

May 12-14, 2025 | Boston, MA

Rethink **Transformative ALS Targets, Seek** Translational **Biomarkers & Propel More Clinical Approvals**



Your 45+ Expert Speakers Include:



Director, Motor **Neuron Disease** Regeneron



Senior Director Eli Lilly



Principal Scientist, Biomarkers & Systems Biology **Biogen**



Senior Director, NeuroDiscovery Lab Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma America

2025 Partners



Chief Scientific Officer **Barrow Neurological** Institute



Co-Director, Neurological Clinical Research <u>Institute</u> Massachusetts **General Hospital**

Lead Partner:

Quanterix^{*}

































UNITING INNOVATION, COLLABORATION & DETERMINATION TO DRIVE BREAKTHROUGHS & TRANSFORM OUTCOMES IN ALS & FTD

With QurAlis and Eli Lilly's recent announcement to develop and commercialize their ASO to restore UNC13A function in ALS and FTD, Trace Neuroscience receiving \$101 million in funding, new innovation in TDP43 biomarkers and target understanding, and plenty of regulatory endpoint challenges, drug developers in ALS and FTD have much to discuss. At the same time, the removal of RELYVRIO from the marker still highlights the need to rethink and develop new transformative drugs for patients in 2025.

This year, the 4th ALS Drug Development Summit, reunites a 150+ strong community of ALS & FTD stakeholders: a rich tapestry of perspectives across discovery, biology, preclinical, translational, clinical and regulatory experts from across large pharma and biotech, as well as key stakeholders from clinicians, academics, funding and research organizations, patients and caregivers. Together we aim to learn from late stage trial failures, leverage emerging breakthroughs and drive more impactful research to advance treatments and ultimately a cure for sporadic and familial ALS.

Hear from previous speakers:

"A great summit to connect Preclinical and Clinical thought leaders on ALS and to garner recent progress for breakthrough ALS therapies."



Mansuo Lu Shannon, Chief Scientific Officer, AskBio

"The ALS Drug Development Summit provides a unique opportunity to disseminate knowledge and share ideas with other industry partners and regulators in order to identify the best ways to get promising new therapies to those who need them the most."



Christopher Ocampo, Senior Medical Director, AbbVie



Expand Therapeutic Horizons Within & Bevond TDP-43

Pathology: Explore unpublished findings on the latest targets, including UNC13A, STMN2, mitochondrial dysfunction, and Tregs, to unlock innovative therapeutic avenues for ALS and FTD in clinical and preclinical validation



Enhance Translational Confidence in Preclinical

Models: Leverage advanced cocultures, organoids, and patient-derived iPSC models to better replicate sporadic ALS pathology and address donor variability



Optimize Clinical Trial Strategies:

Incorporate decentralized and adaptive designs, digital biomarkers, and refined endpoints to improve trial efficiency, patient access, and regulatory alignment



Advance Biomarker Development for Earlier Detection:

Utilize cuttingedge tools like NFL, TDP-43 PET tracers and plasma biomarkers and metabolic biomarkers, to stratify patients and monitor disease progression with greater precision



Collaborate for **Accelerated Progress:**

Engage with global consortia, regulatory bodies, and patient advocacy groups to streamline data sharing, expand genetic testing, and ensure patient-centric drug development pathways

als-drug-development.com



YOUR 45+ EXPERT SPEAKERS



Aarti Sharma Director, Motor Neuron Disease Regeneron



Achim Kless Senior Director Eli Lilly



Amanda Guise
Principal Scientist,
Biomarkers &
Systems Biology
Biogen



Amalia
Papanikolaou
Data Programme
Lead
Challenge Works,
Nesta



Andrew Lo
Professor
Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology



Anil Tarachandan Vice President & Head of Translational Medicine Verge Genomics



Arti Patel
Principal Scientist &
Group Leader
Novartis



Asa Abeliovich Chief Executive Officer & Founder Leal Therapeutics



Bob Dagher
Executive Vice
President & Chief
Medical
Officer
Brainstorm Cell
Therapeutics



Christopher Bunker
Chief Business
Officer
Alamar Biosciences



Daniel Fowler
Chief Medical
Officer
Rapa Therapeutics



Deborah Bellina ALS Advoacate & Caregiver to her son Matt



Ellen Guss
Scientific Programs
Coordinator
Target ALS



Emma Bowden
Senior Vice
President & Head of
Development
QurAlis



Erin Fleming Chief Operating Officer ProJenX



Ernest Fraenkel
Principal
Investigator, Data
Analytics
Answer ALS



Ethan Ash EVP, Business Development Bionews



Fernando Vieira
Chief Executive
Officer & Chief
Scientific Officer
ALS TDI



Hariprasad
Vankayalapati
Chief Scientific
Officer
Biolexis
Therapeutics



Ignazio Di Giovanna VP, Scientific Affairs, Neurology Atlatic Research Group



Isaac Klein
Chief Scientific
Officer
Dewpoint
Therapeutics



James Berry
Associate
Neurologist
Massachusetts
General Hospital



Jason Thonhoff
Head of Clinical
Development
Coya Therapeutics



Co-Founder & Chief Scientific Officer 2N Pharma

YOUR 45+ EXPERT SPEAKERS



Leticia Tarilonte
Head of Clinical
Operations
Brainstorm Cell
Therapeutics



Makoto Tamura Senior Director, NeuroDiscovery Lab Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma America



Marcel Van Der Brug Chief Scientific Officer AcuraStem



Marcella Debiddo President Patient Insights & Clinical Solutions BioNews Clinical



Mark Roskey Chief Scientific & Collaboration Officer Quanterix



Martin Jacko
Chief Executive
Officer
Aperture
Therapeutics



Mary Kay Turner
Senior Vice
President, Global
Patient Advocacy &
Public Affairs
Brainstorm Cell
Therapeutics



Matt Mandeville Applications & BD Manager BrainXell



Michael Thurn Chief Executive Officer Neurizon



Netta Blondheim-Shraga Senior Vice President, Research & Development Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics



Cadoz
Chief Medical
Officer
VectorY
Therapeutics



Professor of Pathology John Hopkins Medicine



Ray Kelleher
Managing Director
Cormorant Asset
Management



Richard Fisher
Chief Scientific
Officer
Eikonizo
Therapeutics



Richard Ransoho Venture Partner Third Rock Venturers



Robert Bowser
Chief Scientific
Officer
Barrow
Neurological
Institute



Ron Hoffman
Founder & Executive
Director
Compassionate
Care ALS



Sabrina Paganon Co-Director, Neurological Clinical Research Institute Massachusetts General Hospital



Senior Director, Preclinical Science Trace Neuroscience



Tetsuya Tanaka Vice President, Stem Cell Biology Elixirgen Scientific



Timothy Piser
Head of Research &
Development
Samsara
Therapeutics



Vern Norviel Chief Medical Officer Neuvivo



Wendy Hendrickson ALS Hope Foundation

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP DAY - MAY 12, 2025

8:30 Morning Check-In: served with coffee + light breakfast

WORKSHOP TRACK A DISCOVERY & PRECLINICAL

WORKSHOP TRACK B CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL UTILITY

Designed for CSOs, preclinical researchers, discovery scientists, directors of biology and research, novel modality scientists, in vivo/in vitro modeling experts, and many more; connect with an intimate grou, of discovery and preclinical experts for a more discursive session

Tailor-made for medical directors, CMOs, clinical program leads, translational and clinical development heads, clinicians, and more; share expertise from diverse clinical challenges and innovation in ALS

9:00 Workshop A: Pioneering Modalities for ALS: Unpacking the Gene Therapy Toolbox & Beyond

From gene editing and augmentation to emerging delivery systems and knockdown strategies, the session will provide a comprehensive exploration of the gene therapy landscape. Participants will discuss which technologies are best suited for targeting specific ALS mutations, the challenges of sporadic versus hereditary forms, and the broader application of current platforms. By analyzing both successes and setbacks, such as the lessons from C9orf72 and SOD1, the workshop aims to define a roadmap for optimizing genetic medicines "for ALS."

- Examine the potential of gene editing, viral and non-viral delivery, and vectorized antibodies, and their relevance in various use cases to address ALS pathologies effectively
- Strategize on targeting more complex mutations e.g C9orf72 requiring balancing gain- and loss-of-function approaches within the gene therapy framework
- Identify how current platforms and delivery technologies can overcome challenges in targeting sporadic and hereditary ALS populations
- Evaluate the potential of peripheral administration for gene therapies to explore comparable efficacy and safety
- Navigate future directions and regulatory requirements for gene therapy in ALS, exploring new modalities and technologies to enhance therapeutic impact and accessibility



Philip C. Wong, Professor of Pathology, Johns Hopkins Medicine



Asa Abeliovich, Chief Executive Officer & Founder, Leal Therapeutics

9:00 Workshop B: Decoding Clinical Endpoints in ALS: Revolutionizing Drug Development with Emerging Biomarkers, ALS-FRS-R & Digital Endpoints

This workshop explores the ALS Functional Rating Scale–Revised (ALSFRS–R) as a cornerstone clinical endpoint, addressing its limitations and strategies to enhance its impact. We'll investigate the role of digital biomarkers, such as wearables and smartphone–based assessments, alongside other primary and secondary endpoints like respiratory function, survival, and quality of life. Attendees will gain actionable insights into building a robust, multidimensional framework for trial design, aligned with regulatory requirements, to accelerate ALS drug development and approvals.

- Critically examine the ALSFRS-R to analyze the strengths, limitations, standardization concerns and key considerations when using ALSFRS-R as a clinical endpoint, including its sensitivity to disease heterogeneity
- Evaluate the role of wearables, smartphone-based assessments, and Al-driven analysis as digital endpoints in capturing nuanced progression signals for ALS
- Integrate diverse endpoints to discuss the interplay of primary, secondary, and exploratory endpoints—such as respiratory function, survival rates, and quality-of-life measures—in building a comprehensive efficacy profile
- Streamline approvals to align endpoint selection with regulatory expectations, fostering more efficient pathways for drug approval



Fernando Vieira, Chief Executive Officer & Chief Scientific Officer, ALS TDI

12:00 Lunch & Networking

1:00 Workshop C: To What Extent Does TDP-43 Underlie ALS Pathology? Evaluating Novel Target Discovery & Validation to Address the Breadth of ALS Pathology

This workshop will delve into TDP-43's role as a key driver of ALS pathology and explore broader mechanisms contributing to disease heterogeneity. Attendees will critically assess TDP-43 as a therapeutic target, how well TDP-43 accounts for all ALS pathology in sporadic ALS, identify other pathological drivers such as neuroinflammation and metabolic dysfunction, and refine preclinical strategies to validate novel targets. The discussion will address the challenges of model selection, biomarker development, and the integration of TDP-43-targeted therapies into a multifaceted ALS treatment landscape.

- Evaluate TDP-43's role in ALS pathology and its interaction with nonneuronal mechanisms, including neuroinflammation, mitochondrial dysfunction, and lipid metabolism
- Explore the utility of TDP-43 biomarkers and preclinical models in the context of target validation and preclinical development of novel drug mechanisms beyond TDP-43
- Discuss the positioning of TDP-43-targeted therapies within a broader ALS treatment landscape to address disease heterogeneity
- Refine preclinical strategies for better target validation and enhanced predictability of therapeutic efficacy in humans



Aarti Sharma, Director, Motor Neuron Disease, Regeneron



Arti Patel, Principal Scientist, Neuroscience Program Lead, Novartis

1:00 Workshop D: Establishing Adaptive & Decentralized Models to Accelerate Therapeutic Discovery in ALS

This workshop will explore the transformative potential of adaptive and decentralized clinical trial designs in ALS research. By integrating platform trials, multi-arm designs, and decentralized tools, these approaches aim to enhance trial efficiency, broaden patient access, and improve the trial experience for participants. Discussions will focus on optimizing recruitment, leveraging interim data for trial modifications, and utilizing digital tools to reduce patient burden while ensuring regulatory alignment.

- Evaluate adaptive trial designs, including platform trials and response-adaptive randomization, optimize recruitment, improve data collection, and enhance trial efficiency
- Explore strategies to improve patient engagement, streamline enrollment, and diversify participation while maintaining trial integrity
- Assess decentralized trial methodologies such as remote monitoring, self-reported ALS-FRS-R, and home visits to mitigate patient burden and foster inclusivity
- Examine operational challenges and regulatory requirements for implementing these models effectively in ALS research



Bob Dagher, Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Officer, **Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics**



Leticia Tarilonte, Head of Clinical Operations, Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics

4:00 End of Preconference Day



7:00 **Morning Check-In:** served with coffee + light breakfast

7:55 Chair's Opening Remarks

FUTURE DIRECTIONS & RESEARCH PRIORITIES: WHAT WILL THE ALS LANDSCAPE LOOK LIKE IN YEARS TO COME?

8:00 Advancing ALS Drug Development Through the HEALEY ALS Platform Trial: Accelerating Innovation & Collaboration

- Highlighting the design and success of the HEALEY ALS Platform Trial in streamlining drug development and improving trial efficiency through a shared infrastructure
- Discussing insights from completed and ongoing regimens, including biomarker discoveries, trial outcomes, and implications for ALS treatment strategies
- Exploring the collaborative framework of the platform, fostering partnerships between academia, industry, and patient communities to drive innovation in ALS therapeutics



Sabrina Paganoni Co-Director, Neurological Clinical Research Institute Massachusetts General Hospital

8:30 Unlocking the Power of Blood-Based Biomarkers in ALS: From Discovery to Clinical Impact

- Explore how Simoa® technology is enabling ultra-sensitive detection of biomarkers like Neurofilament light chain (NfL) to monitor ALS progression and treatment response
- · Gain real-world insights into how NfL is being used in clinical trials to support patient stratification, therapeutic monitoring, and trial design
- Understand the future of personalized ALS care through the integration of fluid biomarkers into research, diagnostics, and disease management



9:00 Panel Discussion: **Strategic Funding & Resource Allocation in ALS Research: Overcoming Barriers to Clinical Development**

- ALS trials are highly resource-intensive, with significant financial and logistical demands, creating a major barrier for therapies entering development
- · Strategies like synthetic control arms, remote visits, and digital biomarkers can cut costs and reduce patient burden, though validation of these technologies remains a challenge
- Investors prioritize ALS programs with unique therapeutic approaches, including gene therapy and alternatives to heavily funded pathways like TDP-43, focusing on clinical differentiation and scalability
- Partnerships between startups, big pharma, and venture funds are key to addressing validation gaps and improving the efficiency of ALS clinical trial execution while prioritizing patient needs



Moderator Sabrina Paganoni Co-Director, Neurological Clinical Research Institute Massachusetts General Hospital







9:30 Speed Networking

A prime chance to make the most of in-person networking and forge new connections as new companies enter, and existing ones broaden their presence within the ALS drug development space. Designed to maximize your introduction to numerous new individuals and serve as a catalyst for ongoing discussions during the summit.

0:00 Morning Break & Refreshments



DISCOVERY & PRECLINICAL TRACK

CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL UTILITY TRACK

PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES OF ALS MODELING: ENHANCING PRECLINICAL SYSTEMS FOR PRECISION & TRANSLATIONAL SUCCESS

TRANSLATING CUTTING EDGE BIOMARKER **ADVANCEMENTS INTO CLINICAL UTILITY FOR EARLIER DIAGNOSIS, IMPROVED PREDICTIVITY &** PATIENT STRATIFICATION

Chair: Aarti Sharma, Director, Motor Neuron Disease, Regeneron

10:30 Modeling ALS Pathophysiology Using Patient-Derived iPSCs for Therapeutic Insights

· Establishing patient-derived iPSC-neurons harboring TDP-43

key pathological features of ALS · Comprehensive analyses to investigate the mechanisms of action of currently available ALS therapies, offering deeper

mutations, providing a robust in vitro model to recapitulate

- insights into their therapeutic impact · Identifying novel drug targets, paving the way for the
- development of innovative treatments for ALS



Makoto Tamura, Senior Director, NeuroDiscovery Lab, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma America

10:30 Evaluating Multimodal Effects of Debamestrocel on Varying CSF Biomarker Pathways in ALS Linked to Clinical Outcomes

- · Showcasing the potential multimodal mechanism of action of Debamestrocel through analysis of 45 biomarkers by two subgroups characterized by ALS-FRS-R into a panel approach, to build a clearer and more holistic picture of disease progression and Debamestrocel efficacy on the complex and heterogenous pathology within ALS
- Reviewing the clinical utility of NfL and NfH as reliable biomarkers of disease progression and treatment monitoring in ALS, while examining how longitudinal data has refined their use in predicting therapeutic outcomes
- Advancing neuroprotective strategies through biomarkers to explore the role of biomarkers like BDNF and GDNF in informing alignment with cellular and molecular repair mechanisms
- Sharing regulatory insights and next steps for clinical development: study's recommendations and recent advancements



Netta Blondheim-Shraga, Senior Vice President, Research & Development, Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics

11:00 Advancing ALS Drug Discovery with iPSC-Derived **Neurons & Glia**

- · BrainXell provides a range of human iPSC-derived neurons and glia from healthy and disease lines for use in drug discovery applications
- · Differentiating ALS patient lines harboring mutations in disease-relevant genes (i.e. C9ORF72, SOD1, TDP-43) into various cells of the CNS and generating isogenic controls
- · Disease modeling with mono-, co-, and triculture systems to advance personalized medicine for ALS and other neurodegenerative diseases



Matt Mandeville, Applications & BD Manager, BrianXell

11:00 Session TBC

11:10 Embracing Heterogeneity in ALS to Develop Diverse In Vitro Models that can Support Development of Targeted **Therapeutics**

- · ALS patients present with significant heterogeneity in disease features, that may share related, common mechanisms
- · Most ALS disease models focus on rare forms of the disease and are not genetically representative of >80% of patients with sporadic ALS
- · Developing and selecting drug candidates in diverse patient cell lines is standard practice in oncology therapeutic
- · Development of a large panel of patient models and iPSC lines has facilitated the rapid discovery and development of UNC13A targeting antisense oligonucleotide (ASO)



Marcel Van Der Brug, Chief Scientific Officer, AcuraStem

11:30 Condensate Modulation as a Treatment Modulation for **ALS & FTD**

- · The role of condensates in neurodegenerative disease
- · Condensate modulation as a therapeutic approach for neurodegenerative disease
- · Condensate modulator discovery and development for ALS and FTD



Isaac Klein, Chief Scientific Officer, Dewpoint Therapeutics



11:40 Panel Discussion: To What Extent are In Vivo Models Relevant Purely in Evaluating Toxicity & Target Engagement?

- Highlighting the need for robust toxicity and bioavailability data showcased in vivo systems
- Critically evaluating the ability of animal models to predict drug efficacy in treating ALS patients, and the relevance of target engagement data in vivo with different modalities of treatment (including gene therapies)
- Navigating regulator perspective across FDA, EMA and more to the credence placed on animal and human cell data
- Determining to what degree in vitro models can provide robust efficacy data for regulators and to determine clinical efficacy, what in vivo data might be necessary to prove efficacy and safety



Martin Jacko, Chief Executive Officer, Aperture Therapeutics

"Great opportunity to learn about new trends in ALS research. Also, excellent networking opportunity."

Chief Medical Officer, **Xalud Therapeutics**

12:10 Lunch & Networking

UNLOCKING GENETIC & PROTEOMIC INSIGHTS TO VALIDATE NOVEL BIOMARKERS, TARGETS & MECHANISMS IN ALS

1:00 Identifying Protective Variants in Neurodegeneration with the UK Biobank: Expanding Insights to ALS, FTD, Spinocerebellar Ataxia & Beyond for More Effective Drug Development

- Harnessing whole exome and whole genome sequencing to identify protective/rare variants and their subsequent prioritization
- Exploring the influence of causal variants in the context of mutations in the rest of the genome (epistasis and penetrance)
- Taking learnings from Spinocerebellar Ataxia omics to further differentiate disease and stratify patient subgroups with different pathologies
- Identifying subgroups based on comorbidities and diagnosis using examples from the UK biobank



Achim Kless, Senior Director, Eli Lilly

TO ACCELERATE ALS DRUG APPROVALS & IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES 1:00 Lograing from the Past: A Landscape Anglysis of Posent

INNOVATIVE TRIAL DESIGNS & PATIENT-CENTRIC

STRATEGIES: ENHANCING REGULATORY ALIGNMENT

1:00 Learning from the Past: A Landscape Analysis of Recent Failures in ALS Drug Development to Inform Future Successes

- Overviewing key readouts of recent clinical failures to uncover pitfalls in ALS drug development to quicken the pace of research
- Examining key challenges in ALS development, including translational gaps in preclinical models, ineffective patient stratification, and trial design issues that hinder clinical success
- Highlighting the importance of biomarker-driven strategies, multi-omics integration and adaptive trial designs to address diseases heterogeneity and improved success rates



Anil Tarachandani, Vice President & Head of Translational Medicine, Verge Genomics

1:30 Unbiased Proteomic Analysis of Clinical Trial CSF Samples to Identify Early Pharmacodynamic Response Signatures Associated with Disease-Modifying Therapies in ALS

- Identification of tofersen PD-response biomarkers in SOD1-ALS VALOR clinical trial CSF via multiplexed quantitative proteomics
- Significant modulation from baseline abundance observed for 56 proteins in tofersen-treated participants relative to placebo, including proteins with significant changes from baseline as early as 4 weeks post-treatment
- Orthogonal validation of selected biomarker candidates across independent tofersen-treated cohorts
- Utility of integrating unbiased proteomic screening with targeted validation methods to identify new predictive, prognostic, and pharmacodynamic response biomarkers in clinical trial biospecimens



Amanda Guise, Principal Scientist, Biomarkers & Systems Biology, Biogen

1:30 Panel Discussion: Given Recent Failures, How Can we Tailor ALS Clinical Trials to Successfully Meet Regulatory Expectations

- Outlining the approval path for sporadic and familial ALS: is it the same for different modalities? What is the regulatory bar for approving this?
- · Harnessing innovative trial design
- Cross comparing diverging requirements for different regulatory agencies including the FDA, EMA and more
- Establishing clear, patient-relevant endpoints and leveraging biomarkers to demonstrate efficacy
- Critically identifying stumbling blocks in IND and BLA packages to circumvent late-stage failures and pitfalls in drug development



Anil Tarachandani, Vice President & Head of Translational Medicine, Verge Genomics



Ignazio Di Giovanna, VP, Scientific Affairs, Neurology,
Atlatic Research Group



Olga Uspenskaya-Cadoz, Vice President, Clinical Development, Eli Lilly





2:00 ALS Patient-derived iPSC Models for Advancing Drug Discovery

- · Development of multiple neuronal & glial cell types from healthy and disease patient iPSC lines
- · TDP43 mislocalization in ALS-patient iPSC derived motor
- · Current capabilities and potential future applications in advancing personalized medicine for ALS disease & other neurodegenerative diseases
- · Demonstrating how these models improve target discovery, biomarker validation, and preclinical predictability in drug development



Tetsuya Tanaka, Vice President, Stem Cell Biology, Elixirgen **Scientific**

2:30 Discovery of Protective Genetic Variants to Develop 2:30 Clinical Translation of Hybrid Treg/Th2 (RAPA501) Cells for Therapy of ALS

· Mechanism of action of RAPA501

in Early-Stage Studies

making

Phase 1 results; manufacturing, safety and immune modulation

2:00 Al-Generated Digital Twins in ALS: Improving Confidence

· PRO-101 - Study Overview: a Phase 1 clinical trial evaluating

prosetin—a first-in-class MAP4 kinase (MAP4K) inhibitor

Al-Powered Digital Twins in - PRO-101 - Enhancing data

Erin Fleming, Chief Operating Officer, ProJenX

Using Digital Twins as an External Control – Leveraging AI to

support early-stage data analysis for more informed decision-

robustness and interpretation in ALS studies

- Implementing 40 patient Expanded Access trial (<50% pulmonary function)
- Implementing Phase 2/3 trial (>70% pulmonary function)



Daniel Fowler, Chief Medical & Scientific Officer, Rapa **Therapeutics**

Disease Modifying Therapeutics for ALS

- · Unpacking the role of genetic heterogeneity in ALS
- · Shifting perspective protective genetic variants in nonneuronal genes that impact disease progression and survival
- Development of targeted disease modifying therapeutics



Martin Jacko, Chief Executive Officer, Aperture **Therapeutics**

3:00 Scientific Poster Session

This is an informal session to help you connect with your peers in a relaxed atmosphere to continue forging new and beneficial relationships. With an audience of preclinical, translational, and clinical scientists eager to hear the latest advancements in ALS therapeutic development, you will have the opportunity to display a poster presenting your own work and innovations.

3:30 Afternoon Break & Refreshments

HARMONIZING CONSORTIA LEARNINGS TO TRANSFORM DRUG DEVELOPMENT IN ALS

4:00 **Target ALS: A Catalyst for Drug Discovery**

- · Research We Enable: Democratize ALS research worldwide by providing investigators access to critical research tools and resources with no strings attached
- Research We Fund: Break down silos to forge academic-industry collaborations and bring together labs with cutting edge complementary expertise to accelerate ALS drug discovery through innovative funding programs
- Research We Conduct: Lower barriers for underrepresented communities and minorities to impact clinical research through global initiatives that help create one-of-a-kind comprehensive and accessible repositories of biosamples and big data to galvanize AI/ML application in ALS drug discovery





4:30 The Neuromine Data Portal & the Value of Big Data Analytics in ALS Research

- · Answer ALS to Neuromine's open-access data resources
- · The power of the data
- · Partnerships and workbenches on the horizon



Ernest Fraenkel

Professor of Biological Engineering, MIT & Principal Investigator, Data Analytics, **Answer ALS Research**





5:00 The Longitude Prize on ALS: A Groundbreaking Global Prize Harnessing the Power of Al to Drive Treatment for ALS

- The Longitude Prize series brings together the brightest minds to solve the world's most challenging innovation problems
- The Longitude Prize on ALS, launching in June 2025, will bring together computational biologists, neurodegenerative researchers and Al-driven biotech globally to uncover novel therapeutic targets for ALS



5:10 ALL ALS: Establishing a National Research Consortium to Accelerate ALS Drug Discovery and Harmonize Global Data

- ALL ALS is an NIH-funded initiative to enroll nearly all ALS patients in the U.S., collecting clinical data, biosamples, and digital health measures through site-based and remote methods
- Integrating datasets from Target ALS, Answer ALS, and AMP-ALS into a public portal to accelerate research and therapeutic development
- · Harmonizing ALS research data with other neurological diseases, such as Parkinson's and FTD, to explore shared mechanisms and disease progression
- Partnering with international groups, ALL ALS aims to expand its reach, unify global research efforts, and drive biomarker discovery



James Berry
Associate Neurologist
Massachusetts General Hospital



5:40 Panel Discussion: Uniting Forces: Collaborative Initiatives Driving ALS Drug Development Through Data Sharing & Accelerated Research

- · How are these initiatives complementing each other in the ALS research space?
- · What are the biggest hurdles in harmonizing and sharing data across these programs?
- · How do we ensure that patient-centric approaches remain at the forefront of these efforts?
- · What are the best practices for ensuring standardization and quality of collected data?
- · How can international collaborations expand the scope and utility of your programs' data?
- · What does success look like for collaborative consortia and research programs in the next 3-5 years?



Fernando Vieira
Chief Executive Officer &
Chief Scientific Officer
ALS Therapy Development



James Berry
Associate Neurologist
Massachusetts General
Hospital



6:10 Chair's Closing Remarks

6:15 **Drinks Reception**



7:15 End of Conference Day One

"This event helped me connect pre-clinical developments with clinical advancements.

Additionally, it provided an opportunity to learn from the community about various important aspects of drug development from different perspectives. The experience was very insightful."

Senior Scientific Director, **CPath**



7:30 **Morning Check-In:** served with coffee and a light breakfast

7:55 Chair's Opening Remarks

INNOVATING A NEW ERA OF EARLIER DIAGNOSIS & PROGNOSIS TO ADVANCE STRATIFICATION OF HETEROGENOUS ALS POPULATIONS

8:00 Refining Sensitivity & Specificity of TDP-43 Loss of Function Assay in Plasma for Sporadic ALS for Diagnostic & Trial Utility

- Outlining HDGFL2 cryptic neoepitope as a potential early diagnostic marker for ALS, identifying TDP-43 splicing repression in plasma of sporadic ALS patients, upstream of aggregate formation
- Harnessing TDP-43 splicing repression to identify ALS onset upstream of aggregate pathology and earlier in disease for earlier diagnosis
- Evaluating longitudinal changes in disease progression and patient benefit to determine predictivity of drug effect
- Improving assay sensitivity to better differentiate disease and controls to ensure assay qualification and validation to clinical use standards for interpreting trial results, while improving trial design and context of use



8:30 NULISA CNS Disease Biomarker Platform

- The only high-plex, high sensitivity platform for investigation of biomarkers of neurodegenerative diseases and treatment response
- NULISA[™] combines ultra-sensitive femtogram level detection with barcodebased high-plex biomarker analysis
- The NULISA CNS Disease Panel is unique in enabling investigation of hundreds of proteins involved in neuroinflammation, vascular, and synaptic dysfunction, and proteinopathies
- NULISA offers the unique ability to translate multiplexed biomarker profiling for discoveries to single and low-plex biomarker assays run with the same assay on the same instrument
- NULISA single-, low-, and high-plex assays all run fully automated on the ARGO HT System
- NULISA CNS Disease Panel 120 and Inflammation Panel 250 are used for exploratory clinical research into therapeutic effects on neurodegenerative disease processes
- NULISA IVD and ARGO DX in development with funding from Gates Ventures and DxA



9:00 Can we Slow Neurodegeneration in Multiple Indications without Reducing Neurofilament Light Chain?

- · Reviewing data on NFL in different neurodegenerative diseases
- \cdot Mechanisms and factors that contribute to NFL levels in biofluids
- $\cdot\;$ Exploring examples of different ALS the rapeutic trials where NFL was reduced with treatment response
- Does the timing of NFL reductions during trials depend upon the mechanism of action of the treatment?
- Evaluating feasibility for controlling baseline heterogeneity with NFL for more confident confirmation of efficacy



Robert Bowser Chief Scientific Officer Barrow Neurological Institute

9:30 Improving Disease Scoring Systems in ALS: Addressing Heterogeneity & Decline Rates to More Accurately Interrogate Drug Efficacy in Patient Subaroups

- Understanding ALS heterogeneity to explore the key factors contributing to ALS diverse progression rates and how heterogeneity can be accounted for in clinical scoring systems
- Overviewing current ALS-FRS scoring systems and their limitations in both clinical trials and routine care, and why current scores may not adequately reflect all patients' experience (e.g. patients with different onset ages or rates of progression)
- Innovative approaches to scoring ALS progression including new methods to improving scoring and patient stratification, the role of biomarkers in enhancing scoring systems and the power of Al and machine learning to identify patterns of progression that are missed by traditional scores
- Exploring implications of improved scoring on ALS trial design (adjusting for disease onset and progression speed), regulatory acceptance and approval processes



10:00 Morning Break & Refreshments

DISCOVERY & PRECLINICAL TRACK

CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL UTILITY TRACK

PRECLINICAL VALIDATION FOR ALS TO HERALD A
NEW ERA OF SAFER & MORE EFFECTIVE DRUGS TO
THE CLINIC

GENETICALLY VALIDATED TARGETS & PRECISION
THERAPEUTICS: ADVANCING ALS TREATMENT
WITH UNC13A RESTORATION & STMN2 SPLICING
TECHNOLOGIES IN THE CLINIC

Chair: Aarti Sharma, Director, Motor Neuron Disease, Regeneron

Chair: Olga Uspenskaya-Cadoz, Vice President, Clinico Development, Eli Lilly

10:30 A Novel Activator of Autophagy Rescues Autophagy Dysfunction & Reduces C9- & TDP43-ALS Pathology in iPSC-derived Motor Neurons & *In Vivo*

- Uncovering potent small molecule activators of autophagy as a novel approach to treating C9- and TDP43-ALS
- Revealing preclinical proof of concept in patient iPSCs and mouse models
- · Discussing the path to clinical development



10:30 UNC13A Restoration as a Novel Genetically Validated Approach to ALS

- Exploring Genetics in ALS: across rare Familial Forms and sporadic population
- · Target validation, mechanisms and biology of UNC13A
- · Discovery and development of medicines for UNC13A

Terry Fang, Senior Director, Preclinical Science, Trace Neuroscience

11:00 Development of EKZ-102, a CNS-Penetrant Small Molecule HDAC6 Inhibitor as a Potential First-in-class Disease-Modifying Therapeutic for ALS

- Eikonizo is developing highly selective, potent, orally bioavailable, CNS-penetrant, first-in-class small molecule HDAC6 inhibitors for neurodegeneration
- Development candidate, EKZ-102, is a potentially diseasemodifying therapeutic for both sporadic and familial ALS designed to correct broad proteostasis and intracellular transport defects to protect neurons and preserve function
- EKZ-102 IND-enabling studies are underway with planned clinical start in late 2025

Richard Fisher, Chief Scientific Officer, Eikonizo Therapeutics

11:00 Recovering Misplacing Errors with QRL-201 & QRL-101 to Restore Function & Reduce Disease Burden in ALS

- Understanding QRL-201 and QRL-101 mechanisms for restoring STMN2 expression and reducing hyperexcitabilityinduced neurodegeneration in ALS, using FlexASO splicing technology to correct misplacing
- Unveiling preliminary trial results showcasing QRL-201 efficacy and safety data in humans
- Identifying potential subgroups that may benefit from more personalized approaches



Emma Bowden, Senior Vice President & Head of Development, **QurAlis**

12:00 Lunch & Networking



ADVANCING BIOMARKER STRATEGIES: LINKING PRECLINICAL INSIGHTS, NEURO-METABOLIC DYSFUNCTIONS, & TRANSLATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ALS & FTD

ADVANCING NEUROPROTECTION & IMMUNE MODULATION FOR IMPROVED OUTCOMES IN ALS & FTD

1:00 Development of a Novel, Orally Active, Brain Penetrable HDAC6 Inhibitors Shows a Therapeutic Potential for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

- · Determining if we can develop orally available peptides
- in vitro and in vivo evaluation of HDAC6 specific small molecule leads in ALS pre-clinical SOD1-G93A transgenic B6SJL.SOD1-G93A, in rNLS8 model of TDP-43 proteinopathy mouse models with PK/PD
- Evaluating biomarkers, safety pharmacology and familial SOD1, FUS, TDP-43 and C9orf72 genes from ALS patient samples



Vern Norviel, Chief Medical Officer, Neuvivo

1:00 Session Reserved for Neuvivo

Immunity's Role in Neurodegeneration

pathogenesis of ALS

neurodegenerative diseases



Hariprasad Vankayalapati, Chief Scientific Officer, **Biolexis Therapeutics**

1:30 Leveraging Biomarkers to Understand Mitochondrial Dysfunction in ALS: A Neuro-Metabolic Approach

- Exploring biomarkers reflecting mitochondrial energy imbalance in ALS with a focus on shifts from glucose to lipid oxidation
- Discussing early-stage biomarkers identified in ALS animal models (days 20-25), allowing for earlier detection of disease progression
- Showcasing preclinical data on metabolic interventions that restore glucose oxidation highlighting biomarkers used to monitor treatment effects
- · Clinical data
- Expanding ALS biomarker panels beyond TDP-43 and NFL to improve early detection and disease monitoring
- Examining how metabolic biomarkers can inform clinical trial endpoints and improved disease progression tracking in ALS



Jason Thonhoff, Head, Clinical Development, Coya Therapeutics

1:30 Modulating the TREGs Pathway in ALS: Unveiling Innate

· To explore the role of regulatory T cell (Treg) dysfunction

in neuroinflammation and as a contributing factor in the

target Treg dysfunction to suppress neuroinflammation and potentially slow disease progression in ALS and other

To unveil plans for a phase 2 study evaluating COYA 302 in

To discuss ex vivo and in vivo therapeutic approaches that



John Nieland, Co-Founder & Chief Scientific Officer, **2N Pharma**

2:00 Afternoon Break & Refreshments

FUELLING MORE MEANINGFUL DRUG DEVELOPMENT TO MORE EFFECTIVELY MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH ALS

2:30 Preclinical & Early Clinical Development of NUZ-001: A Novel mTOR Inhibitor Demonstrating Potential as a Therapeutic Agent for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

- ALS and related TDP-43 proteinopathies are driven by the mislocalization and aggregation of TDP-43, leading to neurodegeneration; the concurrent loss of Stathmin-2 (STMN2), a key regulator of axonal repair, further accelerates disease progression and highlights the need for therapies targeting both TDP-43 pathology and STMN2 restoration
- NUZ-001, a novel small-molecule mTOR inhibitor, is under investigation for its ability to reduce TDP-43 aggregation, restore STMN2 expression, and enhance autophagy—a critical protein clearance pathway—offering a multi-targeted approach to disease modification in ALS
- Preclinical studies using human iPSC-derived motor neurons showed that NUZ-001 significantly decreased cytoplasmic TDP-43 aggregation, increased STMN2 protein levels, and activated autophagy as indicated by elevated p62 accumulation and LC3 vesicle formation; functional assays further demonstrated neuroprotective effects including enhanced neurite outgrowth and preserved motor function
- Preliminary results from a Phase 1 clinical trial in ALS patients indicated that NUZ-001 is well tolerated with a favorable safety profile and pharmacokinetics, alongside early signs of efficacy and biomarker modulation, supporting further clinical development to explore its potential as a disease-modifying therapy





3:00 Engaging the Rare Patient Online

- · Practical approaches to reaching the rare disease community at large
- · How we deliver unmatched value to our patient and industry partners
- · A taste of the "secret sauce" behind our organic community growth;
- Case study, like for instance some of our learnings from the 2024 National Rare Disease Survey, with a spotlight on ALS or our new 2025 treatment survey





Marcella Debidda
President Patient Insights &
Clinical Solutions
BioNews Clinical

Panel Discussion: ALS Clinical Trials & Access to Investigational Therapies Through Expanded Access Programs: Perspectives from Patients, Caregivers, Advocacy & Biopharma, & How the Path to Diagnosis Shapes These Decisions

- · Exploring the path to receiving an ALS Diagnosis
- · Highlighting the importance of early and meaningful patient involvement in shaping trial goals, eligibility criteria and logistics to ensure trials reflect patient priorities
- · Unpacking the decision to participate in a clinical trial
- · Balancing patient centricity and science in developing clinical trial protocols
- Discussing how to gather actionable insights from patients and PAGs to ensure input drives meaningful changes in trial processes
- Examining strategies to make trials more accessible to patients including geographical, financial and logistical barriers, while fostering open communication between researchers and participants
- Reshaping EAPs and OLEs with community-driven recommendations to ensure they meet the needs of patients and caregivers while advancing ALS research
- Highlighting how caregiver roles and patient input can shape policies to improve trial participation rates and strengthen trust within the ALS community





Affairs
Brainstorm Cell
Therapeutics



Ron Hoffman Founder & Executive Director Compassionate Care ALS



Wendy Hendrickson
Person Living with ALS
ALS Hope Foundation

4:20 Chair's Closing Remarks

4:30 End of Conference

"The program was well designed with the 2 critical paths/areas of interest. The speakers really had current and relevant experience in ALS development. In addition, the ALS patients and caregivers were a very nice touch, being able to interact with them, listen to their stories."

Executive Director, Clinical & Technical Operations, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma



2025 PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Network, Connect & Forge Lasting Connections & Collaborate with ALS & FTD Drug Developers

As insitro won \$25M from **BMS** for reaching discovery milestones and selection of a first novel target for ALS, **Novo Nordisk** invested in **Eikonizo Therapeutics**, **Dewpoint Therapeutics** received \$480M from **Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma**, money is moving within ALS R&D, and drug developers are seeking strategic investments to advance their ALS pipelines

Do You Have What They're Looking For? Top Solutions Revealed:



In vitro models: 3D Cultures, hIPSCs & Brain Organoids to recapitulate the complexities of ALS pathology including TDP43 pathology, and disease heterogeneity, to ensure smoother translation of preclinical research to the clinic



In Vitro Models: including TDP43, and C9orf72 rodent models for translational research to better predict efficacy in humans



Biomarker Discovery: largescale biomarker discovery platforms for early ID of novel biomarkers through comprehensive proteomic profiling



Genomic & Proteomic Solutions: including sequencing, genotyping and protein quantification



Diagnostic Tests: high sensitivity plasma and CSF assays for ALS for NFL and TDP43



Drug Discovery: high throughput AI & ML driven engines to support data-driven drug discovery for ALS



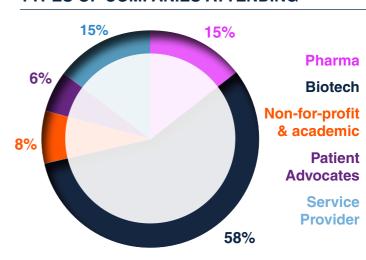
Clinical CROs: Diligent and efficient services as trusted and reliable partners sought by companies for trial design and program management. Establish how you build market trust and expand your customer base through streamlined and timely services

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SENIORITY OF ATTENDEES*



TYPES OF COMPANIES ATTENDING*



*Statistics taken from the 3rd ALS Drug Development Summit



Contact

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ANSWER ALS EXPERTISE PARTNER

Answer ALS is the single largest & most comprehensive ALS research project in history, producing more ALS data than has ever been amassed, while openly sharing with the global research community. The program coordinates with over 20 institutions, establishing a critical foundation for new clinical trials and developing new ways to categorize ALS patients to identify specific druggable pathways in an effort to make ALS a treatable disease. Since opening the Answer ALS data repository, Neuromine, in 2021, over 300 independent ALS research projects have begun worldwide from free access to the rich data and available samples.

www.AnswerALS.org



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www.alamarbio.com



NEURIZON EXPERTISE PARTNER

Neurizon Therapeutics Limited, formerly known as PharmAust, is a clinical-stage biotechnology company dedicated to advancing treatments for neurodegenerative diseases. Neurizon is developing its lead drug candidate, NUZ-001, for the treatment of ALS, which is the most common form of motor neurone disease. Neurizon strategy is to accelerate access to effective ALS treatments for patients, while exploring NUZ-001's potential for broader neurodegenerative applications. Through international collaborations and rigorous clinical programs, Neurizon is dedicated to creating new horizons for patients and families impacted by complex neural disorders.

www.neurizon.com



ALS TDI INDUSTRY PARTNER

The ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI) is world's largest non-profit research institute dedicated solely to ALS. To help accelerate global research and foster collaboration, we developed the ARC Data Commons. This platform allows researchers to easily explore de-identified data from our ALS Research Collaborative (ARC), the longest-running natural history study in ALS. This invaluable resource will enhance understanding of ALS patient subsets and fuel the discovery of potential treatments.

als-drug-development.com

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UNLEARN AI PROGRAM PARTNER

Unlearn is a San Francisco-based technology company pioneering generative machine learning methods to eliminate trial and error in medicine. Unlearn's technology using patient digital twins is regulatory-qualified and used by leading global pharmaceutical companies to run Al-powered clinical trials that reach full enrollment faster and bring new treatments to patients sooner.

www.unlearn.ai



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www.elixirgensci.com



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ARG is a contract research organization focused on oncology, immunology, and neurology, providing comprehensive clinical program development services ranging from planning to commercialization, achieving over 50 market authorizations to date. Founded in 2004 with the vision that every project should be highly individualized, ARG has experienced consistent growth across the globe, expanding our range to include drug and device strategic consulting, clinical trial management services, as well as clinical data and analytic solutions. ARG uses first-in-class technology platforms along with relationship-driven flexibility to optimize clinical studies because we believe everyone deserves to be well.

www.atlanticresearchgroup.com



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www.brainxell.com



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www.anatomic.com



AXOL BIOSCIENCE EXHIBITION PARTNER

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www.axolbio.com



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www.ixcellsbiotech.com



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www.catalent.com



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Neurospector aims to improve drug development for neurological and psychiatric disorders by advanced testing of compounds on human neurons. Combining 20 years of experience in neuronal functioning enables us to study disease-relevant mechanisms in neurons. We are based in Amsterdam, where fundamental and clinical neuroscience research comes together in an interdisciplinary setting of academic medical centers and top universities.

www.neurospector.com



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Project Mosaic is a collaborative R&D effort working to accelerate successful ALS drug development by equipping drug makers with a new class of patient-specific, sporadic ALS disease models ("Neurobiopsies™") designed to enable precision drug development.

www.projectmosaic.org



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