

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH Novel and Exceptional Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC)



National Institutes of Health

## **Genome Editing**

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#### **Potential Conflicts of Interest**

CRISPR Therapeutics: Equity and SAB Allogene Therapeutics: Equity and SAB

Managed through Stanford in accordance with their conflict of interests policy.

#### **Outline of Talk**

- 1. What is genome genome editing?
- 2. How do you do genome editing?
- 3. Why are people excited about it?
- 4. What are some issues that we need to think about?

#### Genome Editing is changing the DNA sequence of a cell with up to single nucleotide precision



#### Nuclease Based Strategies are the Most Well-Developed Methods of Genome Editing



**Method to Break Things** 

Method to Fix/Add Things

#### **Multiple Uses of NHEJ Based Editing**



#### Multiple Uses of Homologous Recombination Based Editing



#### **A Variety of Engineered Nuclease Options**



Porteus "A New Class of Medicines through DNA Editing" NEJM (2019)

#### Non-nuclease based genome editing strategies

(in different stages of development)

- AAV targeted integration without a break (Russell)
- Peptide Nucleic Acids (Glazer)
- Base Editing (Liu)
- Targeted Recombinases (Barbas, Gersbach)
- Targeted Transposases (Sternberg)
- Prime Editing (Liu)

#### Why is genome editing so exciting?

- Tremendously powerful and easy to use research tool
  - Knock-outs, knock-in, screens, lineage tracking...
  - With Cas9 based systems, works essentially in every biologic system
- Accelerate development of improved agricultural products
  - $\circ~$  Evaluated differently in the US and Europe as a GMO
- Could potentially improve the health of humans using precision genetic engineering

#### Monogenic Diseases Permeate Medicine (6,000-10,000 such diseases) (Patients: ~30 million in USA, ~350 million worldwide)

Hematology: Sickle Cell Disease/Thalassemia Hematology: Hemophilia **Pulmonary:** Cystic Fibrosis Immunology: Primary Immunodeficiencies (e.g. Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)), MSMD, IPEX Cardiology: Familial Hypercholesterolemia **Dermatology: Epidermolysis bullosa** Genetics: Muscular Dystrophy, MPS I, Gaucher Neurology: Huntington's Disease, Myotonic Dystrophy, NGLY1 deficiency Oncology: RUNX1-FPD, BRCA1, BRCA2, NF

> Each patient affects a larger community of people (echoes of the disease) + life years saved

## Example 1: Ex Vivo Correction of a Disease Causing Variant (sickle cell disease)



### Example 2: In Vivo Amelioration of Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy

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## In vivo gene editing in dystrophic mouse muscle and muscle stem cells

Mohammadsharif Tabebordbar,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Kexian Zhu,<sup>1,3\*</sup> Jason K. W. Cheng,<sup>1</sup> Wei Leong Chew,<sup>2,4</sup> Jeffrey J. Widrick,<sup>5</sup> Winston X. Yan,<sup>6,7</sup> Claire Maesner,<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Y. Wu,<sup>1</sup>† Ru Xiao,<sup>8</sup> F. Ann Ran,<sup>6,7</sup> Le Cong,<sup>6,7</sup> Feng Zhang,<sup>6,7</sup> Luk H. Vandenberghe,<sup>8</sup> George M. Church,<sup>4</sup> Amy J. Wagers<sup>1</sup>‡ GENE EDITING

#### In vivo genome editing improves muscle function in a mouse model of Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Christopher E. Nelson,<sup>1,2</sup> Chady H. Hakim,<sup>3</sup> David G. Ousterout,<sup>1,2</sup> Pratiksha I. Thakore,<sup>1,2</sup> Eirik A. Moreb,<sup>1,2</sup> Ruth M. Castellanos Rivera,<sup>4</sup> Sarina Madhavan,<sup>1,2</sup> Xiufang Pan,<sup>3</sup> F. Ann Ran,<sup>5,6</sup> Winston X. Yan,<sup>5,7,8</sup> Aravind Asokan,<sup>4</sup> Feng Zhang,<sup>5,9,10,11</sup> Dongsheng Duan,<sup>3,12</sup> Charles A. Gersbach<sup>1,2,13\*</sup>

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# Postnatal genome editing partially restores dystrophin expression in a mouse model of muscular dystrophy

Chengzu Long,<sup>1,2,3</sup>\* Leonela Amoasii,<sup>1,2,3</sup>\* Alex A. Mireault,<sup>1,2,3</sup> John R. McAnally,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Hui Li,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Efrain Sanchez-Ortiz,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Samadrita Bhattacharyya,<sup>1,2,3</sup> John M. Shelton,<sup>4</sup> Rhonda Bassel-Duby,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Eric N. Olson<sup>1,2,3</sup>†

#### Example 3: Potentially improving anti-cancer based cell therapies (combining genome editing with synthetic biology)

# Targeting a CAR to the *TRAC* locus with CRISPR/Cas9 enhances tumour rejection

Justin Eyquem<sup>1</sup>\*, Jorge Mansilla–Soto<sup>1</sup>\*, Theodoros Giavridis<sup>1</sup>, Sjoukje J. C. van der Stegen<sup>1</sup>, Mohamad Hamieh<sup>1</sup>, Kristen M. Cunanan<sup>2</sup>, Ashlesha Odak<sup>1</sup>, Mithat Gönen<sup>2</sup> & Michel Sadelain<sup>1</sup>



#### **Genome Editing Moving Forward**

- 1. Technical issues of specificity (how to measure, how to evaluate, how to minimize) are being solved by the healthy mechanisms of biomedical research.
- 2. In human genome editing, what applications should and should not be developed?
- 3. Equity and Justice: How to assure that all people who might benefit from these innovative therapies will have access to them?
  - How to assure that we do not start thinking of human beings as objects to be engineered/manipulated?

#### **The Bioethical 2x2 Matrix**

Somatic Cell Editing for Disease/Prevention of Disease	Germline/Heritable Editing For Disease/Prevention of Disease
Somatic Cell Editing for Enhancement	Germline/Heritable Editing for Enhancement

#### **Challenge of Getting High Tech Therapies to All Patients in the World** Hematopoietic Stem Cells Editing: Harvested from Patient x 10<sup>6</sup> CD34/kg 10<sup>6</sup> CD34/kg Autologo to Patient 8-10 mg/kg) Ideal: >5 x 10<sup>6</sup> CD34/kg (ermo) At A (Agilent) Minimum: 5% Gene Correction GMP Grade AAV6 (LCGM) Ideal: >10% Gene Correction GMP Grade Electroporation (Lonza) with No off-target mutations/rearrangements above background and no signs of functional toxicity

#### History of Medicine: Innovative Medicines Result in New Cures

Sanitation/Clean Water

Antisepsis/Anesthesia

Vaccines

**Small Molecules** 

Biologics (Enzymes and Antibodies)

**Cell and Gene Medicines** 

**Microbiome Manipulation** 

These modalities remain foundational in medicine. In fact, we still need to figure out how to distribute to more people in the world (equity and justice)

"Living Drugs" Different PK/PD Migrate, Divide, Respond...