

# Gene therapy: Is robust scientific inquiry the missing factor?

11 December 2020



#### **ASKING A QUESTION**

Computer



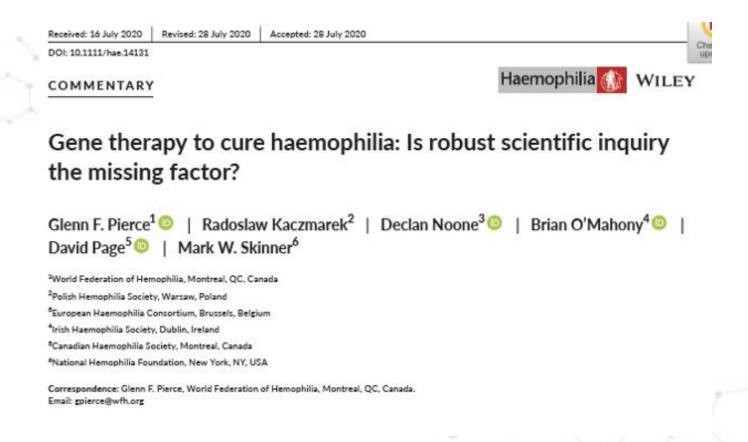
#### Phone



You can ask a question in the Question & Answers section. We will address as many questions as time allows.



# GENE THERAPY TO CURE HAEMOPHILIA: IS ROBUST SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY THE MISSING FACTOR?



Pierce GF, Kaczmarek R, Noone D, O'Mahony B, Page D, Skinner MW. Gene therapy to cure haemophilia: Is robust scientific inquiry the missing factor? *Haemophilia*. 2020;00:1–3.



## **AUTHORS**



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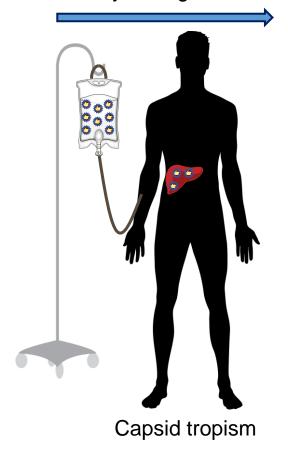


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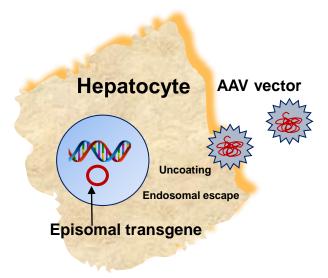
## **AAV GENE TRANSFER FOR HEMOPHILIA**

Delivery to target tissue



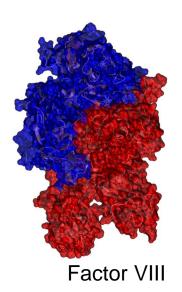
Transduction

Episomal Transgene



Capsid tropism

Protein
Synthesis

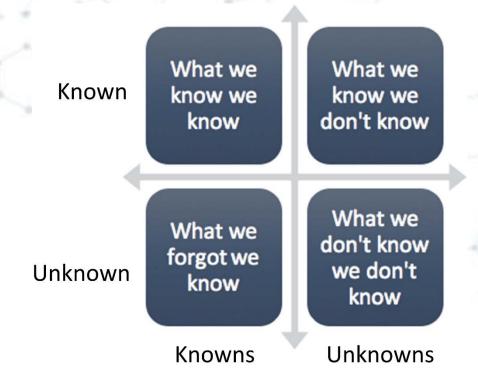


Promotor, regulatory elements, transgene, codon optimization



#### **KNOWNS & UNKNOWNS**

 Robust scientific inquiring and lifelong follow-up are crucial to understanding both known and yet unknown safety issues





#### **KNOWLEDGE GAPS - UNCERTAINTIES**

- Eligibility Who can receive gene therapy?
- Predictability Can we predict who will have a response?
  - Variability and reliability How does factor expression vary from person to person?
     Why?
- Tolerability How safe is gene therapy?
- Durability How long will factor expression last?
- Ability to re-dose Can people receive a second dose of AAV gene therapy in the future?
- Visibility/transparency What information should be available to people thinking about receiving gene therapy?
- Affordability What do we know about the cost of gene therapy?



# **FINAL THOUGHTS**

- Recognition of uncertainty
- Need for scientific answers
- Informed consent
- Need for long-term follow-up



#### WFH GENE THERAPY REGISTRY

- Prospective, observational, and longitudinal registry
- Goal: Data collection on <u>all</u> patients who receive gene therapy for hemophilia, via clinical trials and post-marketing
- Worldwide







#### **KEY MESSAGE**

"This is an urgent reminder while gene therapy is under clinical investigation. We need more transparency from all those pursuing clinical trials, including meaningful research on the unanswered questions around safety, variability and durability of response. Only in this environment, we can have confidence in this technology."



