

LONGEVITY OF AIRWAY GENE THERAPY FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS: SINGLE AND REPEAT
LENTIVIRAL DOSING

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	III
LIST OF FIGURES	XV
LIST OF TABLES	XVIII
LIST OF APPENDICES	XIX
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	XX
ABSTRACT	XXVIII
DECLARATION	XXX
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	XXXI
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION.....	3
1.1 CYSTIC FIBROSIS – EARLY HISTORY.....	3
1.2 INCIDENCE	4
1.3 DISCOVERY OF THE CF GENE.....	6
1.4 THE CFTR PROTEIN	7

1.4.1	CFTR Structure.....	7
1.4.2	CFTR Function.....	8
1.4.3	CFTR Mutations.....	11
1.4.3.1	Class I Mutations	11
1.4.3.2	Class II Mutations	12
1.4.3.3	Class III Mutations	12
1.4.3.4	Class IV Mutations	12
1.4.3.5	Class V Mutations.....	13
1.4.3.6	Class VI Mutations	13
1.4.4	Diagnostic Genetic Testing for CF.....	15
1.5	CLINICAL SYMPTOMS OF CF	17
1.5.1	Sweat Glands.....	17
1.5.1.1	Diagnostic Sweat Test.....	18
1.5.2	Gastrointestinal Tract.....	19
1.5.2.1	Pancreas.....	19
1.5.2.1.1	Exocrine function.....	19
1.5.2.1.1.1	Fat malabsorption diagnostic test	20
1.5.2.1.2	Endocrine function	21
1.5.2.2	Intestinal Tract	21
1.5.3	Liver	22
1.5.4	Reproductive Tract.....	23
1.5.5	Respiratory System.....	24
1.6	CF AIRWAY DISEASE	26
1.6.1	Airway Anatomy	26
1.6.2	Defective Ion Transport	27
1.6.2.1	Transepithelial Potential Difference	29

1.6.3	Airway Surface Liquid Layer	29
1.6.4	Airway Infections	31
1.6.4.1	Staphylococcus aureus	32
1.6.4.2	Haemophilus influenzae	33
1.6.4.3	Pseudomonas aeruginosa.....	33
1.6.4.4	Burkholderia cepacia	35
1.6.4.5	Other Bacterial Species.....	36
1.6.4.6	Fungal Infections	36
1.6.4.7	Viral Infections	37
1.6.5	Current Airway Treatments	37
1.6.5.1	Airway Clearance	38
1.6.5.2	Novel Therapies	38
1.6.5.2.1	Ion regulation.....	38
1.6.5.2.2	Potentiators	39
1.6.5.2.3	Correctors.....	39
1.6.5.3	Lung Transplantation.....	40
1.7	GENE THERAPY	41
1.7.1	Barriers to Gene Therapy.....	42
1.7.1.1	Extracellular Barriers	42
1.7.1.2	Intracellular Barriers	43
1.7.1.3	Immunological Barriers.....	46
1.7.2	Non-Viral Vectors	48
1.7.2.1	Cationic Lipid Complexes.....	48
1.7.2.2	Polymer Complexes	50
1.7.3	Viral Vectors	50
1.7.3.1	Adenoviral Vectors	51
1.7.3.1.1	Helper-dependent adenoviral vectors	53

1.7.3.2	Adeno-associated Virus Vectors.....	54
1.7.3.3	Sendai Virus Vectors	56
1.7.3.4	Lentiviral Vectors	57
1.7.3.4.1	Lentiviral clinical trials	59
1.7.3.4.2	Pre-clinical LV gene therapy for CF	61
1.8	CF ANIMAL MODELS	62
1.8.1	CF Mouse Model.....	62
1.8.2	CF Pig Model	64
1.8.3	CF Ferret Model.....	65
1.9	TARGETS FOR CF GENE THERAPY	66
1.9.1	Therapeutic Levels of CFTR.....	67
1.9.2	Longevity of Expression.....	68
1.10	AIMS OF THESIS	70
CHAPTER 2	METHODS AND MATERIALS	75
2.1	MATERIALS	75
2.1.1	Chemicals and Suppliers	75
2.1.2	Consumables and Suppliers.....	78
2.1.3	Bacterial Strains and Media.....	79
2.1.4	Cell Lines	79
2.1.5	DNA Plasmids.....	80
2.1.5.1	Plasmid Kits and Buffers.....	80
2.1.5.2	DNA Plasmids.....	80
2.1.6	Real Time qPCR Assay	81
2.1.6.1	PCR Kits	81

2.1.6.2	Primers and Probes.....	81
2.1.7	LV LacZ Titre Assay	82
2.1.8	Animal Models	82
2.1.8.1	Anaesthesia.....	82
2.1.8.2	Luciferase Imaging	83
2.1.9	Processing of Mouse Heads	83
2.1.10	ELISA Assay	83
2.1.10.1	p24 ELISA	83
2.1.10.2	ELISA for Serum Antibodies.....	84
2.1.11	Nasal TPD	84
2.2	METHODS - <i>in vitro</i>.....	85
2.2.1	DNA Plasmid Preparation	85
2.2.1.1	Large Scale Plasmid Preparation.....	85
2.2.1.2	Agarose Gel Electrophoresis.....	85
2.2.2	Cell Culture Techniques	85
2.2.3	LV Vector Preparation	86
2.2.4	Quantification of Virus Titre	87
2.2.4.1	Xgal Staining for LacZ Titre.....	87
2.2.4.2	qPCR for Virus Titre	87
2.2.4.2.1	Sample preparation for real time qPCR for virus titre	88
2.2.4.2.2	qPCR for virus titre	88
2.2.5	Replication Competent Viral Assay.....	89
2.2.5.1	Sample Preparation for p24 ELISA	89
2.2.5.2	p24 ELISA for Replication Competent Virus	90
2.2.6	qPCR for Transgene Presence in Tissue Samples	90
2.2.6.1	Tissue DNA Extraction	90
2.2.6.1.1	DNA extraction via Wizard SV purification method	90

2.2.6.1.2	DNA extraction via direct tail lysis method.....	90
2.2.6.2	qPCR for Transgene Presence in Tissues	91
2.2.7	Presence of Circulating Antibodies	91
2.3	METHODS - <i>in vivo</i>	93
2.3.1	Animal Care and Maintenance	93
2.3.2	Lentiviral Nasal Instillation	94
2.3.2.1	Pre-treatment Preparation	94
2.3.2.2	Lentiviral Vectors	94
2.3.2.3	Nasal Instillations	94
2.3.3	Gene Transfer Assessment.....	95
2.3.3.1	Reporter Gene Transfer.....	95
2.3.3.1.1	LacZ expression via Xgal staining method	95
2.3.3.1.2	Histological processing for LacZ expression	95
2.3.3.1.3	Luciferase gene expression via biophotonic imaging	96
2.3.3.2	CFTR Gene Expression.....	97
2.3.3.2.1	Nasal transepithelial potential difference measurements	97
2.3.4	Submandibular Blood Sampling	100
2.3.5	Nasal Septum Dissection.....	101
2.3.6	Tissue Removal	101
2.4	STATISTICAL ANALYSIS	102
CHAPTER 3 LENTIVIRAL PRODUCTION AND INITIAL <i>IN VIVO</i> TESTING		105
3.1	LENTIVIRAL PRODUCTION	105
3.1.1	Introduction	105
3.1.2	Aims	105
3.1.3	Methods	106

3.1.3.1	Lentiviral Vector Titres.....	106
3.1.3.2	Replication Competent Virus.....	106
3.1.4	Results.....	107
3.1.4.1	Lentiviral Vector Titres.....	107
3.1.4.2	Replication Competent Virus.....	107
3.1.5	Discussion	108
3.2	TESTING OF VIRUS PREPARATIONS – <i>in vivo</i>.....	110
3.2.1	Introduction.....	110
3.2.2	Methods.....	110
3.2.2.1	LacZ Gene Transfer	110
3.2.2.2	Luciferase Gene Expression	110
3.2.2.3	CFTR Gene Expression	111
3.2.3	Results.....	111
3.2.3.1	LacZ Gene Transfer	111
3.2.3.2	Luciferase Gene Expression	115
3.2.3.3	CFTR Gene Expression	122
3.2.4	Discussion	126
3.3	CHAPTER SUMMARY	129
CHAPTER 4	LONG TERM LENTIVIRAL GENE TRANSFER	133
4.1	LONG TERM GENE EXPRESSION IN NORMAL MICE.....	133
4.1.1	Introduction.....	133
4.1.2	Aims.....	134
4.1.3	Methods.....	134
4.1.3.1	Luciferase Gene Expression – Normal Mice.....	134
4.1.3.2	LacZ Gene Expression – Normal Mice	135

4.1.3.3	Circulating Antibodies – Normal Mice	135
4.1.3.3.1	Anti-VSV-G protein	136
4.1.3.3.2	Anti-Luciferase	136
4.1.3.3.3	Anti- β -galactosidase	136
4.1.3.4	Genomic DNA in Other Tissues – Normal mice	137
4.1.4	Results	137
4.1.4.1	Animal Weights – Normal Mice	137
4.1.4.2	Luciferase Gene Expression – Normal Mice	138
4.1.4.2.1	Nasal Luminescence	140
4.1.4.2.2	Lung Luminescence	140
4.1.4.2.3	Nasal Luciferase Expression – LPC vs PBS	140
4.1.4.2.4	Lung Luciferase Expression – LPC vs PBS	141
4.1.4.3	LacZ Gene Expression – Normal Mice	144
4.1.4.4	Circulating Antibodies – Normal Mice	146
4.1.4.4.1	Anti-VSV-G protein	146
4.1.4.4.2	Anti-Luciferase	147
4.1.4.4.3	Anti- β -galactosidase	147
4.1.4.5	Presence of Genomic Reporter DNA in Tissues	149
4.1.4.6	Survival Demographics of Normal Mice	149
4.1.5	Discussion	151
4.2	LONG TERM GENE EXPRESSION IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS MICE	156
4.2.1	Introduction	156
4.2.2	Aims	156
4.2.3	Methods	156
4.2.3.1	Luciferase Gene Expression – CF Mice	156
4.2.3.2	Therapeutic CFTR Gene Expression – CF Mice	157
4.2.3.3	Circulating Antibodies – CF mice	157

4.2.3.3.1	Anti-VSV-G protein	158
4.2.3.3.2	Anti-Luciferase.....	158
4.2.3.3.3	Anti-PDZK1 peptide for presence of the CFTR protein.....	158
4.2.3.4	Presence of Genomic CFTR	159
4.2.3.4.1	Presence of genomic transgenes in other tissues	159
4.2.4	Results.....	159
4.2.4.1	Body Weights – CF Mice	159
4.2.4.2	Luciferase Gene Expression - CF Mice	161
4.2.4.2.1	Nasal Luminescence	161
4.2.4.2.2	Lung Luminescence	162
4.2.4.2.3	Nasal Luciferase Expression – LPC vs PBS	165
4.2.4.2.4	Lung Luciferase Expression – LPC vs PBS	165
4.2.4.3	Therapeutic CFTR Gene Expression - CF Mice	167
4.2.4.4	Circulating Antibodies – CF Mice	170
4.2.4.4.1	Anti-VSV-G protein	170
4.2.4.4.2	Anti-Luciferase.....	171
4.2.4.4.3	Anti-PDZK1 peptide for presence of the CFTR protein.....	171
4.2.4.5	Presence of Genomic CFTR	173
4.2.4.5.1	Presence of genomic transgenes in other tissues	173
4.2.4.6	Survival Demographics of CF Mice	174
4.2.5	Discussion	179
4.3	CHAPTER SUMMARY	187
CHAPTER 5	REPEAT LENTIVIRAL GENE TRANSFER	193
5.1	MULTIPLE LENTIVIRAL GENE TRANSFER	193
5.1.1	Introduction.....	193

5.1.2	Aims	194
5.1.3	Methods	194
5.1.3.1	Short Term Multiple LV Dosing	194
5.1.3.2	Long Term Repeat LV Dosing	195
5.1.3.2.1	Circulating antibodies.....	195
5.1.3.3	Repeat Transgene Dosing Studies.....	195
5.1.3.3.1	Circulating antibodies after repeat transgene dosing	196
5.1.4	Results	196
5.1.4.1	Short Term Multiple Dosing	196
5.1.4.2	Long Term Repeat LV Dosing	197
5.1.4.2.1	Circulating antibodies.....	198
5.1.4.2.1.1	Anti-VSV-G protein.....	198
5.1.4.2.1.2	Anti- β -galactosidase.....	199
5.1.4.3	Repeat Transgene Dosing Studies.....	200
5.1.4.3.1	Nasal luminescence gene expression	200
5.1.4.3.2	Nasal LacZ gene expression	201
5.1.4.3.3	Circulating antibodies after repeat transgene dosing	202
5.1.4.3.3.1	Anti-VSV-G protein.....	202
5.1.4.3.3.2	Anti-Luciferase	203
5.1.4.3.3.3	Anti- β -galactosidase.....	203
5.1.5	Discussion.....	205
5.2	CHAPTER SUMMARY	210
CHAPTER 6 IMMUNOSUPPRESSION FOR LV GENE EXPRESSION.....		213
6.1	IMMUNOSUPPRESSION.....	213
6.1.1	Introduction	213

6.1.2	Aims.....	214
6.1.3	Methods.....	214
6.1.3.1	Immunosuppression Studies.....	214
6.1.3.2	Circulating Antibodies.....	215
6.1.4	Results.....	215
6.1.4.1	Nasal Luminescence	215
6.1.4.2	Lung Luminescence	219
6.1.4.3	Circulating Antibodies.....	222
6.1.4.3.1	Anti-VSV-G protein	222
6.1.4.3.2	Anti-Luciferase.....	222
6.1.5	Discussion	224
6.2	CHAPTER SUMMARY	227
	CHAPTER 7 CONCLUDING REMARKS.....	230
7.1	FINAL DISCUSSION.....	230
7.2	CONCLUSION.....	237
	CHAPTER 8 APPENDICES.....	241
8.1	INDIVIDUAL NASAL LUMINESCENCE – NORMAL MICE.....	241
8.2	INDIVIDUAL LUNG LUMINESCENCE – NORMAL MICE	242
8.2.1	LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ.....	242
8.2.2	LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ continued	243
8.2.3	PBS/LV-Luc+LacZ.....	244

8.3	INDIVIDUAL NASAL LUMINESCENCE – CF MICE	245
8.4	INDIVIDUAL LUNG LUMINESCENCE – CF MICE	246
8.4.1	LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR.....	246
8.4.2	LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR Continued	247
8.4.3	PBS/LV-Luc+CFTR.....	248
8.5	LACZ COUNTS AND VSV-G ANTIBODIES.....	249
8.6	LACZ COUNTS AND LACZ ANTIBODIES	250
CHAPTER 9	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	253

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1 Location of the CFTR Gene.....	6
Figure 1-2 CFTR Protein Structure	8
Figure 1-3 Relationship between CFTR and Other Ion Channels	10
Figure 1-4 Classes of Mutations of CFTR.....	14
Figure 1-5 Abnormalities in Chloride Transport in the Sweat Gland.....	18
Figure 1-6 Severity of CF Disease Related to CFTR Activity.....	23
Figure 1-7 Cascade of CF Lung Disease.....	25
Figure 1-8 Cell Type Composition of the Airway Surface Epithelium	27
Figure 1-9 Model of Ion Transport across Epithelial Cells in Normal and CF Airways.....	28
Figure 1-10 Airway Surface Liquid Layer in Airway Epithelia	31
Figure 1-11 Age-related Prevalence of Airway infections in CF Patients.	32
Figure 1-12 Stages of Biofilm Formation	35
Figure 1-13 Extracellular Barriers to Gene Transfer Vectors	43
Figure 1-14 Intracellular Barriers to Gene Transfer Vectors	45
Figure 2-1 Diagrammatic Representation of the Nasal TPD Setup.....	98
Figure 2-2 Schematic Representation of TPD Traces.....	100
Figure 3-1 LacZ (blue staining) Transduction	112
Figure 3-2 Titres LV-LacZ Gene Transfer – Dose Response	113
Figure 3-3 LV-LacZ Gene Transfer – Volumes	114
Figure 3-4 LacZ Transduced Cell Types	115

Figure 3-5 LV-Luc Gene Expression – One Week after Gene Delivery	117
Figure 3-6 LV-Luc Gene Expression – ROI Calculations	118
Figure 3-7 Nasal Luminescence – LPC/LV-Luc.....	119
Figure 3-8 Lung Luminescence – LPC/LV-Luc	119
Figure 3-9 Nasal Luminescence – One Week.....	120
Figure 3-10 Lung Luminescence – One Week	121
Figure 3-11 Nasal TPD Traces	123
Figure 3-12 Nasal TPD Measurements	124
Figure 3-13 Repeated Nasal TPD's	125
Figure 4-1 Body Weight – One week.....	137
Figure 4-2 Body Weight over Time	138
Figure 4-3 Lung Luciferase Imaging – LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ	139
Figure 4-4 Lung Luminescence – LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ.....	139
Figure 4-5 Nasal and Lung Luminescence.....	142
Figure 4-6 Average Luciferase Expression – LPC vs PBS.....	143
Figure 4-7 Long Term en face LacZ Transduction	145
Figure 4-8 Presence of Circulating Antibodies.....	148
Figure 4-9 Survival Curves	150
Figure 4-10 CF Mice Weights – One week	160
Figure 4-11 Body Weight of CF Mice over Time	161
Figure 4-12 Nasal and Lung Luminescence in CF mice.....	163
Figure 4-13 Bioluminescence over Time in a LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR treated CF mouse.....	164
Figure 4-14 Average Luciferase Expression in CF mice – LPC vs PBS.....	166

Figure 4-15 Nasal ΔPD_{Na^+} of the Sodium Channel Response in CF mice	167
Figure 4-16 Nasal ΔPD_{Cl^-} of the Chloride Channel Response in CF mice	169
Figure 4-17 Correlation of Luminescence vs ΔPD in CF mice	170
Figure 4-18 Circulating Antibodies – CF Sera	172
Figure 4-19 Presence of Genomic CFTR DNA from Nasal Septa	173
Figure 4-20 Survival Curve – CF Mice	175
Figure 4-21 Number of Anaesthetics	176
Figure 4-22 Time after Procedure	177
Figure 4-23 Unexplained Mice Deaths	178
Figure 5-1 LacZ Gene Expression from Multiple Doses of LPC/LV-LacZ	197
Figure 5-2 LacZ Gene Expression from Long Term LPC/LV-LacZ Re-dose	198
Figure 5-3 Circulating Antibodies to Repeat LV Dosing	200
Figure 5-4 Nasal Luminescence from Repeat LV dosing	201
Figure 5-5 LacZ Reporter Gene Expression after LV Re-dosing	202
Figure 5-6 Circulating Antibodies to Repeat Transgene Dosing	204
Figure 6-1 Nasal Luminescence – Immunosuppression Treatment	216
Figure 6-2 Nasal Luminescence – With and Without Immunosuppression	218
Figure 6-3 Lung Luminescence – Immunosuppression Treatment	219
Figure 6-4 Lung Luminescence – With and Without Immunosuppression	221
Figure 6-5 Circulating Antibodies – Immunosuppression	223

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1-1 Impact of New Born Screening between Australia and USA.....	16
Table 1-2 Adenoviral Gene Therapy Clinical Trials for CF.....	52
Table 1-3 Adeno-associated Gene Therapy Clinical Trials for CF	55
Table 1-4 Current LV Gene Therapy Clinical Trials	60
Table 3-1 LV Preparations	107
Table 4-1 Necropsy Results.....	177
Table 6-1 Sirolimus Dosing Schedule	215

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 8.1-1 Individual Nasal Luc Expression in LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ Treated Mice	241
Appendix 8.2-1 Individual Lung Luminescence in LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ Treated Mice.....	242
Appendix 8.2-2 Individual Lung Luminescence in LPC/LV-Luc+LacZ Treated Mice cont.	243
Appendix 8.2-3 Individual Lung Luminescence in PBS/LV-Luc+LacZ Treated Mice	244
Appendix 8.3-1 Individual Nasal Luc Expression in LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR Treated Mice.....	245
Appendix 8.4-1 Individual Lung Luminescence in LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR Treated CF Mice.....	246
Appendix 8.4-2 Individual Lung Luminescence in LPC/LV-Luc+CFTR Treated CF Mice cont.	247
Appendix 8.4-3 Individual Lung Luminescence in PBS/LV-Luc+CFTR Treated CF Mice	248
Appendix 8.5-1 Individual LacZ Counts vs anti-VSV-G	249
Appendix 8.6-1 Individual LacZ Counts vs anti-LacZ	250

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

293T cells (HEK)	Human embryonic kidney cells
A549 cells	Carcinomic human alveolar basal cells
AAV	Adeno-Associated virus
ABC	Adenosine triphosphate binding cassette
ADA-SCID	Adenosine deaminase deficiency–severe combined immunodeficiency disorder
AdV	Adenovirus
AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
Amil	Amiloride
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
APC	Antigen presenting cell
ASL	Airway surface liquid
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
AUS	Australia
BMI	Body mass index
°C	Degrees Celsius
¹³ C	Isotopic labelled carbon
cAMP	cyclic adenosine monophosphate

CAUV	Congenital absence of the uterus and vagina
CBAVD	Congenital bilateral absence of the vas deferens
CF	Cystic fibrosis
CFLD	Cystic fibrosis liver disease
CFRD	Cystic fibrosis related diabetes
CFTR	Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator
cGMP	cyclic guanosine monophosphate
CHO-K1 cells	Chinese Hamster Ovary – K1 epithelial cells
Cl ⁻	Chloride
cm	centimetre
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CpG	Cytosine-phosphate-guanine
Ct	Cycle threshold
CTL	Cytotoxic T Lymphocytes
ΔF508	Delta F508
Da	Daltons
DIOS	Distal intestinal obstruction syndrome
DMEM	Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium
DMF	N, N, Dimethyl formamide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid

Δ PD	Change in Potential Difference
DPX	Distyrene-tricresyl-phosphate-xylene
EDTA	Ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid
EF1- α	Human elongation factor 1- <i>alpha</i>
EGTA	Ethylene glycol tetraacetic acid
EIAV	Equine infectious anaemia virus
ELISA	Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
ENaC	Epithelial sodium channel
env	Envelope
EYFP	Enhanced yellow fluorescent protein
FABp	Fatty acid binding protein
FCS	Fetal calf serum
FE-1	Faecal elastase-1
FEV ₁	Forced expiratory volume in 1 second
FIV	Feline immunodeficiency virus
g	grams
gag	Group-specific antigen
Glut	Glutaraldehyde
GTP	Guanosine triphosphate
dH ₂ O	Deionized water
HCl	Hydrochloric acid

HCO ₃ ⁻	Bicarbonate
HD-AdV	Helper-dependent adenovirus
H&E	Haematoxylin and Eosin
Het	Heterozygote (-/+)
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
hr	Hour
HRP	Horseradish peroxidase
Ig	Immunoglobulin
i.n.	Intranasal
i.p.	Intraperitoneal
i.u.	Infectious units
K ⁺	Potassium
KRB	Krebs-ringers buffer
L	Litre
LacZ	β-galactosidase
LPC	Lysophosphatidylcholine
LTR	Long terminal repeat
Luc	Luciferase
LV	Lentivirus
\bar{X}	Mean
m	month(s)

M	Molar
mA	milliamps
mM	millimolar
MCC	Mucociliary clearance
MCT	Mucociliary transport
MHC	Major histocompatibility complex
MI	Meconium ileus
min	minutes
ml	millilitre
μ l	microlitre
mRNA	messenger ribonucleic acid
MSD	Membrane-spanning domain
MT	Empty vector
mTransferrin	mouse transferrin
mV	millivolts
MW	Molecular weight
Na ⁺	Sodium
NaCl	Sodium chloride
NaHCO ₃	Sodium bicarbonate
NBD	Nucleotide-binding domain
NBF	Neutral buffered formalin

Nef	Negative regulatory factor
NFQ	Non-fluorescent quencher
NIH3T3 cells	Mouse embryonic fibroblast cells
nls	Nuclear localised
nm	nanometres
OPD	o-Phenylenediamine dihydrochloride peroxidase substrate
ORCC	Outwardly rectifying chloride channel
PBS	Phosphate buffered saline
PBST	Phosphate buffered saline + Tween
PC2	Physical containment level 2
PCL	Periciliary Layer
PD	Potential difference
PEG	Polyethylene glycol
Pen-Strep	Penicillin/Streptomycin
PFA	Paraformaldehyde
Ph	Photons
PI	Pancreatic Insufficiency
PKA	Protein kinase A
PKC	Protein kinase C
pol	Polymerase
PS	Pancreatic Sufficiency

qPCR	Real time quantitative polymerase chain reaction
Rev	Regulator of virion protein expression
RM	Repeated Measures
ROI	Region of Interest
ROMK	Renal outer medullary potassium channel
rpm	Revolutions per minute
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus
RT	Room temperature
Rx	Treated
SafO	Safranin O
SCID-X1	X-linked severe combined immunodeficiency disorder
SEM	Standard error of the mean
SeV	Sendai virus
SFM	Serum free medium
SIN	Self inactivating
SIV	Simian immunodeficiency virus
SKMPBST	Skim milk PBS + Tween
SMG	Submucosal gland
SV-40	Simian virus type 40
T	Temperature
Tat	Trans-activator of transcription

TPD	Transepithelial potential difference
Treg	T -Regulatory cell
TU	Transducing units
Tween 20	Polyoxyethylene sorbitan monolaurate
UnRx	Untreated
USA	United States of America
UV	Ultraviolet
v	Volume
Vif	Virion infectivity factor
Vpr	Viral protein R
Vpu	Viral protein U
VSV-G	Vesicular stomatitis virus glycoprotein G
w	Weight
WCH	Women's and Children's Hospital
wk	Week(s)
Xgal	5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-galactopyranoside

ABSTRACT

The promise of gene therapy as a treatment and/or cure for cystic fibrosis (CF) airway disease is yet to be fulfilled. Lentiviral (LV) vectors possess many of the properties that would satisfy the requirements for an effective clinical gene correction treatment; the capacity to hold the large CF transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene, pseudotyped envelopes that provide broad tropism for a range of cells and tissue types, the ability to transduce dividing and non-dividing cells, the potential for long-term gene expression from genomic integration, and the lack of pre-existing blocking antibodies for majority of the CF population.

To determine the persistence of LV gene expression, the same mice were repeatedly assessed throughout their lifetimes. The utilization of the biological compound lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) as a pre-treatment enhanced nasal airway gene expression of the HIV-1 based LV vector containing reporter genes, or the functional CFTR gene, in normal and CF mice *in vivo*.

Nasal luciferase (Luc) gene expression from a single LPC/LV nasal dose was sustained for the life time of normal mice, possibly suggesting an involvement of stem/progenitor cells or long-lived terminally differentiated cells. In contrast, stable long-term Luc gene expression was detected in the lung airways without the requirement of LPC pre-treatment. The loss then re-emergence of lung luminescence in CF mice demonstrated that stem/progenitor cells were transduced.

This was the first examination of persistence of LV reporter gene and functional gene expression, in individual CF mice over their lifetimes. CF mice treated with LPC/LV-CFTR demonstrated a significant

partial functional correction of the nasal CFTR electrophysiological defect that was sustained for up to 1 year. Importantly, this significantly increased survival, close to that observed in normal mice.

Since the level of functional expression diminished over time in CF mice the ability to re-dose and evade blocking host immune responses was addressed. Multiple doses of a LV vector over a short time frame were feasible but did not significantly increase expression compared to a single dose. Circulating antibodies to both the vector envelope and the transgene protein were detected after repeat dosing conducted over a longer time frame. The timing of additional LV vector doses may be crucial for effective boosting of waning gene expression.

The addition of a transient immunosuppressive treatment did not significantly enhance the level of gene expression produced by a single dose, but did reduce circulating antibodies to both the delivered foreign transgene and to the pseudotyped envelope protein.

The demonstration of longevity of gene expression, the functional correction of the CFTR defect, the substantial increase in CF animal survival, the ability to re-dose and the use of immune-suppression to reduce antibody production provides strong and specific support for the continued investigation of LV CFTR gene transfer towards a clinical gene therapy treatment for CF airway disease.

DECLARATION

This work contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution to Patricia Cmielewski and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due reference has been made in the text.

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Date:

xxx

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