# **HEALEY ALS Platform Trial**

Weekly Q&A - March 16, 2023

















### **Healey Center**

Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at Mass General











































## **Guest Speaker**

Nicholas Maragakis, MD
Platform Trial Site Investigator
Johns Hopkins University, MD





#### Our ALS Care Team



Nicholas J. Maragakis, M.D. > Medical Director



Ambereen Mehta, M.D., M.P.H. > Palliative Care Physician



Hannah Smith, PT, DPT, NCS
Physical Therapist



Kelsey Golding
Assistive Technology Specialist, ALS Association



Betsy Mosmiller
Senior Research Program Manager



JinAe Arneklev, M.S.N., C.R.N.P.

Nurse Practitioner



Noah Lechtzin, M.D., M.H.S. → Pulmonologist



Michelle Gosnell, OTR/L
Occupational Therapist



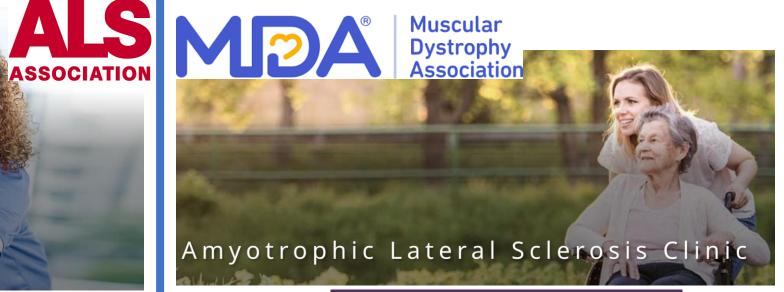
Nicole Haynes, OTR/L
Care Services Coordinator, ALS Association



Amy Tesch
Research Program Coordinator



Weiyi Mu, Sc.M. >
Genetic Counselor







# EXPLORING NEW THERAPIES BRINGING TREATMENT TO ALS PATIENTS TO ALS PATIENTS





# ALS CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT

















### The HEALEY ALS Platform Trial is a unique opportunity to advance science



**DNA** – whole genome sequencing



Neurofilaments -for all regimens



Biomarkers (Blood, Urine, CSF) – several drug-specific biomarkers



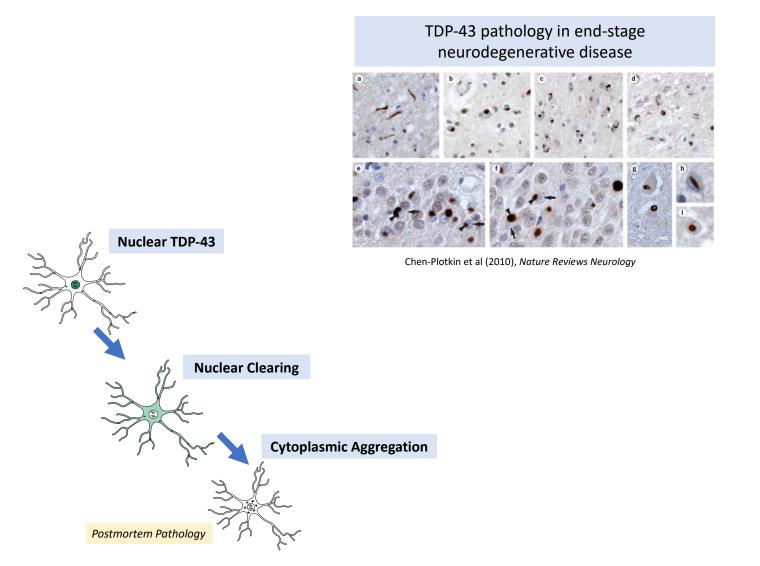
Speech Analysis – emerging digital biomarker



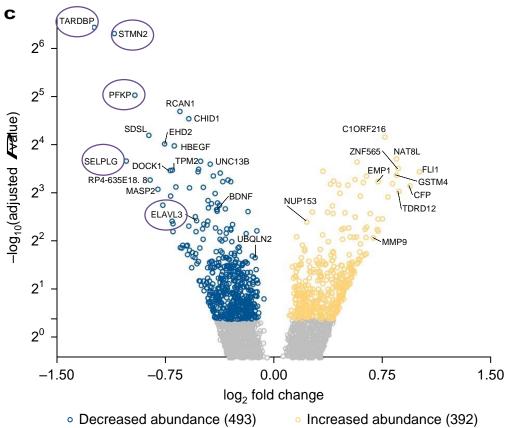
Home Spirometry – critical during the pandemic

Additional biomarkers/outcome measures are being considered for upcoming regimens (e.g., new patient-reported outcomes; PBMCs for stem cell generation)

### TDP-43 nuclear clearing is a pathological hallmark of most sALS: Loss of TDP-43 nuclear function leads to mis-regulation of hundreds of RNA species

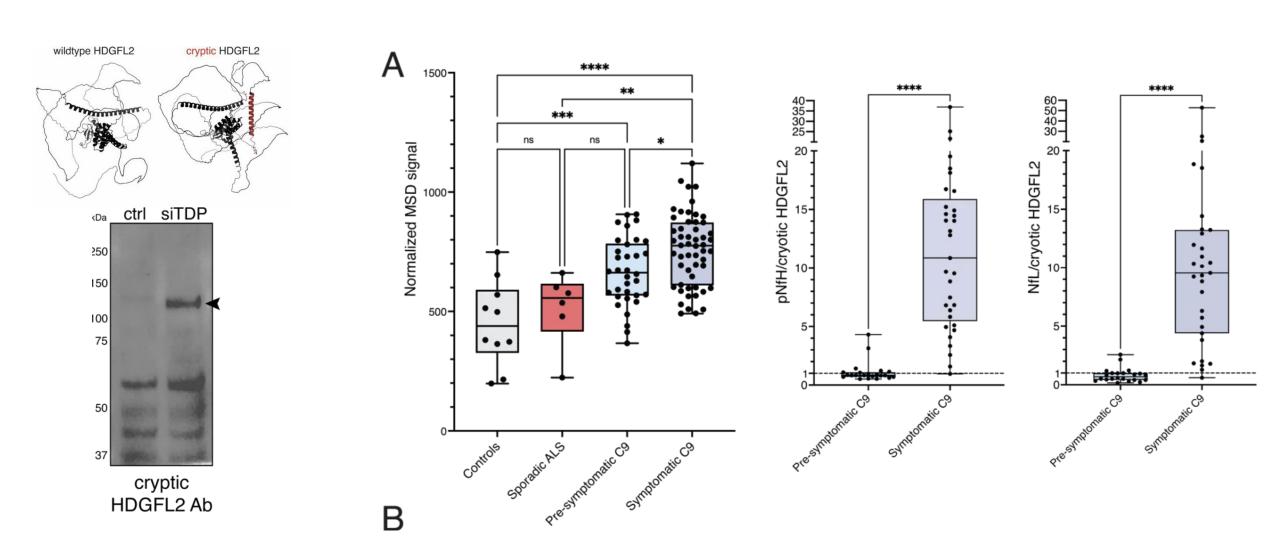


### Defined set of altered RNAs with artificial TDP43 KD in human iPS MN

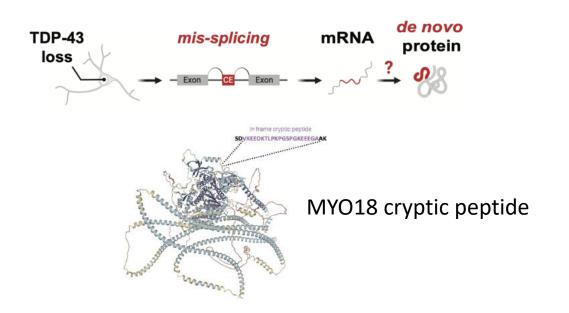


Klim et al, Nat. Neuro2019

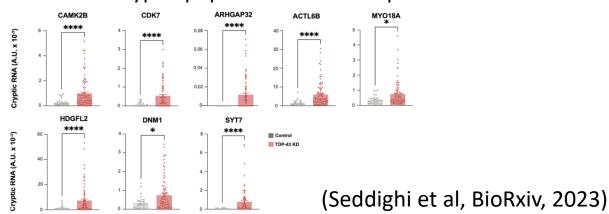
# TDP-43 loss of function generated cryptic peptide detected in sALS and C9 ALS CSF



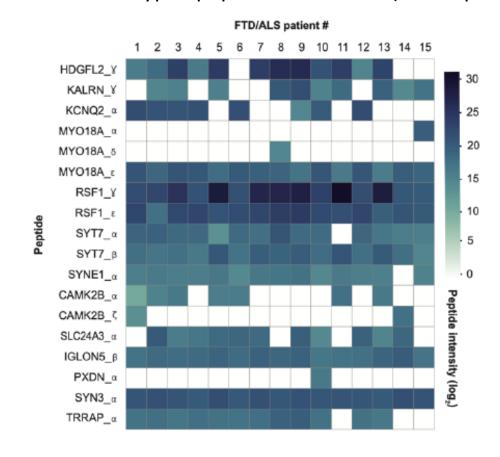
# Identification of multiple TDP-43 dependent cryptic peptides in ALS CSF



### Detection of cryptic peptides RNA in ALS patients

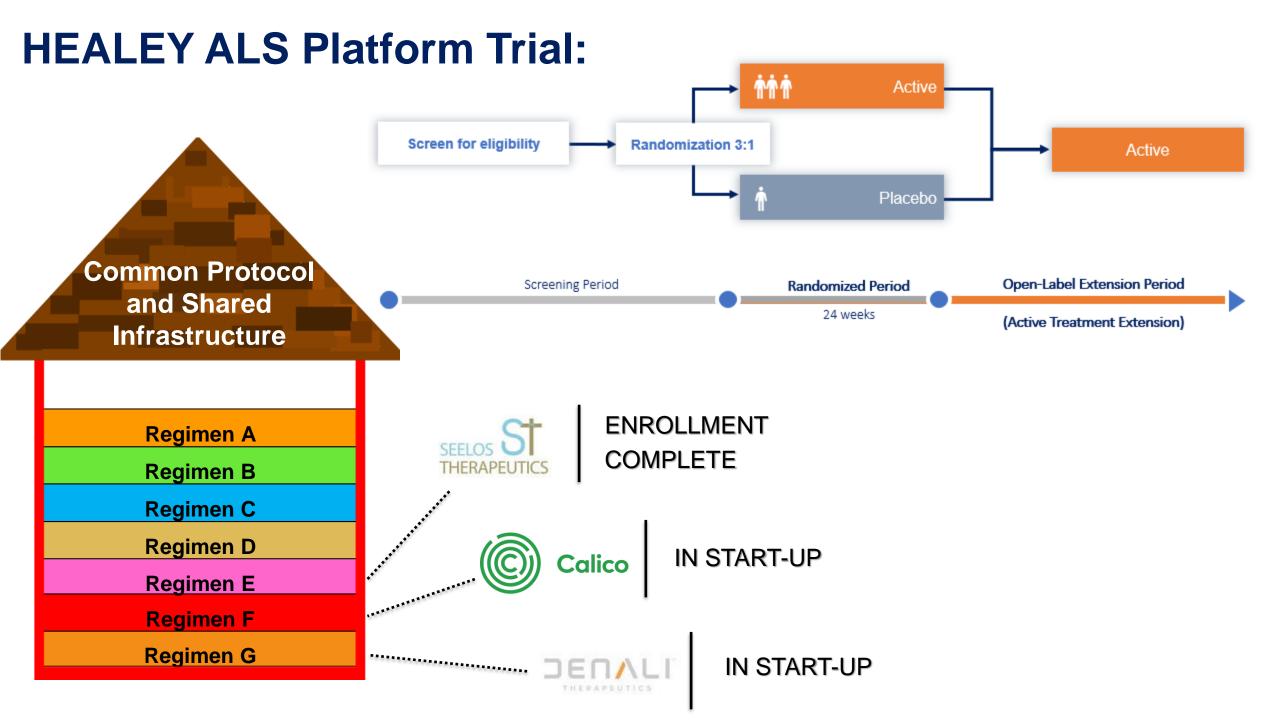


Detection of cryptic peptides in ALS CSF (Mass spect)

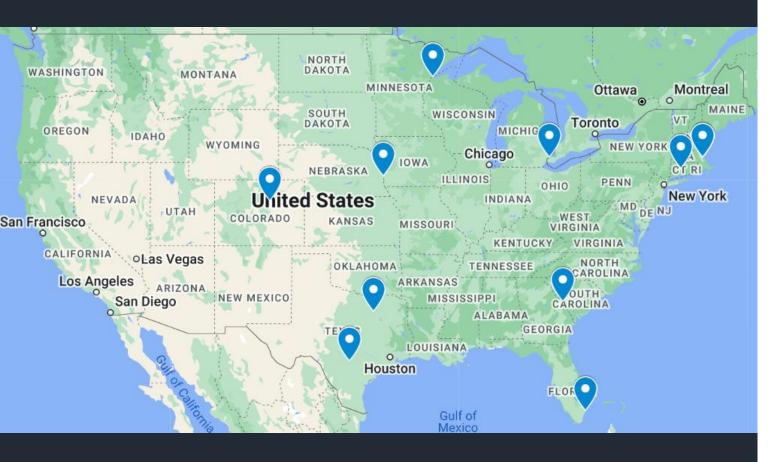


### Functional Biomarkers for sALS: TDP-43

- Multiple TDP-43 readouts coming:
  - cryptic peptides (e.g. ELISA), RNA analytics
- Needed studies
  - The first two identified- more are likely to come
  - Need data on reliability, reproducibility, sensitivity
    - Banked CSF may be used
  - Correlation with disease parameters
    - rate of progression, clinical subtypes, age, sex, etc
  - Response to drugs ??
  - Correlation with existing biomarkers: NFL?, inflammation, etc.



# 11 Sites Currently Active for Regimen F



(as of 3/16/23)

- Mova Southeastern University
- **Essentia** Health
- Texas Neurology
- Mass General Hospital
- ☑ University of Nebraska
- Mospital for Special Care
- Henry Ford Hospital
- Management Augusta University
- ☑ Beth Israel Deaconess
- ☑ University of Texas HSC
- ☑ University of Colorado

### Site Map & Contacts:



https://bit.ly/3g2NZr5

### Regimen F Resources on MGH Website

#### Regimen F: ABBV-CLS-7262, by Calico and AbbVie- Now Recruiting

ABBV-CLS-7262 is an investigational drug developed by Calico Life Sciences LLC in collaboration with AbbVie Inc. ABBV-CLS-7262 aims to restore function in cells affected by ALS by normalizing protein synthesis and preventing further sequestration and aggregation of TDP-43, thereby protecting neurons, and possibly slowing ALS progression.

The integrated stress response (ISR) is a fundamental transient process that regulates cell function during various stressful conditions. Tissue studies suggest that the ISR is chronically induced in people with ALS. It is proposed that TDP-43 aggregates, a hallmark feature in the motor neurons of people with ALS, could be formed by a chronically induced ISR. ABBV-CLS-7262 activates the protein complex eIF2B, which is a key regulator of the ISR. Binding of ABBV-CLS-7262 desensitizes eIF2B to stress and decreases the ISR. Reduction of the ISR restores normal protein synthesis, reduces TDP-43 sequestration in stress granules, and may decrease TDP-43 aggregation.

A prior first-in-human study of ABBV-CLS-7262 showed that this drug was well-tolerated by participants, demonstrated target engagement by increasing eIF2B enzymatic activity, and suppressed the ISR in blood cells. ABBV-CLS-7262 crossed the blood brain barrier at concentrations predicted to be efficacious in ALS. ABBV-CLS-7262 is currently being investigated in a Phase 1b study in people with ALS (NCT04948645), and will be studied further as part of the HEALEY ALS Platform Trial.

Watch this video for more information on the mechanism of action behind ABBV-CLS-7262.

Download brochure





### HEALEY ALS Platform Trial

### Regimen F

ABBV-CLS-7262

Developed by Calico Life Sciences LLC in collaboration with AbbVie Inc.

Investigational products included in the HEALEY ALS Platform Trial are selected by a team of experts after careful review of the study drug and the science supporting its treatment potential in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Regimen F is testing an experimental medication called ABBV-CLS-7262, and the trial will involve in-person study visits every 4 to 8 weeks (about 6 visits total over the course of 24 weeks).

Please discuss the possible benefits and risks of this investigational product with your study team.

Visit our website to learn more about what to expect in the trial process: https://bit.ly/3ExRal8



#### **About Regimen F:**

NEALS Northeast Amyotrop
Lateral Scienosis
Consortium\*

Regimen F is a Phase 2/3 trial enrolling approximately 240 participants to evaluate the safety and efficacy of ABBV-CLS-7262 as a potential treatment for ALS. This regimen involves biomarker analysis and cerebrospinal fluid collection via lumbar punctures to assess the effects of ABBV-CLS-7262.

3:1 Active Drug to Placebo Ratio:
Participants who enroll in this trial have a 3 in 4 (75%) chance of being assigned to active study drug and a 1 in 4 (25%) chance of being assigned to placebo during the initial 24-week randomized controlled trial (RCT) period.

Active Treatment Extension (ATE):
Participants have the option to enroll in
the ATE for ABBV-CLS-7262 upon
completion of the 24-week RCT. During
ATE, all participants will receive the
active study drug.

To see if you may qualify, please review the list of eligibility criteria:

or general questions abou

Contact the Patient Navigator: healeyalsplatform@mgh.harvard.edu 833-425-8257 (HALT ALS)



https://bit.ly/3SIwH4X

### **Printable Brochures!**



Regimen F Brochure

Lumbar Puncture Brochure

General Platform Trial Brochure

Understanding HEALEY ALS Platform Trial Study Procedures

#### LUMBAR PUNCTURE

A Lumbar Puncture (LP), or Spinal Top, is a procedure to remove a small sample (10-15mL or -1 tablespoon) of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from the lower spine. CSF is the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, and it contains proteins, cells, and other substances that may be important biomarkers in ALS research. During the procedure, a needle is inserted between two lumbar vertebrae (backbones) in the lower back and into the space in the spinal canal that contains CSF.

Sometimes, people feel worried that a lumbar puncture could be risky or painful. In reality, this is a safe and common procedure to collect CSFI

Get a good night's rest, eat as usual, and star well-hydrated prior to the LP visit.

LUMBAR PUNCTURE 1.)You will be as in a position the

IRE 1.) You will be asked to sit or lie down in a position that helps widen the spaces between the bones of the lower spine.

2.) The doctor will cleanse the skin on your lower back to reduce risk of infection, then use a small needle to inject a local anesthetic (such as lidocaine) to numb the site.

3.) The LP needle is inserted into the space containing CSF. A special atraumatic spinal needle (Sprotte) is typically used to reduce the chance of a post-puncture headache. The doctor may need to readjust the needle if CSF cannot be drawn with the first insertion.

4.) Spinal fluid is collected into specimen tubes for lab testing. The LP needle is removed, your back is cleaned, and a band-aid is placed over the LP site.

5.) For your comfort and safety, it is recommended that someone drive you to and from the LP study visit.

you have any questions while reviewing the informed consent form.

QUESTIONS? Prior to enrolling in a clinical trial, your study team will discuss the LP procedure with you. Please ask your study team for clarification if

# Patient Navigation Central resource for people living with ALS



**Catherine Small** 



**Allison Bulat** 

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E-mail:healeyalsplatform@mgh.harvard.edu

Weekly webinar registration:



https://bit.ly/3r6Nd2L

**ALS Link sign-up:** 



https://bit.ly/3o2Ds3m

### **Upcoming (Spring!) Webinars:**

March 23- Biomarker Discussion with Jeffrey Rothstein, MD PhD (Johns Hopkins)

March 27- Regimen F Drug Science Q&A with Calico March 30- Weekly Q&A