



Our True North: Family & Patient Impact on Research & Development

Speaker: Dr. Wendy Chung, Chung Lab, Columbia University

August 16, 2019

Visit <u>kif1a.org/2019Conference</u> to watch a recording of this presentation.

Research Strategy

August 16, 2019

Wendy Chung, MD, PhD

KIF1A motors



The *KIF1A* problem

- Trains can run slower than they should (reduced cargo transport)
- Trains can get stalled at the station (no cargo transport)
- Trains can break down on the tracks and cause a traffic jam, preventing other trains from passing (no cargo transport, likely accumulation)



TREATMENT

TARGETED RESEARCH AND EXPLORATION ADVANCING TRIAL MODELS, EDITING, AND NEXT-GENERATION THERAPIES



KAND research overview

1. Disease Characterization

- Longitudinal natural history project
- Genotype/phenotype studies
- KAND patient biobank (including postmortem)
- Collect neuroimaging/raw EEG
- Additional seizure & medication questionnaire
- Meaningful difference to families
- Biomarkers

4. Therapy Development

- Small molecules
- Oligonucleotides
- Vectors for delivery



2. Disease Modeling

- In silico & in vitro analyses of motor function
- Patient-derived iPSC lines
- Differentiate PSCs into neurons
- Determine disease mechanism, genotype/phenotype correlation
 Generate patient-specific KI mouse models (Jackson Labs)

3. Model Characterization

- Behavioral & histological phenotype of mice
- Cellular morphology, electrophysiology
- Identify cellular assay amenable to high throughput screening

KIF1A Genetic Tags



What families can do

- Natural history study
 - Information from the past, present, and future
 - Genetic lab result
 - Caregiver report
 - Define meaningful difference
 - Medical records/therapists' evaluations/educators' evaluations
 - Assessments at the family meeting (height, weight, head circumference)
 - MRIs and EEGs
 - Priority is to determine what is working and what is harmful
- Samples, preferably blood
 - To determine if mutation is de novo or inherited
 - To know what other variants there are in KIF1A
 - To determine if there are other genes beyond KIF1A
 - To determine common genetic variants in KIF1A to target for oligonucleotides
 - Biomarker development
 - To provide a cell based model to ensure your family is represented
- Increase awareness: Rare Disease Day
- Partners/funders (call your senator/representative about NIH grant R01 NS114636-01)





Looking forward

KAND Family & Scientific Engagement Conference

August 16-17, 2019 | New York, NY

Thank you KIFIA.ORG





August 16-17, 2019 | New York, NY