

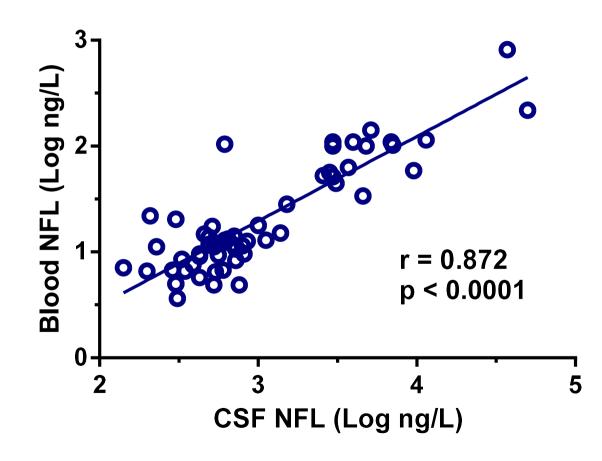
Zetterberg et al., JAMA Neurol 2016

# Neurofilament light – positive across neurodegenerative diseases

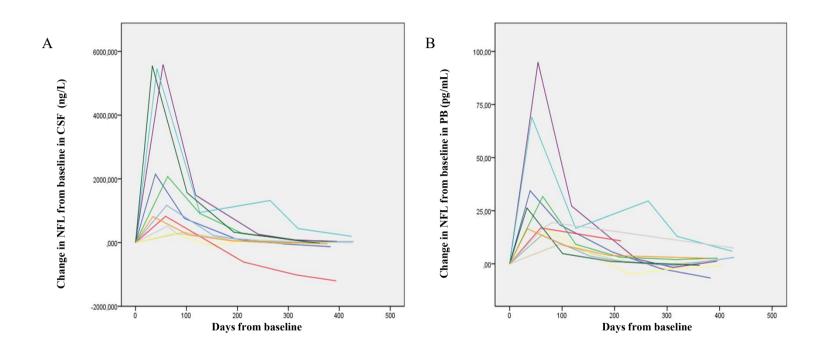


Skillbäck et al., Neurology 2014

Plasma NfL correlates with CSF NfL...

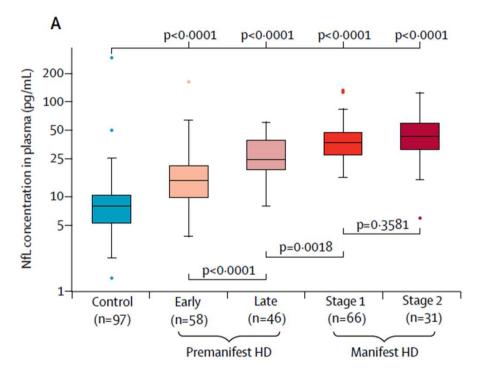


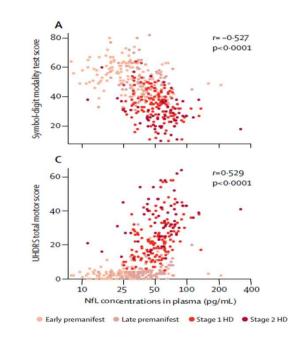
Gisslén et al., 2015



Bergman et al., Neurol Neuroimmunol Neuroinflamm. 2016

# NfL Concentrations Increase with HD Progression and with Cognitive and Motor Impairment





- Fig A : Higher plasma NfL levels correlates with lower symbol digit modalities score (worsening)
- Fig C : higher plasma NfL levels correlates with higher
  UHDRS total motor score (worsening)

Byrne et al. Lancet Neurology 2017:

# NfL is a Prognostic Indicator in ALS

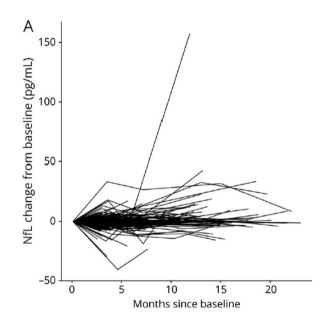
	Impact on ALSFRS-R slope <sup>a</sup>		Impact on survival <sup>b</sup>		
Covariates	Estimate (95% CI)	p Value	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	<i>p</i> Value	
Baseline age, y	0.001 (-0.008 to 0.010)	0.89	1.02 (1.00–1.05)	0.049	
Male	-0.09 (-0.33 to 0.15)	0.47	1.37 (0.84–2.23)	0.21	
C9ORF72 HREM	-0.16 (-0.57 to 0.25)	0.45	1.70 (0.91-3.18)	0.10	
Site of onset: bulbar	-0.04 (-0.45 to 0.37)	0.84	1.10 (0.53–2.29)	0.80	
Site of onset: limb	-0.01 (-0.46 to 0.45)	0.97	1.04 (0.48–2.27)	0.91	
Baseline ALSFRS-R	NA	NA	0.96 (0.93-0.99)	0.02	
Baseline ∆FRS, points/month	-0.43 (-0.73 to -0.13)	0.006	1.67 (1.09–2.57)	0.02	
Baseline log(NfL), log(pg/mL)	-0.42 (-0.62 to -0.21)	<0.001	2.12 (1.39-3.23)	<0.001	
Baseline log(pNfH), log(pg/mL)	0.07 (-0.03 to 0.17)	0.17	1.01 (0.84–1.22)	0.88	

Abbreviations: HREM = hexanucleotide repeat expansion mutation; NA = not applicable; NfL = neurofilament light; pNfH = phosphorylated neurofilament heavy.

<sup>a</sup> Based on multivariate regression analysis, with the ALSFRS-R slope (i.e., ALSFRS-R rate of decline) as outcome.

<sup>b</sup> Based on Cox proportional hazards model, with tracheostomy- and permanent assisted ventilation-free survival as outcome.

Effect of clinical and NfL characteristics on functional decline and survival N=229 ALS patients

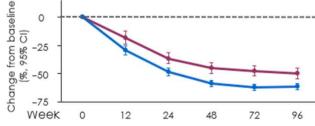


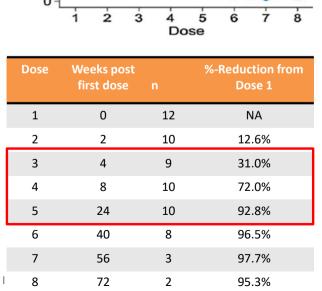
Change in NfL compared to baseline

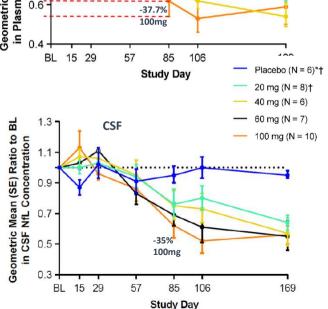
## **Blood & Cerebrospinal Fluid NfL Reduction with Treatment**

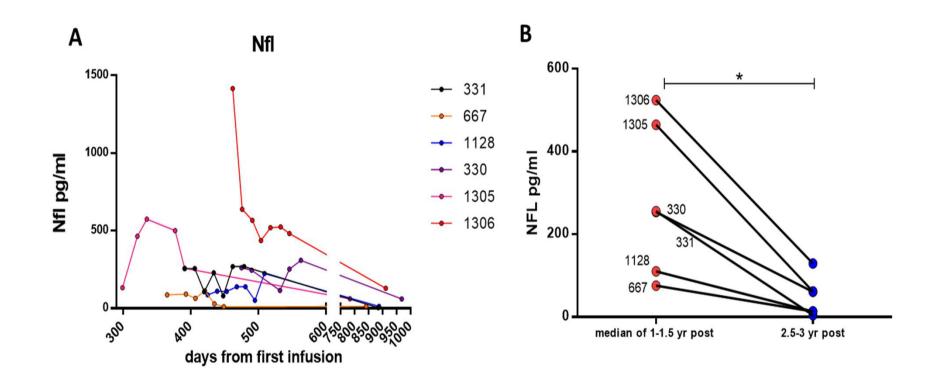
Reductions within 3 months in RMS, SMA and ALS

#### **Ocrelizumab in RMS (ECTRIMS 2019)** Tofersen in SOD1 ALS (Miller 2020) Nusinersen in SMA Type 1 (Olsson 2019) 5000 -Geometric Mean (SE) Ratio to BL in Plasma NfL Concentration 1.2 -Serum NfL in patients with RMS (OPERA I) plasma CSF Concentration (pg/mL) 4000 Change from baseline (%) 0 3000 -10 0.8 2000 -20 -30 1000 0.6 -37.7% -40 100mg C -50 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 72 Week 0 12 24 48 96 BL 15 29 57 85 106 Dose Study Day -43.4% - IFN β-1a - Ocrelizumab Weeks post %-Reduction from Dose first dose Dose 1 1.3 RMS patients with T1 Gd-enhanced lesions CSF 1 0 12 NA 1.1









Heywood et al., unpublished

## Conclusions fluid biomarkers for neurodegeneration

- CSF and plasma/serum NfL are biomarkers for neurodegeneration/neuroaxonal injury
- They are dynamic
- High levels suggest active neurodegeneration/ongoing injury
- Drugs slowing down neurodegeneration should reduce or stabilize NfL levels
- ...but it's a slow marker

# Thanks!

henrik.zetterberg@gu.se



# Huntington's Disease (HD) Anti-C1q as Neuroprotective Approach in HD



# Beth Stevens, PhD

Assistant Professor of Neurology Children's Hospital Boston Harvard Medical School



# Huntington's Disease (HD) Clinical Perspective on HD, including use of NfL



# Ed Wild, FRCP, PhD

Consultant Neurologist, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery

Associate Director, University College London, Huntington's Disease Centre

# Huntington's disease and neurofilament light

# Prof Ed Wild FRCP PhD

Consultant Neurologist, NHNN Queen Square Associate Director, UCL Huntington's Disease Centre





@ProfEdWild



Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Therapeutic interventions for symptomatic treatment in Huntington's disease (Review)

Tetrabenazine Cognitive, behavioural, voluntary motor



Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Therapeutic interventions for disease progression in Huntington's disease (Review)

Nothing

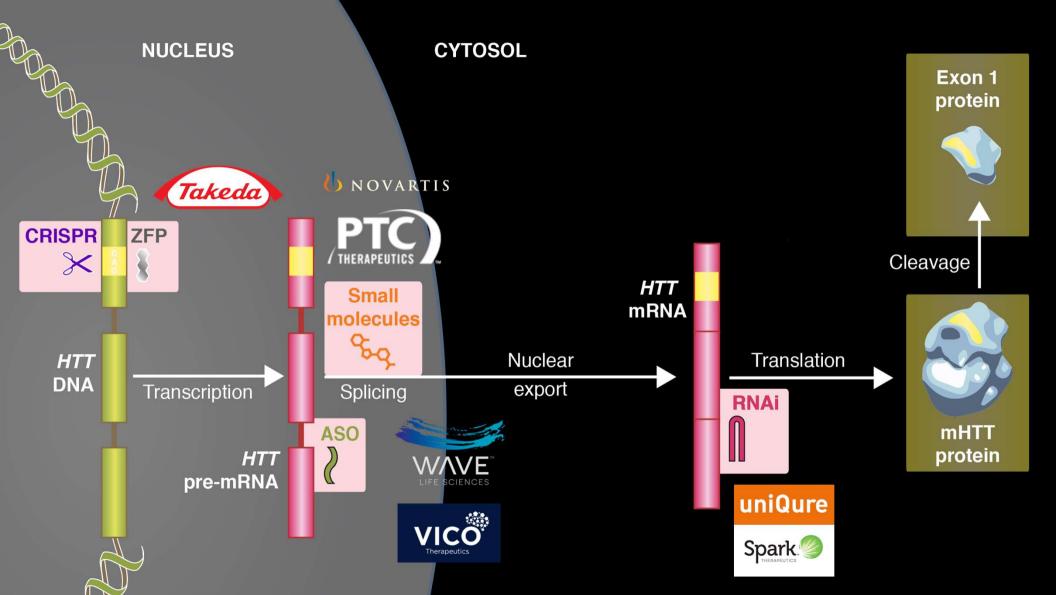
# Neuronal death

# Pathogenic pathways

Clinical progression

Death







# SEMA4D inhibiting mAb pepenimab



Sigma-1 antagonist pridopidine

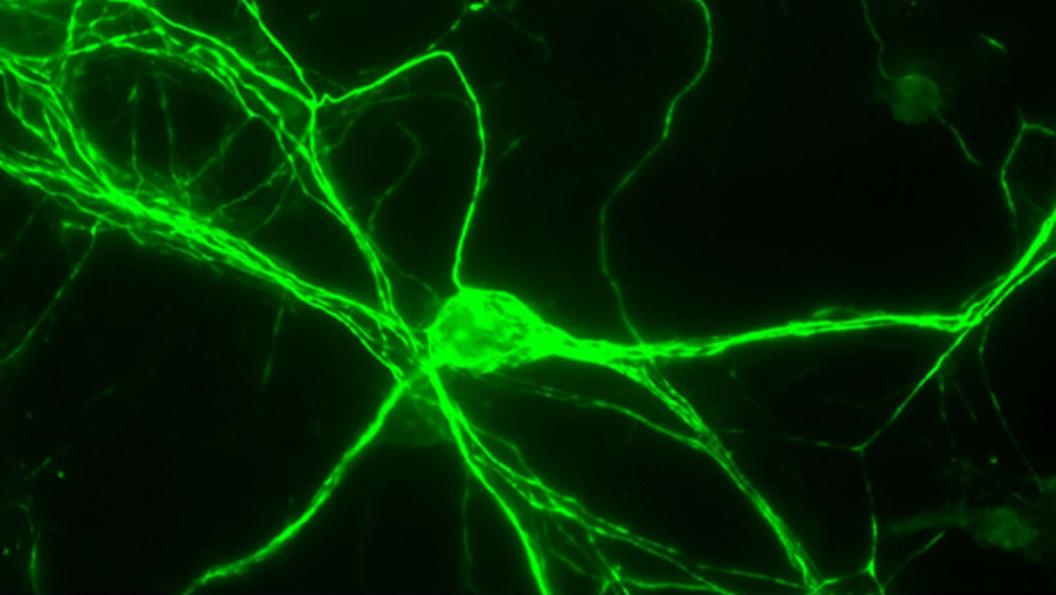


Allosteric modulator of NMDA-R SAGE-718

What's missing in 'downstream' pathway interventions for HD:

agents targeting **solid**, **well-described** derangements

with **biomarker support** to suggest translation will work safely in patients





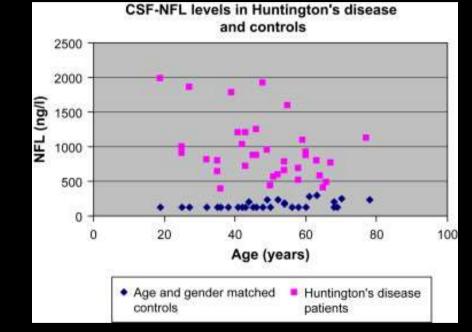
Parkinsonism & Related Disorders Volume 15, Issue 3, March 2009, Pages 245-248

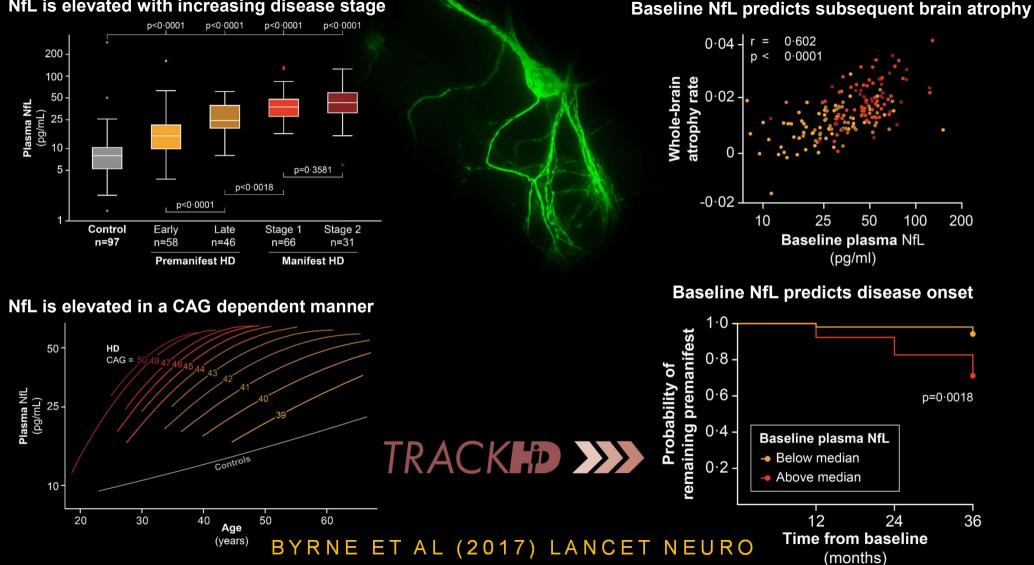


Short communication

Levels of the light subunit of neurofilament triplet protein in cerebrospinal fluid in Huntington's disease

Radu Constantinescu <sup>a</sup>  $\stackrel{>}{\sim}$   $\stackrel{\boxtimes}{\sim}$ , Megan Romer <sup>b</sup>, David Oakes <sup>c</sup>  $\stackrel{\boxtimes}{\sim}$ , Lars Rosengren <sup>a</sup>  $\stackrel{\boxtimes}{\sim}$ , Karl Kieburtz <sup>b</sup>  $\stackrel{\boxtimes}{\sim}$ 





#### NfL is elevated with increasing disease stage

# HD-CSF

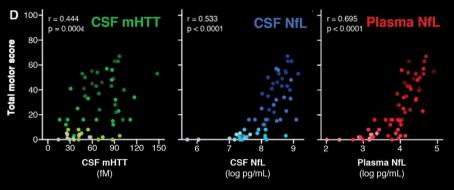


Studying cerebrospinal fluid to understand key CNS pathobiological targets in Huntington's disease

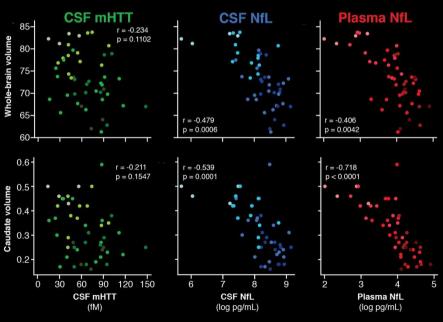
- 80 participants:
  - 20 control
  - 20 preHD
  - 40 early HD > mod HD
- 24-month Follow-up
  - Repeat of all assessments

Enr	oll-HD O Screening	Sampling		Optional repeat sampling	
-30		0	+28		+56
	(optional)				

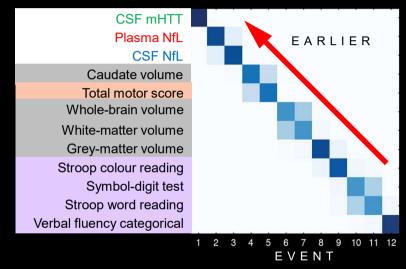
#### NfL has strong associations with clinical scores



### NfL has strong associations with brain volume



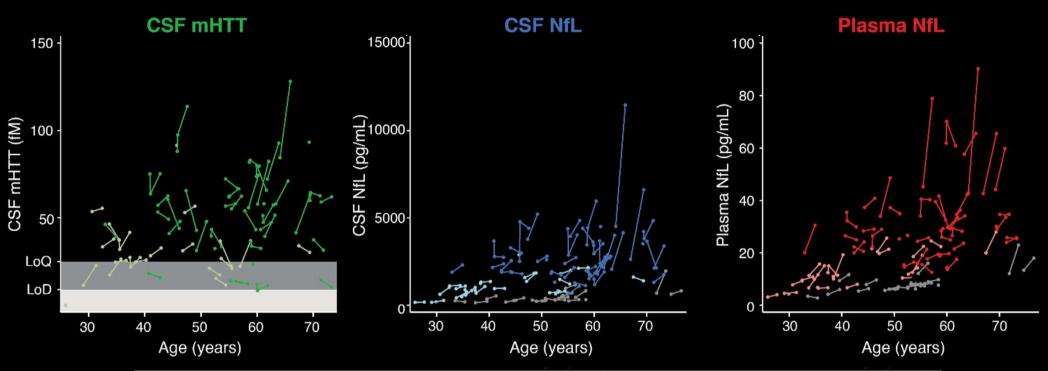
### Among earliest detectable changes in HD



#### **Event-based Model**

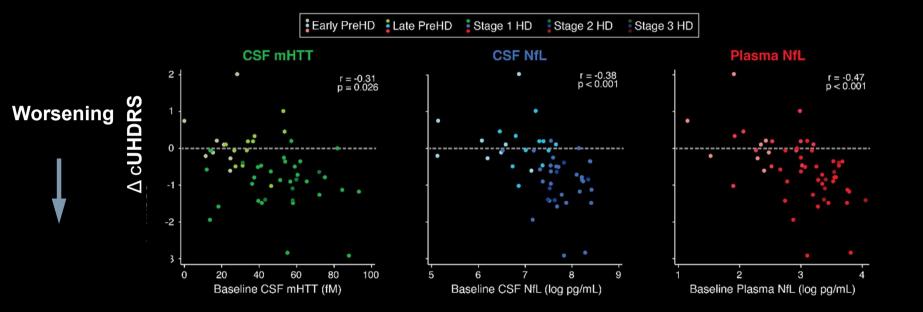
### BYRNE/RODRIGUES ET AL (2018) SCI TRANS MED

# 2-year longitudinal analysis

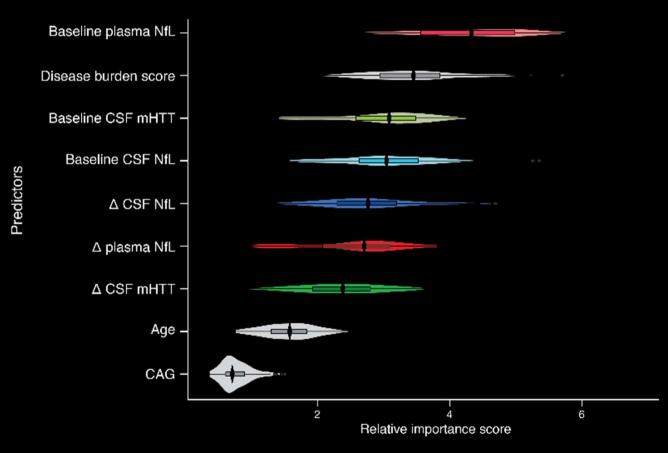


		fM/year [95% CI]	pg/mL/year [95% CI]	pg/mL/year [95% CI]
٠	Healthy Controls	N/A	20.05 [18.57 to 21.53]	0.28 [0.27 to 0.29]
• • •	PreHD	1.03 [0.95 to 1.11]	79.16 [74.92 to 83.40]	0.84 [0.80 to 0.87]
	Manifest HD	1.00 [0.95 to 1.05]	98.85 [93.01 to 104.70]	1.04 [1.00 to 1.08]

# Association with overall clinical progression as measured by $\Delta$ cUHDRS



# Random forest analysis: Baseline plasma NfL is the strongest predictor of clinical progression



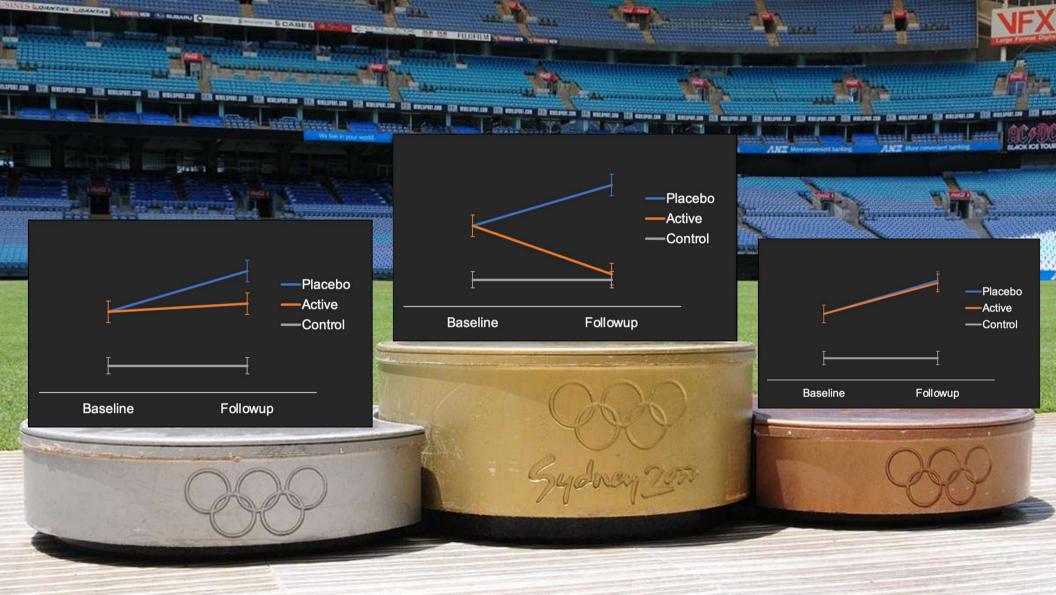
Higher in HD v C	Yes6	Yes25	Yes15
Rises with disease stage	Yes6	Yes <sub>26</sub>	Yes15
Baseline level associated with clinical severity	Yes <sub>6</sub>	Yes14	Yes15
Baseline level associated with brain volume	Yes	Yes <sub>14</sub>	Yes15
Longitudinal data			
Baseline level predicts onset	?	?	Yes15
<b>Baseline level predicts clinical progression</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes15
<b>Baseline level predicts brain atrophy</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes15
Change predicts clinical progression	Yes(TMS only)	Yes	Yes
Change predicts clinical atrophy	Yes	Yes	Yes

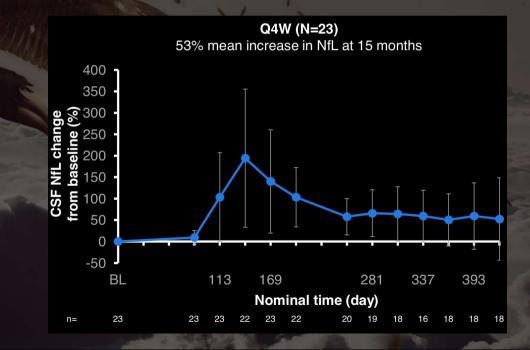
**CSF mHTT** 

CSF NfL

Plasma NfL

**Cross-sectional data** 









# CMND and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

• Clinical Perspective on ALS, including use of NfL



# Angela Genge, MD

Director, Clinical Research Institute Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital



Montreal Neurological Institute-Hospital

**Clinical Research Unit** 

# **Overview of ALS**

Dr. Angela Genge Director – Clinical Research Unit Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital AD/PD 2021





# Dr. Angela Genge



- Executive Director, Clinical Research Unit at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital
- **Director** of the ALS Center of Excellence
- Consultant for Health Canada, AL-S Pharma, Quralis, Biogen, Alexion, Amylyx, WAVE Life Sciences, Cytokinetics, MT Pharma, Orphazyme,
- DMSB board for CLENE, TRICALS, and AZT Therapeutics



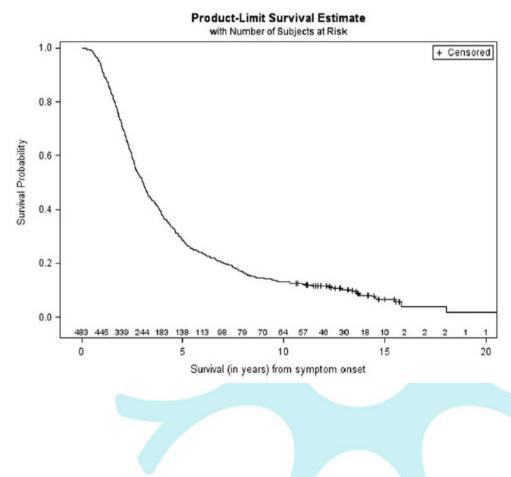
## Significant Unmet Need for People Living with ALS

- ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disorder, characterized by progressive loss of upper and lower motor neurons
- 75% initially present with muscle weakness of the limbs<sup>2</sup>
- 25% initially present with difficulty with speech and swallowing<sup>2</sup>
- ALS affects 225,000 people globally. ~90% of cases are sporadic and death typically occurs 3-5 years from disease onset

## Disease progression of ALS

- Progressive decline in motor function and activities of daily living
  - ALSFRS-R, a validated scale measuring the domains of gross motor, fine motor, bulbar and respiratory function declines on average 1 point per month in clinical trials
- Median survival from onset: 36 months (3 years)
- Survival probabilities from onset
  - 12 months: 92.1%
  - 5 years: 28.6%
  - 10 years: 13.3%
- Death due to respiratory failure typically occurs between 3-5 years

\*neuro



## ALS affects both the CNS and PNS

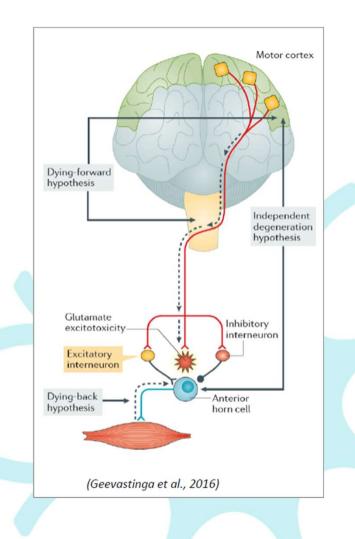
ALS is a mixed upper and lower motor neuron disease

Central Nervous System

- Upper motor neurons
  - Derived from corticospinal and corticobulbar fibers that originate in the brain's primary motor cortex
- Responsible for carrying impulses for voluntary motor activity from the cerebral cortex to the spinal cord
   Peripheral Nervous System
- Lower motor neurons

euro

• Carry impulses from the spinal cord to peripheral structures

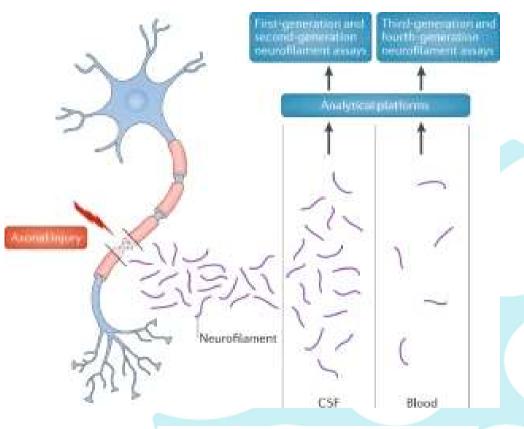


## Natural History Studies of Neurofilaments in ALS

- Natural History studies suggest that:
  - NF elevation correlates with symptom onset in ALS patients
  - NF levels correlate with rate of clinical progression

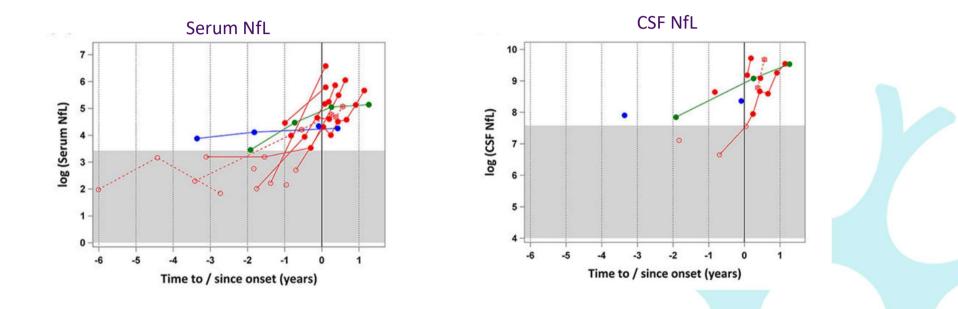
euro

 Fourth-generation single-molecule array (Simoa) assays have enabled reliable and sensitive measurements of neurofilaments, including NfL



Khalil et al. 2018. Nature Reviews Neurology 14 (10)

## NfL levels (serum & CSF) rise 1 year prior to symptom onset in Familial ALS



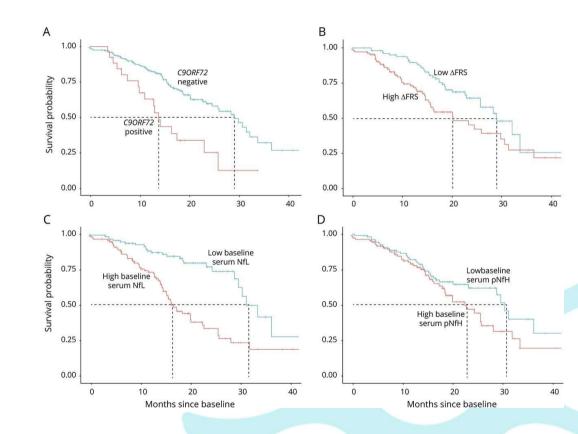
Benatar et al. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Frontotemporal Degeneration. 2019



## Serum NfL is a clinically validated prognostic biomarker for ALS<sup>1</sup>

- Prospective, multicenter, longitudinal observational study of patients with sporadic & familial ALS (n = 229)
- Serum NfL stable over time in natural history study
- Stronger correlation between serum and CSF for NfL than for pNfH
- Serum NfL is prognostic of future ALSFRS-R decline (slope of decline) and survival

euro



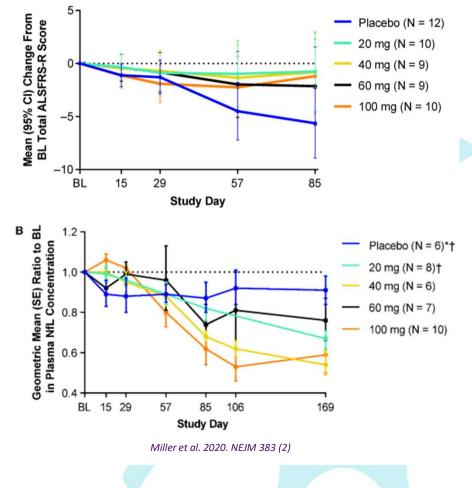
1. Benatar et al, Neurology, July 7, 2020

# NfL reductions in SOD1 ALS patients associated with functional benefit – ALSFRS-R

- Tofersen is an ASO to mutant SOD1
- NFs were higher in the fast-progressing subgroup
- Over the course of the blinded phase of the trial
  - SOD1 levels decreased from baseline

euro

- NfL and pNFH decreased from baseline
- Evidence of slowing in decrease for ALSFRS-R



## Summary

- ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disorder, with significant and urgent need for therapies
- ALSFRS and survival remain as key endpoints in registrational studies
- Potential for NfL as viable surrogate biomarker in ALS
  - A large increase in NfL occurs at symptom onset and then stabilizes at elevated levels
  - Reduction in NfL by a therapeutic agent is likely to be associated with clinical benefit





## Thank you!



## Overview of Annexon's CMND Clinical Program

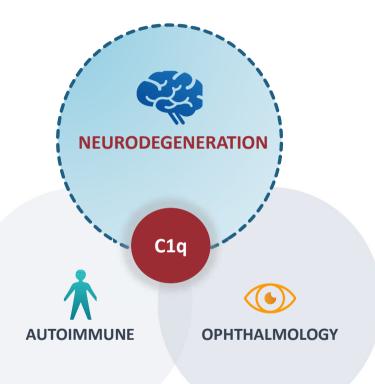


#### Sanjay Keswani, MBBS, FRCP

**Chief Medical Officer** 

**Annexon Biosciences** 

## **Groundbreaking Approach Targeting Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)**

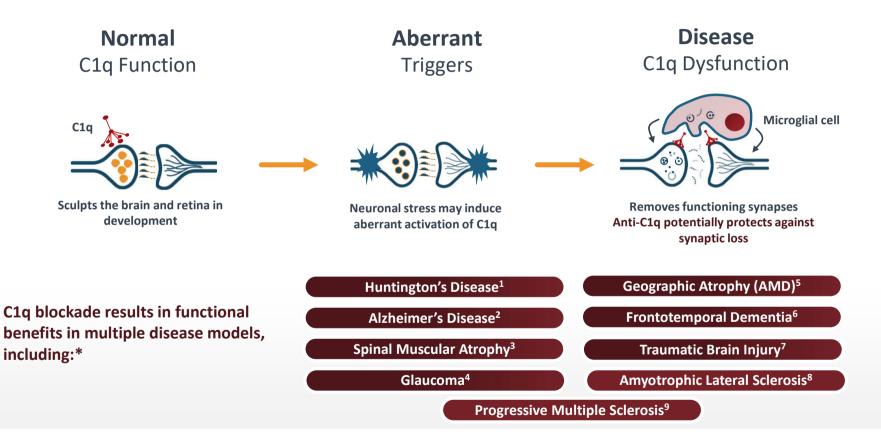


#### **Unique Potential of Anti-C1q Platform**

- **Pioneering Approach to Treat CMND:** Preserve functioning synapses, neuronal health & function
- **Broad Therapeutic Potential:** CMND major driver of neurodegeneration in a host of brain & eye diseases
- Established Biomarker in Early Trials (NfL): Correlates with patient disability; reduction shown to correlate with clinical benefit in multiple diseases
- Early Platform Promise: NfL reduction demonstrated in three diseases: GBS Ph1 POC, HD & ALS preclinical

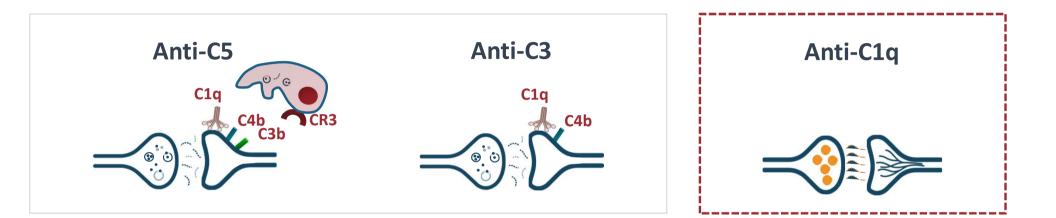


## C1q Inhibition Protects against Synapse Loss and Neurodegeneration in a Host of Diseases



\*1Wilton and Stevens, Harvard, unpublished. <sup>2</sup>Fonseca, 2004, J Neurosci; Hong, 2016, Science; Dejanovic, 2018, Neuron; <sup>3</sup>Vukojicic, 2019, Cell Reports;
 <sup>4</sup>Howell, 2011, J Clin Inves; Williams, 2016, Mol Neurodegen; <sup>5</sup>Jiao, 2018, Mol Neurodeg; <sup>6</sup>Lui, 2016, Cell; <sup>7</sup>Krukowski, 2018, Int.J Mol Sci; Holden, 2021, Science; Annexon NfL reduction in SOD1 model, unpublished; <sup>9</sup>Absinta, Nature, 2021

## **Anti-C1q is Differentiated from Other Complement Approaches**



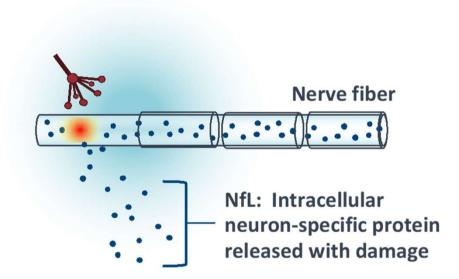
## Only way to block all early classical complement components involved in CMND



## Neurofilament Light Chain (NfL) Biomarker Underpins Our Neurological Approach

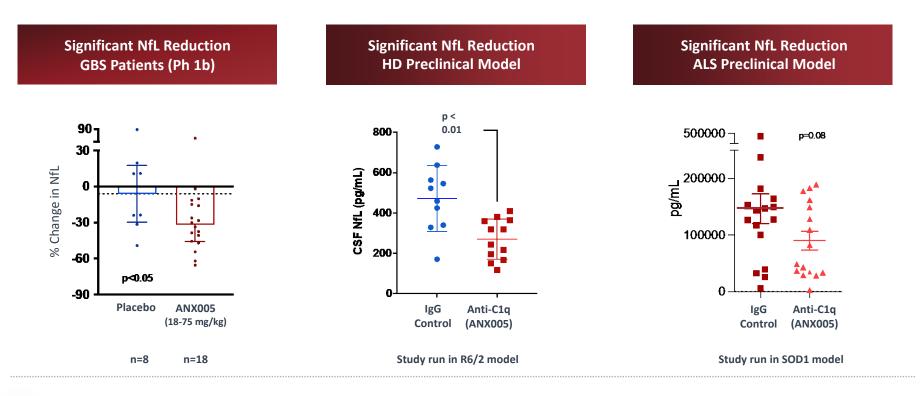
#### **Significantly Informs Clinical Development**

- ✓ Sensitive measure of neuronal damage / degeneration
- Correlates w/ patient disability and predicts outcomes in several diseases (e.g., SMA<sup>1</sup>, MS<sup>2</sup>, GBS<sup>3</sup>, HD<sup>4</sup>, ALS<sup>5</sup>)
- Reduced by effective therapies for MS, SMA and ALS within 3 months of treatment
- ANX005 NfL reduction in clinical (GBS) and preclinical (HD & ALS) studies
- ✓ Key measure in on-going HD and ALS Phase 2 trials





### C1q Inhibition Has Reduced NfL in Patients and in Animal Models



ANNEXON

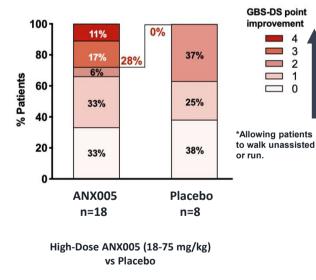
biosciences

# C1q Inhibition Has Also Provided Functional Benefit in Patients and in Animal Models

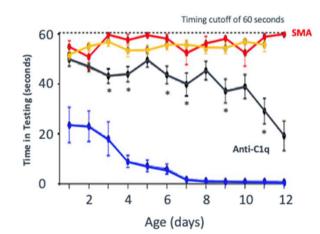
#### Significant NfL Reduction GBS Patients (Ph 1b)

Allows Gain of Motor Function in Spinal Muscular Atrophy

#### Prevents Obsessive Behavior in Frontotemporal Dementia

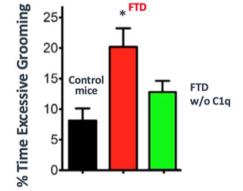


Annexon data on file



Transgenic SMN-Δ7 mouse model of SMA

Vukojicic et al., 2019 Cell Rep 29, 3087-3100



Mouse model of FTD with progranulin genetic deletion

Liu et al., 2016 Cell 165:921



## **Annexon Pipeline in Neurodegenerative Diseases of the Brain**

**Diversified approach in CNS and CNS/PNS diseases** 





## **Strong Rationale for Targeting CMND in HD**



#### Robust biological rationale for targeting C1q in HD

- Aberrant C1q activation noted in synapses from HD patients
- Anti-C1q is efficacious in preclinical models of HD

#### NfL is an objective measure of neurodegeneration in Phase 2

- Elevated NfL levels in HD correlate with disability
- Published NfL longitudinal data in HD showing increasing levels over time
- ANX005 rapidly reduced NfL in acute GBS patients



 Full CSF target engagement demonstrated for ANX005 in clinical (GBS) and preclinical studies



## **HD Phase 2 Trial Overview**

#### Targeting 'early manifest' patients and leveraging natural history cohorts



#### **Study Population**

- Adults with, or at risk for, manifest HD
- Total CAP score >400
- UHDRS independence score ≥ 80%

#### **Primary Endpoints**

- Safety and tolerability of ANX005
- PK and PD of ANX005 in serum & cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)
- NfL reduction in plasma and CSF

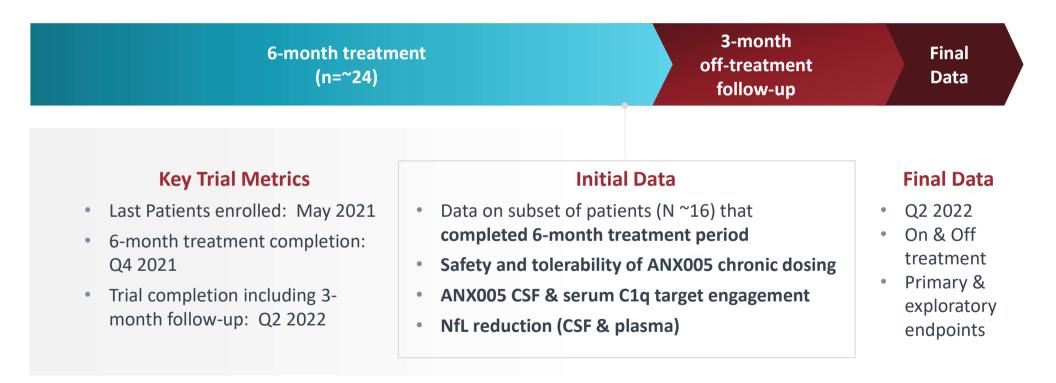
#### **Exploratory Endpoints**

- Quantitative EEG (qEEG)
- Composite UHDRS and its components



### **HD Phase 2 Status**

#### Initial data readout anticipated Q4 2021



## **Strong Rationale for Targeting CMND in ALS**



#### Biological rationale for targeting C1q in ALS

- Aberrant C1q activation noted in CNS and PNS from ALS patients
- Anti-C1q is efficacious in preclinical model of ALS

#### NfL is an objective measure of neurodegeneration in Phase 2

- Elevated NfL levels in ALS correlate with disability
- Published NfL longitudinal data in ALS showing stability over time
- ANX005 rapidly reduced NfL in acute GBS patients

#### Anticipate full CNS & PNS target engagement with ANX005

• Full CSF and blood target engagement demonstrated for ANX005 in clinical (GBS) and preclinical studies



## **Ongoing Phase 2 ALS Trial**

#### Leveraging biomarkers to inform the next stage of development



- Diagnosis of ALS according to the World Federation of Neurology revised F1 Escorial criteria
- Onset of weakness within 3 years prior to enrollment
- Slow Vital Capacity  $\geq$  60% of predicted normal
- ALSFRS-R  $\geq$  30

- PK/PD of ANX005 in serum ٠
- NfL reduction in plasma

- Myography (EIM)
- **ALSERS-R** score
- ALSAO-40 •
- Hand-Held Dynamometry
- Slow Vital Capacity



### **ALS Phase 2 Status**

#### Initial data readout anticipated 1H 2022

3-month treatment (n=~24)	3-month off-treatment follow-up	Final Data	
------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------	--

#### **Key Trial Metrics**

- Enrollment ongoing in North America
- Enrollment completion: 1H 2022
- Initial data readout anticipated: 1H 2022

#### **Data Anticipated**

- Safety and tolerability of ANX005 chronic dosing
- ANX005 PK and C1q target engagement
- NfL reduction in plasma
- Exploratory clinical data



### **Summary**

- **C1q-mediated synapse loss is a common pathway of neurodegeneration** and disability in multiple diseases, regardless of inciting etiology
- Anti-C1q is protective in several disease models of neurodegeneration including HD and ALS
- Elevation of neurofilament light chain (NfL) is a common biomarker of neuronal damage across a host of neurodegenerative diseases and correlates with patient disability
- Our objective in Phase 2 studies of HD and ALS is to show reduction in NfL as a demonstration of impact of anti-C1q on the neurodegenerative disease process





### **Closing Remarks & Q&A**

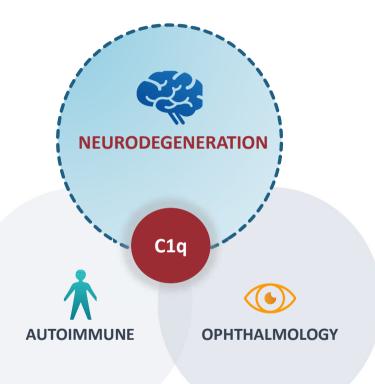


#### Doug Love, Esq.

President & Chief Executive Officer

**Annexon Biosciences** 

## **Groundbreaking Approach Targeting Complement-Mediated Neurodegeneration (CMND)**



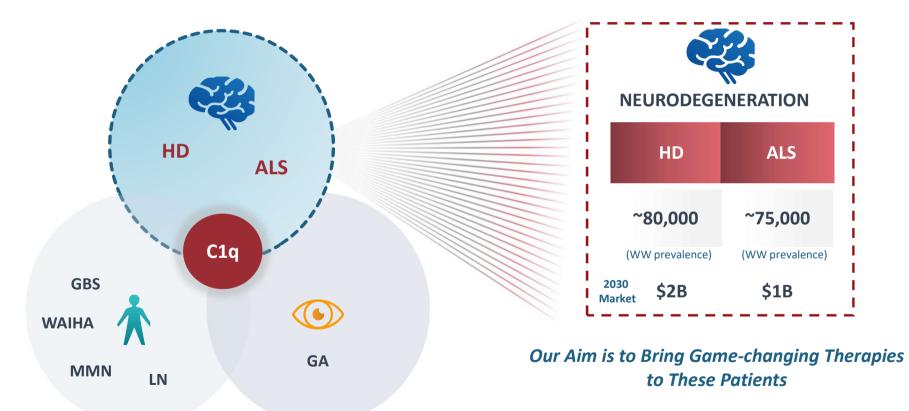
#### **Unique Potential of Anti-C1q Platform**

- **Pioneering Approach to Treat CMND:** Preserve functioning synapses, neuronal health & function
- **Broad Therapeutic Potential:** CMND major driver of neurodegeneration in a host of brain & eye diseases
- Established Biomarker in Early Trials (NfL): Correlates with patient disability; reduction shown to correlate with clinical benefit in multiple diseases
- Early Platform Promise: NfL reduction demonstrated in three diseases: GBS Ph1 POC, HD & ALS preclinical



## **Significant Patient Need Across Our Classical Pathway Platform**

Neurodegeneration therapeutic area itself has immense need and value opportunity





## Annexon is Well-Positioned to Drive Significant Value Over the Next 2 Years

- Anti-C1q platform with broad and deep applicability across autoimmune, neurodegenerative & ophthalmic diseases
- Platform foundation established with robust target engagement, POC data and 5 diverse drug candidates
- Poised for significant value creation with 7 mid to late-stage data sets anticipated over next 2 years
- Winning team and well capitalized to achieve milestones over next 2 years



## **Thank You!**