

Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner: April 2020

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Abstract. In this edition of the Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner we expand on the UniQure AMT-130 and on the Neurocrine Biosciences KINECT-HD trials, and list all currently registered and ongoing clinical trials in Huntington's disease.

Keywords: Huntington disease, clinical trials

INTRODUCTION

The Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner is a regular section devoted to highlighting ongoing and recently completed clinical trials in Huntington's disease (HD). Clinical trials previously reviewed by the Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner are listed in Table 1.

In this edition, we highlight the UniQure AMT-130 (NCT04120493) [1], and the Neurocrine Biosciences KINECT-HD trial (NCT04102579) [2]. We tabulate all currently registered and ongoing clinical trials in Tables 2 to 4. For further details on the methodology used, please refer to the first edition of Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner [3].

If you would like to draw attention to specific trials, please feel free to email us at: f.rodriques@ucl.ac.uk and e.wild@ucl.ac.uk.

ONGOING CLINICAL TRIALS

A list of all ongoing clinical trials is given in Tables 2, 3 and 4.

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In addition to the trials covered below, it is worth mentioning that Wave Life Sciences made a preliminary announcement of results from their ongoing PRECISION-HD2 trial (NCT03225846) [4]. This is a phase 1b/2a trial investigating WVE-120102, an intrathecal allele-selective antisense oligonucleotide (ASO). When compared with placebo, this drug was shown to reduce CSF mutant huntingtin by 12.4% (95% CI 0.40 to 24.58), while CSF total huntingtin and neurofilament light (NfL) remained unchanged. Whilst statistically significant, this reduction was derived from a comparison of all ASO doses pooled together (mean change from baseline -6.0% [95% CI -9.57 to 4.85]) against a placebo arm showing a somewhat larger change than might be expected due to disease progression from natural history studies (mean change from baseline 9.5% [95% CI 1.77 to 20.38]). The ASO was also considered to be “generally safe and well tolerated among patients receiving doses up to 16 mg”. No results were disclosed about the PRECISION-HD1 trial (NCT03225833) [5], testing WVE-120101, another intrathecal allele-selective ASO targeting a different single-nucleotide polymorphism. As a result, a new 32 mg dosage cohort will be added to both trials and further updates are awaited from the broader program [6].

Table 1
Clinical trials previously reviewed by the Huntington's Disease Clinical Trials Corner.
IONIS-HTTR_x, RG6042 and tominersen refer to the same molecule

| | Trial name | Intervention | Edition |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| NCT02519036 | IONIS-HTTR _x | IONIS-HTTR _x * | September 2017 [3] |
| NCT02215616 | LEGATO-HD | Laquinimod | |
| NCT02197130 | Amaryllis | PF-02545920 | |
| NCT02006472 | PRIDE-HD | Pridopidine | |
| NCT03225833 | PRECISION-HD1 | WVE-120101 | February 2018 [13] |
| NCT03225846 | PRECISION-HD2 | WVE-120102 | |
| NCT01795859 | FIRST-HD | Deutetrabenazine | |
| NCT02481674 | SIGNAL | VX15/2503 | August 2018 [14] |
| NCT00712426 | CREST-E | Creatine | |
| NCT03761849 | GENERATION-HD1 | RG6042* | January 2019 [15] |
| NCT03344601 | PACE-HD | Physical activity | |
| NCT02535884 | HD-DBS | Deep brain stimulation | June 2019 [16] |
| NCT02453061 | TRIHEP3 | Triheptanoin | |
| NCT04120493 | AMT-130 | AAV5-miHTT | April 2020 |
| NCT04102579 | KINECT-HD | Valbenazine | |

AMT-130 (NCT04120493)

Study title: A Phase I/II, Randomized, Double-blind, Sham Control Study to Explore Safety, Tolerability, and Efficacy Signals of Multiple Ascending Doses of Striatically-Administered rAAV5-miHTT Total Huntingtin Gene (HTT) Lowering Therapy (AMT-130) in Early Manifest Huntington Disease [1].

Intervention: Single-time intrastriatal injection of AAV5-miHTT [7].

Description: The AMT-130 trial, sponsored by UniQure, aims to evaluate the safety, tolerability and proof-of-concept of a single-time bilateral intrastriatal injection of AAV5-miHTT in adults (25 to 65 years of age) with manifest HD (i.e. clinically symptomatic and genetically confirmed [CAG ≥ 44]) and early disease stage, comparing with sham injection, for disease progression.

Individuals who have received any experimental agent or participation in the following are not eligible for this study: any investigational trial within 60 days or five half-lives prior to screening; with a deep brain stimulator *in situ*; with history of gene therapy, RNA or DNA targeted HD specific investigational agent, cell transplantation or other experimental cerebral surgery; contraindications for lumbar punctures or 3 Tesla MRI; putaminal and caudate volumes per side inferior to 2.5 and 2.0 cm³, respectively; brain or spinal cord pathology that may interfere with CSF homeostasis and circulation, increased intracranial pressure, malformations or tumours; hospitalization for major medical reason or major surgical proce-

dures involving general anaesthesia within 12 weeks of screening; current use of medications to treat or that can aggravate chorea, or unstable concomitant medication within 3 months of screening.

This trial is an US-based, multi-centre, randomized, sham-controlled, double-blind, parallel study. It will have 3 study arms: the low dose group, where participants will receive a single total dose of 6×10^{12} genome copies of AAV5-miHTT via a MRI-guided convection-enhanced delivery; the high dose group, where participants will receive a single total dose of 6×10^{13} genome copies of AAV5-miHTT via a MRI-guided convection-enhanced delivery; and the imitation surgery arm, where participants will receive bilateral partial thickness burr holes with no intrastriatal injections. The study will last 5 years, where participants will be blind to treatment allocation for 18 months, followed by an unblinded period of 3.5 years.

The trial has already started recruitment [8], and has a recruitment target of 26 participants, across 4 sites. It will follow a multiple ascending dose design, with a first cohort of 10 participants (stage 2 HD; 6 randomized to low dose and 4 to sham surgery) and a second cohort of 16 participants (stage 1-2 HD; 10 randomized to high dose and 6 to sham surgery).

The primary outcome will be safety, measured at 18 months, and the secondary outcome will be CSF biomarkers, namely levels of the vector DNA and miRNA expression at 60 months. Other outcomes include: biofluid and imaging biomarkers; clinical scales such as the UHDRS motor, cognitive, behaviour and functional subscales, the Huntington's Disease Cognitive Assessment Battery (HD-CAB),

Table 2

Ongoing pharmacological clinical trials registered at the World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Research Platform (ICTRP) for people with Huntington's disease (HD). N/S, not specified; PD, Parkinson's disease; VMAT2, Vesicular Monoamine Transporter 2. Note: IONIS-HTTR_x, ISIS 443139, RG6042 and tominersen refer to the same molecule. New trials since the last Clinical Trials Corner are indicated by *

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|-------------------------|------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|--|
| NCT04201834* | – | Risperidone | Dopamine antagonist | Early and moderate HD with chorea | None | Change in motor scales at 12 weeks | Non-randomized, open label (assessor-blind), uncontrolled trial | 12 | University of Rochester | USA (single centre) |
| NCT04071639* | – | Haloperidol, risperidone, sertraline and coenzyme Q10 | Multiple (dopamine antagonists, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor, dietary supplement) | Early and moderate HD | Coenzyme Q10 | Efficacy at 5 years | Randomized, open label, controlled, parallel trial | 100 | Second Affiliated Hospital, School of Medicine, Zhejiang University | China (single centre) |
| NCT04120493* | AMT-130 | rAAV5-miHTT | Nonselective miRNA | Early HD | Sham intervention | Safety at 18 months | Randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, parallel trial | 26 | UniQure Biopharma B.V. | USA (multi-centre) |
| NCT04102579* | KINECT-HD | Valbenazine | VMAT2 inhibitor | HD with chorea | Placebo | Efficacy at 12 weeks | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 120 | Neurocrine Biosciences, Huntington Study Group | USA (multi-centre) |
| EUCTR2019-002178-30-DK* | – | WVE-120102 | Allele-selective antisense oligonucleotide | HD | None | Safety and tolerability at 97 weeks | Open-label extension | 70 | Wave Life Sciences Ltd. | Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Poland and United Kingdom (multi-centre) |

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Table 2
(Continued)

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--|------------|------------|---|--|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| NCT04000594* | GEN-PEAK | RG6042 | Allele-nonspecific antisense oligonucleotide | HD | None | Pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics at multiple timepoints until 6 months | Non-randomized, open-label, multiple-dose, parallel trial | 20 | Hoffmann-La Roche | The Netherlands and UK (multi-centre) |
| NCT03980938* | – | Neflamapimod | p38 α MAPK inhibitor | Early HD | Placebo | Change in cognitive scales at 10 weeks | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, cross-over trial | 16 | EIP Pharma Inc, Voisin Consulting, Inc. | UK (single centre) |
| NCT03842969 | GEN-EXTEND | RG6042 | Allele-nonspecific antisense oligonucleotide | HD | None | Safety and tolerability at up to 5 years | Open-label extension | 1050 | Hoffmann-La Roche | USA, Canada, Europe (multi-centre) |
| NCT03761849 | GENERATION-HD1 | RG6042 | Allele-nonspecific antisense oligonucleotide | HD | Placebo | Clinical efficacy at 101 weeks | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 909 | Hoffmann-La Roche | USA, Canada, Europe (multi-centre) |
| NCT03515213 | – | Fenofibrate | PPAR α agonist | HD | Placebo | Pharmacodynamics at 6 months | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 20 | University of California, Irvine | USA (single centre) |
| NCT03764215 | Tasigna HD | Nilotinib | Selective Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase inhibitor | HD | None | Safety, tolerability and pharmacodynamics at 3 months | Open label, multiple ascending dose | 20 | Georgetown University | USA (single centre) |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--|---------------------|---------------|--|--|-----|--|--|
| NCT03225833 | PRECISION-HD1 | WVE-120101 | Allele-selective antisense oligonucleotide | HD | Placebo | Safety and tolerability at 1 and 120 days | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, combined single ascending dose/multiple ascending dose trial | 48 | Wave Life Sciences Ltd. | Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Poland and United Kingdom (multi-centre) |
| NCT03225846 | PRECISION-HD2 | WVE-120102 | Allele-selective antisense oligonucleotide | HD | Placebo | Safety and tolerability at 1 and 120 days | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, combined single ascending dose/multiple ascending dose trial | 60 | Wave Life Sciences Ltd. | Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Poland and United Kingdom (multi-centre) |
| NCT02453061 | TRIHEP 3 | Triheptanoin | Anaplerotic therapy | HD | Safflower oil | Pharmacodynamic efficacy at 6 months | Randomized, double-blind, controlled, parallel trial | 100 | Institut National de la Santé Et de la Recherche Médicale, Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc | France, Netherlands (multi-centre) |
| NCT02509793 | – | Tetrabenazine | VMAT2 inhibitor | HD with impulsivity | None | Cognitive and behavioural effects at 8 weeks | Single group, open-label trial | 20 | University of Texas Health Science Center, and H. Lundbeck A/S | USA (single centre) |

(Continued)

Table 2
(Continued)

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--|--|------------|--|--|---------------------|--|-----------------------|
| NCT02481674 | SIGNAL | VX15/2503 | Anti-semaphorin 4D monoclonal antibody | Late premanifest or early HD | Placebo | Safety and tolerability at 15 and 21 months | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 240 | Vaccinex Inc., Huntington Study Group | USA (multi-centre) |
| EUCTR2013-002545-10-SE | OSU6162Open1300)-OSU616 | | Monoaminergic stabilizer | HD, PD, brain trauma, stroke, myalgic encephalomyelitis and narcolepsy | None | Safety at 3, 6 and 12 months | Single group, open-label trial | 240 | A. Carlsson Research AB | Sweden (multi-centre) |
| NCT00514774 | UDCA-HD | Ursodiol | Bile acid | HD | Placebo | Safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics at 35 days | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 21 | Oregon Health and Science University, Huntington Study Group, Huntington Society of Canada | N/S |

Table 3

Ongoing invasive non-pharmacological clinical trials registered at the World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Research Platform (ICTRP) for people with Huntington's disease (HD). AD, Alzheimer's disease; CBD; Corticobasal Degeneration; DBS, deep brain stimulation; ET, Essential Tremor; GP, Globus pallidus; HT, Holmes Tremor; MNC, mononuclear cells; MS, Multiple Sclerosis; PD, Parkinson's disease; TD, Tardive dyskinesia; WD, Wilson's disease. New trials since the last Clinical Trials Corner are indicated by *

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| NCT04244513* | – | GPi DBS | Deep brain stimulation | HD with chorea | Sham intervention | Efficacy at 3 and 6 months | Randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, cross-over trial | 40 | Beijing Municipal Administration of Hospitals, Medtronic | China (multi-centre) |
| NCT04219241* | ADORE-EXT | Cellavita | Stem cell therapy | HD | None | Efficacy and safety at 2 years | Open label extension | 35 | Azidus Brasil, Cellavita | Brazil (single centre) |
| ISRCTN52651778 | TRIDENT | Foetal stem cell transplant | Stem cell therapy | Early stage HD | Usual care | Safety at 4 weeks | Randomized, open label, controlled, parallel trial | 30 | Científica Ltda Cardiff University | UK (single centre) |
| NCT02728115 | SAVE-DH | Cellavita | Stem cell therapy | HD | None | Safety at 5 years | Non-randomized, open label, uncontrolled, parallel trial | 6 | Azidus Brasil | Brazil (single centre) |
| NCT03252535 | ADORE-HD | Cellavita | Stem cell therapy | HD | Placebo | Efficacy at 120 days | Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 35 | Azidus Brasil | Brazil (single centre) |
| NCT03297177 | – | Autologous stem/stromal cells | Autologous stem/stromal cell injection | HD, AD, PD, CBD, MS | None | Safety at 5 years | Single group, open-label trial | 300 | Healeon Medical Inc, Global Alliance for Regenerative Medicine, Regeneris Medical | USA and Honduras (multi-centre) |

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Table 3
(Continued)

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|-----------------|------------|--|---|--|-------------------|---|---|---------------------|---|--|
| NCT02535884 | HD-DBS | GP DBS | Deep brain stimulation | Moderate HD with chorea | Sham intervention | Efficacy at 12 months | Randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, parallel trial | 50 | Heinrich-Heine University, KKS Netzwerk, Medtronic, The George Institute, EHDN, CHDI Foundation, Inc. | Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland (multi-centre) |
| NCT01834053 | BMACHC | Bone Marrow Derived MNC transplant | Bone marrow transplant | HD with chorea | None | Cognitive and behavioural effects at 6 months | Single group, open-label trial | 50 | Chaitanya Hospital, Pune | India (single centre) |
| NCT02252380 | – | Magnetic Resonance Guided Focused Ultrasound | Extracranial stereotactic radioablation | HD, ET, HT, PD, WD, dystonia, TD, or orofacial dyskinesias | None | Adverse events after the procedure | Single group, open-label trial | 10 | InSightec | Canada (single centre) |

Table 4

Ongoing non-invasive non-pharmacological clinical trials registered at the World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Research Platform (ICTRP) for people with Huntington's disease (HD). AD, Alzheimer's disease; ALS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; ET, Essential Tremor; HT, Holmes Tremor; MS, Multiple Sclerosis; PD, Parkinson's disease; TD, Tardive dyskinesia.

New trials since the last Clinical Trials Corner are indicated by *

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|----------------------|------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|---------------------|---|---------------------------|
| ACTRN12620000281998* | – | Ketogenic diet | – | HD | None | Change in cognition and motor scores at 12 weeks | Non-randomized, open label, single group trial | 10 | Waikato Hospital | New Zealand (-) |
| ACTRN12619000870156* | – | Transcranial alternating current stimulation | Transcranial magnetic stimulation | Premanifest and early HD | Sham intervention | Biomarkers | Randomized, open-label, cross-over trials | 60 | Monash University, Epworth Centre for Innovation in Mental Health | Australia (single centre) |
| ACTRN12618001717246 | – | Multidisciplinary therapy program | Exercise, cognitive training, lifestyle guidance and social activities | Premanifest HD | Standard of care | Feasibility and safety | Clustered, non-randomized, open label, parallel trial | 40 | Edith Cowan University, Deakin University and Lotterywest | Australia (two centres) |
| NCT03417583 | – | Neuropsychiatric treatment protocol | Multidisciplinary intervention | HD with neuropsychiatric symptoms | Standard of care | Change in quality of life at 18 months | Non-randomized, assessor-blinded, parallel trial | 100 | Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Teva Pharmaceuticals USA | USA (single centre) |
| CTRI/2018/01/011359 | – | Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation | Transcranial magnetic stimulation | Early to moderate HD and PD | Sham stimulation | Efficacy at 5 days | Randomized, single-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel trial | 40 | Vinay Goyal | India (single centre) |

(Continued)

Table 4
(Continued)

| Registration ID | Trial name | Intervention | Mechanism of Action | Population | Comparison | Main outcome | Study design | Estimated Enrolment | Sponsor | Location |
|---------------------|------------|--|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|---|---|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| NCT03344601 | PACE-HD | Supported structured aerobic exercise training program | Physiotherapy | HD | Activity as usual | Data completeness, recruitment, retention, safety, adherence, fidelity and acceptability at 12 months | Nested open-label, randomized controlled parallel trial | 120 | Cardiff University and CHDI Foundation, Inc | Germany, Spain and USA (multi-centre) |
| ACTRN12617001269325 | – | Swallowing skill training | Speech and language therapy | HD and ALS | None | Swallowing function and quality of life at 2 weeks | Single group, open-label trial | 54 | University of Canterbury | New Zealand (single centre) |

the Neuro-QoL, HDQLIFE and Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS); and quantitate motor assessments (i.e. Q-Motor).

Sponsors/funders: UniQure Biopharma B.V.

Comments: The AAV5-miHTT is an engineered microRNA (miRNA) targeting both human wild-type and mutant huntingtin for degradation. It is delivered via an adeno-associated viral vector serotype 5 (AAV5). This is the first human trial of an AAV-mediated gene therapy in Huntington's disease.

If it functions as intended, upon injection into the brain parenchyma using MRI-guided convection-enhanced delivery, the AAV5-miHTT will bind to cell receptors and will be internalised by neurons and transported to the nucleus. There, the miRNA will be uncoated from the viral vector and remains episomal. After expression and processing of the miHTT transgene by the endogenous RNA interference machinery into a hairpin structure, the miRNA is transported into the cytoplasm. There the mature miRNA will load in the RNA-induced silencing complex and bind huntingtin mRNA, targeting it for cleavage and degradation. In theory, this mechanism of action makes this method irreversible, and animal models have demonstrated long-lasting miRNA expression over time after a single injection.

The efficacy and safety of this miRNA and vector has been assessed in cultured human neurons, and in vivo in multiple animal models such as mice, non-human primates and transgenic minipigs. Transgene expression accompanied by huntingtin lowering has been seen in the injected and distant structures such as the cortex.

The selected vector – AAV5 – has been tested in 4 clinical studies across haematological and metabolic disorders. When given intravenously it appears safe and tolerable, showing low activity to pre-existing neutralizing antibodies. However this is the first time it has been used for intraparenchymal delivery into the brain.

The AAV5-miHTT will be injected to the caudate and putamen bilaterally via MRI-guided convection-enhanced delivery. This approach involves surgical exposure of the brain tissue, and insertion of small diameter catheters into the injected structures. Injection usually takes long time periods (several hours) and a pressure gradient in order to saturate the targeted tissues. Even with these techniques, there is limited tissue distribution after injection. In non-human models both the vector and huntingtin

lowering have been demonstrated to be present in distant structures, such as the cortex. It is unclear whether this occurs via axonal transport or by some other mechanism such as secretion and absorption of miRNA-containing exosomes.

This is a challenging trial using a novel therapeutic approach. The community will be looking forward to learning more about the feasibility of the approach, its safety, and efficacy.

KINECT-HD (NCT04102579)

Study title: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Assess the Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of Valbenazine for the Treatment of Chorea Associated With Huntington Disease [2].

Intervention: Once daily valbenazine, [9] a VMAT2 inhibitor.

Description: The KINECT-HD trial, sponsored by Neurocrine Biosciences and the Huntington Study Group, aims to evaluate the efficacy, safety and tolerability of valbenazine in adults (18 to 75 years of age) with a clinical diagnosis of HD with chorea, compared with placebo. The purpose is to assess whether valbenazine is more effective than placebo in reducing chorea associated with HD.

Individuals with the following are not eligible: a history of prior VMAT2 inhibitor therapy; swallowing difficulties; who are pregnant or breastfeeding; or with a history of long QT syndrome, cardiac tachyarrhythmia, left bundle-branch block, atrioventricular block, bradycardia or heart failure; unstable or serious medical or psychiatric illness; significant suicidal risk; substance dependence or abuse; unstable antidepressant regimen; previous history of gene therapy; receiving an investigational drug within 30 days of baseline visit; and blood donation or significant blood loss (≥ 550 mL) within 30 days of baseline visit.

KINECT-HD is an international, multi-centre, randomized, double-blind, controlled, parallel phase 3 trial. It has 2 study arms: the active group, where participants will receive valbenazine once daily up to 80 mg based on tolerability for 12 weeks; and the comparator group, where participants will receive a placebo capsule once daily for 12 weeks.

The study will last around 15 weeks, with an 8-week dose adjustment (i.e. 40 mg > 60 mg > 80 mg) based on tolerability followed by 4 weeks of dose

maintenance, and will enrol 120 participants equally distributed across groups. Recruitment is currently ongoing, and approximately 55 centres across the US and Canada will be involved.

The primary outcome measure is change in chorea at 12 weeks measured as a sum of the chorea items of the UHDRS Total Motor Score. Secondary outcomes include subjective impression of change; quality of life and digital biomarkers.

Sponsors/funders: Neurocrine Biosciences and the Huntington Study Group.

Comments: Valbenazine is a vesicular monoamine transporter 2 (VMAT2) inhibitor previously approved by FDA for tardive dyskinesia. It is a prodrug of dihydrotetrabenazine that reduces dopamine release into the synaptic cleft by selectively inhibiting pre-synaptic VMAT2.

There are two other VMAT2 inhibitors on the market: tetrabenazine (3-times daily) and deutetrabenazine (twice-daily), both of them approved by FDA for chorea associated with HD. Apart from dosage regimen, it is unclear if there are differences between these two modestly effective drugs, which have comparable safety profiles with risks of suicidality, parkinsonism and QT prolongation [10–12].

Currently, valbenazine is FDA-approved for tardive dyskinesia (40 mg daily for one week followed by 80 mg daily thereafter) and has had an unsuccessful trial in paediatric Tourette's syndrome.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are supported by CHDI Foundation, Inc. (salary support to FBR and EJW for conduct of the HDClarity study).

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

FBR and EJW were sub-investigators on LEGATO-HD (NCT02215616), IONIS HTT_{Rx} (NCT02519036) and IONIS HTT_{Rx} OLE (NCT03342053), are sub-investigators on the Roche GENERATION-HD (NCT03761849), Roche Natural History Study (NCT03664804) and Roche GEN-EXTEND (NCT03842969) trials, and EJW was a sub-investigator on the Amaryllis (NCT02197130). EJW is the chief investigator of the Roche GEN-PEAK trial (NCT04000594) and FBR is a sub-investigator. The authors did not make

use of confidential or privileged information: all materials included in this manuscript were collected from publicly available sources. FBR has provided consultancy services to GLG. EJW has participated in scientific advisory boards with Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Ionis, Shire, GSK, Wave Life Sciences, PTC Therapeutics, Takeda and Mitoconix. All honoraria were paid through UCL Consultants Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of UCL. Their Host Institution, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, has received funds as compensation for conducting clinical trials for Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Pfizer and Teva Pharmaceuticals. Hoffman La Roche Ltd has supported UCL with research funding for EJW.

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