

1 **Lentiviral gene therapy for X-linked chronic granulomatous disease**

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30

31 **Introductory Paragraph**

32 Chronic granulomatous disease (CGD) is a rare inherited disorder of phagocytic cells^{1,2}. We report initial
33 results of nine severely affected X-linked CGD (X-CGD) patients who received *ex vivo* autologous CD34+
34 hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell-based lentiviral gene therapy following myeloablative
35 conditioning in first-in-man studies (Trial registry numbers: NCT02234934, NCT01855685). Primary
36 objectives were to assess safety and evaluate efficacy and stability of biochemical and functional
37 reconstitution in the progeny of engrafted cells at 12 months. The secondary objectives included the
38 evaluation of augmented immunity against bacterial and fungal infection, and assessment of
39 hematopoietic stem cell transduction and engraftment. Two enrolled patients died within 3 months of
40 treatment from pre-existing comorbidities. At 12 months, six of the seven surviving patients
41 demonstrated stable vector copy number (0.4–1.8 copies/ neutrophil) and persistence of 16–46%
42 oxidase-positive neutrophils. There was no molecular evidence of clonal dysregulation or of transgene
43 silencing. Surviving patients have had no new CGD-related infections, and six have been able to
44 discontinue CGD-related antibiotic prophylaxis. The primary objective was met in 6 of the 9 patients at
45 12 months follow-up suggesting that autologous gene therapy is a promising approach for CGD patients.
46
47

48 **Introduction**

49 X-CGD is caused by mutations in *CYBB* encoding the gp91phox subunit of the phagocyte nicotinamide
50 adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH)-oxidase (NOX2). Patients are susceptible to recurrent life-
51 threatening infections, impacting their quality of life and life-expectancy. Allogeneic hematopoietic stem
52 cell transplantation (HSCT) can be curative, and recent advances have improved the results from this
53 treatment considerably^{3,4}. Clinical trials of hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell (HSPC) gene therapy
54 were first initiated with gammaretroviral (γ -RV) vectors.^{5,6} However, clonal expansion of gene-corrected
55 cells mediated by potent enhancer elements in the γ -RV long-terminal repeats (LTRs)^{5,7}, eventually lead
56 to leukoproliferative complications. In addition, CpG dinucleotide promoter methylation lead to
57 silencing of transgene expression⁷. To retain the efficacy of gene therapy for X-CGD, but minimize
58 mutagenic risk, a self-inactivating lentiviral vector called G1XCGD was developed (Fig. 1a, full sequence
59 shown in Extended Data 1). To enhance the safety of this vector, a novel chimeric internal promoter was
60 used to preferentially drive gp91phox expression at high levels in phagocytes^{8,9}. Complementary clinical
61 studies were initiated, including a multicenter trial in the USA, a UK study and compassionate-use
62 program with nearly identical clinical protocols, eligibility criteria, myeloablative conditioning, stem cell
63 product manufacturing methods, vector batches, and post-transplant analyses.

64

65 **Results**

66 **Recovery of functional oxidase activity in patients.** Ongoing clinical studies of gene therapy with
67 G1XCGD were initiated in the UK ($n = 3$, plus one compassionate-use patient) and in the USA ($n = 5$).
68 Dates of therapy are provided in Table 1. Patients 1, 3, 5, and 9 were treated in the UK. Patients 2, 4, 6,
69 7, and 8 were treated in the USA. The patients were all male with severe deficiency of gp91phox and
70 absent NADPH-oxidase activity. They ranged in age from 2 to 27 years, and six of the nine were >18

71 years of age at entry. All patients had clinical histories of severe X-CGD-related infections, some active at
72 the time of treatment, and several had chronic inflammatory complications (Table 1). Patients were
73 followed until death or for a minimum of 12 months, with a maximum follow-up of 36 months. Drug
74 products were manufactured from granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) and Plerixafor-
75 mobilized leukaphereses, and infused after myeloablative conditioning (Table S1, see online methods).
76 Drug product infused for the nine patients achieved final CD34⁺ cell doses of 6.5–32.6×10⁶/kg (Table S2,
77 Extended Data 2).

78 Within 1 month of gene therapy, corrected circulating neutrophils were detectable in peripheral blood
79 (Fig. 2a, 2b; assays conducted in a subset of patients, once at each time point for each patient).
80 Dihydrorhodamine (DHR) fluorescent assays were applied serially to follow the levels of corrected
81 neutrophils. DHR+ activity was observed in >15% of polymorphonuclear neutrophils in all patients within
82 1 month Fig. 2c and Extended Data 3a. Follow-up demonstrated sustained, stable persistence of
83 oxidase-positive neutrophils in six of seven surviving patients; the percentage of oxidase-positive
84 neutrophils at 12 months was 16–46% in these individuals, indicating that the primary objective of
85 evaluating the efficacy in the progeny of engrafted cells and stability at 12 months had been met.

86 Expression of transgene-derived gp91phox was confirmed by flow cytometry as occurring in a
87 percentage of circulating neutrophils that paralleled the DHR data (data not shown). Quantification of
88 NADPH-oxidase generation of superoxide was performed by measurement of neutrophil-stimulated
89 reduction of ferricytochrome c and corrected for the percentage of functional cells. These results
90 demonstrated that the level of activity was within, or just below, the expected normal range of
91 superoxide production per activated neutrophil (Fig. 2d; assays conducted in a subset of patients, once
92 at each time point for each patient), further strengthening the conclusion that the primary objective
93 relating to efficacy was met.

94 **Vector integration.** Following reinfusion, VCN remained stable in neutrophils in six patients over the
95 course of follow-up, suggestive of successful transduction and engraftment of HSPCs (Fig. 2e, Extended
96 Data 3b). In general, the percentage of DHR-positive neutrophils increased linearly with granulocyte VCN
97 (Fig. 2f). VCN also remained stable in other cell lineages (Extended Data 4). One patient (Patient 5, who
98 required three attempts to collect CD34+ cells) had a high initial VCN and a high percentage of DHR-
99 positive neutrophils, but a decrease in VCN and a parallel decrease in the percentage of oxidase-positive
100 neutrophils (<0.5%) over 18 months of follow-up. The patient remained clinically well at last follow-up
101 on prophylactic antimicrobials.

102 Longitudinal analysis of vector integration-site distributions was carried out for the nine patients
103 over 3 months–3 years of sampling. More than 106 million sequence reads identified 724,685 unique
104 integration sites in multiple cell types (Fig. 3a). Lentiviral vector integration was favored in transcription
105 units and transcription-associated features, as seen previously¹⁰. The analysis documented highly
106 polyclonal populations of gene-modified cells; after 1 year, an average of 9,482 unique integration sites
107 were detected in peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs; assayed in Patients 2, 4, 6 and 7).
108 Mathematical reconstructions of population sizes using Chao1 estimation¹¹ with PMBC samples from
109 these same four patients 12 months after treatment suggest an average of at least 69,034 progenitor
110 cells were delivering gene-corrected cells to peripheral blood at 1 year (Extended Data 5). In a previous
111 gene therapy trial to treat CGD, which used a γ -RV vector, clones with integration sites in MECOM
112 (MDS/EVI1) expanded by 1 year in peripheral blood to comprise more than 20% of cells in the first
113 patient and more than 80% of cells in the second⁷, and were implicated in later adverse events. In this
114 study, with the lentiviral G1XCGD vector and assayed in neutrophils, the most abundant clones did not
115 harbor integration sites in or near these genes (Fig 3b), and no clone at genes of concern in the previous
116 trial expanded to comprise more than 0.3% of the total population in any cell type (Extended Data 6). In

117 addition, there was no evidence of significant gene silencing, nor of CpG dinucleotide methylation in
118 vector regulatory sequences (Fig. 3c)

119 **Clinical outcomes.** The infusion of the medicinal drug product containing genetically modified cells was
120 well tolerated and there were no infusion-related adverse events. All patients experienced typical
121 conditioning-related events, including transient neutropenia, thrombocytopenia and/or mucositis. There
122 were two deaths: one (Patient 1) due to hyperacute sterile pneumonitis 9 weeks after infusion of gene-
123 corrected cells on a background of prior extensive *Aspergillus* lung disease and pneumonectomy; and
124 the other (Patient 8) due to a fatal intracranial bleed post-transplant associated with refractory
125 autoimmune platelet destruction precipitated by previous alloimmunization to multiple granulocyte
126 transfusions. Pre-mortem magnetic resonance imaging showed the bleed to be centered at a site of
127 metastatic fungal infection. These deaths were not considered related to the drug product. There was
128 one serious adverse reaction, consistent with similar cases in other diseases treated with gene therapy
129 and transplant^{12,13}: Patient 5 experienced immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome at initial
130 engraftment of functional neutrophils, manifesting as a pericardial effusion and abdominal pain, which
131 was fully resolved with steroid cover. In the remaining patients, there were two adverse events
132 recorded after transplant: one patient (Patient 2) developed transient symptoms of gastric outflow
133 obstruction 3–4 months after gene therapy that had been a recurrent pre-transplant problem; there
134 was no evidence of outflow obstruction on endoscopy and symptoms did not recur. Another patient
135 (Patient 6) had several spontaneous pneumothoraces, related to pre-transplant bronchiectasis,
136 established pulmonary fibrosis and was markedly lymphopenic at enrollment, having received several
137 courses of corticosteroid for inflammatory pulmonary disease. Of the patients who had colitis at some
138 time prior to gene therapy, none have had clinical recurrences to date. In one patient (Patient 3) who
139 had active colitis with a perianal fistula and perineal ulceration at the time of gene therapy, there was
140 resolution of the lesion soon after gene therapy with no recurrence.

141 After 2,036 patient days (approximately 66 patient months), all seven surviving patients remained
142 clinically well without new CGD-related infections. The six patients with stable DHR+ neutrophils >10%
143 were no longer receiving CGD-related prophylactic antibiotic or antifungal treatment (some patients
144 continued to receive penicillin V or equivalent prophylaxis per individual institution-specific protocols for
145 patients who received myeloablative conditioning). Patient 6 remained on antibiotic prophylaxis due to
146 pre-existing lung disease and lymphopenia but is currently off antifungal therapy (Table 1). The
147 secondary objectives to assess immunologic reconstitution and patient health (US protocol) and
148 immunity against bacterial and fungal infection (UK protocol) were therefore met.

149 **Discussion**

150 Following gene therapy, all patients with successful engraftment remain stable through to the last
151 follow-up (up to 3 years in three patients). Seven patients remained free of new infectious
152 complications, and six had sustained presence of neutrophils and restored NADPH-oxidase activity with
153 no evidence of transcriptional silencing of the integrated vector genome or clonal expansion. Two
154 patients died within 3 months of gene therapy likely due to pre-existing disease-related complications
155 present at transplant and unrelated to the drug product itself. . The other seven patients have remained
156 well, apart from persistent chronic fibrotic pulmonary problems in one individual (Patient 6).

157 One patient (Patient 5), a pediatric patient, initially achieved high levels of neutrophil recovery
158 although the levels of activity declined over several months, suggesting that only a low frequency of
159 long-term transduced HSCs had engrafted, possibly as a result of chronic inflammation¹⁴. This patient
160 had also received long-term linezolid, an antimicrobial agent with known myelosuppressive activity¹⁴,
161 which may also have contributed to difficulty recovering sufficient CD34+ cells for transduction,
162 requiring three separate attempts. Since this analysis was performed, four additional patients (aged 3, 8,
163 11, and 31 years) have been treated in the USA with cryopreserved cells, with no product-related
164 complications. At the last follow-up (2–9 months post-treatment), all were well, with no new CGD-

165 related infections. While the additional adult patient has sustained high levels of DHR+ neutrophils
166 (77.2% at 6 months), the response of the newly treated pediatric patients has been similar to that of
167 Patient 5 with initial high levels of neutrophil recovery followed by a decline. It is unclear at present why
168 the engraftment of gene-marked cells was poor in these pediatric patients and whether the mechanisms
169 were similar (due to pre-existing disease and concomitant drug therapies) or unrelated (immunological
170 or technical).

171 Early attempts at gene therapy for CGD with γ -RV vectors achieved some transient therapeutic
172 benefits, but in several cases were associated with clonal leukoproliferation^{5,6,15}. Here, integration-site
173 analysis in blood cells revealed highly polyclonal engraftment of gene-corrected stem cells, with no
174 clonal expansion associated with enriched integration near cancer-associated genes^{5,7} (Fig. 3a, 3b and
175 Extended Data 4). In a previous γ -RV trial, methylation of CpG dinucleotides within the vector promoter
176 sequence resulted in silencing of gene expression. The chimeric myeloid promoter in G1XCGD responds
177 to transcription factors present mostly in mature myeloid cells and drives sufficient expression of
178 gp91phox to reconstitute oxidase production in blood granulocytes and monocytes⁸. No silencing or
179 methylation was detected. In each patient, all blood cell lineages had similar levels of gene marking,
180 with the exception of T cells that had lower frequencies and lower diversity of vector integrants
181 (Extended Data 3). This latter finding may reflect a lack of lymphodepletion in the conditioning regimen.

182 The level of reconstitution of phagocyte oxidase function required to mediate a meaningful
183 clinical effect can be estimated from studies of female carriers of X-CGD, patients with X-CGD with small
184 amounts of residual NADPH-oxidase activity (who have been shown to exhibit a significant survival
185 advantage compared with patients with complete absence of oxidase activity), and from preclinical
186 vector assessments^{6,16-18}. On that basis, we predict that long-term functional correction of more than
187 10% of circulating myeloid cells with oxidase activity per cell approaching the normal range will provide
188 lasting clinical benefit. The level of benefit may approach normal resistance to infection at or above 20%

189 of circulating myeloid cells corrected, although individual factors may be influential. In this study, a
190 target threshold of 10% was demonstrated in the six surviving adult patients, and above 20% in five of
191 these six surviving adult patients. Quantitative assessment of superoxide production in engrafted
192 neutrophils confirmed sustained activity. Clinical efficacy could in the future be improved with higher
193 titer vector preparations or the use of transduction enhancers, and by avoiding the loss of primitive
194 HSPC in the autologous graft, which may already be compromised by chronic inflammation^{19,20}.

195 The advantages of autologous HSC gene therapy over HSCT includes the avoidance of graft-
196 versus-host disease and other alloreactive complications, and reduced complexity of conditioning
197 regimen. These results demonstrate promising effective autologous gene therapy in severely affected
198 patients with X-CGD without evidence of genotoxicity. Further studies are warranted to formally assess
199 longer term clinical efficacy and safety of G1XCGD in patients with X-CGD.

200

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227 **Author contributions**

228 The manuscript was written primarily by D.B.K. (Kohn), A.J.T., D.A.W. and H.L.M. The VISA analyses were
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238 **Competing interests**

239 D.B.K. (Kohn), H.L.M., D.A.W. & A.J.T. are Scientific Advisory Board members and H.B.G. is Chief
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256 **Data availability**

257 All relevant data are included in the paper. Additional supporting data are available from the
258 corresponding authors upon request. All requests for raw and analyzed data and materials will be
259 reviewed by the corresponding authors to verify if the request is subject to any intellectual property or
260 confidentiality obligations. Patient-related data not included in the paper were generated as part of
261 clinical trials and may be subject to patient confidentiality.

262 **Statement on the use of human embryos, gametes and stem cells**

263 All experiments were performed in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations. Informed
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322

323 **Table 1. Patient demographics, pre-transplant conditioning, and outcome results**

Pt. #	Center	Age (y)	Race (ethnicity)	X-CGD (CYBB) mutation	Prior medical history	Date of gene therapy (MM/YY)	Status at gene therapy	Busulfan conditioning AUC (ng/mL*h)	DHR+ granulocytes, %		Status at last follow-up
									At 12 months	At last follow-up	
1	GOSH	4	Caucasian	c.1027A>C (p.Ther343Pr)	Pneumonectomy, EBV, <i>Aspergillus</i> , organomegaly, lymphadenopathy	7/13	Ongoing fever, organomegaly and lymphadenopathy	75873	–	12 (3 mo)	Death (at 3 mo) due to hyper-acute idiopathic pneumonitis
2	BCH	22	Caucasian	c.664 C>T (p.His222Tyr)	Klebsiella lymphadenitis, MRSA liver abscess, lung abscess, Nocardia abscess, Serratia abscess, GI and urethral granulomas	12/15	No active infections at gene therapy	65117	16	13 (24 mo)	Clinically well, off antibiotic prophylaxis
3	GOSH	18	Mixed	c.1234_1257dup (p.Gly412_Ile419dup)	Osteomyelitis, cerebral hemorrhage colitis, perianal fistula, perineal ulceration	7/16	Suspected fungal chest infection	75668	29	31 (24 mo)	Clinically well, off CGD-related antibiotic prophylaxis (remains on azithromycin)
4	NIH	18	Caucasian (Hispanic)	c.1169 C>T (p.Pro390Leu)	Burkholderia cepacia Nocardia and	7/16	Stable	66,191	28	25 (24 mo)	Clinically well, off antibiotic prophylaxis

Pt. #	Center	Age (y)	Race (ethnicity)	X-CGD (CYBB) mutation	Prior medical history	Date of gene therapy (MM/YY)	Status at gene therapy	Busulfan conditioning AUC (ng/mL*h)	DHR+ granulocytes, %		Status at last follow-up
									At 12 months	At last follow-up	
<i>Aspergillus</i> pneumonias											
5	GOSH	2	Asian (Korean)	c.469C>T (p.Arg157X)	Liver and splenic abscesses	4/17	Refractory spleen, liver abscesses, treatment with linezolid	73337	0.5	1 (24 mo)	Clinically well; receiving antimicrobial support (oral clindamycin and clarithromycin); weaned off steroids; gut improvement
6	UCLA	27	Asian	c.1314+2 T>A (Homozygous T>A at splice site exon 10 ([downstream 2 bases]))	<i>Aspergillus</i> , <i>Nocardia</i> and <i>Serratia</i> pneumonia, IBD, Crohn's disease	4/17	Bronchiectasis and pulmonary fibrosis, lymphopenia	67666	36	63 (24 mo)	Infection-free, off CGD-related antibiotic prophylaxis (remains on TMP/SMX); has pneumothoraces requiring treatment (pre-existing condition); Crohn's and IBD improved (no active inflammation)

Pt. #	Center	Age (y)	Race (ethnicity)	X-CGD (CYBB) mutation	Prior medical history	Date of gene therapy (MM/YY)	Status at gene therapy	Busulfan conditioning AUC (ng/mL*h)	DHR+ granulocytes, %		Status at last follow-up
									At 12 months	At last follow-up	
7	NIH	24	Black/African American	c.676 C>T (p.Arg226x)	Multiple bacterial and fungal lung infections, lobectomy (lung), granulomatous liver, GI, recurrent lymphadenitis	6/17	Chronic persistent culture-positive <i>Phellinus</i> fungal pneumonia	77378	46	49 (24 mo)	Clinically well, off antibiotic prophylaxis
8	NIH	3	Caucasian (Hispanic)	c.374 G>A (p.Trp125Ter)	BCGosis. >1yr hx of disseminated <i>Aspergillus</i> (bone, lungs, CNS)	8/17	Resistant <i>Aspergillus</i> at gene therapy. Status post: multiple granulocyte transfusions	62349	—	44 (1 mo)	Death (at 1 mo) from cerebral bleed into pre-existing fungal infection site (pre-existing antiplatelet antibodies impeding post-conditioning platelet transfusions)
9	GOSH	22	Caucasian	c.271 C>T (p.Arg91X)	Cerebral Aspergilloma, colitis, warts, granulomatous folliculitis; interstitia	9/17	Steroid-dependent colitis. Multifocal inflammatory changes on HRCT	75000	35	40 (24 mo)	Clinically well, off CGD-related antibiotic prophylaxis (remains on TMP/SMX); colitis resolved; being weaned

Pt. #	Center	Age (y)	Race (ethnicity)	X-CGD (CYBB) mutation	Prior medical history	Date of gene therapy (MM/YY)	Status at gene therapy	Busulfan conditioning AUC (ng/mL*h)	DHR+ granulocytes, %		Status at last follow-up
									At 12 months	At last follow-up	
					nephritis		chest				off oral steroid; HRCT chest findings resolved; intermittent skin rashes persist

324 AUC, area under the curve; BCH, Boston Children's Hospital, USA; CGD, chronic granulomatous disease; CNS, central nervous system; DHR+, dihydrorhodamine-
325 positive granulocytes; EBV, Epstein-Barr virus; GI, gastrointestinal; GOSH, Great Ormond Street Hospital, UK; HRCT, high-resolution computed tomography; hx,
326 history; IBD, inflammatory bowel disease; MRSA, Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; NIH, National Institutes of Health, USA; TMP/SMX, trimethoprim-
327 sulfamethoxazole UCLA, University of California, Los Angeles, USA; X-CGD, X-linked chronic granulomatous disease;

328

329 **Figure legends**

330 **Fig. 1. Materials and methods (vector map and procedures)**

331 **Panel a** displays the schematic representation of the G1XCGD lentiviral vector (LV) used to transduce
332 CD34⁺ peripheral blood and bone marrow stem and progenitor cells in which expression of a codon-
333 optimized human *CYBB* cDNA encoding for gp91phox is controlled by a chimeric regulatory element
334 containing the Cathepsin G and *Cfes* gene promoter/enhancers, with a downstream WPRE to boost
335 expression. **Panels b** and **c** show the schemas for the fresh cell and frozen/cryopreserved cell
336 procedures, respectively. Differences between the two procedures include the timing of the primary
337 harvest and back-up 'rescue' harvest of CD34⁺ cells, the timing of G1XCGD vector addition, and that the
338 cryopreservation procedure allowed full cell product characterization and release criteria to be met
339 before cytoreductive conditioning was performed.

340 AUC, area under the curve; BM, bone marrow; CatG/*Cfes*, *CTSG* encoding Cathepsin G and the *FES* gene
341 encoding *Cfes*; COA, certificate of analysis; G-CSF, granulocyte colony-stimulating factor; LV, lentiviral
342 vector; mPB, mobilized peripheral blood; WPRE, Woodchuck hepatitis virus post-transcriptional
343 regulatory element

344 **Fig. 2. Biochemical and clinical evidence of successful engraftment**

345 **Panel a** shows the nitro-blue tetrazolium (NBT) test to detect functional circulating neutrophils from a
346 peripheral blood sample from Patient 2 pre-gene therapy (left) and at 3 months after receiving gene
347 therapy with G1XCGD (right). Generation of superoxide leads to reduction of NBT and formation of dark
348 blue formazan precipitates in the observed cells. The scale bar measures approximately 10 micrometres;
349 mature human neutrophils on a blood smear have an average diameter of 12–15 micrometres. **Panel b**
350 shows the results of DHR fluorescence flow cytometry assaying functional oxidase activity in neutrophils
351 over a 2-year period in Patient 3 post-gene therapy, and in a healthy control. After neutrophil
352 stimulation with PMA (right), the fraction of DHR⁺ neutrophils were quantified. The percentage of DHR⁺

353 neutrophils in all treated patients at each time point is shown in **Panel c**. NAPDH-oxidase activity was
354 quantified by measurement of neutrophil-stimulated reduction of ferricytochrome c, corrected for the
355 percentage of oxidase-positive cells. Data for Patients 2, 4 and 7 are shown in **Panel d** following 10
356 minutes and 60 minutes of stimulation with PMA. The lower limit of normal superoxide generation for
357 each timepoint is indicated by the dashed line. **Panel e** shows the neutrophil VCN for all patients
358 measured at each time point for which data were available. VCN remained stable for six of seven
359 surviving patients but decreased over time for one patient (Patient 5), who remains clinically well at
360 follow-up with antimicrobial support. **Panel f** shows the percentage of DHR+ neutrophils versus
361 granulocyte VCN for the seven surviving patients at 12 months. $R^2=0.44$; the dashed line represents 10%
362 DHR.

363 NBT, nitroblue tetrazolium; DHR, dihydrorhodamine; GT, gene therapy; NL, normal; PMA, phorbol
364 myristate acetate; VCN, vector copy number

365 **Fig. 3. Analysis of vector integration-site distributions and promotor methylation**

366 **Panel a** shows longitudinal analysis of unique cell clones contributing to each cell type, inferred from
367 counts of unique integration sites. The x-axis shows time since cell infusion. D0 indicates the pre-
368 infusion product. The y-axis shows the numbers of unique integration sites (log scale). Cell types are
369 color coded (bottom). For a few patients a reduced number of cell types were available for analysis.

370 **Panel b** is a heat map illustrating the most abundant clones in each patient and their longitudinal
371 behavior. Neutrophils were selected for this analysis because previous adverse events in CGD gene
372 therapy with γ -RV vectors involved outgrowth of myeloid cells. The x-axis shows the time post-
373 treatment. The rows show cell clones, named by the nearest human gene (labels on left of figure). The
374 relative abundance is shown by the heat map scale (bottom of figure). Quantification was carried out
375 using fragment lengths to estimate abundance¹¹. In **Panel c**, methylation of CpG dinucleotides is shown

376 in Patients 2, 3 and 9 at 2.5 years, 18 months and 9 months post-gene therapy, respectively. The x-axis
377 shows the positions of CpG dinucleotides relative to the gp91 mini-gene. The y-axis shows the
378 percentage of methylation at each position. The methylation levels across the CpG islands are low for all
379 samples, indicating that the gp91 mini-gene is not transcriptionally repressed.

380 CGD, chronic granulomatous disease; MSP, myeloid-specific promoter; NK, natural killer; PBMC,
381 peripheral blood mononuclear cell; PCR, polymerase chain reaction; VISA, longitudinal vector
382 integration-site analysis.

383 **Methods**

384 **Study design and investigational therapy.** Inclusion and exclusion criteria for the UK and US studies are
385 detailed in Supplementary Table S1. In brief, male patients with X-linked chronic granulomatous disease
386 (X-CGD), aged 2 years and older (>6 months for UK protocol), with molecular diagnosis of X-CGD
387 confirmed by DNA sequencing and supported by laboratory evidence for absent or significantly reduced
388 biochemical activity of the nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH)-oxidase, and absence
389 of 10/10 human leukocyte antigen (HLA)-matched donor (sibling or unrelated) were eligible.

390 The primary objective of the UK and US studies included evaluation of safety and the evaluation of
391 efficacy and stability by biochemical and function reconstitution in progeny of engrafted cells at 12
392 months. The secondary objectives differed slightly between the two trials, and included clinical efficacy
393 and evaluation of augmented immunity against bacterial and fungal infection (UK protocol), evaluation
394 of immunologic reconstitution and patient health (US protocol) and assessment of hematopoietic stem
395 cell transduction and engraftment (both protocols). Primary and secondary objectives are detailed more
396 fully in Supplementary Table S1.

397 The protocol and informed consent documents were reviewed and approved or accepted by the US
398 National Institutes of Health Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, the UK Gene Therapy Advisory
399 Committee, and the local institutional ethical and biosafety review boards at all participating clinical
400 sites. The studies were performed in the USA under Food and Drug Administration-approved
401 investigational new drug (IND) BB#16141; Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
402 (MHRA) approved EudraCT Number 2012-000242-35 in the UK, and are registered at Clinicaltrials.gov
403 ([USA] NCT02234934, [UK] NCT01855685). Genethon sponsored the UK trial and acquired exclusive
404 rights for the commercial exploitation of the data generated under the US trial; during the trial, Orchard
405 Therapeutics obtained an exclusive license from Genethon to certain rights and intellectual property
406 related to the lentiviral vector G1XCGD, including clinical data, and named this program OTL-102.

407 The procedural schemas for the clinical trials are shown for the use of either fresh cells or
408 cryopreserved cells (Fig. 1b, 1c). Cryopreserved cells were used increasingly over fresh cells as the
409 studies progressed. The UK sites started using cryopreserved cells in 2016 and the US followed in 2018
410 in patients treated after those included in this manuscript. This was primarily for safety reasons as
411 cryopreserved cells gave an extended shelf-life, which allowed full cell product characterization to be
412 performed prior to initiation of conditioning. Following informed consent and eligibility confirmation,
413 CD34+ cells recovered by bone marrow or apheresis were transduced ex vivo by the G1XCGD lentiviral
414 vector. Patients received busulfan myeloablative conditioning with pharmacokinetic monitoring. Drug
415 products were infused intravenously through a central venous line over 30–45 minutes. Patient vital
416 signs and clinical condition were monitored closely during and after the infusion for adverse reactions.

417 **G1XCGD lentiviral vector production.** Clinical lots of G1XCGD lentiviral vector²¹ were produced at
418 Genethon and Yposkesi (Evry, France). 293T cells were transfected with plasmids encoding the G1XCGD
419 vector, HIV-1 gag/pol, HIV-1 rev, and the VSV-G glycoprotein. Culture supernatants were collected and
420 processed using clarification, ion exchange chromatography, tangential flow filtration, gel filtration,

421 formulation in X-Vivo 20 medium (Lonza), and aliquots were cryopreserved²². The titer of the vector
422 preparations ranged between 2.1 and 3.3 E+09 IG (average 2.5 ± 0.5 E+09 IG/mL n = 5) genomes/mL,
423 measured at Genethon using HCT116 colon carcinoma cells. Physical titers ranged between 1.3 and 3.8
424 E+04 ng P24/mL (average 2.4 ± 1.1 E+04 ng P24/mL n = 5) measured by enzyme-linked immunosorbent
425 assay (ELISA). All lots of vector tested negative for replication competent lentivirus and met GMP release
426 specifications.

427 *G1XCGD lentiviral-vector-modified CD34+ cell product manufacturing.* Cells were manufactured onsite at
428 study sites in the US and UK (University of California, Los Angeles, USA; Boston Children's Hospital, USA;
429 National Institutes of Health, USA; Great Ormond Street Hospital, UK). Harvested cells to use as back-up
430 were collected from bone marrow isolation or mobilized peripheral blood. Mobilization of peripheral
431 blood stem cells was accomplished by administration of granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF)
432 10 µg/kg subcutaneously (SC) daily × 5 days, with leukapheresis performed on the fifth day. The back-up
433 leukapheresis units were cryopreserved as per each site's standard operating procedure for standard
434 hematopoietic progenitor cell products and stored in the vapor phase of liquid nitrogen (LN2) freezers.
435 At least 1 month later, a second mobilization was performed to collect stem cells to manufacture the
436 drug product. For some patients, cells for the back-up graft were obtained from the same mobilization
437 used for manufacture of the drug product. On the fourth or fifth day of G-CSF, a dose of plerixafor
438 0.24 mg/kg was administered intravenously 8–12 hours prior to leukapheresis, with a fifth dose of G-CSF
439 given 2 hours prior to the apheresis. This collection was processed to isolate CD34+ cells using the
440 CliniMACS system (Miltenyi Biotec, Germany). For some patients, a second leukapheresis was performed
441 after a second dose of plerixafor on day 5 or 6, and a sixth dose of G-CSF was given on the sixth day of
442 mobilization protocol.

443 Selected CD34+ cells were placed into cell culture in serum-free medium with recombinant
444 human cytokines (stem cell factor, flt-3 ligand, thrombopoietin and interleukin-3). On the next 2

445 successive days, the G1XCGD vector was added to the cells in culture to a final concentration of 1E+08
446 IG/mL. The following day, the cells were removed from culture, washed twice, and formulated for
447 intravenous administration. Samples were retained at multiple steps during the processing and from the
448 final drug product (FDP). FDP was tested for sterility, gram-stain reactivity, endotoxin, mycoplasma,
449 viability, CD34, and gp91phox surface expression by flow cytometry, colony-forming unit (CFU) numbers,
450 and percentage vector-insert+ CFU by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Aliquots of the drug product
451 were also grown in vitro for 7 days, followed by extraction of genomic DNA for vector copy number
452 (VCN) determination by quantitative PCR (qPCR) or using digital droplet PCR (ddPCR) to measure the
453 number of vector copies per human genome. In some patients, after regulatory approval of an amended
454 manufacturing protocol, the drug product was cryopreserved in Cryostor 5 (5% dimethyl sulfoxide
455 [DMSO], Sigma Aldrich) in Kryosure 20 bags (Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics), stored in vapor phase
456 of LN2, and thawed at bedside immediately prior to administration.

457 **Cell products and busulfan conditioning.** Drug products were manufactured from G-CSF and Plerixafor-
458 mobilized leukaphereses. A cryopreserved unmanipulated cell fraction was taken as back-up in the
459 event of non-engraftment, and a CD34-selected cell preparation taken for G1XCGD transduction. In one
460 case (Patient 8), freshly collected CD34+ cells were augmented with additional thawed autologous
461 selected CD34+ cells that had been collected and frozen previously, to enable the initial required cell
462 dose for transduction to be achieved. Collection of CD34+ cells was problematic in another patient
463 (Patient 5), requiring three separate attempts (one aborted due to a systemic inflammatory reaction
464 during administration of mobilizing agents). Drug product infused for the nine patients achieved final
465 CD34+ cell doses of 6.5–32.6×10⁶/kg (Table S2 Fig. S2). Transduction efficiency met release criteria for
466 all cell products, with VCN ranging from 0.7 to 5.5 copies per cell (Table S2; Fig. S2b) in infused cells,
467 indicating the secondary objective relating to evaluation of CD34+ hematopoietic cell transduction was
468 met. For some products, the transduction efficiency of colony-forming units grown from the drug

469 product were assessed for the presence of the vector by PCR; between 49.2 and 79.2% of the colonies
470 were PCR-positive (Fig. S2c), indicating the primary objective to assess the efficacy in the progeny of
471 engrafted cells was met. Busulfan was administered with pharmacokinetic drug monitoring and dosage
472 adjustment leading to consistent dosing (Fig. S2d). Fresh cells post-transduction were administered
473 within a few hours from the completion of processing, and cryopreserved cells were thawed at bedside
474 and infused directly.

475 *Pre-transplant cytoreductive conditioning.* For cytoreductive conditioning, patients received intravenous
476 busulfan twice daily for 3 days, starting at a dose of 2.0 mg/kg, and dose-adjusted based on
477 pharmacokinetics to reach a total net area under the curve (AUC) for busulfan of 70,000–75,000
478 ng/mL*h. Serum busulfan levels were measured at intervals (immediately after infusion [time = 0] and
479 at 0.5, 1, 2, 4 and 6 h) following the completion of the first infusion. Subsequent busulfan dosages were
480 adjusted based on pharmacokinetic measurements to reach the target AUC on average over all doses,
481 with busulfan levels re-measured after the final (6th) or penultimate (5th) busulfan dose to allow
482 calculation of total busulfan exposure (Table 1; Fig. S2d).

483 **Follow-up clinical and laboratory assessments.** Upon recovery of neutrophils, follow-up evaluations
484 were performed per the clinical protocol at 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months after gene therapy (and
485 continue to be monitored in long-term follow-up). Neutrophil NADPH-oxidase activity was measured by
486 standard methods¹⁶. CGD-related antibiotic therapy and antifungal therapies were discontinued when,
487 in the opinion of the clinical team, adequate production of corrected neutrophils was evident and when
488 pre-existing infections were deemed to have been cleared.

489 *Promoter methylation analysis.* Bisulfite conversion, PCR, sequencing, and bioinformatics analysis were
490 performed at Eurofins Genomics Sequencing Europe (Konstanz, Germany). Bisulfite conversion was
491 performed using the Zymo Research EZ 96 DNA Methylation Lightning Mag Prep kit (Zymo Research)

492 according to manufacturer instructions. PCR was performed using a nested primer set to generate a
493 654bp fragment of the promoter region for sequencing. The PCR fragments were prepared for
494 sequencing using the Eurofins Genomics Sequencing Europe standard protocols. Sequencing was
495 performed on an Illumina HiSeq 4000 (Illumina, Inc.) to generate approximately 5 million 150bp read
496 pairs for each sample. The sequencing reads were mapped to the promoter reference sequence using
497 Bismark and Bowtie^{23,24}. Methylation analysis was performed using the Bis-SNP adopted modules of
498 GATK²⁵⁻²⁷.

499 **Analysis of integration target sites.** For patients 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8, analysis of integration site distributions
500 was carried out as described previously^{28,29}. DNA was purified from transduction products prior to
501 infusion or from blood cells from patients sampled longitudinally. DNA was cleaved by sonication, then
502 DNA adaptors were ligated to the broken DNA ends. Two rounds of PCR were carried out to isolate host-
503 vector DNA junction fragments. Each sample was analyzed four times independently to suppress PCR
504 jackpotting. Samples were sequenced using the Illumina MiSeq. Analysis was carried out using the
505 INSPIRED pipeline²⁹. Clonal structure was assessed using the sonic abundance method³⁰, which uses
506 information on the numbers of linker positions recovered per integration sites to count the numbers of
507 cells sampled.

508 For patients 3, 5, and 9, integration sites were collected from Ficoll-purified granulocytes and
509 fluorescence-sorted lymphocytes and monocytes through linear-amplification mediated (LAM)-PCR and
510 high-throughput Illumina sequencing, as described previously^{31,32}. Briefly, genomic DNA from isolated
511 cell types was extracted (QIAamp DNA Blood Mini kit or Micro kit, QIAGEN), and whole-genome
512 amplification was performed (Repli-G Mini Kit, QIAGEN) only on FACS-sorted lymphocytes as described
513 previously³³. A total of 300 ng of genomic DNA underwent two rounds of linear amplification (100
514 cycles in total) to enrich for vector long terminal repeat (LTR)-genome junctions, which were then
515 captured using 5' biotinylated LTR specific primers and streptavidin magnetic beads. To follow,

516 complementary strand synthesis was performed, then parallel digestion with three different restriction
517 enzymes (MluCI, HpyCH4 IV and Aci I), and ligation to a linker cassette. The resulting fragments were
518 then amplified by two additional exponential PCR steps. These LAM-PCR products were separated by gel
519 electrophoresis on Spreadex high resolution gels (Elchrom Scientific) for visual inspection, and were
520 pooled using barcoded adaptors in a library suitable for Illumina sequencing.

521 Available samples that passed our quality control of a minimum of 100 cells (by break-point
522 analysis) were included in the analysis. The maximum relative clonal abundances in neutrophils was
523 2.3% and PBMC was 1.0% in the samples included.

524

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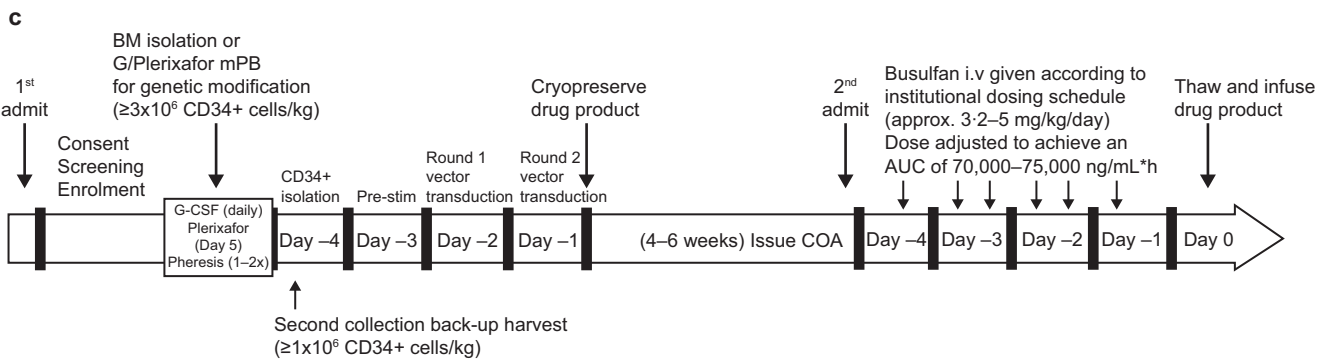
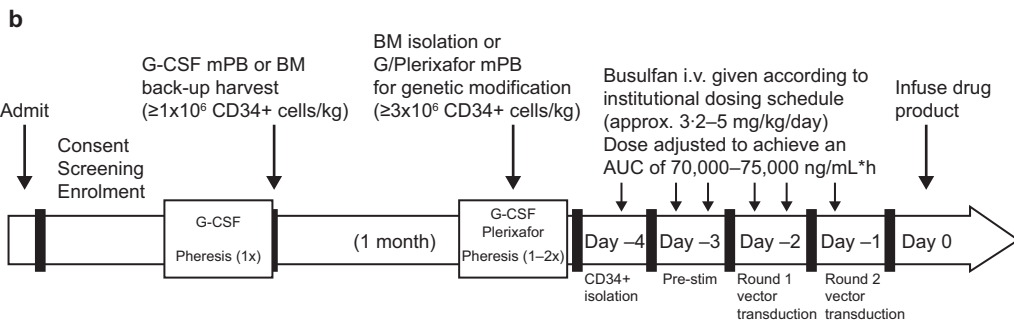
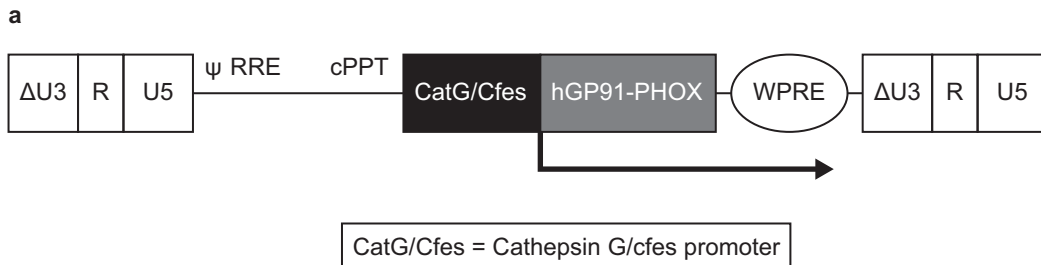
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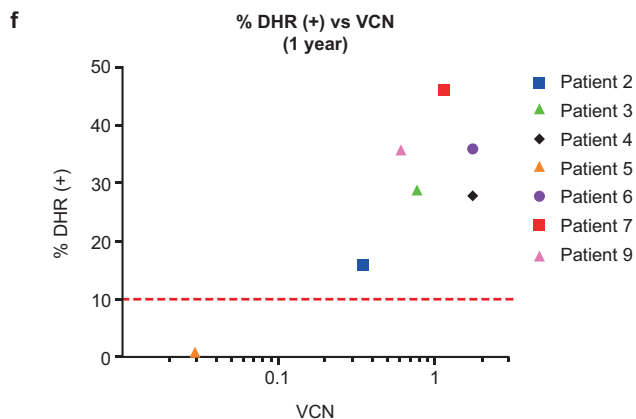
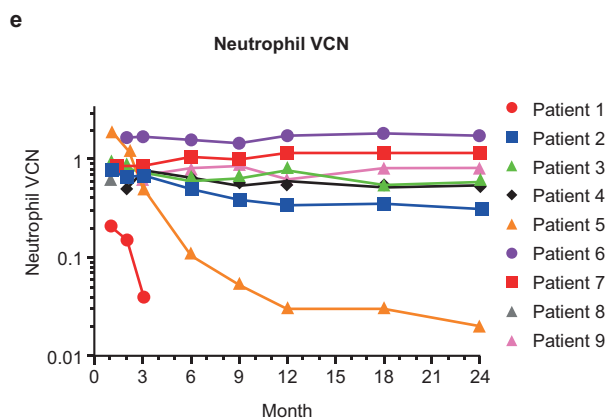
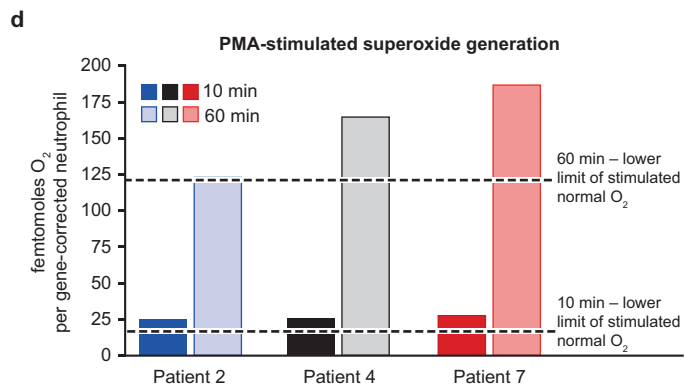
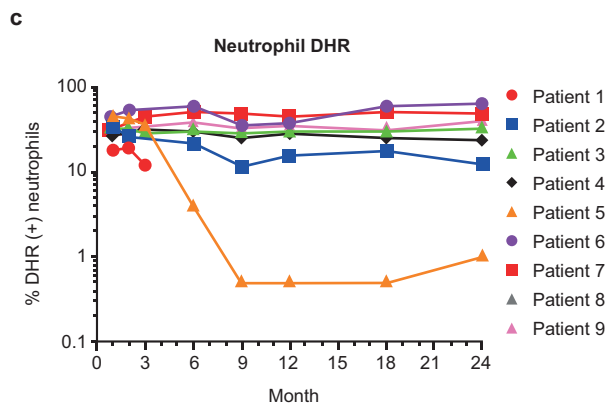
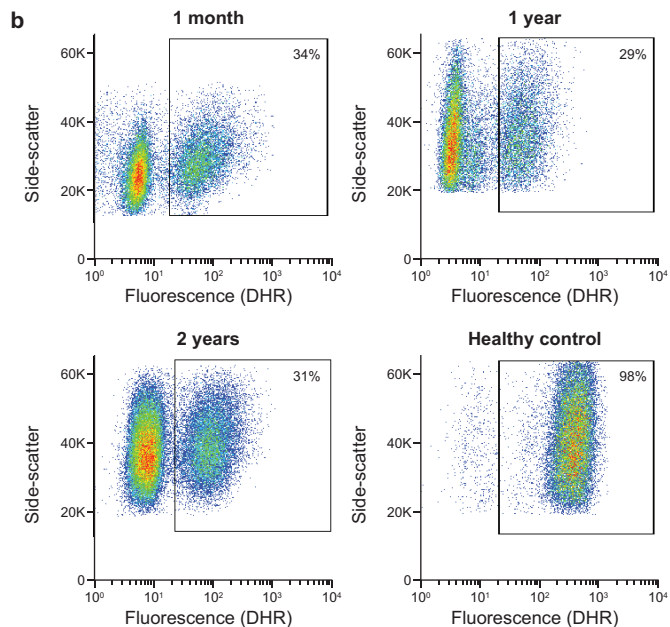
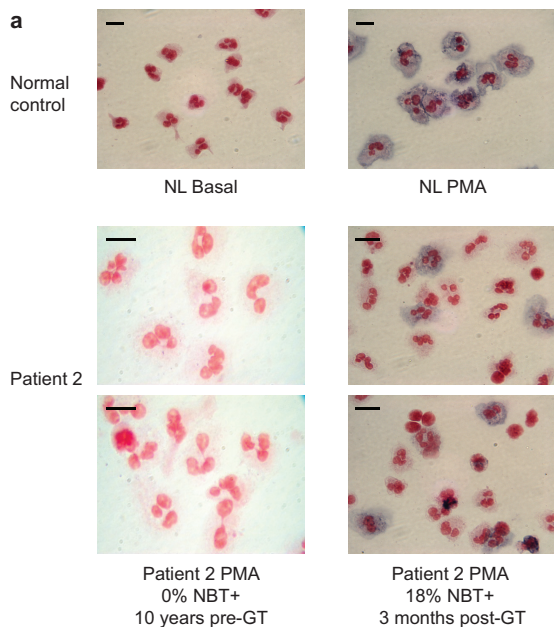
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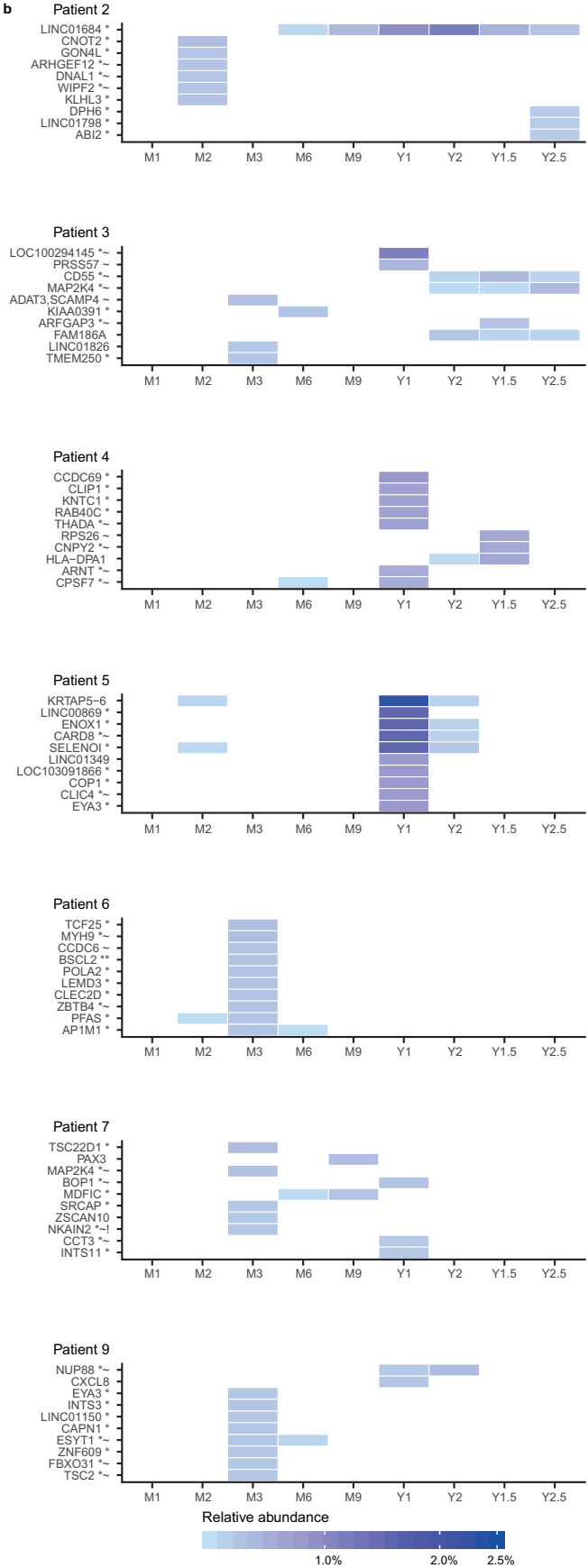
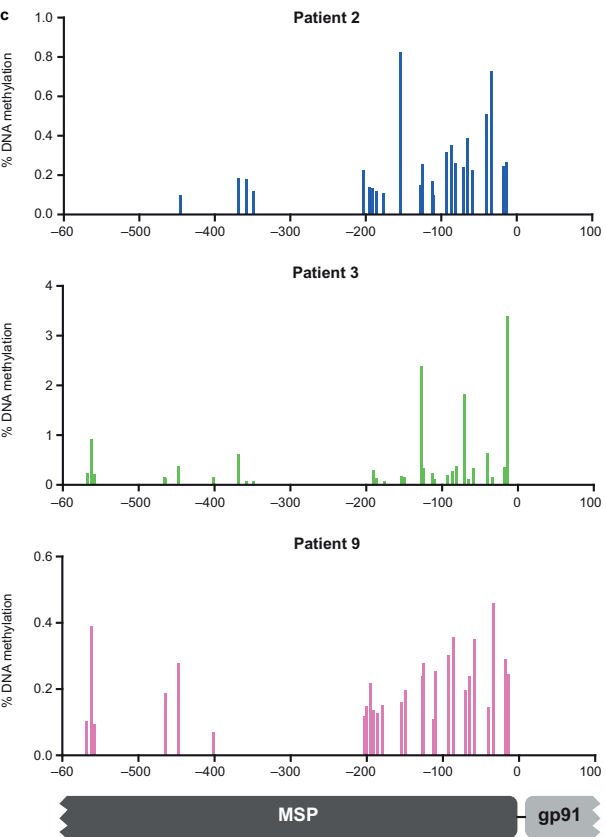
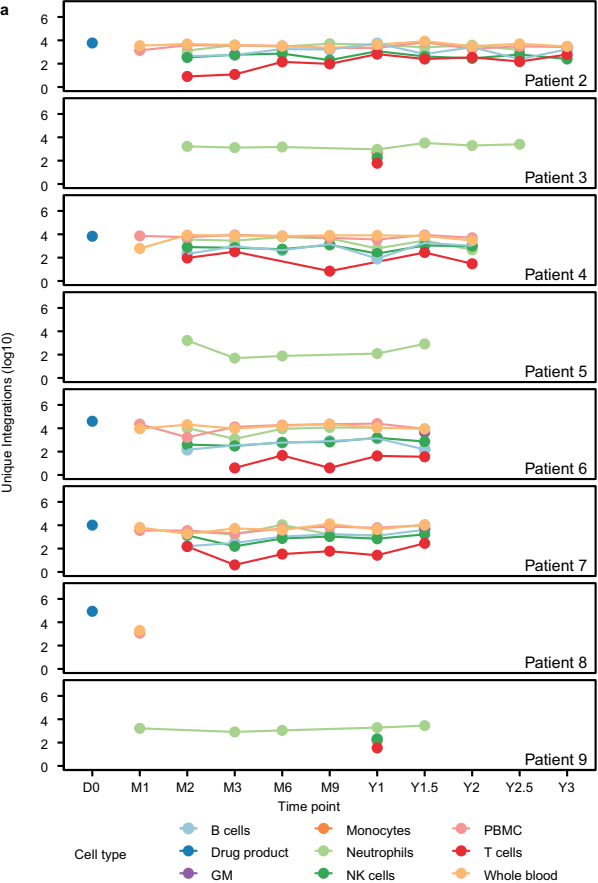
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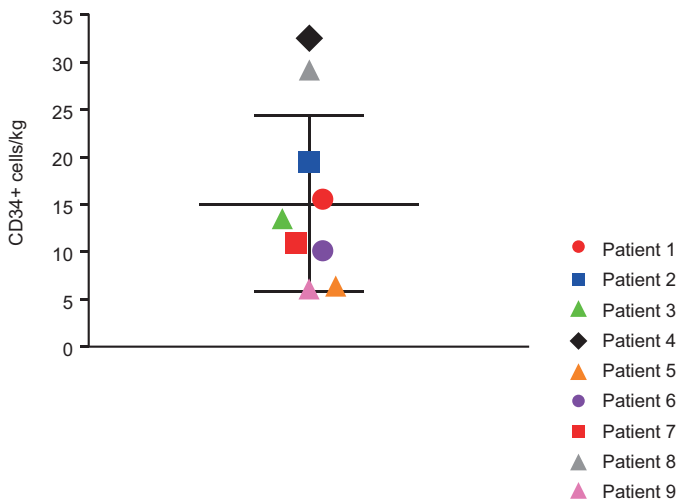
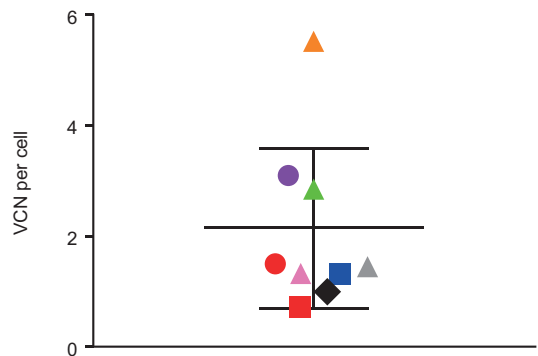
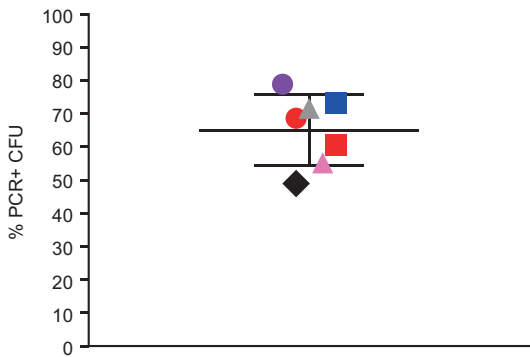
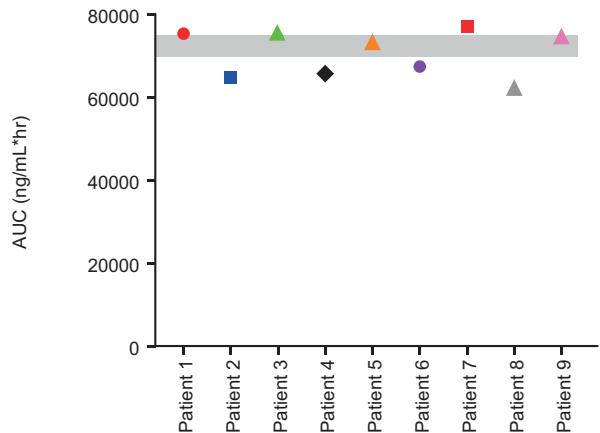
563

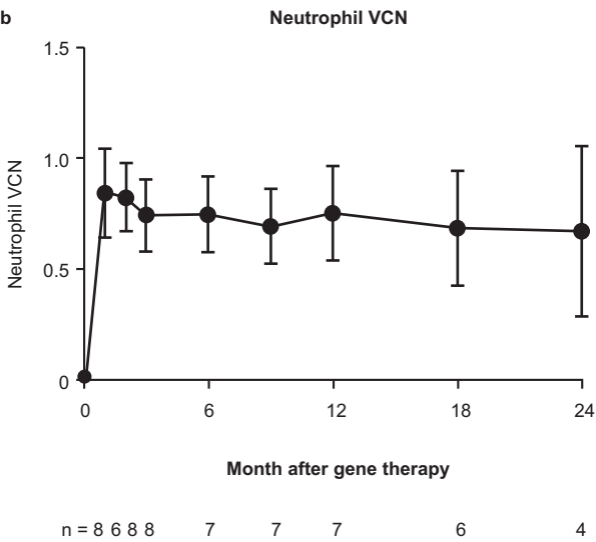
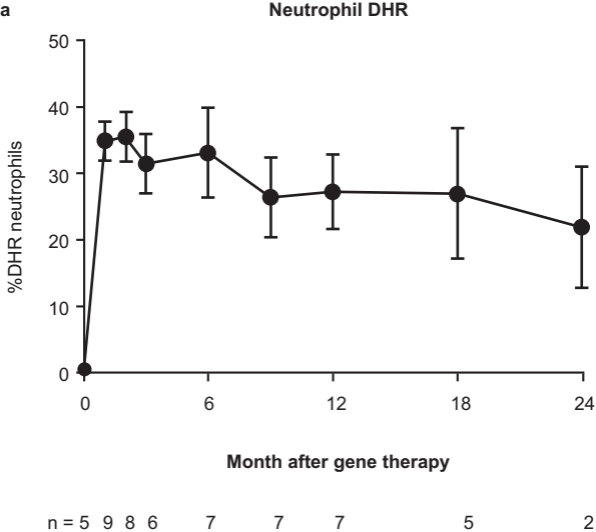
564





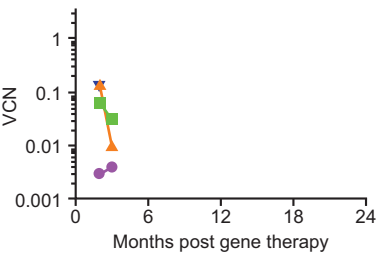


a**CD34+ cells****b****VCN****c****% PCR+ CFU****d****Busulfan AUC**

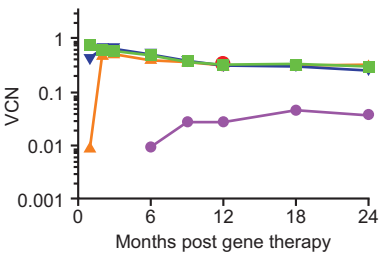


● CD3 (T)
 ■ CD15 (My)
 ▲ CD19 (B)
 ▼ CD56 (NK)
 ● BM CD34+

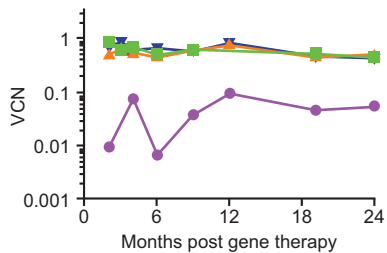
Patient 1



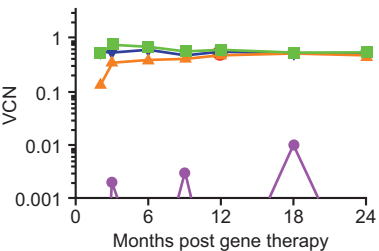
Patient 2



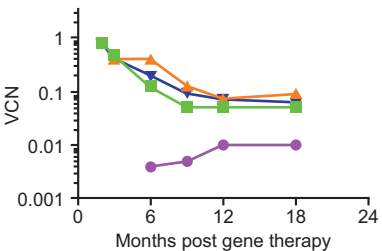
Patient 3



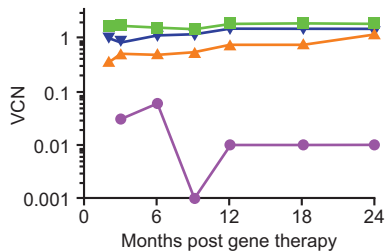
Patient 4



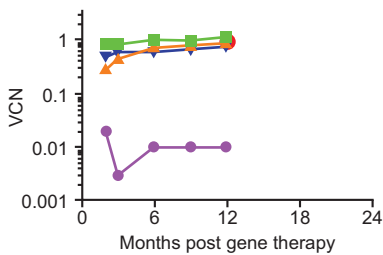
Patient 5



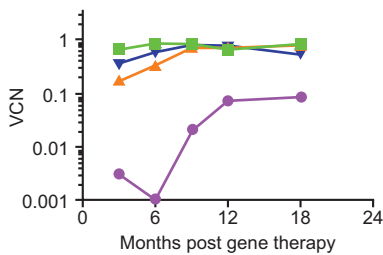
Patient 6



Patient 7



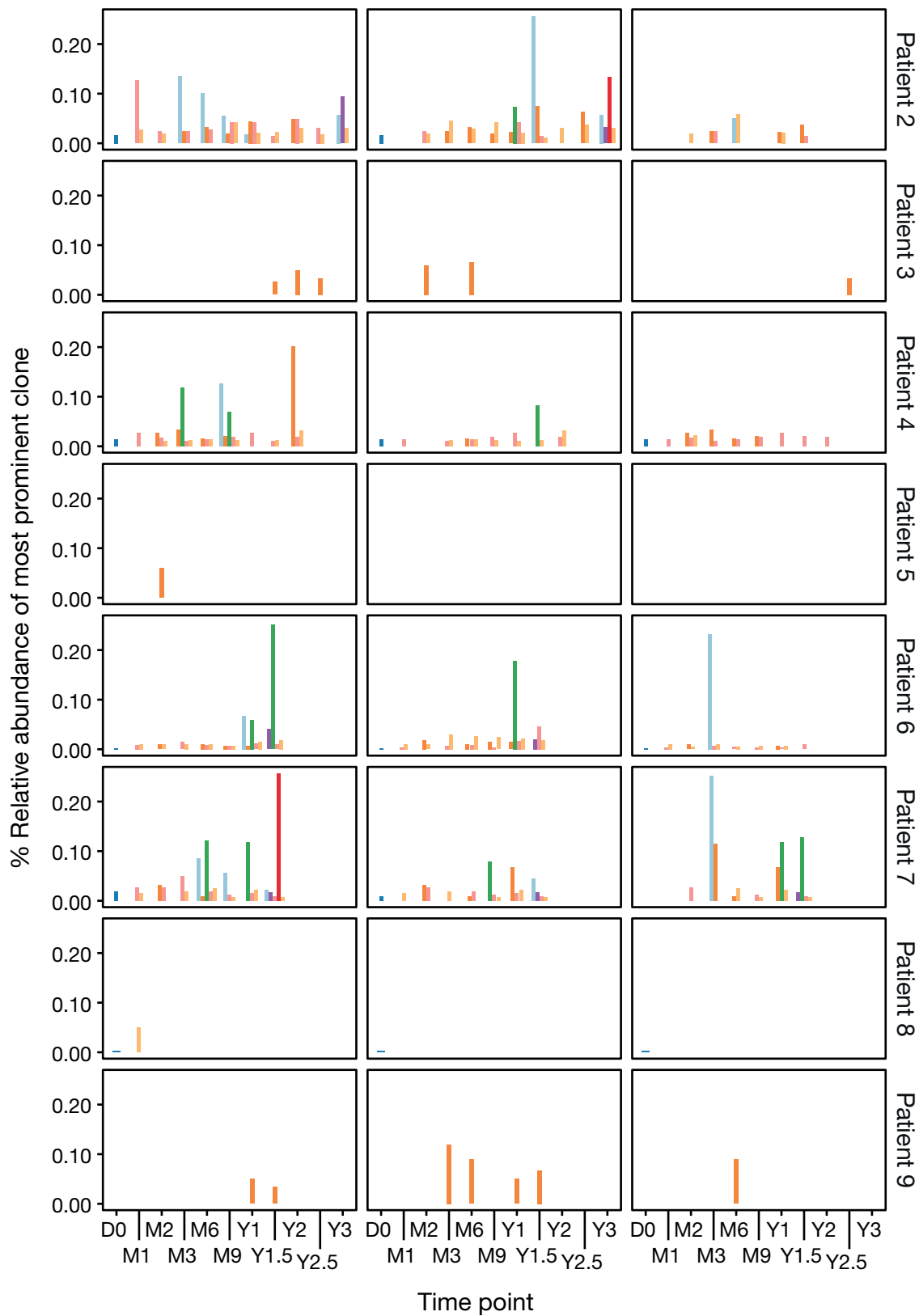
Patient 9



MECOM

PRDM16

SETBP1



Patient 2

Patient 3

Patient 4

Patient 5

Patient 6

Patient 7

Patient 8

Patient 9

Time point

B cells
Drug product

GM
Neutrophils

NK cells

T cells
Whole blood