

# Leveraging Natural History Knowledge to Design Informative Clinical Trials

FDA Workshop  
Developing Therapies for Primary Mitochondrial Diseases:  
Bridging the Gaps  
Silver Spring, MD  
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# Financial Disclosures

## Michio Hirano, MD

- **Site investigator for Stealth Biotherapeutics, Inc. SPIMM-300 and SPIMM-301 studies**
- **Research funding from Entrada**
- **Co-inventor of a pending patent for deoxynucleoside therapy for mtDNA depletion syndrome.**
- **Columbia University has licensed the pending patent to Modis Therapeutics**
- **Consultant for Modis (formerly Meves) Pharmaceuticals Inc.**

# Leveraging Natural History Knowledge to Design Informative Clinical Trials

Natural History Studies:  
How does the disease begin and progress?

“Begin with the goal in mind”



# Leveraging Natural History Knowledge

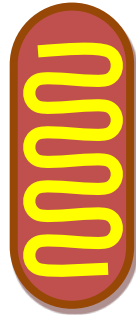
“Begin with the goal in mind”

## **Goal:**

To design informative clinical trials that will demonstrate “clinical benefit” by proving that a drug or other intervention has a “real effect on how a patient survives, feels, or functions.”

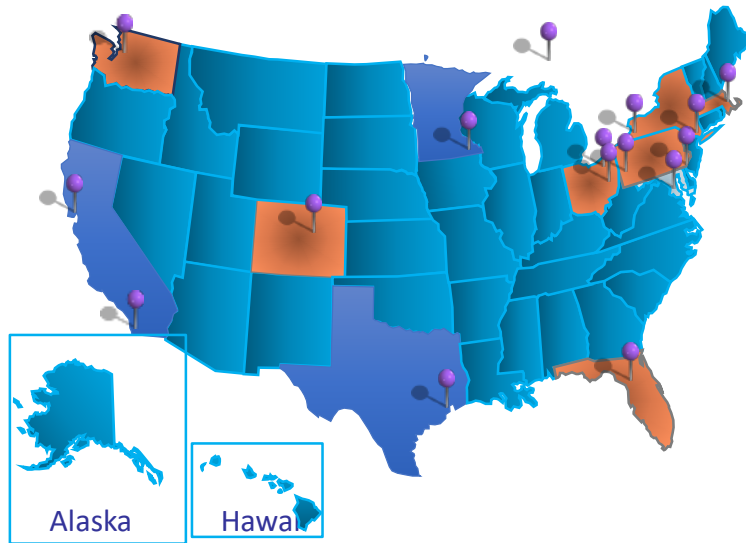
## **Obstacles:**

- Mitochondrial diseases are clinically, biochemically, and genetically heterogeneous.
- Mitochondrial diseases are rare and most are ultra-rare.
- The onset and progression of most mitochondrial diseases are not well-characterized.
- Few outcome measures have been assessed in mitochondrial diseases.
- No single outcome measure will fit all mitochondrial diseases.
- Few funding opportunities for natural history studies.



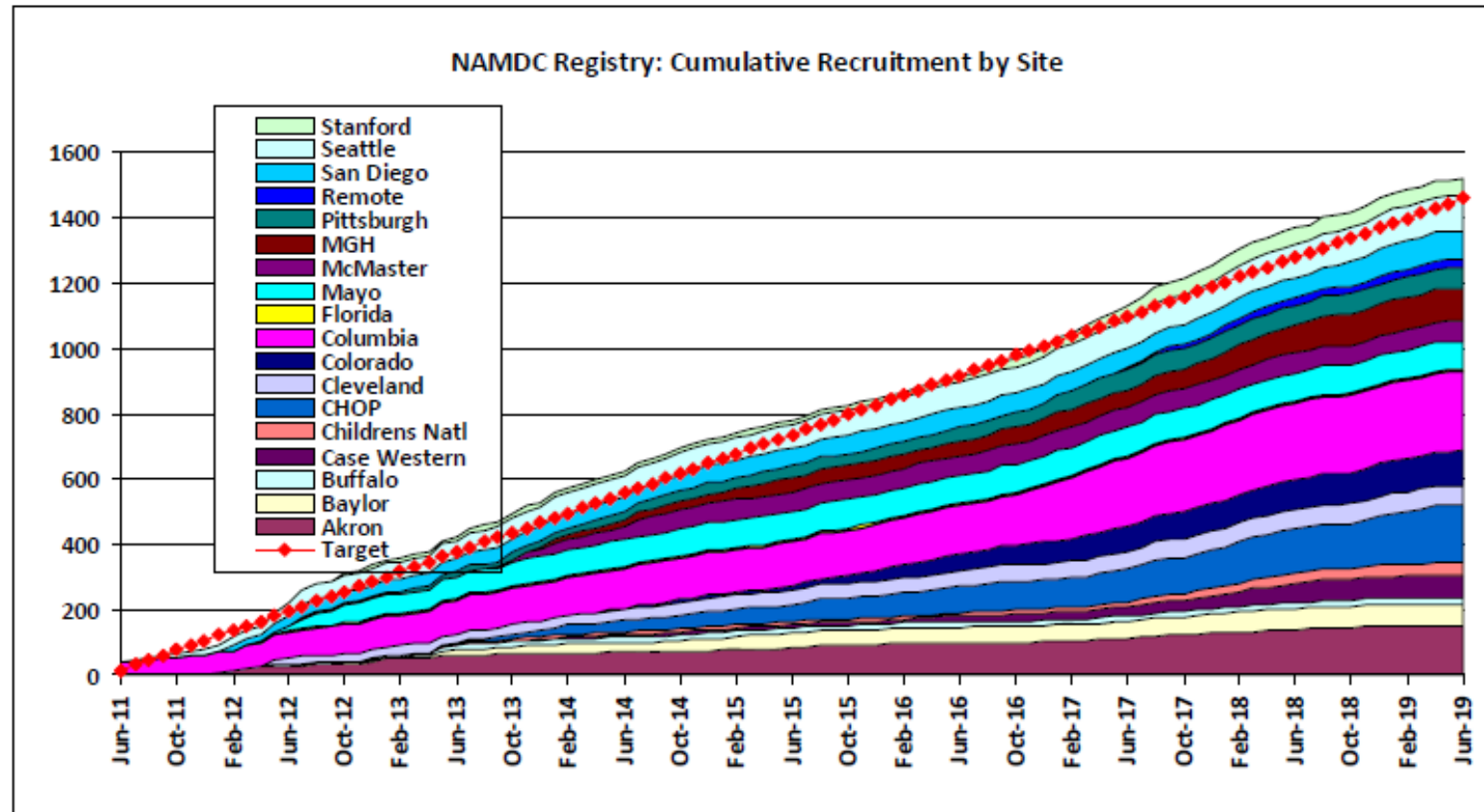
# NAMDC

the north american mitochondrial disease consortium



- Columbia University
- Akron Children's Hospital
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Boston Children's Hospital
- Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Children's Hospital of Colorado
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Children's National Medical Center
- Cleveland Clinic Foundation
- Hamilton Health Sciences
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Mayo Clinic
- Seattle Children's Hospital
- Stanford University
- University of California San Diego Medical Center
- University of Pittsburgh
- Affiliated sites:
  - University of Florida College of Medicine
  - Buffalo General Hospital

# NAMDC Registry: Cumulative Recruitment by Site



Total recruitment number represents (#) of patients with data entry completed at the time of the report.



## **NAMDC Prospective Natural History Studies**

Alpers Syndrome

Mitochondrial NeuroGastroIntestinal Encephalopathy (MNGIE)

Pyruvate dehydrogenase complex deficiency

Pearson-CPEO-Kearns Sayre Syndrome

Prospective natural history studies for rare diseases are ideal but can be expensive and labor intensive.

# Developing deoxynucleos(t)ide therapy for Thymidine Kinase 2 deficiency (TK2d)

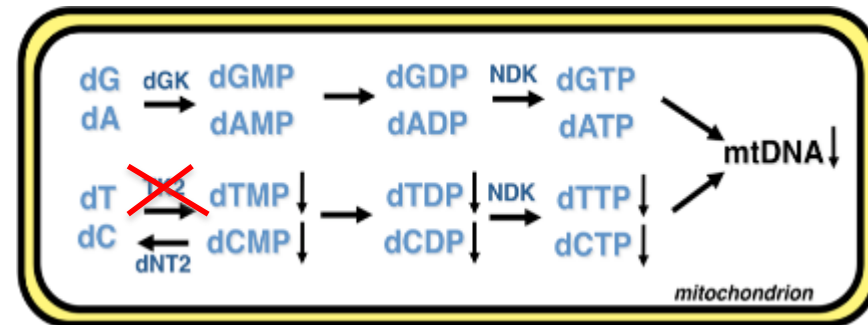
## Mutant mitochondrial thymidine kinase in mitochondrial DNA depletion myopathy

Ann Saada<sup>1\*</sup>, Avraham Shaag<sup>1\*</sup>, Hanna Mandel<sup>2</sup>, Yoram Nevo<sup>3</sup>, Staffan Eriksson<sup>4</sup> & Orly Elpeleg<sup>1</sup>

nature genetics • volume 29 • november 2001

**Table 2 • The activity of thymidine kinase 2 in muscle mitochondria**

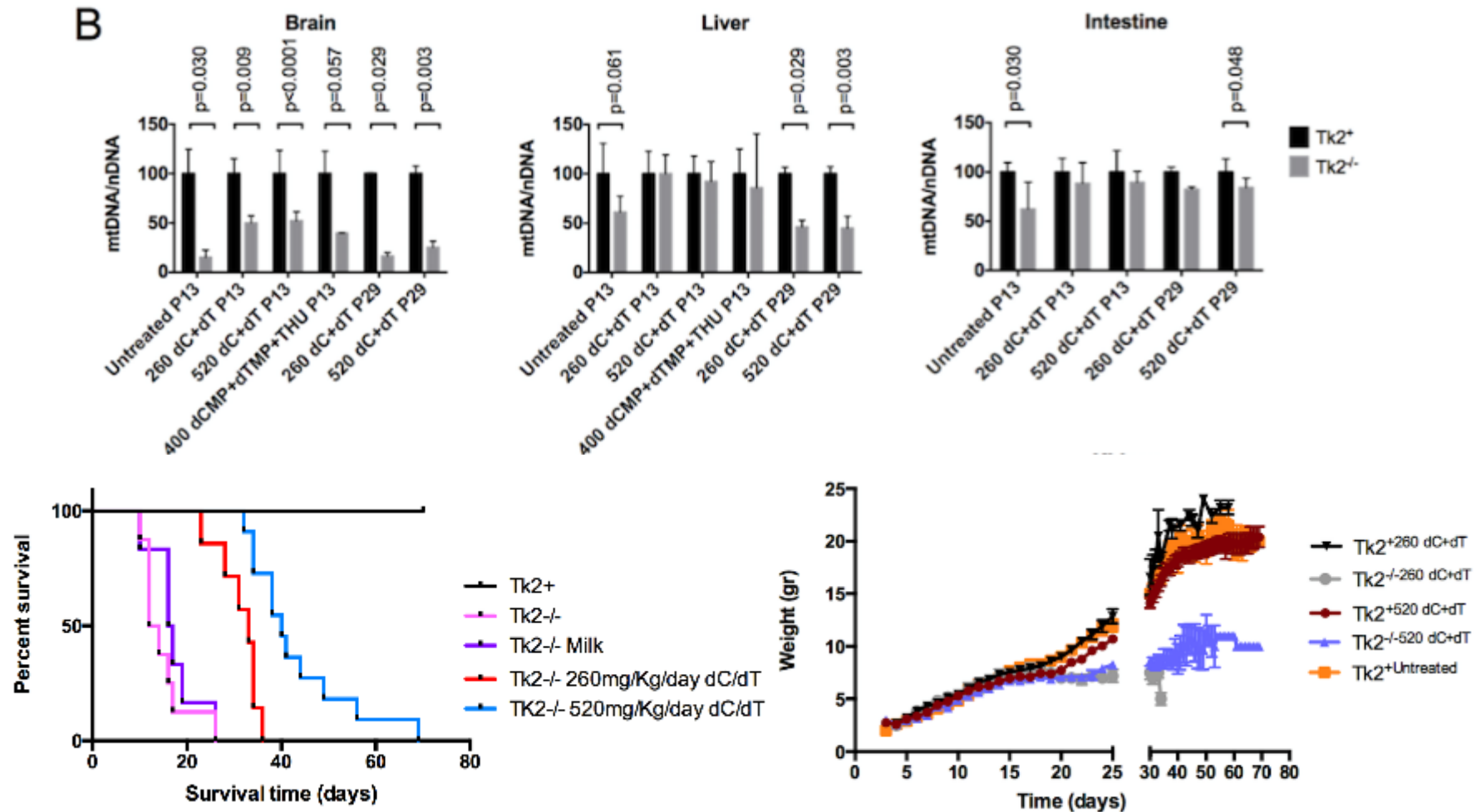
Sample	Substrate	
	[ <sup>3</sup> H]dThd	[ <sup>3</sup> H]dCyt
patient 1	3.42±0.38	1.80±0.06
patient 2	1.03±0.31	0.71±0.59
patient 4	1.76±0.42	0.68±0.08
controls (range)	7.55±1.45 (5.40–10.51)	5.65±1.89 (4.55–7.59)



- Early onset: from birth to 30 months
- Progressive weakness of skeletal and respiratory muscles
- Elevated CK and lactic acid
- Mean age of death: 2.6 years



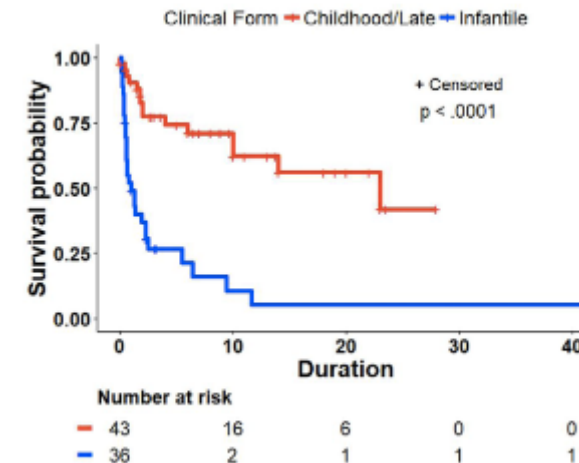
# dC+dT ameliorates mtDNA depletion and improves growth and survival of $Tk2^{-/-}$ mice



# Retrospective Natural History of Thymidine Kinase 2 Deficiency

Garone et al. J Med Genet 2018

Disease Spectrum of 92 TK2-deficient Patients			
	<b>Infantile-onset myopathy</b> 39 (42.4%)	<b>Childhood-onset myopathy</b> 37 (40.2%)	<b>Late-onset myopathy</b> 16 (17.4%)
<b>Onset</b>	≤12 months	>1-<12 years-old	≥12 years-old
<b>Symptoms</b>	Diffuse muscle weakness, early respiratory failure	Proximal muscle weakness, areflexia	Muscle weakness
<b>EMG</b>	Myogenic +/- neuropathic pattern	Myogenic +/- neuropathic pattern	Myogenic pattern
<b>CK</b>	↑↑↑	↑↑↑	normal-↑↑
<b>mtDNA depletion</b>	+++	+++	+/-
<b>mtDNA deletions</b>	—	—	+++
<b>Other signs &amp; symptoms</b>	seizures 7, encephalopathy 5, cognitive dysfunction 3, ptosis 4, facial diplegia 3, dysphagia 3, multiple bone fractures 2, nephropathy 1, rigid spine 1, coma episodes 1, cardiomyopathy 1, bi-ventricular hypertrophy 1, arrhythmia 1 and esophageal atresia 1	facial diplegia 11, ptosis 9, PEO 3, hearing loss 2, cognitive decline 1, encephalopathy 1, prolonged QT 1, arrhythmia 1, multiple bone fractures 1, renal tubulopathy 1, and gynecomastia 1	ptosis 9, PEO 8, dysphagia 6, respiratory insufficiency 5, dysarthria 3, cardiomyopathy 2, gynecomastia 1, Neuropathy 1, Hearing loss 1

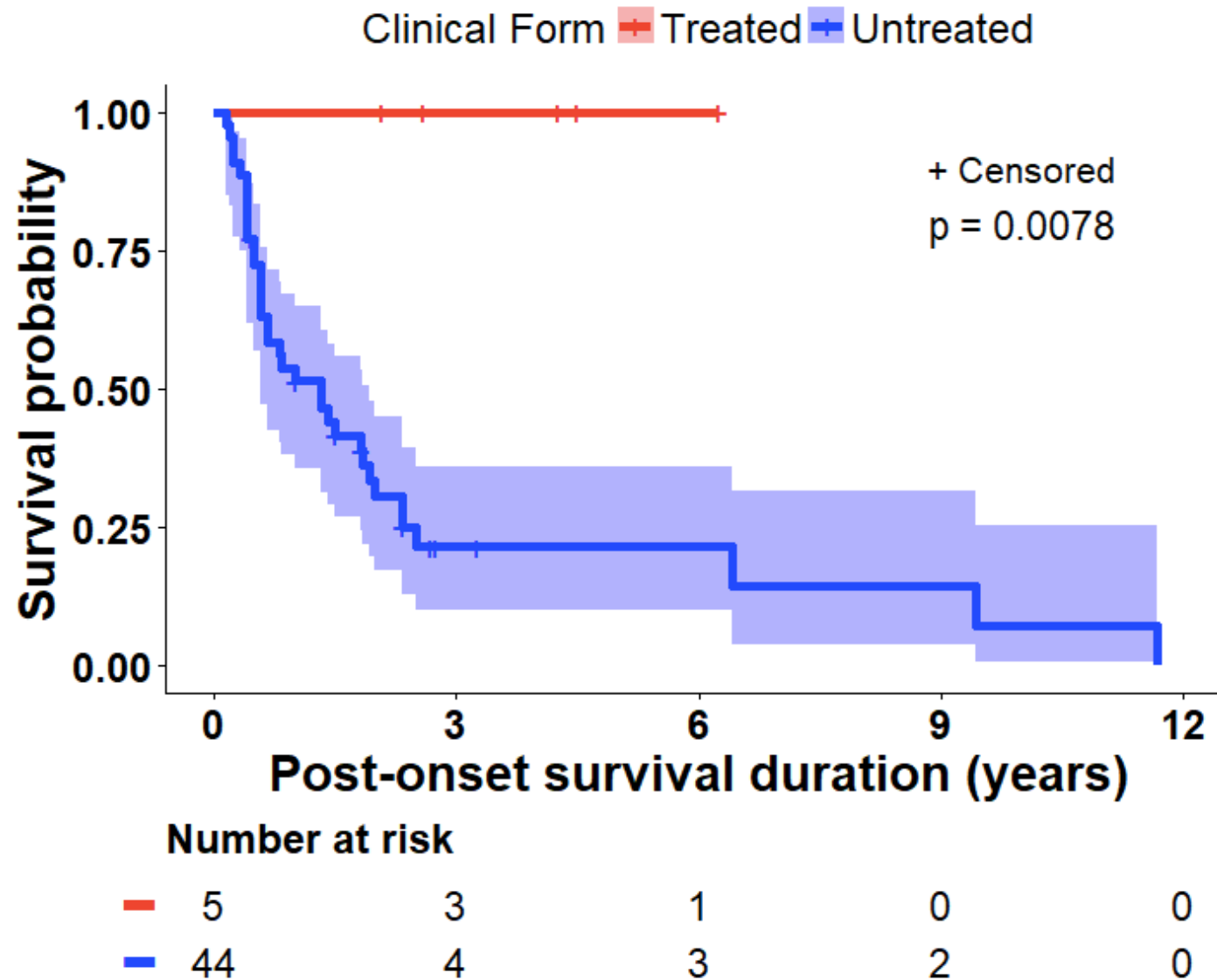


# Compassionate use deoxynucleos(t)ide therapy

- **Completed analysis of the first 16 patients treated with dTMP+dCMP (1), dT+dC (10), or both sequentially (5).**
- **4 infantile-onset; 8 childhood-onset; 4 late-onset**
- **Ages at initiation of therapy: 1.33-60 years-old**
- **Current ages: 3.33-61 years-old**

**26 additional patients have received deoxynucleoside therapy.**

# Survival of TK2-deficient patients with early onset and severe myopathy



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