

GIORNATE EMATOLOGICHE VICENTINE

XI edizione



9-10 ottobre 2025

Palazzo Bonin Longare - Vicenza

La terapia genica nell'emofilia

Giancarlo Castaman

SODc Malattie Emorragiche e della Coagulazione,
Dipartimento Cardiotoracovascolare,
AOU Careggi, Firenze



Disclosures

Giancarlo Castaman

Employment	<i>NONE</i>
Research support	<i>NONE</i>
Scientific advisory board	<i>BIOMARIN-CSL-BEHRING, KEDRION-LFB, SHIRE-TAKEDA, NOVO NORDISK, PFIZER, ROCHE, UNIQUE, BAYER, SOBI</i>
Consultancy	<i>CSL BEHRING ROCHE - BIOMARIN</i>
Speakers bureau	<i>CSL-BEHRING, GRIFOLS, KEDRION-LFB, SHIRE-TAKEDA, WERFEN-IL, SOBI</i>
Major stockholder	<i>NONE</i>
Patents	<i>NONE</i>
Honoraria	<i>NONE</i>
Travel support	<i>NONE</i>
Other	<i>NONE</i>

Hemophilia is an appropriate target for gene therapy

Hemophilia A and B are monogenic diseases¹



Well suited for correction by gene therapy¹

- Large phenotypic improvement following modest factor increase
- Precise regulation not necessary



Efficacy readily assessable via factor level measurements and bleeding rates²



Types of viral vectors

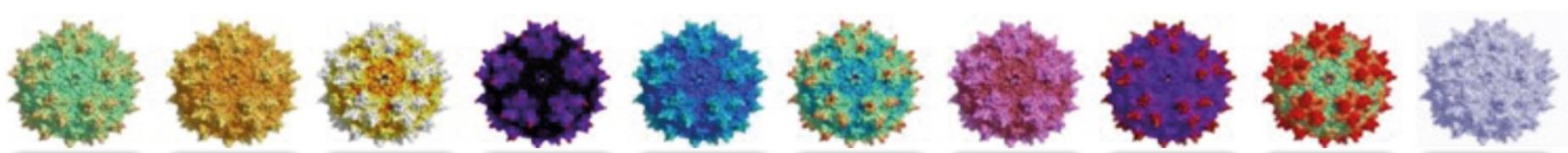
	 Adenovirus	 Adeno-associated virus (AAV)	 Alphavirus	 Herpesvirus	 Retrovirus/ Lentivirus	 Vaccinia virus
Cell types affected ¹	Broad low neuron transduction	Broad, dividing and non-dividing cells	Broad, neuron and glial cell-specific strains	Broad, neurons, stem cells, muscle cells	Lentivirus: Dividing and non-dividing cells Retrovirus: Dividing cells	Broad host range
Host genome integration ²	Low level integration	Low level integration	Unknown	Low level integration	Integrating	Unknown
Transgene expression ¹	Transient	Potentially long-lasting	Transient	Potentially long-lasting	Potentially long-lasting	Unknown
Packaging capacity (kb) ^{3,4}	<7.5	<4.7	8	>30	8	>30

kb, kilobases.

1. Lundstrom K. *Trends Biotechnol* 2003;21:117–22; 2. Walther W *et al. Drugs*. 2000;60:249–71; 3. Lundstrom K. *Diseases* 2018;21;6. pii: E42; 4. Srivastava A *et al. J Virol* 1983;45:555–64

Tropismo tissutale del sierotipo AAV

Gli AAV hanno un'ampia diversità naturale e hanno dimostrato di essere in grado di raggiungere diversi tipi di tessuto (tropismo); questo può influenzare il profilo di sicurezza ed efficacia di un prodotto di terapia genica.



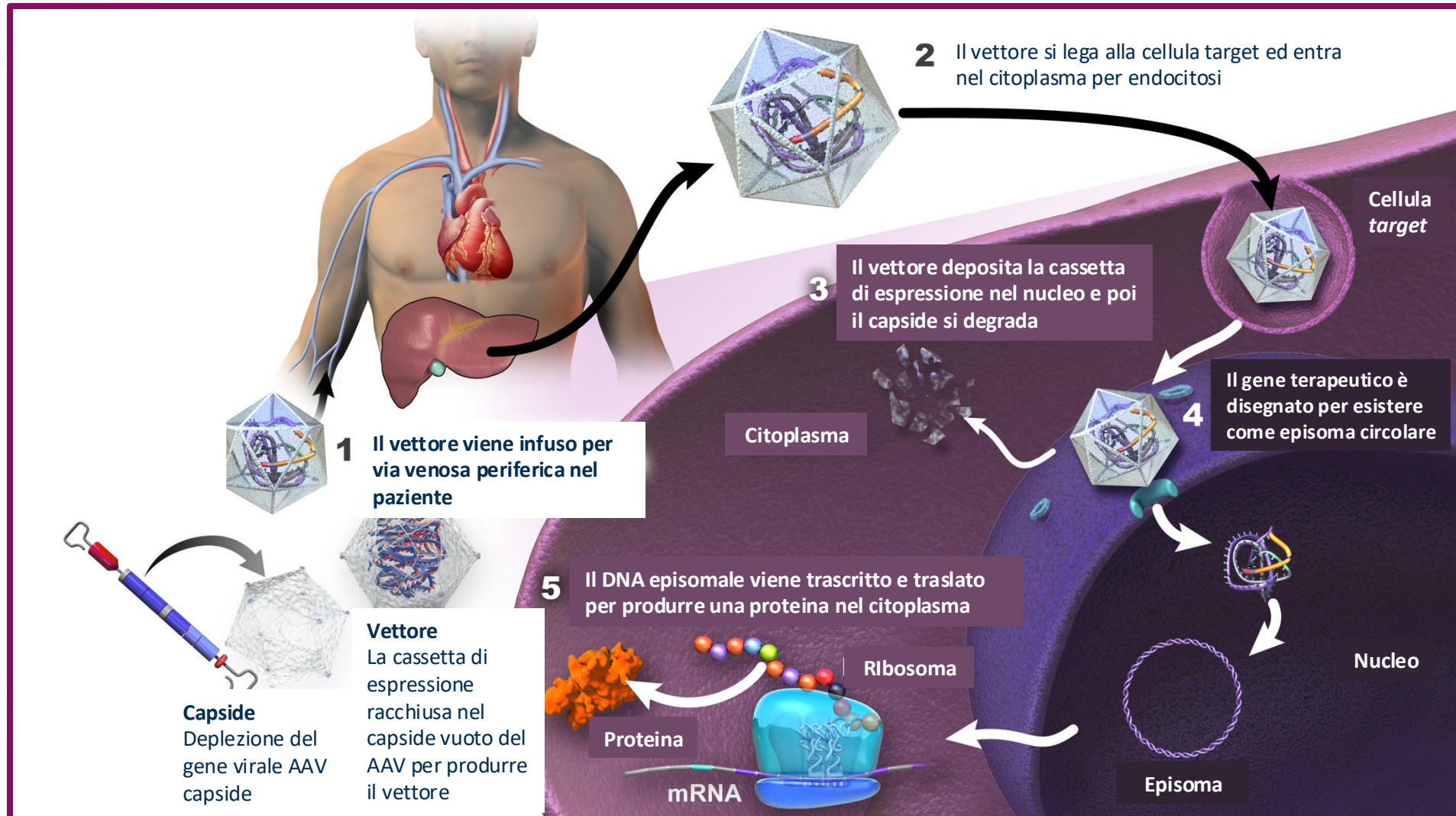
Tropismo	AAV1	AAV2	AAV3	AAV4	AAV5	AAV6	AAV7	AAV8	AAV9	AAV10
Fonte	NHP	Umano	NHP	NHP	Umano	Umano	NHP	NHP	NHP	NHP
Fegato		●			●			●	●	●
Cuore						●		●	●	
Muscoli	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Polmoni	●				●	●			●	
Retina	●			●	●		●	●		
SNC	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	
Pancreas	●							●	●	

- Sono state notate **differenze nel tropismo degli AAV nei topi, negli esseri umani e nei primati non umani (NHP)**. I dati che dimostrano i profili di tropismo negli esseri umani non sono ancora ampiamente disponibili
- Per questo motivo, **nella cassetta di espressione vengono incorporati promotori specifici per ogni tessuto**, in modo da guidare l'espressione del transgene nel tessuto di destinazione

AAV: virus adeno-associato; NHP: primate non umano; SNC: sistema nervoso centrale.

Vance MA, et al. From Gene Therapy – Principles and Challenges. InTech, 2015; Verdera HC, et al. Mol Ther. 2020;28(3):723-746; Zincarelli C, et al. Mol Ther. 2008;16(6):1073-1080; Pipe S, et al. Mol Ther. 2019;15:170-178.

Meccanismo d'azione di trasferimento genico AAV-mediato



Sieropositività ad AAV

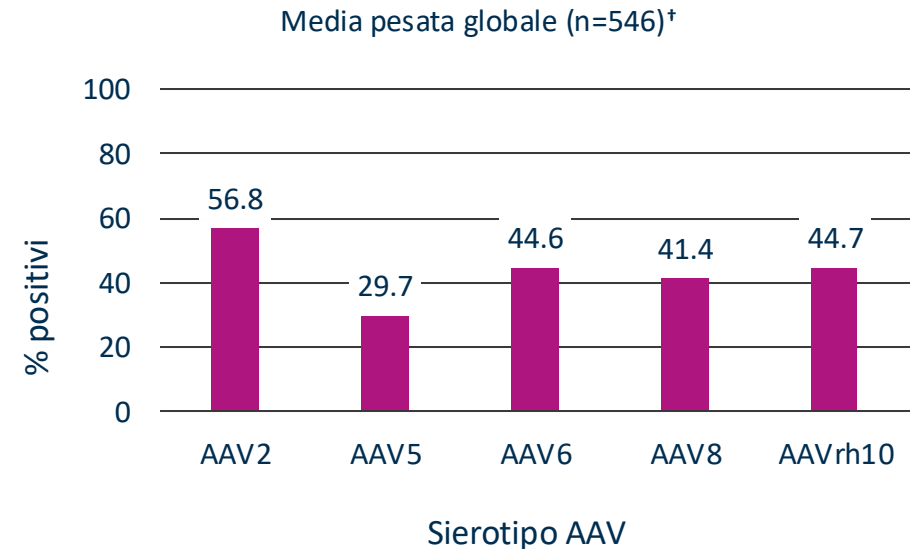
L'immunità pre-esistente a un sierotipo di AAV può influire sulla sicurezza/efficacia di qualsiasi terapia genica che utilizzi quel sierotipo

- A causa della variazione dei sierotipi di AAV, la sieropositività a un sierotipo di AAV non è necessariamente associata a una risposta immunitaria a un altro sierotipo di AAV
- La **ricerca di anticorpi neutralizzanti** contro il vettore AAV è una **componente importante dello screening** dei pazienti per l'eleggibilità con alcune terapie geniche AAV in fase di sperimentazione e commercializzazione

Sieroprevalenza di AAV nei pazienti con emofilia A in Italia*

AAV5	AAV6	AAV2	AAV8	AAVrh10
40%	40%	45%	40%	50%

Il tasso globale di sieropositività per AAV5 è il più basso rispetto ad altri AAV**

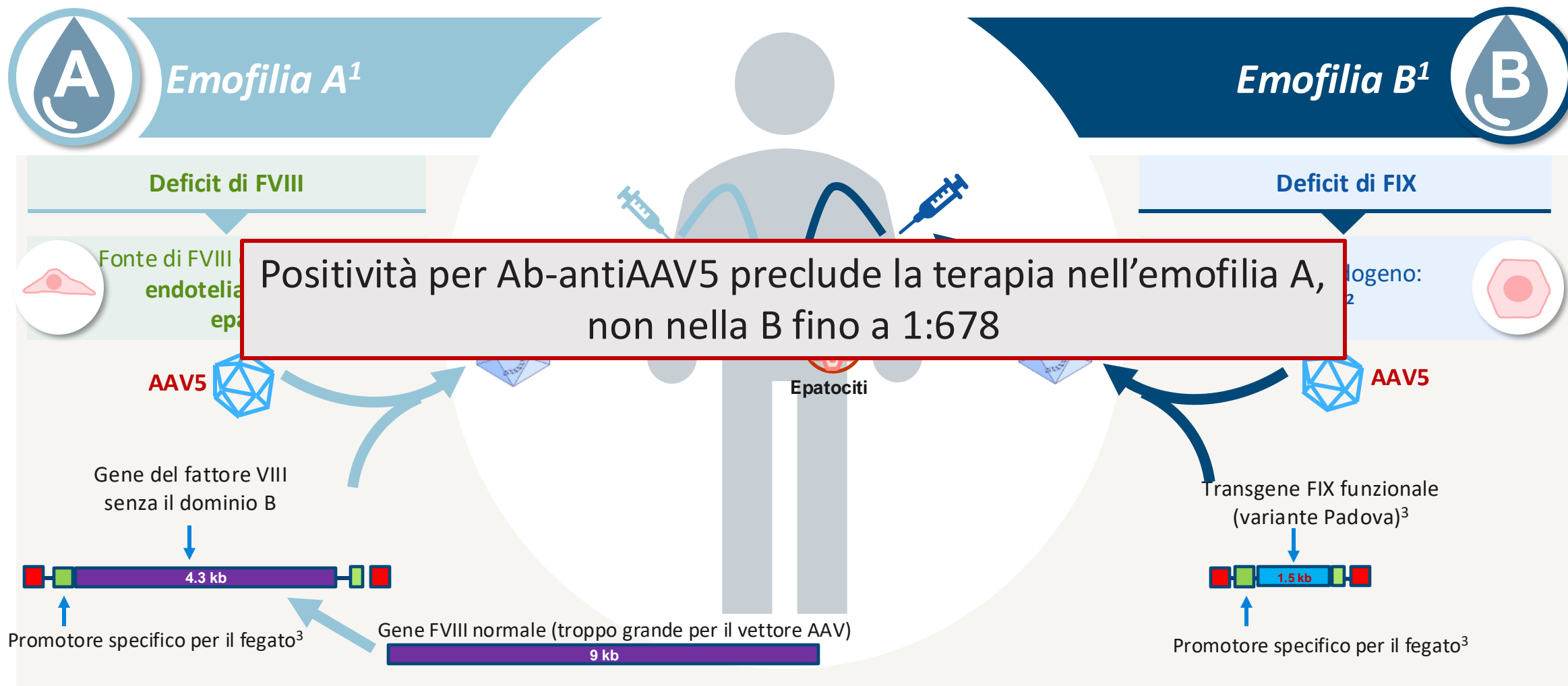


*% AAV TAb positivi.

**Tasso di sieropositività calcolato utilizzando la media ponderata dell'emofilia globale.[†]3 persi al *follow-up* e 1 interrotto per decisione del medico.

AAV: virus adeno-associato; AAV2: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 2; AAV5: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 5; AAV6: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 6; AAV8: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 8; AAVrh10: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 10 rhesus-derivato.

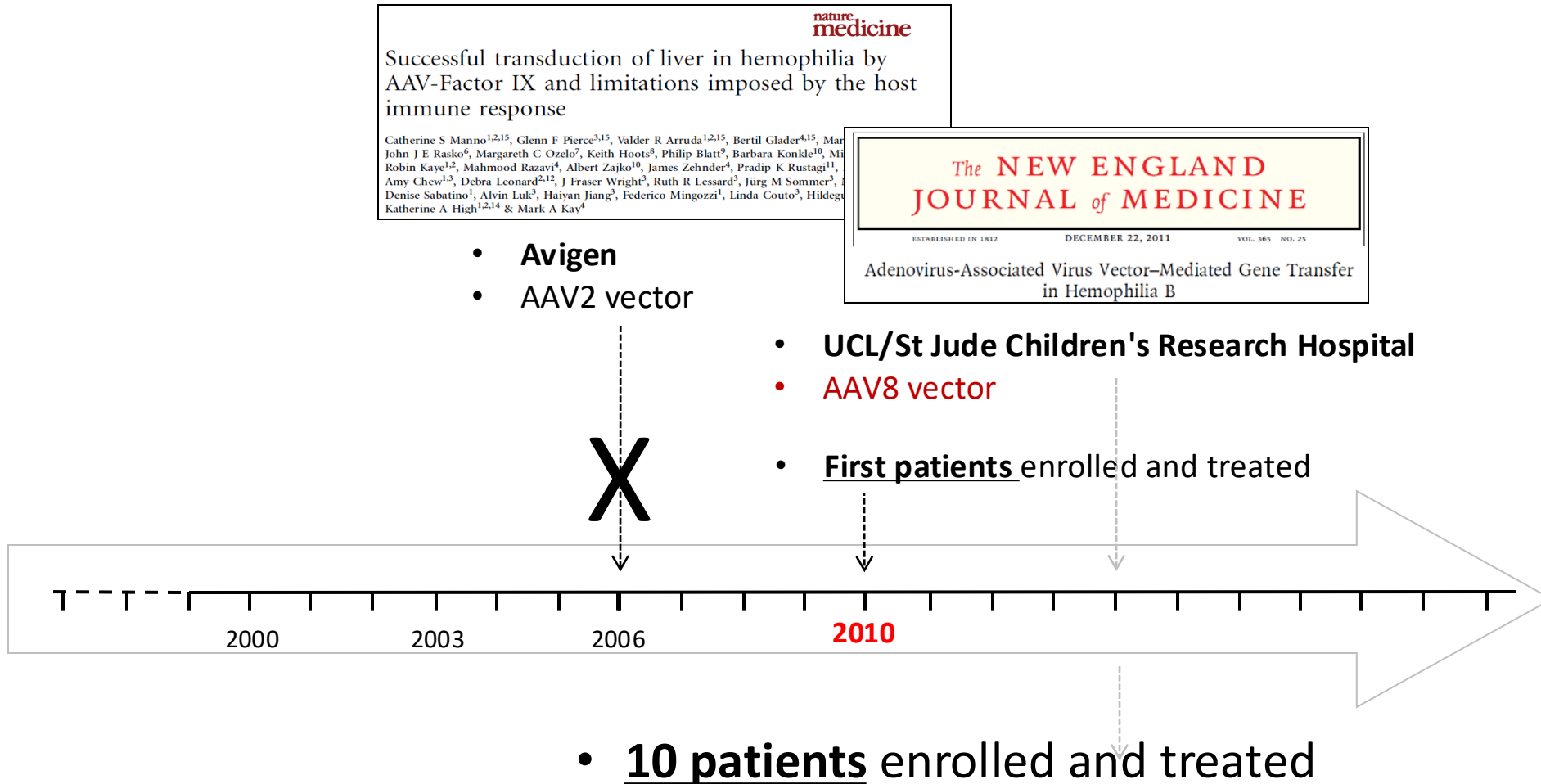
Gli stessi approcci di terapia genica sono stati usati sia per l'emofilia A che per l'emofilia B



Hemophilia B gene therapy: general aspects

- Four-fold lower prevalence compared to hemophilia A
- The 1.5 kb **FIX cDNA is easily packaged** into a range of viral vectors, with expression mediated by liver-specific regulatory elements targeting the native site of FIX production.

Primo trial clinico nell'emofilia B (2011)





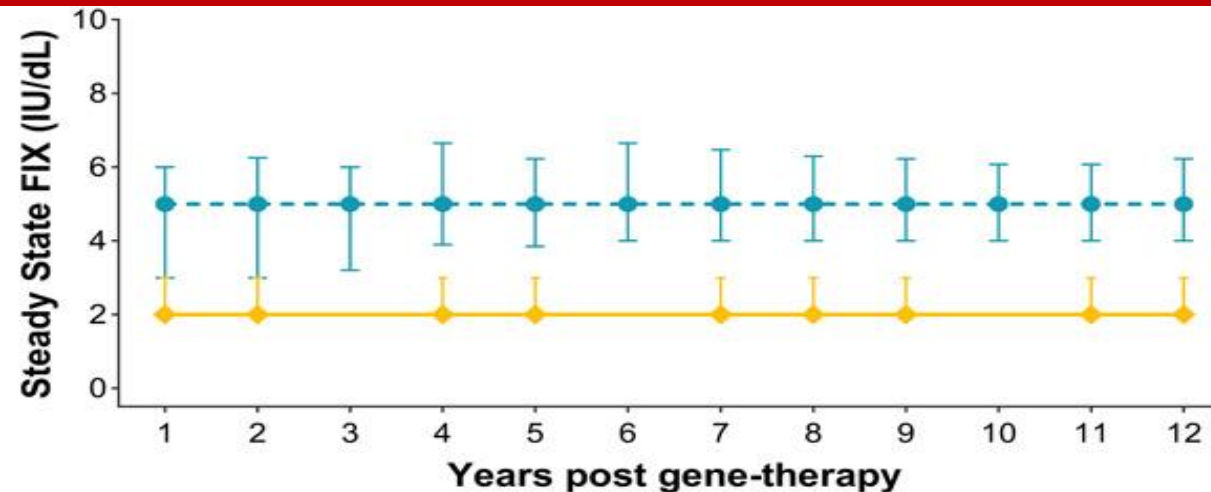
Sustained Clinical Benefit of AAV Gene Therapy in Severe Hemophilia B

Ulrike M. Reiss et al. *N Engl J Med* 2025;392:2226-2234

A



After >10 years follow-up, stable FIX levels, off prophylaxis 5/10 patients and no safety issues noted



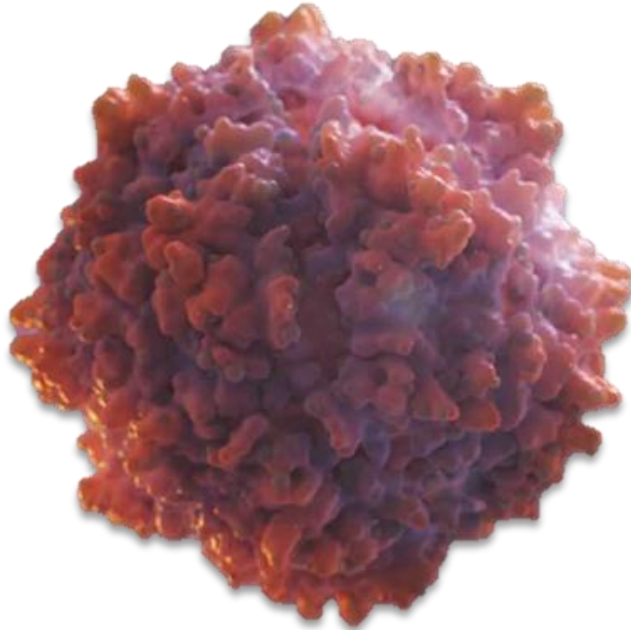
Hemophilia B gene therapy: general aspects

- The 1.5 kb **FIX cDNA is easily packaged** into a range of viral vectors, with expression mediated by liver-specific regulatory elements targeting the native site of FIX production.
- *The discovery of a gain-of-function FIX variant (FIX Padua, p.R338L)* has further enhanced the potential for attaining therapeutic FIX activity levels with moderate vector doses
- This R338L missense mutant increases the specific activity of the molecule approximately 7-fold, *without evidence of increased immunogenicity*

AMT-060/AMT-061

Etranacogene dezaparvovec

AAV5 capsid



Liver-specific promoter &
human FIX gene³



AMT-061
AGG to CTG in gene
resulting in R338L in
protein

- Low prevalence of pre-existing neutralizing antibodies able to impact clinical outcomes^{1,4}
- Previously tested in humans without sign of cellular immune activation²

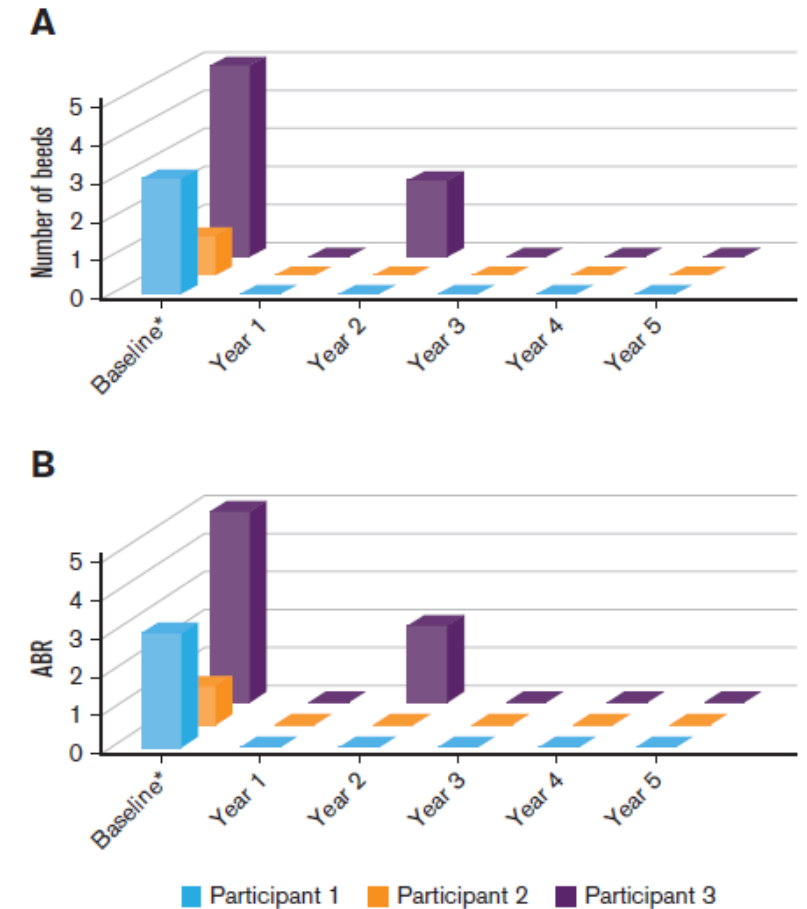
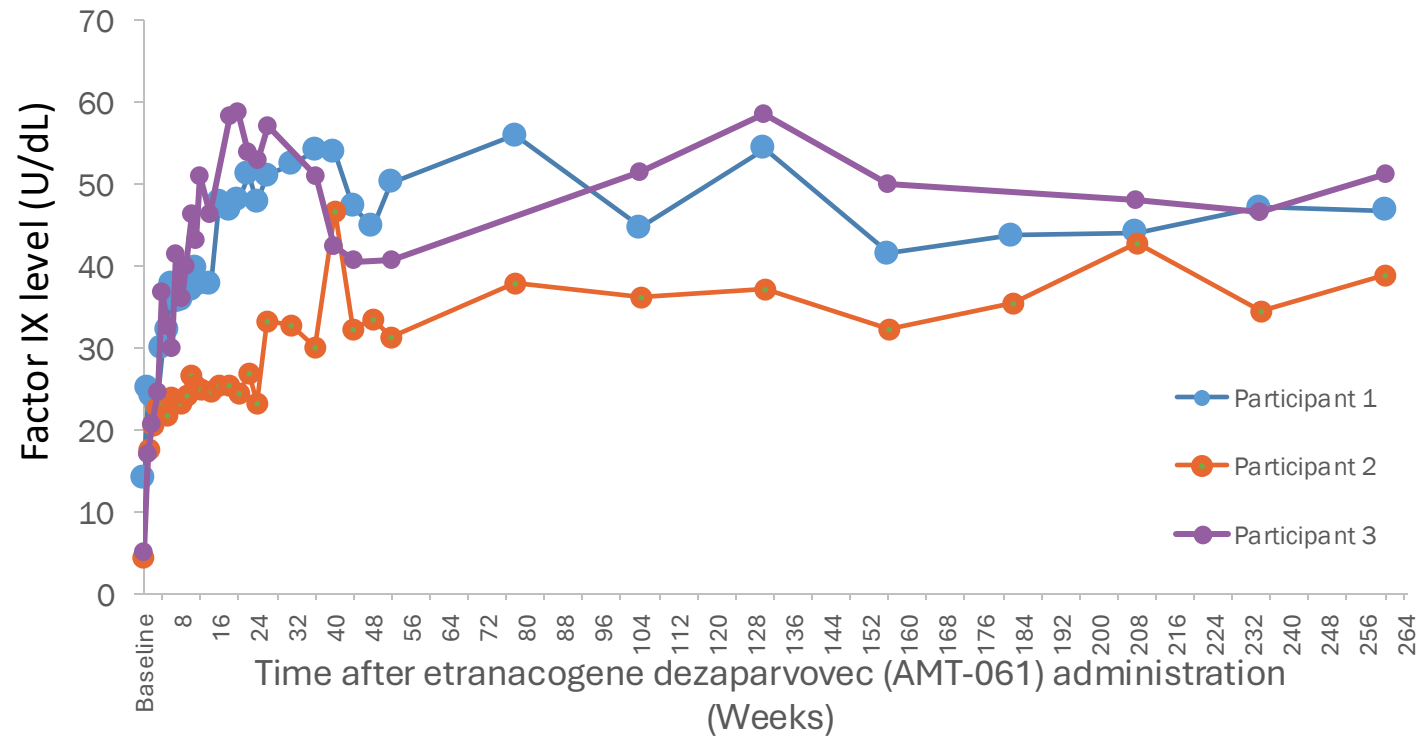
AMT-060 – wildtype
AMT-061 – Padua variant
(expected 6-7x increase in activity)

¹Boutin et al, *Human Gen Ther* 2010; 21(6):704-12. ²D'Avola et al, *Journal of Hepatology* 2016; doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2016.05.012>.

³Nathwani et al. *NEJM* 2014; 371:1994-2004. ⁴Majowicz et al, *ASGCT* 2018

Completion of phase 2b trial of etranacogene dezaparvovec gene therapy in patients with hemophilia B over 5 years

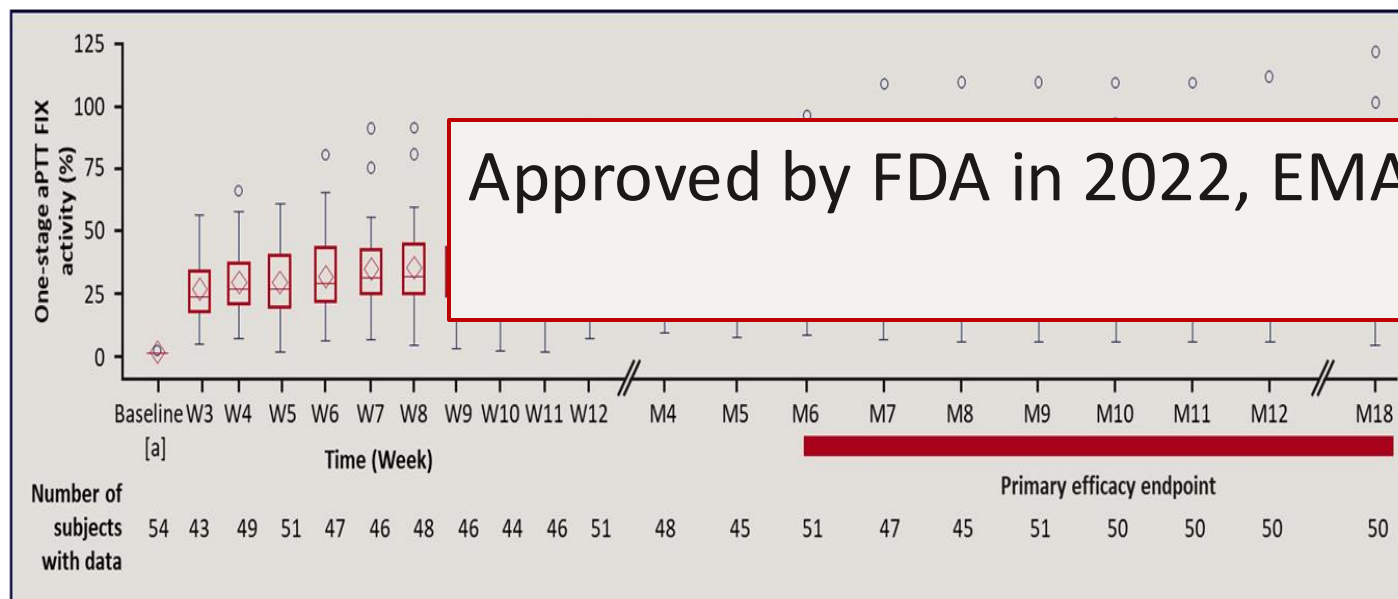
Annette von Drygalski,¹ Esteban Gomez,² Adam Giermasz,³ Giancarlo Castaman,⁴ Nigel S. Key,⁵ Susan U. Lattimore,⁶ Frank W. G. Leebeek,⁷ Wolfgang A. Miesbach,⁸ Michael Recht,^{9,10} Paul E. Monahan,¹¹ Sandra Le Quellec,¹¹ and Steven W. Pipe¹²
Blood Adv 9: 3543, 2025



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Gene Therapy with Etranacogene Dezaparvovec for Hemophilia B

S.W. Pipe, F.W.G. Leebeek, M. Recht, N.S. Key, G. Castaman, W. Miesbach, S. Lattimore, K. Peerlinck, P. Van der Valk, M. Coppens, P. Kampmann, K. Meijer, N. O'Connell, K.J. Pasi, D.P. Hart, R. Kazmi, J. Astermark, C.R.J.R. Hermans, R. Klamroth, R. Lemons, N. Visweshwar, A. von Drygalski, G. Young, S.E. Cray, M. Escobar, E. Gomez, R. Kruse-Jarres, D.V. Quon, E. Symington, M. Wang, A.P. Wheeler, R. Gut, Y.P. Liu, R.E. Dolmetsch, D.L. Cooper, Y. Li, B. Goldstein, and P.E. Monahan



Uncontaminated central laboratory data (the visit did not occur within 10 days of exogenous FIX use). FIX levels beginning with the Week 3 assessment were used in the analysis. Subjects with 0 uncontaminated central laboratory post-AMT-061 values had change from baseline assigned to zero for this analysis and had their post-baseline values set equal to their baseline value. Baseline FIX was imputed based on subject's historical haemophilia B severity documented on the case record form. If the patient had documented severe FIX deficiency (FIX plasma level <1%), their baseline FIX activity level is imputed as 1%. If the subject had documented moderately severe FIX deficiency (FIX plasma level ≥1% and ≤2%), their baseline FIX activity level was imputed as 2%.

Mean (SD; min, max) FIX activity was 39.0 IU/dL (±18.7; 8.2, 97.1) at 6 months and 36.9 IU/dL (±21.4; 4.5, 122.9) at 18 months

At 6 months, mean (SD) change from baseline was 37.77 (18.78) with a p-value <0.0001; at 18 months the change from baseline was 35.72 (21.46) with a p-value <0.0001.

aPTT, activated partial thromboplastin time; SD, standard deviation; W, Week.

54 patients with FIX ≤ 2 U/dL

Also patients with pre-existing AAV5 Nabs responded

HOPE-B results showed less variability, with more stable factor expression

Approved by FDA in 2022, EMA 2023 and AIFA 2025

Significant reduction in annualized FIX consumption by 97% (p<0.001)

AEs:

- Transaminase elevations requiring steroid treatment in 17%
- Other common TRAEs: headache (15%), and influenza-like illness (13%)

One SAE of HCC; occurred after the 6-month data cut and was determined unlikely to be treatment related



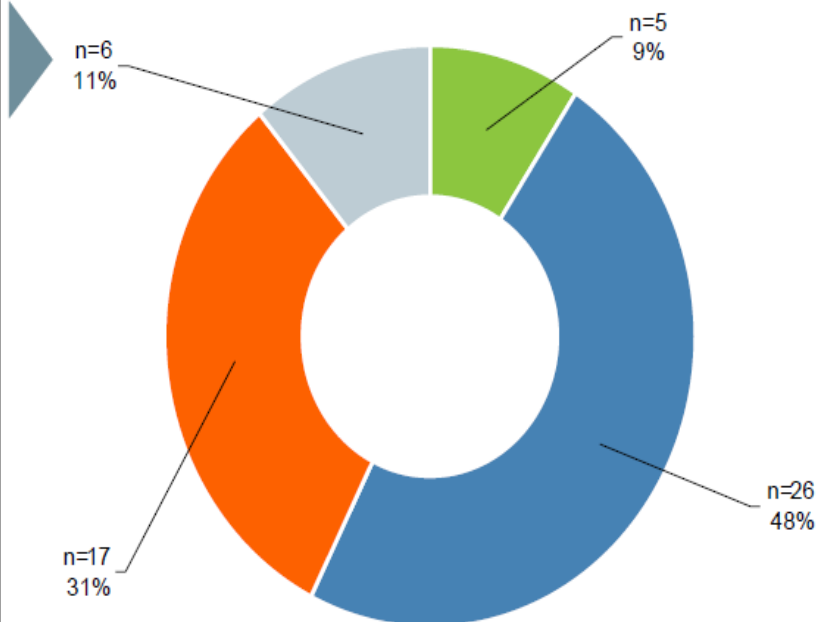
February 23, 2023

Etranacogene Dezaparvovec for Hemophilia B: Final Analysis of the HOPE-B Trial

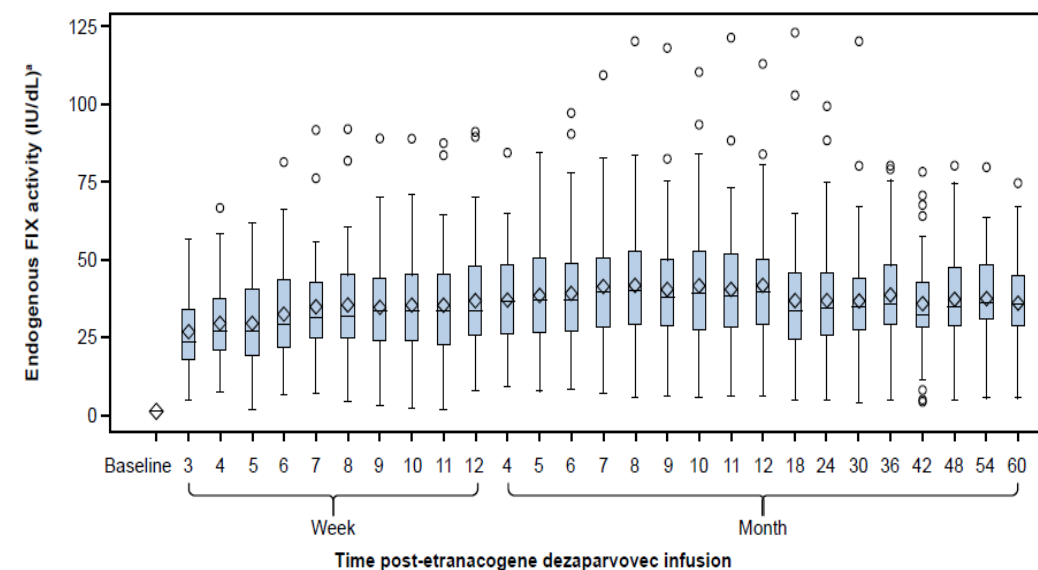
Pipe SW, Miesbach W, Recht M, Leebeek FWG, Key NS, Castaman G, Lattimore S, Coppens M, Le Quellec S, Mahajan V, Gill S, Drelich D, Monahan P, on behalf of the HOPE-B Trial Group investigators

NEJM, in press

Reason for missing/uninterpretable data	Last available uncontaminated FIX activity (IU/dL)
Only received ~10% of etranacogene dezaparvovec dose and withdrew efficacy consent	1.7
Did not respond to treatment, like due to a high baseline AAV5 neutralizing antibody titer (3212) and withdrew efficacy consent	1.5
Death at month 15 (unrelated to treatment)	43.7
Liver transplant (HCC unrelated to treatment)	36.7
Returned to FIX prophylaxis at month 30	4.2
Death at month 54 (unrelated to treatment)	33.1

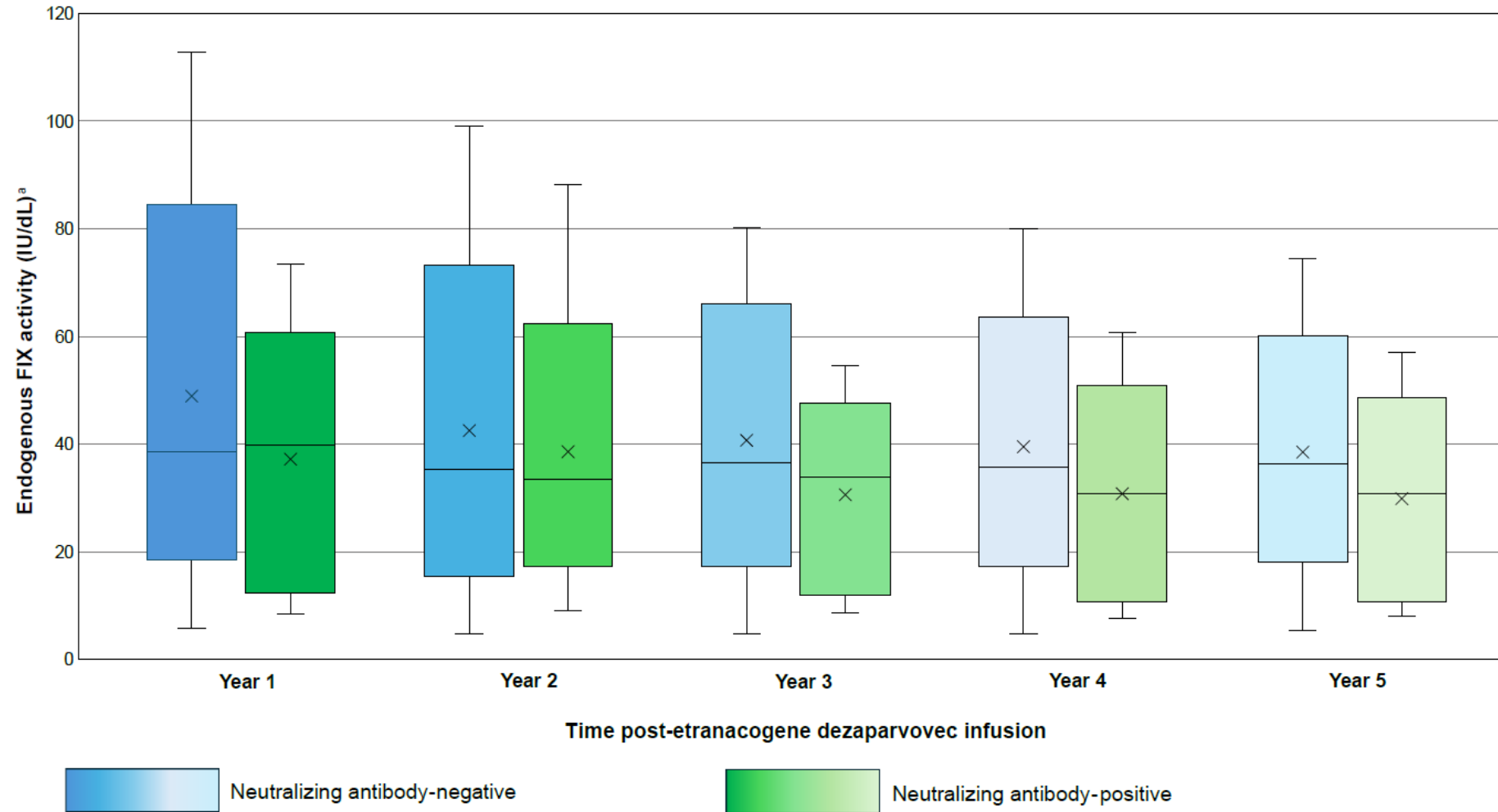


■ 5 to <12 IU/dL ■ 12 to <40 IU/dL ■ 40 to <100 IU/dL ■ Missing/uninterpretable data



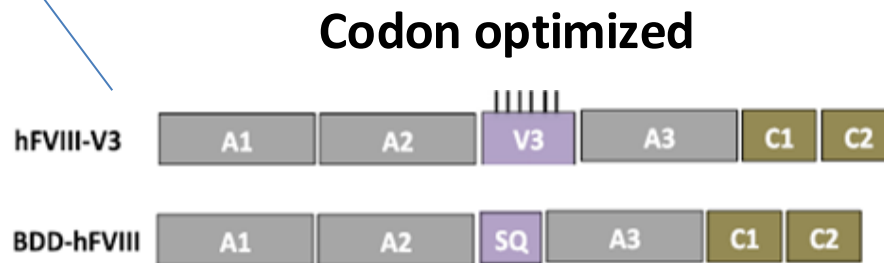
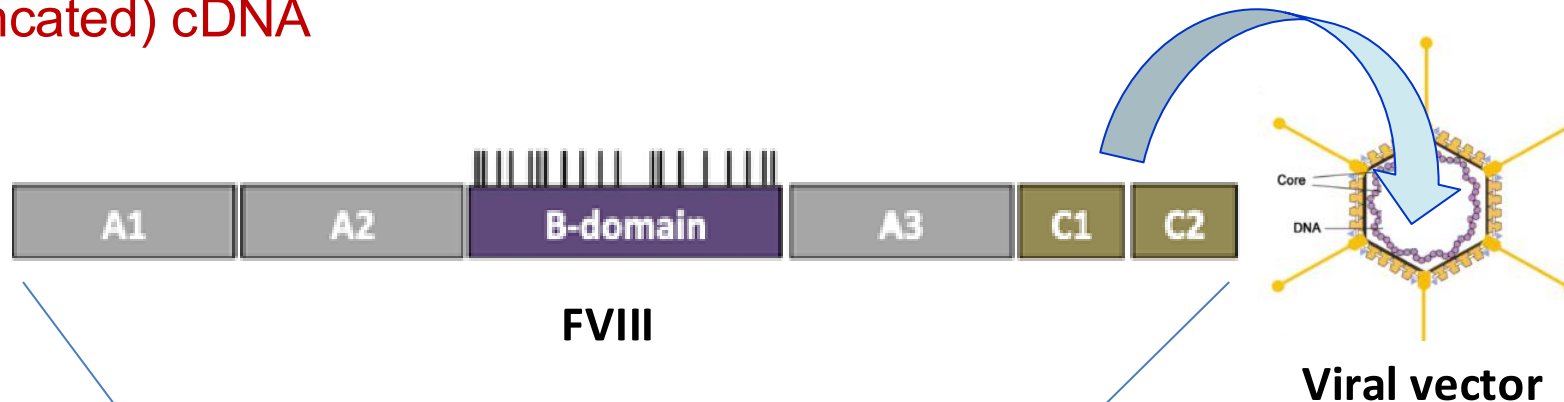
Number of participants with data: 54 43 49 51 47 46 48 46 44 46 51 48 45 51 47 45 51 50 50 50 50 50 49 48 50 47 47 48

No difference in outcome between those AAV5-Ab positive vs AAV5-Ab negative

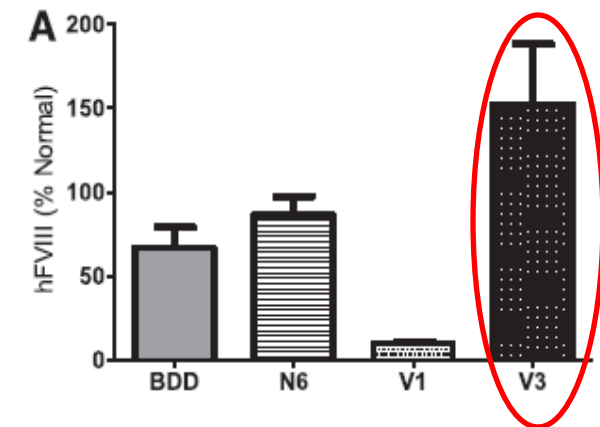


Hemophilia A gene therapy: general aspects

- The size of the native FVIII cDNA of ~9 kb precludes packaging into clinically applicable vectors, and thus all current FVIII transgene constructs utilize a **B domain-deleted (or truncated) cDNA**



The animal models showed an increase in FVIII expression levels

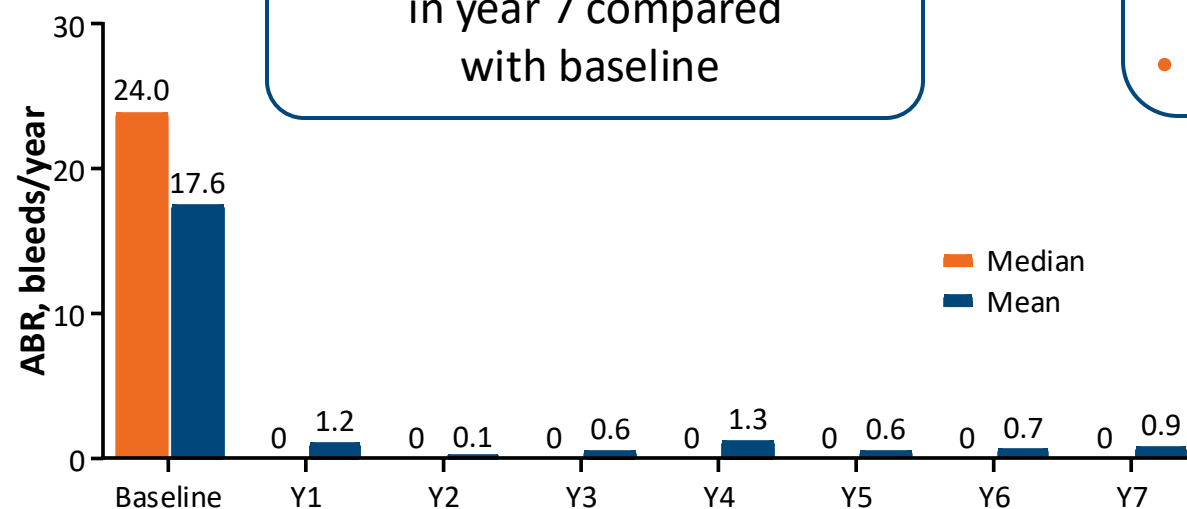


- Replacement of the FVIII B domain with a 17 amino acid peptide containing 6 glycosylation sequences has also been demonstrated to **enhance FVIII trafficking and secretion**

Haemophilia A: phase 1/2 clinical trial, year 7 outcomes

High dose cohort (N=7)*

96% reduction in mean ABR
in year 7 compared
with baseline



- 71.4% remained off prophylaxis after 7 years
- 95% reduction in annualised FVIII infusion rate
- Safety remains consistent with previous data

FVIII activity (IU/dL) (N=5)		
CSA	Mean	16.2
	Median	10.3
OSA	Mean	23.9
	Median	19.4

Majority of participants maintained haemostasis with continued therapeutic FVIII expression and sustained clinical benefit

Results from 270-201 study

*Dose: 6×10^{13} vg/kg

Symington E et al. PO124 EAHAD 2024 Congress, February 6-9, Frankfurt, Germany

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

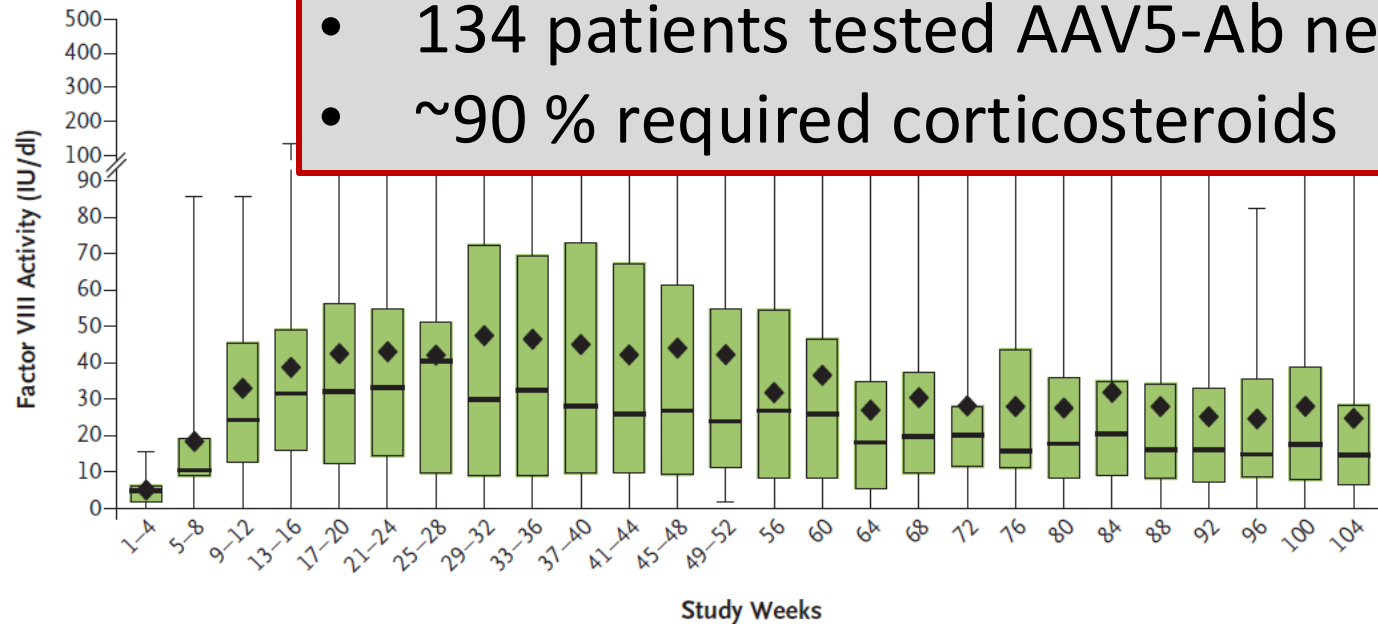
MARCH 17, 2022

VOL. 386 NO. 11

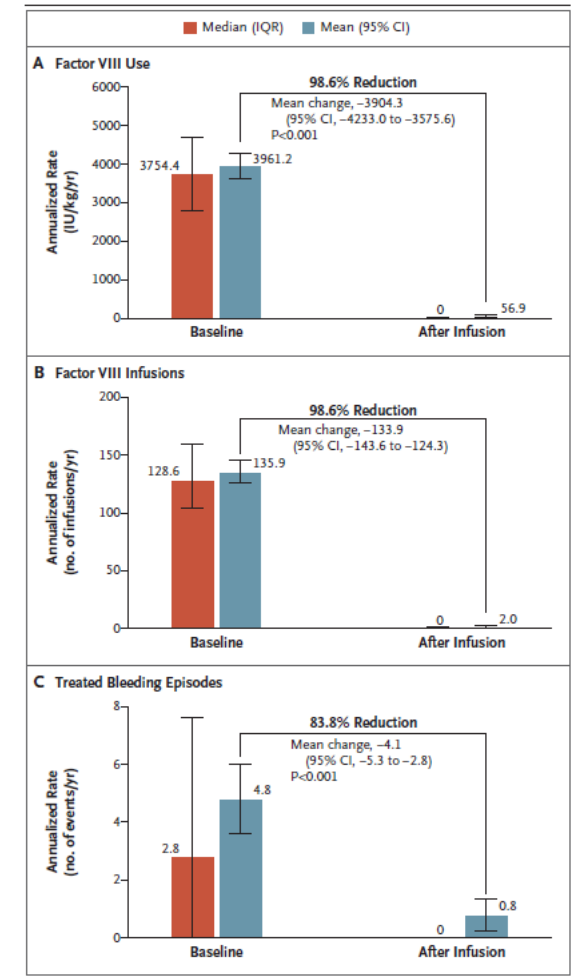
Valoctocogene Roxaparvovec Gene Therapy for Hemophilia A

M.C. Ozelo, J. Mahlangu, K.J. Pasi, A. Giermasz, A.D. Leavitt, M. Laffan, E. Symington, D.V. Quon, J.-D. Wang, K. Peerlinck, S.W. Pipe, B. Madan, N.S. Key, G.F. Pierce, B. O'Mahony, R. Kaczmarek, J. Henshaw, A. Lawal, K. Jayaram, M. Huang, X. Yang, W.Y. Wong, and B. Kim, for the GENE8-1 Trial Group*

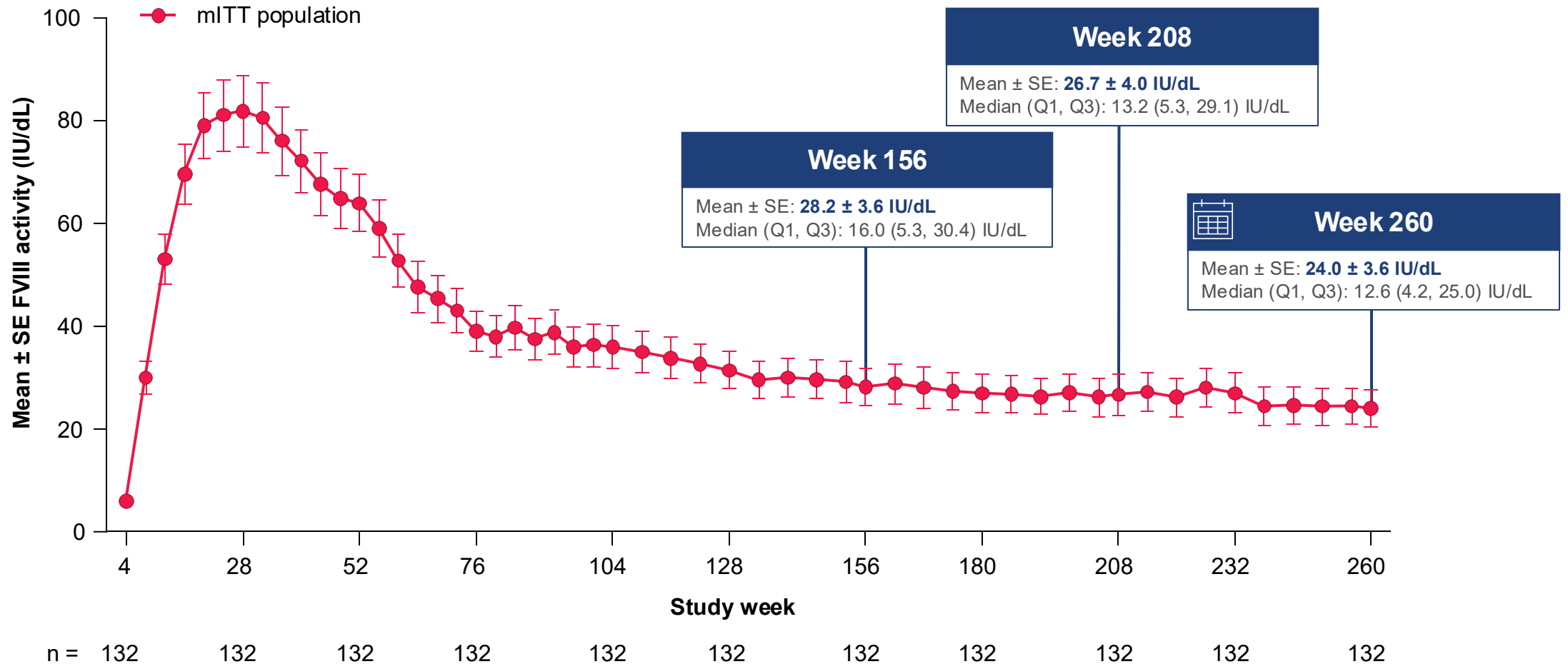
B Modified Intention-to-Treat



- 134 patients tested AAV5-Ab negative
- ~90 % required corticosteroids



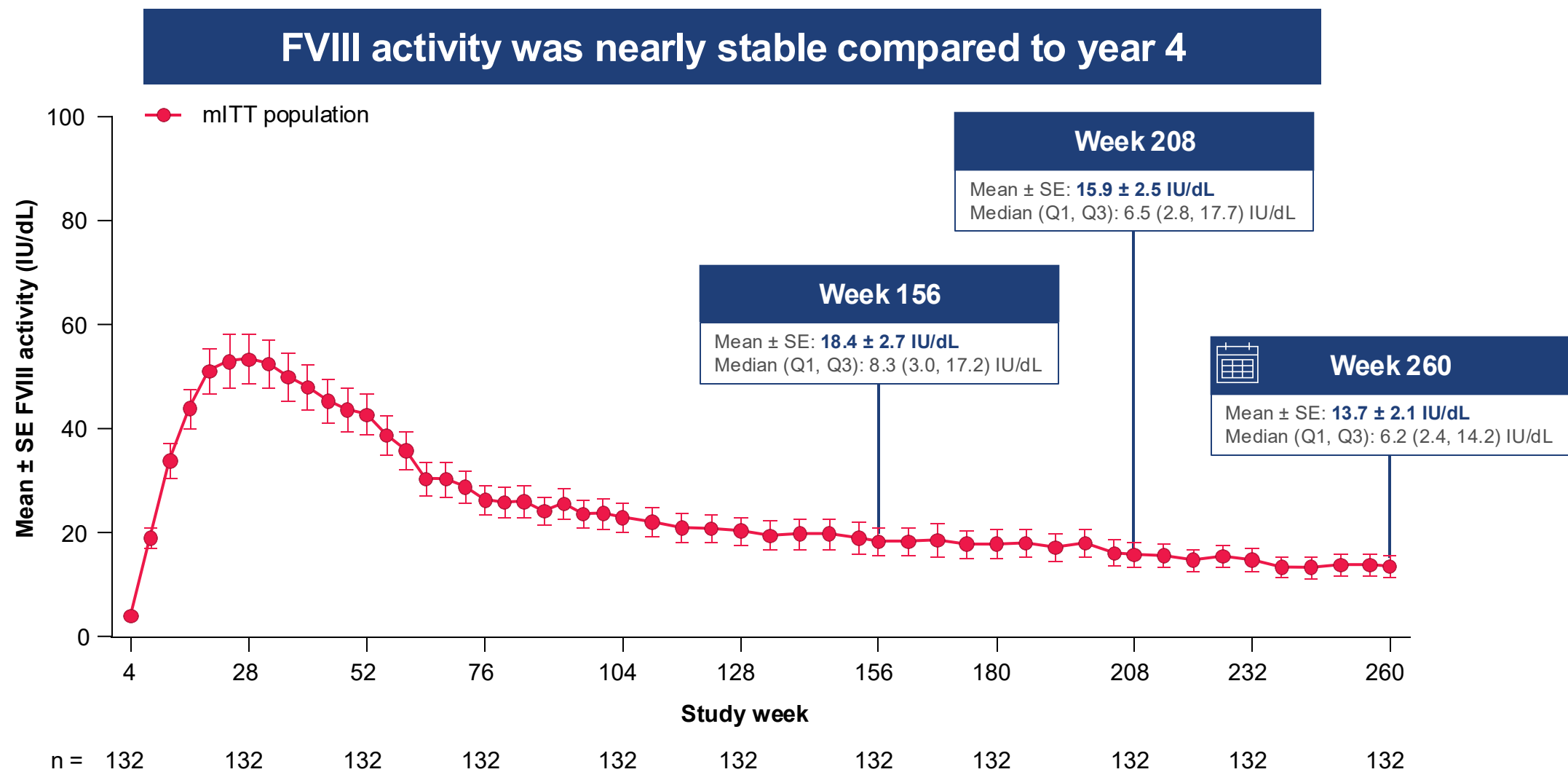
FVIII activity across the trial (OSA)



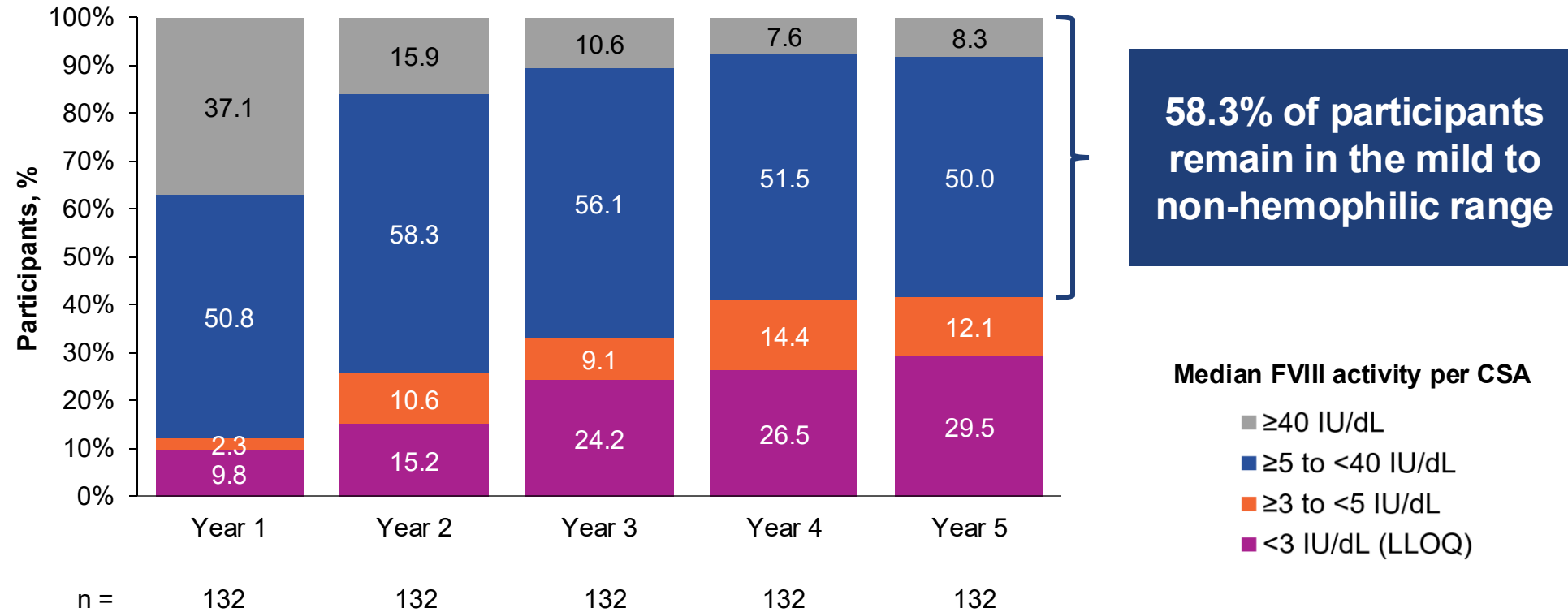
For participants who discontinued the study, missing FVIII values post-discontinuation were imputed as 0 IU/dL through the data cutoff date.
FVIII, factor VIII; mITT, modified intention-to-treat; Q, quartile; OSA, one-stage assay; SE, standard error.

mITT population (N = 132)

FVIII activity across the trial (CSA)



FVIII activity (CSA) at the end of year 5

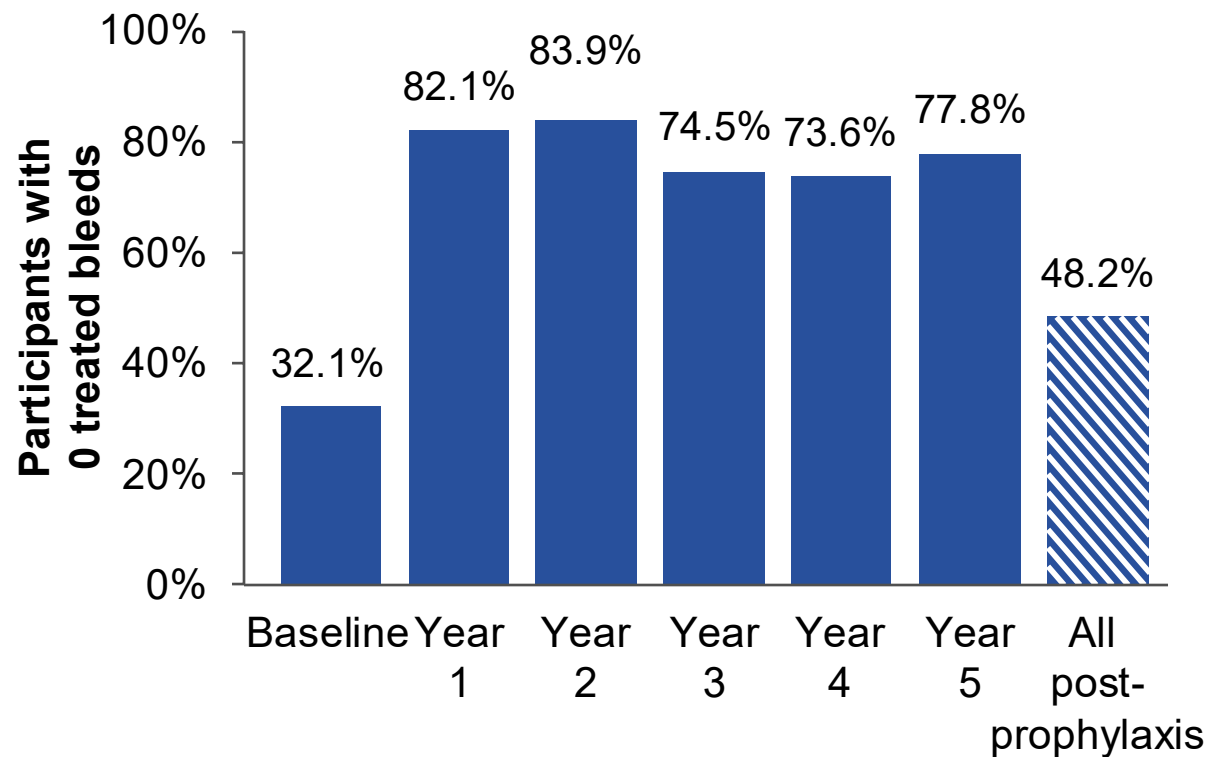


For participants who discontinued the study, missing FVIII values post-discontinuation were imputed as 0 IU/dL through the data cutoff date. CSA, chromogenic substrate assay; FVIII, factor VIII; LLOQ, lower limit of quantification; mITT, modified intention-to-treat.

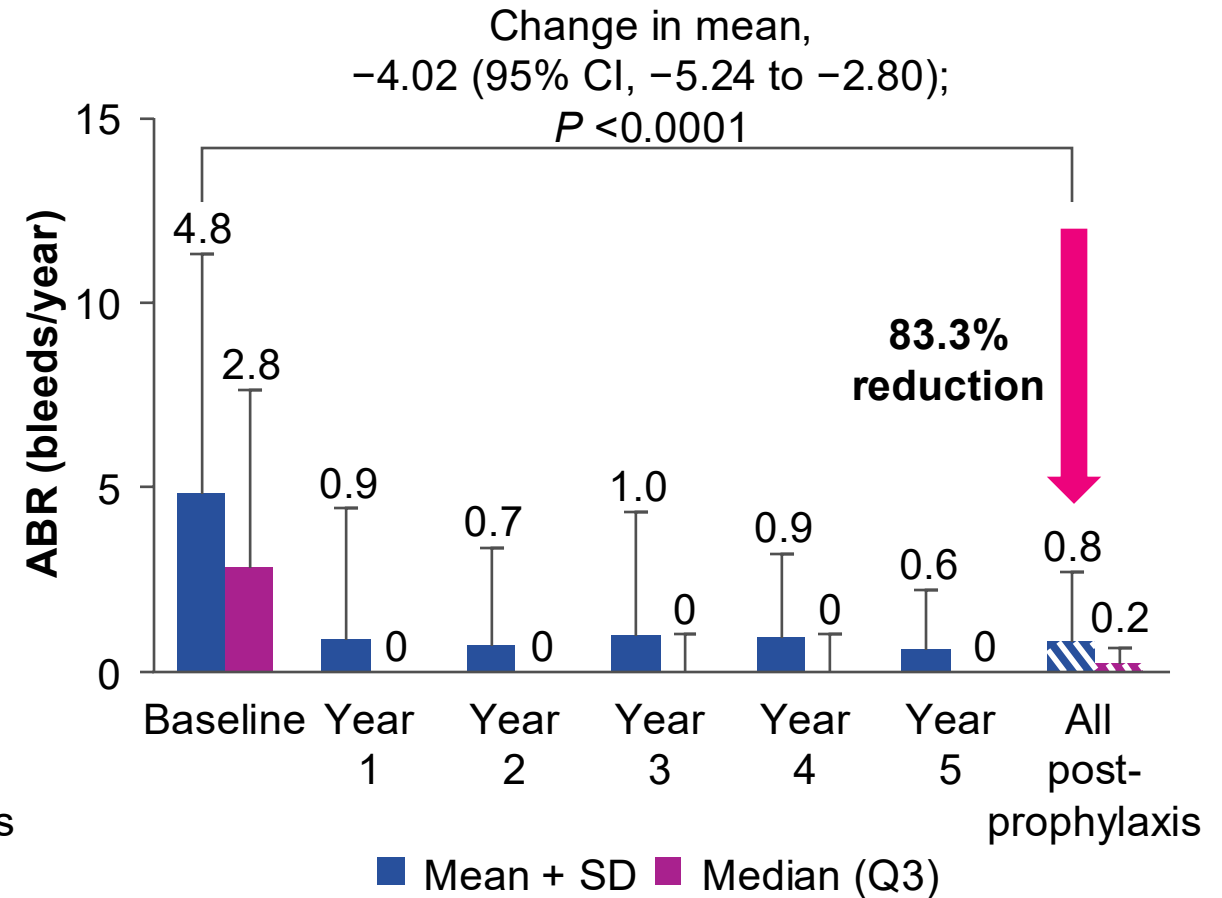
mITT population (N = 132)

Annualized bleeding rate (rollover population)

Reduction in treated bleeds was maintained over 5 years



n = 112 112 110 110 110 108 112

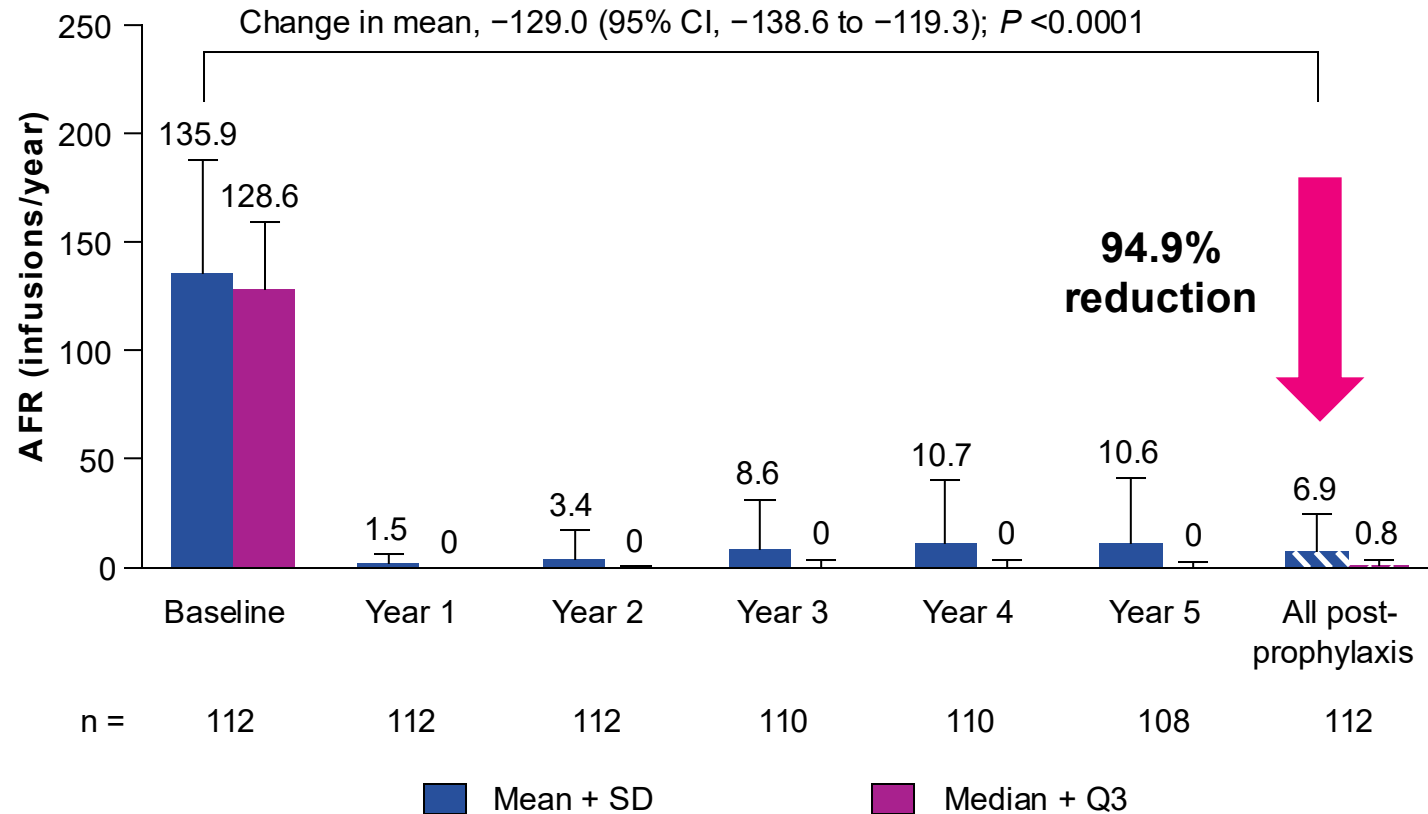


n = 112 112 112 110 110 108 112

Missing data were not imputed.
ABR, annualized bleeding rate; CI, confidence interval; Q, quartile; SD, standard deviation.

Annualized FVIII infusion rate (rollover population)

Reduction of FVIII infusion rate was maintained over 5 years

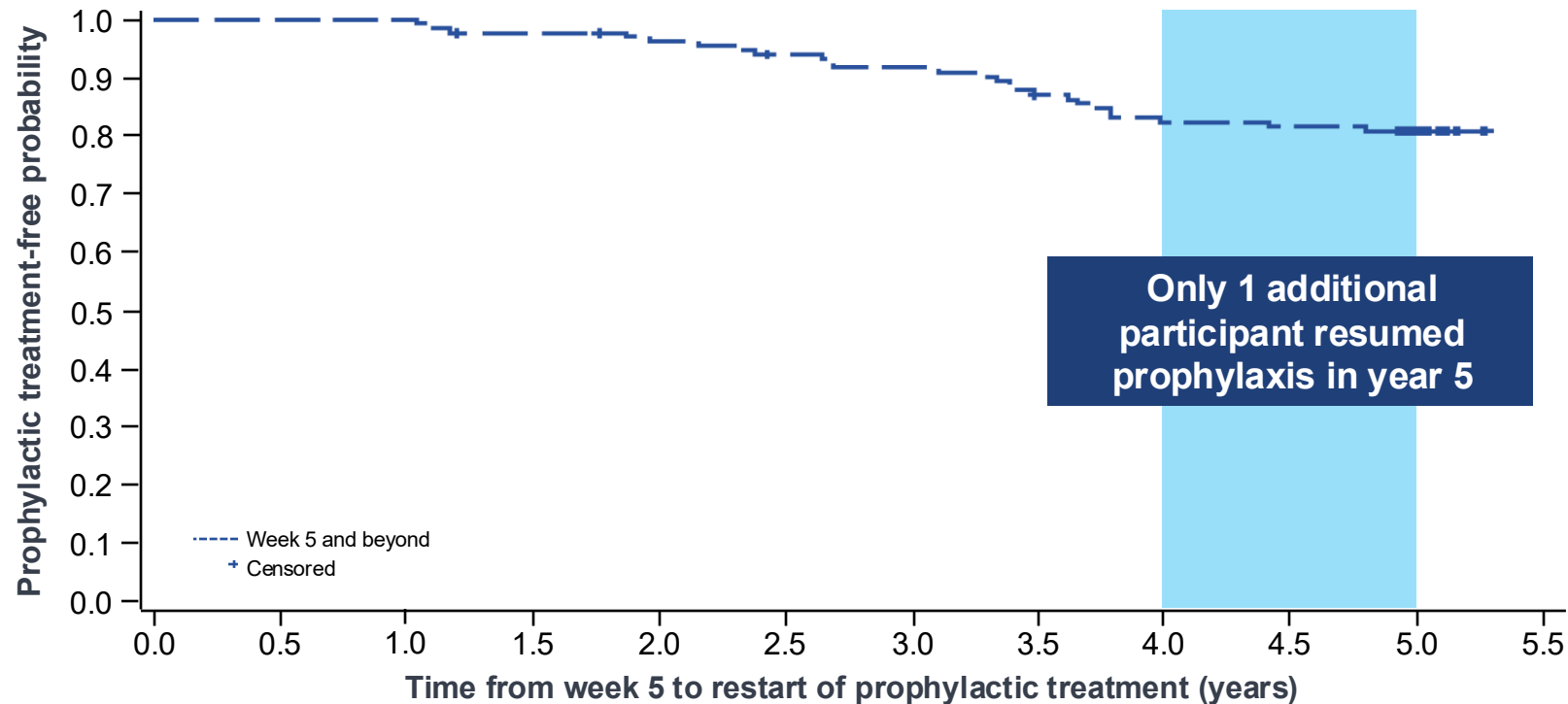


Missing data were not imputed.

AFR, annualized FVIII infusion rate; CI, confidence interval; FVIII, factor VIII; Q, quartile; SD, standard deviation.

Most participants continue to remain off prophylaxis at year 5

81.3% (109/134) of participants remain off prophylaxis



Of 25 participants who resumed prophylaxis, 68% had a lower treated annualized bleeding rate before resuming vs baseline

Safety: Likelihood of Transaminitis After Gene Therapy

Manifestations^[1-3]

- Transient increases in ALT and/or AST levels that usually occur within the first 4 to 12 weeks after infusion
- May be accompanied by reductions in FVIII level
- Commonly reported in trials of AAV-based hemophilia A gene therapy:
 - **Valoctocogene: 86%**^[1]
 - **Giroctocogene: 82%**^[2]
 - **Dirloctocogene: 52%**^[3]
 - **Etranacogene Dezaparvovec 20 %**

Possible Mechanisms^[4]

- Anti-AAV cytotoxic T-cell response
- Hepatocyte apoptosis induced by high factor expression/ER stress
- Direct effect of vector particle load

Typical Management^[1-4]

- Oral corticosteroids for 2 to 3 months, tapering the dose as transaminase levels normalize
- Therapy course may be longer depending on response

Transaminitis in hemophilia A gene therapy

Participants, n (%)		Year 1 (N = 134)	Year 2 (N = 134)	Year 3 (N = 132)	Year 4 (N = 131)	Year 5 (N = 129)	All follow-up
AEs		134 (100.0)	112 (83.6)	104 (78.8)	98 (74.8)	102 (79.1)	134 (100.0)
SAEs		21 (15.7)	6 (4.5)	9 (6.8)	11 (8.4)	4 (3.1)	37 (27.6)
Treatment-related AEs^a		124 (92.5)	27 (20.1)	15 (11.5)	10 (7.6)	5 (3.9)	124 (92.5)
Glucocorticoid-related AEs^a		81 (60.4)	10 (7.5)	1 (0.8)	1 (0.8)	0	82 (61.2)
AEs of special interest	ALT elevation	116 (86.6)	39 (29.1)	31 (23.7)	49 (37.4)	52 (40.3)	125 (93.3)
	ALT elevation ≥grade 3	10 (7.5)	1 (0.7)	0	0	0	10 (7.5)
	Potential Hy's law case	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infusion-related reactions ^b	12 (9.0)	0	0	0	0	12 (9.0)
	Systemic hypersensitivity	7 (5.2)	0	0	0	0	7 (5.2)
	Anaphylactic or anaphylactoid reactions	3 (2.2)	0	0	0	0	3 (2.2)
	Thromboembolic events	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Anti-FVIII neutralizing antibodies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Malignancy (except nonmelanoma skin cancer)	0	0	1 (0.8)	0	0	1 (0.7)

^aTreatment-related and glucocorticoid-related AEs were assessed by the investigator.

^bInfusion-related reactions were defined as AEs occurring during valoctocogene roxaparvovec infusion or within 6 hours post-infusion.

AE, adverse event; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; FVIII, factor VIII; ITT, intention-to-treat; SAE, serious AE.

Integration analysis reveals no evidence of a causal relationship to cancer

- **Six incidental cancer cases** identified in haemophilia gene therapy clinical trials

Case of HCC 1 year after HB gene therapy¹



- 69-year-old patient
- History of hepatitis B and C
- Family history of cancer

Other cases²⁻⁴:

Following HA gene therapy:

- Parotid acinic cell carcinoma
- B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

Following HB gene therapy:

- Tonsillar carcinoma
- Localised prostate adenocarcinoma
- Non-mucinous lung adenocarcinoma in situ

- **Robust analyses** submitted to regulatory agencies conclude that a causal relationship between gene therapy and these cancer cases is **very unlikely**
- Current evidence shows an **acceptable safety profile**
- **Long-term follow-up** of PwH receiving gene therapy continues^{5,6}

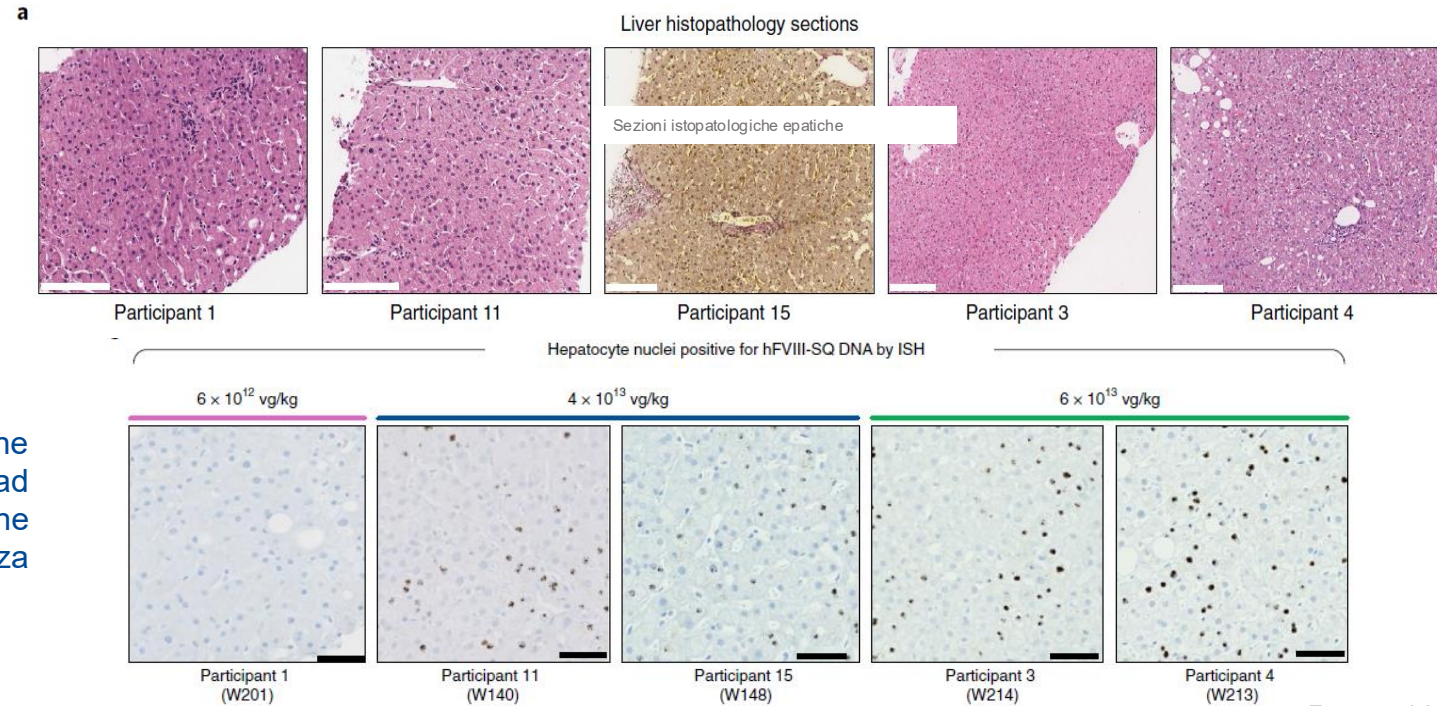
1. Schmidt M et al. Blood Adv 2023;7:4966-9; 2. Castaman G et al. Exp Rev Hematology 2023;1-14; 3. Konkle BA et al. Blood 2021;137:763-74;
4. Reiss UM et al. Abstract 1056 ASH 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition, December 9-12, San Diego, CA, USA;
5. Samelson-Jones BJ et al. Annu Rev Med 2023;74:231-47; 6. Nathwani AC. Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program 2022;2022:569-78

Studio BMN 270-201 | Espressione post-infusione di valoctocogene roxaparvovec nel fegato

In un sotto-studio dello studio clinico di fase 1/2, sono stati raccolti campioni di biopsia epatica 2,6-4,1 anni dopo il trasferimento genico da 5 partecipanti.

L'istopatologia non ha rivelato displasia, anomalie strutturali, fibrosi o infiammazione cronica e non è stato rilevato stress del reticolo endoplasmatico negli epatociti che esprimono la proteina hFVIII-SQ.

Una singola infusione endovenosa di valoctocogene roxaparvovec (AAV5-hFVIII-SQ), somministrata ad adulti con emofilia A grave, ha portato alla trasduzione del fegato umano in tutti i tessuti campionati senza distorsioni zonali all'interno dei lobuli epatici.



Fong et al 2022

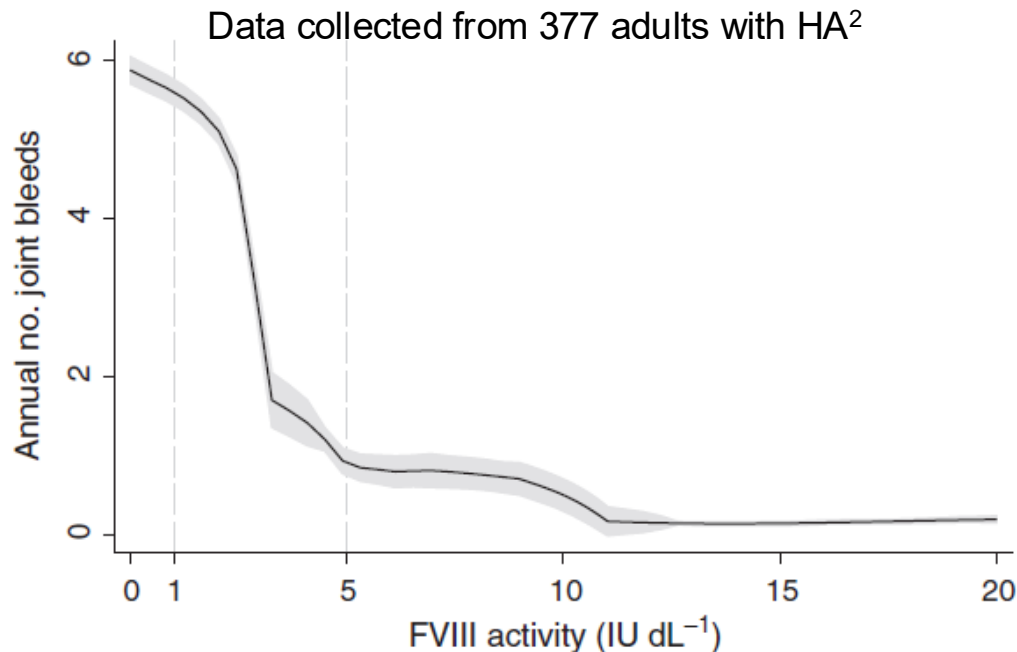
Nel complesso, questi risultati dimostrano la persistenza di strutture vettoriali episomali dopo la somministrazione di AAV5-hFVIII-SQ e contribuiscono a chiarire i possibili meccanismi che mediano la variabilità interindividuale.

AAV5: virus adeno-associato di sierotipo 5; DNA: acido desossiribonucleico; ISH: ibridazione in-situ; hFVIII-SQ: forma SQ del fattore di coagulazione umano VIII; W: settimana; vg/Kg: genomi del vettore per chilogrammo.

How are factor levels associated with clinical outcomes of gene therapy?

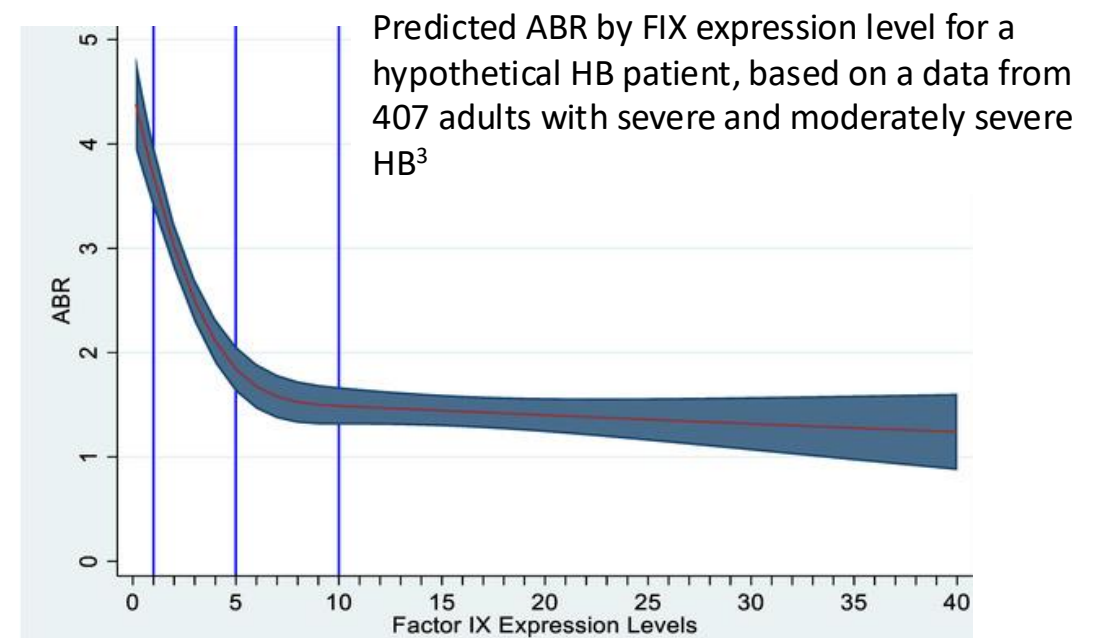
Haemophilia A

Results from several studies indicate that number of joint bleeds approaches to near-zero with **FVIII activity levels 15-50%**¹



Haemophilia B

Data suggest that **FIX activity levels >25%** could be sufficient to eradicate all bleeding events³



Clinical trial data: key take-aways



Long-term durability of gene therapy:

- **HA:** >80% of participants remain **off prophylaxis** after 4 years and >70% after 7 years
- **HB:** >90% of participants remain **off prophylaxis** after 5 years and >50% after 10 years



Gene therapy has the potential to **positively impact** the patient's **quality of life**



- **Short-term tolerability profile is manageable**
- No new short- or long-term safety signals identified in ongoing trials



- **Consistent long-term safety profile** with monitoring beyond 7 years ongoing
- Causal relationship between gene therapy and malignancies is very unlikely

Limits for AAV-based gene therapy

- Adjunctive, non-corrective
- Expression outcome unpredictable
- Not for pediatric age

At present, it is expected no more than 20-25 % of HA and
~ 30-40 % HB patients are eligible

- Antibodies against the vector
- Role of «transaminitis»; vector dose
- Liver disease
- Long-term durability
- Genotoxicity

Conclusions

- Big step forward, potential for cure, still limited follow-up
 - Available clinical trials provided information for transgene expression likely at therapeutic levels long-term for hemophilia B, medium for hemophilia A
 - Abolition of bleeding events in most, with ↓concentrate consumption
 - Population eligible limited, transaminitis in hemophilia A
 - Other technologies in development (e.g., Lentivirus, CRISPR/Cas9...)
 - Careful evaluation within the available therapeutic landscape

Conclusions...

- Hemophilia treatment is approaching new therapeutic paradigms , with rapidly evolving scenario, mainly aimed at enhancing **prophylaxis** and eventually providing **cure**
- These novel approaches open new perspectives which require teaching, learning, education, and experience to manage all the aspects of novel treatments in the «real-life»:
 - Laboratory monitoring
 - Effects and role in PUPS
 - Which role vs ITI in patients with inhibitors
 - Treatment of breakthrough bleeds
 - Management of elective major surgery
 - Management of post-trauma/emergency surgery

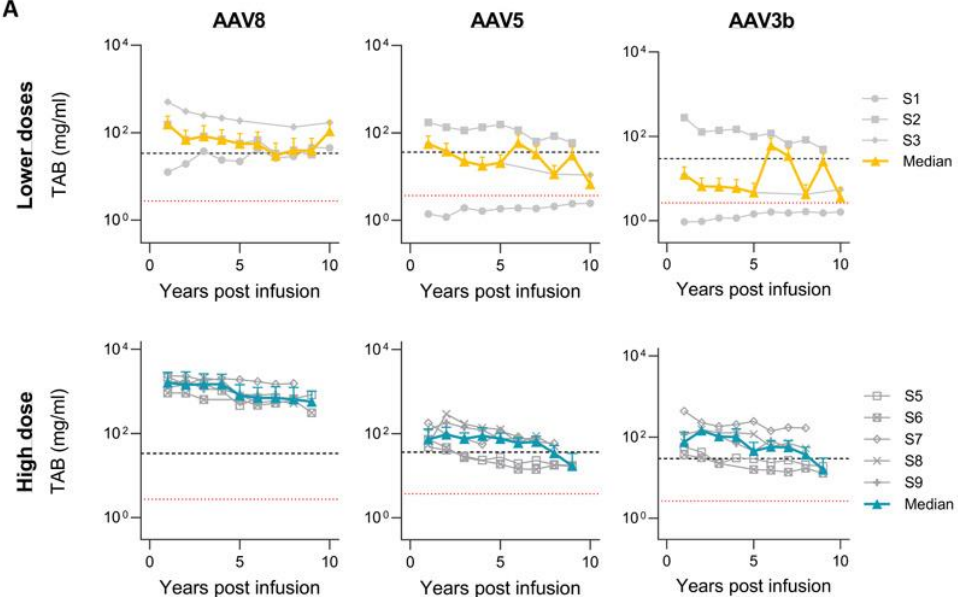
...on the way

Predictability of transgene expression level and durability

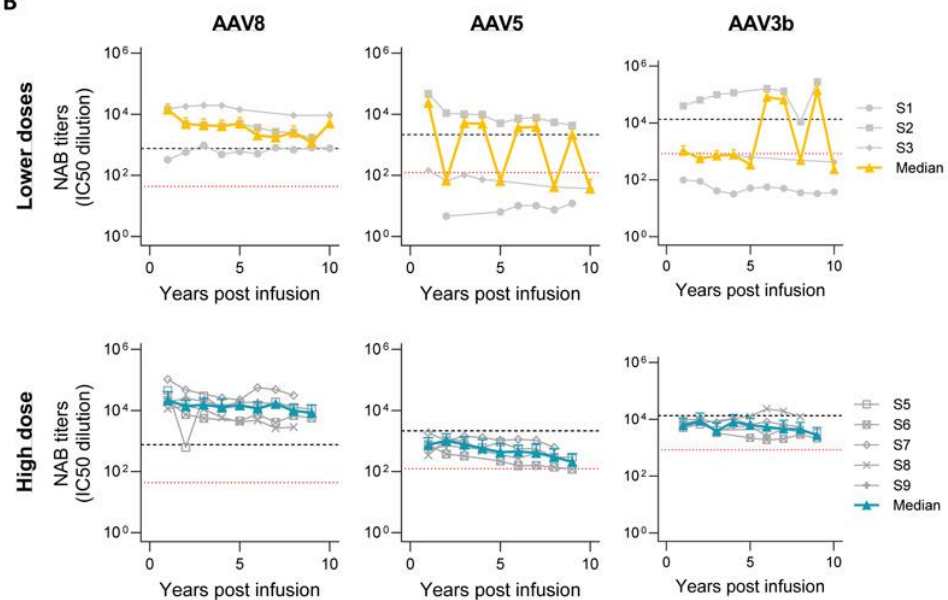
- Probably the most critical questions that patients will ask about potential outcomes of hemophilia gene therapy are:
 - **what level of factor will I achieve with gene therapy?**
 - **how long will the effect last?**
- a) In human trials to date, **there is significant variability in the factor levels** that in some instances is as high as >10-fold (0.20 to >2.00 IU/mL)
- b) In terms of **durability of transgene expression**, Human FIX gene therapy studies in adult patients are now ~ 10 years post-single administration, with minimal evidence of a decline in plasma FIX levels



A

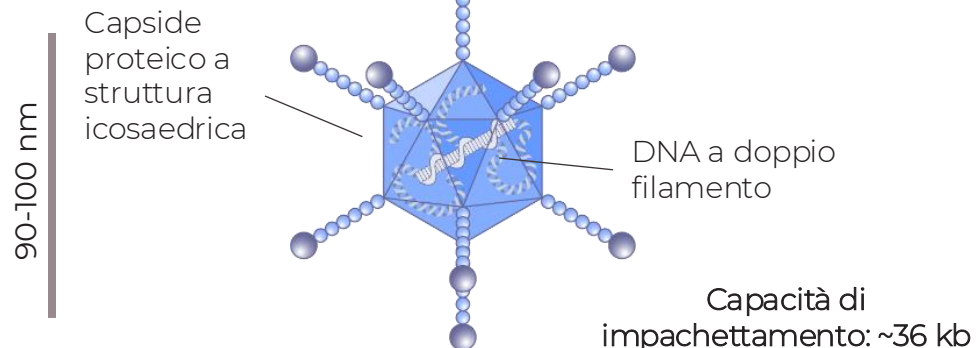


B



Differenze tra Adenovirus e Virus Adeno-Associati ¹⁻²

Adenovirus



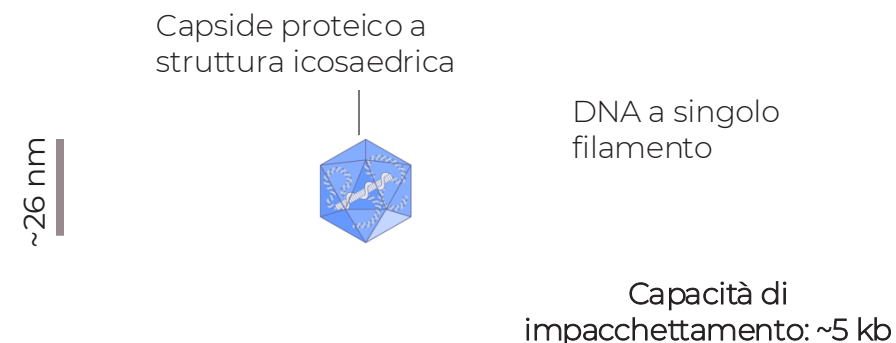
Virus

- Patogeno; noto per causare infezioni nell'uomo (es. infezioni del tratto respiratorio superiore)
- Può replicarsi nelle cellule ospiti senza un virus helper

Vettore

- Grande capacità di impacchettamento
- Altamente immunogenico e infiammatorio
- Candidato ideale per l'immunoterapia dei tumori e per i nuovi vaccini (es. Ebola, influenza)

AAV



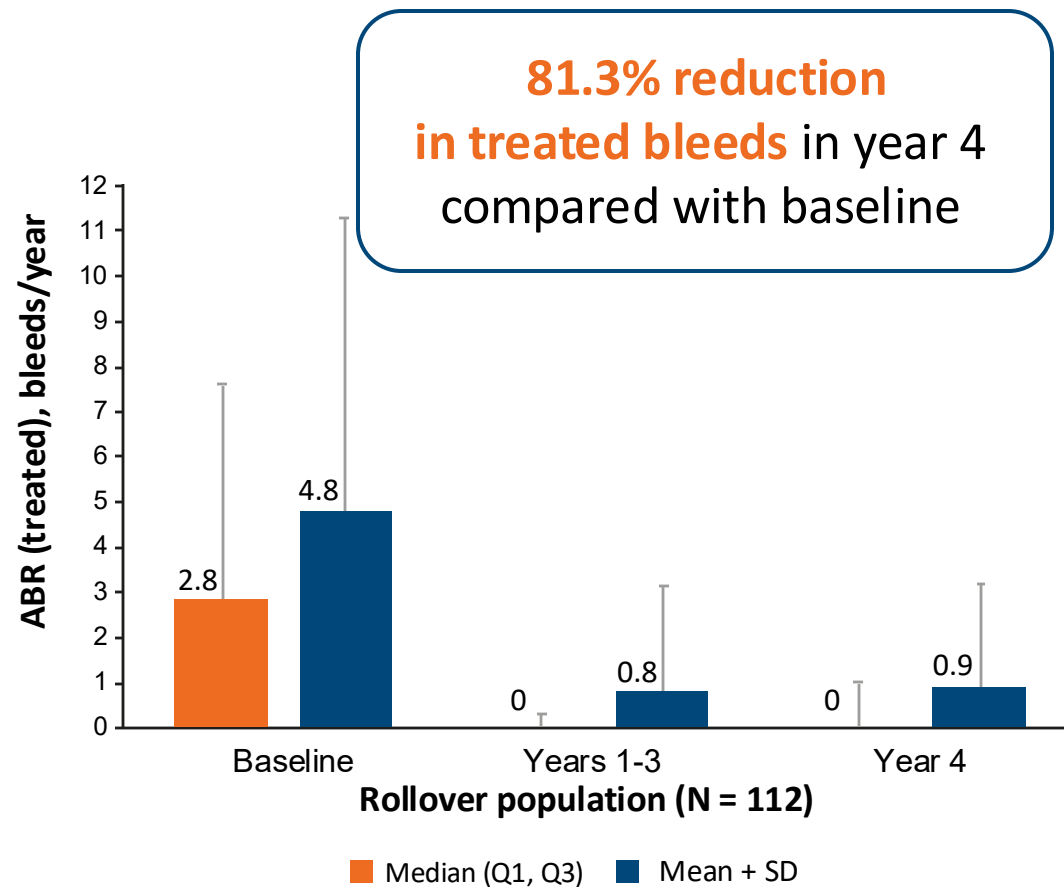
Virus

- Non patogeno e non associato ad alcuna malattia
- Non può replicarsi nelle cellule ospiti senza un virus helper

Vettore

- Ridotta capacità di impacchettamento
- Non stimola la risposta infiammatoria e non è tossico
- Persiste nei tessuti, consentendo l'espressione a lungo termine del transgene

Haemophilia A gene therapy: phase 3, year 4 outcomes



- **82.1%** remained **off prophylaxis** in year 4
- **73.6%** had **no treated bleeds** during year 4
- **92.2% decrease** in mean annualised FVIII **infusion rate** compared with baseline
- **HRQoL improved** 6.2 points over baseline*
- **Consistent safety profile** maintained over 4 years post-administration

FVIII activity (IU/dL) after 4 years (N=130)		
CSA	Mean ± SD	16.1 ± 28.9
	Median (Q1,Q3)	6.7 (2.8, 17.8)
OSA	Mean ± SD	27.1 ± 45.7
	Median (Q1, Q3)	13.5 (5.3, 29.1)

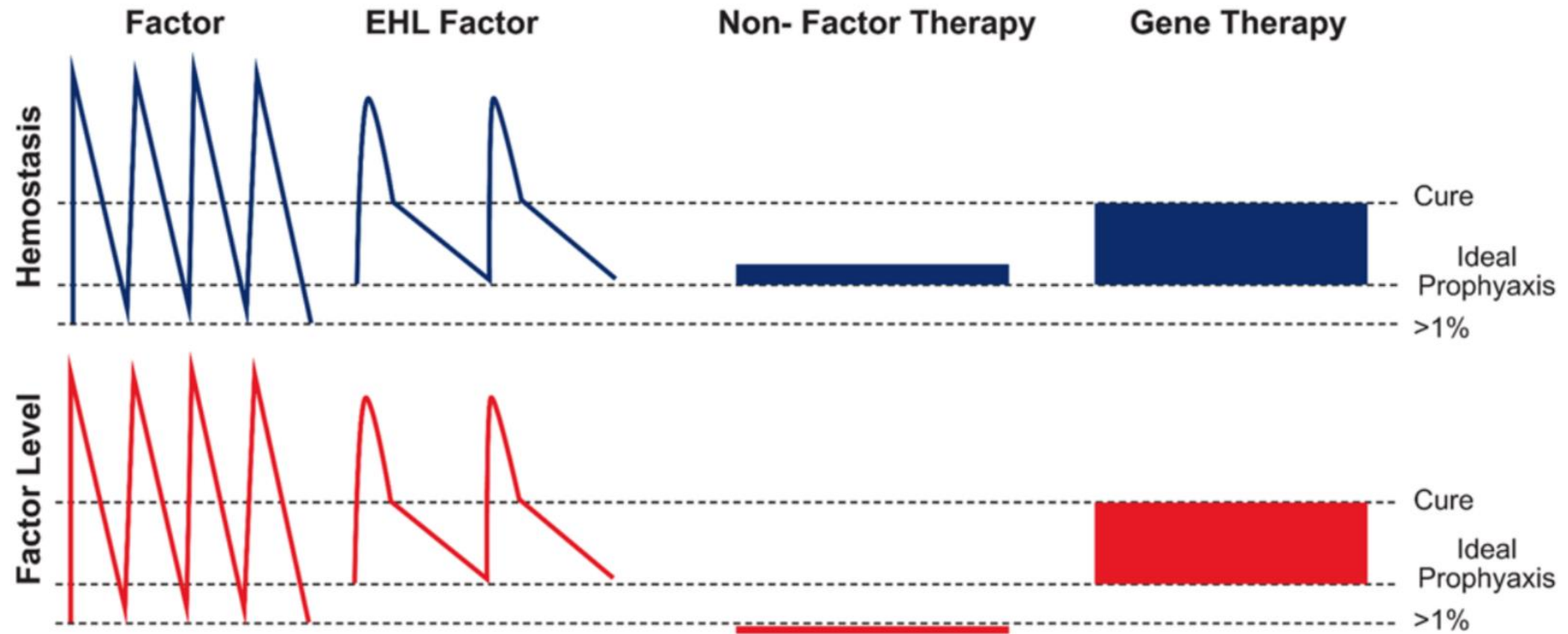
Results of the GENER8-1 trial

*As measured by mean Haemo-QOL-A Total Score. A difference of 5.5 points is considered clinically important.

CSA: chromogenic substrate assay; OSA: one-stage clotting assay; SD: standard deviation

Leavitt AD et al. Abstract THSNA 2024 Congress, April 4-6, Chicago, IL, USA; Madan B et al. J Thromb Haemost. 2024;S1538-7836(24)00184-3; Mahlangu J et al. N Engl J Med. 2023;388:694-705; Mahlangu J et al. Oral presentation at GTH 2023, February 21-24, Frankfurt, Germany

The Benefits of Gene Therapy



From: Arruda et al., Blood, 2017

Invasive procedures and surgery following etranacogene dezaparvovec gene therapy in people with hemophilia B

Niamh O’Connell^{1,2} | Paul van der Valk³ | Sandra Le Quellec⁴ | Esteban Gomez⁵ | Paul E. Monahan⁴ | Shelley E. Crary⁶ | Michiel Coppens^{7,8} | Richard Lemons⁹ | Giancarlo Castaman¹⁰ | Robert Klamroth¹¹ | Emily Symington¹² | Doris V. Quon¹³ | Peter Kampmann¹⁴

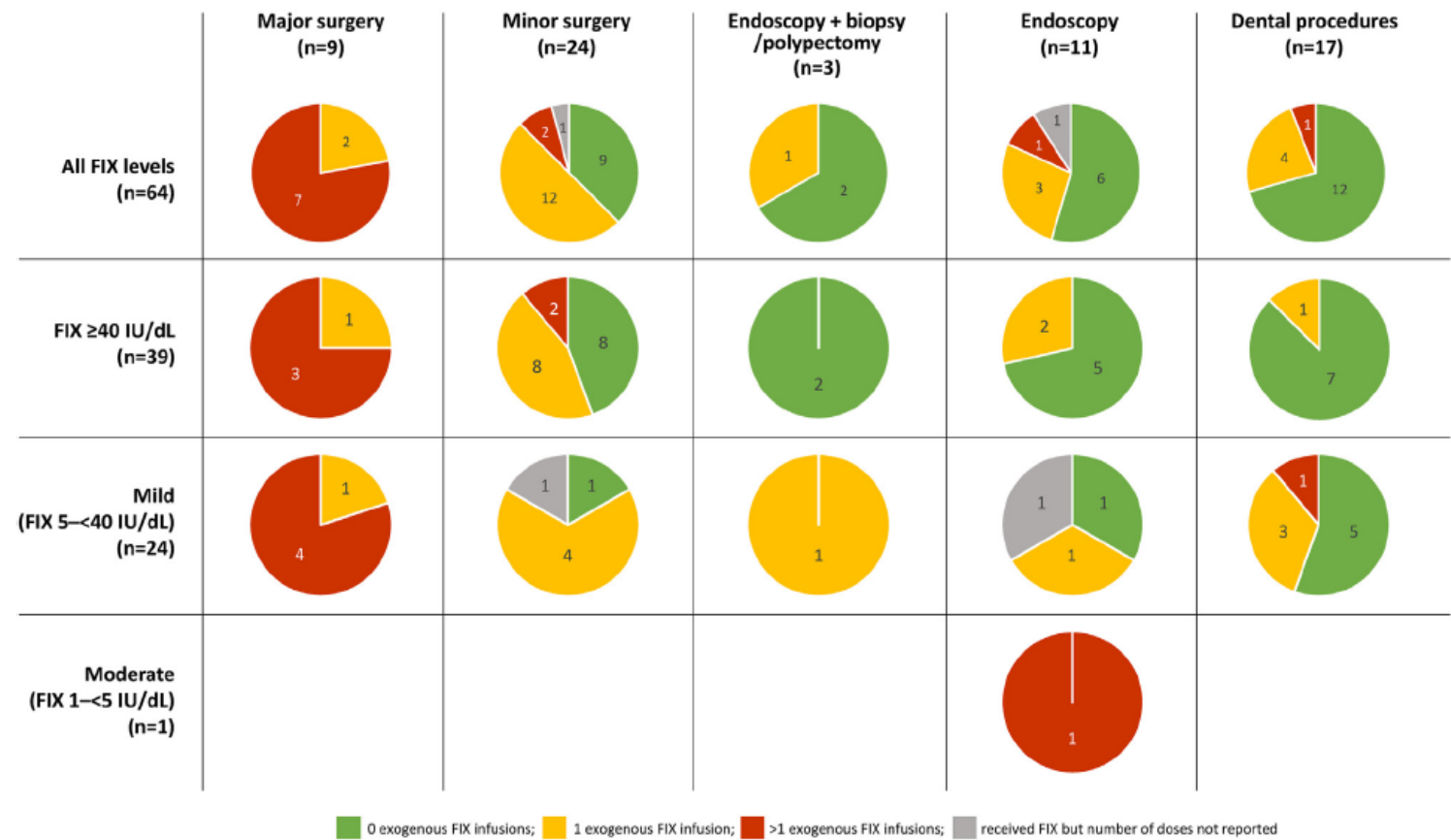
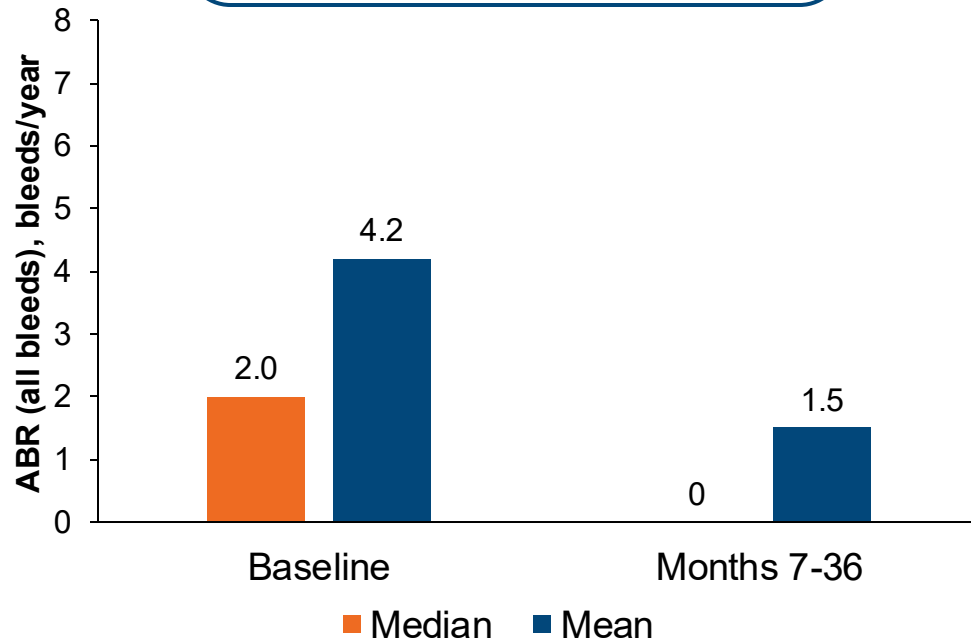


FIGURE 3 Procedures (elective and emergency) without exogenous factor (F)IX infusion, 1 exogenous FIX infusion, or more than 1 exogenous FIX infusion overall and by last recorded central laboratory FIX activity corresponding to moderate HB (FIX, 1 to <5 IU/dL), mild HB (FIX, 5 to <40 IU/dL), or nonhemophilia levels (FIX, ≥40 IU/dL).

Haemophilia B gene therapy: phase 3, year 3 outcomes (HOPE-B with FIX Padua)

64% reduction in mean ABR in year 3 compared with baseline



- Mean annualised **FIX consumption decreased 96%** compared with baseline
- **94%** remained **off continuous FIX prophylaxis** in year 3
- **Favourable safety profile** maintained over 3 years post-administration

FIX activity (IU/dL) (N=48)		
OSA	Mean ± SD	38.6 ± 17.8
	Median (Q1, Q3)	36.0 (4.8, 80.3)

*Dose: 2×10^{13} vg/kg

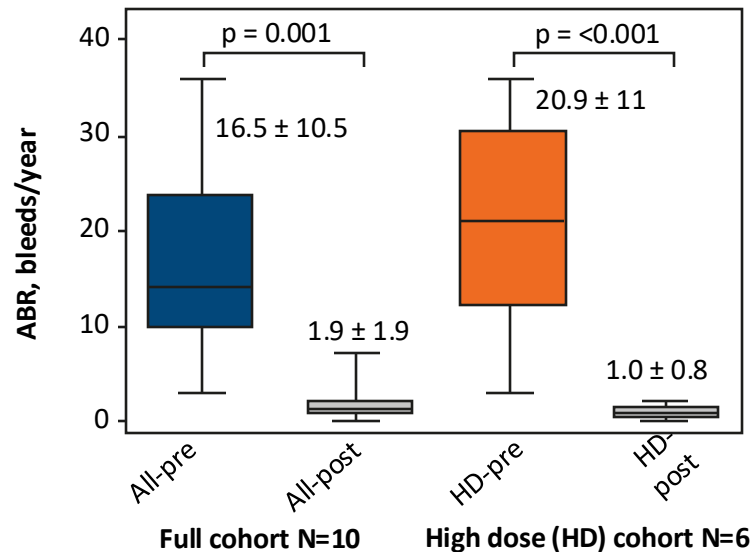
Pipe SW et al. Blood 2023;142(Suppl1):1055; Pipe SW et al. N Engl J Med 2023;388:706-18



(1) lung adenocarcinoma in situ, detected incidentally after bullectomy for recurrent pneumothorax 5 years post-therapy in a 44-year-old with an approximately 10 pack-year smoking history over 27 years, and (2) prostate adenocarcinoma in a 74-year-old 11.6 years post-therapy.

Haemophilia B: phase 1/2 clinical trial, year 10 outcomes

95% reduction in ABR
in year 10 compared with
baseline in high dose cohort^{*,**}



More outcomes in high dose cohort (N=6):

- **93%** reduction in annualised **FVIII infusion rate**^{***}
- **No** new **safety concerns**
- Mean ± SD **FIX activity**[§]: **4.9 ± 2.2** IU/dL

5/10 participants of **all dose cohorts** remained **off prophylaxis**

**Stable therapeutic FIX levels with
durable reduction in ABR and factor concentrate use**

Results from St Jude-UCL gene therapy trial

*Dose: 2×10^{12} vg/kg; **88% reduction in full-dose cohort (N=10); ***89% reduction in full-dose cohort (N=10);

§wild-type FIX

Reiss UM et al. Abstract 1056 ASH 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition, December 9-12, San Diego, CA, USA

Short-term safety data of AAV gene therapy

- Most commonly-reported AE remain:^{1,2}



Mild infusion-related reactions



ALT increases

- Mostly **asymptomatic** and **transient**, with no reports of recurrence beyond a 2-year interval³
- May be associated with a decline in factor expression
- Treatment with corticosteroids may help to save factor expression
- Data suggest increases happen more frequently in haemophilia A gene therapy

AE: adverse event; ALT: alanine aminotransferase

1. Samelson-Jones BJ et al. Annu Rev Med 2023;74:231-47; 2. Castaman G et al. Exp Rev Hematology 2023;1-14;

3. Nathwani AC. Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program 2022;2022:569-78

Long-term safety data of AAV gene therapy at a glance



Study with AAV-cFVIII in HA dogs (median follow-up of >10 years)¹

- **No** evidence of chronic liver disease
- **No** liver malignancy



Haemophilia A and B gene therapy clinical trials

- **No** persistent, or late, liver toxicities observed^{2,3}
- Data up to 7 (HA) and 15 years (HB) reveal **no new safety signals**^{4,5}

1. Batty P et al. Blood 2022;140:2672-83; 2. Samelson-Jones BJ et al. Annu Rev Med 2023;74:231-47; 3. Nathwani AC. Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program 2022;2022:569-78; 4. Symington E et al. Abstract 1381 EAHAD 2024 Congress, February 6-9, Frankfurt, Germany; 5. George LA et al. Mol Ther 2020;28:2073-82

Integration analysis reveals no evidence of a causal relationship to cancer

- **Six incidental cancer cases** identified in haemophilia gene therapy clinical trials

Case of HCC 1 year after HB gene therapy¹



- 69-year-old patient
- History of hepatitis B and C
- Family history of cancer

Other cases²⁻⁴:

Following HA gene therapy:

- Parotid acinic cell carcinoma
- B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

Following HB gene therapy:

- Tonsillar carcinoma
- Localised prostate adenocarcinoma
- Non-mucinous lung adenocarcinoma in situ

- **Robust analyses** submitted to regulatory agencies conclude that a causal relationship between gene therapy and these cancer cases is **very unlikely**
- Current evidence shows an **acceptable safety profile**
- **Long-term follow-up** of PwH receiving gene therapy continues^{5,6}

HCC: hepatocellular carcinoma; PwH: people with haemophilia

1. Schmidt M et al. Blood Adv 2023;7:4966-9; 2. Castaman G et al. Exp Rev Hematology 2023;1-14; 3. Konkle BA et al. Blood 2021;137:763-74;

4. Reiss UM et al. Abstract 1056 ASH 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition, December 9-12, San Diego, CA, USA;

5. Samelson-Jones BJ et al. Annu Rev Med 2023;74:231-47; 6. Nathwani AC. Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program 2022;2022:569-78

Short-term efficacy of gene therapy: improved factor levels



Clinical trial data have shown that gene therapy can result in **protective factor levels** in the weeks following infusion^{1,2}

- Shift to mild - or even normal - bleeding phenotype¹
- Improved protection against bleeds compared with prophylaxis with FVIII/FIX^{3,4}

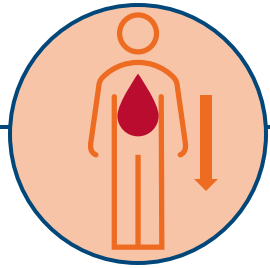


Current predictability of gene therapy response^{1,5}

- Inter-individual variability in patient response
- Ongoing research to determine predictive factors for inter-individual variability

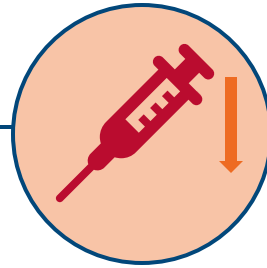
Impact of gene therapy on clinical outcomes and quality of life

Data from AAV-gene therapy trials shows **improved outcomes** in most trial participants with sustained factor activity levels:



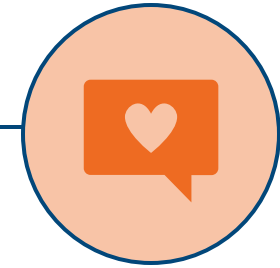
Reduced bleeding episodes

- **Significant reduction** in treated bleeds
- Many participants **achieve an ABR of 0** treated bleeds



Decreased factor concentrate use

- Majority of participants **discontinue prophylaxis**



Improved quality of life

- Likely reflective of **reduced burden of disease** and **reduced use of frequent prophylaxis**
- **Improvements post-infusion** in phase 3 trials up to 1 year (HB) and 3 years (HA)

From Clinical trials to Real World...

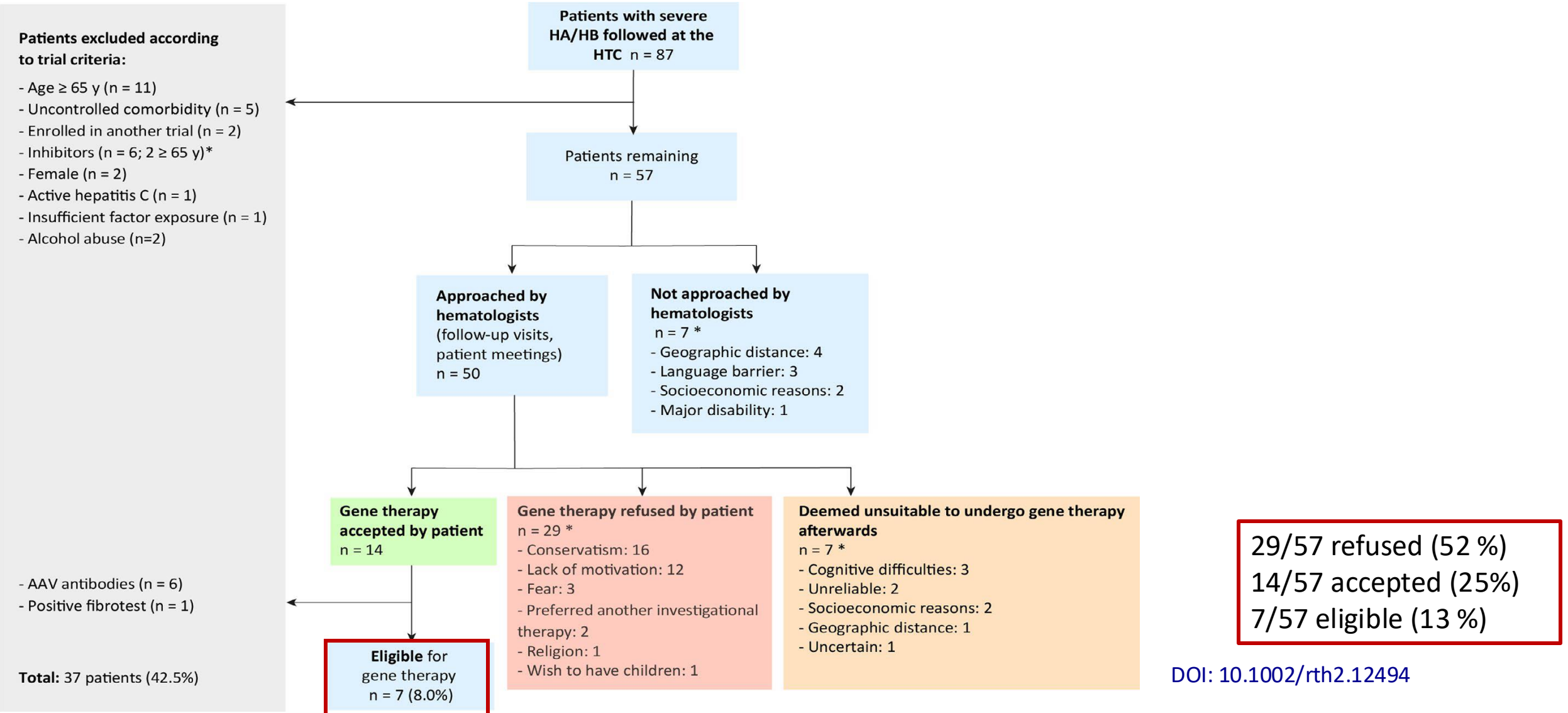
- The first licensed hemophilia *gene therapy products are available*, and the uptake of this new treatment will then depend upon a complex combination of :
 - *payment options*
 - *patient satisfaction with current therapies*
 - *uncertainties surrounding long-term gene therapy outcomes*

Implementing gene therapy

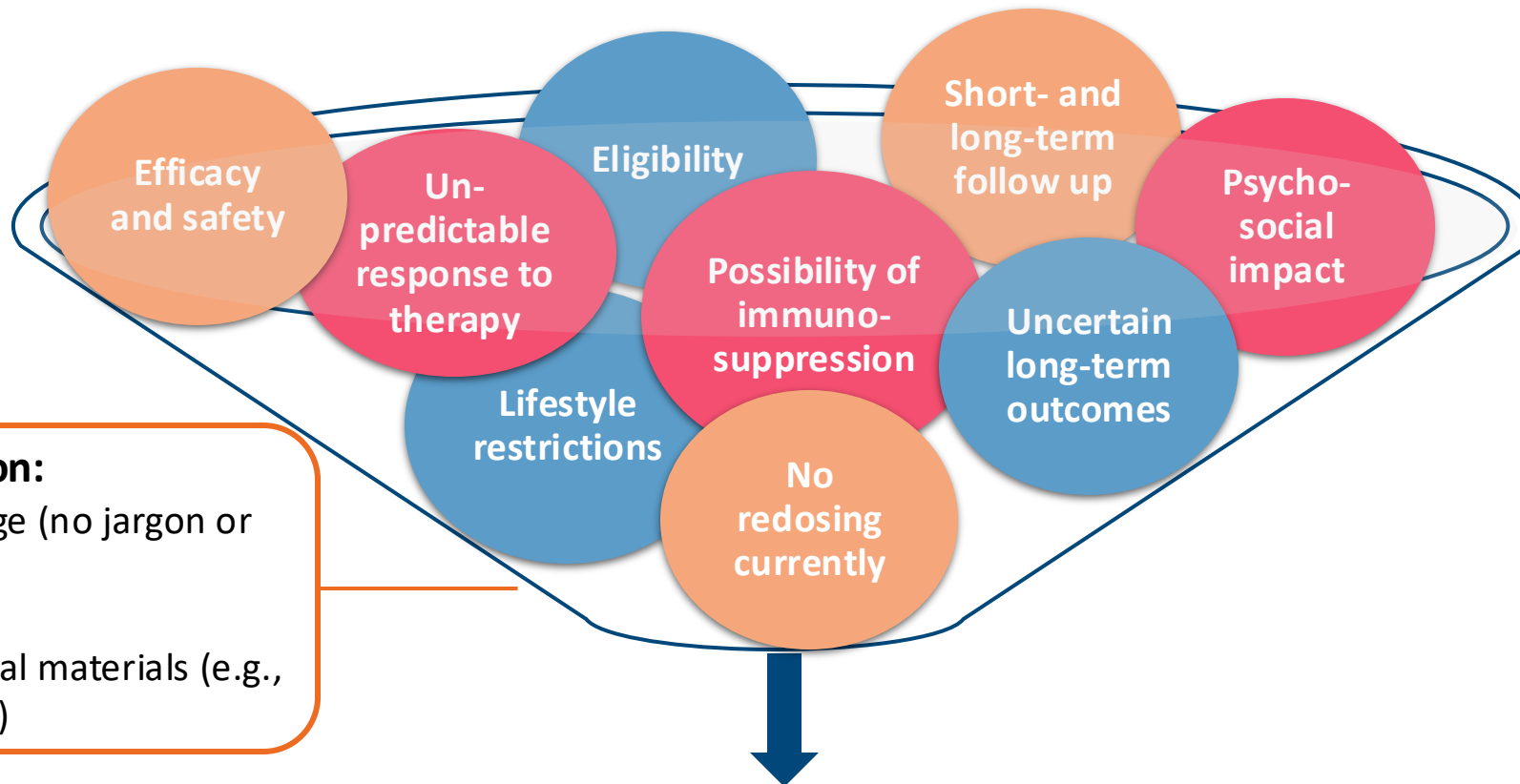
Patient selection for hemophilia gene therapy:

Real-life Data from a single center

Evelien Krumb MD | Catherine Lambert MD, PhD | Cedric Hermans MD, FCRP (Lon, Edin), PhD



Patient-centred education on gene therapy: distilling complex information to individual needs



Adapt communication:

- Appropriate language (no jargon or too many details)
- Teach-back method
- Written and graphical materials (e.g., videos, infographics)

Informed patient with *realistic* treatment expectations

WFH Shared Decision-Making Tool (SDM) facilitates patient-provider conversations

Discussing gene therapy with patients requires:

- a) **Multiple** comprehensive, engaging and individualised **conversations**
- b) Balancing **risks vs benefits** to set realistic expectations
- c) Comparison with **other treatment options**

How to structure your conversations?

WFH Shared Decision-Making Tool

- Step-by-step approach guiding patients and healthcare providers towards a treatment decision
- Straightforward to apply in daily practice
- Available at: <https://sdm.wfh.org/>

The WFH SDM tool

The screenshot displays the user interface of the WFH Shared Decision Making Tool. On the left, a dark purple sidebar contains the 'SDM' logo and a vertical menu with icons and labels for 'Welcome', 'Introduction', 'Reflection', 'Education', and 'Summary'. Below the menu is a language dropdown set to 'English'. A red arrow points from this dropdown to an orange callout box stating 'Available in different languages'. The main content area is white with a blue header. It features a welcome message, a subtitle, a quote, a definition of SDM, a list of three topics (each preceded by a red drop icon), and a 'Let's start >' button. A red arrow points from the list of topics to another orange callout box that describes the tool as an interactive, web-based, patient-centric tool for assisting PwH in making informed treatment decisions. The WFH logo is at the bottom center.

SDM
WFH SHARED DECISION MAKING TOOL

Welcome

Introduction

Reflection

Education

Summary

English ▾

Welcome to the
World Federation of Hemophilia
Shared Decision Making Tool

When patients and clinicians make decisions together

Shared decision-making (SDM) is a process where you and your healthcare team work together to make a decision about your hemophilia care and treatment. Your decision should be made through thoughtful consideration and discussion around the following:

- Your life goals and how they are affected by your hemophilia
- The therapies that are available to you
- The available information for each therapy

An interactive, web-based, patient-centric tool
to assist PwH in making
informed treatment decisions
together with their treatment team

WFH
WORLD FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA

Let's start >

Embarking on the SDM journey



1. **Reflect** on your life goals and current treatment



2. **Learn** about your **treatment options**



3. **Compare** your treatment options



4. Have **conversations** with **others**



5. **Prepare** for visits with your healthcare provider



6. Have an **open and meaningful conversation** with your healthcare team



7. **Take time** to consider your options



8. Meet with your healthcare team to **make or confirm a decision** about your treatment

WFH tool: setting treatment goals (1/3)



1. Reflect on your life goals and current treatment



2. Learn about your treatment options



3. Compare your treatment options



4. Have conversations with others



5. Prepare for visits with your healthcare provider



6. Have an open and meaningful conversation with your healthcare team



7. Take time to consider your options



8. Meet with your healthcare team to make or confirm a decision about your treatment



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Reflect on your life with hemophilia. Your answers will be included in your personalized summary at the end of the tool for you to print and bring to your healthcare team.

1 How would you describe the impact of your hemophilia on obtaining your life goals? (Goals related to work, education, family, hobbies, etc.)

Type your answer here

0/125

2 Why are you considering a change to your therapy?

Type your answer here

0/125

< Go back



Continue >

WFH tool: comparing treatment options (2/3)



1. Reflect on your life goals and current treatment



2. Learn about your treatment options



3. Compare your treatment options



4. Have conversations with others



5. Prepare for visits with your healthcare provider



6. Have an open and meaningful conversation with your healthcare team



7. Take time to consider your options



8. Meet with your healthcare team to make or confirm a decision about your treatment

COMPARE KEY ATTRIBUTES OF THE MAIN TREATMENT CLASSES FOR HEMOPHILIA A

	Eligibility		Administration		Efficacy		Potential Safety Risks				Quality of Life
	Approval Status	Approved Population	Administration & Dosing Frequency	Yearly Follow-up Schedule	Treated Annual Bleed Rate	Factor Level	Hypers. Reactions	Inhibitors	Thromb. Events	Elevated Liver Enz.	Psychosocial Burden
SHL Factor Therapy											
EHL Factor Therapy											
Bispecific Antibody Therapy											
Hemostatic Rebalancing Therapy											
Gene Therapy											

< Go back

WFH

Continue >

WFH tool: questions to discuss with the treatment team (3/3)

1. Reflect on your life goals and current treatment
2. Learn about your treatment options
3. Compare your treatment options
4. Have conversations with others
5. Prepare for visits with your healthcare provider
- 6. Have an open and meaningful conversation with your healthcare team**
7. Take time to consider your options
8. Meet with your healthcare team to make or confirm a decision about your treatment

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH YOUR HEALTH CARE TEAM

You may have come up with questions for your healthcare team as you progressed through the tool and read through the fact sheets. Write these questions down and bring them to your appointment to discuss them with your healthcare team. Here is a list of questions you may want to ask:

- ☐ 1. What treatment types are available to me?
- ☐ 2. Which specific products are available to me?
- ☐ 3. What is the process for switching to a new treatment?
- ☐ 4. Will this treatment be covered by my insurance?
- ☐ 5. Are there any expected future treatments I may be a better candidate for?
- ☐ 6. Will I still have to record my treatments?
- ☐ 7. What should I know about side effects and long-term or serious risks?
- ☐ 8. What will happen in the event of a bleed on this new treatment?
- ☐ 9. In your opinion, what are the benefits compared to my current treatment?
- ☐ 10. In your opinion, what are the drawbacks compared to my current treatment?

[< Go back](#)



[Continue >](#)

Shared decision making: key take-aways



Shared decision-making is a crucial **collaborative process** between

- The patient
- The healthcare team
- The patient's support network (e.g., family)



Shared-decision making:

- Is **multi-staged**
- Is **individualised** to the patient
- Should emphasise setting **realistic treatment expectations**



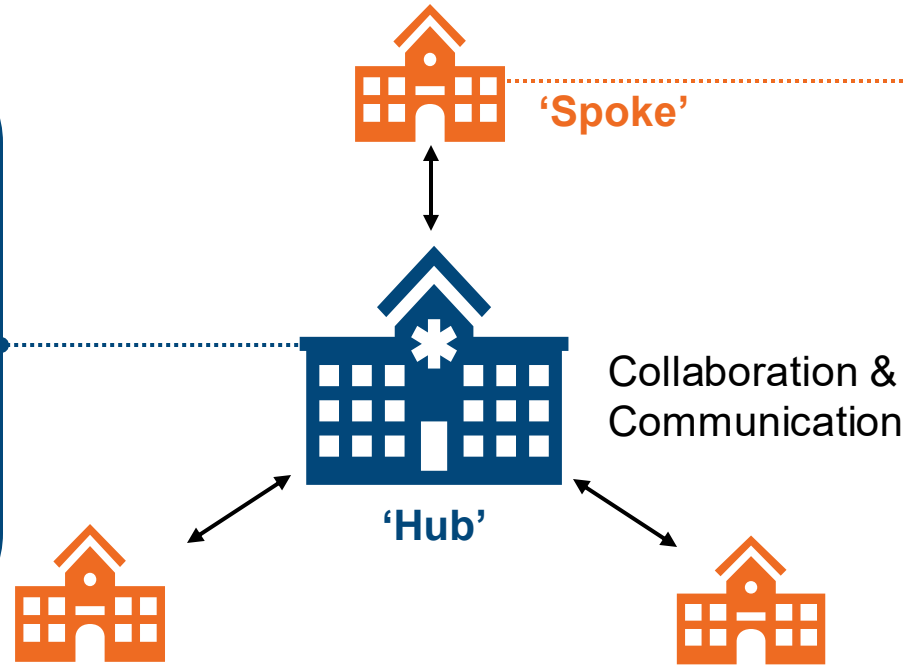
The **WFH SDM tool** is:

- **Recommended** (and not just limited to gene therapy)
- **Straightforward** to apply
- Designed to make the SDM process as **seamless and informative** as possible

The hub-and-spoke model for delivery of gene therapy proposed by EAHAD and EHC

Dosing centre: 'Hub'

- Usually a HTC with **more experience** in haemophilia gene therapy
- Responsible for **preparation and administration of treatment**



Referral/Follow-Up centre: 'Spoke'

- Usually a HTC with **less experience** with gene therapy trials
- Likely to be the **patient's local hospital/centre**
- Responsible for **monitoring of patient**

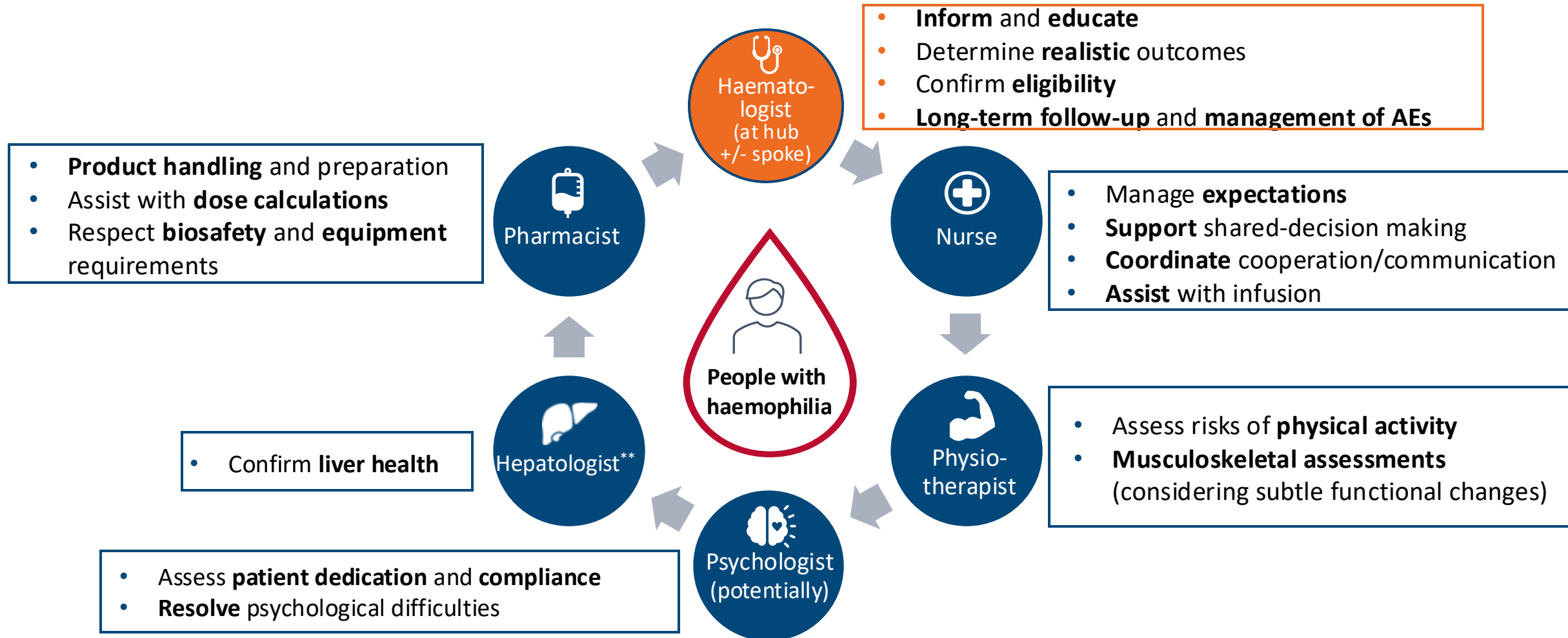
- Patients **treated** in dosing centres
- Then **followed up** by their own **local hospital/centre**
- To obtain **best outcomes for patients**

Delivery of AAV-based gene therapy through haemophilia centres—A need for re-evaluation of infrastructure and comprehensive care: A Joint publication of EAHAD and EHC

TABLE 1 Challenges of gene therapy for haemophilia centres

• Patient informed consent and eligibility tests
• Administration of a gene therapy construct and managing infusion related reactions
• Monitoring variability of factor expression and deciding when to stop prophylactic treatment
• Close cooperation with hepatologists and immunologists
• Monitoring of short-, medium- and long-term adverse events
• Retaining patient engagement for follow up
• Long-term follow-up by an accurate surveillance system
• Direct and indirect costs reimbursement for administration of gene therapy and follow-ups

How does gene therapy change the roles in the multidisciplinary team?



*May also help to monitor and manage liver health

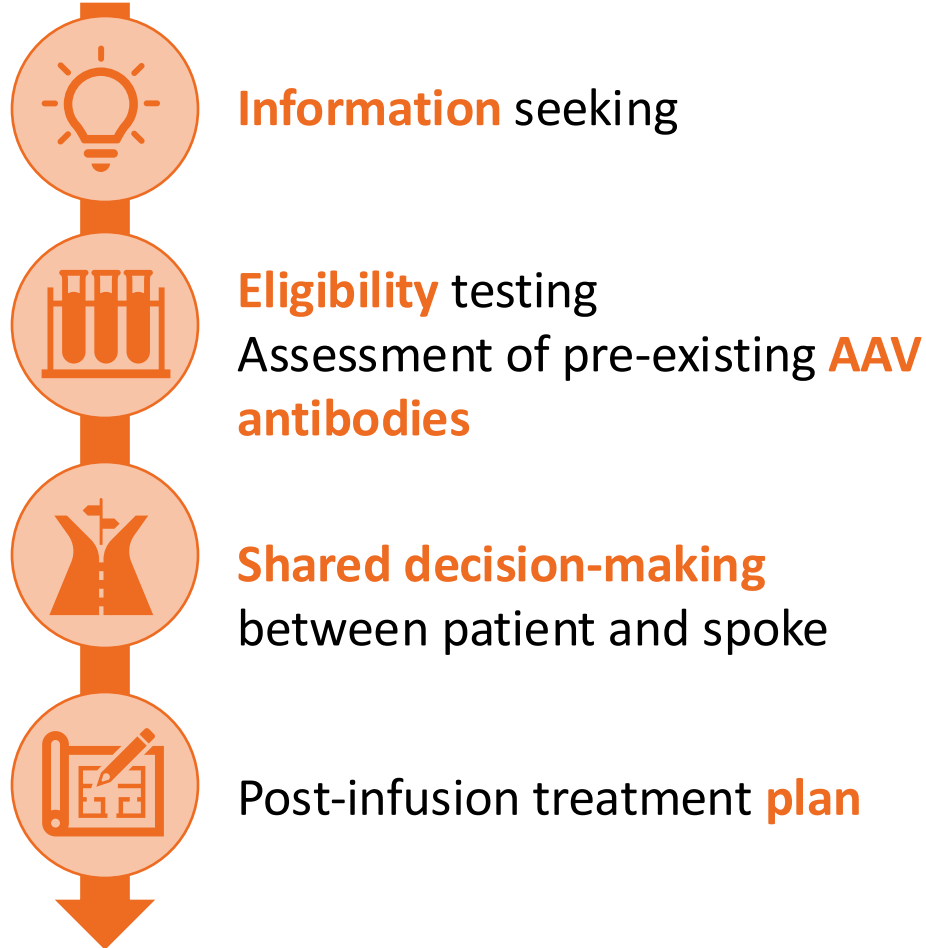
Miesbach W et al. Haemophilia. 2022;28:e12-4; Miesbach W et al. Haemophilia 2021;27:511-4; Miesbach W et al. Haemophilia 2021;27:967-73;

Pipe SW et al. Haemophilia 2023;29:1430-41; Speaker's view

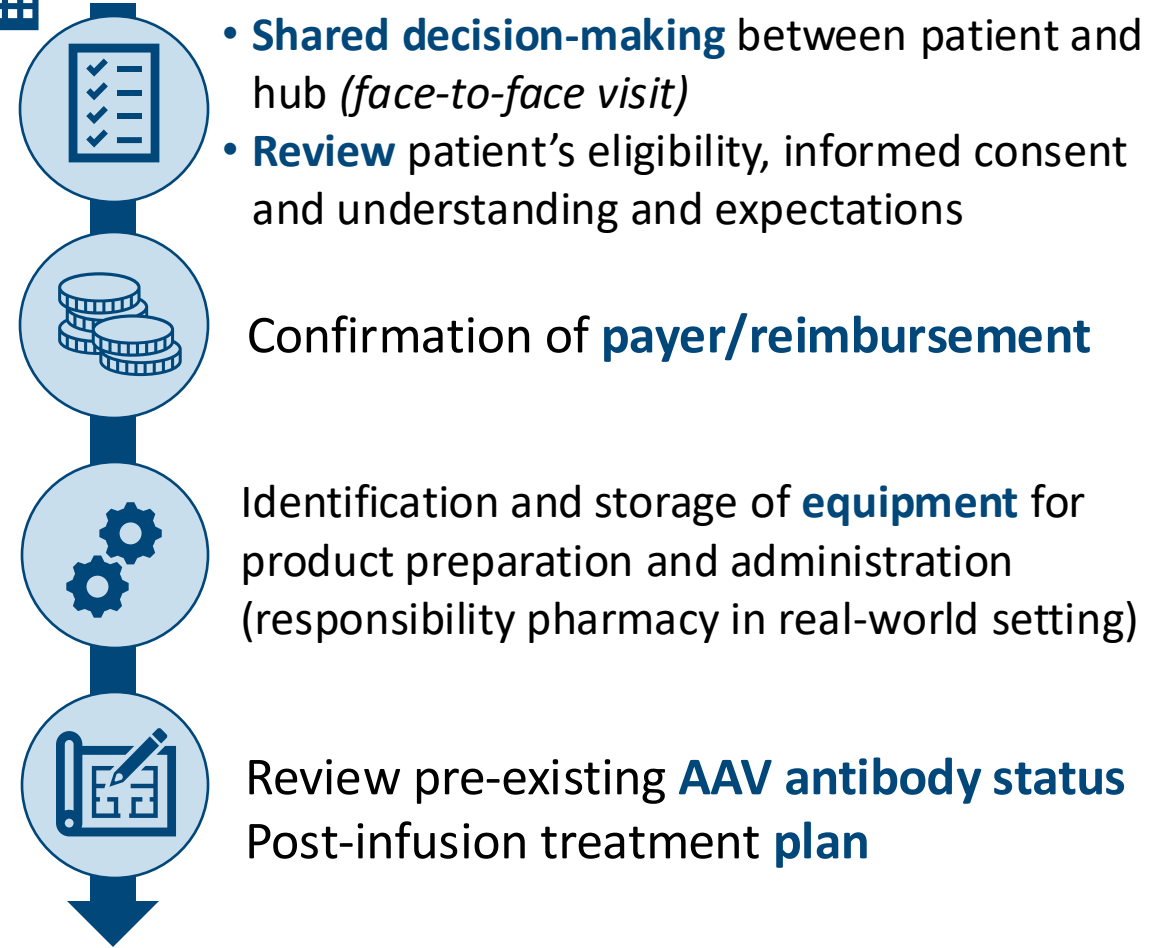
Road to gene therapy: pre-dosing day procedures



Patient journey at spoke centre¹⁻³



MDT journey at hub centre^{1,4}



MDT: multidisciplinary team

1. Pipe SW et al. Haemophilia 2023;29:1430-41; 2. Wang M et al. Patient Prefer Adherence 2022;16:1439-47; 3. Ay C et al. Haemophilia 2024;30:5-15;

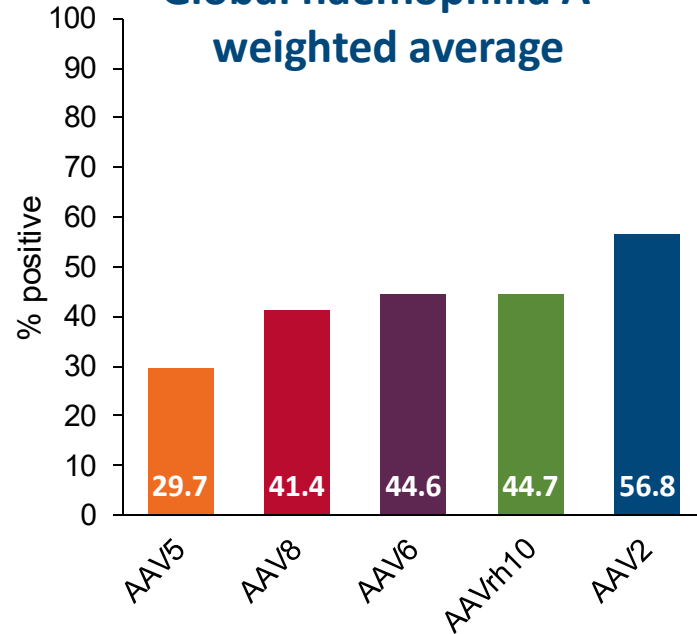
4. Miesbach W et al. Haemophilia 2021;27:967-73; Speaker's view

Assessment of pre-existing AAV antibodies

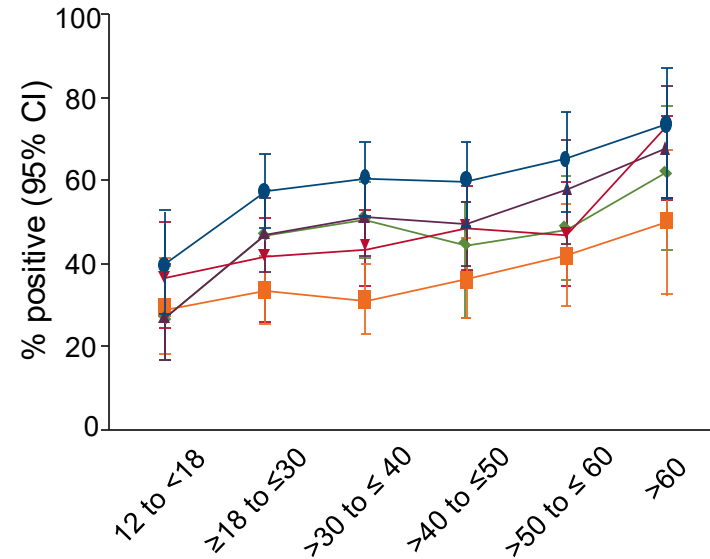
Prospective study

N=546 participants with HA across 9 countries (19 sites)¹

Global haemophilia A -
weighted average

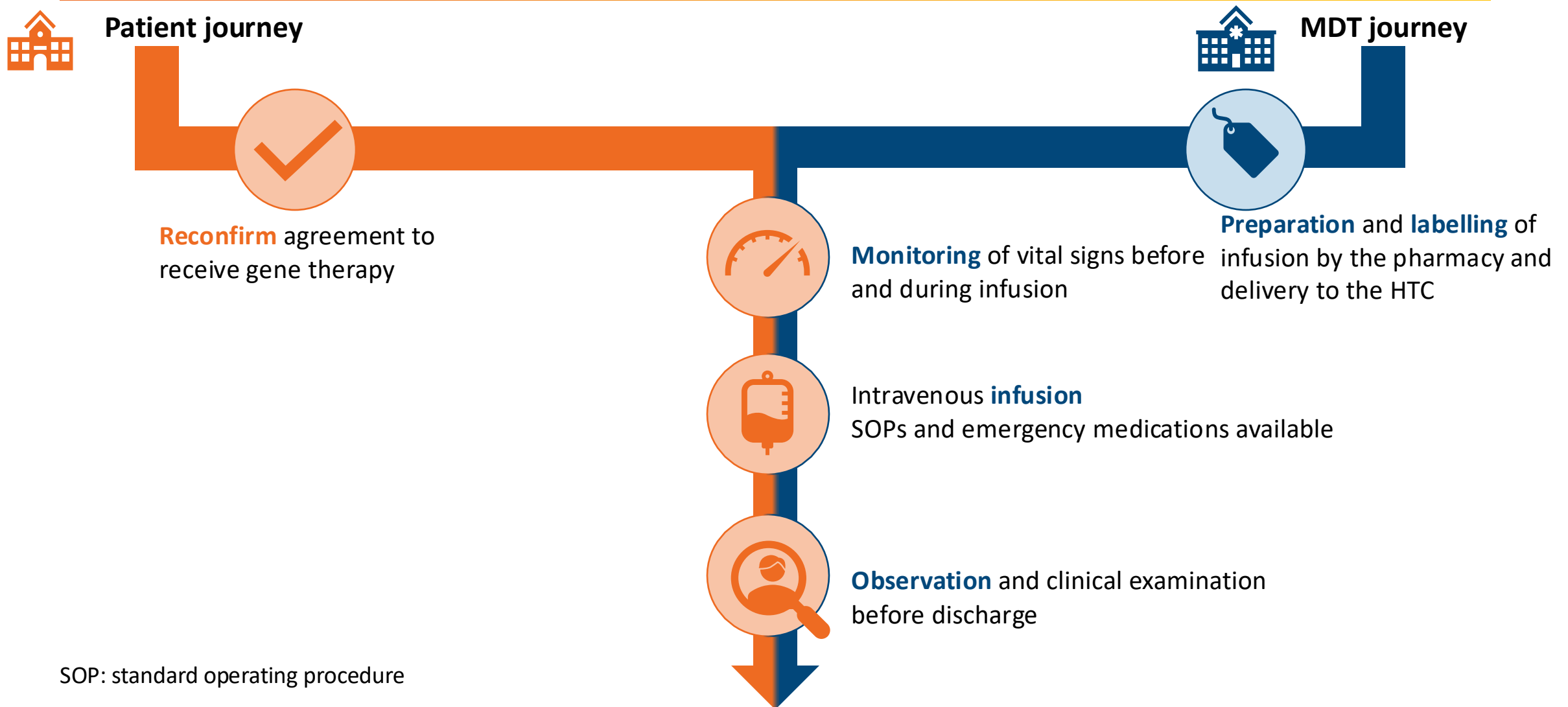


AAV serotype positivity by
age group (years)



- ✓ Considerable **geographic variability** in the prevalence of pre-existing antibodies against each serotype^{1,2}
- ✓ **AAV5** consistently the **lowest seroprevalence** across countries^{1,3}
- ✓ **Seropositivity** tends to **increase** with **age**^{1,2}
- ✓ Evidence suggests PwHA *without* AAV antibodies likely to remain AAV-negative over a 6-month period³
- ✓ Therefore, preferable to **dose promptly after a favourable result**

What happens on the dosing day in the hub centre?



SOP: standard operating procedure

Pipe SW et al. Haemophilia 2023;29:1430-41; Speaker's view

After dosing day: what happens next?



Patient journey at spoke centre



Short- and long-term **follow-up**:

- Safety, efficacy, physical and mental health
 - Year 1: weekly to monthly
 - Year 2 onwards: every 3-6 months



Adhere to:

- **Lifestyle** guidelines
- **Corticosteroids** (if necessary)



MDT journey at hub centre



Coordinate follow-up with spoke centre:

- Weekly reporting from spoke to hub on safety, efficacy, physical and mental health



Enrolment into gene therapy **registry***

*Enrollment in registry can be a mandatory requirement to receive gene therapy in specific countries

Practical considerations to prepare your centre and team for delivery of gene therapy

- Staff education and training
- Establish roles and responsibilities
- Regular assessment of staff capacity
- Regular assessment of training needs
- Close collaboration (e.g., regular meetings)

Multidisciplinary treatment team^{1,2}



- Infusion protocol (optimal delivery)
- Protocol for infusion-related reactions
- Safe handling
- Post-infusion management
- Follow-up

Therapy protocols and guidance documents²



Product SOPs²

Procurement, handling, storage and preparation (responsibility of pharmacy)



Collaboration between HTC²s

Process to exchange health information (e.g., regular phone calls, software solutions)

Checklist of necessary documents



Offering gene therapy in the real world: strategies to optimise patient care



Keeping patients connected to the clinic:

- Regular planned visits
- Patient support service (e.g., for regular blood draws)



Coping with unexpected scenarios:

- Emergency phone number
- Contacting clinic in case of any adverse event

Manage expectations throughout the process

Setting up your centre: key take-aways



Gene therapy dosing in clinical practice will take **effort** and **teamwork** and requires **training**, with the ultimate aim to benefit patients



Setting up a gene therapy centre is **feasible**, and has been done by several centres in different geographies



Perceived barriers to gene therapy can be **addressed** by implementing SOPs, conducting regular monitoring and developing post-treatment plans

Gene Therapy in Haemophilia: From Decision to Dosing



Clinical evidence to date supports **favourable risk-benefit profile** of gene therapy

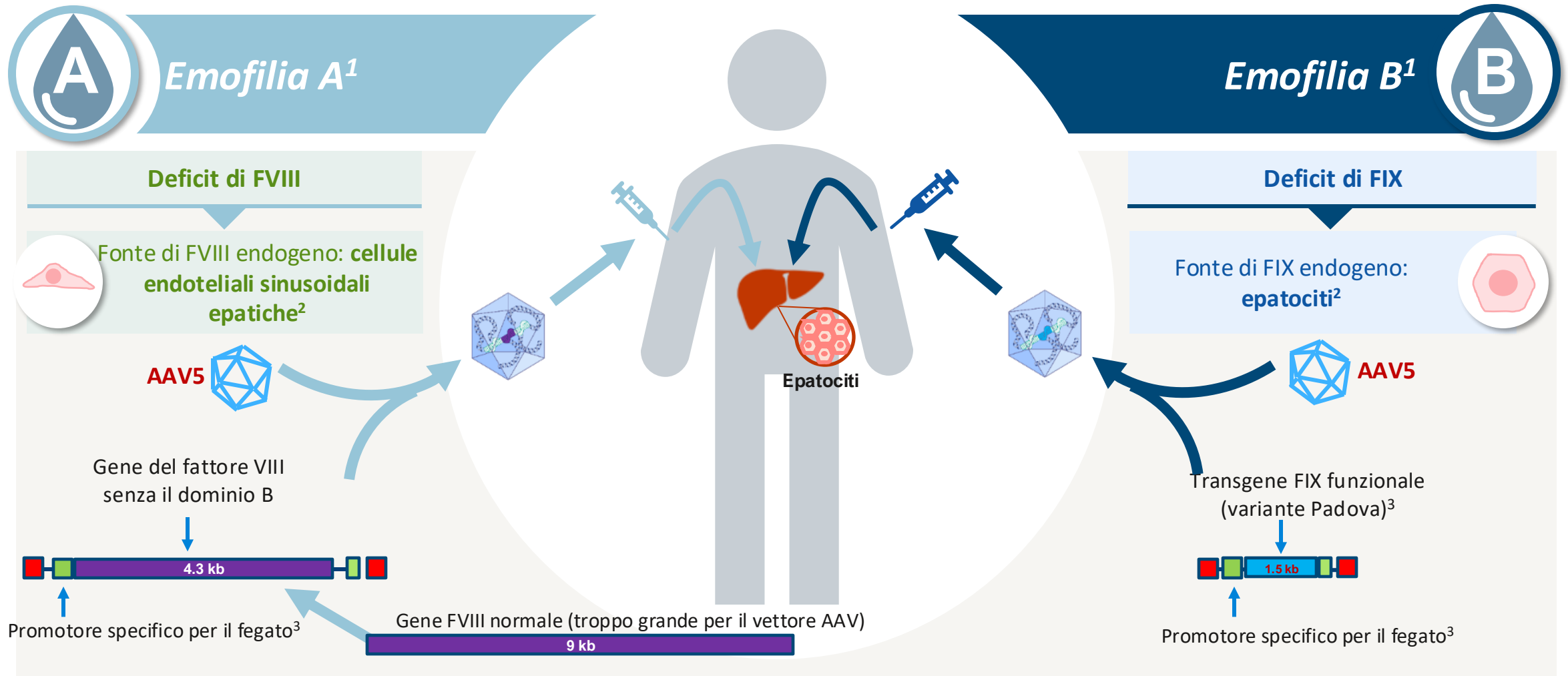


The **WFH Shared Decision-Making tool** is recommended to progress your patient conversations



Setting up a gene therapy centre is **feasible** in a **multidisciplinary** setting, to aim at **improving the lives of PwH**

Gli stessi approcci di terapia genica sono stati usati sia per l'emofilia A che per l'emofilia B



Cosa sono i vettori ricombinanti AAV?

I vettori AAV sono stati sviluppati a partire da AAV normalmente presenti in natura e non patogeni e sono stati ampiamente studiati per il rilascio *in vivo* della terapia genica¹⁻³

