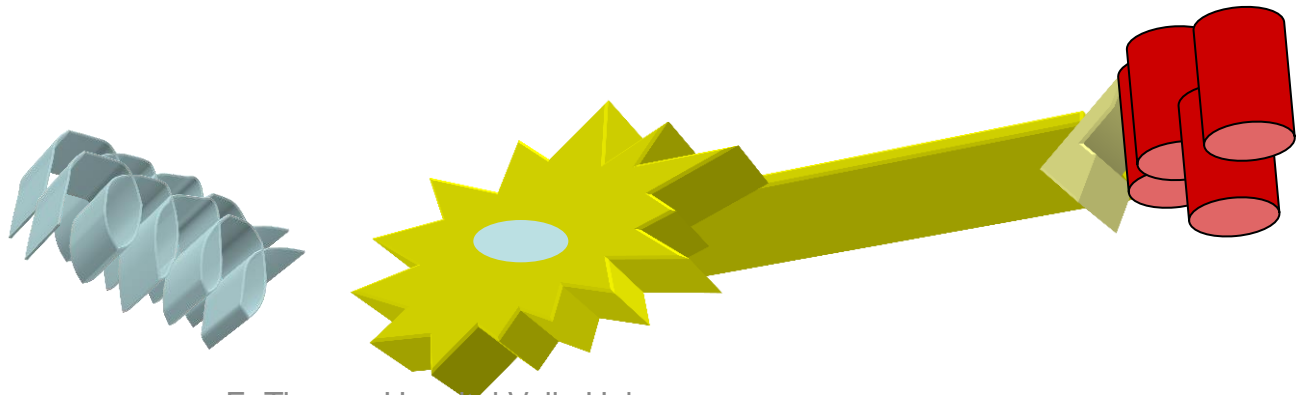


- Porque ocurre la AME
- Correlación genotipo fenotipo
- Discordancias fenotípicas
- Terapias avanzadas
- Perspectivas mas allá de los ensayos clínicos

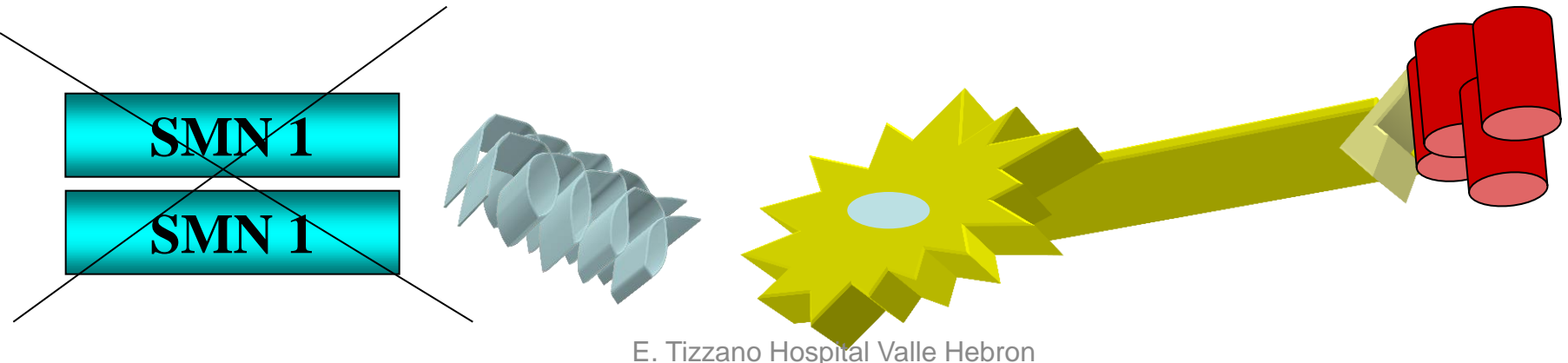
# Porqué ocurre la AME

- Ausencia o mutación de las dos copias del gen SMN1 entonces hay menos proteína SMN
- Pérdida y degeneración neuronas motoras del asta anterior de la medula espinal
- Falla en la unión neuromuscular y contacto con el músculo
- Denervación y debilidad muscular



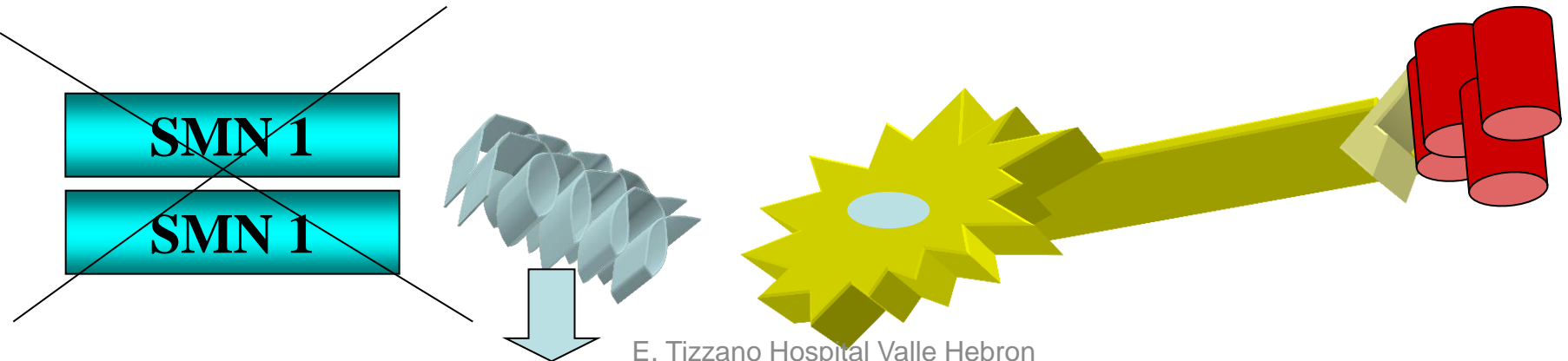
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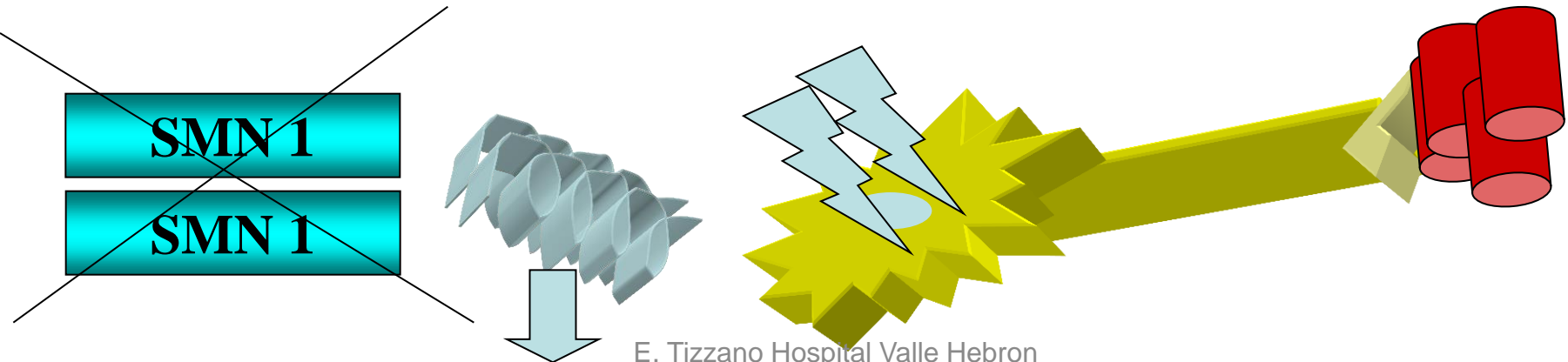
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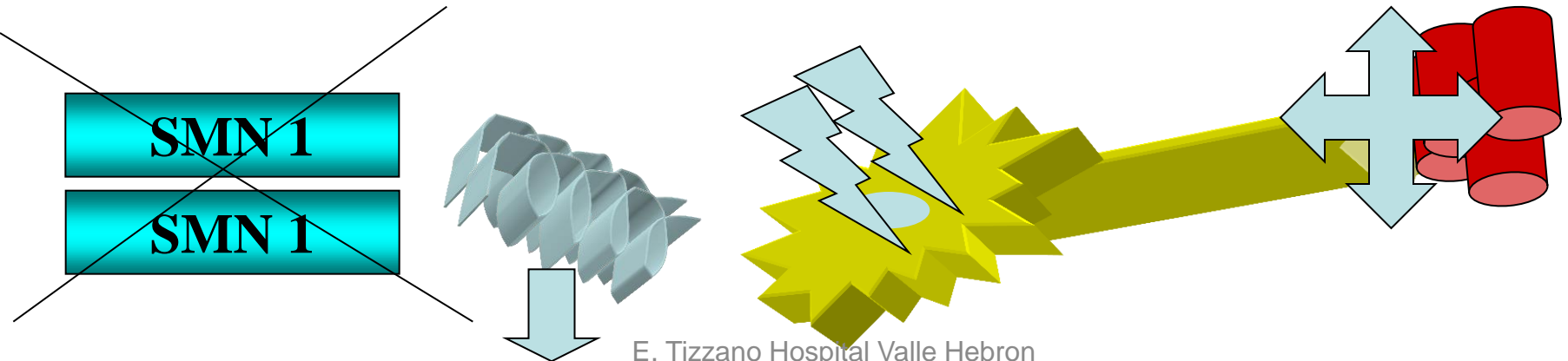
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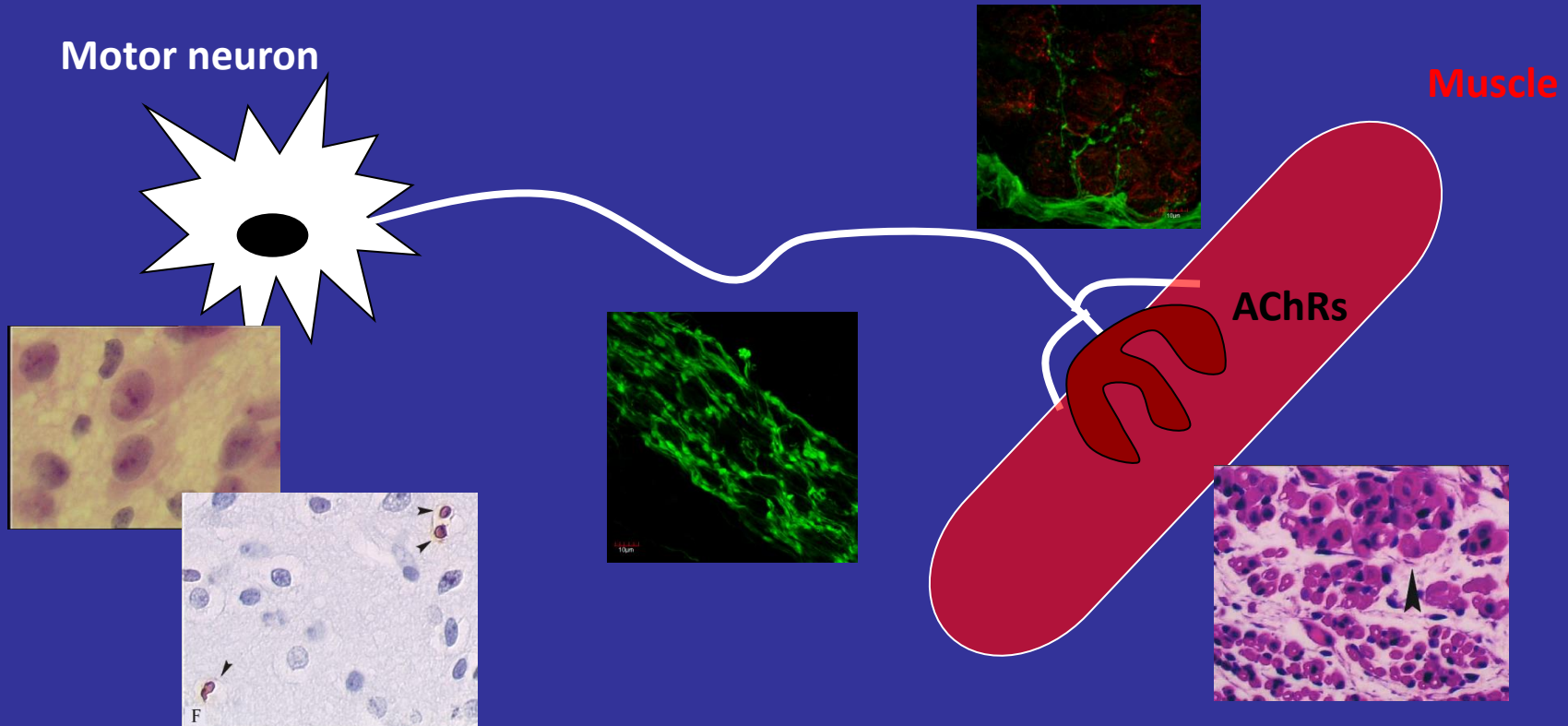


# Summary of developmental findings

*Soler-Botija et al., Brain, 2002,*

*Martínez-Hernandez et al., JNEN 2009*

*Martínez-Hernandez et al., J Pathol 2013*



Pathological findings are present at early stages of the disease along the neuromuscular unit



# Summary of postnatal findings

*Soler-Botija et al., Brain, 2002*

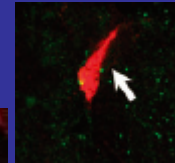
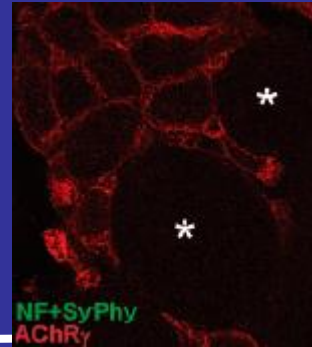
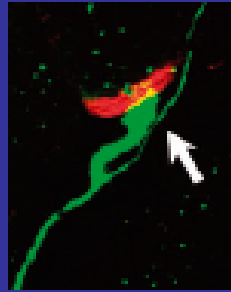
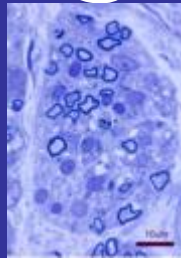
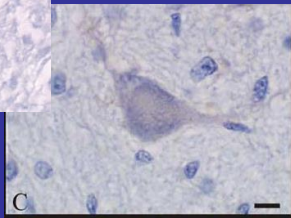
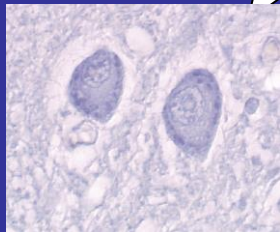
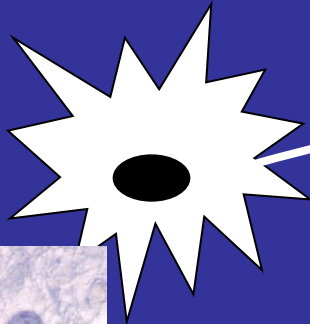
*Soler-Botilja et al., Neuromuscular Disorders, 2005*

*Martínez-Hernandez et al., JNEN 2009*

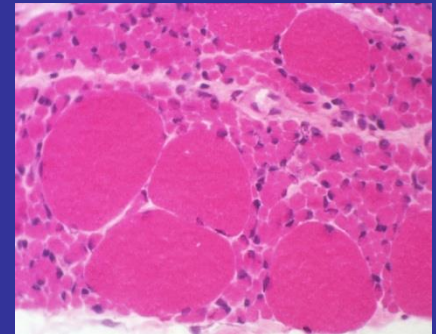
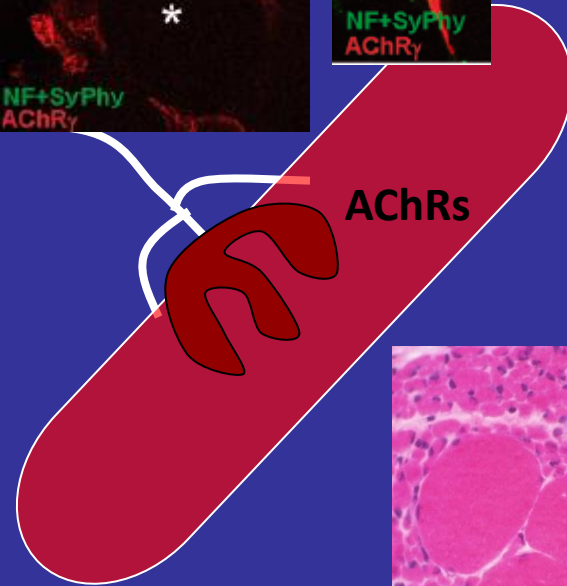
*Martínez-Hernandez et al., J Pathol 2013*

*Sumner et al., in progress*

**Motor neuron**



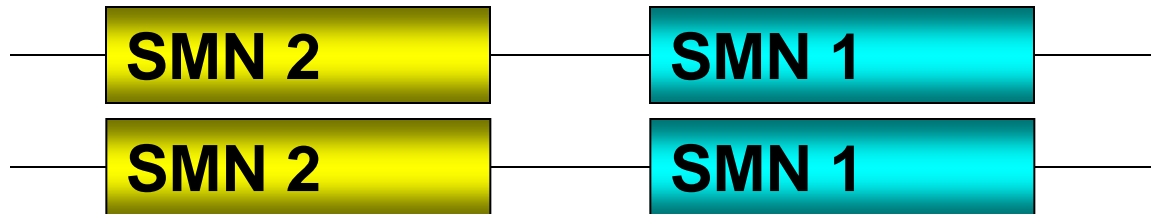
**Muscle**



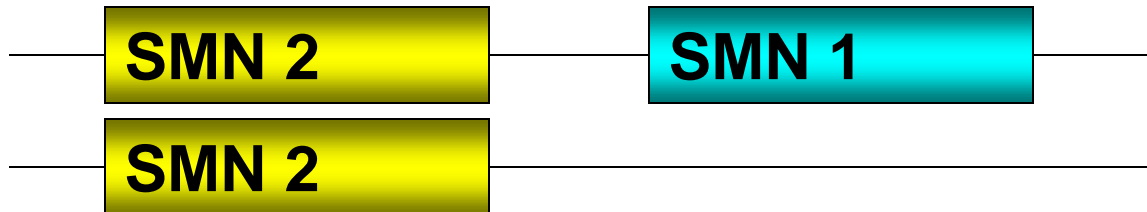
Pathological findings are present postnatally in  
the neuromuscular unit

POBLACION

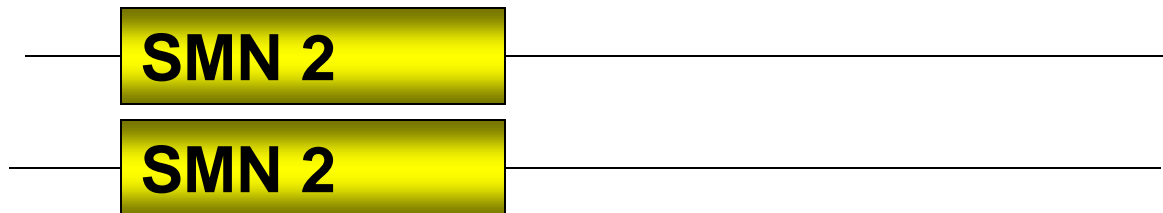
90%



2%



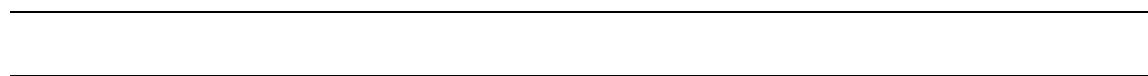
AME



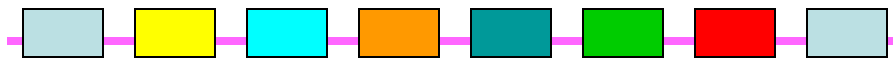
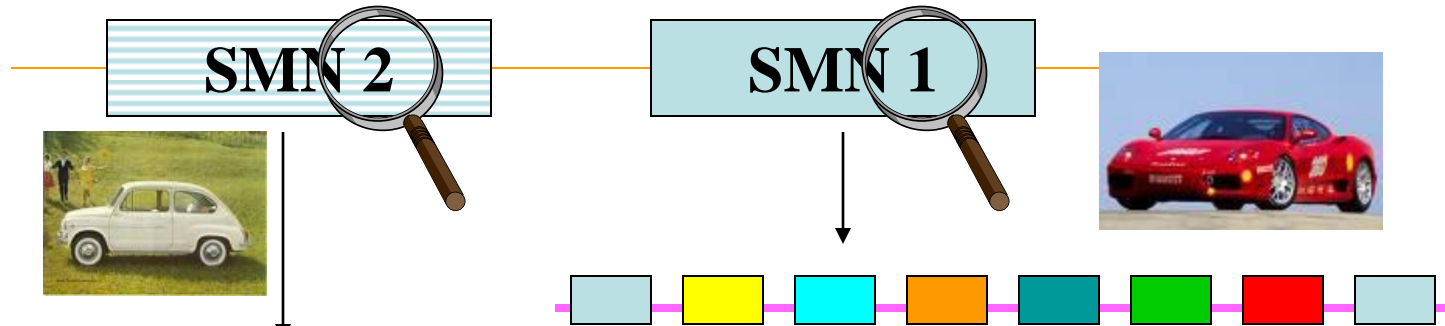
5-10%



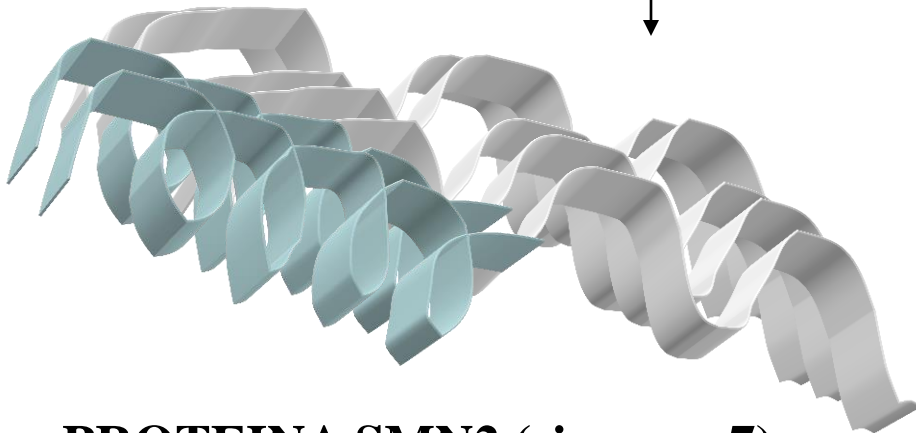
0%



**ADN**

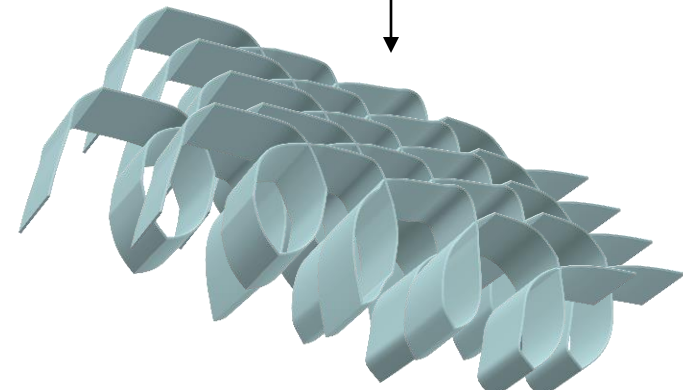


**ARN  
mensajero**



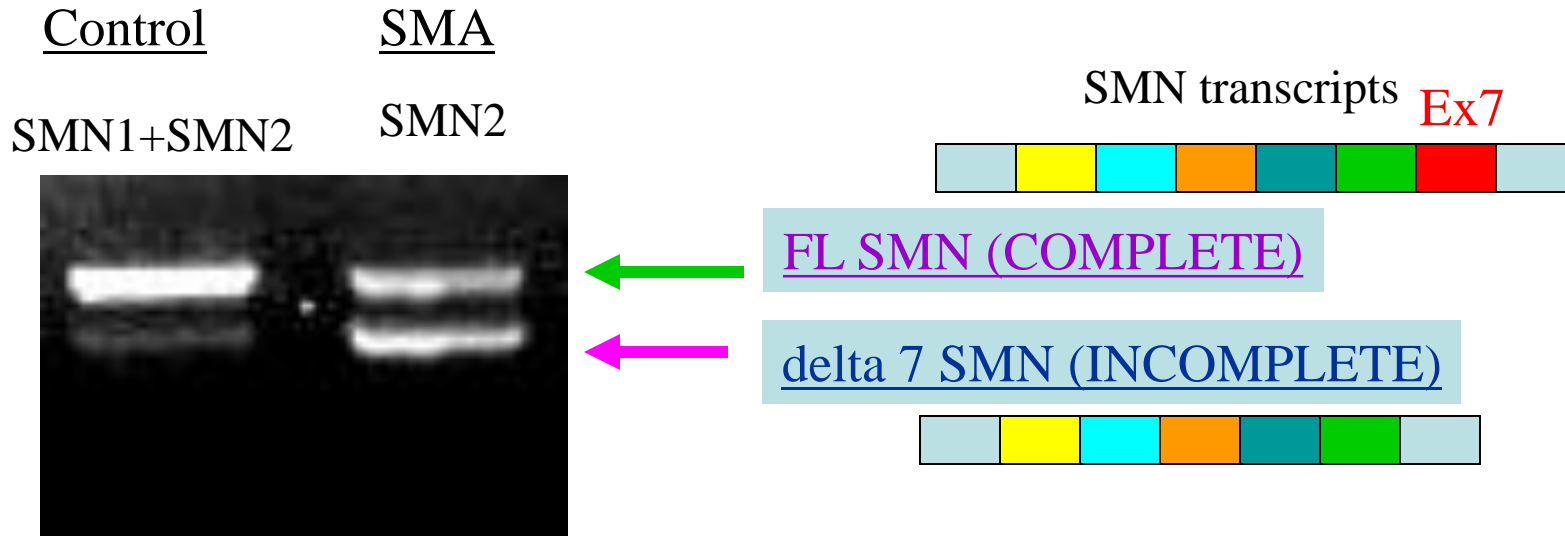
**PROTEINA SMN2 (sin exon 7)  
inestable y parcialmente funcionante**

**EXONES**



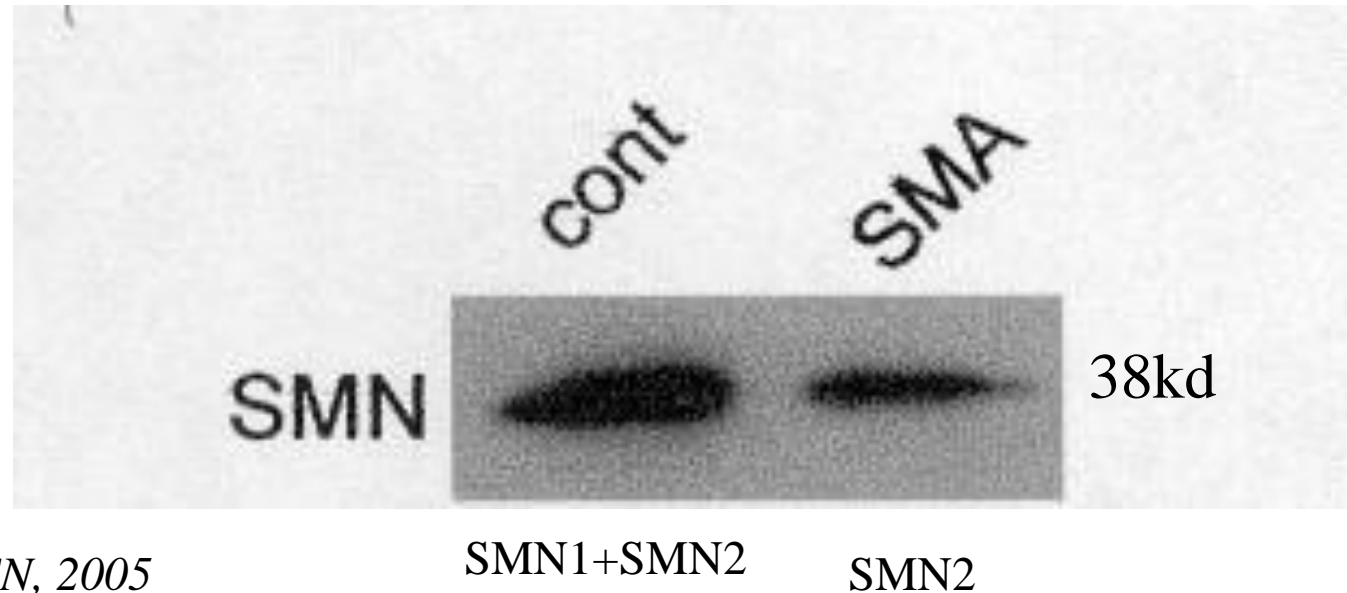
**PROTEINA SMN1 (completa)  
totalmente funcionante**

# A decrease of SMN protein in spinal cord causes SMA

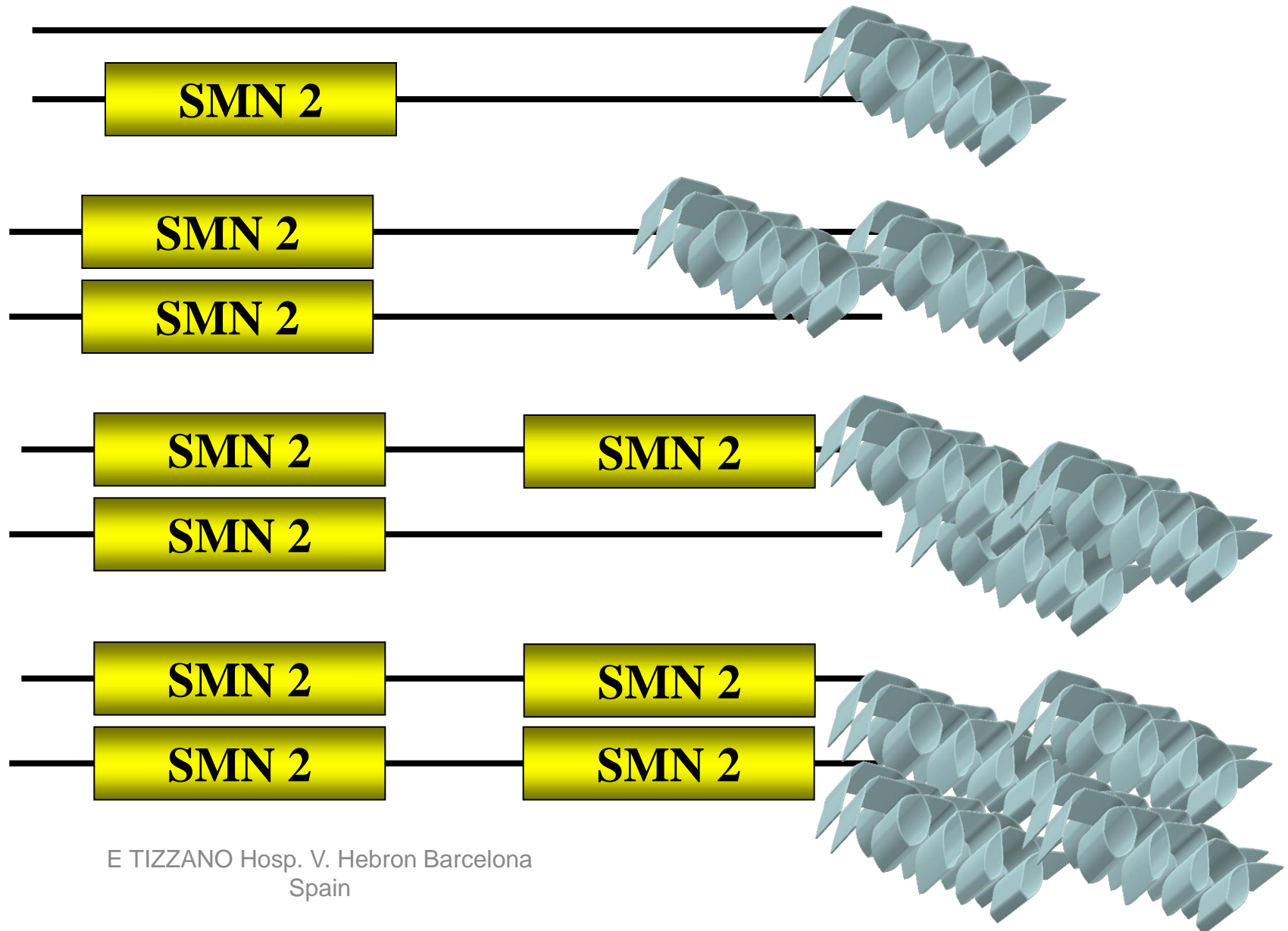


SMN mRNA and  
protein in fetal  
SPINAL CORD

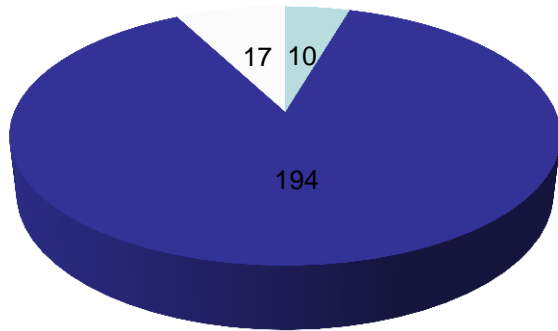
(15 weeks)



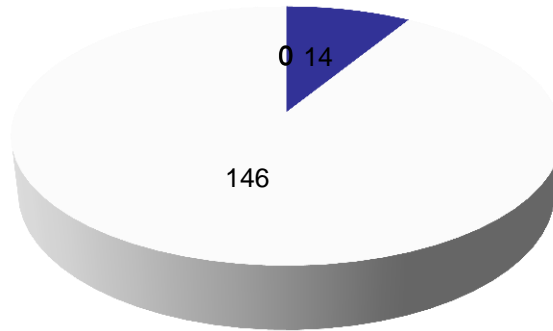
# SMN2 copies in SMA patients



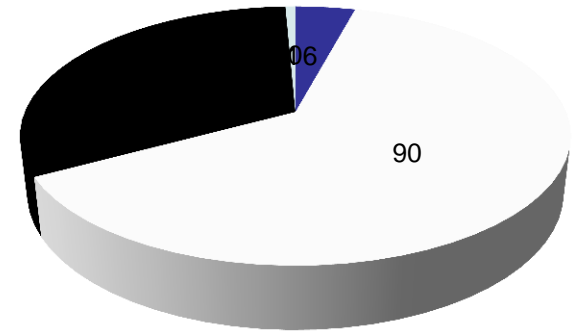
**Type I SMA**



**Type II SMA**

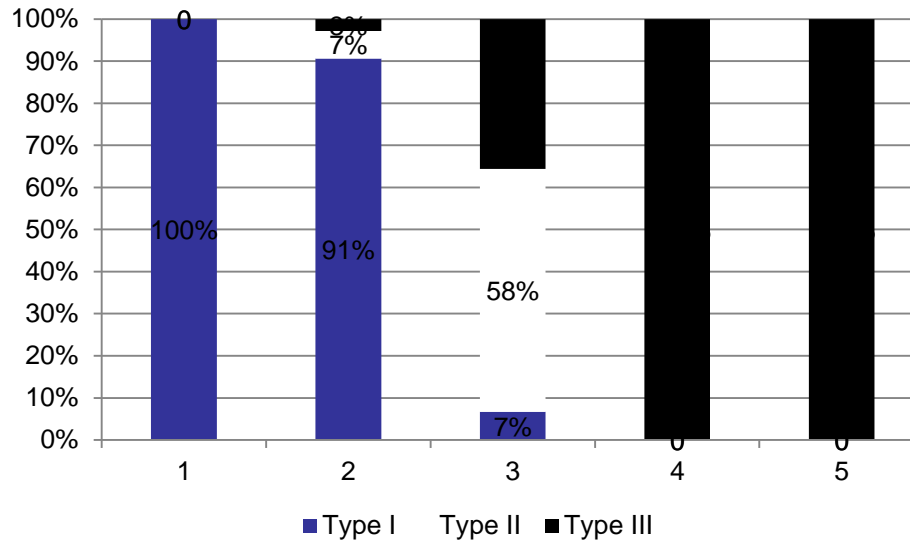


**Type III SMA**



■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5

	1 SMN2	2 SMN2	3 SMN2	4 SMN2	5 SMN2	
<b>Type I SMA</b>	10	194	17	0	0	221
<b>Type II SMA</b>	0	14	146	0	0	160
<b>Type III SMA</b>	0	6	90	46	1	139
	5	138	162	35	0	524



	1 SMN2	2 SMN2	3 SMN2	4 SMN2	5 SMN2	
<b>Type I SMA</b>	10	194	17	0	0	221
<b>Type II SMA</b>	0	14	146	0	0	160
<b>Type III SMA</b>	0	6	90	46	1	139
	5	138	162	35	0	524

**Disease severity typically depends on the number of copies of the SMN2 gene  
+ AGE OF ONSET + MOTOR MILESTONES**

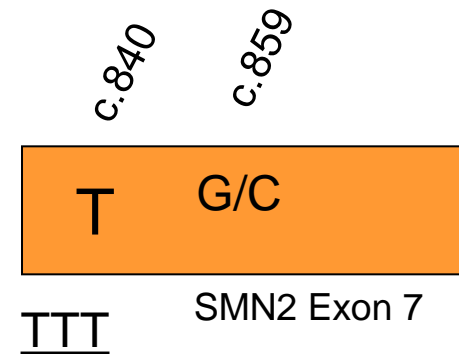
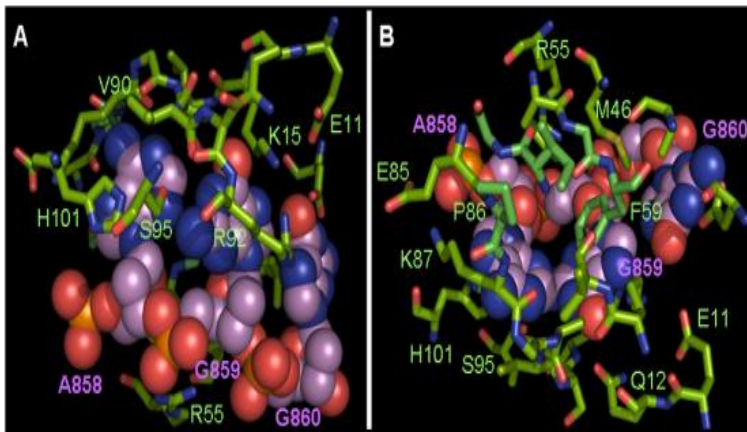
# ***Phenotypic discordances***

***Moderate-mild patients (type II-III)  
with 2 SMN2 copies (variants in SMN2,  
i.e. c.859G>C)***

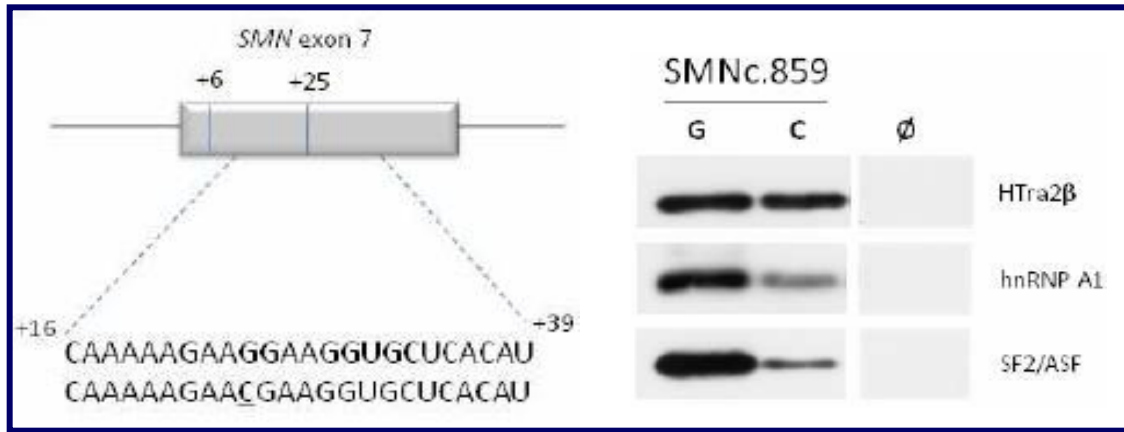


# Phenotypic discordances in SMA

- **Moderate-mild patients (type II-III) with 2 SMN2 copies<sup>5</sup>**
  - variants in SMN2, i.e. c.859G>C in exon 7<sup>2,3</sup>

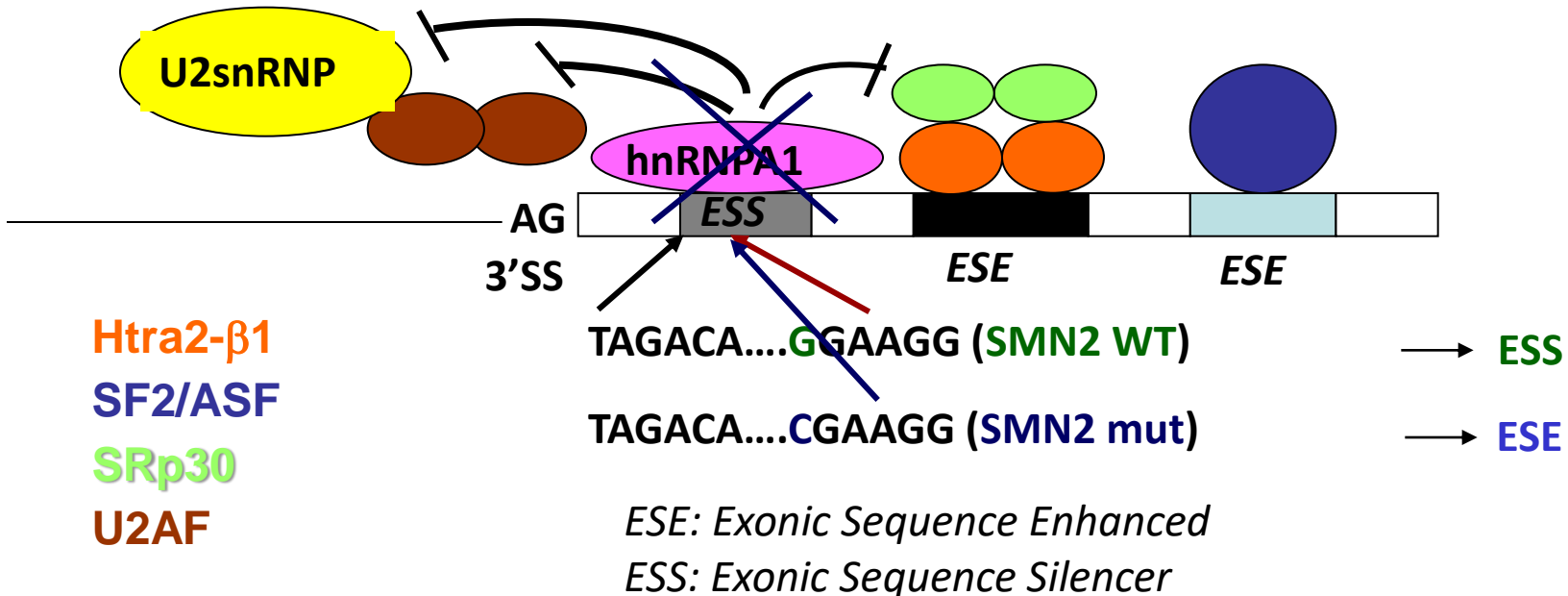


1. Hauke J, et al. Hum Mol Genet. 2009;18:304-17.
2. Prior TW, et al. Am J Hum Genet. 2009; 85: 408-13.
3. Vezain M, et al. Human Mut. 2010;31:E1110-25.
4. Oprea GE, et al. Science. 2008;320:524-7.
5. Bernal S, et al. J Med Genet. 2010;74:640-2.
6. Bernal S, et al. Neuromuscul Disord. 2011;21:413-9.



Vezain 2010

Inclusion exon 7 (SMN2) / exclusion exon 7 (SMN2)



# Distribution of the c.859G>C variant among SMA patients with 2 copies of the *SMN2* gene

SMA	Type I	Type II	Type III
Patients with the c.859G>C variant	0	4 (36%)	4 (80%)
Patients negative for the variant	126 (100%)	7 (64%)	1 (20%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>

E TIZZANO Hosp. V. Hebron Barcelona  
Spain

Patient	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Gender	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Female
Age (years)	65	36	22	59	34	18	30	12	5	3
SMA type	IIIb	IIIb	IIIb	IIIb	IIIb	IIIa	II	II	II	II
Age at onset of weakness (mths / yrs)	15 yrs	14 yrs	4 yrs	14 yrs	13 yrs	< 3 yrs	7 mths	8-9 mths	12 mths	14 mths
Walked unaided	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Wheelchair bound (age)	Yes (59 yrs)	No	No	Recently*	Recently*	Yes (6 yrs)	Yes**	Yes**	Yes**	-.***
SMN2 copies	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
c.859G>C in SMN2	Homoz.	Homoz	Homoz	Hetz.	Hetz.	Hetz.	Hetz.	Hetz.	Hetz.	Hetz.
Telomeric NAIP	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parental inheritance	NA	Both	NA	NA	NA	M	P	NA	P	M
C272 alleles	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>193</b>	189 191 <b>193</b>	181 189 <b>193</b>	181 <b>193</b>	183 <b>193</b>	181 <b>193</b>	183 <b>193</b>	181 <b>193</b>
C212 alleles	<b>225</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>225</b> <b>227</b> 233	219 221 <b>225</b>	217 <b>227</b>	217 <b>225</b>	215 <b>227</b>	217 <b>227</b>	215 <b>227</b>

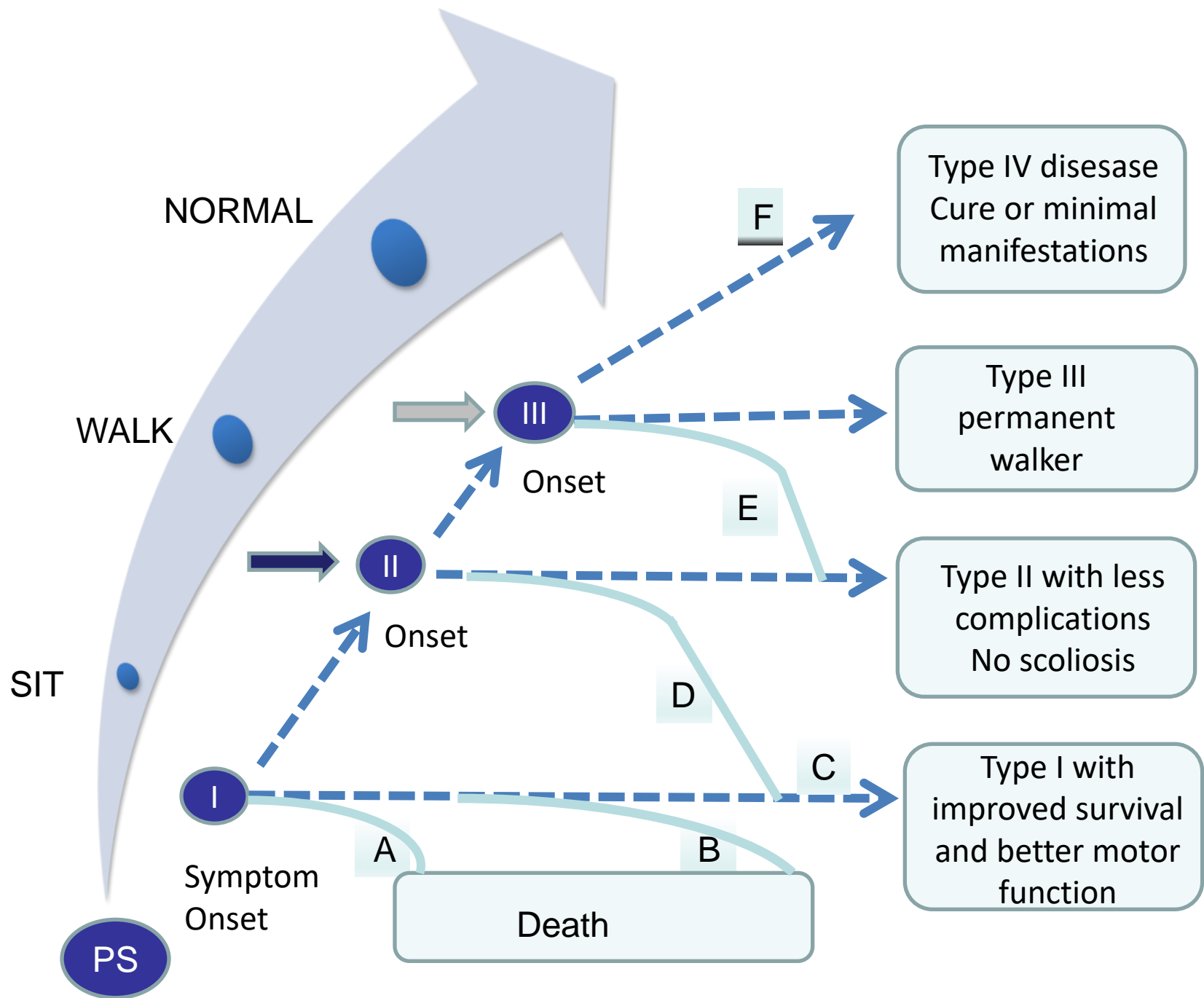
# Protocolos sobre terapia en la AME

- ESTRATEGIAS
- Eficacia terapéutica versus realidad biológica enfermedad
- Terapia Central versus periférica
- Ventana terapéutica
- Combinación Terapias
  
- EFECTOS
- Curación, detener el proceso, cambiar de tipo de AME
- Manifestaciones de la enfermedad con las nuevas terapias
  
- CONTEXTO
- Trasfondo biosicosocial
- Modelo seguimiento y atención multidisciplinaria
- Uniformidad Standard of Care

Issues on therapy in SMA: whom, what, where and when (w.w.w.w.)

# Whom

- **1. All SMA patients?**
- Severe Type 1 SMA and chronic Type 2 and III.
- Type 1A (or 0) may be beyond rescue at the time of birth.
- Adults with type IV need to be considered as well, with attention to the burden of the therapy versus the potential benefit to be accrued.
- **2. Presymptomatic patients?**
- This raises the topic of newborn screening. Feasibility has already been demonstrated.
- *Expected changes in predicted natural histories*



(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)

Issues on therapy in SMA: whom, what, where and when (w.w.w.w.)

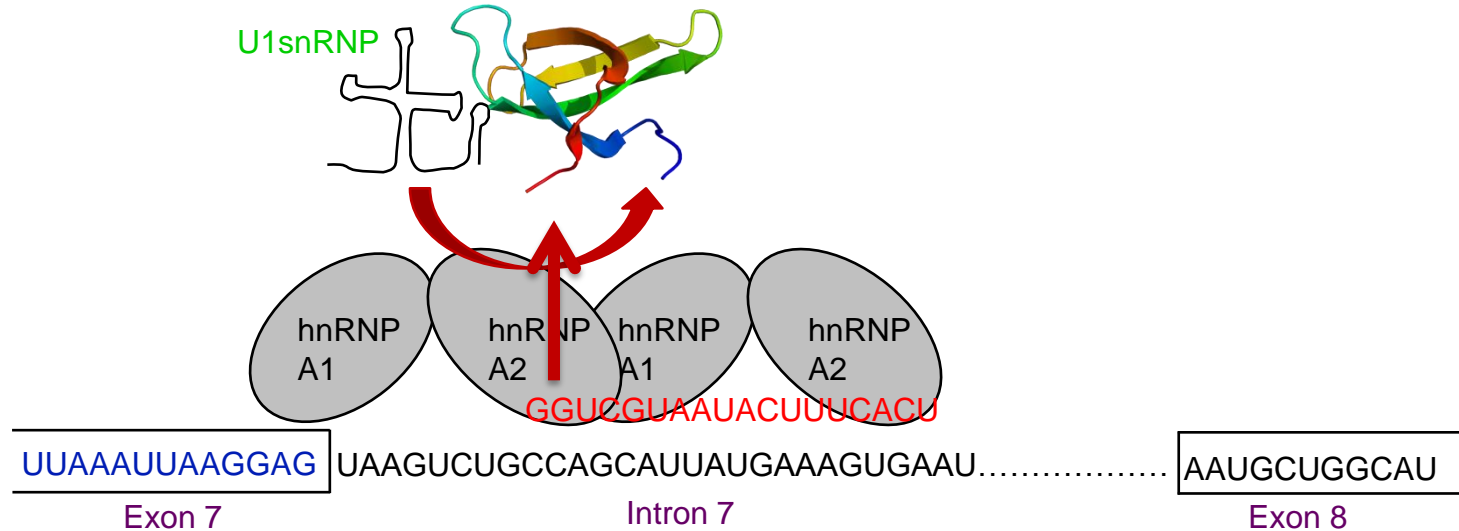
# What

- 1. **SMN dependent:** SMN1 replacement, SMN2 splicing modulation
- 2. **SMN independent:** Neuroprotection, enhancement of neuromuscular transmission, myoactivation/muscle trophic agents.
- *Current measures for standard of care would continue to be part of the following-up strategies and interventional measures*

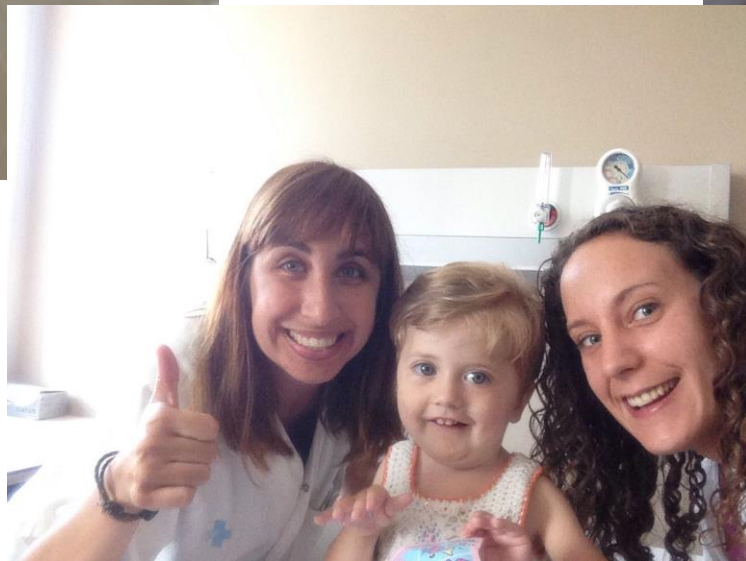
*(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)*



# Modulation of *SMN2* Ions/Biogen program (1)



- 2'-*O*-methoxyethyl (MOE) modified antisense drug
- Displaces negative splicing factors on pre-mRNA, promoting inclusion of mis-spliced exon 7
- Promotes synthesis of fully functional SMN protein



# Farmacos orales que afectan la inclusión del exon 7 pero no se sabe su mecanismo de acción

Science

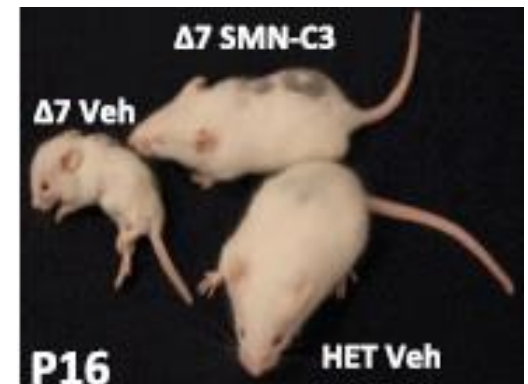
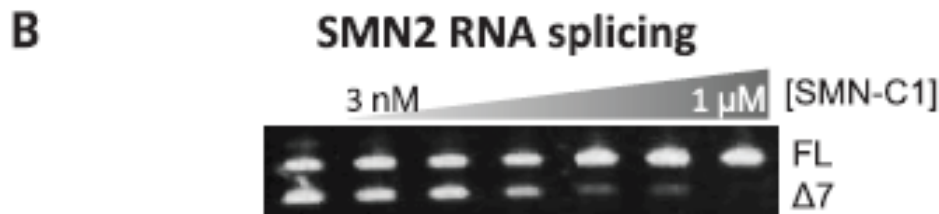
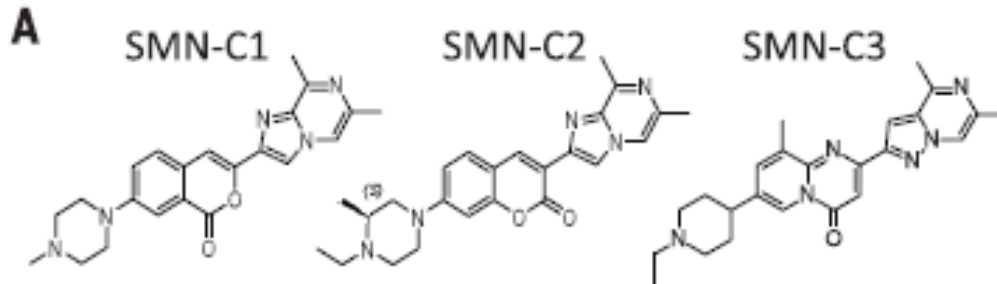
AAAS

**SMN2 splicing modifiers improve motor function and longevity in mice with spinal muscular atrophy**

Nikolai A. Naryshkin *et al.*

*Science* 345, 688 (2014);

DOI: 10.1126/science.1250127

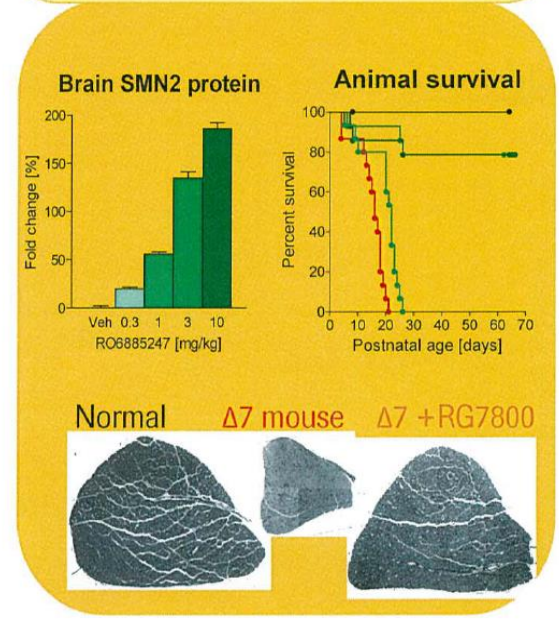
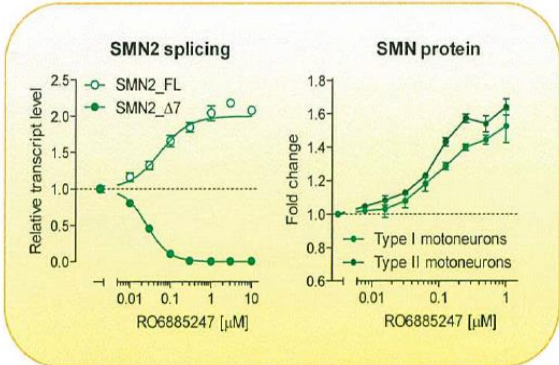




# SMN2 splicing modifier for SMA

## Preclinical summary

- In SMA patient fibroblasts
  - Modifies SMN2 splicing (ratio full length to  $\Delta 7$  mRNA)
  - Increases SMN protein levels
  
- Highly active in SMA animal models
  - Modifies SMN2 splicing
  - Restores deficient SMN protein levels
  - Rescues motor neurons
  - Increases muscle mass
  - Increases body weight
  - Prolongs survival



# PTC/ROCHE Program

## ✓ R06885247/RG7800

### ➤ Moonfish trial (suspended)

- Phase Ib, double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled, multiple dose
- Investigate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of R06885247 following 12 Weeks of treatment
- adult and pediatric patients with spinal muscular atrophy (2 to 55 years old)

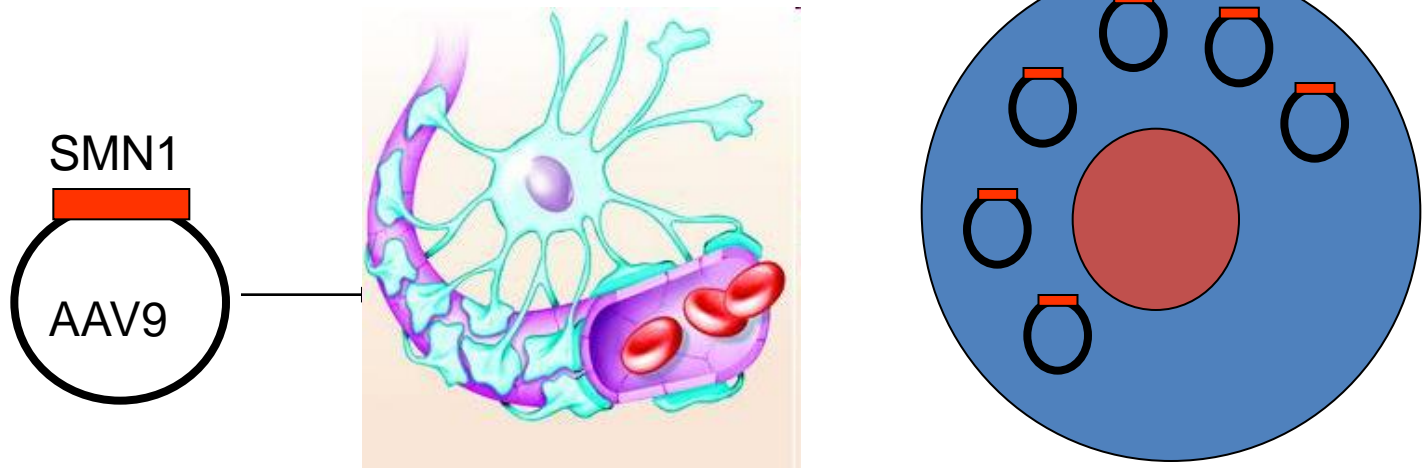
## ✓ RO7034067/RG7916 (SUNFISH/ FIREFISH)

- Phase I (2016) adaptive single-ascending-dose, placebo-controlled study
  - Investigate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of RO7034067 given by mouth in **Healthy Volunteers**
  - **End of 2016/Beginning of 2017 started dose studies in SMA patients**
- [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)

# Transferir copias normales del gen SMN1 a la médula espinal (terapia génica).



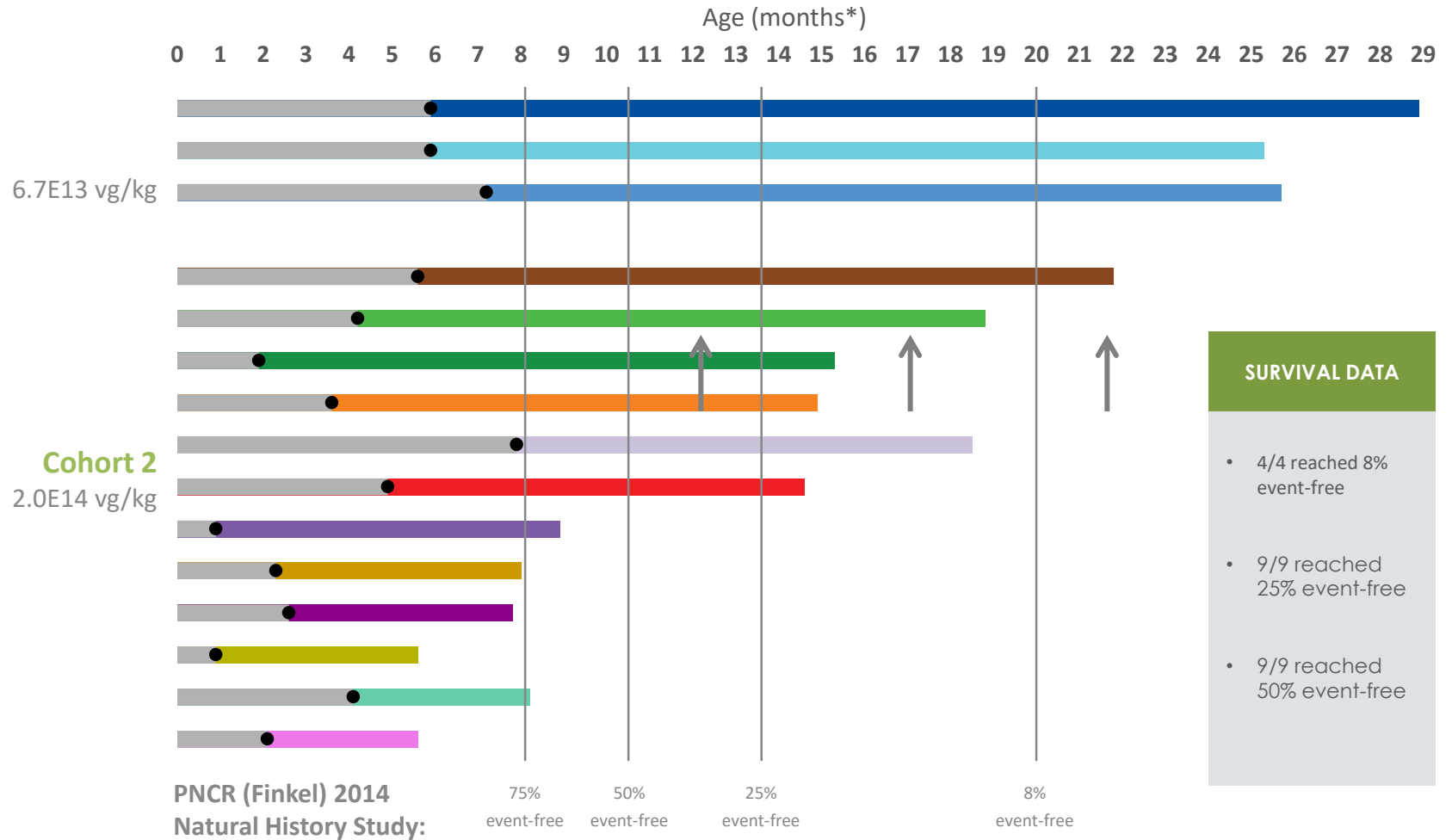
- AAV9 que pasa la barrera hematoencefálica
- Aumenta la supervivencia cuando se administra muy precozmente al ratón SMA.
- Se estudió su eficacia además en un modelo de cerdo con SMA y se aprobó en 2014 el protocolo para tipo I en humanos por la FDA



# SMA Type 1 treated at 2 mo and picture 6 mo post GT



# Survival Data – Ongoing Phase 1 Trial



\* A month is defined as 30 days



**SMN2 splicing modifier approach**

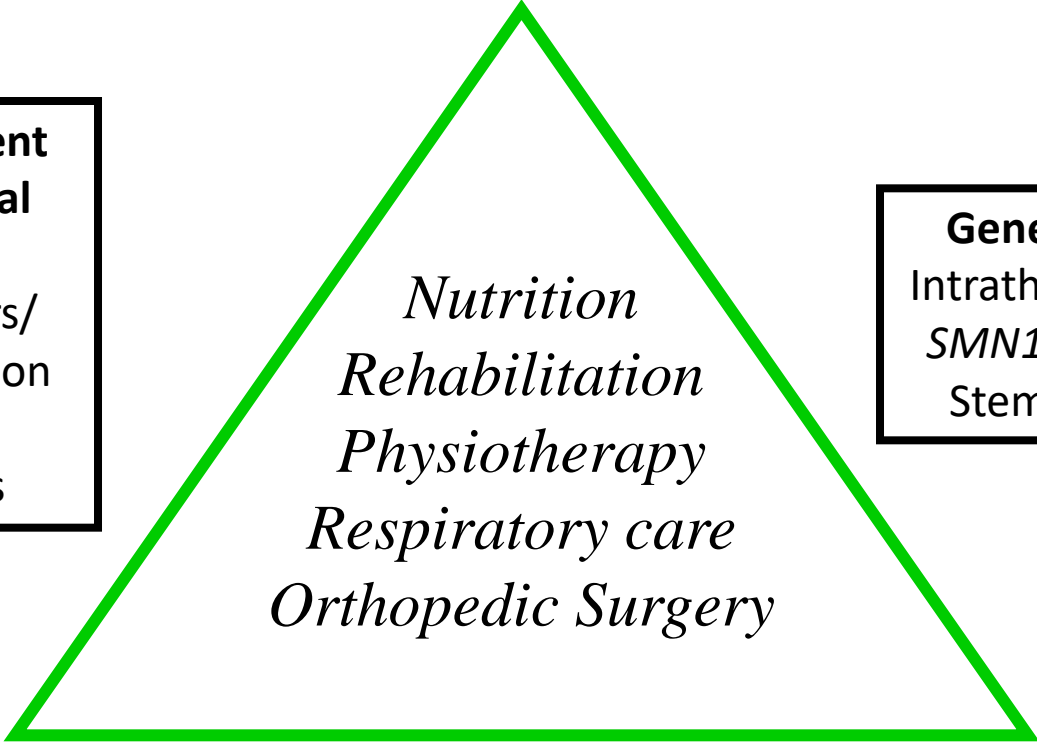
Antisense oligonucleotides molecules  
Oral small molecules  
(Oral [systemic] and/or intrathecal delivery; increased expression of full-length *SMN2* transcript)

**SMN independent pharmacological approach**

Neuroprotectors/  
Neurotransmission enhancers /  
Myoactivators

**Gene replacement**

Intrathecal or systemic  
*SMN1* gene transfer/  
Stem cell therapy?



*Nutrition*  
*Rehabilitation*  
*Physiotherapy*  
*Respiratory care*  
*Orthopedic Surgery*

(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)

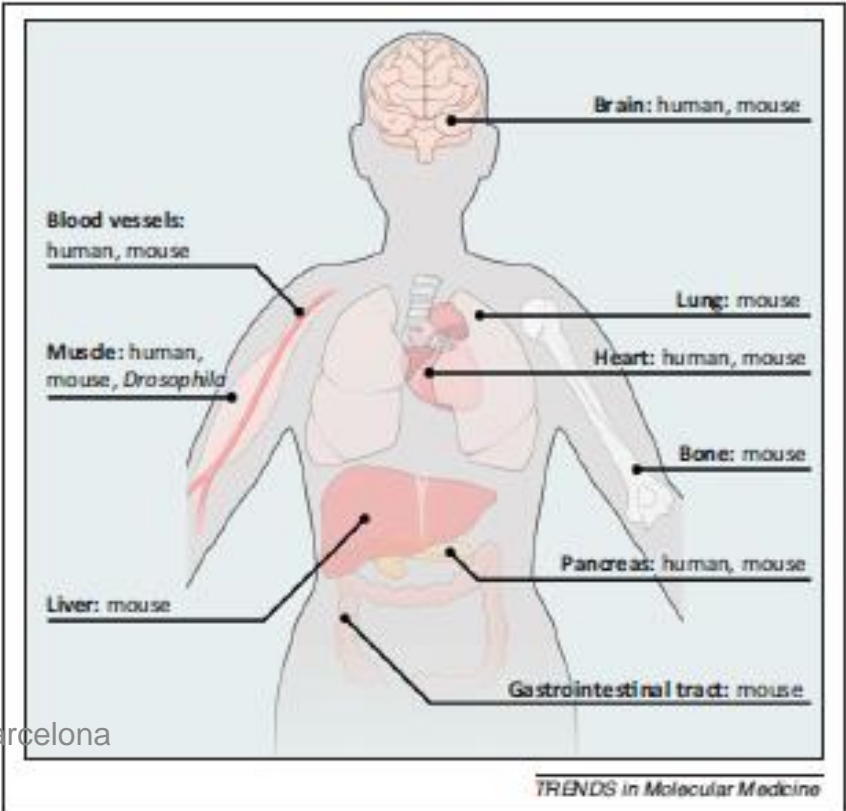
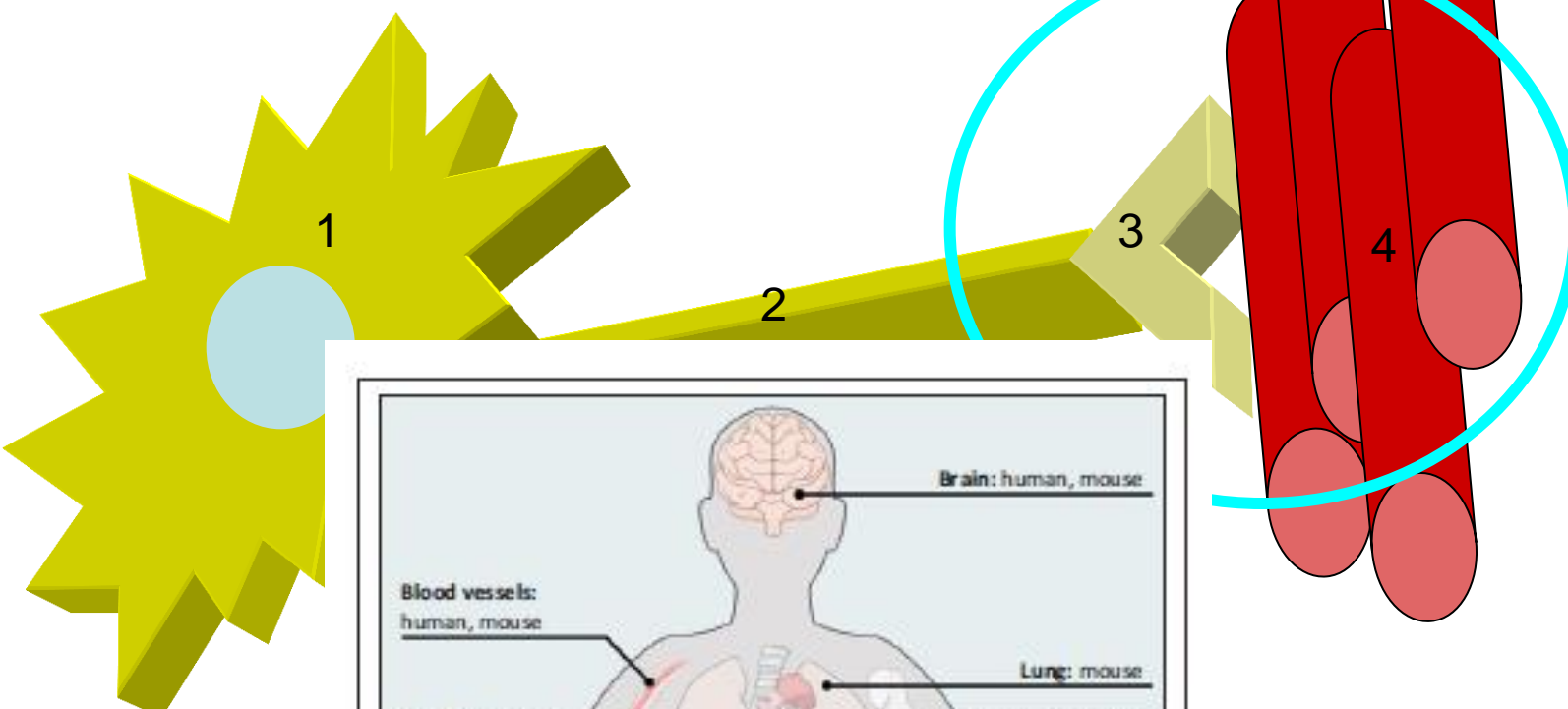
Issues on therapy in SMA: whom, what, where and when (w.w.w.w.)

# Where

- **1. Central therapy.**
- Clearly motor neurons need to be targeted. This can be accomplished with intrathecal antisense oligos, systemic neurotrophic vectors or oral small molecule drugs. Other neuronal types may be targeted.
- **2. Peripheral therapy.**
- There is evidence from research in animal models and patient observations that peripheral therapy including neuromuscular junction and muscle would be necessary.
- *Combined central and peripheral therapy seems reasonable*

*(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)*

# CENTRAL VERSUS PERIPHERAL THERAPY



Issues on therapy in SMA: whom, what, where and when (w.w.w.w.)

# When

- **1. Therapeutic window:**
- There is an interval of time in which dysfunctional MN and NMJ determine part of symptoms followed by MN death.
- An argument can be made for neonatal treatment in early detected cases, at least for those individuals with a SMN2 copy number of 2 or 3, and not to wait until the patient becomes symptomatic.
  
- **2. Frequency of administration:**
- Gene transfer therapy may be a single dose treatment with life-long benefit. It is unclear if retreatment will be needed or is possible.
  
- *Other strategies such as antisense oligos or small molecule splicing modifiers are envisaged to be administered life-long to the patient*

*(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)*

BIRTH

CURE

P  
S

Trajectory and protocol according to proven efficacy → ???

One dose gene transfer - Stem cell therapy?

S → ???

Periodic intrathecal ASO doses

S → ???

Daily - weekly oral small molecule splicing modifiers

S → ???

Daily-weekly oral Neuroprotectors/Neurotransmission enhancers/Myoactivators

S → ???

SMA patient genetically confirmed

(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)

# Spinal Muscular Atrophy: a changing phenotype beyond the clinical trials

- SMA has evolving phenotypes due to improved standard of care and new treatments.
- The clinician should be alert to identify new patterns of motor development in SMA.
- Cognitive development in patients with SMA type 1 warrants further study.
- Other organ systems may develop signs of dysfunction as these patients live longer.
- Early diagnosis and intervention including presymptomatic newborn screening have to be considered
- Combined therapeutic strategies targeting central nervous system and peripheral tissues are envisaged.

*(Tizzano and Finkel under revision)*

ORGANISMO



SOCIAL

Modelo

Biopsicoosocial



PSIQUIS

**Concepto:** En muchas enfermedades raras, nos enfrentamos por primera vez a un tratamiento de las causas genéticas o de las alteraciones que éstas producen y por lo tanto no sabemos como responderá el paciente ni como se modificará su historia natural  
**Nos enfrentamos a un “nuevo” paciente.**

# PACIENTES Y ORGANIZACIONES



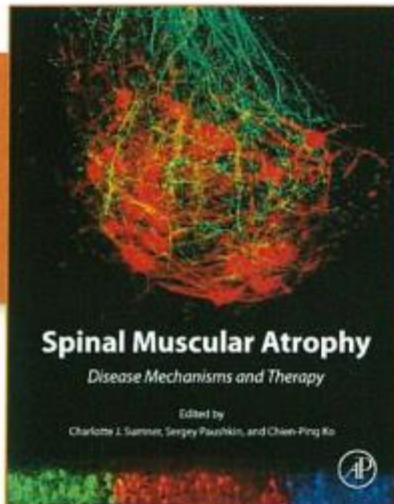
DISPONIBILIDAD  
TERAPIA PARA  
PACIENTES

LABORATORIOS  
FARMACEUTICOS

MINISTERIOS  
MUTUAS







## Spinal Muscular Atrophy *Disease Mechanisms and Therapy*

Edited by: *Charlotte J Sumner* Neurology and Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA  
*Sergey Paushkin* Research, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Foundation, USA  
*Chien-Ping Ko* Neurobiology, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern California, USA



**A comprehensive reference on the entire spinal muscular atrophy field including disease mechanisms, pathology, standards of care, and therapeutic development**

### KEY FEATURES

- Provides comprehensive up-to-date reviews by leading investigators on diverse topics of SMA including clinical features and patient care, SMN genetics and protein functions, animal models, disease pathology and mechanisms, biomarkers, current therapeutic development, as well as the role of non-profit organizations in therapeutic development
- Written to bridge multiple disciplines and promote better communications among basic scientists, clinical researchers and health care providers on the latest development in SMA
- Chapters include outstanding questions/perspectives for future investigations and key references for additional detailed study

### DESCRIPTION

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), characterized by motoneuron loss and muscle atrophy, is the leading genetic cause of infant mortality. Since the identification of the gene responsible for SMA in 1995, there have been important advances in basic understanding of disease mechanisms as well as in therapeutic development. **Spinal Muscular Atrophy: Disease Mechanisms and Therapy** is a comprehensive reading of recent advances in basic and clinical research. The book covers SMA clinical features and standards of care, multifaceted aspects of SMN protein functions and SMA disease pathology, various animal models, biomarkers, as well as current therapeutic development.

This title is ideal for graduate students/postdocs and principal investigators who are already in the SMA field and need to keep updated of recent findings and approaches, and also those who are new to, or would like to join, the field. Likewise, **Spinal Muscular Atrophy: Disease Mechanisms and Therapy** provides an excellent source of readings for biotech/pharma scientists, clinical researchers and practitioners, regulators, as well as patients and their advocacy organizations. Furthermore, this book is a handy reference for researchers and clinicians who may want to apply the research strategies and therapeutic approaches in SMA to other rare diseases.

## Spinal Muscular Atrophy

*Disease Mechanisms and Therapy*

Edited by  
Charlotte J. Sumner, Sergey Paushkin, and Chien-Ping Ko



ISBN: 9780128036853

PUB DATE: November 2016

LIST PRICE: \$150.00

FORMAT: Hardback

PAGES: c. 505

TRIM: 8.5w x 10.875h

### AUDIENCE

Neuroscientists, biomedical researchers, grad students, postdocs, academic/biotech researchers, clinicians

# Developmental Aspects and Pathological Findings in Spinal Muscular Atrophy

M.J. Pérez-García<sup>1</sup>, L. Kong<sup>2</sup>, C.J. Sumner<sup>1,2</sup>, E. Tizzano<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Vall d'Hebron Hospital, Barcelona, Spain; <sup>2</sup>Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, United States; <sup>3</sup>Vall d'Hebrón Research Institute, Barcelona, Spain

## OUTLINE

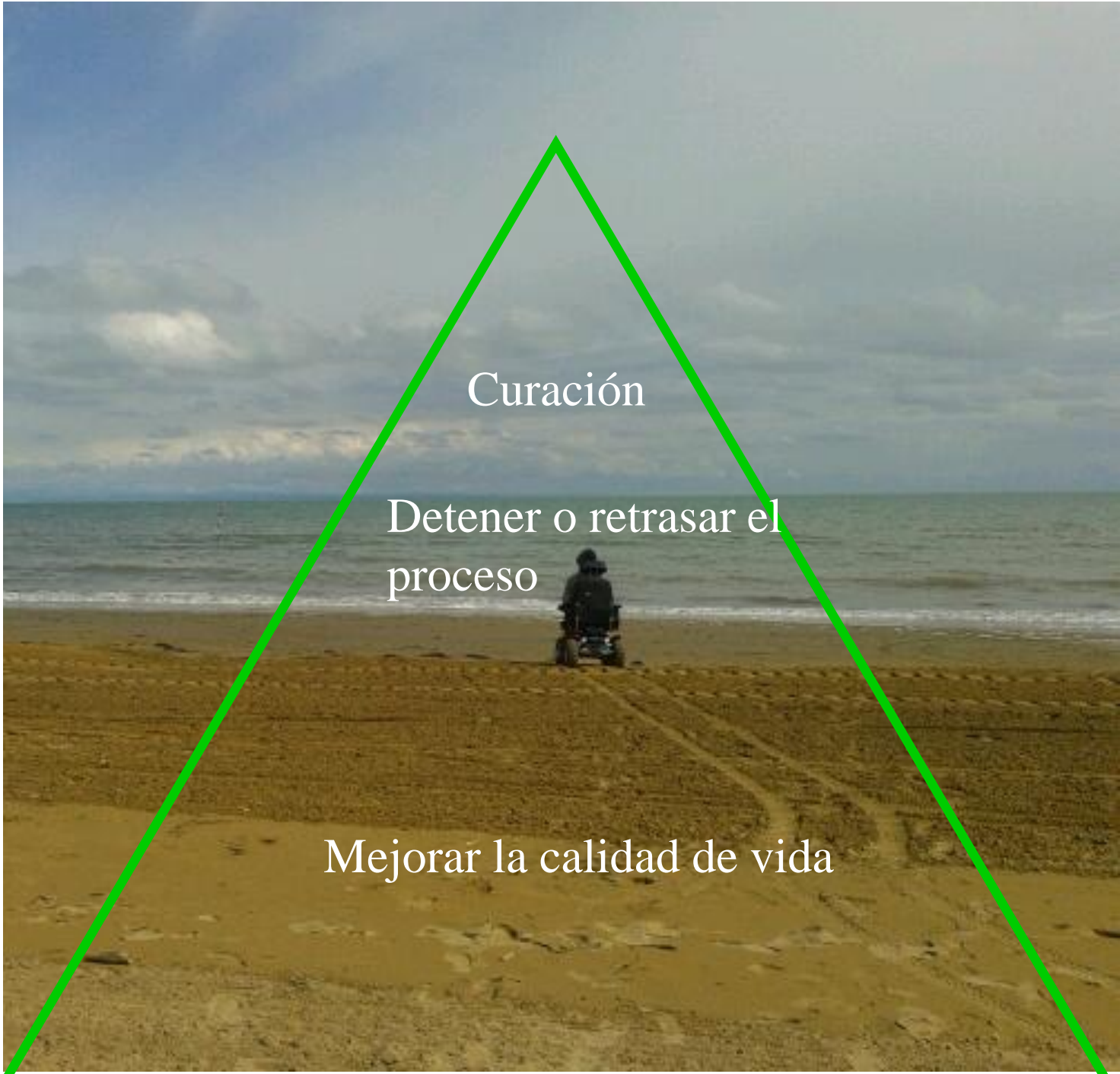
<b>Introduction</b>	1	Reduced Large, Myelinated Axons	12
<b>Development of the Neuromuscular System</b>	3	Excessive Small Axons?	13
<i>Embryology</i>	3	Glial Bundles	13
<i>Motor Neurons and Other Neuronal Types</i>	3	<i>Muscle Pathology in Spinal Muscular Atrophy</i>	13
<i>Programmed Cell Death During Neuronal Development</i>	4	Prenatal Findings	13
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Curación

Detener o retrasar el  
proceso

Mejorar la calidad de vida





# Historia natural tipo I

---

## AME tipo I tiene un curso variable

Subtipo AME I	Edad comienzo	Contracturas	Control cefalico	Alimentación	Función respiratoria	Evolución	SMN2
<b>IA</b>	Prenatal	+al nacer	Ausente	Mala	Mala	Semanas Cardio-patías	1
<b>IB</b>	<3M	-	Pobre	Suficiente	Suficiente	Declinación linear	2
<b>IC</b>	>3M	-	Presente	Adecuada	Adecuada	Plateau	3

Bertini et al., 2005, Rudnik-Schöneborn et al., 2009

# **Ionis/Biogen program (3)**

## **Ionis-SMNRx (Nusinersen)**

### **✓ EMBRACE Trial (2015-2017: ongoing)**

- Phase II, double-blind, randomized, sham-procedure controlled study
- 21 infants and children who was not eligible to participate in Endear and Cherish study
- Assess the safety and tolerability and explore the efficacy of nusinersen
- US study

### **✓ NURTURE trial (2015-2020: ongoing)**

- Phase II, open label, multidose study (intrathecal injection)
- 25 presymptomatic SMA infants (up to 6 weeks)
- Evaluate the efficacy of multiple doses of nusinersen in preventing or delaying the need for respiratory intervention or death in infants
- International study

## Actualization



Recruitment finalized



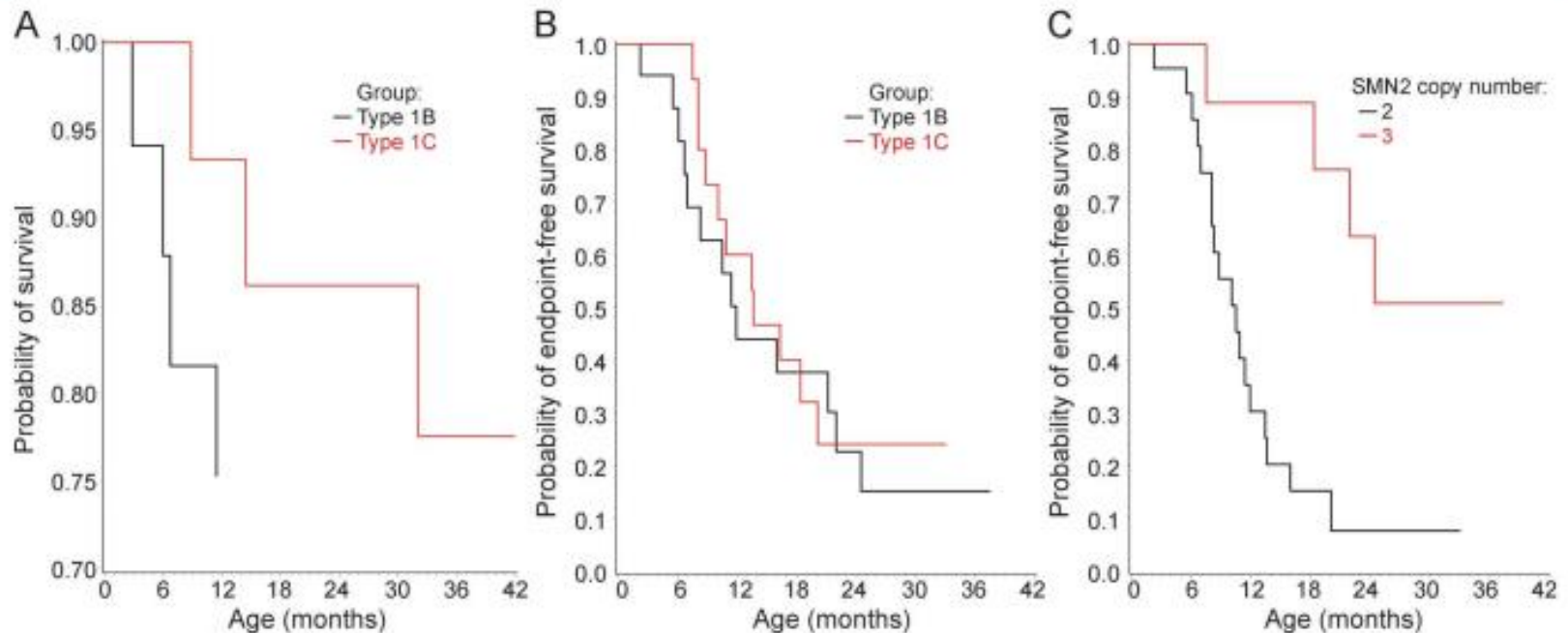
Recruitment finalized

## Future steps

- EAP ongoing
- Approval FDA and EMA
- Accelerate process of commercialization

[www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)

**Figure 1** Time-to-event curves for SMA-I



Kaplan-Meier curves for SMA-I. (A) Probability of survival with advancing age by SMA-I subtype (type 1B, n = 18; type 1C, n = 16). (B) Probability of not reaching the combined endpoint of death or the need for a minimum of 16 hours/day of noninvasive ventilation support for a minimum of 14 continuous days, in the absence of an acute reversible illness or perioperatively, with advancing age by SMA-I subtype. (C) Probability of not reaching the combined endpoint with advancing age by SMN2 copy number (2 copies, n = 23; 3 copies, n = 9). SMA-I = spinal muscular atrophy type I.

The median age at reaching the combined endpoint of death or requiring at least 16 hours/day of ventilation support was **13.5 months** (interquartile range 8.1–22.0 months)

Infants with SMA-I can be effectively enrolled and retained in a 12-month natural history study until a majority reach the combined endpoint

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Spain

Finkel et al., 2014



# ***Discordancias fenotípicas***

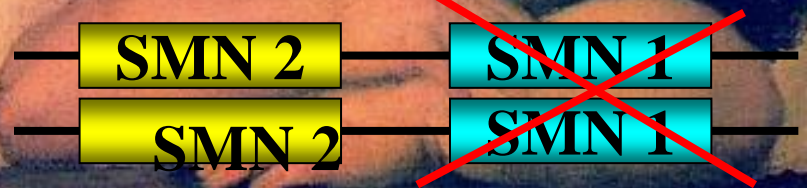
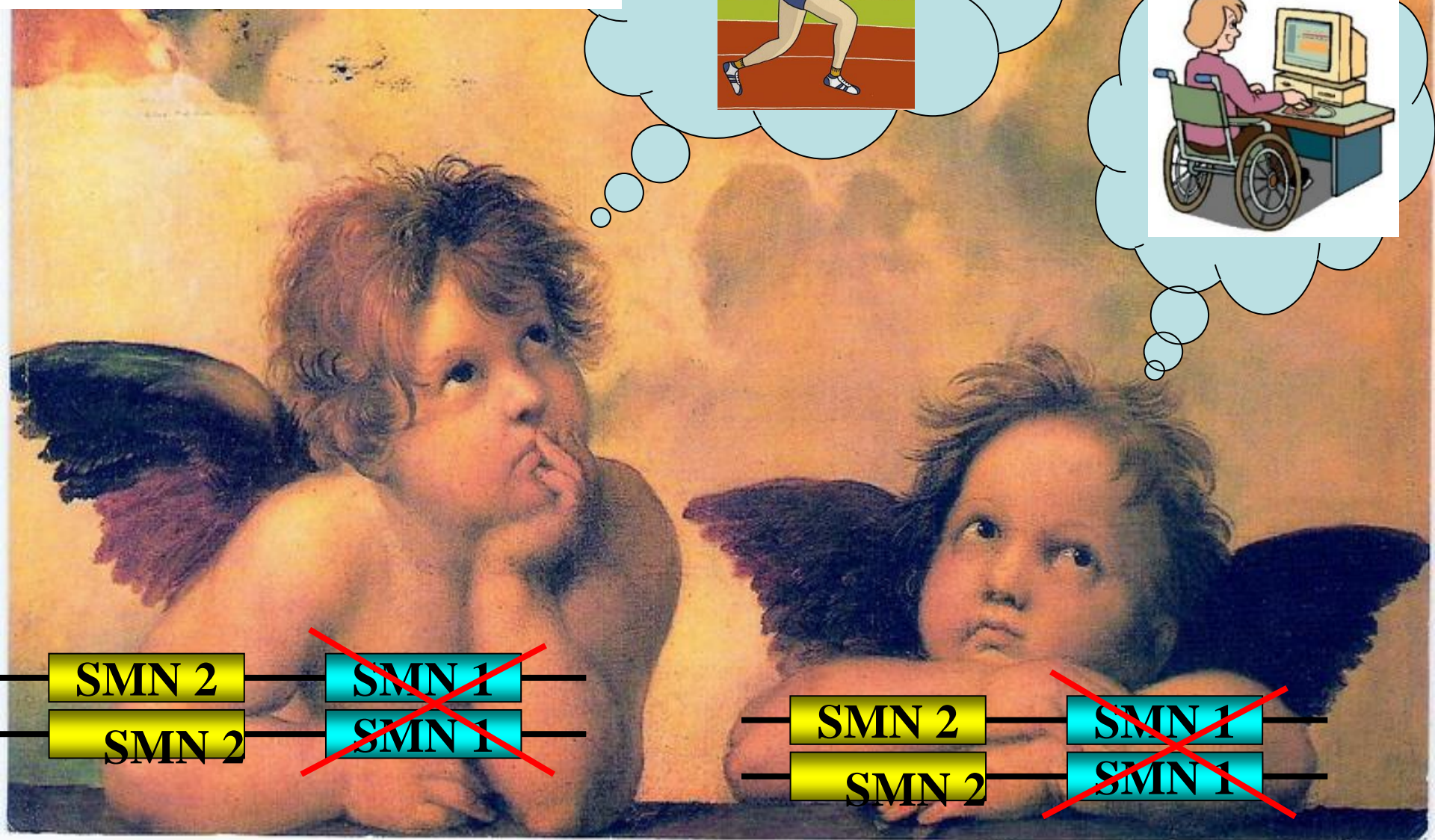
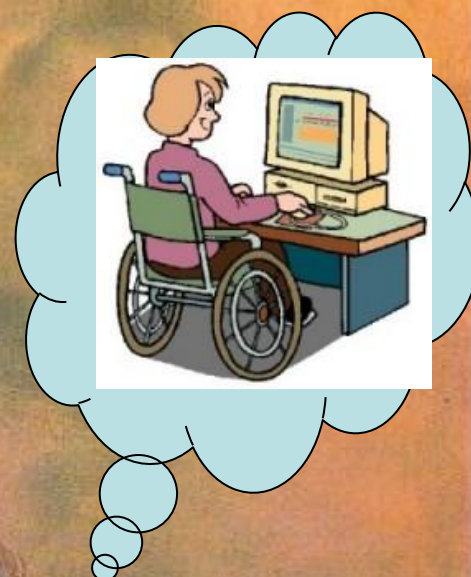
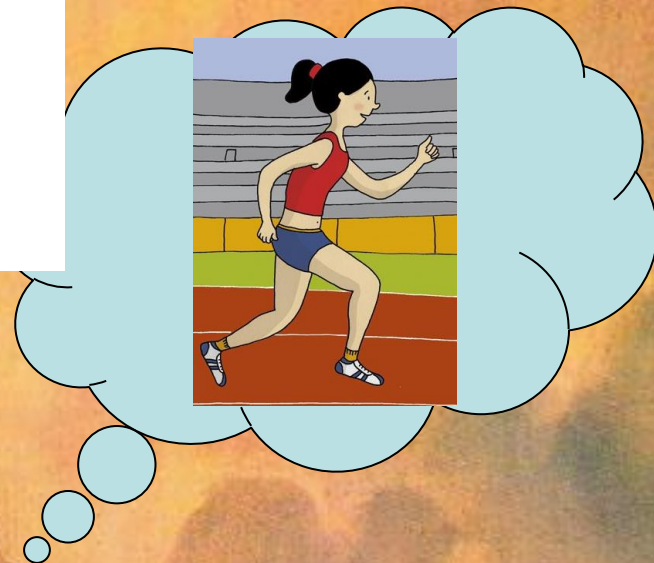
***Pacientes graves (tipo I) con 3 copias de SMN2***

***Pacientes moderados-leves (tipo II-III) con 2 copias de SMN2***

***Hermanos haploidenticos pero con evolución diferente***

I. Cuscó  
M. J. Barceló  
R. Rojas-García  
I. Illa  
J. Gámez  
C. Cervera  
A. Pou  
G. Izquierdo  
M. Baiget  
E. F. Tizzano

**SMN2 copy number predicts acute or chronic spinal muscular atrophy but does not account for intrafamilial variability in siblings**



# Correlación genotipo fenotipo

- Todos pacientes tienen ausencia o mutaciones en el gen SMN1
- Todos los pacientes tienen al menos una copia del gen SMN2
- No se ha descrito ausencia total de ambos genes
- El número de copias del gen SMN2 puede definir con una alta probabilidad el tipo de AME aunque no es absoluto cuando hay dos o tres copias
- En los hermanos con fenotipo diferente, el número de copias de SMN2 es igual

# AME en España

- 745 pacientes no relacionados con mutaciones en SMN1
  - 377 varones (50.6%)
  - 368 mujeres (49.4%)
- 367 tipo I (49.2%)      165 var      202 muj
- 225 tipo II (30.2%)      123 v      102 m
- 153 tipo III (20.5%)      89 v      64 m

(Alias et al., 2009)

( $p < 0.008$ )

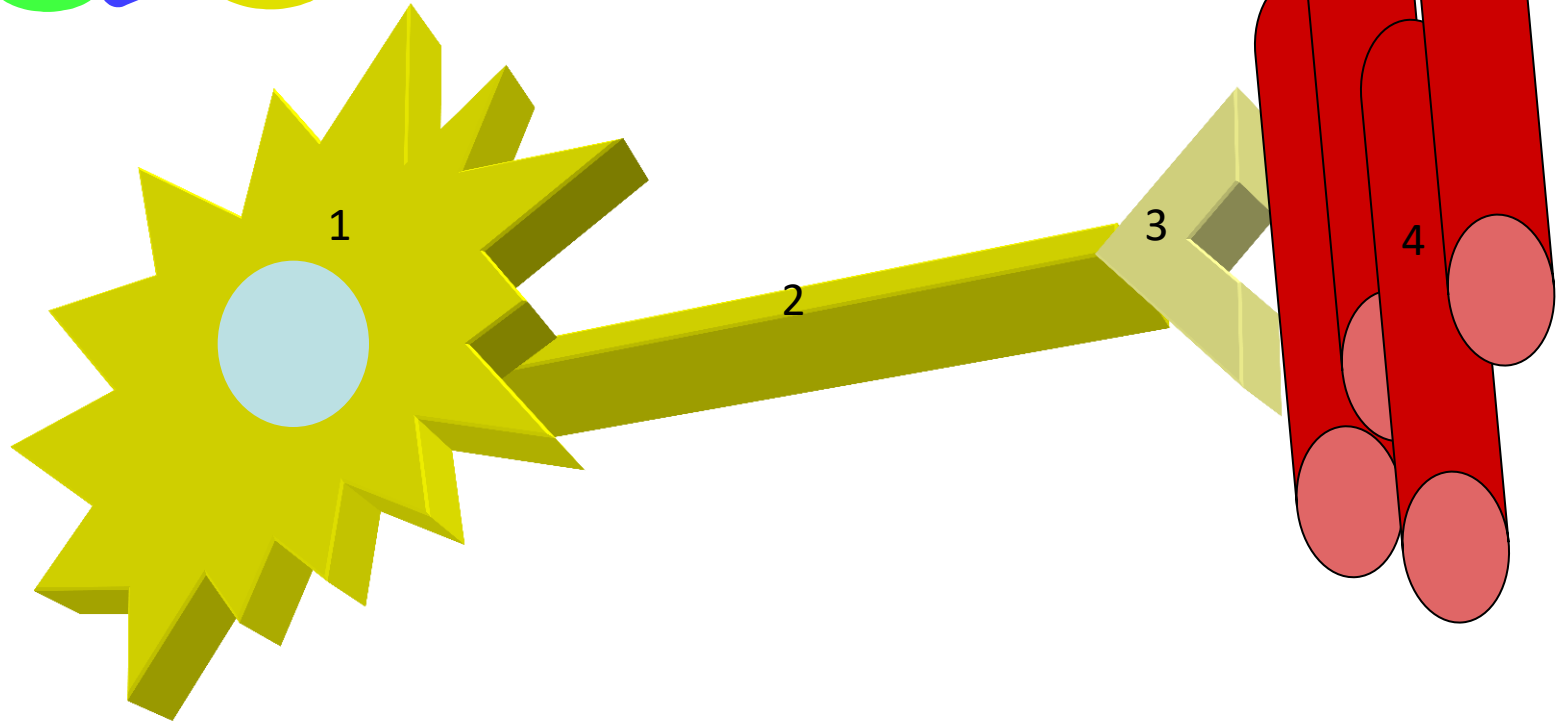


# SMA in Spain

- 671 (90%) homozygous absence SMN1 exon 7 and 8
- 37 (5%) homozygous absence SMN1 exon 7 only (hybrid genes)
- 14 (1.9%) c.399\_402delAGAG mutation in exon 3
  - 12 One SMN1 copy / 2 consanguineous
- 14 (1.9%) One SMN1 copy + mutations in SMN1 exons
- 9 (1.2%) One SMN1 copy + unknown mutation
- *A total of 54 different point mutations have been described in 120 unrelated patients all over the world*
- *25 missense, 18 frameshift, 6 splice-site, 5 non-sense*

*(Alias et al., 2009)*

# Estrategia independiente SMN



NEUROPROTECTION

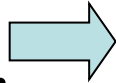
Riluzol, Olesoxime, Cardiotrophin

MYOPROTECTION-IMPROVEMENT

Salbutamol, Follistatin, Tirasemtiv

# Targeting SMN genes

**SMN2  
upregulation**



**VPA, Phenylbutyrate, Hydroxyurea, , Salbutamol**

**Including exon  
7 in SMN2  
transcripts.**



**SMN RX (antisense)  
RO6885247 (MOONFISH)**

# PAUTAS MOTORAS EN LA AME



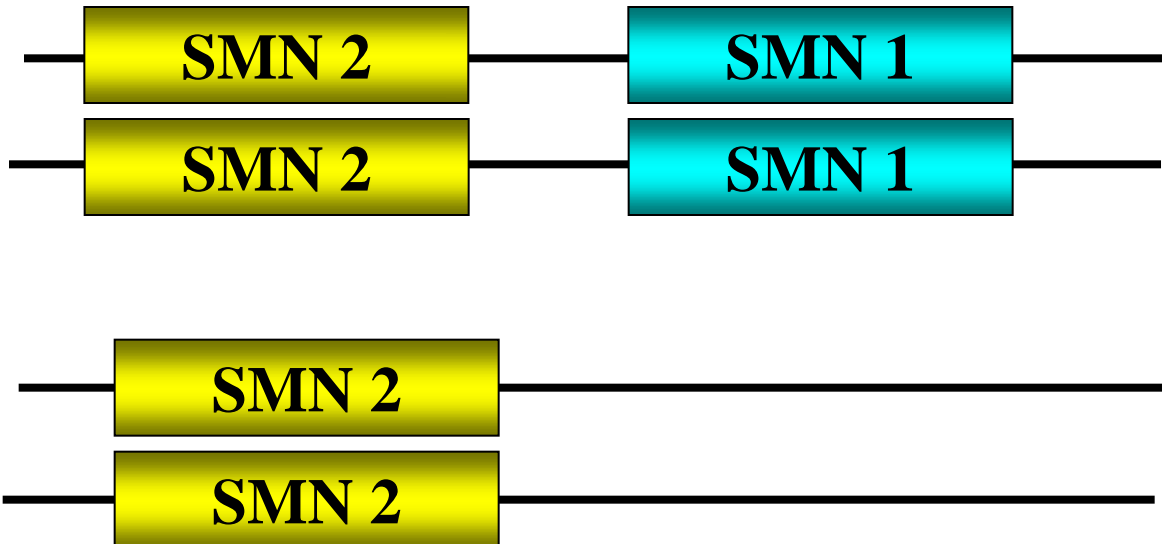
NUNCA SE  
SIENTAN



NUNCA  
CAMINAN



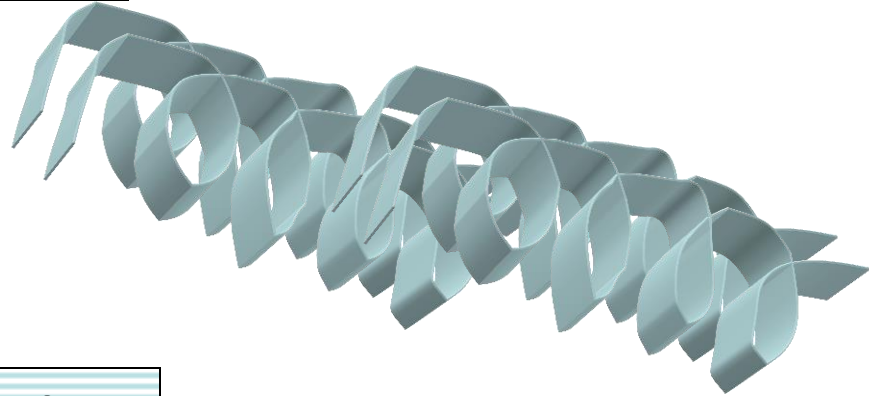
PERDIDA  
DEAMBULACION





SMN 2

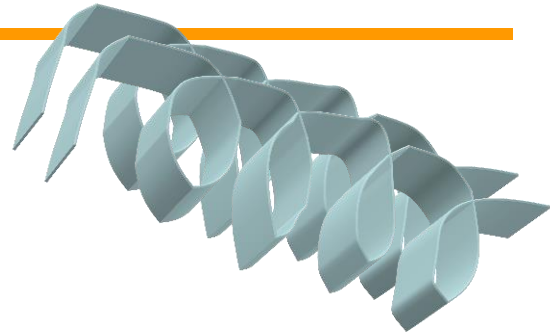
SMN 2



I



SMN 2



Ningún paciente se ha descrito con ausencia de los dos genes SMN



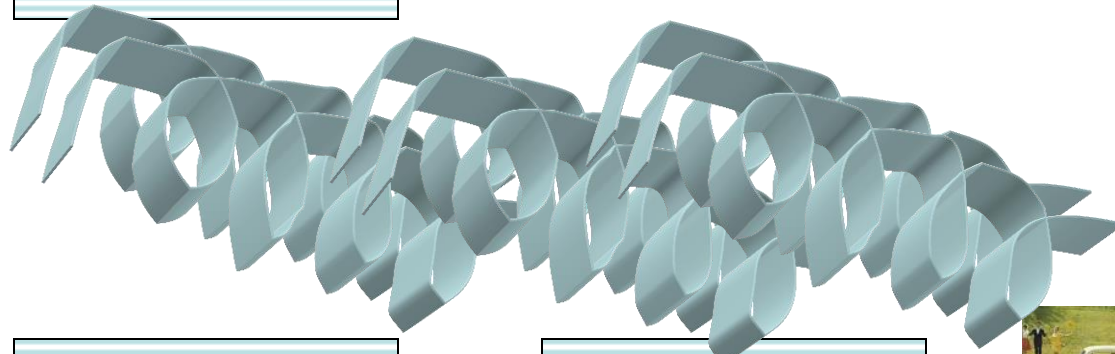
II / III



SMN 2

SMN 2

SMN 2

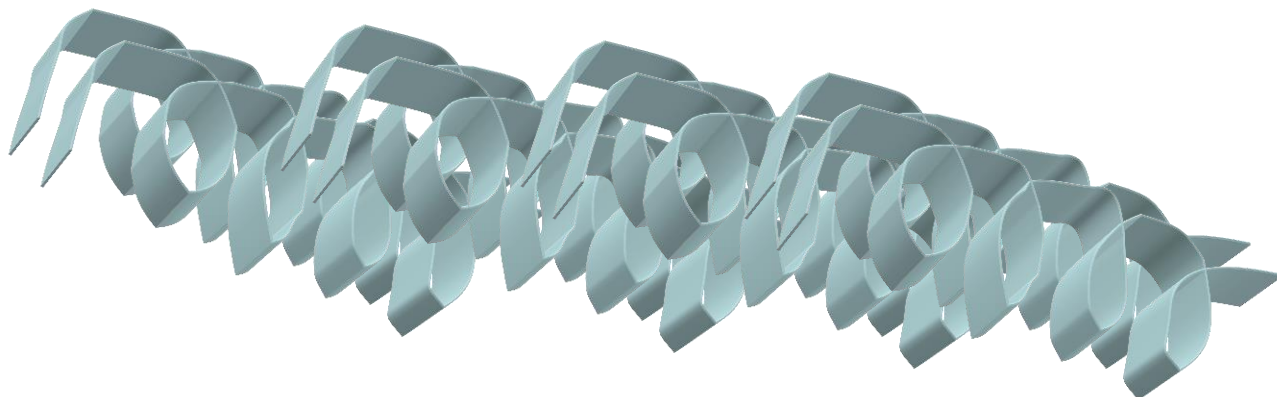


SMN 2

SMN 2

SMN 2

SMN 2





# SMA Type 1 treated at 2 mo and picture 6 mo post GT







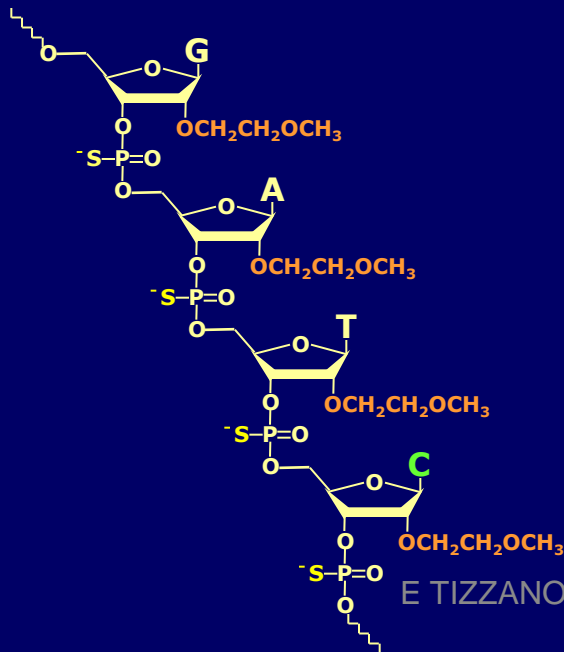
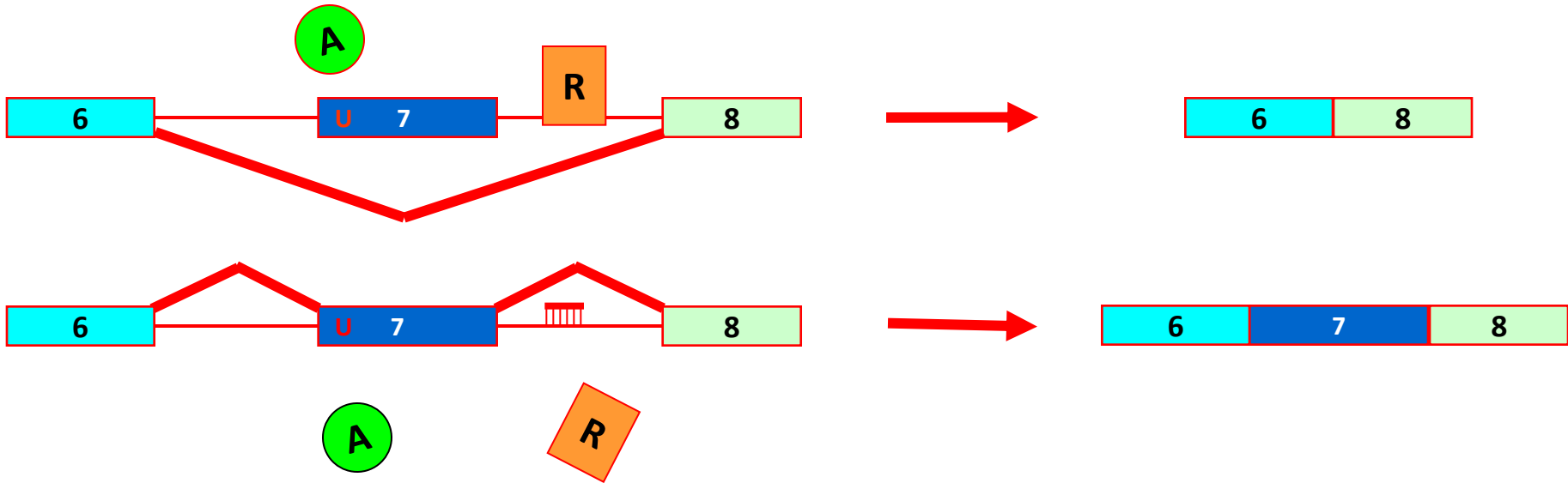
Courtesy Dr. J. Mandell /B. Kaspar



# SMA: Incidence and Prevalence

- Frequency of types of SMA
  - Type I ~ 50%
  - Type II ~ 30%
  - Type III ~ 20%
- Prevalence of carrier (based on direct carrier testing):
  - **Europe: 1:35 (2.7%)**
  - Asian population: 1 : 56 (1.8%)
  - African population: 1 : 91 (1.1%)
- Incidence: **~1 : 5,000/6,000** Europe
- Prevalence of SMA: **~25,000** Europe (~40% under 20 yrs)

(Feldkötter et al. AJHG 2002; Cuscon et al EJHG 2002, Alias et al, 2009; Alias et al, 2013, Hendrickson et al JMG 2009; Sugarman et al 2012)



2'-O-(2-methoxyethyl) ribose

phosphorothioate

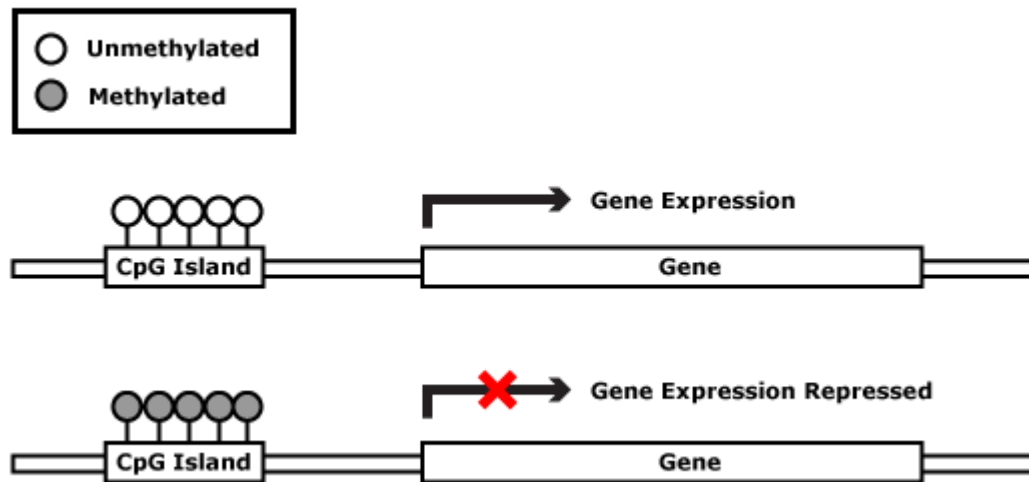
5-methyl cytosine

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Spain



# Phenotypic discordances

Severe patients (type I) with 3 SMN2 copies (methylation?)



# ***Phenotypic discordances***

***Patients with 3 SMN2 copies may be type II (sitters) or type III (walkers)***

***Patients with 3 SMN2 copies may be type II and some may be weak sitters (that may after loss this capacity) or others may stand and walk with help***

***Need for biomarkers that predict standing-walk***

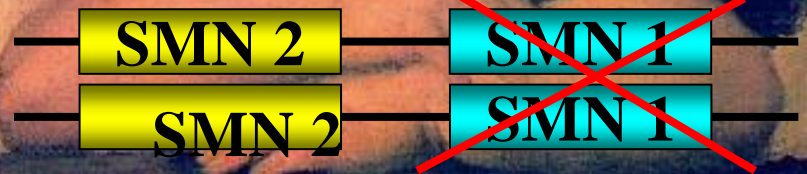
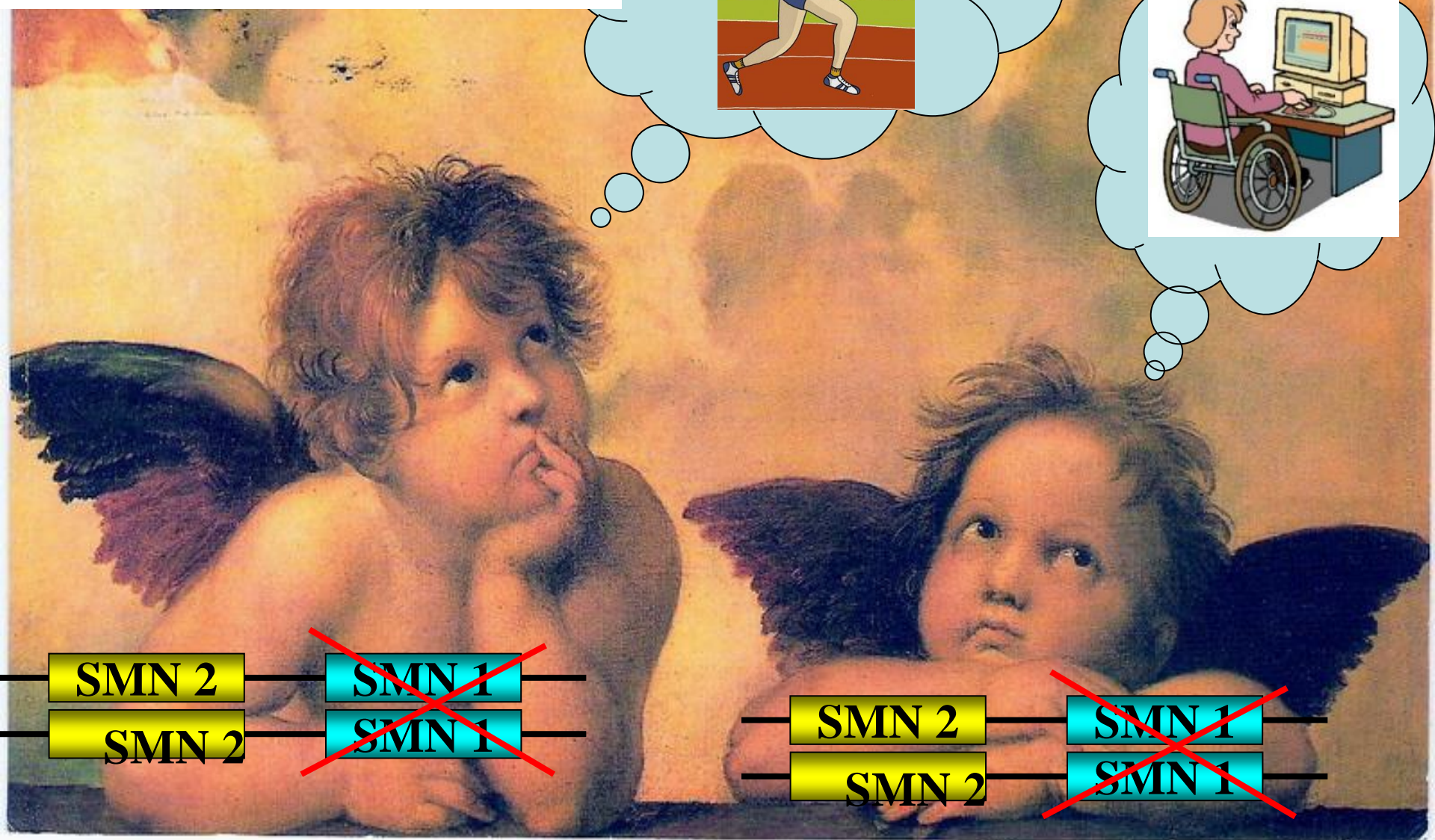
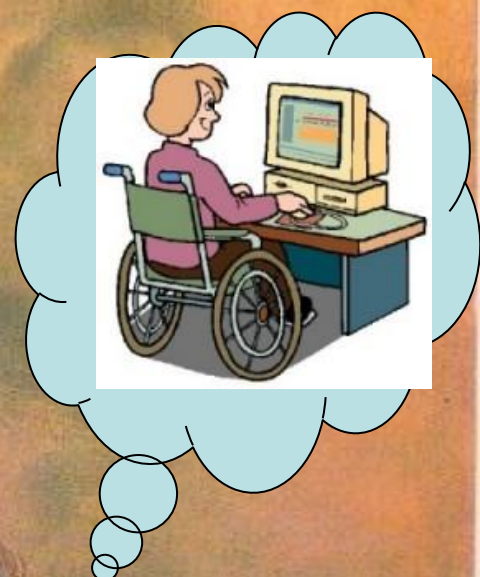
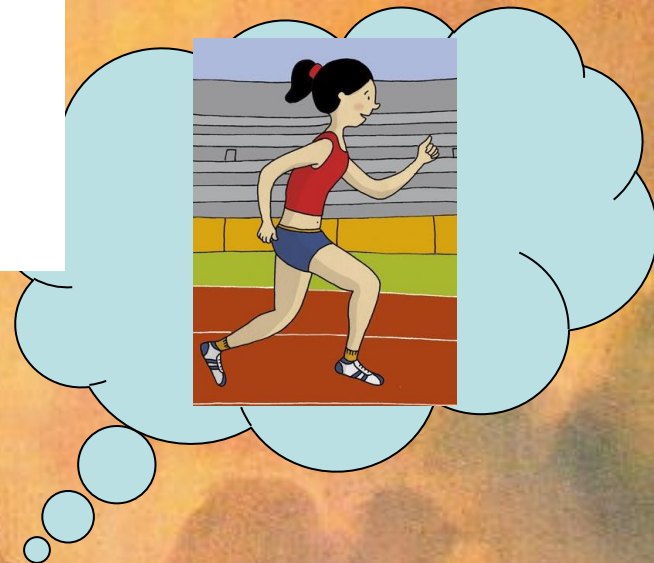
# ***Phenotypic discordances***

***Haploidentical siblings with  
different clinical evolution***

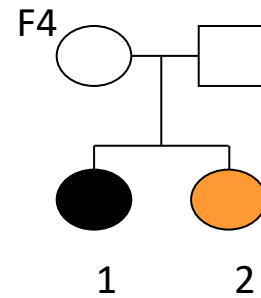
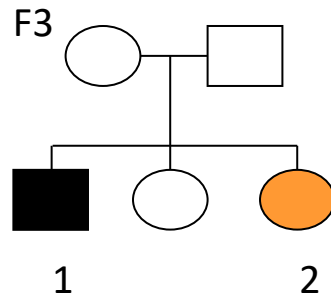
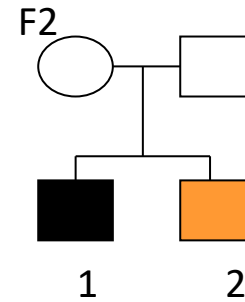
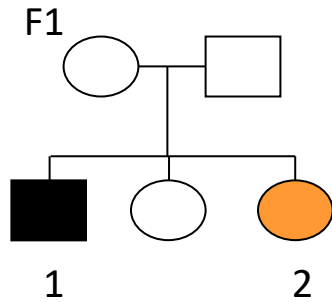
***(Modifier genes cis or trans, PLS3?)***

I. Cuscó  
M. J. Barceló  
R. Rojas-García  
I. Illa  
J. Gámez  
C. Cervera  
A. Pou  
G. Izquierdo  
M. Baiget  
E. F. Tizzano

**SMN2 copy number predicts acute or chronic spinal muscular atrophy but does not account for intrafamilial variability in siblings**

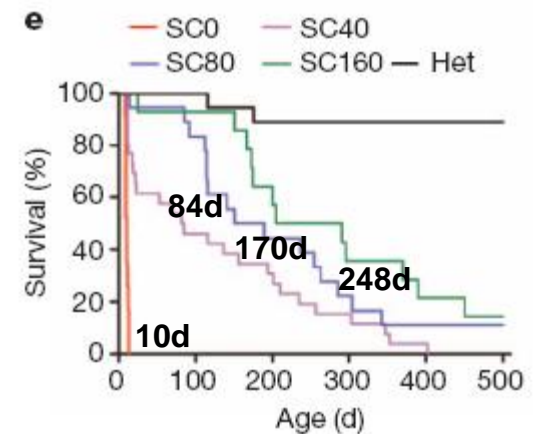
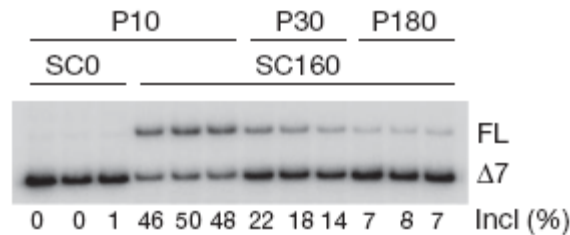
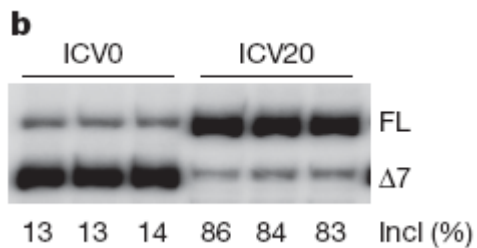
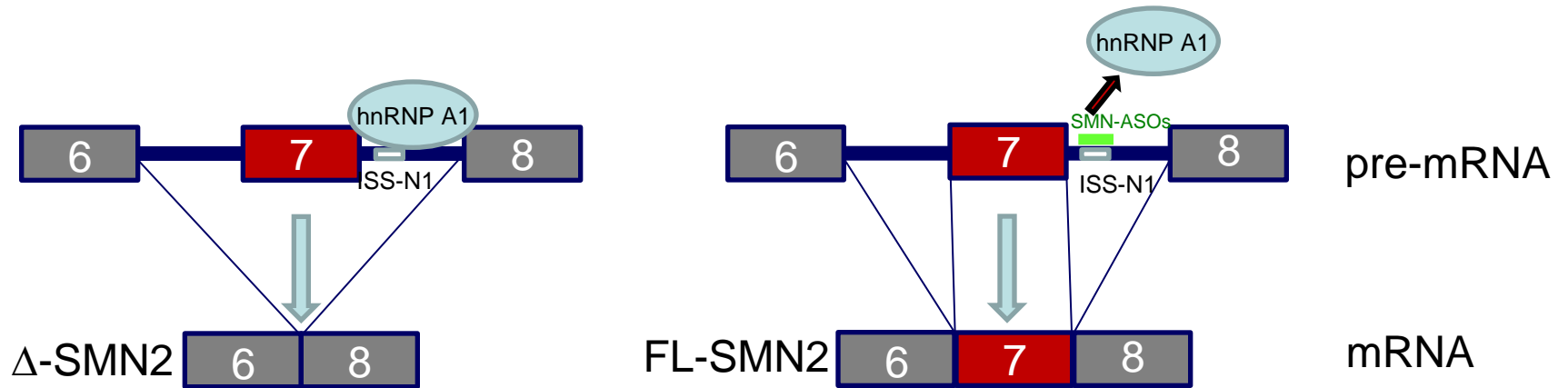






Family	Nº	Phenotype	Onset	Wheelchair	Symptoms	EMG	NAIP	SMN2 copies
F1	1	Type III	2	17	+++	D	+	4
	2	A	-	-	-	MUP	+	4
F2	1	Type III	8	12	+++	D	+	4
	2	Type IV	32	-	+	D	+	4
F3	1	Type III	2	12	+++	D	+	3
	2	Type III	2	-	+ / ++	D	+	3
F4	1	Type II	<1	2	++++	D	+	3
	2	Type III	12	20	++ / +++	D	+	3

# SMN2 splice correction by antisense oligonucleotides (ASOs), morpholinos (MOs) or peptide-mediated oligonucleotides (PMOs)

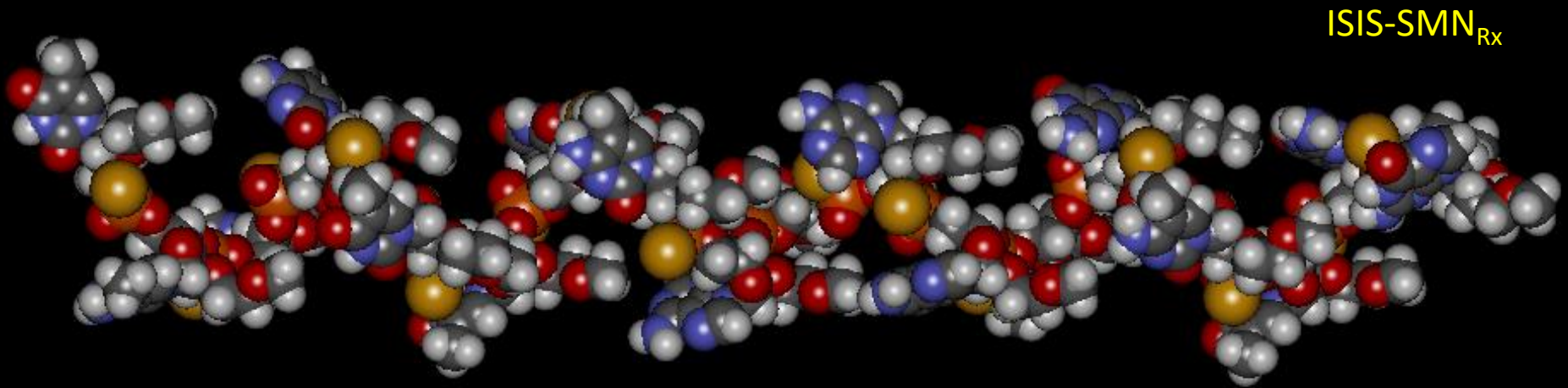
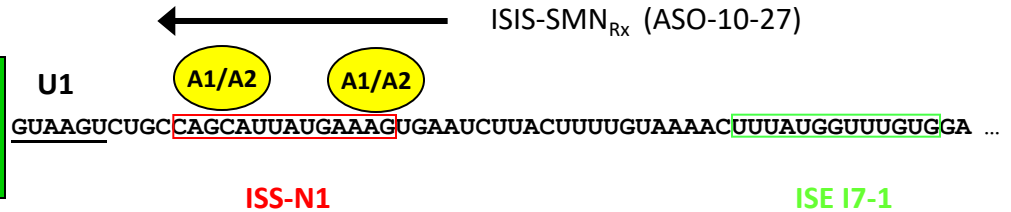


(Hua et al. Nature 2011; Porensky et al. HMG 2012; Hammond et al. PNAS 2016)

# ANTISENSE THERAPY

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Exon 7



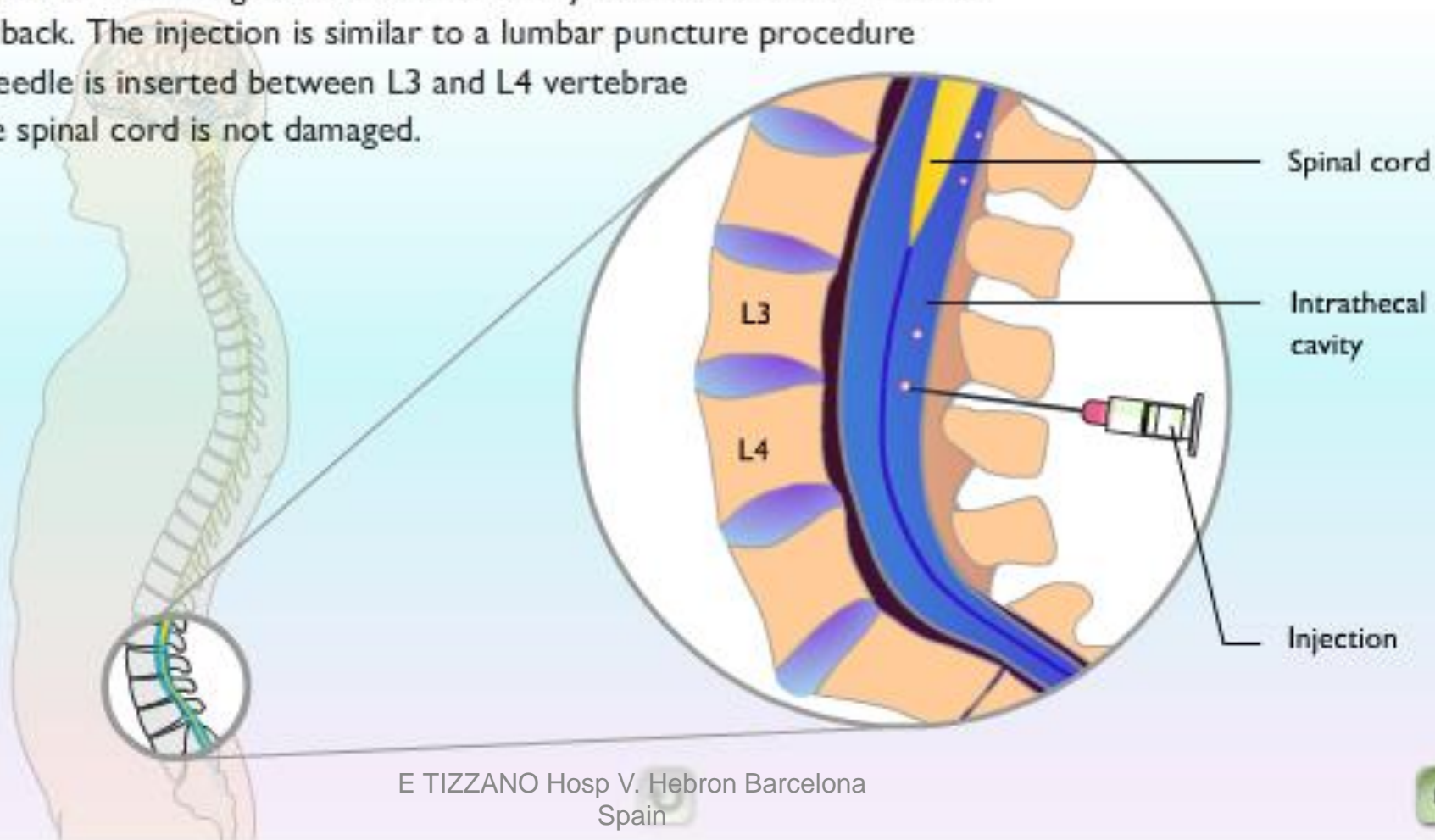
18mer; MW 7127

Hua et al (2007) *PLoS Biol* 5: e73  
Hua et al (2008) *Am J Hum Genet* 82: 834  
Hua et al (2010) *Genes Dev* 24: 1634  
Passini et al (2011) *Science Transl Med* 3: 72ra18  
Hua et al (2011) *Nature* 478: 123

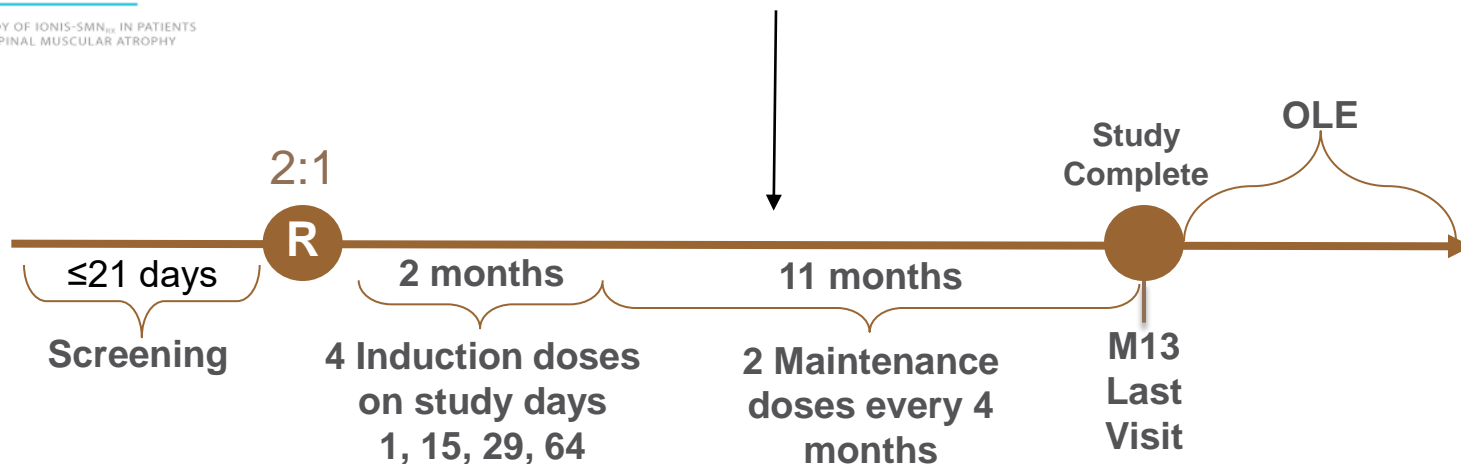
Courtesy Dr. A. Krainer  
see <https://clinicaltrials.gov/>

# Intrathecal drug delivery

In a technique called intrathecal drug delivery, a drug can be injected into the CSF, where it flows through the intrathecal cavity between the vertebrae of the lower back. The injection is similar to a lumbar puncture procedure where a needle is inserted between L3 and L4 vertebrae so that the spinal cord is not damaged.



## INTERIM ANALISIS July 2016



Comunicado 1 de agosto de 2016. El análisis muestra que los niños que han estado recibiendo Nusinersen experimentan una mejora estadísticamente significativa en la consecución de los hitos motores en comparación con aquellos que no recibieron tratamiento

[Nusinersen pasa la primera prueba: perspectivas y esperanza para los pacientes con AME tipo I](#)

<http://www.fundame.net/investigacion-ame/ultimas-noticias/>

# Ionis/Biogen program (2)

## Ionis-SMNRx (Nusinersen)

### ✓ ENDEAR Trial (2014-2017: ongoing)



A PHASE 3 CLINICAL STUDY OF IONIS-SMN<sub>iv</sub> IN PATIENTS WITH INFANT-ONSET SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY

- Phase III, randomized, double-blind, sham procedure (2:1) controlled study
- 13 months study
- 110 SMA type I Infants (up to 7 months years old)
- Evaluate the efficacy and safety of a 12 mg dose of nusinersen (primary endpoint : survival)
- International study – Enrollment completed

### ✓ CHERISH trial (2014-2017 : ongoing)



A PHASE 3 CLINICAL STUDY OF IONIS-SMN<sub>ix</sub> IN PATIENTS WITH LATER-ONSET SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY

- Phase III, randomized, double-blind, sham procedure (2:1) controlled study
- 15 months study
- 117 Children with SMA type II (2 to 12 years old)
- Evaluate the efficacy of nusinersen by measuring changes in muscle function score
- International study
- Enrollment completed

### ✓ SHINE trial (2015-2020: ongoing)

- open label extension for patients who have completed Endear and Cherish International studies



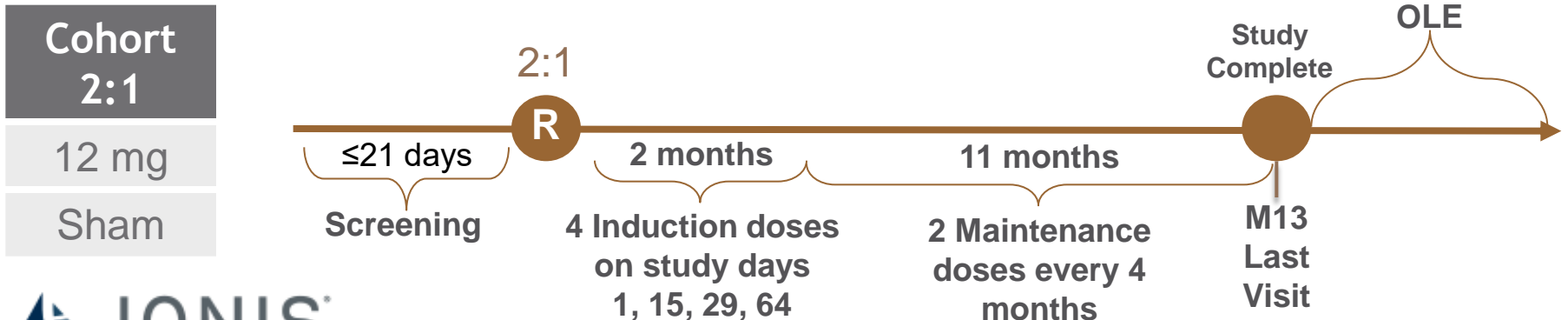
A PHASE 3 CLINICAL STUDY OF IONIS-SMN<sub>2</sub> IN PATIENTS WITH INFANT-ONSET SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY

# ENDEAR diseño del estudio

## Phase 3 2:1 randomized in type I patient less than 7 months

USA, Canada, Europe, AsiaPac, Japan (~30 centres)

- ~111 pacientes . **Recrutiment completed**
- **Open label extension SHINE**



**Cohort**  
**2:1**

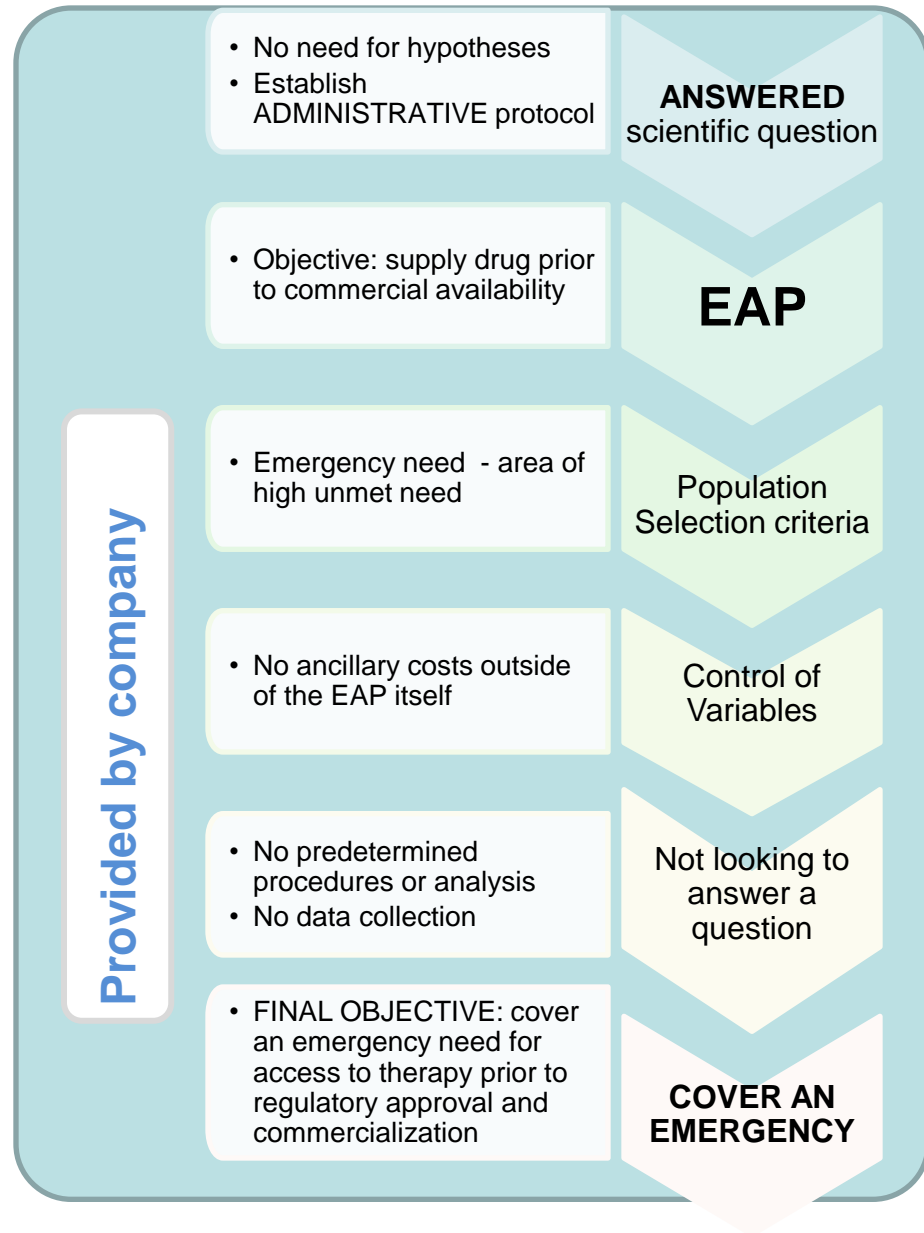
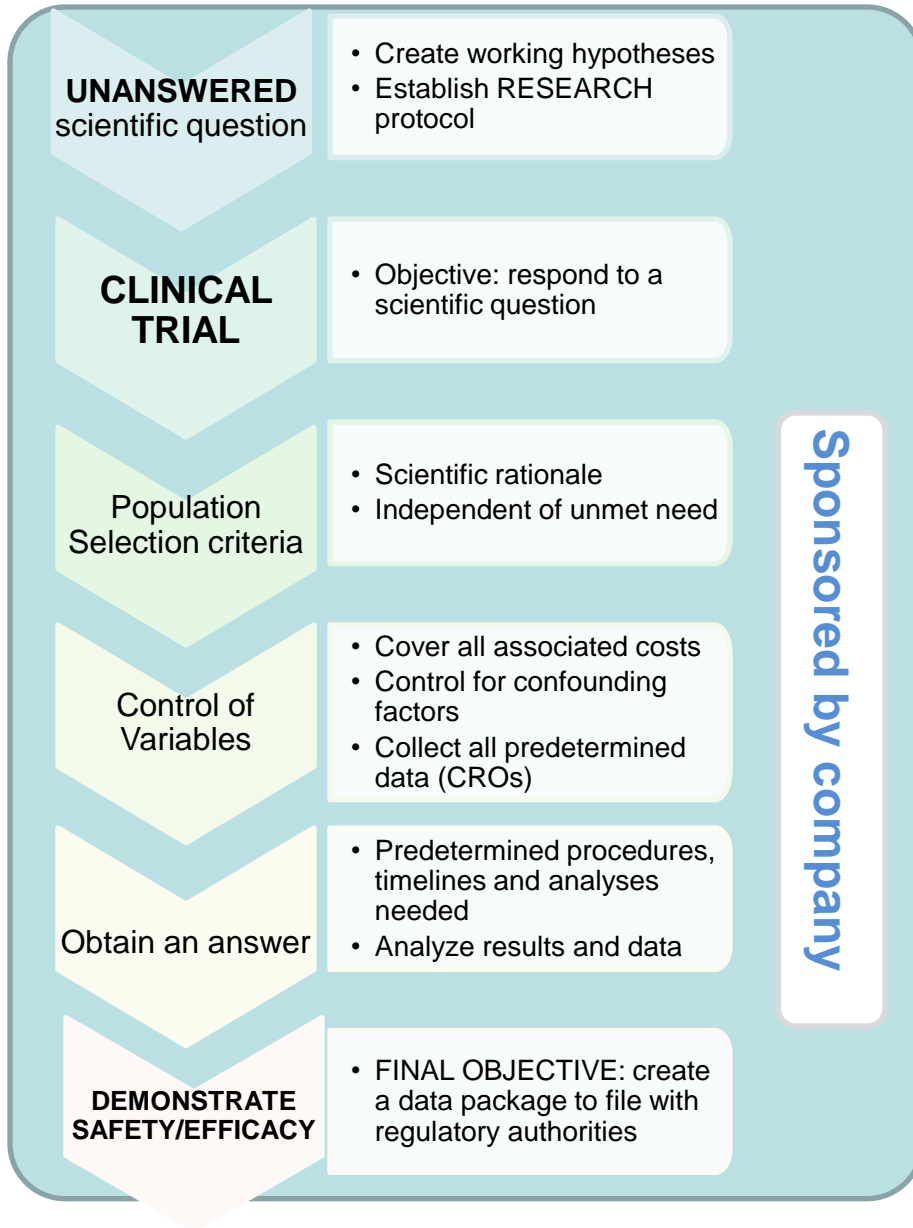
12 mg

Sham



[www.clinicaltrial.gov](http://www.clinicaltrial.gov)

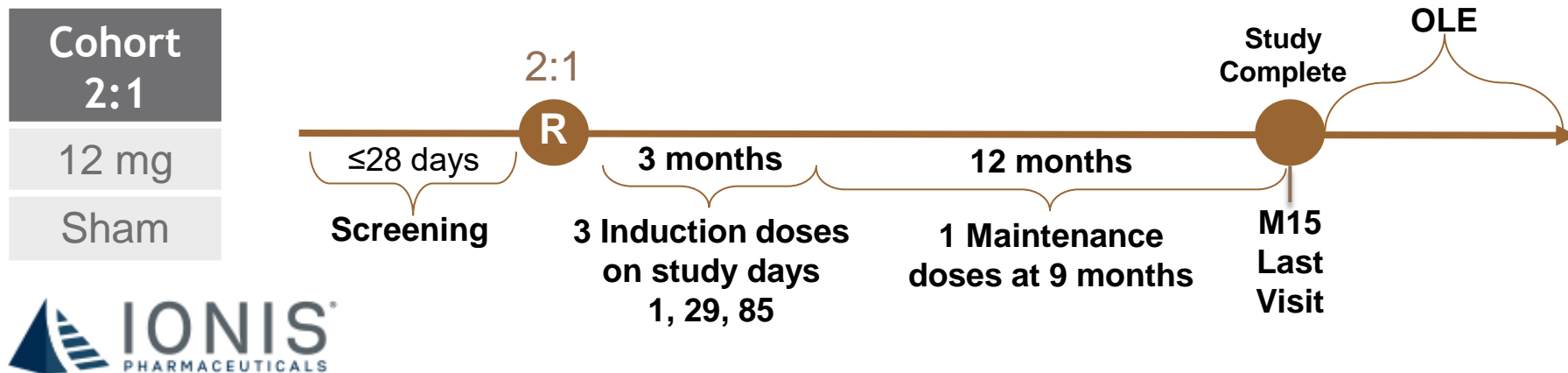
# Clinical Trial vs. EAP





# CHERISH diseño del estudio

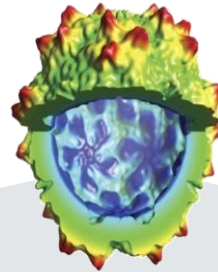
- Phase 3 in SMA patients type II and III non ambulant aged 2-12
- USA, Canada, Europa, AsiaPac, Japan (~24 centres)
- ~117 patients . Recruitment completed .
- Open label extension shine



Gene therapy is the right approach for SMA: Monogenic mutation that drives the pathology



Recombinant AAV9  
Capsid Shell



scAAV ITR

Continuous Promoter

Human SMN Transgene

scAAV ITR

## KEY COMPONENTS

Recombinant AAV9 Capsid Shell

scAAV ITR (Self-complementary DNA technology)

Continuous Promoter

Human SMN Transgene

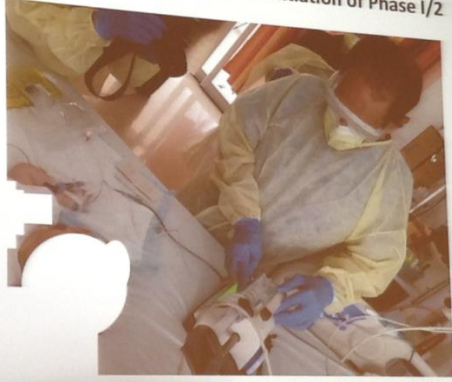
## PURPOSE

- Ability to deliver across the blood brain barrier (BBB) and into the spinal cord
  - Avoids the need for intrathecal delivery when treating infants
- Non-replicating virus does not modify the existing DNA of the patient.
- Enables rapid onset of effect which is key in a quickly deteriorating population
- Activates the transgene to allow for continuous and sustained SMN expression
- Full copy of a stable, functioning SMN gene that is introduced into the cell's nucleus

Rendering adapted from DiMatteo et al. Structural Insight into the Unique Properties of Adeno-Associated Virus Serotype 9. J. Virol. June 2012.

Courtesy Dr. J. Mandell /B. Kaspar

May 13, 2014 First-in-human Initiation of Phase I/2



# Replacement or correction of SMN1 Gene Therapy

Avexis Program

Mutation of *smn1*

Splicing of *smn2*

Lower *smn* transcript

Deficit in SMN protein

Loss of motoneurons

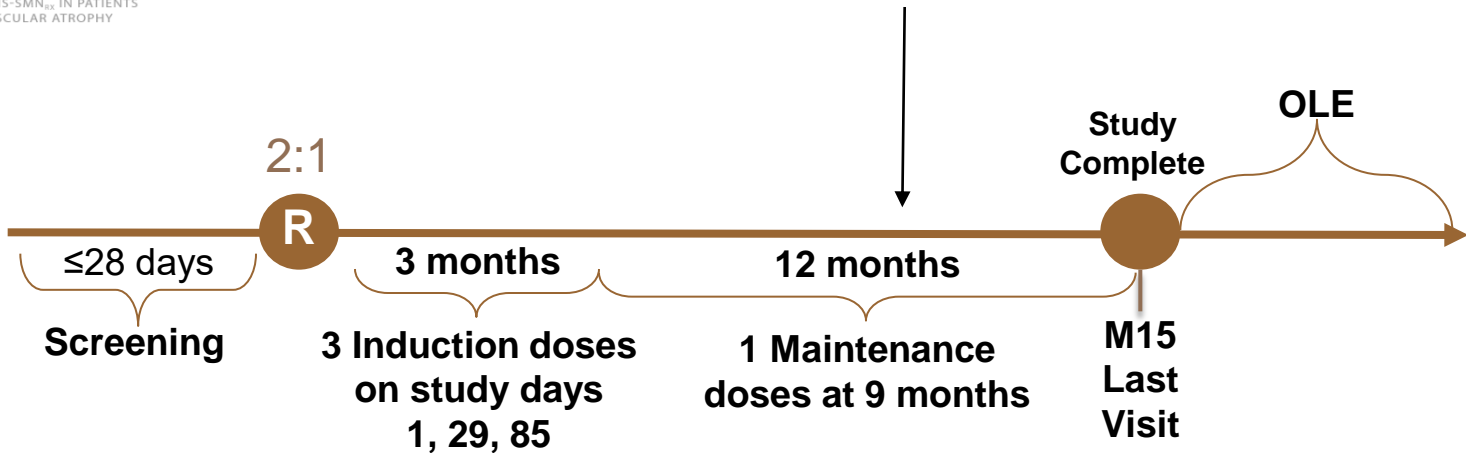
Clinical phenotype

## Phase I/II clinical trial (2014-2017)

- Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio
- Systemic delivery of AVXS-101 (scAAV9-SMN)
- Open-label, dose-escalation study
- SMA type I before 6 months of age
- Aims: safety and preliminary indications of efficacy
- Enrollment **completed**:
  - ✓ Cohort 1 includes three patients dosed at ( $6.7 \times 10^{13}$  vg/kg), aged six to seven months at time of dosing
  - ✓ Cohort 2 includes 12 patients dosed at ( $2.0 \times 10^{14}$  vg/kg), aged one to eight months at time of dosing
- Appears to be generally safe and well tolerated in the patients studied to date

Courtesy Dr. J. Mandell /B. Kaspar

## INTERIM ANALISIS October 2016



Comunicado 7 noviembre de 2016. El análisis muestra que los niños que han estado recibiendo Nusinersen experimentan una mejora estadísticamente significativa en la consecución de los hitos motores en comparación con aquellos que no recibieron tratamiento (15 meses, Escala funcional Hammersmith 5 puntos en comparación con placebo). También se prepara un EAP. SPINRAZA

Results from compilation data emerged from our Spanish cohort of 556 patients and 2,469 SMA patients worldwide from the review of the most complete published articles from 1999 to nowadays

	<b>Type I</b> (n=1,095)	<b>Type II</b> (n=1,003)	<b>Type III</b> (n=925)
<b>One SMN2 copy</b>	7% (74/1,095)	<1% (4/1,003)	0%
<b>Two SMN2 copies</b>	75% (825/1,095)	17% (175/1,003)	5% (49/925)
<b>Three SMN2 copies</b>	17% (193/1,095)	77% (774/1,003)	51% (473/925)
<b>Four SMN2 copies</b>	<1% (2/1,095)	5% (47/1,003)	42% (389/925)
<b>Five SMN2 copies</b>	<1% (1/1,095)	<1% (3/1,003)	1% (12/925)
<b>Six SMN2 copies</b>	0%	0%	<1% (2/912)

*(Calucho et al, under revision)*