# The Promise of FTD Research Trials: What Should I Know About Current Drug Studies?

Laura Mitic, PhD
Chief Scientific Officer



# Current interventional trials in genetic & sporadic FTD

#### **FTD-GRN (Progranulin)**

- Latozinemab (AL001), Phase 3, Alector/GSK
- PR006, Phase 1/2, Prevail Therapeutics/Eli Lilly
- PBFT02, Phase 1/2, Passage Bio
- TAK-459/DNL359, Phase 1/2, Denali
   Therapeutics/Takeda
- AVB-101, Phase 1/2, AviadoBio (not yet recruiting)

#### FTD-C9orf72

- WVE-004, Phase 1/2, Wave Life Sciences
- TPN-101, Phase 2, Transposon Therapeutics

#### **Sporadic FTD**

- NIO752, Phase 1, Novartis
- Verdiperstat, Phase 1, Investigator-sponsored
- Oxytocin, Phase 2, Lawson Health Research Institute
- Low-dose lithium, Phase 2,
   Columbia University

## ClinicalTrials.gov is a searchable database of clinical studies conducted in the US and around the world



Find Studies ▼ About Studies ▼ Submit Studies ▼ Resources ▼ About Site ▼ PRS Login

ClinicalTrials.gov is a database of privately and publicly funded clinical studies conducted around the world.

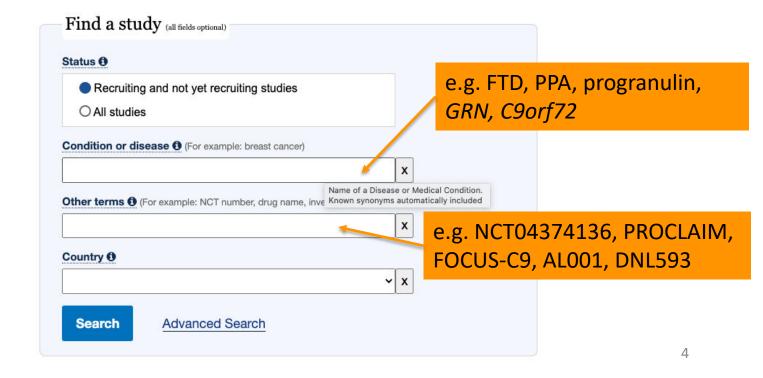
Explore 434,068 research studies in all 50 states and in 221 countries.

See <u>listed clinical studies</u> related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

ClinicalTrials.gov is a resource provided by the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

**IMPORTANT**: Listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by the U.S. Federal Government. Read our disclaimer for details.

Before participating in a study, talk to your health care provider and learn about the <u>risks and</u> <u>potential benefits</u>.



#### Explanation of the template to describe each clinical trial:

**Sponsor:** The entity running the trial, usually a

company or a university

**Development Stage** Phase 1, 2 or 3 in the process for FDA approval (+

trial name)

**ClinicalTrials.gov identifier:** Enter this number at **www.clinicaltrials.gov** to see

the specific details of the trial

**Enrollment criteria:** Criteria that interested individuals must meet in

order to qualify to participate in the trial

**Experimental drug:** The name of the experimental drug

**Delivery method:** How the experimental drug will be administered to

the participant (by mouth, injection, infusion, etc.)

**Placebo-controlled?:** Will some participants receive a placebo instead of

the experimental drug?

**Length of trial:** How long participants will be monitored

**Locations:** Countries where clinical trial sites are planned or

actively recruiting participants

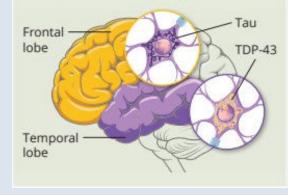
**How to contact:** Phone number and website to contact the sponsor

### Explanation of how the experimental drug targets processes that have led to FTD

#### Frontotemporal Dementia

What is happening in the brain?

Abnormal amounts or forms of tau and TDP-43 proteins accumulate inside neurons in the frontal and temporal lobes.



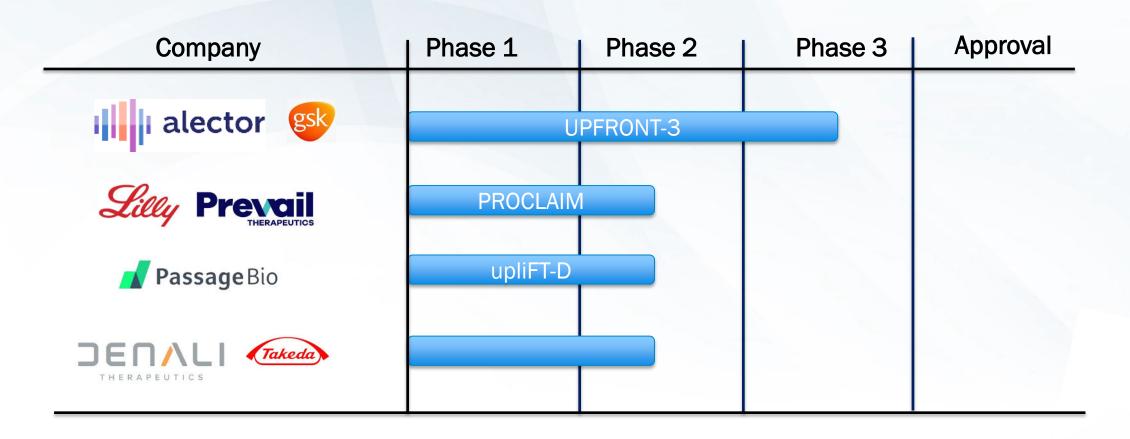
Adapted from the National Institute on Aging

### All of these trials require participants to know they carry a mutation in progranulin in order to enroll

# Current clinical trials for FTD caused by mutations in progranulin (GRN)

- INFRONT-3
  - Latozinemab (AL001), Phase 3, Alector/GSK (Antibody)
- PROCLAIM
  - PR006, Phase 1/2, Prevail Therapeutics/Eli Lilly (Gene replacement)
- upliFT-D
  - PBFT02, Phase 1/2, Passage Bio (Gene replacement)
- TAK-594/DNL593, Phase 1/2, Denali Therapeutics/Takeda (Protein replacement)
- AVB-101, Phase 1/2, AviadoBio (not yet recruiting) (Gene replacement)

# Four experimental therapies for FTD-GRN are currently in clinical trials



Not listed above: A Phase 1/2 trial of AVB-101 from AviadoBio is expected to start soon

**Sponsor:** Alector Therapeutics

alector.com / Partnered with Glaxo Smith Kline

**Development Stage** Phase 3 (INFRONT-3)

**ClinicalTrials.gov identifier:** NCT04374136

**Enrollment criteria:** Known *GRN* mutation carrier

• May be asymptomatic

If **symptomatic**, must have one or more of the criteria for the diagnosis of possible behavioral variant FTD, or a diagnosis of Primary Progressive

**Aphasia** 

**Experimental drug:** Latozinemab (AL001)

**Delivery method:** Intravenous (IV) infusion every 4 weeks

**Placebo-controlled:** Yes

**Length of trial:** Up to 96 weeks, with optional open label

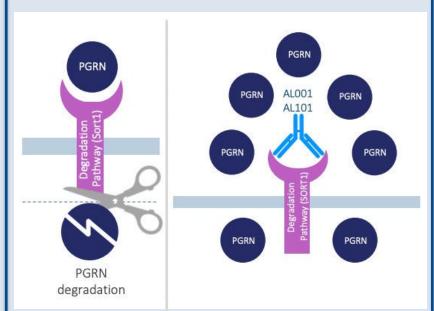
extension

**Locations:** 54 sites in the US, Canada, Australia, Argentina,

Europe and Western Asia

**How to contact:** 650-826-2454; clinicaltrials@alector.com

## Latozinemab (AL001) increases progranulin levels by blocking progranulin degradation



Progranulin is degraded in cells as part of its life cycle

Latozinemab increases the halflife of progranulin by blocking sortilin, a degradation receptor, in order to restore progranulin to normal levels

From Alector's November 2022 corporate presentation

**Sponsor: Prevail Therapeutics** 

<u>prevailtherapeutics.com</u> / A subsidiary of Eli Lilly and Co.

**Development Stage** Phase 1/2 (PROCLAIM)

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT04408625

**Enrollment criteria:** Known *GRN* mutation carrier

Must have a clinical diagnosis of FTD

**Experimental drug: PR006** 

**Delivery method:** Single intra-cisterna magna injection

Placebo-controlled: No

Length of trial: 12 months plus 4 years long term follow-up (5

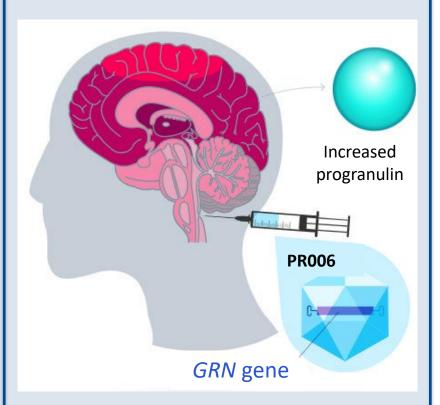
years total)

Locations: 7 sites in the US, Australia, Belgium, Spain and

the United Kingdom

**How to contact:** 917-336-9310; prevail\_patients@lilly.com

## PR006 increases progranulin levels by delivering a healthy *GRN* gene into the brain



Adapted from prevailtherapeutics.com

**Sponsor: Passage Bio** 

passagebio.com

**Development Stage** Phase 1/2 (upliFT-D)

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT04747431

**Enrollment criteria:** Known *GRN* mutation carrier

Must have a clinical diagnosis of FTD

**Experimental drug:** PBFT02

**Delivery method:** Single intra-cisterna magna injection

Placebo-controlled: No

Length of trial: 24 months plus 4 years long-term follow-up (5

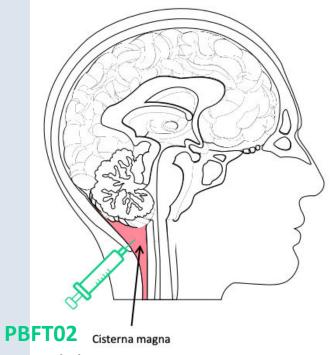
years total)

**Locations:** 9 sites in the US, Canada, Brazil, Italy, Portugal

and the United Kingdom

**How to contact:** 267-866-0113; patientservices@passagebio.com

### PBFT02 increases progranulin levels by delivering a healthy *GRN* gene into the brain



containing healthy *GRN* gene

From Passage's November 2022 corporate presentation

**Sponsor:** Denali Therapeutics

denalitherapeutics.com /partnered with Takeda

**Development Stage** Phase 1/2

**ClinicalTrials.gov identifier:** NCT05262023

**Enrollment criteria:** Known *GRN* mutation carrier

Must have a clinical diagnosis of FTD

**Experimental drug:** TAK-594/DNL593

**Delivery method:** Intravenous (IV) infusion

Placebo-controlled: Yes

**Length of trial:** 6 months, with optional 18 month open-label

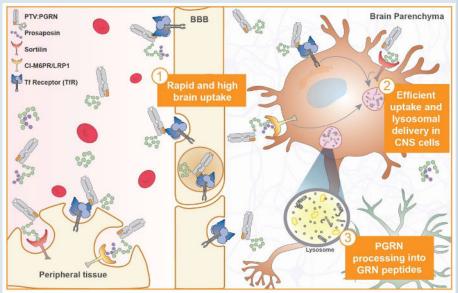
extension

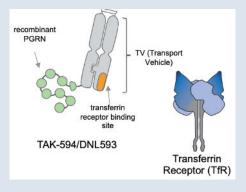
**Locations:** 4 sites in Spain, with more to be added (not yet

in US)

**How to contact:** patients@dnli.com

# TAK-594/DNL593 increases progranulin levels by delivering the progranulin protein across the blood brain barrier





From Denali's November 2022 FPI presentation

### Both of these trials require participants to know they carry a *C9orf72* expansion in order to enroll

# Current clinical trials for FTD and ALS caused by expansions in C9orf72

- FOCUS-C9
  - WVE-004, Phase 1/2, Wave Life Sciences (Antisense oligonucleotide)
- TPN-101, Phase 2, Transposon Therapeutics (Small molecule)
- Latozinemab (AL001), Phase 2, Alector/GSK (no longer recruiting)
- LAM-002A, Phase 2, Al Therapeutics (no longer recruiting)

**Sponsor: Wave Life Sciences** 

wavelifesciences.com

**Development Stage** Phase 1/2 (FOCUS-C9)

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT04931862

**Enrollment criteria:** Must have GGGGCC [G4C2] repeat expansion in

the first intronic region of the C9orf72 gene and

be:

Diagnosed with FTD, or

Diagnosed with ALS, or

Diagnosed with mixed phenotype (FTD and

ALS)

**Experimental drug: WVE-004** 

**Delivery method:** Intrathecal (IT) infusion every 4 weeks

Placebo-controlled: Yes

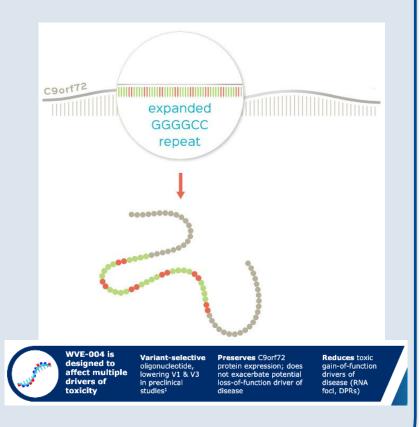
**Length of trial:** 24 weeks

Locations: 17 sites in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and

Europe (not yet in US)

**How to contact:** 855-215-4687; clinicaltrials@wavelifesci.com

## WVE-004 selectively blocks the mutant *C9orf72* gene from making harmful proteins



From wavelifesciences.com

**Sponsor: Transposon Therapeutics** 

transposonrx.com

**Development Stage** Phase 2

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT04993755

**Enrollment criteria:** Hexanucleotide repeat expansion in *C9orf72* 

gene, and

Diagnosed with FTD, or

Diagnosed with ALS, or

Diagnosed with mixed phenotype (FTD and

ALS)

**Experimental drug: TPN-101** 

**Delivery method:** Capsule, taken once daily by mouth

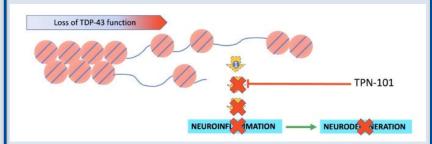
Placebo-controlled: Yes

**Length of trial:** 24 weeks, with a 24 wk open label extension

**Locations:** 19 sites in US and Europe

**How to contact:** 310-261-5312; clinicaltrials@transposonrx.com

#### TPN-101 blocks disease-causing production of the LINE-1 gene



Loss of nuclear TDP-43 during FTD leads to harmful LINE-1 expression.

Preclinical evidence shows blocking LINE-1 production with **TPN-101 mitigates neurotoxic** pathology.

From May 6, 2022 NEALS webinar, "A Phase 2a Study of TPN-101 in Patients with C9ORF72 ALS/FTD"

# There are currently no treatment trials **specifically for FTD caused by mutations in** *MAPT*, but efforts for future trials are in development

# Current clinical trials for sporadic (i.e. non-genetic) FTD

- PSP
  - NIO752, Phase 1, Novartis (Antisense oligonucleotide)
- Semantic dementia
  - Verdiperstat, Phase 1, Investigator-sponsored (Small molecule)
- FTD
  - Oxytocin, Phase 2, Lawson Health Research Institute (Hormone nasal spray)
- bvFTD or sv-PPA or nfv-PPA with behavior
  - Low-dose lithium, Phase 2, Columbia University (Small molecule)

**Sponsor: Novartis** 

https://www.recruiting-

trials.novartis.com/clinicaltrials/study/nct04539041

**Development Stage** Phase 1

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT04539041

**Enrollment criteria:** PSP diagnosed for less than 5 years with a

current classification of probable PSP Richardson

syndrome, a progressive supranuclear palsy

rating scale (PSPRS) score < 40 and MOCA score

>17 at screening

**Experimental drug: NIO752** 

**Delivery method:** Intrathecal (IT) infusion 4x over 3 months

**Placebo-controlled:** Yes

**Length of trial:** 12 months

**Locations:** 12 sites in the US, Canada, Germany and the UK

**How to contact:** 888-669-6682; novartis.email@novartis.com

NIO752 is an antisense oligonucleotide that reduces production of tau (*MAPT*) protein.

**Sponsor:** University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Peter Ljubenkov

**Development Stage** Phase 1

ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT05184569

**Enrollment criteria:** Diagnosed with semantic dementia (semantic

variant primary progressive aphasia, svPPA)

**Experimental drug:** Verdiperstat

**Delivery method:** Tablet, taken twice daily by mouth

Placebo-controlled: Yes

**Length of trial:** 24 weeks

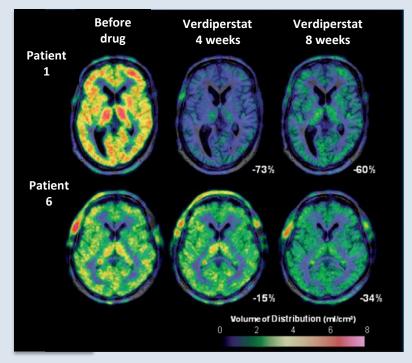
**Locations:** 1 site at University of California, San Francisco

(additional sites in US to open shortly)

**How to contact:** 415-514-5745; taylor.sulse@ucsf.edu

415-476-0661; mary.koestler@ucsf.edu

### Verdiperstat irreversibly inhibits myeloperoxidase to reduce neuroinflammation



Jucaite, A. *et al.* Effect of the myeloperoxidase inhibitor AZD3241 on microglia: a PET study in Parkinson's disease. *Brain* **138**, 2687–2700 (2015).

**Sponsor:** Lawson Health Research Institute

Dr. Elizabeth Finger

**Development Stage** Phase 2

**ClinicalTrials.gov identifier:** NCT03260920

**Enrollment criteria:** Diagnosis of FTD

**Drug:** Syntocinon (Oxytocin)

**Delivery method:** Intranasal spray

Placebo-controlled: Yes

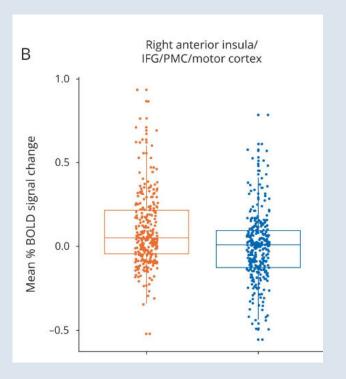
**Length of trial:** 20 weeks

**Locations:** 11 sites in Canada and the US

**How to contact:** Contact individual sites as listed on

clinicaltrials.gov or on ftdregistry.org

### Oxytocin increases neural activity in brain areas associated with emotions and empathy



Oliver, L. D. *et al.* Neural effects of oxytocin and mimicry in frontotemporal dementia: A randomized crossover study. *Neurology* **95**, e2635–e2647 (2020).

**Sponsor:** Columbia University

Dr. Ted Huey

**Development Stage** Phase 2

**ClinicalTrials.gov identifier:** NCT02862210

**Enrollment criteria:** Diagnosed with bvFTD or sv-PPA or nfv-PPA with

behavior

**Drug:** Low-dose lithium

**Delivery method:** Tablet, taken 1-4x daily depending on dose

Placebo-controlled: Yes

**Length of trial:** 12 weeks

**Locations:** 1 site at Columbia University

**How to contact:** 212-304-7943; cs4125@cumc.columbia.edu

212-305-1134; edh2126@columbia.edu

Lithium carbonate will be compared to placebo in the treatment of agitation, aggression, and inappropriate repetitive behaviors in people diagnosed with FTD.

# Stay informed about clinical research via the FTD Disorders Registry



### Thank you!

Contact me at laura.mitic@bluefieldproject.org



#### **Bluefield Project**

Rodney Pearlman
Rachel Acuna-Narvaez
Anne Alward
Andra Nicholson

#### **FTD Disorders Registry**

Dianna Wheaton Lakecia Vincent

#### **AFTD**

Shana Dodge
Sherry Harlass
Matt Ogza
Penny Dacks
PJ Lepp
Stephanie Quigley