

CANaspire Trial of Systemic AAV9-mediated Gene Therapy for Canavan Disease: Biomarker, Imaging and Clinical Findings

Florian Eichler, MD (presenting author)¹

Alex Fay², Amanda Nagy¹, Genevieve Laforet³, Paul Harnatz², Eric Mallack⁴, Bernard Kinane², Christine Burton³, Elise Townsend¹, Michael Kiefer⁵, Beth Leiro³, Rachel Williams³, Adam Shaywitz³, Annette Bley⁶

¹Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA , ²University of California San Francisco Benioff Children's Hospitals, Oakland, CA, ³Aspa Therapeutics, BridgeBio Pharma, Palo Alto, CA, ⁴Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, MD, ⁵Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA ⁶Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany



Author Disclosures and Disclaimer

Florian Eichler:

- PI of in vivo gene therapy trial in Canavan disease sponsored by Aspa Therapeutics, a subsidiary of BridgeBio Pharma
- Co-PI of ex vivo lentiviral gene therapy trial in cerebral adrenoleukodystrophy sponsored by bluebird bio
- Co-PI of in vivo gene therapy trial in GM2 sponsored by Sio Therapeutics
- Site-PI of trials in late onset GM2 sponsored by Sanofi Therapeutics and in Alexander Disease sponsored by Ionis Therapeutics
- Consultant to Autobahn, Poxel, Takeda, SwanBio Therapeutics, UpToDate and Taysha Gene Therapies
- Founder of SwanBio Therapeutics

Alex Fay: No disclosures

Amanda Nagy: No disclosures

Genevieve Laforet, Chrissy Burton, Rachel Williams, Adam Shaywitz: full-time employees and stockholders of BridgeBio Pharma

Paul Harmatz: No disclosures

Eric Mallack: No disclosures

Bernard Kinane: No disclosures

Elise Townsend: SME and consultant to Aspa Therapeutics, a subsidiary of BridgeBio Pharma, and Biogen

Michael Kiefer: receives financial compensation as an independent contractor for Aspa Therapeutics

Beth Leiro: SME and consultant for Aspa Therapeutics, a subsidiary of BridgeBio Pharma

Annette Bley: PI of Canavan disease natural history study CVN-101 (sponsored by Aspa Therapeutics), PI of PeriNAA-research project (sponsored by the German Government BMBF)

BBP-812 is under investigation and has not been approved by the FDA or any other regulatory authority

Canavan Disease Overview

Canavan Disease



Aspartoacylase Deficiency



Demyelination of Neurons



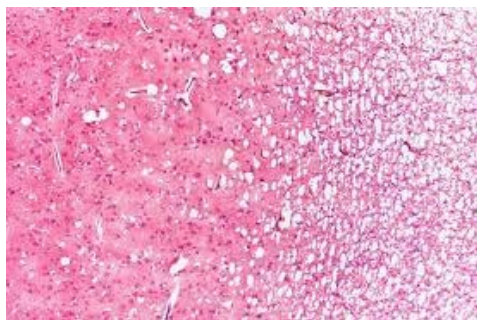
Clinical Features



Ultra-rare (1:100,000)

Autosomal recessive leukodystrophy (brain white matter disorder)

Caused by loss-of-function mutations in ASPA



Spongiform leukodystrophy

NAA buildup in brain, CSF, urine

Decreased acetate and aspartate production

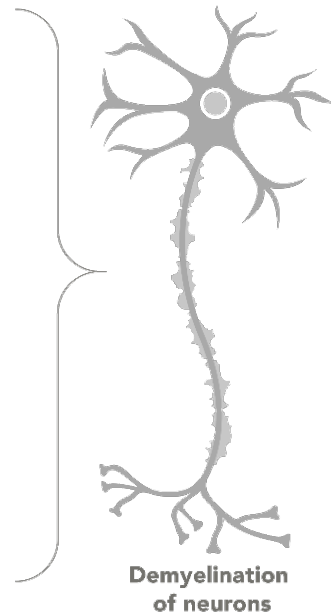
↑ N-acetylaspartic acid (NAA)

Aspartoacylase (ASPA)

↓ Acetate

+

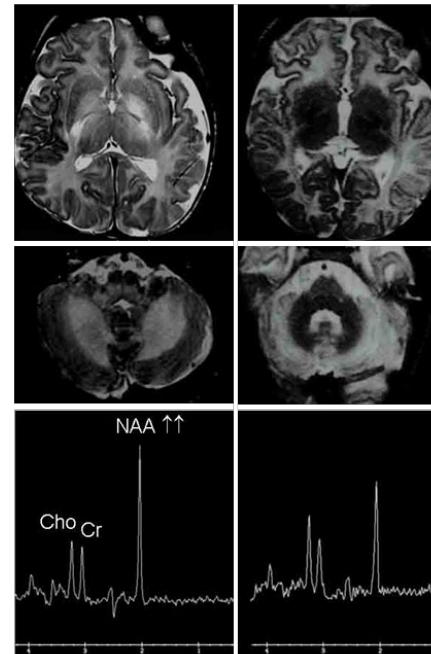
↓ Aspartate



failure to properly build and maintain CNS myelin

visible early in brainstem and cerebellar peduncles

Canavan normal



Accelerated head growth

Poor head control

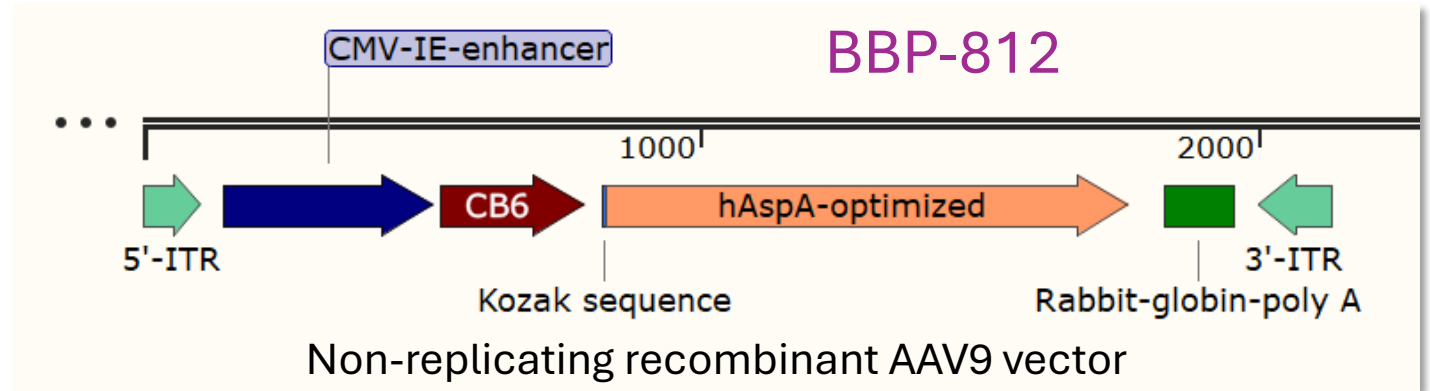
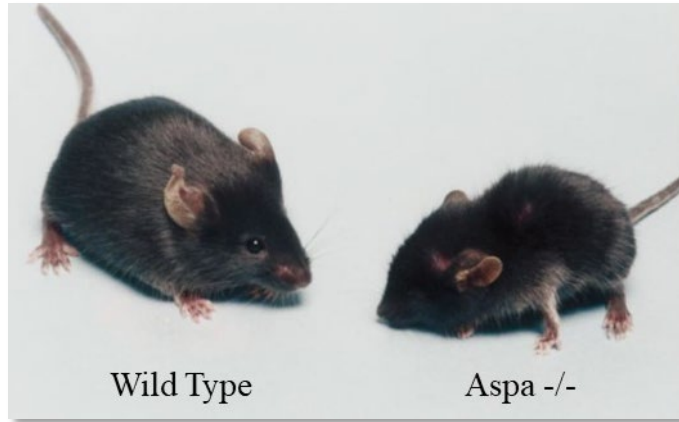
Nystagmus, abnormal visual tracking

Hypotonia, delayed motor development

Seizures

Fatal in childhood or adolescence

BBP-812: Non-clinical Evidence Supporting Systemic AAV9-ASPA Administration in Canavan Disease



- *Aspa* -/- mouse model recapitulates key features of Canavan disease, including **NAA buildup**
- IV AAV9 *ASPA* gene therapy with BBP-812 led to dose-dependent improvements in NAA levels, histopathology and motor function
- Complete normalization of NAA and motor function at highest dose level

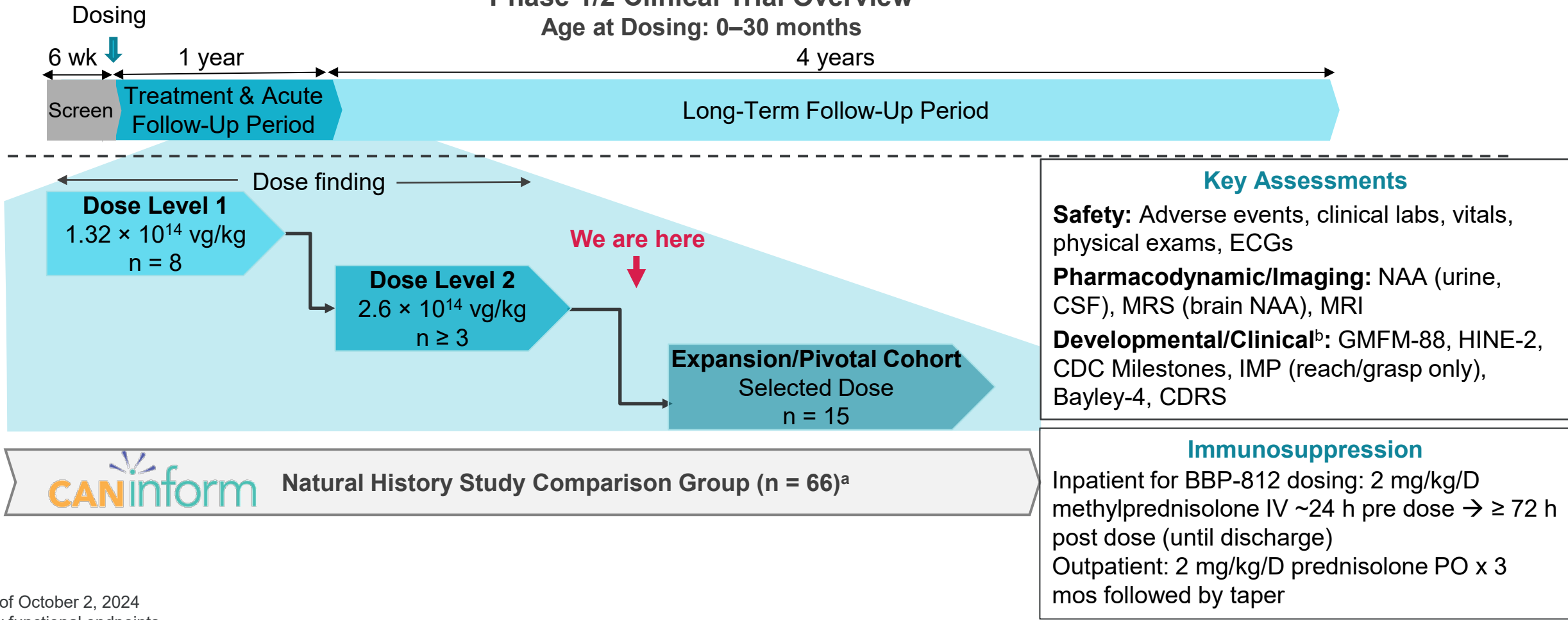


Horae (红瑞) Gene Therapy Center

CANaspire CVN-102 Open-Label Gene Therapy Trial with
CANinform CVN-101 Natural History Study as a Comparator

Phase 1/2 Clinical Trial Overview

Age at Dosing: 0–30 months



Key Assessments

Safety: Adverse events, clinical labs, vitals, physical exams, ECGs
Pharmacodynamic/Imaging: NAA (urine, CSF), MRS (brain NAA), MRI
Developmental/Clinical^b: GMFM-88, HINE-2, CDC Milestones, IMP (reach/grasp only), Bayley-4, CDRS

Immunosuppression

Inpatient for BBP-812 dosing: 2 mg/kg/D methylprednisolone IV ~24 h pre dose → ≥ 72 h post dose (until discharge)
 Outpatient: 2 mg/kg/D prednisolone PO x 3 mos followed by taper

CANinform Natural History Study Comparison Group (n = 66)^a

^aAs of October 2, 2024

^bKey functional endpoints

CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CDRS, Canavan Disease Rating Score; CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; ECG, electrocardiogram; GMFM, Gross Motor Function Measure; HINE-2, Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination Section 2; IMP, Infant Motor Profile; kg, kilogram; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; MRS, magnetic resonance spectroscopy; NAA, N-acetylaspartic acid; vg, vector genomes; wk, week; mos, months

Improvements in Motor Function, Myelination, and Biomarker Levels: Example from a Participant 18 Months Post Dosing

Head Control

Sitting

Prone

Baseline

Age 10-12 mos

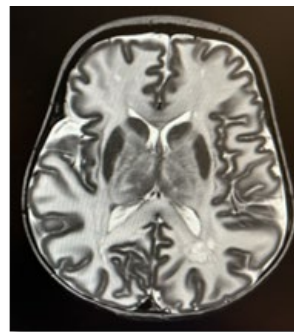


Needs full head support



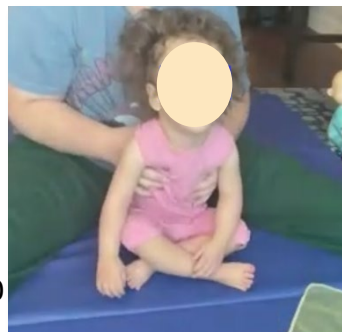
Cannot lift head

T2 MRI



18 mos post

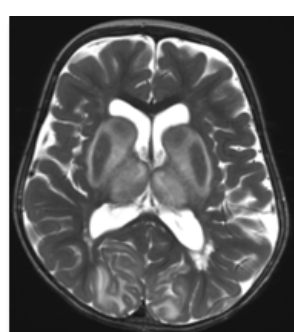
Age 28-30 mos



Holds head up independently

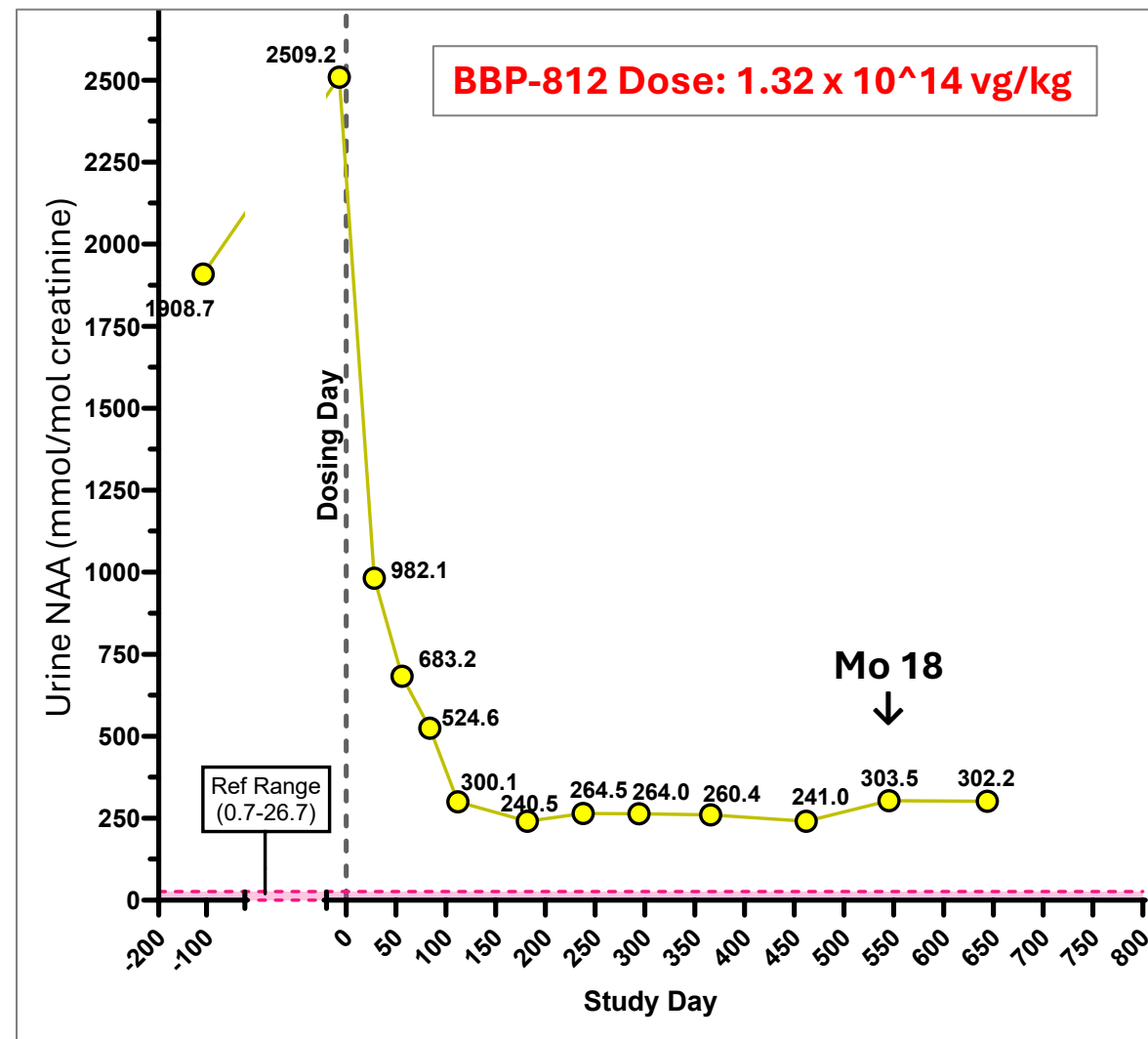


Lifts head independently against gravity

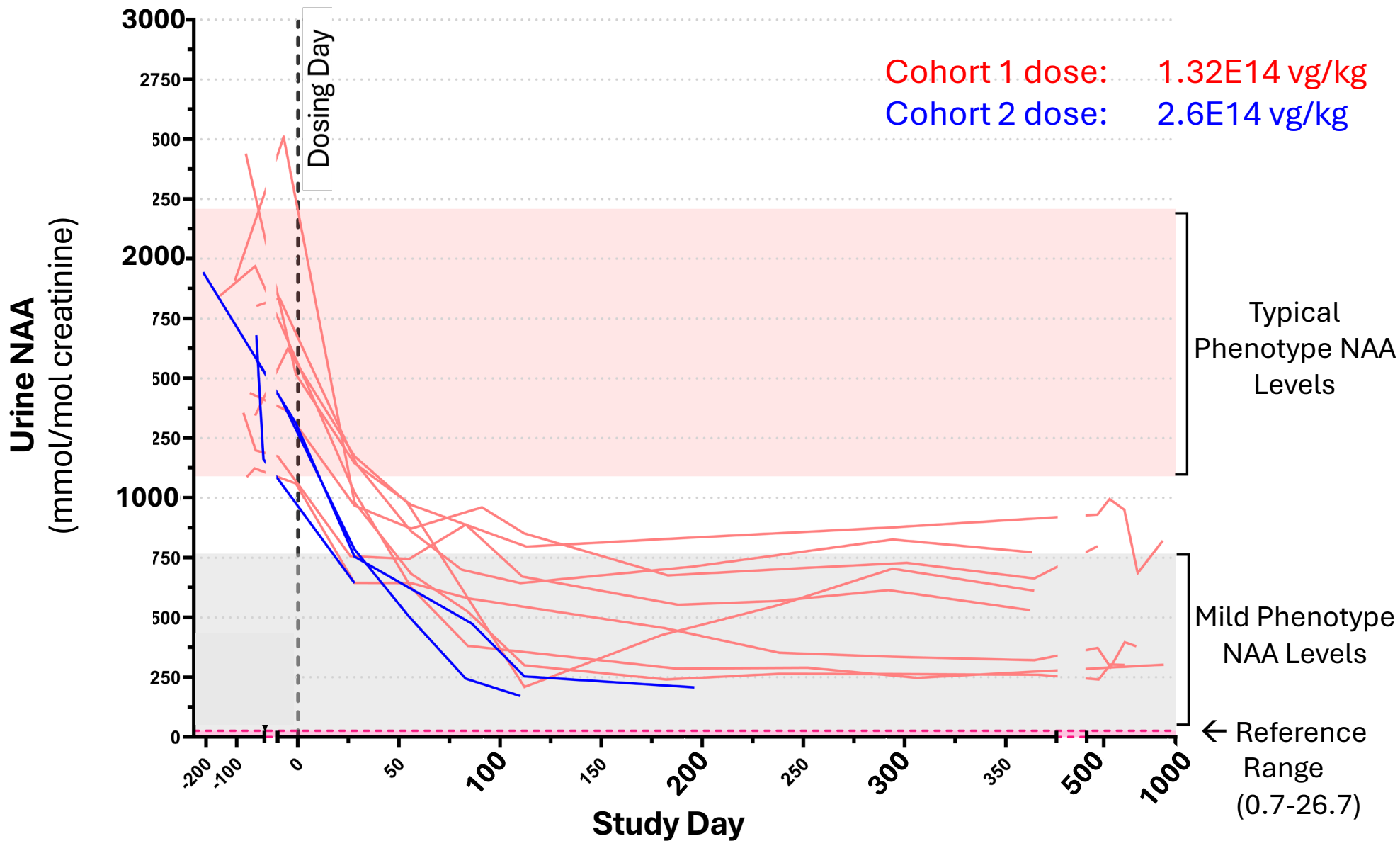


Illustrative of one participant's experience. This participant is not an outlier.

Urine NAA



BBP-812 Reduces Urine NAA in All Participants

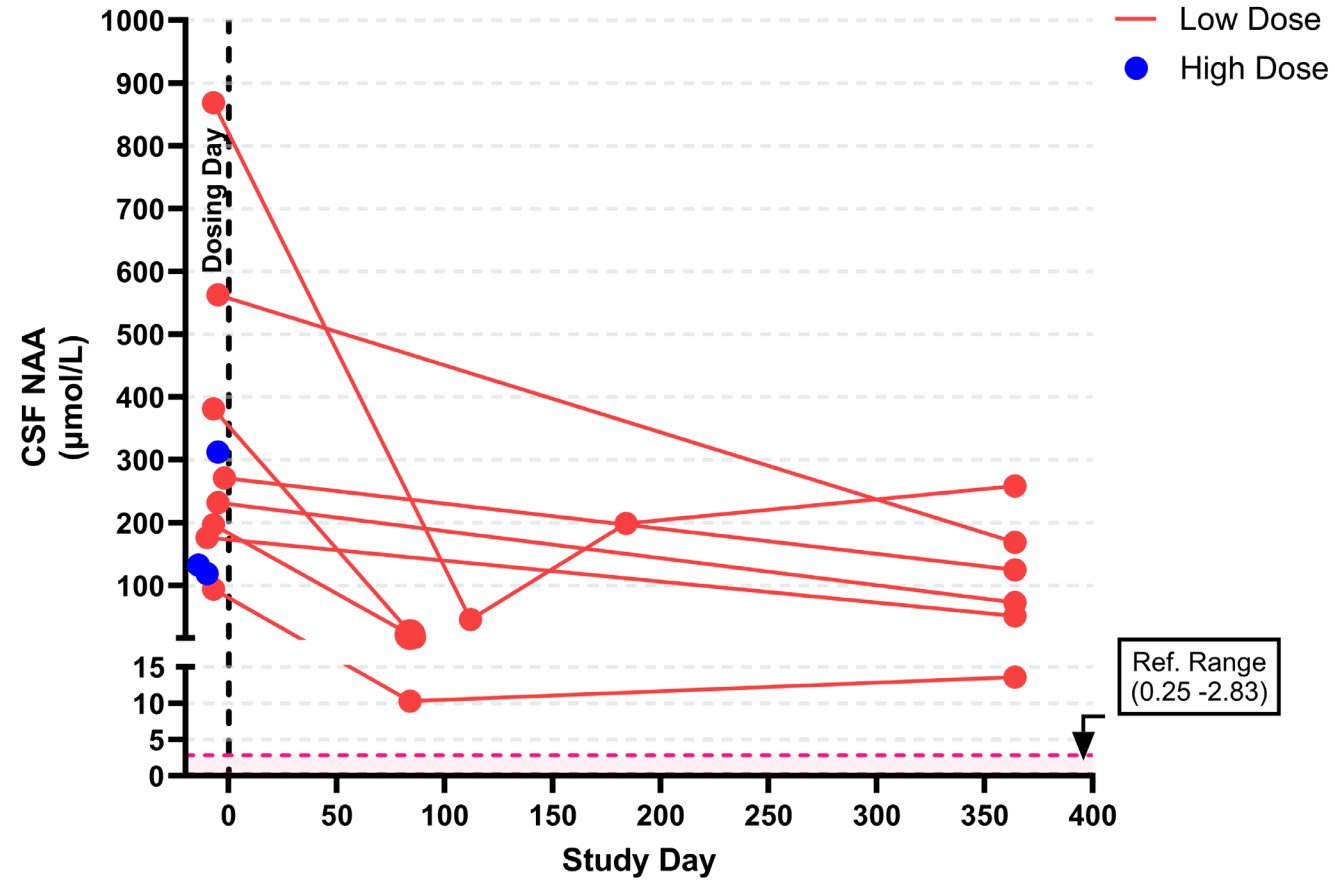


Participant	Age range at dosing, months
A	28-30
B	18-20
C	20-22
D	10-12
E	16-18
F	8-10
G	16-18
H	24-26
I	16-18
J	10-12
K	12-14

NAA, N-acetylaspartic acid; vg, vector genome.

Decreased NAA in Cerebrospinal Fluid Seen in All Participants Post-BBP-812

CSF

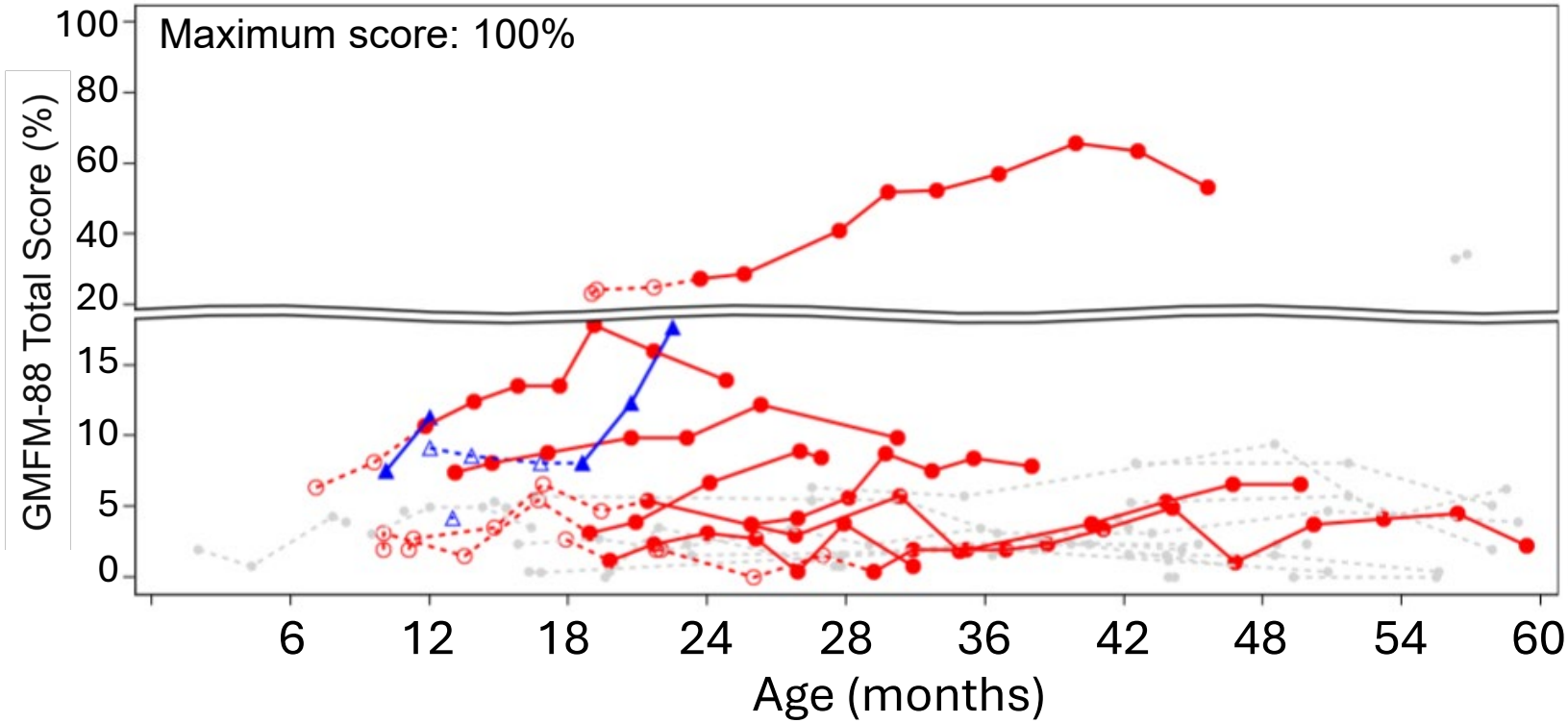


Gross Motor Function Measure-88 (GMFM-88)

- Designed and validated to assess gross motor function in children with cerebral palsy
- 88 items grouped into 5 dimensions
 - A: lying and rolling
 - B: sitting (includes head control)
 - C: crawling and kneeling
 - D: standing
 - E: walking, running, and jumping
- Items scored on a 0–3 scale
- Total score: Weighted total of dimension scores (%) – Max = 100%
- Skills are typically mastered by age 5 in children without motor impairments

Improvements in GMFM-88 in CD Patients Dosed with BBP-812 vs Natural History

GMFM-88 Total Score – Individual Participants



Gray: CVN-101 Natural History Study

N= 28 prospective natural history participants; excludes 7 participants with genotypes associated with a mild phenotype who would be ineligible for the interventional trial.

Red and Blue: CVN-102 Interventional Trial

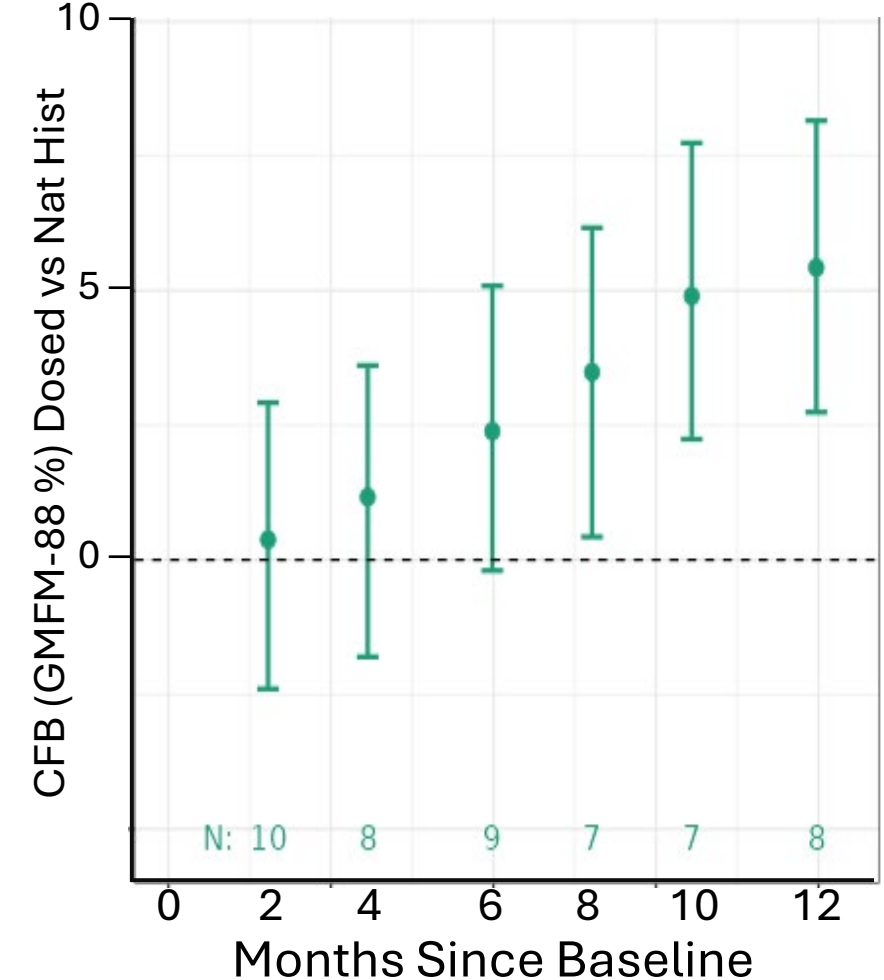
Open symbols/dashed lines = pre dose (screening, baseline)

Solid symbols/solid lines = post dose

Cohort 1: 1.32E14 vg/kg

Cohort 2: 2.6E14 vg/kg

GMFM-88 Total Score – Change from Baseline








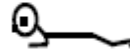

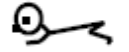
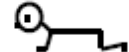


Y-axis: difference in change from baseline (CFB) between natural history study and interventional trial (point estimates and 95% confidence intervals)
 X-axis: months since baseline. N = the number of interventional trial participants at each time point.

Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination – Section 2 (HINE-2)

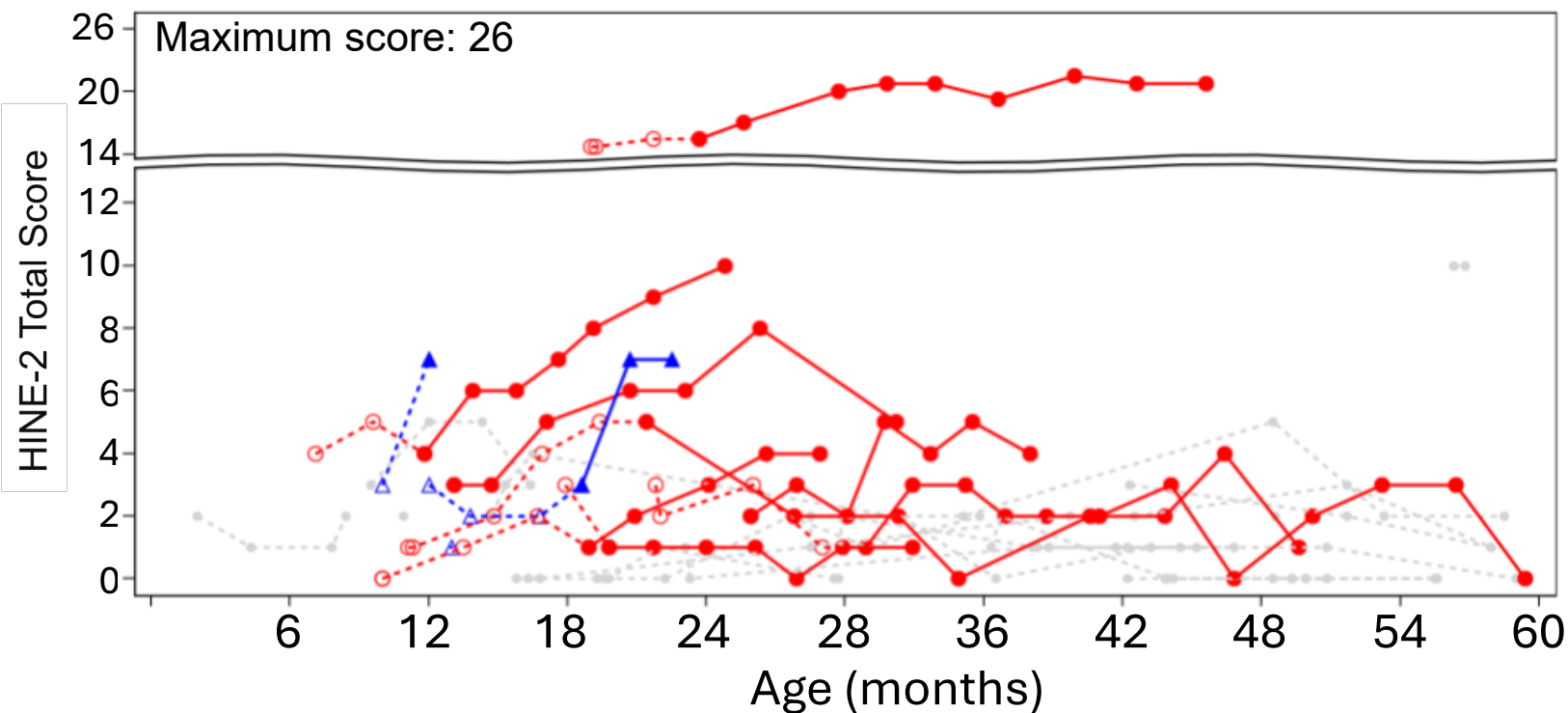
- Indexes 8 motor milestones scored on a scale of 0 (absence of activity) to 2, 3, or 4 points (depending on the item)

Maximum total score = 26

Head control	Head control Unable to maintain head upright normal to 3m	Wobbles normal up to 4m	Maintained upright all the time normal from 5m		
Sitting	Sitting Cannot sit	With support at hips  normal at 4m	Props  normal at 6m	Stable sit  normal at 7-8m	Pivots (rotates)  normal at 9m
Voluntary grasp	Voluntary grasp – note side No grasp	Uses whole hand	Index finger and thumb but immature grasp	Pincer grasp	
Kicking	Ability to kick in supine No kicking	Kicks horizontally but legs do not lift	Upward (vertically)  normal at 3m	Touches leg  normal at 4-5m	Touches toes  normal at 5-6m
Rolling	Rolling - note through which side(s) No rolling	Rolling to side normal at 4m	Prone to supine normal at 6 m	Supine to prone normal at 6 m	
Crawling	Crawling - note if bottom shuffling Does not lift head	On elbows  normal at 3m	On outstretched hands  normal at 4m	Crawling flat on abdomen  normal at 8m	Crawling on hands and knees  normal at 10m
Standing	Standing Does not support weight	Supports weight normal at 4m	Stands with support normal at 7m	Stands unaided normal at 12m	
Walking	Walking	Bouncing normal at 6m	Cruising (walks holding on) normal at 12m	Walking independently normal by 15m	

Improvements in HINE-2 in CD Patients Dosed with BBP-812 vs Natural History

HINE-2 Total Score – Individual Participants



Gray: CVN-101 Natural History Study

N= 28 prospective natural history participants; excludes 7 participants with genotypes associated with a mild phenotype who would be ineligible for the interventional trial.

Red and Blue: CVN-102 Interventional Trial

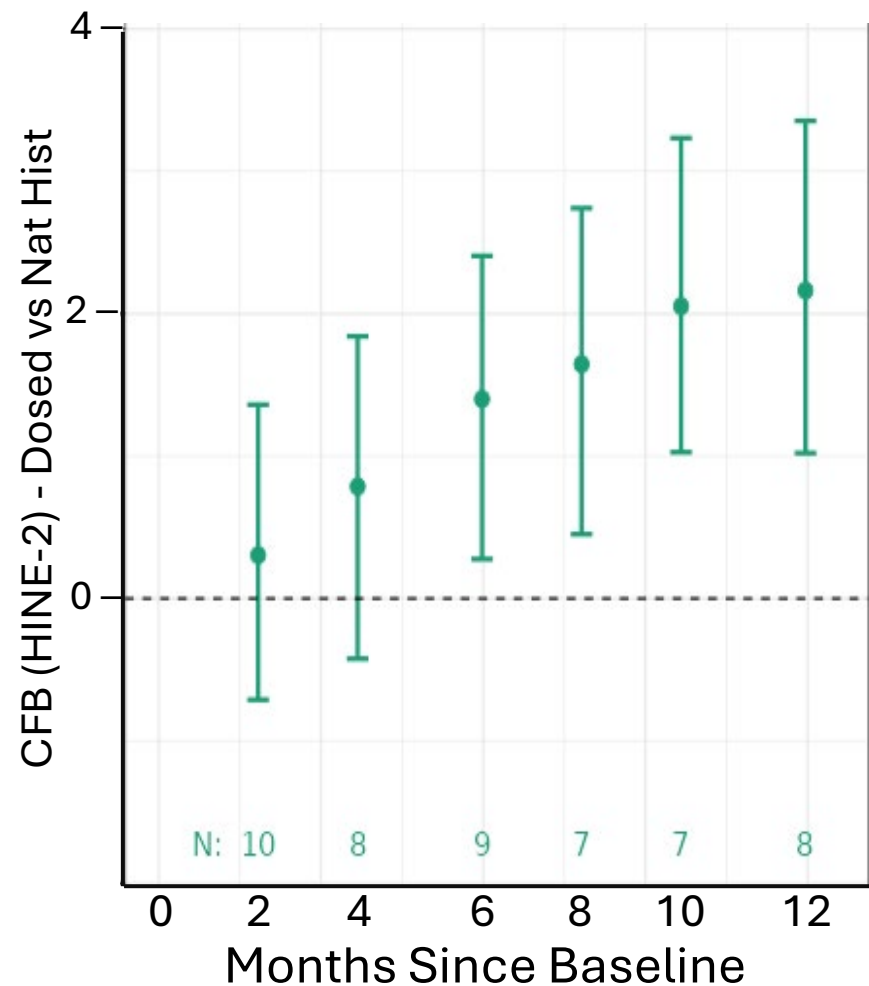
Open symbols/dashed lines = pre dose (screening, baseline)

Solid symbols/solid lines = post dose

Cohort 1: 1.32E14 vg/kg

Cohort 2: 2.6E14 vg/kg

HINE-2 Total Score – Change from Baseline



Y-axis: difference in change from baseline (CFB) between natural history study and interventional trial (point estimates and 95% confidence intervals)
 X-axis: months since baseline. N = the number of interventional trial participants at each time point.

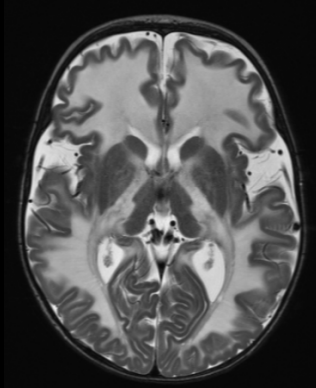
All Participants Have Shown Post-Dosing Improvements in Clinically Meaningful Motor Skills

BBP-812 Dose (x 10 ¹⁴ vg/kg)	Participant	Age Range at Dosing (M)	Length of Follow-up (M)	Visual Tracking	Head Control	Rolling	Weight- bearing on Legs	Sitting	Control/ Use of Hands*
1.32	A	28-30	33	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged
	B	18-20	30	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Skill regression from baseline	Skill regression from baseline	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Progress since dosing
	C	20-22	27	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing
	D	10-12	21	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Progress since dosing
	E	16-18	18	Progress since dosing	Skill regression from baseline	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Skill regression from baseline	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Skill regression from baseline
	F	10-12	18	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing
	G	16-18	15	Improved on CDRS @M12 (no M15 data)	Skill regression from baseline	Progress since dosing	Skill regression from baseline	Skill absent at baseline and unchanged	Progress since dosing
	H	24-26	15	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing
2.6	I	16-18	8.5	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing
	J	10-12	4	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing	Progress since dosing

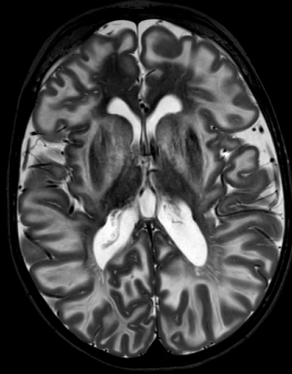
*Brings hands to midline; reach/grasp

Progress since dosing
Maintenance of baseline skill
Skill absent at baseline and unchanged
Skill regression from baseline

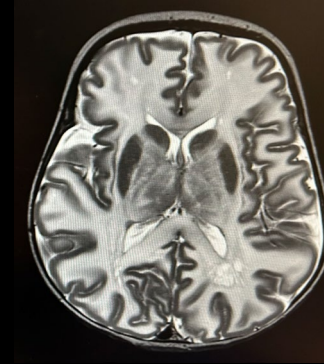
Improvements in Myelination Post BBP-812 Administration ($1.32E14$ vg/kg)



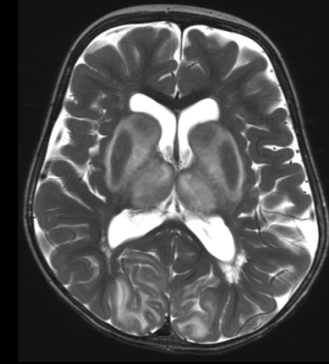
**Pre-dosing
Age 18-20 mos.**



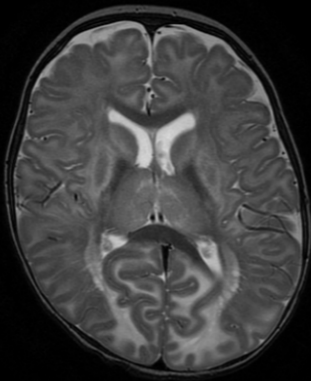
30 mos. post



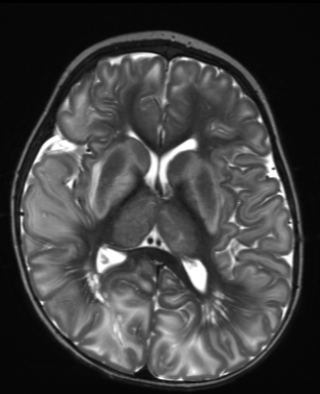
**Pre-dosing
Age 10-12 mos.**



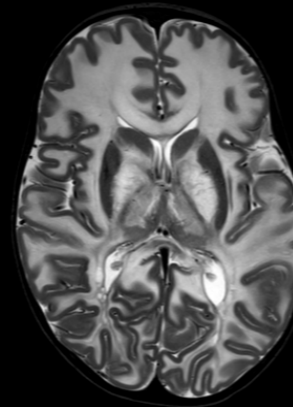
18 mos. post



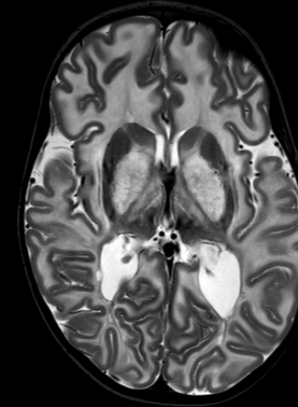
**Pre-dosing
Age 8-10 mos.**



12 mos. post

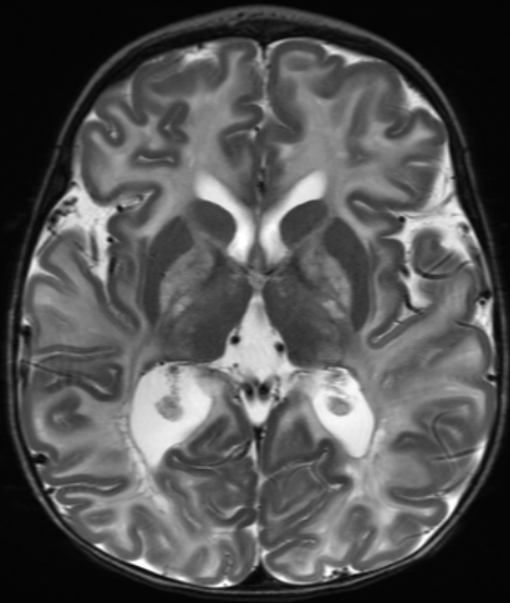


**Pre-dosing
Age 16-18 mos.**

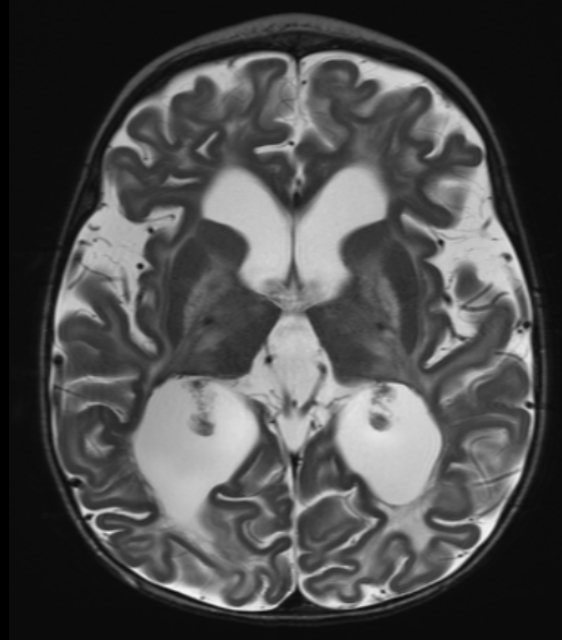


12 mos. post

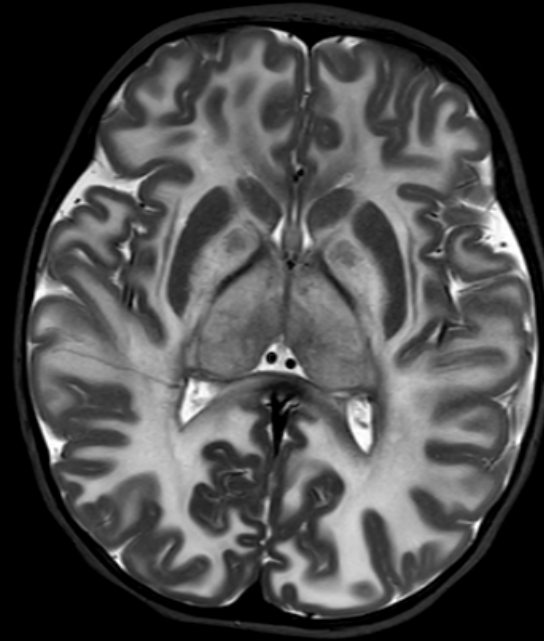
Improvements in Myelination Post BBP-812 Administration (2.6E14 vg/kg)



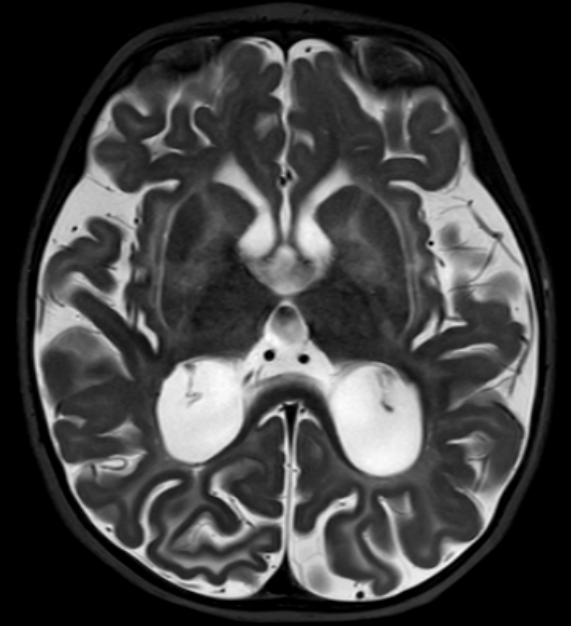
**Pre-dosing
Age 16-18 mos.**



3 mos. post



**Pre-dosing
Age 8-10 mos.**



3 mos. post

Summary

- CVN-101 natural history:
 - Robust comparison group for CVN-102
 - Children with Canavan disease have profound and persistent motor deficits
- Pharmacodynamics of BBP-812:
 - Rapid and marked NAA decreases urine, CSF and brain (MRS) consistent with expression of active ASPA enzyme
 - High dose (2.6E14 vg/kg) associated with lower urine NAA levels
- Safety of BBP-812:
 - Generally well-tolerated at 1.32E14 vg/kg and 2.6E14 vg/kg
 - Safety profile manageable and generally consistent with other systemically administered AAV gene therapy products
- Clinical efficacy of BBP-812:
 - All participants have shown improved performance in at least one clinically meaningful motor skill
 - Most participants have shown improved myelination on T2-weighted MRI
 - Emerging evidence of earlier and more robust improvements in myelination and motor function at high dose
 - More data and longer follow-up are needed to fully characterize potential clinical benefit