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FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGIC DRUGS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING (PDAC)

Virtual Meeting

Thursday, November 4, 2021

8:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

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**Meeting Roster**

**DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER (Non-Voting)**

**Joyce Frimpong, PharmD**

Division of Advisory Committee and  
Consultant Management  
Office of Executive Programs, CDER, FDA

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15 *(Chairperson)*

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18 UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

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9 Co-Founder, Executive Director

10 Woodymatters

11 Minneapolis, Minnesota

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14 **(Non-Voting)**

15 **Robert W. Baker, MD**

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18 Vice President, Clinical Program Design and

19 Exploratory Medicine and Pharmacology

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19       *(Patient Representative)*

20       Los Angeles, California

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1     **James F. Troendle, PhD**

2     Deputy Director

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10    Director

11    Office of Neuroscience (ON)

12    Office of New Drugs (OND), CDER, FDA

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17    ON, OND, CDER, FDA

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19    **Bernard Fischer, MD**

20    Deputy Director

21    DP, ON, OND, CDER, FDA

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**Paul Bossie, MD**

Clinical Reviewer

DP, ON, OND, CDER, FDA

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Statistical Reviewer

Division of Biometrics I (DBI)

Office of Biostatistics (OB)

Office of Translational Sciences (OTS)

CDER, FDA

1	C O N T E N T S	
2	AGENDA ITEM	PAGE
3	Call to Order	
4	Rajesh Narendran, MD	11
5	Introduction of Committee	
6	Joyce Frimpong, PharmD	11
7	Conflict of Interest Statement	
8	Joyce Frimpong, PharmD	16
9	<b>FDA Opening Remarks</b>	
10	Tiffany Farchione, MD	20
11	<b>Applicant Presentations - Levo Therapeutics</b>	
12	Introduction	
13	Jay Cormier, JD, PhD	30
14	Unmet Medical Need	
15	Shawn McCandless, MD	41
16	Efficacy	
17	Jay Cormier, JD, PhD	62
18	Safety	
19	Davis Ryman, MD, PhD	85
20	Clinical Perspective	
21	Cheri Deal, PhD, MD	94
22		

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4  
5  
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C O N T E N T S (continued)

AGENDA ITEM	PAGE
Clarifying Questions to Applicant	111
<b>FDA Presentations</b>	
Intranasal Carbetocin (LV-101) for the Treatment of Hyperphagia Associated with Prader-Willi Syndrome	
Paul Bossie, MD	138
Andrew Potter, PhD	162
Clarifying Questions to FDA	175
<b>Open Public Hearing</b>	197
Questions to the Committee and Discussion	267
Adjournment	282

P R O C E E D I N G S

(8:46 a.m.)

**Call to Order**

DR. NARENDRAN: Good morning and welcome. I would first like to remind everyone to please mute your line when you are not speaking. For media and press, the FDA press contact is Lauren-Jei McCarthy. Her email and phone number are currently displayed.

My name is Raj Narendran, and I will be chairing this meeting. I will now call the November 4, 2021 Psychopharmacological Drug Advisory Committee meeting to order. Dr. Joyce Frimpong is the designated federal officer for this meeting and will begin with the introductions.

I'll hand it over to Dr. Joyce Frimpong.

**Introduction of Committee**

DR. FRIMPONG: Good morning. My name is Joyce Frimpong, and I'm the designated federal officer for this meeting. When I call your name, please introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation.

1 Dr. Robert W. Baker?

2 (No response.)

3 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Robert Baker?

4 DR. BAKER: Hi. It's Robert Baker from Eli  
5 Lilly. Sorry. I was having trouble with my mute  
6 button.

7 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Walter Dunn?

8 DR. W. DUNN: Walter Dunn, assistant  
9 professor, University of California, Los Angeles  
10 and the Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center.

11 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Jess G. Fiedorowicz?

12 DR. FIEDOROWICZ: Yes. Hello. This is Jess  
13 Fiedorowicz, professor at the University of Ottawa  
14 and with the Ottawa Hospital.

15 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Satish Iyengar?

16 DR. IYENGAR: Yes. This is Satish Iyengar.  
17 I'm professor and chair of the statistics  
18 department at the University of Pittsburgh.

19 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Jessica K. Jeffrey?

20 DR. JEFFREY: Hi, everyone. Jessica  
21 Jeffrey, associate professor of psychiatry with the  
22 University of California, Los Angeles.

1 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. William R. Keller?

2 DR. KELLER: Dr. William Keller, assistant  
3 professor of psychiatry, Dartmouth College, Geisel  
4 School of Medicine.

5 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Sonia L. Krishna?

6 DR. KRISHNA: Hi. This is Sonia Krishna.  
7 I'm affiliate faculty at the University of Texas,  
8 Dell Medical School at Austin.

9 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Rajesh Narendran?

10 DR. NARENDRAN: Hi. This is Raj Narendran.  
11 I'm a psychiatrist at the University of Pittsburgh  
12 Medical Center, professor in the Department of  
13 Radiology and Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh,  
14 Pittsburgh, PA.

15 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Patrick S. Thomas?

16 DR. THOMAS: Hi. This is Dr. Patrick  
17 Thomas, assistant professor at the Baylor College  
18 of Medicine in Houston, Texas, and staff  
19 psychiatrist at the Menninger Clinic in Houston,  
20 Texas.

21 DR. FRIMPONG: Ms. Kim O. Witczak?

22 (No response.)

1 DR. FRIMPONG: Ms. Kim Witczak?

2 MS. WITCZAK: Good morning. Kim Witczak, a  
3 consumer representative, Woodymatters out of  
4 Minneapolis, Minnesota.

5 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Charles J. Billington?

6 DR. BILLINGTON: Good morning. This is  
7 Charles Billington. I'm an endocrinologist at the  
8 Minneapolis VA Health Care System and professor of  
9 medicine at the University of Minnesota.

10 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. James J. McGough?

11 DR. MCGOUGH: James McGough, professor and  
12 child psychiatrist at UCLA.

13 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Alice Shapley?

14 DR. SHAPLEY: Hi. This is Alice Shapley,  
15 the patient representative. I'm also a professor  
16 and the vice chair for Astronomy and Astrophysics  
17 in the UCLA Department of Physics and Astronomy.

18 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. James F. Troendle?

19 DR. TROENDLE: Hi. This is James Troendle.  
20 I'm a statistician in the Office of Biostatistics  
21 Research in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood  
22 Institute.

1 DR. FRIMPONG: For our FDA participants,  
2 Dr. Billy Dunn?

3 DR. B. DUNN: Good morning. I'm Dr. Billy  
4 Dunn, director of the Office of Neuroscience.

5 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Tiffany R. Farchione?

6 DR. FARCHIONE: Hi. This is Tiffany  
7 Farchione. I am the director of the Division of  
8 Psychiatry.

9 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Bernard Fischer?

10 DR. FISCHER: Good morning. Bernie Fischer,  
11 deputy for psychiatry.

12 DR. FRIMPONG: Dr. Paul Bossie?

13 DR. BOSSIE: Hi. I'm Paul Bossie, the  
14 clinical reviewer for this application.

15 DR. FRIMPONG: And Dr. Andrew Potter?

16 DR. POTTER: Hi. I'm Andrew Potter, the  
17 statistical reviewer for this application.

18 DR. NARENDRAN: This is Raj Narendran.

19 For topics such as those being discussed at  
20 this meeting, there are often a variety of  
21 opinions, some of which are quite strongly held.  
22 Our goal is that this meeting will be a fair and

1 open forum for discussion of these issues and that  
2 individuals can express their views without  
3 interruption. Thus, as a gentle reminder,  
4 individuals will be allowed to speak into the  
5 record only if recognized by the chairperson. We  
6 look forward to a productive meeting.

7 In the spirit of the Federal Advisory  
8 Committee Act and the Government in the Sunshine  
9 Act, we ask that the advisory committee members  
10 take care that their conversations about the topic  
11 at hand take place in the open forum of the  
12 meeting. We are aware that members of the media  
13 are anxious to speak with the FDA about these  
14 proceedings, however, FDA will refrain from  
15 discussing the details of this meeting with the  
16 media until its conclusion. Also, the committee is  
17 reminded to please refrain from discussing the  
18 meeting topic during breaks or lunch. Thank you.

19 I will now turn it over to Dr. Joyce  
20 Frimpong.

21 **Conflict of Interest Statement**

22 DR. FRIMPONG: The Food and Drug

1 Administration is convening today's meeting of the  
2 Psychopharmacologic Drugs Advisory Committee under  
3 the authority of the Federal Advisory Committee Act  
4 of 1972. With the exception of the industry  
5 representative, all members and temporary voting  
6 members of the committee are special government  
7 employees or regular federal employees from other  
8 agencies and are subject to federal conflict of  
9 interest laws and regulations.

10 The following information on the status of  
11 this committee's compliance with federal ethics and  
12 conflict of interest laws, covered by but not  
13 limited to those found at 18 U.S.C. Section 208, is  
14 being provided to participants in today's meeting  
15 and to the public.

16 FDA has determined that members and  
17 temporary voting members of this committee are in  
18 compliance with federal ethics and conflict of  
19 interest laws. Under 18 U.S.C. Section 208,  
20 Congress has authorized FDA to grant waivers to  
21 special government employees and regular federal  
22 employees who have potential financial conflicts

1 when it is determined that the agency's need for a  
2 special government employee's services outweighs  
3 his or her potential financial conflict of  
4 interest, or when the interest of a regular federal  
5 employee is not so substantial as to be deemed  
6 likely to affect the integrity of the services  
7 which the government may expect from the employee.

8           Related to the discussions of today's  
9 meeting, members and temporary voting members of  
10 this committee have been screened for potential  
11 financial conflicts of interest of their own as  
12 well as those imputed to them, including those of  
13 their spouses or minor children and, for purposes  
14 of 18 U.S.C. Section 208, their employers. These  
15 interests may include investments; consulting;  
16 expert witness testimony; contracts, grants,  
17 CRADAs; teaching, speaking, writing; patents and  
18 royalties; and primary employment.

19           Today's agenda involves discussion of new  
20 drug application 214812, for carbetocin nasal  
21 spray, submitted by Levo Therapeutics,  
22 Incorporated, for the proposed treatment of

1 hyperphagia, anxiety, and distress behaviors  
2 associated with Prader-Willi syndrome. This is a  
3 particular matters meeting during which specific  
4 matters related to Levo Therapeutics' new drug  
5 application will be discussed.

6 Based on the agenda for today's meeting and  
7 all financial interests reported by the committee  
8 members and temporary voting members, no conflict  
9 of interest waivers have been issued in connection  
10 with this meeting.

11 With respect to FDA's invited industry  
12 representative, we would like to disclose that  
13 Dr. Robert Baker is participating in this meeting  
14 as a non-voting industry representative, acting on  
15 behalf of regulated industry. Dr. Baker's role at  
16 this meeting is to represent industry in general  
17 and not any particular company. Dr. Baker is  
18 employed by Eli Lilly.

19 We would like to remind members and  
20 temporary voting members that if the discussions  
21 involve any other products or firms not already on  
22 the agenda for which an FDA participant has a

1 personal or imputed financial interest, the  
2 participants need to exclude themselves from such  
3 involvement, and their exclusion will be noted for  
4 the record. FDA encourages all participants to  
5 advise the committee of any financial relationships  
6 that they may have with the firm at issue. Thank  
7 you.

8 DR. NARENDRAN: This is Raj Narendran.  
9 We'll now proceed with the FDA's opening remarks  
10 from Dr. Tiffany Farchione.

11 **FDA Opening Remarks - Tiffany Farchione**

12 DR. FARCHIONE: Hi. Good morning, everyone.  
13 Welcome to this meeting of the Psychopharmacologic  
14 Drugs Advisory Committee. As Dr. Narendran said,  
15 I'm Tiffany Farchione, and I am the director of the  
16 Division of Psychiatry here at FDA. Today we'll be  
17 discussing Levo Therapeutics' application for  
18 intranasal carbetocin for the treatment of  
19 hyperphagia associated with Prader-Willi syndrome.

20 Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare and serious  
21 genetic disorder that's caused by loss of  
22 expression either through deletion or uniparental

1 disomy of paternally derived genes on  
2 chromosome 15q11 to 13. Individuals with  
3 Prader-Willi syndrome experience cognitive,  
4 behavioral, and endocrine symptoms and have  
5 characteristic physical features.

6 Hyperphagia is a prominent and  
7 characteristic feature of Prader-Willi. In  
8 childhood, individuals with PWS progress through  
9 different nutritional stages, with classic  
10 hyperphagia presenting at phase 3 around age 7 or  
11 8, and continuing through adulthood.

12 Hyperphagia is characterized by profound  
13 lack of satiety and constant preoccupation with  
14 food and food-seeking behavior. Hyperphagia and  
15 decreased resting energy expenditure lead to  
16 obesity. But more importantly, shortened life  
17 expectancy in Prader-Willi syndrome appears related  
18 mainly to hyperphagia and obesity, including  
19 cardiopulmonary or gastric complications such as  
20 choking or esophageal rupture.

21 There are no medications available to treat  
22 hyperphagia, so management consists of restricted

1 calorie diet and strict environmental controls.  
2 Families will lock refrigerators and garbage cans.  
3 They'll avoid social events when food might be  
4 present. They can't go to restaurants. The need  
5 for constant vigilance around food has a  
6 significant impact on quality of life.

7 In addition to food-related behavioral and  
8 emotional difficulties, individuals with  
9 Prader-Willi syndrome also experience what their  
10 families describe as anxiety and obsession. They  
11 engage in compulsive behaviors and have difficulty  
12 with changes in routine, mood lability, and skin  
13 picking.

14 With that background, allow me introduce the  
15 subject of our meeting today, intranasal  
16 carbetocin. Carbetocin is a synthetic neuropeptide  
17 analog of oxytocin. Compared to endogenous  
18 oxytocin, carbetocin binds more selectively to  
19 oxytocin receptors with less affinity for  
20 vasopressin receptors.

21 The proposed formulation is intended for  
22 administration 3 times daily via nasal spray,

1 2 pumps per nostril per dose. The applicant has  
2 proposed an indication of treatment of hyperphagia,  
3 anxiety, and distress behaviors associated with  
4 PWS. During today's meeting, the agency  
5 presentations will focus primarily on hyperphagia  
6 and whether or not the applicant has provided  
7 substantial evidence of effectiveness for that  
8 indication.

9           So what exactly do I mean by substantial  
10 evidence of effectiveness? The statutory  
11 definition is a good place to start. As defined in  
12 the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, it is "evidence  
13 consisting of adequate and well-controlled  
14 investigations, including clinical investigations  
15 by experts qualified by scientific training and  
16 experience to evaluate the effectiveness of the  
17 drug involved, on the basis of which it could  
18 fairly and responsibly be concluded by such experts  
19 that the drug will have the effect it purports or  
20 is represented to have under the conditions of use  
21 prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the  
22 labeling or proposed labeling thereof."

1           For more insight on what exactly this means  
2 in practice and how we evaluate this standard in  
3 our reviews, we can refer to the FDA evidence  
4 guidance. This document was provided as an  
5 appendix to the FDA background documents for this  
6 meeting, and it's publicly available on the FDA  
7 website.

8           As noted in the guidance, FDA generally  
9 interprets the phrase "adequate and well-controlled  
10 investigations," plural, to mean at least two  
11 adequate and well-controlled trials. The  
12 characteristics of an adequate and well-controlled  
13 trial are also outlined in the Code of Federal  
14 Regulations and include things like having a clear  
15 statement of objectives; using designs that permit  
16 comparison; assessments that are well defined and  
17 reliable; et cetera.

18           Although we typically need two such trials  
19 for substantial evidence, the guidance also  
20 outlines the circumstances under which we might  
21 rely on a single study. For example, we could rely  
22 on a single large multicenter trial if the trial

1 demonstrates a clinically meaningful and  
2 statistically very persuasive effect on mortality,  
3 or severe irreversible morbidity, or prevention of  
4 a disease with a serious outcome. In those  
5 circumstances, a second trial would be impractical  
6 or unethical.

7 Another option for establishing substantial  
8 evidence is with one adequate and well-controlled  
9 trial plus confirmatory evidence. That could mean  
10 an adequate and well-controlled trial in a related  
11 disease area or compelling mechanistic evidence in  
12 the setting of well understood pathophysiology.  
13 However, in this case, the applicant has not  
14 identified any confirmatory evidence.

15 Finally, the statutory standard includes  
16 both a statement of the kind of evidence, as we've  
17 discussed, and an element of expert judgment. The  
18 line about "it could fairly and responsibly be  
19 concluded by experts," the guidance also outlines  
20 circumstances when some flexibility can be  
21 exercised. It states that "FDA may fairly and  
22 responsibly rely on designs that produce less

1       certainty when a better design is not feasible or  
2       ethical such as in the case of a life-threatening  
3       disease with an unmet medical need like  
4       Prader-Willi syndrome."

5               We recognize the need to exercise  
6       flexibility in applying the statutory standards  
7       when it comes to medical products for serious  
8       diseases with unmet medical needs, while also  
9       making sure that these are effective and have  
10      favorable benefit-to-risk profile.

11             Our task for today is to consider how the  
12      evidence provided by the applicant fits within this  
13      framework. They have submitted data from two  
14      studies; first, Study 114, a small proof-of-concept  
15      study evaluating the effect of 9.6 milligrams of  
16      intranasal oxytocin 3 times daily versus placebo.  
17      The change from baseline in hyperphagia was  
18      evaluated at day 15 in this study.

19             We also have a single adequate and  
20      well-controlled study, Study LV-101 to 301, which  
21      we'll refer to as Study 301. This study evaluated  
22      the previously tested 9.6-milligram dose, as well

1 as a lower 3.2-milligrams, 3 times-a-day dosage.  
2 Here, the change from baseline to week 8 on  
3 hyperphagia and obsessive-compulsive symptoms were  
4 evaluated.

5 The primary analysis compared 9.6 milligrams  
6 to placebo and did not detect a difference.  
7 Because the prespecified testing plan stopped when  
8 the primary was negative, the secondary analyses  
9 were considered post hoc, but these analyses do  
10 suggest there may be a difference between  
11 3.2 milligrams and placebo.

12 Study 301 also included a long-term  
13 follow-up phase during which all patients received  
14 active treatment. We primarily reviewed this  
15 portion of the study as a source of safety data,  
16 but will also discuss the efficacy data from that  
17 portion of the study and the limitations inherent  
18 in interpreting data without a placebo comparator.

19 Taking all of this together, the evidence  
20 presented, our statutory standard and guidance,  
21 we'll ask the committee to consider a single  
22 question. Has the applicant provided substantial

1 evidence of effectiveness for carbetocin nasal  
2 spray in the treatment of hyperphagia associated  
3 with Prader-Willi syndrome?

4 With that, I will turn things over to the  
5 applicant for their presentation. Thank you.

6 DR. CORMIER: Thank you, Dr. Farchione.

7 Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare, serious  
8 genetic disorder affecting approximately 8 to  
9 10,000 Americans. Its most striking symptom is an  
10 unrelenting false sense of starvation referred to  
11 as hyperphagia, which can be life-threatening.  
12 Patients with PWS also experience life-limiting  
13 anxiousness and distress behaviors that, together  
14 with hyperphagia, prevent them from leading  
15 independent lives. Most importantly, there are no  
16 approved treatments for these significant symptoms.

17 CAPT WAPLES: Hi. Good morning. This is  
18 Yvette Waples.

19 Can you please pause? Can you please pause  
20 for your presentations?

21 DR. CORMIER: Sure.

22 CAPT WAPLES: Dr. Narendran, you do have

1 something to say prior to the sponsor's  
2 presentation.

3 DR. CORMIER: I apologize. Sorry.

4 CAPT WAPLES: No problem, sir. Thank you.

5 DR. NARENDRAN: This is Raj Narendran.

6 Both the FDA and the public believe in a  
7 transparent process for information gathering and  
8 decision making. To ensure such transparency at  
9 the advisory committee meeting, FDA believes that  
10 it is important to understand the context of an  
11 individual's presentation.

12 For this reason, FDA encourages all  
13 participants, including the applicant's  
14 non-employee presenters, to advise the committee of  
15 any financial relationships they may have with the  
16 sponsor such as consulting fees, travel expenses,  
17 honoraria, and interest in the sponsor, including  
18 equity interests and those based upon the outcome  
19 of the meeting.

20 Likewise, FDA encourages you at the  
21 beginning of your presentation to advise the  
22 committee if you do not have any such financial

1 relationships. If you choose not to address this  
2 issue of financial relationships at the beginning  
3 of your presentation, it will not preclude you from  
4 speaking.

5 With that, we will now proceed with  
6 presentations from Levo Therapeutics. You can go  
7 ahead.

8 DR. CORMIER: Sorry about that, and my  
9 apologies. Thank you very much.

10 **Applicant Presentation - Jay Cormier**

11 DR. CORMIER: So I'll just pick up where I  
12 left off.

13 Most importantly, there are no approved  
14 treatments for these significant symptoms of PWS.

15 My name is Jay Cormier, and I'm the senior  
16 vice president of Levo Therapeutics. I've been  
17 involved in drug development for over 20 years,  
18 including as a reviewer at FDA, as well as a  
19 consultant in the development of drugs for orphan  
20 programs. I'm currently at Levo Therapeutics,  
21 where I help lead the development of treatments for  
22 PWS. I'm very excited to be here today to work

1 with this committee to bring forward the first  
2 product to address previously intractable  
3 hyperphagia of PWS.

4 PWS is a rare, life-threatening,  
5 neurodevelopmental genetic disorder that's  
6 typically diagnosed in neonates with failure to  
7 thrive. PWS has a uniquely complex medical  
8 phenotype, including shortness of stature,  
9 hypogonadism, and intellectual disability. It also  
10 has a psychiatric phenotype that includes  
11 hyperphagia, anxiousness and distress behaviors,  
12 and obsessive-compulsive symptoms.

13 Importantly, these psychiatric symptoms do  
14 not fit neatly into standard psychiatric diagnosis.  
15 The heterogeneous manifestations of PWS can vary  
16 with age and often overlap with autism and  
17 autistic-like behaviors. PWS has a high morbidity  
18 and mortality with an average life expectancy of  
19 approximately 30 years. Patients with PWS  
20 experience respiratory failure, cardiovascular  
21 events, GI events, which can include  
22 life-threatening gastric rupture, obesity,

1 diabetes, and renal failure.

2 While growth hormone has been approved to  
3 normalize linear growth in patients with PWS,  
4 currently there are no therapies approved for PWS'  
5 most life-limiting symptoms. Patients with PWS are  
6 often prescribed psychiatric medications such as  
7 SSRIs, anti-psychotics, stimulants, and others.  
8 Patients also receive non-prescription  
9 interventions such as vitamins and supplements in  
10 an effort to reduce the most problematic  
11 manifestations of PWS.

12 Importantly, none of these medications and  
13 interventions have been shown in a controlled  
14 clinical trial to provide benefit to PWS, nor do  
15 they address the underlying deficiencies linked to  
16 the ideology of PWS and its pathophysiology.

17 With an absence of effective treatments for  
18 PWS, caregivers resort to instituting rigid  
19 controls over their loved ones. By following  
20 strict daily routines, caregivers can avoid some of  
21 the outward manifestations that can be experienced  
22 with patients with PWS, including meltdowns and

1 tantrums that proceed well into adulthood, not just  
2 in the younger age groups.

3           The controls that are used with patients  
4 with PWS are often referred to as environmental  
5 controls. These things include locking  
6 refrigerators, cabinets, trash bins in the home,  
7 limiting the type and amount of food consumed at  
8 mealtimes and snack times, and avoiding social  
9 situations that include food.

10           Given the abundance of food in our society  
11 and its inevitable presence in social gatherings,  
12 families with PWS often retreat from society, as  
13 such situations present life-threatening risks to  
14 their loved ones, as well as to the social trauma  
15 that comes with any tantrum that may occur. The  
16 need to enforce these rigid controls around the  
17 clock exacts a major toll on caregivers. The  
18 burden for caregivers of individuals with PWS has  
19 been measured and assessed to be greater than that  
20 of caregivers for even Alzheimer's disease.

21           We at Levo have one singular mission:  
22 develop impactful therapies for the PWS community

1 that empower PWS patients to lead more independent  
2 lives. While other products in our pipeline look  
3 to address other aspects of the pathophysiology of  
4 PWS, today we'll be talking about an oxytocin  
5 receptor agonist.

6           The neuroendocrine hormone oxytocin is known  
7 to be involved in the hunger/satiety pathways  
8 within the paraventricular nucleus of the  
9 hypothalamus, where it is released concurrent with  
10 mealtime. Animal and human data demonstrates that  
11 there is a functional oxytocin deficiency in  
12 patients with PWS. Based on this understanding,  
13 the PWS community has had a long-standing interest  
14 in oxytocin hormone replacement therapy as a  
15 potential treatment for patients with PWS.  
16 However, treatment with the oxytocin has had mixed  
17 results largely thought to be due to off-target  
18 vasopressin effects of oxytocin. Carbetocin, on  
19 the other hand, is an oxytocin receptor agonist  
20 that has been designed to have greater oxytocin  
21 receptor affinity. Carbetocin has a longer half-  
22 life and, importantly, it has lower activity at the

1 vasopressin receptors.

2           The clinical development program for  
3 intranasal carbetocin consists of two adequate and  
4 well-controlled clinical trials. The phase 2  
5 study, Study 114, was conducted by Ferring  
6 Pharmaceuticals and was a 2-week study of  
7 9.6-milligram intranasal carbetocin in 37 patients  
8 with PWS. The phase 3 study, what I'll refer to as  
9 CARE-PWS, was conducted by Levo Therapeutics. It  
10 is an 8-week study investigating two different  
11 doses, 3.2-milligram and 9.6-milligram intranasal  
12 carbetocin, along with placebo.

13           CARE-PWS was originally planned to enroll  
14 175 patients, however, the study was truncated due  
15 to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulted in 119  
16 evaluable patients. Importantly, CARE-PWS includes  
17 a 56-week long-term follow-up period, and patients  
18 who complete that long-term follow-up period are  
19 given the choice to continue to receive drug  
20 through an optional extension period.

21           The phase 2 clinical studies showed  
22 statistically significant improvements in

1 hyperphagia, according to the prespecified primary  
2 endpoint, which evaluated hyperphagic changes from  
3 baseline to day 15. Significant improvements were  
4 also observed for obsessive-compulsive symptoms, as  
5 well as clinical global impressions.

6 The phase 3 study, CARE-PWS, did not achieve  
7 statistical significance on its primary endpoints.  
8 However, the 9.6-milligram dose showed numeric  
9 improvements in hyperphagia, obsessive-compulsive  
10 symptoms, and clinical global impressions.

11 The reason we're here today is that the  
12 3.2-milligram dose, which was specified as the  
13 first secondary endpoint, achieved nominally  
14 significant improvements in hyperphagia,  
15 anxiousness and distress, and clinical global  
16 impressions.

17 Both studies demonstrate that intranasal  
18 carbetocin provides clinically meaningful  
19 reductions in hyperphagia, which is consistent with  
20 the hypothesis that addressing the observed  
21 functional oxytocin deficiency in patients with PWS  
22 would be beneficial. Importantly, the

1 3.2-milligram dose was found to be the lowest  
2 effective dose studied. The 9.6-milligram dose has  
3 no greater efficacy and was observed to have  
4 greater discontinuations during the phase 3 study,  
5 which may be the result of off-target effects that  
6 could also mask efficacy in some patients.

7 The benefits observed in the phase 3 study  
8 in the 3.2-milligram dose were seen across multiple  
9 endpoints throughout not only the  
10 placebo-controlled period, but over the course of  
11 the 56-week follow-up period, as well as when  
12 evaluating the results using multiple sensitivity  
13 analyses. These results are compelling given the  
14 rarity and complexity and difficulty of studying  
15 PWS and should be considered in context of the  
16 safety profile.

17 The most common events observed with  
18 carbetocin were transient and mild to moderate in  
19 severity. Those events included flushing, which is  
20 consistent with the known basal dilatory effects of  
21 oxytocin receptor agonism and the events related to  
22 intranasal route of administration. As expected

1 with oxytocin receptor agonists, intranasal  
2 carbetocin should not be used during pregnancy, and  
3 physicians should be advised to use caution when  
4 administering intranasal carbetocin with patients  
5 who are also taking concomitant prostaglandins due  
6 to the potential to cause uterine cramping.

7           The safety and efficacy data supports a  
8 proposed indication of intranasal carbetocin for  
9 the treatment of hyperphagia and anxiousness and  
10 distress associated with PWS. We recognize that  
11 the data are not without complexities and that  
12 there's a complicated situation between COVID and a  
13 rather unique and rare syndrome, so we value the  
14 expert judgment of the committee with respect to  
15 our demonstration of substantial evidence of  
16 effectiveness.

17           As presented in FDA's substantial evidence  
18 guidance, the agency recognizes the importance of  
19 facilitating the development of and access to safe  
20 and effective treatment options for  
21 life-threatening and severely debilitating  
22 diseases. As stated in that guidance, which can be

1 found at the back of FDA's briefing document for  
2 this meeting, the substantial evidence standard is  
3 interpreted flexibly when reviewing treatments for  
4 rare diseases and considers the harmful  
5 consequences of not only false positive, but also  
6 false negative results, and the amount of evidence  
7 that can practically be acquired.

8 The degree of certainty supporting a  
9 conclusion of substantial evidence depends on the  
10 clinical circumstances such as the severity and  
11 rarity of the disease and the unmet medical need.  
12 In these circumstances, less certainty of  
13 effectiveness is acceptable when balanced against  
14 the risk of rejecting or delaying the marketing of  
15 an effective therapy.

16 After this introduction, Dr. Shawn  
17 McCandless, chair of Clinical Genetics and  
18 Metabolism from the Children's Hospital of  
19 Colorado, will describe the impact of PWS on  
20 patients and their families, as well as the  
21 significant need for treatments to address their  
22 life-limiting hyperphagia and behavioral symptoms.

1           Dr. McCandless is a leading geneticist,  
2 working with patients with PWS and was the lead  
3 author of the American Academy of Pediatrics'  
4 clinical report regarding health supervision for  
5 children with PWS. He has been an investigator in  
6 numerous studies with potential PWS interventions,  
7 including the phase 3 CARE-PWS study.

8           Then I will return to review the efficacy  
9 data that demonstrate the benefits of the  
10 3.2-milligram dose. Dr. Davis Ryman from Levo will  
11 show the favorable safety and tolerability of  
12 hormone replacement therapy with intranasal  
13 carbetocin.

14           Finally, Dr. Cheri Deal from Sainte-Justine  
15 University Hospital in Montreal will provide a  
16 clinical perspective on the benefits of intranasal  
17 carbetocin to patients with PWS and their families.  
18 Among other things, Dr. Deal led the development of  
19 the consensus guidelines for the use of growth  
20 hormone therapy in patients with PWS. She was also  
21 an investigator in the CARE-PWS study.

22           Thank you very much, again, for your time

1 today, and with that, I'll turn it over to  
2 Dr. McCandless.

3 **Applicant Presentation - Shawn McCandless**

4 DR. McCANDLESS: Thank you, Jay.

5 My name is Shawn McCandless from the  
6 University of Colorado and Children's Hospital  
7 Colorado. I have a long-standing interest in  
8 Prader-Willi syndrome as a geneticist, as a  
9 treating clinician for more than 20 years, and as a  
10 clinical researcher.

11 My university has been compensated for my  
12 time in this effort and I was an investigator in  
13 the study, but I have no financial interest in the  
14 company or the outcome of this meeting. And quite  
15 frankly, I will help anyone who has a promising  
16 approach to treating this frustrating and terrible  
17 disease.

18 Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare,  
19 life-threatening, genetic neurodevelopmental  
20 disorder with a complex and unique phenotype.  
21 Prader-Willi syndrome is an orphan disease that  
22 occurs in approximately 1 in 10,000 to maybe 1 in

1 30,000 births, and recent estimates in the U.S.  
2 suggest that there may be between 8 and 10,000  
3 individuals total living with Prader-Willi syndrome  
4 in the U.S.

5           Approximately half, or under the age of 18,  
6 may tend to live with their families. As  
7 individuals with PWS age, along with their parents,  
8 it often becomes necessary for the young person to  
9 live in a group home setting with specialized care.  
10 These factors, and other things including location,  
11 access to care, and family's ability to commit to  
12 the time involved in a clinical trial,  
13 significantly limit the population available to  
14 participate in clinical trials in Prader-Willi  
15 syndrome.

16           This gene map helps explain how the lack of  
17 expression of a group of genes on  
18 chromosome 15 -- the ones shown in blue in the  
19 map -- are the cause of Prader-Willi syndrome.  
20 Typically, the genes that are shown in blue are  
21 silenced on the chromosome 15 inherited from the  
22 mother, a process called imprinting, which is

1 primarily due to DNA methylation. Only the  
2 chromosome 15 inherited from the father has acted  
3 unmethylated copies of these genes.

4 PWS is caused by the absence of the active  
5 copies of these genes, shown in blue, either from a  
6 deletion of the paternal allele or a complete  
7 absence of the paternal allele with two silenced  
8 maternal copies, or due to an error in switching  
9 the imprint on the paternal allele.

10 This is a truly unique orphan disease, where  
11 patients are subjected to hyperphagia or that false  
12 state of perceived starvation that is persistent  
13 throughout their lifespan. Hyperphagia permeates  
14 all facets of their lives and is a hallmark symptom  
15 of this syndrome. In addition to the hyperphagia,  
16 PWS has broad medical behavioral and developmental  
17 impacts on the lives of patients and families.

18 There are varying degrees of intellectual  
19 disability, as well as behavioral challenges and  
20 broad and different abnormalities.

21 PWS is life-threatening and life-limiting.  
22 Morbidity and mortality risks arise in a variety of

1 ways. Patients have a tendency to overeat, even  
2 gorge, when there's an opportunity. They tend to  
3 eat rapidly and often end up choking. As many as  
4 7 percent of deaths in young people with  
5 Prader-Willi syndrome have been reported to be  
6 related to rupture of the intestines or the  
7 stomach, resulting from an episode of food gorging.  
8 Their desperate sense of starvation also drives  
9 them to risk their lives in order to obtain food,  
10 which can result in food-seeking accidents.

11 Despite many advances in management over the  
12 past 20 years, a claims database analysis we  
13 presented two years ago showed that the average age  
14 of death has not changed significantly and is still  
15 around 30 years of age. The intellectual  
16 disabilities and behavioral challenges, combined  
17 with the intense hyperphagia and inability to  
18 regulate food intake on their own, make it  
19 impossible for PWS patients to lead independent  
20 lives.

21 Individuals with PWS typically begin to  
22 experience hyperphagia around the age of 7 or 8,

1       though it can start earlier or a bit later. While  
2       there's inherent variability, longitudinal data  
3       from multiple data sets show that, on average,  
4       hyperphagia remains relatively constant as measured  
5       by the validated consensus instrument, the  
6       Hyperphagia Questionnaire for Clinical Trials or  
7       HQ-CT. This is seen in broad age ranges, including  
8       adolescence and early adulthood. Although there is  
9       heterogeneity in many manifestations of PWS,  
10      hyperphagia is one symptom from which essentially  
11      no individual with PWS is spared.

12             The consensus definition of hyperphagia is a  
13      constant, inexorable hunger that is all-consuming  
14      and encompasses severely problematic behaviors.  
15      It's worth pointing out this is not the feeling of  
16      being hungry that you or I feel at the end of a  
17      long day where we missed lunch. This is a  
18      pathological drive to eat that is intense in a way  
19      that we cannot fully appreciate.

20             These children and adults truly believe that  
21      they're starving. That's what their bodies are  
22      telling them. They have a desperate, urgent,

1       overwhelming physiological drive to get food tied  
2       to their survival instinct. It's all-consuming,  
3       persistent, and intractable, and eating does not  
4       make the intense hunger go away. Even an  
5       individual who has free access to food, although  
6       they may stop eating for a short period of time,  
7       that person will continue to focus on food, and if  
8       food is available, they'll gather it, hide it, and  
9       hoard it.

10               I've tried to relate this to an experience  
11       that we've all had and might be able to understand,  
12       and although it's somewhat indelicate and it's not  
13       directly tied to survival the way food is, the best  
14       I could imagine to understand the feeling that  
15       these individuals have is the situation where we  
16       have a bladder that's full, but we don't have  
17       access to a bathroom. The sense of urgency from  
18       this physiological need grows and becomes  
19       overwhelming. It's hard to think about anything  
20       else.

21               Imagine if that's how you felt all day long,  
22       every day, and all night long, every night, and an

1 hour after you use the restroom, you are right back  
2 to feeling that same level of intense physiologic  
3 need to go. Then imagine the people around you  
4 saying, "Umm, you don't actually need to go to the  
5 bathroom now; you just went. So you can go to the  
6 bathroom again in 3 hours. Don't ask again."

7 Our ability to function in the world would  
8 be extremely impacted by that. We would have a  
9 very difficult time shifting our concentration away  
10 from that overwhelming physiological drive that we  
11 felt. Some of us may be feeling that way now.  
12 Now, imagine what it would feel like if this was  
13 how you would spend every day of your life,  
14 constantly thinking about food; continuing to eat  
15 if portion size is not limited; and waking up from  
16 sleep early thinking about food.

17 I had one young man in my practice who lived  
18 in a group home. He woke up in the middle of the  
19 night because he heard a noise in the kitchen. A  
20 staff member had left the door unlocked and he was  
21 able to get in and get some food. For the next  
22 6 months, he couldn't sleep at night because he was

1 just lying in his bed ruminating about whether he  
2 might be able to access food, steadily becoming  
3 more and more anxious and unable to sleep, hoping,  
4 feeling that if he could just get up, he might be  
5 able to get more food. It was devastating for him  
6 and for the group home workers.

7 This is not a unique story. Children with  
8 Prader-Willi syndrome, given the opportunity, will  
9 eat huge amounts of food very rapidly. After a  
10 meal, they become hungry again within a very short  
11 period of time, typically 30 to 60 minutes.

12 Stealing food or stealing money to buy food is very  
13 common, as well as running away from home to get  
14 access to food, which can be quite dangerous.

15 Another risky behavior is breaking into  
16 houses to access food. Sometimes the creativity  
17 shown by individuals with Prader-Willi syndrome  
18 finding ways to get food is shocking relative to  
19 their other intellectual disabilities. One patient  
20 that I've cared for, a young man, noticed the  
21 neighbor making something in a large bowl in her  
22 kitchen, so he went and rang the front doorbell,

1 then ran to the back of the house and went in the  
2 kitchen while she was answering the front door, and  
3 he ran off with a large bowl of cookie dough.

4 The neighbor called the police, and they  
5 quickly sorted out what had happened, but the boy  
6 was nowhere to be found. That led to two hours of  
7 family and police searching and his parents being  
8 terribly worried before he was eventually found  
9 asleep in the crawl space under the neighbor's  
10 house with the mostly empty bowl of cookie dough.  
11 That story ended safely, but others don't. We know  
12 of children having been hit by cars while running  
13 away to try to get food.

14 There's also a classic phenotype of eating  
15 food from the garbage can, which most children with  
16 Prader-Willi syndrome will do if given the  
17 opportunity. Families learn quickly to lock up  
18 garbage cans, but that can't be done when you're  
19 out.

20 Also typical are meltdowns or behavioral  
21 episodes, where a person loses control of their  
22 behavior, rapidly becoming extremely upset and

1        anxious.  These episodes are frequently related to  
2        food or, more often, when access to food is  
3        prevented.  And again, the various morbidities  
4        related to food-seeking behavior have been shown to  
5        contribute to mortality in a third, one-third, of  
6        patients under the age of 18 who died.  Accidental  
7        deaths at all points of life continue to be a  
8        common cause of death.  Very often these accidental  
9        deaths are related to food-seeking behaviors.

10                As a result of all of this, patients with  
11        this degree of intense hyperphagia require constant  
12        supervision from an adult, or more than one adult  
13        in many cases.  And to be clear, at any given age,  
14        the likelihood of death in a person with  
15        Prader-Willi syndrome is about 3 times that of  
16        typically developing child and adult peers.

17                Unfortunately, there is no treatment for  
18        this feeling of starvation.  Drugs for diet  
19        management that reduce appetite in most typically  
20        developing children and adults have not been  
21        effective in individuals with Prader-Willi  
22        syndrome, and stimulant medications for

1 hyperactivity that are often used in young  
2 children, and often associated with reduced  
3 appetite and weight loss, have no apparent effect  
4 on the hyperphagia or weight management in  
5 Prader-Willi syndrome.

6 Clinicians and families recognize that  
7 environmental controls can mitigate the obesity  
8 phenotype by reducing calorie intake, but this does  
9 not reduce the underlying hyperphagia that patients  
10 experience, and it comes at the cost of intense  
11 24-hour vigilance on the part of caregivers.

12 Caregivers resort to locking not only  
13 cabinets, but locking bedrooms and kitchens to  
14 prevent PWS patients from accessing food, and they  
15 have to monitor their children continuously, making  
16 it difficult to go to a restaurant, attend a  
17 birthday party, or participate in daily routines at  
18 school. Most importantly, you can't judge an  
19 individual's degree of hyperphagia by looking at  
20 their weight. Our thin patients are just as  
21 hyperphagic as our heavy patients; they just have  
22 better control of calorie intake by other people.

1           Restricting access to food does not affect  
2 the experience of starvation that the child or the  
3 adult with Prader-Willi syndrome feels, and it only  
4 partially mitigates the risks associated with  
5 food-seeking behaviors.

6           The need for constant supervision and strict  
7 environmental controls is one of the major  
8 contributors to the high levels of caregiver burden  
9 reported for PWS, and it also contributes greatly  
10 to the low levels of both patient and caregiver  
11 quality of life reported for the syndrome. In our  
12 clinic, questions about how folks are coping and  
13 the stressors at home frequently lead to parents  
14 breaking down in tears. I'd say we see this once  
15 or twice a day in our clinic. This need  
16 significantly limits the independence of patients.

17           People with Prader-Willi syndrome could  
18 function in society and live more independently  
19 with modest assistance or in group homes that don't  
20 have PWS specific food procedures in place if the  
21 hyperphagia were controlled. However, without  
22 adequate hyperphagic control and without the

1 external controls that are currently required with  
2 constant 24-hour-a-day supervision, an individual  
3 with Prader-Willi syndrome cannot live  
4 independently, and the controls required in the  
5 home are impossible to replicate outside of the  
6 home: locked doors, constant supervision, and lack  
7 of opportunity to go out. Together, the severity  
8 of the external controls effectively turns the home  
9 into an institution for both the patients and their  
10 families.

11 Furthermore, the behavioral issues in  
12 Prader-Willi syndrome, although characteristic,  
13 don't easily fall into the classical diagnostic  
14 categories for psychiatry. There are high levels  
15 of anxiousness and distress, and in the teen years,  
16 an increased risk of psychiatric disorders,  
17 including psychotic episodes characterized by  
18 auditory and visual hallucinations.

19 There are a number of characteristic issues  
20 that develop in adolescents and young adult life,  
21 including repetitive thinking and questioning and  
22 ritualistic and compulsive behavior symptoms. The

1 person struggles with social interactions due to  
2 their cognitive rigidity and maladaptive behaviors.

3           Individuals with PWS experience  
4 interpersonal challenges that limit engagement in  
5 their environment. They typically have poor peer  
6 relationships and lack empathy. Patients with PWS  
7 also have a lack of insight, which along with  
8 intellectual disabilities and their strong desire  
9 to please makes them very unreliable  
10 self-reporters.

11           Their insistence on routines, concrete  
12 thinking, rigid behavior, and intolerance of change  
13 make it difficult to adapt to new circumstances.  
14 People with PWS often have mood lability. When  
15 their routine is disrupted or they do not get what  
16 they want, they often have temper outbursts. All  
17 of these manifestations and challenges result in a  
18 very high burden of disease for both the patient  
19 and their family.

20           A recent systematic review of 4,000 children  
21 and adults with neurogenetic disorders associated  
22 with intellectual disability documented the

1 frequency of psychiatric symptoms in each  
2 condition. Of the 10 different conditions  
3 considered in that study, individuals with  
4 Prader-Willi syndrome had the greatest burden of  
5 psychiatric and behavioral issues.

6           There are no approved therapies to treat the  
7 behavioral symptoms of Prader-Willi syndrome.  
8 Psychiatric medicines are frequently prescribed  
9 without any specific data documenting their  
10 effectiveness in patients with PWS. Many  
11 individuals with Prader-Willi syndrome, out of  
12 desperation, receive a wide variety of  
13 non-prescription, over-the-counter interventions,  
14 nutritional supplements and vitamins, hoping these  
15 will have an effect on behavioral symptoms. None  
16 of these substances have been shown in any clinical  
17 study to provide a benefit for individuals with  
18 Prader-Willi syndrome.

19           The majority of teens and adults at some  
20 point in their life will have been exposed to drug  
21 therapy for a psychiatric condition, and many are  
22 chronically exposed to multiple psychoactive drugs

1 with all the risks of polypharmacy that go with  
2 that. Some children are being treated with as many  
3 as four different drugs, even in their late  
4 childhood and early teen years, despite the lack of  
5 evidence and mechanistic relationship to PWS.

6           There's also a broad disruption of the  
7 endocrine system underlying most of the PWS  
8 phenotype. There are functional deficiencies of  
9 multiple hormones at the root of many of the  
10 medical, psychiatric, and behavioral symptoms.  
11 Hormone replacement therapy has been highly  
12 effective in PWS, although the only FDA-approved  
13 treatment for any aspect of Prader-Willi syndrome  
14 is the use of a concomitant human growth hormone  
15 which specifically addresses the underlying growth  
16 hormone deficiency that has been well documented in  
17 Prader-Willi syndrome.

18           Growth hormone has been shown to increase  
19 linear growth and to help produce a more normal  
20 appearing body habitus when used in conjunction  
21 with very strict dietary control. This is  
22 important because growth hormone deficiency is

1 characteristic of PWS, but it's only one of many  
2 functional hormonal deficiencies that we see,  
3 including thyroid insufficiency, hypothalamic,  
4 hypogonadism, and central adrenal insufficiency.

5           While hormone replacement therapy is already  
6 being used for some of these medical issues,  
7 there's a growing body of evidence that there is  
8 another hypothalamic hormone deficiency that is not  
9 yet being treated, oxytocin deficiency, which  
10 underlies some of the behavioral issues. Oxytocin  
11 deficiency appears to contribute to several  
12 different unmet needs in individuals with PWS.

13           We know from brain autopsy studies that  
14 there's a marked reduction in the  
15 oxytocin-producing neurons in the paraventricular  
16 nucleus of the hypothalamus in adult brains of  
17 individuals with Prader-Willi, measured at both the  
18 protein and messenger RNA levels in independent  
19 studies.

20           In the image show, the bright spots in the  
21 control sample on the left indicates staining for  
22 oxytocin mRNA in oxytocin-producing neurons. You

1 can see on the right a significant reduction in  
2 oxytocin-producing neurons in a similar slice of  
3 hypothalamus from a subject with Prader-Willi  
4 syndrome.

5 Likewise, a mouse model that has disruption  
6 of the MAGEL2 gene, which is one of the imprinted  
7 genes that is non-functional in people with  
8 Prader-Willi syndrome, shows a significant  
9 reduction in oxytocin-producing neurons in the  
10 hypothalamus. In that mouse model, there is a  
11 50 percent neonatal mortality that was completely  
12 rescued by treatment with oxytocin.

13 Further, normal infant mice, control mice,  
14 injected with oxytocin receptor antagonists showed  
15 almost identical feeding problems. Together these  
16 data strongly suggest that the oxytocin deficiency  
17 contributes significantly to not just the appetite  
18 phenotype, but also the early infantile phenotype  
19 that we see in children with Prader-Willi syndrome,  
20 these very floppy babies who don't feed well.

21 Consensus exists that there is a functional  
22 oxytocin deficiency in patients with PWS, which is

1 important because the known functions of oxytocin  
2 overlap many of the issues experienced by people  
3 with PWS. Oxytocin is well known as a hormone that  
4 impacts social-emotional behaviors. It's a hormone  
5 that's released during breastfeeding in both the  
6 mother and the child. It's the hormone that's  
7 released when individuals have skin-to-skin contact  
8 and is involved in social bonding. It's also been  
9 shown to be a potent anorectic hormone.

10 Low doses of oxytocin injected  
11 intraperitoneally or intracerebrally in animal  
12 models reduce food intake. We also know that mice  
13 that are null for either the oxytocin peptide  
14 sequence or the oxytocin receptor develop adult  
15 on-set obesity. These functions of oxytocin  
16 overlap with a number of important symptoms of PWS,  
17 including hyperphagia, anxiousness, and distress.

18 Despite the important role of oxytocin in  
19 appetite regulation, the functional deficiency of  
20 the hormone in PWS, and anecdotal reports of  
21 benefit in human infants treated with oxytocin,  
22 results from clinical trials of efficacy of

1 oxytocin in PWS have been mixed. When the dose is  
2 escalated, behavior worsens with increasing temper  
3 outbursts observed. It's been hypothesized that  
4 there's an off-target effect of oxytocin, which has  
5 a very similar peptide structure to another  
6 hormone, vasopressin.

7 Oxytocin interacts quite free with  
8 vasopressin receptors and they limit the  
9 therapeutic window of oxytocin in individuals with  
10 Prader-Willi syndrome because the delivery can't be  
11 as precise with an externally delivered drug as it  
12 can be with a normally modulated, endogenous  
13 hormone release. So to get the effect of  
14 concentrations of oxytocin at oxytocin receptors,  
15 where and when they're needed, requires a  
16 non-physiologic dose that is likely also activating  
17 vasopressin receptors, likely contributing to the  
18 intolerance for higher doses of oxytocin.

19 The vasopressin 1a receptor in particular is  
20 implicated in anxiety and depression. Its  
21 off-target stimulation by oxytocin may exacerbate  
22 PWS behavioral symptoms that mute or negate any

1 positive effect of the drug. Activation of the  
2 vasopressin 2 receptor is associated with  
3 antidiuresis and a risk of hyponatremia, which may  
4 have very severe health consequences.

5 In summary, Prader-Willi syndrome is complex  
6 in a unique way. It is a rare but very serious  
7 life-threatening, genetic disorder. Individuals  
8 with Prader-Willi syndrome typically die by the  
9 time they reach 30 years of age. Without treatment  
10 for hyperphagia and the most significant behavioral  
11 issues, particularly anxiousness, patients are  
12 unable to lead independent lives.

13 They have a need for constant supervision  
14 and management, which is incredibly taxing on their  
15 caregivers, and I might add incredibly expensive if  
16 they were to move to a group home because they  
17 often need one-to-one attention anytime they're  
18 awake, and someone needs to be attentive to them  
19 even when they're sleeping.

20 While a consensus exists that there's a  
21 functional oxytocin deficiency in Prader-Willi  
22 syndrome, the use of oxytocin itself as a

1 replacement therapy has been challenging due to  
2 potential off-target effects, particularly through  
3 the vasopressin receptors.

4           There's clear evidence that oxytocin agonism  
5 would be extremely helpful based on mechanistic  
6 evidence, and there's a need to try to develop a  
7 drug that will overcome some of the limitations of  
8 oxytocin itself so that we can use this very  
9 promising pathway to treat the condition.

10           I'll now turn the discussion back to Jay  
11 Cormier.

12           **Applicant Presentation - Jay Cormier**

13           DR. CORMIER: The clinical development  
14 program demonstrated the efficacy of intranasal  
15 carbetocin in two randomized, placebo-controlled  
16 clinical trials. The data substantiate the  
17 hypothesis that oxytocin receptor agonism with  
18 carbetocin is effective in treating hyperphagia and  
19 other behavioral symptoms of PWS.

20           Carbetocin was originally developed in the  
21 1980s by Ferring Pharmaceuticals as an oxytocin  
22 receptor agonist with greater selectivity for the

1 oxytocin receptor than the native hormone. It was  
2 developed as an alternative to oxytocin for use in  
3 reproductive health and was first approved in  
4 Canada in 1997. It is now approved in over  
5 90 countries for the prevention of uterine  
6 hemorrhage following labor and delivery. Over the  
7 last 24 years, carbetocin has been administered to  
8 over 11 million women worldwide with a notably safe  
9 profile.

10           Given the interest in oxytocin hormone  
11 replacement therapy in PWS and the need for more  
12 selective oxytocin receptor agonists, carbetocin  
13 was a natural choice with its existing safety data  
14 set and its availability outside the U.S. as a  
15 marketed product. Accordingly, Ferring developed  
16 an intranasal form of carbetocin as a potential  
17 treatment for PWS. In 2017, Levo in-licensed the  
18 product, now referred to as LV-101, to treat  
19 patients with PWS. For this indication, FDA has  
20 granted it orphan product designation, rare  
21 pediatric disease designation, and fast-track  
22 designation.

1 Carbetocin was developed specifically to  
2 have a longer half-life and a wider therapeutic  
3 window than the endogenous oxytocin hormone, with  
4 greater on-target activity at the oxytocin receptor  
5 and less off-target activity at the vasopressin  
6 receptors. The EC50 for oxytocin receptor is  
7 3-fold lower than that of oxytocin itself, but  
8 carbetocin's EC50 for the vasopressin 1a receptor  
9 is 4 times higher than oxytocin, and the EC50 for  
10 the V2 receptor is almost 25 times higher.

11 Oxytocin has known dose-limiting effects on  
12 cardiovascular homeostasis, which were thought to  
13 be mediated via off-target activation of the V2  
14 receptor. No such effects have been observed with  
15 the use of carbetocin.

16 As mentioned in Dr. McCandless'  
17 presentation, negative behaviors have been observed  
18 when using higher doses of oxytocin in the patients  
19 with PWS, which may be mediated in patients with  
20 PWS via activation of the V1a receptors. As a  
21 result of the lower propensity to activate such  
22 receptors, carbetocin's wider therapeutic window

1 reduces the chance that an individual with PWS will  
2 experience the negative behavior seen with the use  
3 of oxytocin that limited its effectiveness.

4           Intranasal carbetocin is dosed 3 times per  
5 day with meals to mimic the body's normal release  
6 of oxytocin concurrent with meals. Each dose  
7 consists of 4 sprays, 2 in each nostril, and  
8 delivers a total of 3.2 milligrams of carbetocin.  
9 The effects of treatment are measured by caregiver  
10 and clinician questionnaires.

11           Direct assessment of PWS patients is  
12 difficult because patients exhibit varying degrees  
13 of intellectual disability and developmental delay.  
14 Individuals with PWS also have limited insight into  
15 their symptoms and tend to be unreliable reporters.  
16 Accordingly, there's a broad consensus that  
17 behavioral assessments for PWS need to be via  
18 caregiver- or clinician-reported questionnaires.

19           Furthermore, because of the unique  
20 constellation of symptoms in PWS, traditional  
21 psychiatric instruments are of limited value,  
22 necessitating questionnaires that are specifically

1 designed to measure the observable manifestations  
2 of PWS. These PWS specific instruments have been  
3 developed and validated for the patient population  
4 in alignment with FDA guidance on clinical outcome  
5 assessments.

6 The phase 2 and phase 3 studies used two  
7 different but related caregiver-reported  
8 questionnaires to assess hyperphagia. The phase 2  
9 used an 11-item questionnaire, the Hyperphagia in  
10 PWS Questionnaire, referred to as the HPWSQ-R.  
11 This instrument was developed by Vanderbilt  
12 University and is related to the HQ-CT, which was  
13 revised following FDA input and validated by  
14 another sponsor, Zafgen, along with help from RTI  
15 Health Solutions. The validated HQ-CT instrument  
16 is a 9-item caregiver-reported outcome measure.

17 Obsessive-compulsive symptoms were assessed  
18 using the children's version of the Y-BOCS. This  
19 clinician-administered instrument takes  
20 approximately an hour to complete. Because the  
21 CY-BOCS was not designed for PWS, it is not used in  
22 the clinical management of patients and was

1 unfamiliar to the vast majority of the raters in  
2 these studies.

3 In the phase 2 study, there was evidence of  
4 benefit of the CY-BOCS, which was the secondary  
5 endpoint in Study 114. During discussions of the  
6 design of CARE-PWS with the FDA, the agency  
7 questioned the use of CY-BOCS as a secondary  
8 primary endpoint in the phase 3 study, preferring  
9 that the study focus the analysis solely on the  
10 assessment of hyperphagia rather than on both HQ-CT  
11 and CY-BOCS endpoints.

12 Despite adding a complexity to the second  
13 3.2-milligram dose, the phase 3 study, CY-BOCS was  
14 ultimately retained as a second primary endpoint in  
15 CARE-PWS with the hope of demonstrating  
16 improvements in the obsessive-compulsive symptoms  
17 of PWS, in addition to improvements in hyperphagia.

18 The unique anxiousness and distress  
19 experienced by PWS patients manifest differently  
20 than what is captured by available measures of  
21 generalized anxiety and psychological distress.  
22 Such classical measures often query physical

1 symptoms not experienced in PWS and are missing  
2 concepts central to PWS.

3           There are also patient-reported instruments,  
4 and therefore not appropriate for use in a  
5 population that is unable to self-report. As a  
6 result, and in collaboration with RTI Health  
7 Solutions and the Foundation for Prader-Willi  
8 Research, Levo developed the PWS Anxiousness and  
9 Distress Behaviors Questionnaire.

10           The PADQ is a 15-item, caregiver-reported  
11 instrument designed to capture the observable signs  
12 of anxiousness and distress that are common among  
13 subjects with PWS. With data collected during the  
14 phase 3 CARE-PWS study, the PADQ has met the  
15 requirements for a validated observer-reported  
16 outcome measure under FDA guidance.

17           Other efficacy measures employed include  
18 clinical global impression scales which have a long  
19 history of use in various product development  
20 programs. Specifically, both the CGI severity and  
21 CGI change instruments were included to provide the  
22 clinician's perspective at each visit on global PWS

1 symptom severity, both at the time of the visit and  
2 improvements from baseline in global PWS symptoms.

3           Finally, the Food Safe Zone is a  
4 PWS-specific questionnaire developed by Vanderbilt  
5 University as a caregiver-reported, standardized  
6 method for surveying the use of environmental  
7 controls to help manage both behavioral symptoms,  
8 as well as hyperphagia in individuals with PWS.  
9 Scores reflect both the caregiver burden of  
10 hyperphagia and the degree of restrictions imposed  
11 on the patient for their safety and well-being.  
12 Reductions in Food Safe Zone scores over time  
13 reflect an ability to relax environmental controls  
14 due to improvements in hyperphagia.

15           Two clinical studies support the efficacy of  
16 carbetocin as a treatment for PWS, the phase 2  
17 study, Study 114, and the phase 3 study, Study 301,  
18 which we refer to as CARE-PWS. As expected, these  
19 studies had many similarities. Both studies were  
20 randomized to double-blinded, placebo-controlled,  
21 parallel-group multicenter studies. Both studies  
22 evaluated the 9.6-milligram dose administered

1 3 times daily with meals versus placebo. Both were  
2 designed to evaluate the effects of intranasal  
3 carbetocin on behavioral symptoms in PWS,  
4 specifically hyperphagia and obsessive-compulsive  
5 symptoms. Both studies enrolled male and female  
6 subjects with genetically confirmed PWS.

7 While the design of the phase 2 and phase 3  
8 studies were similar, key differences exist, the  
9 most obvious of which are the size and duration of  
10 the studies. Study 114 enrolled 37 patients with  
11 PWS, whereas CARE-PWS targeted 175 patients. Due  
12 to the COVID pandemic, 130 patients were enrolled  
13 and 119 were evaluable for efficacy.

14 Study 114 evaluated patients for 15 days,  
15 whereas CARE-PWS included an 8-week placebo-  
16 controlled period was a 56-week, long-term follow-  
17 up period and an optional extension period. Based  
18 on FDA feedback and the potential for off-target  
19 effects of carbetocin on the vasopressin system, a  
20 lower 3.2 milligram -- that is one-third of the 9.6  
21 milligram dose -- was added to the CARE-PWS study  
22 design, whereas Study 114 included only the higher

1 9.6-milligram dose.

2 In Study 114, there was a single primary  
3 efficacy endpoint related to hyperphagia, whereas  
4 in CARE-PWS, there were two primary efficacy  
5 endpoints, the HQ-CT and CY-BOCS instruments.  
6 Accordingly, a minimum entry criterion for  
7 screening and baseline scores for CY-BOCS was added  
8 to CARE-PWS.

9 In addition to an increase in study size,  
10 the number of clinical study sites enrolling  
11 patients increased from 3 sites in Study 114 to  
12 24 sites in CARE-PWS. Lastly, as discussed  
13 earlier, the specific instrument to measure  
14 hyperphagia differed between the two studies.

15 Study 114 was conducted at Vanderbilt, the  
16 University of Florida Gainesville, and at NYU  
17 Winthrop. It was designed to be a 1-to-1  
18 randomization of patients to either 9.6-milligram  
19 carbetocin or placebo. The primary analysis  
20 considered changes in hyperphagia from baseline to  
21 day 15. Of the 37 patients enrolled, 20 were  
22 randomized to placebo and 17 to 9.6-milligram

1 carbetocin. Baseline demographics were well  
2 balanced between the two arms.

3           Subjects enrolled in the study and  
4 randomized to the 9.6-milligram carbetocin arm  
5 experienced an average placebo-adjusted improvement  
6 of 6.9 points on the HPWSQ-R instrument with a one-  
7 sided p-value of less than 0.025. Statistically  
8 significant improvements were also observed with  
9 other secondary instruments, specifically the  
10 HPWSQ-R-C, which was the clinician-rated version of  
11 the primary endpoint; the Clinical Global  
12 Impression of Improvement, CY-BOCS; and the Reiss  
13 Profile food domain, which is a subset of  
14 caregiver-reported instruments not specific to PWS.  
15 Improvements were observed across the subdomains of  
16 the caregiver and clinician versions of the  
17 hyperphagia instrument.

18           In summary, patients randomized to  
19 carbetocin experienced significant and clinically  
20 meaningful reductions in hyperphagia. Benefits  
21 were also seen across other secondary instruments,  
22 including clinical global impressions and

1 obsessive-compulsive symptoms. Adding to the  
2 animal, in vitro, and human mechanistic data,  
3 Study 114 confirms that selective oxytocin receptor  
4 agonism is able to address the functional oxytocin  
5 deficiency in PWS; and consistent with what is  
6 known about oxytocin's role in human behavior is  
7 able to reduce both hyperphagia and behavioral  
8 symptoms of PWS.

9 Building on these data, in 2017, Levo began  
10 work on what would become the CARE-PWS study.

11 After we were able to meet with FDA to discuss the  
12 study design and the protocol was finalized,  
13 CARE-PWS opened enrollment in November of 2018 with  
14 the intent to enroll 175 patients, which would have  
15 made it the largest PWS study ever conducted.

16 Unlike more common diseases, enrollment of clinical  
17 studies in rare diseases is a much longer and more  
18 arduous task.

19 Throughout 2019, CARE-PWS enrolled  
20 approximately 9 patients per month across a total  
21 of 24 clinical study sites. Unfortunately, we were  
22 unable to complete the attended enrollment when the

1 COVID-19 pandemic halted the vast majority of  
2 clinical research.

3           In March of 2020, we were forced to pause  
4 enrollment at study sites and close our hospitals  
5 to clinical studies such as ours. After consulting  
6 with FDA in April 2020, and with FDA's concurrence,  
7 the difficult decision was made to truncate the  
8 study, enrolling only 130 of the original 175 study  
9 subjects. Even at that reduced number, 130 patients  
10 represents the second largest clinical study in PWS  
11 history.

12           The last patient completed their  
13 placebo-controlled period in May of 2020 and the  
14 study database was locked, and Levo employees were  
15 unblinded in July of that year. Following analysis  
16 of the results, all study subjects were  
17 transitioned in October and early November to the  
18 3.2-milligram dose. The last of the 130 subjects  
19 to reach the end of the long-term follow-up period  
20 and enter into the extension period occurred in May  
21 of this year.

22           Critically, for patients with PWS, the

1 disruptive circumstances of the pandemic presented  
2 a perfect storm, as they and their families rely  
3 heavily on strong daily routines to manage and  
4 lessen the negative behavioral symptoms of the  
5 syndrome. Images of grocery store shelves during  
6 the beginning months of the pandemic increased  
7 concerns regarding food security among the general  
8 population and was a particular concern to people  
9 with PWS.

10           These unexpected changes had the potential  
11 to confound CARE-PWS data during this period since  
12 all efficacy measures in this study were  
13 observer-reported outcome measures of the outward  
14 and observable manifestations of hyperphagia,  
15 obsessive-compulsive symptoms, and symptoms of  
16 anxiousness and distress, all behaviors at risk of  
17 being affected by the pandemic.

18           Importantly, the amount of time that  
19 caregivers spent with study participants suddenly  
20 and substantially increased as schools closed and  
21 local areas went into lockdown. Given the  
22 importance of caregiver observations and the

1 efficacy endpoints of the study, this change  
2 represented a fundamental shift.

3           After discussion and in agreement with FDA,  
4 but before study unblinding, a primary analysis set  
5 was defined to remove any potential confounding  
6 impact of the pandemic. As a result, efficacy data  
7 were evaluated through March 1, 2020, resulting in  
8 119 evaluable subjects.

9           CARE-PWS is a phase 3, randomized,  
10 placebo-controlled, double-blinded study,  
11 consisting of an 8-week placebo-controlled period,  
12 a 56-week period of long-term follow-up, and an  
13 optional ongoing extension period.

14           Subjects were randomized to receive  
15 3.2-milligram carbetocin, 9.6-milligram carbetocin,  
16 or placebo during the first 8 weeks. Patients  
17 randomized to placebo were further randomized prior  
18 to baseline to later receive either the  
19 3.2 -milligram carbetocin or 9.6-milligram  
20 carbetocin during the long term follow-up. All  
21 patients, caregivers, and study site personnel were  
22 blinded to dosing and all remaining participants

1 were transitioned to open-label 3.2-milligram  
2 carbetocin in October of 2020. Subjects who  
3 completed their week 64 visit were given the option  
4 to continue to receive intranasal carbetocin during  
5 an extension period, again, which is still ongoing.

6 The CONSORT diagram for the PAS population  
7 is shown here. The 130 enrolled subjects were  
8 evenly distributed across study arms. Even when  
9 considering the 119 evaluable subjects for efficacy  
10 analyses, parity is maintained with 39 in the  
11 3.2-dose arm, 40 in the 9.6-dose arm, and 40 in the  
12 placebo arm.

13 The only two subjects to discontinue from  
14 the study during the placebo-controlled period were  
15 in the 9.6-milligram dose arm. Because both  
16 discontinuations occurred prior to March 1, 2020,  
17 both are included in the PAS. Of the 40 placebo  
18 patients included in the PAS, 20 went on to receive  
19 3.2 milligram in the long-term follow-up period and  
20 20 received 9.6 milligram.

21 A greater proportion of subjects that  
22 ultimately discontinued from the study were

1 receiving the higher dose. Specifically, when  
2 blinded to dose, 71 percent of study  
3 discontinuations are patients who are receiving the  
4 9.6-milligram dose of carbetocin. As with the  
5 114 study, baseline demographics were generally  
6 well balanced in CARE-PWS.

7 Improvements in hyperphagia as measured by  
8 the HQ-CT were observed for both doses.

9 Improvements were seen in the 9.6-dose arm, but  
10 those improvements did not statistically separate  
11 from placebo. At this point, formal statistical  
12 testing ended and subsequent p-values are all  
13 nominal. Subjects receiving 3.2-milligram  
14 carbetocin, however, showed greater improvements in  
15 HQ-CT total scores that attained a nominal p-value  
16 of 0.016.

17 While the study missed its specified success  
18 criteria, patients taking 3.2-milligram carbetocin  
19 experienced consistent benefits across primary and  
20 secondary endpoint measures. Specifically, the  
21 3.2-milligram dose arm showed nominally significant  
22 improvements in HQ-CT total scores, again, a

1 p-value of 0.016; PADQ total scores, a nominal  
2 p-value of 0.027; clinical global impressions of  
3 change, also a nominal p-value of 0.027; and a  
4 subset of HQ-CT questions that are less likely to  
5 be confounded by caregiver-imposed environmental  
6 controls, a phenomenal p-value of 0.011.

7           The 3.2-milligram dose arm further showed  
8 numerical improvements in CY-BOCS total scores in  
9 HQ-CT question 9, a question that measures the  
10 extent to which subject's hyperphagia interferes  
11 with daily life.

12           While the two primary endpoints of HQ-CT and  
13 CY-BOCS changes in the 9.6 arm were not  
14 statistically significant, subjects randomized to  
15 the 9.6-milligram dose experienced numerical  
16 improvements in all primary and secondary  
17 instruments, except for the PADQ total scores,  
18 which favored placebo. Of the other 12  
19 prespecified primary and secondary analyses, the  
20 results favored carbetocin in all but the PADQ for  
21 the 9.6 dose. The 3.2-milligram dose consistently  
22 outperforms the 9.6-milligram dose with greater

1 magnitudes of effect and lower p-values.

2           Digging into the 3.2-milligram data more  
3 deeply, we can show the data as a forest plot. The  
4 results of all primary and secondary endpoints for  
5 the 3.2-milligram showed consistency of effect with  
6 all point estimates showing improvements from  
7 baseline compared to placebo for both caregiver-  
8 and clinician-reported outcomes.

9           The confidence intervals exclude zero for  
10 HQ-CT, PADQ, CGI change, and the HQ-CT subset.  
11 Question 9 and 5 are point estimates to show  
12 improvement, but the confidence intervals do not  
13 exclude zero for these two outcomes. A responder  
14 analysis can demonstrate the clinical  
15 meaningfulness of improvements in hyperphagia among  
16 patients receiving the 3.2-milligram dose of  
17 carbetocin.

18           The validation dossier for the HQ-CT defines  
19 a responder threshold of 7.7 points, which equates  
20 to an 8-point improvement threshold. Looking at  
21 the proportion of patients who showed improvements  
22 of at least 8 points, on the left, there is

1 significantly more in the 3.2-milligram dose group  
2 than in the placebo group, whereas greater  
3 proportions of placebo patients are found in groups  
4 of patients with 1 to 3-point improvements and  
5 among those with no change or worsening over the 8-  
6 week placebo-controlled period.

7           For the 8-point responder threshold,  
8 one-third of patients on 3.2 are responders,  
9 whereas 12.5 percent of those on placebo are  
10 responders. The difference between 8-point  
11 responders in the 3.2-milligram arm versus placebo  
12 translates to a p-value of 0.034 with an odds ratio  
13 of 3 and a half. Furthermore, the study was  
14 designed to enable comparison of the experience of  
15 patients originally assigned to placebo to those  
16 patients' experience after they transitioned to  
17 receive active treatment.

18           These patients were prospectively randomized  
19 to make this transition at week 8, either to 9.6-  
20 or 3.2-milligram carbetocin for the dose-blinded,  
21 long-term follow-up period. As you can see on this  
22 slide, those patients originally on placebo who

1 transitioned to 3.2-milligram carbetocin  
2 experienced a significant and clinically meaningful  
3 improvement in hyperphagia scores in a matching  
4 time period of 8 weeks with a p-value of 0.0004.  
5 The meaningful effects of carbetocin continued to  
6 accrue in the long-term follow-up period and are  
7 maintained through the week 64 visit.

8           Here we see the longitudinal data for HQ-CT  
9 scores from week 8 to week 64. For simplicity, of  
10 the 103 patients who completed the study through  
11 week 64, only the patients originally assigned to  
12 carbetocin -- that is, not the placebo  
13 patients -- are included in this chart. Over time,  
14 patients in all treatment groups show clinically  
15 meaningful improvements in hyperphagia that are  
16 sustained through their week 64 visit.

17           Specifically, 65 percent of the 103 patients  
18 experienced an 8-point improvement in HQ-CT scores  
19 at the end of the study, meeting the within-patient  
20 responder threshold. Even when conservatively  
21 counting all patients who discontinued from the  
22 study as non-responders, still 52 percent of

1 patients are responders at week 64.

2           Importantly, while these long-term follow-up  
3 data are not placebo-controlled, the sustained and  
4 substantial improvements observed are inconsistent  
5 with the natural history of PWS that Dr.  
6 McCandless described. This is seen again with  
7 longitudinal PADQ total scores where,  
8 conservatively, 53 percent of all patients  
9 experienced an 11-point improvement at week 64,  
10 which represents, again, the within-patient  
11 responder threshold for this validated anxiousness  
12 and distress questionnaire.

13           While the 3.2-milligram dose was not chosen  
14 as the primary endpoint, it nonetheless achieved  
15 significant and clinically meaningful improvements  
16 in both hyperphagia, as well as anxiousness and  
17 distress. The results of the study are internally  
18 consistent and robust to sensitivity analyses.  
19 Importantly, both caregiver assessments, as well as  
20 clinical assessments, show benefits to patients  
21 with PWS. The long-term follow-up data provide  
22 additional evidence of the importance of the

1 observations in the placebo-controlled period.

2 Patients who took placebo and then cross  
3 over to receive 3.2-milligram carbetocin  
4 experienced significant improvements by week 16,  
5 and the clinically meaningful benefits experienced  
6 by patients are maintained for over a year, through  
7 the week 64 visit.

8 In conclusion, the phase 3 study identified  
9 the safe and effective dose of carbetocin,  
10 specifically 3.2 milligrams. The phase 2 study,  
11 while testing only the higher dose, demonstrated  
12 pharmacologic proof of principle and, at a minimum,  
13 should be considered confirmatory evidence. The  
14 phase 3 results are further supported by the  
15 mechanistic data, demonstrating the functional  
16 oxytocin deficiency in PWS and the long-term  
17 follow-up analyses, which are inconsistent with the  
18 natural history of PWS.

19 While there may be debate regarding the  
20 appropriate statistical conclusions from the data,  
21 in their totality, and particularly in light of the  
22 truncation of care PWS due to the pandemic, the

1 clinical data provides substantial evidence that  
2 administration of intranasal carbetocin confers  
3 significant, sustained, and clinically meaningful  
4 efficacy in addressing the previously intractable  
5 hyperphagia in PWS behaviors. These clinically  
6 meaningful and durable benefits clearly outweigh  
7 the minimal risks, which Dr. Davis Ryman will  
8 describe next in his presentation of the safety  
9 data.

10 Dr. Ryman?

11 **Applicant Presentation - Davis Ryman**

12 DR. RYMAN: Thank you, Jay.

13 My name is Davis Ryman, and I'm the vice  
14 president of Clinical Development for Levo  
15 Therapeutics. I'm a neurologist and geneticist by  
16 training, and I've led the clinical development of  
17 intranasal carbetocin as an investigational  
18 treatment for Prader-Willi syndrome throughout the  
19 startup and completion of the CARE-PWS phase 3  
20 study.

21 The safety of intranasal carbetocin has been  
22 thoroughly characterized and is favorable for use

1 in PWS. The safety presentation is based primarily  
2 on data from the placebo-controlled period of the  
3 CARE-PWS phase 3 study, supplemented by additional  
4 data from the phase 2 study, Study 114, and by data  
5 from the long term for treatment-emergent adverse  
6 events that were transient and mild to moderate,  
7 and self-limited in nature.

8 These events most prominently included  
9 flushing, which is an expected event of transient  
10 vasodilation that's been observed with oxytocin and  
11 with other oxytocin receptor agonists, as well as  
12 several events that could be potentially related to  
13 the intranasal route of delivery such as headache  
14 and epistaxis, or nosebleeds.

15 The favorable observed safety profile for  
16 intranasal use is consistent with the previously  
17 established clinical safety experience from  
18 intravenous use of carbetocin for obstetric  
19 indications outside the U.S.

20 Intravenous carbetocin is currently approved  
21 in over 90 countries outside the United States,  
22 where it's primarily used for prevention and

1 treatment of uterine atony and excessive bleeding  
2 for one Cesarean section. It's been administered  
3 for this use, to date, in over 11 million women  
4 worldwide over the last 24 years. Notably, the  
5 3.2-milligram intranasal dose results in similar  
6 total exposure to the intravenous dose that's used  
7 for these obstetric indications.

8           Although PWS is a rare orphan indication,  
9 the phase 2 and phase 3 pivotal studies together  
10 have gathered data on extensive exposure to  
11 carbetocin in patients with PWS. As of June 18,  
12 2021, Levo has accumulated approximately 188  
13 subject-years of exposure, including 110 subjects  
14 with 6 months or more of exposure and 102 subjects  
15 with one year or more of exposure from the CARE-PWS  
16 phase 3 study.

17           Levo continues to accumulate additional  
18 subject exposure data as the extension period for  
19 the CARE-PWS study is ongoing. These data have  
20 consistently shown a profile of predominantly mild  
21 to moderate treatment-emergent adverse events.

22           During the placebo-controlled period of

1 CARE-PWS, the rate of treatment-emergent adverse  
2 events was broadly similar between the placebo  
3 group and the carbetocin groups, although rates  
4 were somewhat higher in the carbetocin arms,  
5 particularly for the 9.6-milligram group.

6 The best majority of TEAEs were mild to  
7 moderate in severity with the sole exception of one  
8 severe event of transient sinus pain in the  
9 9.6-milligram arm. This occurred as the family's  
10 flight was landing and was due to a sinus infection  
11 that entirely resolved with antibiotics.

12 There were no deaths during the CARE-PWS PWS  
13 study and no serious adverse events occurred during  
14 the placebo-controlled period. The most commonly  
15 observed TEAEs were events expected either due to  
16 the activity of carbetocin or the intranasal route  
17 of delivery. Though transient flushing is an  
18 expected event that's consistent with transient  
19 vasodilation that has been observed with oxytocin  
20 and other oxytocin receptor agonists, in CARE-PWS,  
21 20 percent of patients on 9.6- milligram carbetocin  
22 and 14 percent on 3.2-milligram carbetocin

1 experienced transient flushing, which was mild to  
2 moderate in severity and self-limited.

3 Other events, including nasal discomfort and  
4 epistaxis, or nosebleed, upper respiratory  
5 infections, and headache may be potentially related  
6 to the intranasal route of delivery, with epistaxis  
7 being notably more increased in the 9.6-milligram  
8 dose arm. These events were also mild to moderate  
9 in severity and were self-limited in nature.

10 Discontinuation for adverse events were  
11 infrequent and occurred only in the 9.6-milligram  
12 arm. One subject discontinued during the  
13 placebo-controlled period due to an event of  
14 impulsivity when a patient had impulsively  
15 swallowed some coins after an argument with her  
16 mother; one patient discontinued due to  
17 experiencing tachycardia and feeling flushed  
18 following the initial administration of study  
19 medication; and one patient had an event of  
20 hypersexuality, or sexual acting out, which the  
21 investigator assessed as mild that began during the  
22 placebo-controlled period, and the patient

1 eventually discontinued during the long-term  
2 follow-up period.

3           During the CARE-PWS long-term follow-up and  
4 extension period, the nature and severity of the  
5 events observed were largely similar. All patients  
6 have now transitioned to receive open-label  
7 3.2-milligram per dose carbetocin during the  
8 ongoing open-label extension period.

9           Though these data reflect prolonged  
10 participation in the CARE-PWS study, there are  
11 currently patients in the ongoing extension period  
12 of the study who have been exposed for over three  
13 years as of the most recent safety update. The  
14 overall rate of TEAEs and the rate of moderate  
15 TEAEs was somewhat higher in the 9.6-milligram  
16 group. The majority of events have continued to be  
17 mild to moderate in severity, and there have been  
18 no deaths during the study. The overall pattern of  
19 most commonly observed events was probably similar  
20 to that observed in the placebo-controlled period.

21           Interestingly, rates of flushing fell below  
22 5 percent during the long term follow-up and

1 extension periods, suggesting that flushing may be  
2 an event that may diminish over time. Events  
3 potentially related to the intranasal route of  
4 delivery, such as headache, epistaxis, and  
5 nasopharyngitis, continue to be observed during  
6 these periods but remain mild to moderate and  
7 self-limiting in nature.

8           Unlike the 8-week placebo-controlled period,  
9 the multiyear, long-term follow-up and extension  
10 periods did include some serious adverse events,  
11 but no deaths. Serious adverse events were  
12 reported at rates of 7.4 percent in the  
13 3.2-milligram group and 12.5 percent for the  
14 9.6-milligram group, but with no particular pattern  
15 and no event occurring with frequency above  
16 3 percent.

17           The most commonly observed SAE in the  
18 9.6-milligram group was pneumonia, so there is an  
19 elevated rate of respiratory infections in PWS,  
20 which is often related to choking and subclinical  
21 aspiration. The most common SAE in the  
22 3.2-milligram group was scoliosis surgery, which

1 related to elective admissions for orthopedic  
2 surgery to correct pre-existing scoliosis due to  
3 PWS. The majority of these events did not result  
4 in discontinuation.

5           During the long term follow-up and extension  
6 periods, there was a somewhat higher rate of  
7 discontinuation due to TEAEs overall in the  
8 9.6-milligram group, with a rate of 7.8 percent  
9 versus 2.8 percent in the 3.2-milligram arm. The  
10 majority of the events leading to discontinuation  
11 in the 9.6-milligram group were emotional or  
12 behavioral in nature, and as you've heard, this may  
13 be potentially related to off-target effects on  
14 vasopressin receptors occurring at higher doses.

15           The previously completed 2-week phase 2  
16 study also explored the safety and efficacy of the  
17 9.6-milligram dose versus placebo. Safety was also  
18 largely consistent with that observed in the  
19 placebo-controlled period of CARE-PWS.

20           The overall rate of TEAEs was similar in the  
21 carbetocin and placebo groups in the phase 2 study.  
22 No deaths or serious adverse events occurred during

1 the study and TEAEs were exclusively mild to  
2 moderate in severity. One patient experienced  
3 TEAEs of aggression and ulnar fracture during an  
4 aggressive behavioral outburst at school where the  
5 patient needed to be restrained, leading to  
6 discontinuation from the study. This patient was  
7 determined to be in the placebo group.

8 The most common events observed were those  
9 potentially related to the intranasal route of  
10 delivery. Most common TEAEs overall was headache,  
11 which occurred at similar frequencies in the  
12 9.6-milligram and placebo arms. Both headache and  
13 sinusitis may be potentially associated with the  
14 intranasal route of delivery. The other event  
15 rates were largely similar between the groups.

16 Across studies and study periods, intranasal  
17 carbetocin was consistently safe and well tolerated  
18 in patients with PWS. The most common events  
19 observed were transient and mild to moderate and  
20 primarily included flushing, which is an expected  
21 event due to transient vasodilation associated with  
22 oxytocin receptor agonism and also a number of

1 other different events potentially related to the  
2 intranasal route of delivery. The overall nature  
3 and severity of the events observed were consistent  
4 across studies and across the three periods of  
5 CARE-PWS.

6 I'm now honored to introduce Dr. Cheri Deal  
7 from the Sainte-Justine University Hospital in  
8 Montreal, who's an experienced clinical researcher  
9 and physician, taking care of patients with PWS  
10 over many years, and will now provide her clinical  
11 perspective on intranasal carbetocin.

12 **Applicant Presentation - Cheri Deal**

13 DR. DEAL: Thank you, and good morning. I'm  
14 Cheri Deal, and I've been an academic pediatric  
15 endocrinologist for 30 years. My primary  
16 affiliation is with the Université de Montréal and  
17 the Research Center of Sainte-Justine Montréal  
18 university teaching hospital here in Montreal,  
19 Canada. I participated in the CARE-PWS trial, and  
20 I've been involved in several other phase 2, 3, and  
21 4 trials during my career, including the large  
22 Millendo study in PWS, which unfortunately did not

1 meet the efficacy endpoints.

2           Levo provided funding to my institution for  
3 participation in the CARE-PWS trial, and I have  
4 received compensation for my time to help them  
5 with this meeting. However, I have no financial  
6 interest in the company or in the outcome of this  
7 meeting.

8           For this part of the presentation, I'll give  
9 you my clinical perspective of these trial data and  
10 of the patients and their families living with PWS  
11 for which I've had a long career interest and  
12 experience with the care of over 70 individuals  
13 diagnosed with this rare syndrome.

14           I can honestly say that Prader-Willi  
15 syndrome is the most challenging clinical condition  
16 that I've been treating over my career, and unlike  
17 many of the other diagnoses that I follow that  
18 require a pediatric endocrinologist such as  
19 pediatric brain tumor survivors, congenital  
20 disorders of the hypothalamus and the pituitary,  
21 endocrine tumors, differences in sex development,  
22 Prader-Willi syndrome is a uniquely complex

1 disorder.

2           Caring for patients living with PWS requires  
3 multiple healthcare professionals and  
4 subspecialists. Here, I've shown this as a large  
5 forest of trees indicating the usual healthcare  
6 participants. Endocrinologists, geneticists, and  
7 psychiatrists/psychologists are among the most  
8 important.

9           Coordinating care and keeping the healthcare  
10 teams harmonized in their approach, as well as up  
11 to date with the clinical care guideline, is a  
12 significant challenge. The impact of PWS spreads  
13 far beyond the patient, their families, and their  
14 caregivers. These patients are reliant on the  
15 interactions between the caregivers and the  
16 physicians caring for their children, as well as  
17 the interactions between the caregivers and their  
18 allied healthcare teams, the children's educators,  
19 and the local social services. And like a forest  
20 that looks so dense from a distance, up close you  
21 see that there are still many holes and gaps in  
22 that forest that can compromise care.

1           Based on everything that I've observed over  
2 my career, as well as what we see in the  
3 literature, PWS continues to have many unmet needs,  
4 and the greatest need is for treatments for  
5 hyperphagia and behavioral symptomatology. These  
6 manifestations exert the most impact on long-term  
7 morbidity and mortality in PWS, as well as on  
8 interpersonal interactions.

9           One of the reasons there are so few options  
10 for patients living with PWS is because of the  
11 challenges of drug development for this very rare  
12 syndrome, and these challenges are numerous. I  
13 want to emphasize that these families are already  
14 giving multiple treatments without much success  
15 both on and off label, including health  
16 supplements, vitamin supplements, and other  
17 unregulated treatments that may even pose health  
18 risks, and this concerns me as a clinician. There  
19 are also large numbers of confounders, which lead  
20 to heterogeneity of the clinical manifestation.

21           Also, while our tools for probing behavioral  
22 manifestations of PWS are useful, they are not

1 ideal. Given the intellectual disability of this  
2 population, they require caregiver and clinician  
3 reporting of behavior, which are prey to external  
4 and environmental factors that we as clinical  
5 investigators can't control. So we must make due  
6 with the incremental development of tools and  
7 techniques to study PWS, and we can't let the  
8 perfect become the enemy of the good for this  
9 important patient population.

10 Current studies aren't perfect either, but  
11 they are telling us something very clear, and we  
12 can't wait for the perfect study. The perfect  
13 study would need to be three times larger to be  
14 prospectively powered to detect the differences  
15 seen in CARE-PWS, and this number of subjects from  
16 the small population is simply unattainable.  
17 Patients and families already are unlikely to live  
18 in places where clinical trials are run, making  
19 participation particularly burdensome, and the pool  
20 of participants willing and able to participate  
21 would be further reduced by inclusion/exclusion  
22 criteria.

1           LV-101 is the first treatment for pediatric  
2 hyperphagia to get this far, despite these  
3 challenges and the challenges presented by the need  
4 for oxytocin hormone replacement therapy. As  
5 you've heard before, oxytocin is homologous with  
6 vasopressin, and oxytocin replacement can result in  
7 activity at the vasopressin receptor isoforms. So  
8 the physiological crosstalk of the oxytocin and  
9 vasopressin systems present unique challenges in  
10 this regard, and these hormones are known to elicit  
11 opposing anxiolytic and anxiogenic effects.

12           To give you an important example of this  
13 coming from animal studies, which have administered  
14 oxytocin to induce scratching behavior in mice  
15 using models, for instance, when administered to  
16 oxytocin receptor knockout mice, this scratching  
17 behavior continues unabated. However, when  
18 administering oxytocin to vasopressin 1a receptor  
19 knockout mice, the scratching behavior ceases,  
20 showing that this negative behavior is mediated  
21 through the vasopressin 1a receptor.

22           This crosstalk results in a narrow

1 therapeutic window, which makes oxytocin very  
2 difficult to deliver exogenously. In contrast,  
3 carbetocin's greater receptor selectivity has the  
4 effect of widening the therapeutic window by  
5 permitting greater oxytocin receptor agonism and  
6 lessening, but not eliminating, off-target  
7 vasopressin receptor agonism.

8 I was therefore not at all surprised to see  
9 that the higher dose of carbetocin did not perform  
10 as well as the lower dose in the phase 3 study. I  
11 do not think that this is only a sample size issue  
12 between the two trials but is consistent with our  
13 clinical experience with other hormones that share  
14 multiple receptors, and with the heterogeneity of  
15 the human response to the exogenous hormones.

16 To me as an endocrinologist, these data are  
17 not discordant but represent the reality of the  
18 changing treatment landscape that we face. But  
19 before I speak about efficacy, I just want to say  
20 that for me, the physician, safety data is always  
21 my primary concern; first, do no harm to your  
22 patient. And we had a good precedent with IV

1       carbetocin, which has been on the market for over  
2       20 years and used in my own mother-child hospital  
3       to successfully treat and prevent postpartum  
4       hemorrhage by controlling uterine atony.

5               Turning to intranasal carbetocin, my  
6       clinical impression from my patients and from the  
7       study data presented today has not given me any  
8       safety concerns. Here are my takeaways from  
9       studying the efficacy data, which come from two  
10      randomized, placebo-controlled trials.

11              There are benefits across multiple  
12      endpoints, and both trials gave clinically  
13      meaningful improvement. The efficacy gains through  
14      week 16 in the phase 3 trial were clear. Most  
15      importantly, the persistence of this benefit has  
16      occurred through week 64. All of this supports the  
17      efficacy through patient participation in the  
18      extension period, and the greatest efficacy is  
19      observed for the 3.2-milligram dose.

20              You've also seen the data demonstrating  
21      consistency of the 3.2-milligram carbetocin effects  
22      during the placebo-controlled period in the

1 symptoms measured in this study using the various  
2 standardized questionnaires, expressed here as the  
3 point estimate. The lower bound of the confidence  
4 interval doesn't cross zero for HQ-CT, PADQ, and  
5 the two CGI scales. Critical results here for  
6 hyperphagia, anxiousness and distress behaviors, as  
7 well as clinical global impressions of change, all  
8 instill high levels of confidence.

9           You've seen that there is marked improvement  
10 in the HQ-CT scores, as shown here during the  
11 8-week placebo-controlled period on the left, with  
12 a mean 5-point drop in HQ-CT score, as well as  
13 week 16 in the long-term follow-up period on the  
14 right.

15           From a clinical perspective and to  
16 understand the meaning of a score reduction of,  
17 say, 5 points in a subject's life, this could  
18 describe one of several possible sets of  
19 improvements. For our example, that the child  
20 stopped foraging through trash for food and went  
21 from talking about food daily for one hour to less  
22 than 5 minutes a day; or for a second example, that

1 food-related behavior went from interfering every  
2 day with daily activities to non-interference with  
3 school, self-care, or recreational activities with  
4 the family, and at the same time, the individual's  
5 behavior around food and meals went from very  
6 distressed to mildly distressed; or to give you a  
7 final example, that smaller improvements are seen  
8 but in several domains: food stealing,  
9 manipulative behavior to obtain food, perseveration  
10 in food-related demands, improved ability to  
11 partake in daily activities without as many  
12 meltdowns, and in a decrease in night waking for  
13 the purpose of seeking food.

14 Another way to assess the proportions of  
15 patients who benefit compared to placebo is the  
16 number needed to treat. By the end of the 8-week  
17 double-blind period of CARE-PWS, 33 percent of  
18 patients on the 3.2-milligram dose had an  
19 improvement of 8 points or more on the HQ-CT  
20 compared to 12.5 percent of patients on placebo.

21 You heard me explain the clinical impact of  
22 a 5-point decrease in the HQ-CT score. Imagine

1 what an 8-point or greater improvement could mean  
2 for patients and their families. This high bar of  
3 8 points translates into an NNT of 5 for efficacy,  
4 which puts it squarely into the range of treatments  
5 we would want to use.

6 No matter which of the approaches being  
7 discussed today about calculating clinically  
8 significant changes that you prefer, these HQ-CT  
9 results have the greatest benefit-risk ratio we've  
10 ever seen in PWS. But for me, this is one of the  
11 most important data slides.

12 The improvement in HQ-CT scores occurred  
13 relatively early and showed a stable and sustained  
14 response curve as seen by the consistent decrease  
15 over time in all patients who receive carbetocin,  
16 shown in purple. We see that 103 of the 130 trial  
17 participants elected to stay in the study through  
18 week 64.

19 And let me just say, in the PWS community,  
20 families are savvy and very attuned to the  
21 condition of their child with PWS. I truly believe  
22 that patients speak with their feet and are telling

1 us something that we need to listen to. They will  
2 not keep giving a 3-times-per-day treatment that's  
3 not helping. But for those patients who do show an  
4 improvement in hyperphagia, they will, and many of  
5 the patients on intranasal carbetocin have  
6 benefited substantially from treatment.

7 We haven't spoken about the Food Safe Zone  
8 data, but this is also very important when speaking  
9 about a clinical benefit. This is a scale that  
10 assesses the extent of environmental controls and  
11 restrictions caregivers need to implement for their  
12 loved one with PWS.

13 The average scores of screening of this  
14 population, of a possible 80 total, were very high,  
15 reflecting a substantial level in environmental  
16 controls employed by families to protect their  
17 children. But what the message is, is that for the  
18 100 patients who completed the Food Safe Zone  
19 questionnaire at the week 64 visit, there was an  
20 overall relaxation in environmental controls, which  
21 translates into a more independent life experience  
22 for the individual with PWS and less for the need

1 for vigilance on the part of caregivers. This is  
2 shown here as a spaghetti graph with the individual  
3 changes, as well as the overall decreased mean  
4 change in their Food Safe Zone score.

5 Furthermore, of the 17 patients who  
6 terminated early and completed the Food Safe Zone  
7 questionnaire, they were unable to relax  
8 environmental controls, as shown on the right in  
9 the table as the average change in Food Safety Zone  
10 questionnaire scores in both the completers and the  
11 non-completers. And this is consistent with what  
12 we would expect; once instituted, environmental  
13 controls are not relaxed unless caregivers are  
14 given a very good reason to do so.

15 I'd like to finish with this patient. This  
16 markedly ill child with a severity score of 5 was  
17 one of our most challenging patients because of his  
18 behavioral symptoms that made every clinic visit,  
19 prior to the CARE-PWS study, incredibly difficult.  
20 The relationship between the child's parents was  
21 also very rocky for a long time because of the  
22 child's behavior and its impact on the couple. He

1 was labeled as autistic and severely intellectually  
2 disabled with severe expressive dysphasia, in  
3 addition to its other long list of comorbidities,  
4 which included central sleep apnea not related to  
5 his growth hormone, but most probably to his  
6 abnormal brain development.

7 I really want you to note the relaxation of  
8 his Food Safe Zone in the middle graph, as well as  
9 his improvement on the HQ-CT on the upper graph,  
10 and the PADQ on the bottom graph. This represents  
11 a new found freedom for the parents, for the  
12 siblings, and most importantly for the child who  
13 can live a more normal life.

14 I confess to thinking initially that there  
15 was very little hope for this boy's future, and  
16 this is the email we received from the mom several  
17 weeks into the carbetocin trial. And I read,  
18 quote, "One day, the associate director of my  
19 7-year-old son's school said that 'the place of my  
20 child was not in school but in a psychiatric  
21 institution,' because according to her, he will  
22 never be able to learn academically. I was

1 devastated, but I didn't believe her."

2           And this is what I received yesterday. The  
3 child's now 8 years, several weeks after being in  
4 the carbetocin trial from a teacher and social  
5 worker. "Your son is a model of the class. He's  
6 always on top of his work and we congratulate him  
7 so often that he's proud, calm, and ready for  
8 learning."

9           Parents are now feeling better about leaving  
10 their son with caregivers in order to have personal  
11 and couple times, and of course this has  
12 strengthened the couple and no doubt helped their  
13 son even further. So the impact goes far beyond  
14 questionnaire scores and their p-values. If this  
15 patient was the 1 patient in 5 needed to treat, I  
16 maintain that this family merited that benefit.

17           This is of course an anecdotal testimony,  
18 but everything I'm seeing is consistent with what I  
19 know as an endocrinologist and the established  
20 hormone replacement approach we use in PWS to  
21 address the hypothalamic pituitary dysfunction that  
22 underlies the syndrome. Growth hormone, sex

1 steroid hormone, and sometimes thyroid hormone and  
2 cortisol are now routinely prescribed as  
3 replacement therapy to correct deficits.

4 Of particular importance for the day is that  
5 the experience with all of these hormones, and  
6 other smaller hormones such as LHRH, has shown us  
7 that more is not always better, not just because of  
8 potential side effects, but also because of  
9 receptor downregulation and because of off-target  
10 effects.

11 Oxytocin is one of the missing hormones for  
12 which we now have exceedingly compelling data  
13 pointing to molecular explanations and molecular  
14 interactions. Prominent evidence examples are  
15 reductions in oxytocin-producing neurons, animal  
16 data showing a rescue of the phenotype with  
17 oxytocin administration, and prohormone  
18 convertase 1 deficiencies resulting in a processing  
19 defect of critical neuroendocrine hormones,  
20 including pro [ph] oxytocin. Given the  
21 difficulties with exogenous oxytocin replacement,  
22 the best tool that we have is carbetocin.

1       Intranasal carbetocin addresses the oxytocin  
2       deficiency and fits into our hormone replacement  
3       paradigm in PWS.

4               Those are our goals to answer the top unmet  
5       needs as voiced by patients and by their  
6       caregivers, reducing hyperphagia and improving  
7       behavior. Despite COVID and despite all the  
8       challenges that this trial has presented to  
9       caregivers, to the investigators, and most probably  
10      to the company, intranasal carbetocin fulfills this  
11      unmet need.

12              The safety data is reassuring with now up to  
13      two and a half years in the ongoing long-term  
14      extension study, and the data demonstrate  
15      effectiveness, as do clinical observations of  
16      physicians and their families. These clinically  
17      meaningful improvements are seen across multiple  
18      endpoints, and the effects can be really dramatic  
19      and life-changing for patients and families. And  
20      finally, patients and families express a desire and  
21      a need for access to intranasal carbetocin.

22              Depriving the PWS community a safe and

1 effective treatment because the sponsor chose the  
2 wrong statistical analysis would be inexcusable in  
3 light of the tremendous unmet need, the strong  
4 mechanistic rationale, and the demonstrated  
5 benefits already seen in two double-blind,  
6 randomized, placebo-controlled trials in this rare  
7 disease. In my professional opinion, carbetocin  
8 does not need further studies prior to approval.  
9 Thank you.

10 DR. CORMIER: Thank you, Dr. Deal.

11 I will now lead our responses to any  
12 questions you may have. In addition to the  
13 presenters, we have additional experts available,  
14 including Dr. Blumenstein, a statistical consultant  
15 who has overseen the analysis of the data from the  
16 clinical trials; Dr. Lisa Cole Burnett, director of  
17 Early Research and Development at Levo; Dr. Sheri  
18 Fehnel from RTI Health Solutions -- hello?

19 **Clarifying Questions to Applicant**

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Hi. This is Raj Narendran.

21 We will now take clarifying questions for  
22 Levo Therapeutics. Please use the raised-hand icon

1 to indicate that you have a question and remember  
2 to clear the icon after you have asked your  
3 question. When acknowledged, please remember to  
4 state your name for the record before you speak and  
5 direct your question to a specific presenter, if  
6 you can. If you wish for a specific slide to be  
7 displayed, please let us know the slide number, if  
8 possible.

9 Finally, it would be helpful to acknowledge  
10 the end of your question with a thank you, and end  
11 your follow-up question with, "That is all I have  
12 for my questions," so we can move on to the next  
13 panel member.

14 In terms of questions, the first question is  
15 going to be from Dr. Alice Shapley.

16 DR. SHAPLEY: This is Alice Shapley. Thank  
17 you so much to everyone from Levo for your  
18 presentations. I'm particularly impressed by the  
19 results, based on the 3.2-milligram dose and also  
20 the safety profile of carbetocin overall.

21 My question has to do with the fact that  
22 given that the phase 2 study led with a

1 9.6-milligram dose, I was wondering about the  
2 factors that guided Levo to introduce the  
3 3.2-milligram arm of the phase 3 trial and also to  
4 determine this lower dose level. I'm not sure if  
5 this question should be for Dr. Cormier or  
6 Dr. Ryman. Thanks.

7 DR. CORMIER: Thank you. I'm happy to take  
8 it. The discussions with FDA during our  
9 end-of-phase-2 meeting, the agency encouraged us to  
10 do further dose exploration during the phase 3  
11 study. Given the known potential issues with  
12 higher doses of oxytocin, we decided to go with a  
13 lower dose as opposed to a higher dose, and given  
14 the rarity of the condition, studying any more than  
15 two doses, it was already hard to enroll the kinds  
16 of patients we would need to do two doses.  
17 One-third of the dose was selected because we  
18 wanted to have sufficient separation with respect  
19 to the two doses as we went into the phase 2 study.

20 DR. SHAPLEY: Thank you very much for your  
21 answer. Thank you.

22 DR. NARENDRAN: Our next question is from

1 Dr. James McGough.

2 (No response.)

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Dr. McGough, I think you  
4 might be muted.

5 DR. McGOUGH: How about now? Can you hear  
6 me now?

7 DR. NARENDRAN: Yes, I can hear you now.  
8 You're on.

9 DR. McGOUGH: That's weird. I apologize.  
10 Anyway, Dr. McGough. Two questions, first to  
11 Dr. Deal.

12 Thank you for giving us the information  
13 about the number needed to treat. That's very  
14 helpful, and 5 is about the same as we see with  
15 treating depression in teenagers. Could you give  
16 us more of a dimensional effect size, such as what  
17 would the Cohen's D be on the primary measure for  
18 the 3.2 dose at week 8? That ought to be  
19 calculated easily. It would be helpful if someone  
20 could come up with that if it isn't at the tip of  
21 your fingers.

22 My second question also has to do with the

1 statistics. I'm a little troubled by the fact that  
2 you used a one-sided T test in the initial study.  
3 That strikes me as a little unusual and it will  
4 bias a positive result in your direction.

5           What was the justification for the one-sided  
6 T? Was that a priori? And I would also like some  
7 comment from some of the other statisticians, as  
8 well as maybe the FDA, as whether that is  
9 acceptable in terms of accepting efficacy for a  
10 trial. So one, do you have a Cohen's D; and two,  
11 some justification for the one-sided T -test.

12           DR. CORMIER: Thank you. I don't believe we  
13 have Cohen's D immediately available. That's not  
14 something that we have analyzed, but I can see if  
15 our team can maybe do that during the day here and  
16 have that for you later. I'm not sure if we can do  
17 that this quickly, but we'll try our best.

18           As far as the one-sided T test goes, that  
19 was a prespecified approach by Ferring, the sponsor  
20 at the time. And when you're analyzing by a  
21 one-sided T test, what you're doing is you're  
22 saying we're only going to look at the benefit side

1 of the two sided normal distribution.

2 So the alpha control, rather than being 0.05  
3 is 0.025, so you can still maintain the same level  
4 of type 1 error control using a one-sided test.  
5 You just reduce the thresholds down, and that's in  
6 fact what we see with the primary efficacy there  
7 being less than 0.025. In the one-sided, it's  
8 common to do that kind of thing in these small  
9 proof-of-concept phase 2 type studies.

10 DR. MCGOUGH: I just, either now or later,  
11 would want to hear that the FDA finds that  
12 acceptable, that that's a standard, because it's  
13 not usually how I would do things. But I just want  
14 a little reassurance that that's ok, and it still  
15 meets the standard for accepting efficacy. Those  
16 are my questions. Thank you.

17 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you, Dr. McGough.

18 I think we could have the agency comment  
19 during their question period.

20 The next question is from Dr. Baker.

21 DR. BAKER: Thank you, Dr. Narendran.

22 This is Robert Baker. I'm the industry rep

1 and a psychiatrist. I have a question for  
2 Dr. Cormier.

3 During the sponsor presentation, we heard a  
4 bit about the challenges with COVID, and Dr. Deal  
5 also mentioned challenges with this patient  
6 population. You referenced the FDA guidance on  
7 evidence and the flexibility considerations for  
8 orphan populations, which do speak specifically  
9 there in the consideration of doing a second trial  
10 about feasibility, of doing such a trial.

11 Now, you've done two, but one of the  
12 potential questions would be another or bigger  
13 study. So I'm wondering if the sponsor has  
14 conclusions on whether that is doable or feasible.

15 DR. CORMIER: Thank you, yes. Conducting  
16 another study in this patient population would be  
17 very difficult for a number of reasons, including  
18 substantial operational challenges. Given the  
19 rarity of the disease, it's difficult to find  
20 sufficient patient numbers to have the appropriate  
21 prospective statistical power that would normally  
22 be relatively easy to find in a larger clinical

1 study.

2 So from our perspective, another study, even  
3 if it could be adequately powered, it would not  
4 really be justified based on the data that we  
5 already have in hand, showing that intranasal  
6 carbetocin is a safe and efficacious treatment for  
7 patients with PWS.

8 DR. BAKER: Thank you. I don't have any  
9 other questions.

10 DR. NARENDRAN: The next question is from  
11 Dr. Dunn.

12 DR. W. DUNN: Hi. This is Walter Dunn. I  
13 have a two-part question but related to the same  
14 issue. I'm trying to better understand the  
15 off-target effect to explain the lack of efficacy  
16 in the 9.6-milligram dose in your phase 3 study.  
17 So to that end, the first question is, do you have  
18 any question-level breakdown for the HPWSQ-R for  
19 questions 1A and 1C that particularly speak to the  
20 possibility of increased aggression in that  
21 Study 114?

22 In your briefing document, you were able to

1 break it down for your phase 3 study, but I didn't  
2 see anything for phase 2. So I want to see if any  
3 type of trend-level data is available for that, for  
4 114.

5 Then my second question also relates to this  
6 issue, to the off-target effect. For your  
7 long-term follow-up, do you have any data looking  
8 at the 9.6-milligram cohort that was randomized  
9 from placebo to the 9.6-milligrams for that 8- to  
10 16-week period, looking at those who remained in  
11 the study during that period and those who dropped  
12 out; and was there any evidence of increased  
13 anxiety and aggression at your instrument-level  
14 data?

15 So not a treatment adverse event of  
16 aggression, but looking at the actual instrument  
17 that you used, again, breaking it down to  
18 question-level data; is there any evidence for  
19 those questions that could lead to aggression? Was  
20 there any evidence that those who dropped out in  
21 that 8- to 16-week period had higher levels than  
22 those who were retained in the study?

1 DR. CORMIER: As far as the question-level  
2 information from the phase 2 study, I don't have a  
3 slide on that, but I can see if I can try to pull  
4 that data for you. I'm really sorry, I don't have  
5 that slide available.

6 When thinking about the phase 3 study data,  
7 the best question to really get at this issue is  
8 question 12 of the PADQ.

9 If I could have slide 1 up, this shows all  
10 the various questions in the PADQ, but if you look  
11 at question 12, which is highlighted here in the  
12 box, it's asking about whether emotional outbursts  
13 occur when their desires are followed, and we can  
14 see in those data that individuals on the low dose  
15 outperformed placebo, whereas those who were on the  
16 9.6 dose actually do worse than placebo during that  
17 time.

18 That question is very similar to what  
19 Einfeld was asking, based on the intranasal  
20 oxytocin study in patients with PWS that showed  
21 statistically significant higher levels of temper  
22 outbursts with the higher levels of oxytocin use.

1           Importantly, when we think about -- if I  
2           could have slide 2 up, if you look at what the dose  
3           is being delivered during the phase 3 study in  
4           carbetocin and what that is equivalent to with  
5           oxytocin dose delivery, we estimate that the V1a  
6           activation with the high dose is equivalent to what  
7           Einfeld was seeing with his higher doses; whereas  
8           the low dose of carbetocin in our study has an  
9           equivalent of about, say, one-quarter to one-half  
10          the level of V1a activation that Einfeld was  
11          getting with his higher doses of oxytocin.

12           I know that doesn't directly answer  
13          question. I just don't have the phase 2 data for  
14          you, so I apologize for that, but hopefully you can  
15          see kind of where the data is coming from.

16           DR. W. DUNN: And what about the data for  
17          the long-term follow-up, specifically week 8 to  
18          week 16 for those who started off in placebo and  
19          then were randomized to 9.6.? Specifically to  
20          question 12, do you still see that trend?

21           So I guess what I'm trying to figure out  
22          here is -- your explanation is certainly plausible.

1 I'm just trying to see, again, from your phase 2  
2 data and from your long-term follow-up data, this  
3 explanation, is it been replicated; is this  
4 phenomenon of potentially increased agitation and  
5 aggression at that 9.6. arm, is that being seen in  
6 other populations in different phases of your  
7 studies.

8 DR. CORMIER: Yes. No, I appreciate the  
9 question. Thank you. It's very helpful. Again,  
10 with respect to the long-term follow-up data, I  
11 don't have a slide with the question-by-question  
12 analysis. What we do know from analysis of the  
13 data is that those who are discontinuing come out  
14 of the high dose, and they tend to be showing lack  
15 of efficacy as they discontinue.

16 So to the extent that that lack of efficacy  
17 can be driven by these reciprocal behaviors that  
18 are elicited by vasopressin 1a receptors that look  
19 like lack of efficacy, it's just the opposite of  
20 what you're trying to effect with the drug. That's  
21 kind of how we see the data and what the data are  
22 showing us with respect to that off-target effect

1 in the long term follow-up period.

2 DR. W. DUNN: Thank you.

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Our next question is  
4 Dr. Billington.

5 DR. BILLINGTON: Thank you. Charles  
6 Billington in Minnesota. Two questions, and in  
7 regard to the first one, the background is that in  
8 most other areas where we're studying hyperphagia  
9 and obesity, either preclinically or clinically, we  
10 have objective measures.

11 In the case of short-term studies, we would  
12 do something akin to a food buffet and measure  
13 reductions in food intake. For long-term studies,  
14 we looked at weight. And in the case, I think  
15 modestly parallel to the one we're presented with  
16 here -- that is congenital or genetic leptin  
17 deficiency -- hormone replacement, as we are  
18 encouraged to think about this being, results in  
19 measurable decreases in both food intake and  
20 weight.

21 So question number one is, can you talk  
22 about the rationale for why that type of measure

1 was not done and seemingly does not seem to be  
2 appropriate?

3 I'll just go ahead and ask question number  
4 two. This is in regard to Dr. Deal's, I think,  
5 striking case presentation, which showed a really  
6 remarkable relaxation in environmental controls.  
7 But I'm having trouble integrating that with a  
8 rather modest effect on environmental control  
9 relaxation that we see otherwise, and I'm wondering  
10 if Dr. Deal or Dr. McCandless can help me put that  
11 in perspective. Thank you.

12 DR. CORMIER: Thank you. With respect to  
13 your first question about why not measure weight or  
14 why it would not be appropriate, I'll give you a  
15 brief bit of data from the phase 3 study baseline  
16 information, and then I'll have Dr. McCandless  
17 weigh in about why things like food buffets or  
18 measurement of weight is really not appropriate or  
19 not informative in this patient population.

20 If I could have slide 2 up, we see that  
21 given the environmental controls that patients with  
22 PWS are placed under, their caloric intake is

1 severely restricted and controlled by the  
2 caregiver. As a result, weight -- or BMI, or in  
3 this case, BMI Z- scores to control by gender and  
4 age -- is really decoupled from the experience of  
5 hyperphagia. So unlike other diseases of obesity  
6 where people are able to eat more ad libitum,  
7 caregivers severely restrict that caloric intake,  
8 and that affects what they're doing.

9 But I'd like to maybe ask Dr. McCandless to  
10 share his perspective on ad libitum type studies  
11 and also use of weights in PWS.

12 DR. McCANDLESS: Thank you. This is Shawn  
13 McCandless. I'm a clinical geneticist and run a  
14 Prader-Willi syndrome clinic. I've had the same  
15 thought and really would love to use a food buffet,  
16 but that was done 25 years ago in Prader-Willi  
17 syndrome in a study from the UK, and there was a  
18 generalized consensus after that that it was both  
19 unethical and unsafe for individuals with  
20 Prader-Willi syndrome. And for that reason, the  
21 food buffet approach has not been used since then  
22 in clinical trials. Although several of us have

1 argued for it, it's really just not been generally  
2 acceptable, so it's not been used.

3 To answer the other question about weight,  
4 it's just worth reminding people, first off, that  
5 the hyperphagia, the obesity, when it occurs, is a  
6 result of the primary problem of the increased  
7 appetite and sense of starvation that leads to  
8 hyperphagia. And because of the environmental  
9 controls -- and if I could have slide 1 up, please,  
10 again -- that we use, you can see that most of the  
11 patients enrolled in the phase 3 trial that had  
12 weights that were well controlled were less than  
13 two standard deviations above the mean for age, for  
14 BMI.

15 So there was really very little room, and to  
16 get to see significant weight reduction, we would  
17 have had to further restrict calories in addition  
18 to measuring the hyperphagia because, again, the  
19 amount of calories -- we would have had to reduce  
20 calories probably to 6[00] to 800 calories per day  
21 for the teenagers in this study to have seen any  
22 weight loss, and that wasn't really the goal of

1 this study. The goal of this study was not to lose  
2 weight; the goal of this study was to control  
3 hyperphagia. Thank you.

4 DR. NARENDRAN: Our next question is from  
5 Dr. Shapley.

6 DR. BILLINGTON: Excuse me. Hang on. I  
7 didn't get my answer to the second question about  
8 environmental control relaxation.

9 DR. NARENDRAN: Sure. Go ahead. Sorry.

10 DR. CORMIER: Sorry. No problem.

11 With respect to the environmental controls,  
12 as Dr. Deal had mentioned, once instituted, it is  
13 rare for a caregiver with an individual with PWS to  
14 relax a given environmental control; it's  
15 instituted reluctantly and only in the face of the  
16 need to further put in place that environmental  
17 control for a given child or individual with PWS.

18 So you expect -- and if I could have slide 1  
19 up just to show the data one more time -- that this  
20 would be flat over time. And in fact, if you look  
21 at the individuals who terminate the study early,  
22 of the 17 individuals that return for an early

1 termination visit and did the study, their scores  
2 actually went up a little bit on average, but you  
3 generally consider that to be flat. You could  
4 think about that as just being flat over time.

5 So this reduction of environmental controls  
6 is just something you just don't really see, and we  
7 see that if you compare the two, there's a net  
8 reduction of 10 points on the Food Safe Zone score.  
9 But perhaps I could have Dr. McCandless also speak  
10 to the meaningfulness of that kind of reduction in  
11 environmental controls and what that might mean to  
12 families.

13 DR. McCANDLESS: Actually, I'd like to ask  
14 Dr. Billington for a little clarification about  
15 what you're looking for just to make sure that I'm  
16 addressing the question.

17 DR. BILLINGTON: Sure. Dr. Deal showed a  
18 case report in which the environmental controls, I  
19 think, were quite strikingly relaxed, and that  
20 resulted in quite an improvement for that  
21 particular individual patient, but the overall  
22 degree of relaxation is quite modest. It's not

1 striking in the way that that single patient was,  
2 so I was trying to get a feel for how important the  
3 medication effect might be on something like this.  
4 I guess to put it quite simply, if giving the  
5 medication does not allow any environmental  
6 relaxation, then explain what the benefit is.

7 DR. McCANDLESS: I understand. Thank you  
8 for that clarification. I think it's really  
9 important to point out that those of us who manage  
10 individuals with Prader-Willi syndrome in the  
11 families that take care of them, these  
12 environmental controls have been in place for  
13 years, and we've learned that we just have to be  
14 strict and constant about them.

15 I think I speak for most, if not all, of the  
16 investigators in this study, that it was not part  
17 of the study protocol to intentionally reduce the  
18 environmental controls on food access. In fact,  
19 part of the protocol was asking the families to  
20 maintain all of their pre-existing approaches.

21 So it's not really fair to judge this  
22 clinical trial on that, with that as an outcome

1 measure, because that was not the intention of the  
2 trial. We saw the relaxation in the Food Safe Zone  
3 just as we did in the Zafgen trial, by the way.  
4 That was entirely by the families just doing it on  
5 their own, and I think each of us have our own  
6 examples from the patients that we enrolled in the  
7 study of families who were able to relax controls  
8 without asking us for permission, who just did it,  
9 and then we learned about it later. I think that's  
10 reflected in that, really, quite substantial change  
11 in the Food Safe Zone scores.

12 DR. CORMIER: Maybe I could also ask  
13 Dr. Deal to give her color on the changes, what  
14 those might mean.

15 Dr. Deal?

16 DR. DEAL: If I could pull up the spaghetti  
17 slide that I showed during my last talk? In the  
18 meantime, I will tell you that, as I said, the  
19 maximum score is 80, and you might say reduction,  
20 as shown in the table of 7 to 8, is that clinically  
21 meaningful when you do your statistics well.

22 Let me tell you that of the questions, of

1 the 20 questions, with a response from 0 to 4,  
2 let's just pick, for instance, questions 1 and 2.  
3 A family that all of the time kept their pantry and  
4 cabinet, where food is kept, locked, or their  
5 refrigerator and freezer locked, if they went from  
6 all the time to none of the time, removed the  
7 locks, that would give them a drop of minus 8.

8           So yes, I consider that very significant.  
9 Similarly, there are other questions in the Food  
10 Safe Zone; avoid taking a child to a restaurant, or  
11 taking a child to a grocery store. If they are now  
12 taking that child when they didn't ever take them  
13 to those two places, and they are now taking them,  
14 that would be a drop of minus 8. So yes, I think  
15 it's very clinically significant, even though to  
16 you, on this graph, a drop of 8 points doesn't seem  
17 very much.

18           Does that answer your question?

19           DR. BILLINGTON: Thank you.

20           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you, Dr. Billington.

21           Our next question is from Dr. Shapley.

22           DR. SHAPLEY: Yes. Thank you so much.

1           Dr. Cormier, this is a question for you  
2 based on your slide. I think it's slide 54 that  
3 shows the bar graph distributions for the three  
4 different arms of the phase 3 trial. I don't know  
5 if you want to bring that slide up.

6           DR. CORMIER: If we could bring that slide  
7 up, I just want to make sure this is the right  
8 slide for you.

9           DR. SHAPLEY: Yes. I'm really struck by the  
10 distinction between the orange histogram and the  
11 gray histogram. My question has to do with the  
12 right-hand set of bars, the no change or worsening  
13 part of the distributions. I guess I'm just  
14 wondering whether you can speak to a subdivision of  
15 that in terms of the carbetocin 3.2-milligram  
16 cases, how many of them were no change versus  
17 worsening. I guess I'm wondering what the  
18 subdivision of that part of the distribution is --

19           DR. CORMIER: Sure. Certainly --

20           (Crosstalk.)

21           DR. SHAPLEY: -- the first-do-no-harm idea.

22           DR. CORMIER: Sure. And as with any

1 clinical trial, there are patients who do worse,  
2 patients who do better, and this is no different.  
3 And some of that's going to be some of the  
4 variability in the instrument, and there are  
5 individuals on both the 3.2 and the 9.6 who are  
6 zeros, and there are also patients on both that are  
7 higher. I believe we may have a waterfall plot  
8 that will show you that data very distinctly so you  
9 can see that. But again, while the carbetocin has  
10 much less activity at the off-target receptors,  
11 it's not none.

12 If I could have slide 1 up, you can see in  
13 slide 1 -- it may be a little hard to see the  
14 zeros; we had trouble representing them -- you can  
15 see the worsening is on the right. These are the  
16 increases in HQ-CT over time, and then the  
17 improvements are on the left. There's a  
18 distribution of each of the dose arms throughout  
19 the response curve, but the orange bars are much  
20 more heavily weighted on the left-hand side, as you  
21 would expect, based on the histograms you just saw.

22 DR. SHAPLEY: Yes. No, I can see that.

1 That's great. Thank you so much. Thank you.

2 DR. NARENDRAN: Dr. Dunn?

3 DR. W. DUNN: This is Walter Dunn. This  
4 question is related to I think, really, the  
5 reproducibility of some of the effects that you're  
6 seeing. I'm wondering, again, specifically for  
7 these off-target effects that you were seeing for  
8 the anxiety and aggression in your briefing  
9 document, and also when you answered my initial  
10 question, you highlighted question 12 about the  
11 emotional outburst when the desire is not followed.  
12 But when you look at the other questions in the  
13 PADQ and even in the FHC-QT [ph], some of these  
14 other questions also kind of speak to aggression  
15 and anxiety, but it doesn't appear to have that  
16 significant of an effect or signal there.

17 For example, question 15 in the PADQ, it's  
18 not trending in the other direction. Question 13,  
19 anxiety, if you look at the HQ-CT, question 1,  
20 being upset when denied food, I imagine that would  
21 be a significant trigger for this patient  
22 population. If progression was being triggered by

1 an off-target effect, I would have expected to see  
2 a much more dramatic signal there.

3 So I guess my question is, is there anything  
4 specific about question 12 that speaks more  
5 accurately to the type of aggression that you might  
6 see with the off-target effect? Because it seems  
7 if I exclude that one, and I look at all the other  
8 questions that potentially could relate to anxiety  
9 and aggression, I don't see that. I'm not seeing  
10 that signal of that off-target effect.

11 DR. CORMIER: Sure. None of the questions  
12 in these instruments, as you know, were really  
13 designed to try to target the specific off-target  
14 effects of an oxytocin receptor agonist like  
15 carbetocin. We can show the data. We would bring  
16 up slide 1 just to show the PADQ data. I think you  
17 had mentioned question 15, and I think it  
18 was -- I'm sorry. I didn't get them all written  
19 down, but --

20 (Crosstalk.)

21 DR. BILLINGTON: Yes, question 15, question  
22 13, and question 10, I think these all speak to

1 potential anxiety and aggression.

2 DR. CORMIER: Right. Question 10 is a  
3 little bit less clear, but in each of those cases,  
4 you're seeing the 3.2-milligram dose outperforming  
5 the 9.6-milligram dose in each of those issues, and  
6 when we think about the temper outbursts that we're  
7 talking about that were observed by Einfeld in his  
8 study as a potential off-target -- how these  
9 off-targets would manifest, looking specifically at  
10 these things.

11 But question 15 is an interesting one that  
12 you point out because this question is sort of an  
13 overall question. It's not included in the total  
14 PADQ score because it's an overall anxiousness and  
15 akin -- it's kind of like a CGI type issue, and  
16 that data is very robust with respect to 3.2  
17 compared to placebo, whereas 9.6 doesn't get us  
18 there.

19 So the overall Gestalt that question 15  
20 tries to get at is consistent with the idea, or the  
21 conclusion, that 3.2 milligram is outperforming  
22 placebo, whereas 9.6 is really not able to

1 distinguish itself when looking at these kinds of  
2 symptoms.

3 I wish I had a better tool to target this  
4 specific issue, but it's not one that's -- we're  
5 working with caregiver- and clinician-reported  
6 instruments, and it's a difficult syndrome from  
7 that perspective to get clear answers to these  
8 kinds of very specific questions that are obviously  
9 very interesting and worth thinking a lot about.

10 DR. BILLINGTON: Thank you.

11 DR. NARENDRAN: Okay. I think we're right  
12 on time, so we will now take a quick 10-minute  
13 break. Panel members, please remember that there  
14 should be no chatting or discussion of the meeting  
15 topic with other panel members during the break.

16 Let's plan to resume at 11:20 -- that's like  
17 a 10-minute break -- so we can start on time,  
18 11:20. Thank you.

19 (Whereupon, at 11:08 a.m., a recess was  
20 taken.)

21 DR. NARENDRAN: We will now proceed with the  
22 FDA presentations, starting with Dr. Paul Bossie.

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**FDA Presentation - Paul Bossie**

DR. BOSSIE: Thank you. My name is Paul Bossie. I'm the reviewer for the application. Today I'm going to discuss the relevant regulatory history, overview of efficacy results of Studies 114 and 301, and an overview of safety results. My colleague, Dr. Andrew Potter, will present his statistical assessment before concluding remarks.

As mentioned earlier, intranasal carbetocin has not been approved or marketed in the United States or elsewhere. The applicant acquired a license to develop intranasal carbetocin in 2017 after the former sponsor had conducted Study 114. Since then, the agency and the applicant have had multiple interactions, but I'll focus on two relevant meetings.

At the 2018 end-of-phase 2 meeting, the agency provided feedback on the primary and secondary endpoints and other design elements for the proposed phase 3 study, which I'll describe in further detail later.

1           As Study 114 had included only one dose, the  
2 agency recommended a dose-finding study noted that  
3 a longer-term safety study would be required prior  
4 to approval. The agency provided statistical  
5 comments for Study 301 at several timepoints, which  
6 Dr. Potter will discuss in further detail.

7           At the 2020 pre-NDA meeting, the agency and  
8 the applicant discussed the results of the two  
9 studies. The agency expressed concern that, based  
10 on the prespecified primary analysis, Study 301 was  
11 not a positive study. The agency noted that the  
12 conflicting results between Study 114 and Study 301  
13 are difficult to reconcile. However, when the  
14 applicant submitted the application in April 2021,  
15 the agency decided to file the NDA to  
16 comprehensively review all of the available data.

17           Moving on to the phase 2 and 3 studies,  
18 Study 114 was a phase 2, randomized, double-blind,  
19 placebo-controlled, proof-of-concept study of  
20 carbetocin 9.6 milligrams, 3 times daily versus  
21 placebo, conducted at three sites in the United  
22 States. The study included a 14-day treatment

1 period with final assessments on day 15.

2 It was planned for 38 subjects, aged 10 to  
3 18 years, genetically confirmed Prader-Willi  
4 syndrome, nutritional phase 3 -- that is when  
5 hyperphagia has begun -- with screening and  
6 baseline Hyperphagia in Prader-Willi Syndrome  
7 Questionnaire-Responsiveness scores, HPWSQ-R,  
8 greater than 13. I'll talk more about this scale  
9 on the next slide.

10 Psychotropic medications such as  
11 antidepressants, antipsychotics, or  
12 wakefulness-promoting drugs must have had stable  
13 doses for at least 6 months before screening.  
14 Overall, the study design and eligibility criteria  
15 appear reasonable for this proof-of-concept study,  
16 although the relatively brief duration isn't  
17 adequate to support efficacy in a chronic condition  
18 on its own.

19 The primary endpoint was the change from  
20 baseline to end of treatment day 15 on the HPWSQ-R,  
21 which is an 11-item observer-reported outcome  
22 measure for hyperphagia-related behavior over the

1 preceding one week. Each item is rated on a  
2 5-point scale for total scores ranging from 11 to  
3 55, with higher scores indicating there are  
4 frequent hyperphagia-related behaviors.

5 The scale includes hyperphagia, drive, and  
6 severity domains. Examples of items include such  
7 questions as how upset was your child when denied  
8 desired food; how persistent was your child in  
9 asking or looking for food after being told no; how  
10 often does your child try to bargain for more food,  
11 or forage through trash for food, or get up at  
12 night to food seek, among others.

13 The agency had agreed with its use in an  
14 exploratory phase 2 study, which would also provide  
15 evidence for the scale's ability to detect change.  
16 Secondary endpoints included the Clinical Global  
17 Impression-Improvement score at day 15; change from  
18 baseline to day 15 on domain scores for the HPWSQ-R  
19 and the HPWSQ-R clinician total and domain scores;  
20 the change from screening to day 15, Children's  
21 Yale-Brown Obsessive-Compulsive Scale, CY-BOCS; and  
22 the Food Domain of the Reiss Profile.

1 I'll focus my results discussion on the  
2 CGI-Improvement, as it may be considered supportive  
3 of the primary endpoint findings and on the  
4 CY-BOCS, as the applicant used it in the phase 3  
5 study based on these findings.

6 The CY-BOCS is typically used in  
7 obsessive-compulsive disorder and includes a  
8 severity scale, 5 obsession items, and 5 compulsion  
9 items, each rated 0 to 4 for a score ranging from  
10 0 to 40, again with higher scores indicating more  
11 severe frequency. At the time of protocol  
12 submission, the agency didn't comment on secondary  
13 endpoints for this proof-of-concept study, although  
14 the agency did express concerns with the CY-BOCS  
15 later for the phase 3 study, as I'll get to.

16 Study 114 was designed to include  
17 38 subjects to provide at least 80 percent power,  
18 to detect a treatment difference of 5 points, with  
19 a standard deviation of 6 points, one-sided alpha  
20 level of 0.1. There was no prespecified plan to  
21 control the type 1 error rate for multiple  
22 comparisons over primary and secondary endpoints,

1 which is acceptable for a proof-of-concept study  
2 but may limit efficacy conclusions. The primary  
3 analysis was conducted using an analysis of  
4 covariance model.

5           Thirty-eight subjects were randomized.  
6 After excluding a screen failure who was randomized  
7 in error, 37 subjects were dosed in the full  
8 analysis set, including 17 with carbetocin and 20  
9 with placebo. In terms of disposition, all  
10 subjects completed the study, except one in the  
11 placebo arm who discontinued for adverse events.

12           The mean age of subjects was around  
13 13-and-a-half years; 62 percent of subjects were  
14 female and 38 percent male; 97 percent identified  
15 as white and 97 percent as not Hispanic or Latino.  
16 Mean baseline HPWSQ-R scores were slightly more  
17 severe at 39.7 for the placebo arm versus 35.6 for  
18 the carbetocin arm. As a reminder, the score  
19 ranges from 11 to 55. Mean baseline CY-BOCS scores  
20 were similar across arms, around 15 to 16. As a  
21 reminder, the score ranges from 0 to 40.

22           During agency inspection of one of the

1 studies sites, an investigator noted a discrepancy  
2 between the paper source and the electronic study  
3 database, for one subject in the placebo arm,  
4 primary endpoint HPWSQ-R, day 15. The applicant  
5 reanalyzed the corrected data set which resulted in  
6 changes that I'll discuss on the following slide.

7 This table displays the primary endpoint  
8 results with the originally reported data in the  
9 left-hand column, and results from the updated data  
10 in the right-hand column, with the updated p-values  
11 highlighted in yellow. Treatment with carbetocin  
12 showed a 6.9-point improvement on the HPWSQ-R  
13 compared to placebo for a one-sided p-value of  
14 0.0244.

15 As you can see, the original results on the  
16 left were already well below the study's one-sided  
17 0.1 threshold for significance, which was  
18 promising, and the updated results, based on the  
19 inspection finding reanalysis, were below the  
20 typical one-sided 0.025 threshold for significance.

21 This table displays the secondary endpoint  
22 results for the CGI-Improvement at day 15 and the

1 change in the CY-BOCS. Both show treatment  
2 improvement for carbetocin over placebo, with p-  
3 values also below the typical one-sided 0.025  
4 threshold for significance, although there was no  
5 prespecified plan to control for multiple  
6 comparisons across endpoints.

7 In summary, Study 114 provided preliminary  
8 evidence for the effect of carbetocin 9.6 on  
9 hyperphagia. Clinical meaningfulness of the  
10 observed treatment effect is unclear given that the  
11 2-week study duration is insufficient to assess  
12 efficacy for chronic disease in which  
13 subjects/patients would be taking the medication  
14 perhaps lifelong. But the results were promising,  
15 proof-of-concept result, and further data from the  
16 phase 3 study would be required to better  
17 understand carbetocin's effects.

18 Moving on to Study 301, it was a phase 3,  
19 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial  
20 with carbetocin 9.6 or 3.2 mg three times daily  
21 versus placebo. The study took place at 24 sites,  
22 mainly in the United States, with a few sites in

1 Canada, and one in Australia. The study included  
2 an 8-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled  
3 treatment period, followed by a 56-week long-term  
4 follow-up with option for extension.

5 In the long-term follow-up, all participants  
6 were unblinded to receiving carbetocin but were  
7 blinded to which dose. At study baseline, subjects  
8 were randomized 1 to 1 to 1 9.6 milligrams,  
9 3.2 milligrams, or a placebo-treatment sequence;  
10 that is placebo to 3.2 milligrams or placebo to  
11 9.6 milligrams, this switch occurring at week 8  
12 when entering the long-term follow-up. Subjects in  
13 the carbetocin groups would stay on their original  
14 dose for the long-term follow-up.

15 The applicant planned to enroll 175 subjects  
16 ages 7 to 18 years with genetically confirmed  
17 Prader-Willi syndrome and nutritional phase 3;  
18 screening and baseline, Hyperphagia Questionnaire  
19 for Clinical Trials; HQ-CT scores greater than or  
20 equal to 13; CY-BOCS scores greater than or equal  
21 to 9. The applicant noted that the inclusion  
22 cutoffs were chosen to allow demonstration of

1 change, and I'll talk more about the endpoints on  
2 the next slide.

3 In terms of differences from Study 114, the  
4 agency had previously suggested decreasing the  
5 lower age limit from 10, and age 7 aligns with the  
6 mean onset of hyperphagia, and in addition from  
7 Study 114, subjects were excluded for any new  
8 food-related interventions, requirements, or  
9 dietary restrictions within one month of screening;  
10 no changes during the study.

11 As in Study 114, subjects were to have  
12 stable, chronic, concomitant medications prior to  
13 the study start and throughout. Overall, the  
14 design elements of the study appear reasonable.  
15 There were two primary endpoints of the study,  
16 including the change from baseline to week 8 on the  
17 HQ-CT in the 9.6 arm and the change on the CY-BOCS  
18 in the 9.6. arm. The HQ-CT is a 9-item modified  
19 version of the HPWSQ-R, which removed two items,  
20 one asking how clever or fast was your child in  
21 obtaining food, and the other asking how easy was it  
22 to redirect your child away from food to other

1 things. Recall period was also increased from 1 to  
2 2 weeks.

3 The agency had agreed with the use of the  
4 HQ-CT primary hyperphagia endpoint at the end of  
5 phase 2 meeting. As used in Study 114, the  
6 clinician-administered CY-BOCS includes a 10-item  
7 severity scale with 5 obsession and 5 compulsion  
8 items. The agency initially questioned the fitness  
9 for purpose of the CY-BOCS given its primary use in  
10 obsessive-compulsive disorder, but after discussion  
11 with the applicant, the agency agreed that the  
12 CY-BOCS was a potentially appropriate endpoint.

13 The first secondary endpoints were the same  
14 as the primary endpoints, change from baseline to  
15 week 8 on the HQ-CT and CY-BOCS, except this time  
16 for the 3.2-milligram arm. Other secondary  
17 endpoints for both doses included the change on the  
18 PWS Anxiety and Distress Behaviors Questionnaire,  
19 PADQ; the Clinical Global Impression-Change score  
20 at week 8; change on an HQ-CT subset; and the  
21 change on the HQ-CT item 9 alone.

22 At the end of the phase 2 and pre-NDA

1 meeting, the agency had disagreed with the PADQ's  
2 adequacy as an observer-reported outcome. The  
3 Division of Clinical Outcome Assessments noted that  
4 some items on the PADQ may not be directly  
5 observable by caregivers. Feelings of anxiety and  
6 distress are best known to patients, whereas  
7 caregivers or clinicians may only report observable  
8 signs, behaviors, and verbalizations.

9           Regarding HQ-CT item 9, the applicant noted  
10 that item 9 holds value in assessing overall burden  
11 by asking how often behaviors interfere with normal  
12 daily activities. Regarding the HQ-CT subset, the  
13 applicant noted that the subset removed items that  
14 might be susceptible to environmental control. For  
15 example, if the refrigerator is locked, item 4  
16 about getting up at night to food seek may be  
17 confounded.

18           In general, the subset and item 9 alone may  
19 be redundant with the primary endpoint total score  
20 on the HQ-CT. At the meetings, the agency  
21 disagreed with the use of HQ-CT subset and item 9,  
22 noting that such measures could only be considered

1 exploratory without sufficient analysis of  
2 psychometric properties, and that removal of items  
3 might affect the content validity HQ-CT. For the  
4 subset, the agency noted the confounding effect of  
5 environmental controls would be addressed by  
6 randomization.

7           This slide contains a brief overview of the  
8 statistical analysis, although I know it doesn't  
9 look brief, so Dr. Potter will go into greater  
10 depth later. The overall type 1 error was  
11 specified at a two-sided 0.05 level of  
12 significance, and the prespecified control for  
13 multiple comparisons, included a combined Hochberg  
14 procedure and an hierarchical testing procedure.  
15 The applicant proposed 175 subjects would provide  
16 90 percent power for the HQ-CT and 99 percent power  
17 for the CY-BOCS, assuming that the phase 2 results  
18 held in phase 3.

19           It's important to examine how meaningful a  
20 change on a scale is to a patient, known as  
21 clinically meaningful within-patient change. The  
22 2016 psychometric validation report suggested a

1 7.7-point improvement on the HQ-CT as a  
2 within-patient responder threshold, meaning that it  
3 correlated to the average change experienced by  
4 subjects who were described on the CGI change as  
5 moderately better in the validation study.

6 Not to get ahead of myself, and I'll be  
7 discussing the mean changes in each treatment group  
8 shortly, but this slide shows you the proportion of  
9 subjects who met this responder threshold in each  
10 arm. As you can see, the highest crude rate  
11 occurred in the 3.2 group, followed by 9.6, then  
12 placebo. Dr. Potter and I will discuss the  
13 results.

14 Because of the pandemic, the applicant held  
15 enrollment on March 12, 2020 and defined two  
16 analysis sets. The primary analysis set included  
17 119 randomized subjects who received at least one  
18 dose of carbetocin and completed either the week 2  
19 or week 8 visit before March 1st. To be clear, if  
20 subjects' week 2 visit occurred before that date  
21 but the week 8 visit occurred after, only the  
22 week 2 data was used in the primary analysis set.

1 The full analysis set included 130 randomized  
2 subjects who received one dose of carbetocin.

3 In proposing the COVID-19-related amendment  
4 to the study, the applicant noted that the events  
5 of the pandemic could have impacted efficacy  
6 results in multiple ways; for example, by affecting  
7 enrollment, use of remote visits, a larger amount  
8 of time that caregivers would be able to observe  
9 subjects' behavior, and grocery store shortages  
10 that could heighten food security concerns that are  
11 already an issue. The agency did not object to the  
12 applicant's primary analysis set proposal, and I'll  
13 note that we were able to examine all of the  
14 available data for both sets.

15 This table displays the treatment group  
16 distribution among the full analysis set, the same  
17 as the safety; the primary analysis set; and the  
18 applicant's per-protocol analysis set.

19 This CONSORT subject disposition diagram  
20 looks complicated, as it includes both the full  
21 analysis set and the primary analysis set numbers,  
22 so I will try to keep this simple. Of the three

1 groups -- 9.6, placebo, and 3.2 -- nearly all  
2 completed the placebo-controlled period at week 8.  
3 There were only 2 subjects in the 9.6 arm who  
4 discontinued during the placebo-controlled period,  
5 both for adverse events.

6 After week 8, subjects in the placebo arm  
7 continued in their pre-assigned treatment sequence  
8 to 9.6 or 3.2. So in total, 64 subjects in each  
9 group in the full analysis set entered the  
10 long-term follow up.

11 This portion of the CONSORT diagram displays  
12 subject disposition through the long-term follow-up  
13 and ongoing extension as of the June 2021 cutoff  
14 date. These two groups here at the top are the  
15 same as the bottom of the previous slide. I'll  
16 just point out that the total number of  
17 discontinuations from the long-term follow-up here  
18 on this tier, 25 total, including 17 for the 9.6.  
19 arm and 8 in the 3.2 arm.

20 I should note that after data unblinding and  
21 analysis, the applicant transitioned all of the  
22 subjects in the 9.6 arm to open-label 3.2 starting

1 in October 2020. So as you descend this flowchart,  
2 subjects in the 9.6 arm transitioned over to the  
3 3.2 arm at various points, depending on the subject  
4 and where they were in the study. It was a bit  
5 complicated to represent that just because of  
6 different durations of time that they were in each  
7 phase. But here at the bottom, you can see that a  
8 total of 89 subjects remain in the extension, at  
9 this point all on open-label 3.2 milligram.

10 Mean age of subjects was 12 years across all  
11 arms. Eighty-five percent of subjects identified  
12 as white and 91 percent identified as not Hispanic  
13 or Latino across all arms. In terms of sex  
14 distribution, the 9.6 arm was fairly balanced,  
15 although the 3.2 and placebo arms included somewhat  
16 more females than males.

17 This table displays mean baseline scores on  
18 the HQ-CT and CY-BOCS. As a reminder, the HQ-CT  
19 has a score range of 0 to 36; CY-BOCS has a score  
20 range of 0 to 40, higher scores indicating more  
21 severe or frequent symptoms in both scales.

22 The 9.6 arm, in the second column from left,

1 had a slightly higher mean baseline score on the  
2 HQ-CT than both the other groups, and a higher mean  
3 baseline score on the CY-BOCS than the  
4 3.2-milligram arm, which Dr. Potter will talk about  
5 later.

6 To summarize the key results of this study,  
7 9.6 milligrams of carbetocin showed a 1.2-point  
8 treatment difference compared to placebo on the  
9 HQ-CT score and a 0.6-point difference compared to  
10 placebo on the CY-BOCS. Both p-values were greater  
11 than 0.05, so the primary endpoints provide no  
12 evidence of efficacy for 9.6 milligram.

13 On the first secondary endpoint,  
14 3.2 milligrams of carbetocin showed a treatment  
15 difference of 0.8 compared to placebo on the  
16 CY-BOCS. However, 3.2 milligrams showed a  
17 3.1-point difference compared to placebo on the  
18 HQ-CT with an unadjusted p-value of 0.0162.

19 For this slide and the next several slides,  
20 I note that because of the prespecified statistical  
21 testing plan, these secondary endpoint p-values are  
22 nominal or unadjusted for multiple comparisons.

1 Dr. Potter will discuss further.

2 Although formal statistical testing had  
3 stopped at this point, the finding on the HQ-CT  
4 3.2 milligram raised the possibility that this dose  
5 could have an effect on hyperphagia and prompted  
6 further examination of the study results in our  
7 review and our discussion this morning. And as  
8 Dr. Cormier pointed out, that's why we're here  
9 today.

10 In addition to further detail regarding the  
11 primary endpoint week 8 results for 9.6 I just  
12 reviewed, highlighted here in yellow, this table  
13 also presents the week 2 results for 9.6. Although  
14 week 2 results were not primary endpoints, they are  
15 useful to compare with Study 114 and to understand  
16 how the results change over time.

17 At week 2, there was a 0.425-point treatment  
18 difference in the 9.6 arm compared to placebo on  
19 the HQ-CT, with a wide confidence interval that  
20 includes zero. These week 2 results are  
21 inconsistent with the findings of Study 114, in  
22 which 9.6 appeared to show a treatment effect at

1 15 days. Overall, it would appear that Study 301  
2 did not confirm the results of Study 114 for 9.6 in  
3 either week 8 or week 2.

4 Similar to the previous table, this table  
5 provides further detail regarding the first  
6 secondary endpoint week 8 results for 3.2  
7 milligrams, highlighted here in yellow, and also  
8 presents the week 2 results.

9 At week 2, there was a 3-point improvement  
10 for 3.2 milligrams compared to placebo in the  
11 HQ-CT, a similar estimated effect to week 8. There  
12 was a 1.8-point improvement for 3.2 compared to  
13 placebo on the CY-BOCS, which is a larger estimated  
14 effect than at week 8, but still with a wide  
15 confidence interval that does include zero.

16 For the additional secondary endpoints for  
17 9.6 milligrams, none showed any signal of  
18 improvement compared to placebo. For 3.2, several  
19 of the other secondary endpoints showed a potential  
20 signal of improvement, although I will note again  
21 that the p-values reported here are unadjusted and  
22 must be considered descriptive statistics only.

1 Also, the agency had concerns about the PADQ and  
2 use of the HQ-CT subset and item 9, as I mentioned  
3 earlier.

4 To review the program's findings, Study 114  
5 provided preliminary evidence of efficacy on the  
6 primary endpoint HPWSQ-R for 9.6. However, the  
7 clinical meaningfulness of the treatment difference  
8 was unclear, as the 2-week duration of the study  
9 was insufficient to assess efficacy in a chronic  
10 condition.

11 Study 114 also provided preliminary evidence  
12 of efficacy on secondary endpoint results of the  
13 CGI-Improvement and the CY-BOCS, but secondary  
14 endpoints were not controlled for multiplicity.  
15 Study 301 did not provide evidence of efficacy for  
16 9.6 on its primary endpoint results for the HQ-CT  
17 and CY-BOCS. Also, the week 2 results were  
18 inconsistent with results of Study 114 for  
19 9.6 milligrams.

20 Statistical testing stopped after the  
21 primary endpoint. Descriptive findings for the  
22 first secondary endpoint included a potential

1 signal for improvement for the 3.2-milligram arm on  
2 the HQ-CT, but not the CY-BOCS.

3 Moving on to the long-term follow-up phase  
4 of Study 301, just as a quick refresher. Subjects  
5 in the placebo arm switched to 9.6 or 3.2 based on  
6 their treatment sequence randomization that  
7 occurred at baseline and remained blinded to which  
8 dose they received, at least until the transition  
9 to open-label 3.2 in October 2020. Assessments  
10 were collected throughout the follow-up and  
11 subjects could continue an optional extension.

12 Dr. Potter will discuss the efficacy results  
13 and some of the complexities in interpretation, and  
14 I'll focus on the safety results for the whole  
15 study, including the placebo-controlled period and  
16 the long-term follow-up and extension.

17 Besides providing long-term safety data, the  
18 long-term follow-up safety findings are pertinent  
19 to the applicant's hypothesis regarding a U-shaped  
20 dose-response curve, to be discussed later. No  
21 deaths or other serious adverse events occurred  
22 during Study 114 or the placebo-controlled period

1 of Study 301.

2 In terms of discontinuations for adverse  
3 events, in Study 114, one subject in the placebo  
4 arm discontinued. For the placebo-controlled  
5 period of Study 301, 2 subjects in the 9.6 arm  
6 discontinued, one for an adverse event of  
7 tachycardia, the other for impulsive behavior. An  
8 additional subject in the 9.6 arm had an adverse  
9 event of hypersexuality that led to later  
10 discontinuation during the long-term follow-up.

11 Regarding the most common adverse events,  
12 that is those that occurred with 5 percent  
13 incidence and at least twice the rate with placebo,  
14 none occurred in more than one subject in  
15 Study 114. During the Study 301 placebo-controlled  
16 period in the 3.2 arm, the most common adverse  
17 events included headache, flushing, diarrhea,  
18 abdominal pain, pyrexia, fatigue, and nasal  
19 discomfort. In the 9.6 arm, the most common  
20 adverse events included flushing, epistaxis, and  
21 headache. There were no findings regarding nasal  
22 examinations, vital signs, or laboratory

1 assessments that suggested a safety signal.

2 For long-term follow-up and extension,  
3 17 serious adverse events occurred in 16 subjects.  
4 Of those, scoliosis surgery and pneumonia occurred  
5 in more than one. Nine adverse events led to  
6 discontinuation in 8 subjects, including emotional  
7 disorder in 2 subjects. Most of those were  
8 primarily psychiatric, including one subject each  
9 for aggression, agitation, behavior disorder and  
10 one subject for obsessive thoughts and separation  
11 anxiety disorder.

12 More discontinuations for adverse events  
13 occurred in the 9.6 arm compared to 3.2, 5 versus  
14 3 subjects. During the long-term follow-up and  
15 extension, the most common adverse events were  
16 generally similar to the placebo-controlled period.  
17 Overall, carbetocin appeared to be generally safe  
18 and well tolerated across the development program.

19 In evaluating efficacy and safety findings  
20 for Study 301, the applicant hypothesized that the  
21 9.6 dose at the longer duration in Study 301  
22 compared to 114 resulted in more off-target

1 vasopressin effects, leading to psychiatric adverse  
2 events that counteract treatment effect. It's true  
3 that a higher number of psychiatric adverse events  
4 occurred in the 9.6 arm compared to 3.2, but it's  
5 somewhat difficult to draw any definitive  
6 conclusions, as the overall number of psychiatric  
7 serious adverse events and discontinuations for  
8 adverse events was small, there was no  
9 placebo-controlled arm in the long-term follow-up  
10 for comparison, and many of the psychiatric adverse  
11 events overlapped with symptoms seen in  
12 Prader-Willi syndrome.

13 I'll now pass the baton to my colleague,  
14 Dr. Potter, who will discuss his statistical  
15 assessment of the studies and overall conclusions.

16 **FDA Presentation - Andrew Potter**

17 DR. POTTER: Thank you, Dr. Bossie, for that  
18 informative discussion about Studies 114 and 301.

19 I'm Andrew Potter, the statistical reviewer  
20 for this NDA, and I will discuss the statistical  
21 assessment of this application. Our key  
22 statistical findings are that for Study 114, it's

1 an acceptable but short proof of concept, but it is  
2 a small study with changes in a single subject on a  
3 single item in the primary hyperphagia symptom  
4 scale, impacting the results. There were no  
5 additional statistical issues impacting the  
6 findings from this study.

7 For Study 301, the statistical review  
8 confirmed that the study was negative on both  
9 primary endpoint in the 9.6-milligram dose arm.  
10 Therefore, based on the prespecified statistical  
11 test and plan, the interpretation of any  
12 statistical inference that was about the  
13 3.2-milligram results became post hoc, and it is  
14 challenging to interpret the findings.

15 As you may recall, here are the results for  
16 the 9.6-milligram dose. For this deeper dive, we  
17 want to pay attention to the p-values at week 8 in  
18 the HQ-CT and the CY-BOCS for both the  
19 9.6-milligram dose and the 3.2-milligram dose.  
20 Next, we will use these four p-values -- two  
21 primary 9.6-milligram dose and two secondary  
22 endpoints on the 3.2-milligram dose -- and the

1 prespecified statistical testing point.

2           The prespecified statistical testing plan  
3 first started by testing 9.6-milligram dose arm  
4 endpoint. It used two p-values for the  
5 9.6-milligram dose, the HQ-CT at a p-value of  
6 0.3493 and the CY-BOCS at a p-value of  
7 approximately 0.6.

8           The results of this prespecified testing  
9 plan were that neither the null hypothesis  
10 associated with the HQ-CT endpoint, nor the CY-BOCS  
11 endpoint, for this dose were rejected because both  
12 p-values were greater than 0.05. Therefore, based  
13 on the prespecified statistical testing plan,  
14 formal statistical testing stops at this point, and  
15 the interpretation of whether 3.2-milligram dose  
16 represents a chance finding becomes post hoc. In  
17 other words, we cannot determine whether or not a  
18 potential signal in the 3.2 milligram dose is a  
19 chance finding.

20           Why is this the case? To better understand  
21 why, we evaluated the prespecified statistical  
22 testing plan or multiple comparison procedure.

1 This plan consisted of a combination of Hochberg's  
2 procedure and hierarchical testing. At this point,  
3 note that these are both accepted statistical  
4 procedures that control the type 1 error rate when  
5 properly applied.

6 In Study 301, the prespecified plan  
7 determined to first test both hypotheses on the  
8 9.6-milligram dose using Hochberg's procedure;  
9 then, if positive on either, 9.6 milligram  
10 endpoint, proceed to the second step. The second  
11 step was to again test the null hypothesis  
12 associated with HQ-CT and CY-BOCS in the  
13 3.2-milligram dose using Hochberg's procedure. If  
14 at this point, any of these tests had enough of  
15 tested rejected, all of the secondary endpoints  
16 were to be tested in a fixed-sequence hierarchy.

17 During FDA's evaluation of the applicant's  
18 proposed multiple comparison procedure, we found  
19 that, yes, it may control type 1 error for just the  
20 9.6-milligram dose, but it also may inflate the  
21 overall type 1 error rate. This is caused by  
22 property of the Hochberg procedure to exhaust all

1 of the prespecified alpha unless both primary  
2 hypothesis tests are rejected.

3 In addition, the applicant's prespecified  
4 testing plan does not allow for assessment of the  
5 3.2-milligram dose if no signal is seen on the  
6 9.6-milligram dose. It's important to note that  
7 this full multiple comparison procedure was first  
8 received with the NDA submission. A shortened  
9 statistical analysis was contained in the protocol,  
10 but it was insufficient to fully assess this MCP.

11 Now that we've discussed our prespecified  
12 statistical testing plan, we go on to evaluate the  
13 primary analysis. The primary prespecified  
14 analysis was a longitudinal data analysis called  
15 constrained longitudinal data analysis.

16 For example, in the constrained longitudinal  
17 data analysis, or cLDA, or considering just the HQ-  
18 CT endpoint, baseline HQ-CT scores are used as a  
19 response similar to the week 2 and week 8  
20 observations rather than a covariate as is commonly  
21 used in either ANCOVA or mixed-effects models for  
22 repeated measures. All of these models will

1 provide equivalent results.

2 For here, treatment differences are  
3 estimated by the least-squares mean from this  
4 model. Why is this called constrained longitudinal  
5 data analysis? Well, there's a constraint in the  
6 model that all three treatment arms have the same  
7 baseline mean and expectation.

8 In order to interpret p-values from this  
9 primary analysis, there's an important assumption  
10 about how observations within a subject co-vary.  
11 In the prespecified model, this assumption was that  
12 all observations within a subject have the same  
13 covariance. This is called compound symmetry.

14 Compound symmetry may not be met in any  
15 clinical trial, and violations of compound symmetry  
16 may underestimate the standard errors, causing  
17 overly optimistic p-values. A viable approach to  
18 adjust for such underestimation of the standard  
19 errors is applying either the sandwich estimator  
20 together with compound symmetry, or simply using an  
21 unstructured covariance structure where no  
22 assumptions are made about the covariance between

1 observations within a subject.

2 To understand the potential violations of  
3 compound symmetry, FDA conducted a set of  
4 sensitivity analyses that looked at different  
5 covariance structures. This table shows changes in  
6 nominal p-values, in the far-right column, and  
7 treatment differences for multiple covariance  
8 structures. The top row shows the results for  
9 compound symmetry covariance with an adjustment to  
10 the test statistic. However, this nominal p-value,  
11 even with this adjustment, is the same as the  
12 unadjusted case, and this nominal p-value of 0.026  
13 can be used as reference.

14 In this table, also note that we're only  
15 discussing the results of the sensitivity analysis  
16 for the HQ-CT endpoint in the 3.2-milligram dose.  
17 Remember, Study 301 has two endpoints in the  
18 9.6-milligram dose and an additional endpoint, the  
19 CY-BOCS, in the 3.2-milligram dose.

20 To better understand the nominal p-values in  
21 this table, consider a world, or a study, in which  
22 the 9.6-milligram dose was not studied. In this

1 case, using Hochberg's procedure, it would have  
2 compared the nominal p-value of the 3.2-milligram  
3 dose on the HQ-CT with 0.025 because the CY-BOCS  
4 had already failed at 0.05 for this dose.

5 As you can see, for the HQ-CT, the nominal  
6 p-values in sensitivity analyses are all greater  
7 than 0.025 starting in row number 2. However, the  
8 applicant p-value of point 0.0126 is subject to  
9 underestimation of the standard errors, causing an  
10 overly optimistic p-value. In summary, the  
11 sensitivity analyses indicate that the 3.2 dose  
12 likely did not demonstrate a statistically  
13 significant treatment effect.

14 Going into more details, we see that the  
15 more robust cases, e.g., using compound symmetry  
16 with the sandwich estimator, were using  
17 unstructured covariance matrices with both equal  
18 variances between arms, unequal variances between  
19 arms; and the Kenward Rogers adjustment to the  
20 degrees of freedom lead to p-values in the range of  
21 0.03 to 0.05. In summary, the prespecified cLDA  
22 model may be sensitive to the choice of covariance

1 structure.

2 Our statistical conclusions for the  
3 placebo-controlled period are that Study 301 lacked  
4 evidence for the 9.6-milligram dose at both week 2  
5 and week 8 and in all of the primary and secondary  
6 endpoints for the 9.6-milligram dose. This is  
7 inconsistent with the results of Study 114 that  
8 indicated preliminary evidence for the  
9 9.6-milligram dose at 2 weeks after study  
10 initiation.

11 For the 3.2-milligram dose, Study 301  
12 suggests that there may be an efficacy signal.  
13 However, these statistical inferences are post hoc,  
14 implying that it's challenging to determine if  
15 these findings are due to chance. In addition,  
16 sensitivity analyses increase the uncertainty of  
17 these findings.

18 Finally, it is very challenging to interpret  
19 findings in the 3.2-milligram dose because of lack  
20 of evidence for the 9.6-milligram dose, lack of  
21 evidence for the CY-BOCS in the 3.2-milligram dose,  
22 and the absence of a convincing rationale for a

1 U-shaped dose-response relationship. And while we  
2 have secondary endpoints in both doses, they do not  
3 provide independent confirmation of efficacy, as  
4 primary and secondary endpoints may be correlated.

5 Now, the study did not terminate at the end  
6 of the double-blind period but contained a  
7 long-term follow-up period, which allows us to take  
8 another deep dive into the data and explore  
9 efficacy over time. This period contained multiple  
10 exploratory analyses.

11 Here, I focus on placebo crossover analysis  
12 for the HQ-CT in both the 3.2-milligram dose and  
13 the 9.6-milligram dose of carbetocin. The  
14 exploratory placebo crossover analysis compared  
15 changes in the HQ-CT from study baseline to week 8,  
16 which I will call period 1, and change from HQ-CT  
17 from week 8 to week 16, period 2.

18 Subjects were randomized at study baseline  
19 to one of two treatment sequences, placebo followed  
20 by the 3.2-milligram carbetocin or placebo followed  
21 by 9.6-milligram carbetocin. In the placebo  
22 follow-up period, both dose groups improved in the

1 period after switching from placebo to carbetocin.  
2 However, we can see in the treatment sequence,  
3 starting with placebo followed by 3.2-milligram  
4 dose, that in period 1 there was effectively no  
5 change in the HQ-CT. However, during period 2,  
6 there is an approximately 9-point change in this  
7 same group. In contrast, the treatment sequence of  
8 placebo followed by 9.6 milligrams shows an  
9 approximately 5-point decline during period 1 and  
10 an approximately 5-point decline in period 2

11 To better visualize what these changes mean,  
12 we can look at the mean HQ-CT over time in both the  
13 placebo-controlled period and the long-term  
14 follow-up period for patients who started on  
15 placebo and then followed a treatment sequence to  
16 switch from placebo to 3.2-milligram dose,  
17 indicated by the purple line, or switch from  
18 placebo to the 9.6-milligram dose, indicated by the  
19 gray line.

20 In this graph, we have along the X-axis  
21 study visit starting at baseline and continuing to  
22 week 64. On the Y-axis, we see mean HQ-CT. The

1 placebo-controlled period is on the left of the red  
2 dashed line and the long-term follow-up period is  
3 on the right of the red dashed line. During the  
4 placebo-controlled period, both treatment sequences  
5 declined during the first two weeks.

6           However, from week 2 to week 8, the  
7 treatment sequence of placebo, followed by  
8 3.2 milligram, rebounds -- increases in symptom  
9 severity while the treatment sequence of placebo  
10 followed by 9.6 milligrams continues to decline.  
11 At week 8, there's a separation of around 5 points  
12 on the HQ-CT between these two groups.

13           Following switch to carbetocin, both groups  
14 declined from week 8 to week 10 and have  
15 approximately similar HQ-CT scores, ranging from  
16 about 14 to 15 points. By week 16, the groups look  
17 roughly similar, with an HQ-CT score ranging from  
18 about 12 to 14 points. After week 28, the sample  
19 size shrinks to the point where estimates and  
20 inferences may become unreliable.

21           The long-term follow-up period has multiple  
22 limitations that impact interpretation of the

1 analyses. First, the long-term follow-up period  
2 lacks placebo control, so while subjects were  
3 blinded to which dose of active drug they received,  
4 subjects were not blinded to whether they were  
5 going to receive active drug after week 8. Second,  
6 the randomization at study baseline led to an  
7 imbalance in the placebo crossover subjects at  
8 week 8, leading to challenges of interpretation  
9 between group comparisons in the placebo crossover  
10 subjects.

11 All of the long-term follow-up analysis may  
12 be subject to confounding by potential expectation  
13 bias -- i.e., patients expect to receive an active  
14 drug after week 8 -- and other sources of bias.  
15 Finally, the sample size becomes rather small in  
16 the later long-term follow-up period.

17 Now, I'll briefly discuss our overall  
18 conclusions. In conclusion, Study 114 provided  
19 preliminary evidence of hyperphagia for the  
20 9.6-milligram dose, but with unclear clinical  
21 meaningfulness of the results given the 2-week  
22 study duration in a chronic condition. Study 301

1 did not show efficacy for the 9.6-milligram dose,  
2 which is inconsistent with the results of  
3 Study 114. In addition, it is challenging to  
4 interpret 3.2-milligram dose findings because of  
5 the lack of efficacy on the 9.6-milligram dose and  
6 the prespecified statistical testing plan.

7 Finally, the lack of placebo control and  
8 potential biases in the long-term follow-up period  
9 impact any potential findings from this data.  
10 Thank you.

11 **Clarifying Questions to FDA**

12 DR. NARENDRAN: We will now take clarifying  
13 questions for the FDA. Please use the raised-hand  
14 icon to indicate that you have a question, and  
15 remember to lower your hand by clicking the  
16 raised-hand icon again after you have asked your  
17 question. When acknowledged, please remember to  
18 state your name for the record before you speak and  
19 direct your question to a specific presenter, if  
20 you can. If you wish for a specific slide to be  
21 displayed, please let us know the slide number, if  
22 possible.

1           Finally, it would be helpful to acknowledge  
2 the end of your question with a thank you and your  
3 follow-up question with, "That is all for my  
4 questions," so we can move on to the next panel  
5 member.

6           Our first question is Dr. Shapley.

7           DR. SHAPLEY: Thank you. This is Alice  
8 Shapley. Thank you very much for your  
9 presentations. This is a question for Dr. Potter.

10           You mentioned a couple minutes ago that it's  
11 challenging to interpret the positive 3.2-milligram  
12 findings in the phase 3 study given the lack of  
13 efficacy for the 9.6-milligram dose in the same  
14 study. However, we actually heard from multiple  
15 presenters earlier this morning how a, quote,  
16 "inverted U dose-response" might arise for  
17 carbetocin, i.e., that the 3.2-milligram dose would  
18 work better than a 9.6-milligram dose because of  
19 the more specific signaling to oxytocin receptors  
20 alone for the 3.2-milligram dose.

21           So I wonder if taking into account these  
22 explanations that we heard earlier this morning

1 makes it less, quote, "challenging" to interpret  
2 the 3.2-milligram results.

3 DR. POTTER: Yes. Thank you, Dr. Shapley,  
4 for that question, however, I may not be the best  
5 person on the FDA side to answer this question.

6 Dr. Bossie or Dr. Farchione, would you  
7 prefer to help me out here a little bit?

8 DR. FARCHIONE: Yes, sure.

9 This is Tiffany Farchione. I'm the director  
10 for the division. I know that we did here some  
11 discussion of that this morning, but I think that  
12 we need to bear in mind a few things.

13 One, a U-shaped curve is extraordinarily  
14 rare. We just don't see it very often, so it's  
15 difficult to really justify that as a mechanism of  
16 action here when, after the fact, we're looking at  
17 this, and have the data in hand, and trying to  
18 apply a hypothesis that might fit the data.

19 There doesn't really seem to be any  
20 mechanistic or pharmacological explanation as to  
21 why we would have a U-shaped curve in this case.  
22 When we talk about the off-target effects, I think

1 that you heard in Dr. Bossie's discussion of some  
2 of the adverse events that it's really difficult to  
3 say that that's actually what's going on here.  
4 It's tough to reach that conclusion, based on the  
5 adverse event data alone.

6 So between the pharmacology and everything  
7 else -- and I will say that it's also difficult to  
8 reconcile this idea that there might be some  
9 patients who are experiencing this U-shaped curve  
10 and having these off-target effects, and either  
11 dropping out or experiencing adverse events, while  
12 at the same time describing that the patients who  
13 stayed in the study continued to do well, or to  
14 look at the data in the 114 study and see that that  
15 doesn't really fit the U-shaped curve hypothesis.

16 There was --

17 DR. SHAPLEY: But --

18 DR. FARCHIONE: Sorry, go ahead.

19 DR. SHAPLEY: You can see that the 114 study  
20 also was a factor of three smaller numbers, right?  
21 So one does have to wonder about --

22 DR. FARCHIONE: No, sure. I think by all

1 accounts, the 114 study was a proof-of-concept  
2 study, and we certainly can't take that as adequate  
3 and well controlled in order to support either  
4 efficacy or -- we might be able to get some safety  
5 information from it. It was promising. It did  
6 give us some suggestion that maybe this would be an  
7 effective treatment, but when we try to compare  
8 apples and apples and look at the 9.6-milligram  
9 group at 2 weeks in the phase 3 study, that is also  
10 still contradictory.

11 So given all of these different pieces that  
12 just aren't quite lining up, it's really hard to  
13 pin this explanation on a U-shaped curve.

14 DR. SHAPLEY: So the 9.6-milligram dose did  
15 show improvement, which is not as statistically  
16 significant in the phase 3 study as in the phase 2  
17 study.

18 Then the other thing I'd say is that in the  
19 public comments, one of the letters that I wrote  
20 was from someone named Larry Young, who was an  
21 expert in oxytocin studies, and he actually  
22 provided some references about why one might expect

1 a better response for the 3.2-milligram dose than  
2 the 9.6-milligram dose. I have it in front of me.  
3 There are some journal references; that it's not  
4 just being offered qualitatively, but there's  
5 actually literature that would back up such an  
6 idea.

7 DR. FARCHIONE: Right. But in the absence of  
8 actual -- I don't even know if a thing would exist,  
9 or whatever, that would actually show receptor  
10 agonists in these patients at the time. There are  
11 a number of factors to consider, and looking at the  
12 hypothesis that neatly fit the data after you have  
13 the data in hand, when there are a number of other  
14 potentially conflicting explanations, is difficult  
15 for us to do.

16 We're not saying that that's not a  
17 possibility; it's just one of many possible  
18 explanations for the data that we're seeing.

19 DR. SHAPLEY: Okay. Thank you.

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

21 Our next question is from Dr. Iyengar.

22 DR. IYENGAR: This is Satish Iyengar from

1 Pittsburgh. My question is about the sample sizes  
2 in the long-term follow-up.

3           When I saw slide 56 from the applicant's  
4 presentation, the sample sizes at the end seemed  
5 quite healthy; of the 128 starting, 104 in week 52  
6 and 103 in week 4. But then in the FDA briefing, I  
7 remember reading -- I'm reading here that sample  
8 size has decreased from 59 subjects at baseline to  
9 31 in week 28 and one in week 64. Andrew Potter's  
10 slide 55, I think, also indicated a very small  
11 sample size near the end.

12           I'm confused. What exactly is going on  
13 there? Can someone help?

14           DR. FARCHIONE: This is Dr. Farchione again.  
15 I can start that. I believe, if I recall  
16 correctly, slide 55, Andrew, from your presentation  
17 is the one where we were only looking at the  
18 patients who crossed over from placebo. That's the  
19 one that's really small.

20           DR. POTTER: Yes. Could we get FDA slide 55  
21 up, please?

22           DR. FARCHIONE: Well, even if we can't bring

1 that that up, that does explain the difference in  
2 that particular group. But the briefing numbers  
3 were from the original clinical study report in  
4 the --

5 Dr. Bossie, can you go over where those  
6 numbers came from so that we can try to reconcile  
7 the differences there?

8 DR. BOSSIE: Sure. Thank you for the  
9 question. The numbers in the briefing document  
10 came from the clinical study report with the  
11 original data cutoff.

12 So I'm not sure entirely which numbers from  
13 the applicant's presentation you're referring to,  
14 but I'm thinking that the difference may be that  
15 their numbers were coming from the most recent  
16 safety update cutoff, including actual patients  
17 remaining in the study, as opposed to the briefing  
18 document, which might have been referring to actual  
19 endpoint assessments that were available, because  
20 with the original NDA submission, because of the  
21 data cutoff dates, there were smaller numbers.

22 DR. FARCHIONE: Right. So we know where

1       ours came from. Perhaps the applicant can clarify  
2       where their number came from and why they have the  
3       different number.

4               DR. IYENGAR: I think I understand. Thank  
5       you. Thanks for the clarification.

6               DR. FARCHIONE: Okay. Thanks.

7               DR. NARENDRAN: Our next question is from  
8       Dr. Dunn.

9               DR. W. DUNN: This is Walter Dunn. I have a  
10       question regarding slide 11. This is from  
11       Dr. Bossie's presentation, although it is a  
12       statistical question, so maybe Dr. Potter can  
13       comment on it.

14               The one-sided alpha level 0.1 for the  
15       phase 2 study seems a bit high. I'm wondering is  
16       this common or was there some rationale for such a  
17       high alpha level?

18               DR. FARCHIONE: This is Dr. Farchione again.  
19       One-sided alpha 0.1, two-sided 0.05, I think that  
20       the important thing to remember here is that  
21       Study 114 was a proof-of-concept study. It was  
22       very small. They're looking for a signal to help

1 inform whether or not to go forward in development.  
2 This wasn't intended to be an adequate and  
3 well-controlled study to support a marketing  
4 application.

5 Oftentimes in these early proof-of-concept  
6 studies, you might see different thresholds, but as  
7 you saw in our analyses, we do dig in more deeply.  
8 And if it's being submitted in support of a  
9 marketing application, we're going to look at  
10 sensitivity analyses that will set an appropriate  
11 threshold for that purpose.

12 DR. W. DUNN: Okay. Great. That makes  
13 sense.

14 Then one other question. I think I wasn't  
15 understanding the difference between the long-term  
16 follow-up and the open-label extension. In  
17 Dr. Bossie's presentation, if I understand  
18 correctly, in the long-term follow-up, you still  
19 had two arms, 3.2 and the 9.6. But did I hear  
20 correctly that in the open label, everybody's being  
21 converted to 3.2?

22 DR. FARCHIONE: That's further down the

1 line.

2 Sorry. Go ahead, Dr. Bossie.

3 DR. BOSSIE: Thank you for the question, and  
4 I apologize for the CONSORT diagram. I tried to  
5 make it simpler.

6 Subjects were blinded to which dose they  
7 were on in the original plan, the long-term  
8 follow-up. As far as I know in the extension, what  
9 happened was, is after the applicant unblinded the  
10 data and did the analysis, and determined that  
11 3.2 milligram looked more efficacious than 9.6,  
12 they told everyone in the 9.6 arm that they were  
13 going to be transitioning to 3.2. So at that point  
14 it became open label for everyone.

15 Does that answer your question?

16 DR. W. DUNN: Yes. It makes total sense.  
17 Thank you.

18 DR. BOSSIE: Sure. Thank you.

19 DR. NARENDRAN: The next question is from  
20 Dr. Krishna.

21 DR. KRISHNA: Hi. This is Sonia Krishna.  
22 Since the FDA has worked with this company for

1 years and had to adjust the trial and the protocols  
2 based on COVID, et cetera, did the FDA have any  
3 opinion on which dose or how to decide the doses?  
4 For example, why isn't there a 6.4 dose? Thank  
5 you.

6 DR. FARCHIONE: This is Dr. Farchione again.  
7 In terms of the design elements in choosing the  
8 3.2-milligram dose, the second dose for dose  
9 exploration, we didn't have any particular concerns  
10 about choosing that dose one way or the other.

11 DR. KRISHNA: Thank you.

12 DR. NARENDRAN: Does that answer your  
13 question?

14 DR. KRISHNA: Yes. Thank you.

15 DR. NARENDRAN: Our next question is from  
16 Dr. Baker.

17 DR. BAKER: Thank you, Narendran.

18 This is Robert Baker, the industry rep. My  
19 question, I think, is for Dr. Potter, but possibly  
20 for Dr. Farchione.

21 Thank you. It was very helpful that you  
22 included in the preread the guidance around

1 substantial evidence, and I think a lot of the  
2 judgment here is going to come because of the  
3 orphan nature of the illness.

4 In the statistical considerations there, it  
5 talks about balancing expectations for, I guess,  
6 degree of evidence against harmful consequences of  
7 a false positive and the harmful consequences of a  
8 false negative. I don't know if you're permitted  
9 to give further guidance to us beyond what's  
10 written in that, but I was wondering that I would  
11 think of the harms in that being on the one hand  
12 the false positive probably related to toxicity or  
13 safety risks, and false negatives would have to do  
14 with are there other good treatments that are not  
15 available or would this be the one.

16 But can you guide us on how you would think  
17 about that, the balancing part of the risk of false  
18 positives and false negatives? Thank you.

19 DR. FARCHIONE: Sure. This is Dr. Farchione  
20 again. I'll start from the high-level perspective,  
21 and then if there is something more statistically  
22 specific that you would like to know, then I'll

1 pass it over to Dr. Potter.

2 In terms of how we balance that, we have a  
3 requirement, based on the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic  
4 Act, that when we approve a drug, it needs to  
5 demonstrate substantial evidence -- I mean, that's  
6 why we're here today; that's what we're talking  
7 about -- because we want to avoid any circumstances  
8 where inadequate, or flawed, or uncontrolled data  
9 could be used to support our regulatory decisions.

10 There are numerous examples where studies  
11 without prespecification, or studies that have  
12 undergone extensive post hoc analyses and purport  
13 to show a drug benefit, end up not panning out when  
14 you get to the phase 3 studies, the adequate and  
15 well-controlled studies. The results just aren't  
16 reproducible, and that's common in our randomized,  
17 double-blind trials.

18 We know that we need to be able to find  
19 useful beneficial therapies for patients with  
20 serious diseases. This is absolutely an unmet  
21 need, and as we noted, there's nothing available to  
22 treat hyperphagia in Prader-Willi syndrome. But

1 we're also aware of the dangers of approving an  
2 ineffective drug that gives false hope or could  
3 mislead them into using an ineffective drug and  
4 foregoing an opportunity to do something else or to  
5 enroll in a future trial of something else.

6 The difficult thing here is, again, we have  
7 this flexibility when it comes to rare diseases,  
8 but the other thing that we also need to balance is  
9 ensuring that we do still reach that substantial  
10 evidence threshold. It's not that there is a  
11 different requirement for rare diseases or that we  
12 require less evidence, it's that we just need to be  
13 more flexible in how we look at it.

14 So I think, really, the big question here  
15 is, considering the post hoc nature and all of  
16 these other things, do we have enough to be able to  
17 pin our hopes on that 3.2 milligrams or not? In  
18 terms of exercising flexibility, that's why we're  
19 here today, because it's not an easy question to  
20 answer and we do have to balance benefits and  
21 risks.

22 In terms of the safety evaluation of this

1 product, we don't really have any disagreements or  
2 anything like that with the applicant. That's why  
3 we didn't focus on safety very much in our  
4 presentation. Pretty much, our review is still  
5 ongoing in that regard, but we think that between  
6 information requests, and postmarketing  
7 requirements, or labeling, we can manage whatever  
8 safety issues there may be.

9 But when you're balancing benefit and risk,  
10 you have to start with benefit because, otherwise,  
11 there's no risk that's acceptable in the context of  
12 lack of benefits. So that's why we're focusing on  
13 that side of the equation today.

14 DR. BAKER: Thank you for answering the  
15 question. That's very helpful. I agree there's  
16 judgment, but I appreciate the way you laid that  
17 out.

18 DR. NARENDRAN: The next question is from  
19 Dr. Troendle.

20 DR. TROENDLE: Hi. This is James Troendle.  
21 My question I think is for Dr. Bossie, probably.

22 Is it true that in 2018, the agency

1 recommended a thorough dose-finding efficacy  
2 study -- is what I'm reading in the FDA  
3 write-up -- and I guess that would be a phase 2,  
4 but the applicant seems to have progressed directly  
5 into a phase 3 with multiple doses. And the talk  
6 of a U-shaped curve, had this been done in phase 2,  
7 could have been determined, and then validated or  
8 confirmed in a final phase 3 study.

9 I just wanted to make sure I'm correct in  
10 that understanding. Thank you.

11 DR. FARCHIONE: Dr. Bossie, do you want me  
12 to take that one since that was before you were  
13 assigned to the application?

14 DR. BOSSIE: Yes. I'd be relying on the  
15 minutes only, and you were actually here.

16 DR. FARCHIONE: Yes. Okay.

17 In terms of asking for dose finding, there  
18 were a couple of reasons there. One, we didn't  
19 want to pin all of our hopes of replication on a  
20 single dose. Two, we always want to be able to  
21 characterize whether there are dose-related adverse  
22 events, or whether increasing the dose increases

1 efficacy, or whether you can avoid certain adverse  
2 events with a lower dose. So that was the impetus  
3 for that request.

4 We didn't have an objection to exploring  
5 that dose response in the studies that were  
6 conducted. It's difficult in a rare disease  
7 population to do all of those individual separate  
8 studies that you might when you have more patients  
9 at your disposal. In this case, that more  
10 efficient trial design I think was fine. We didn't  
11 have an objection to that.

12 DR. TROENDLE: Okay. Thank you.

13 DR. FARCHIONE: You're right. If there had  
14 been a separate study, maybe we could have had more  
15 information about U-shaped or not. We could have  
16 potentially supported or contradicted that  
17 hypothesis further, but this is what we have.

18 DR. TROENDLE: Alright. Thank you. That's  
19 the end of my question.

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you. Thank you,  
21 Dr. Troendle.

22 Our next question, another question from

1 Dr. Shapley.

2 DR. SHAPLEY: Thanks so much. This is Alice  
3 Shapley again. I have a question about safety. I  
4 think this is a question either for Dr. Bossie or  
5 Dr. Farchione, and it has to do with how the  
6 adverse events are counted.

7 It seems to me that one of the most  
8 promising aspects of carbetocin is how safe it is;  
9 that there aren't that many significant safety  
10 concerns. I'm just looking at some of the slides  
11 about the adverse events, and some of the ones that  
12 are included are scoliosis surgery. There's also  
13 one about pyrexia.

14 But specifically, I was wondering about  
15 scoliosis surgery. Presumably, there's no causal  
16 effect between carbetocin and scoliosis surgery, so  
17 I'm just wondering why events like that would be  
18 counted in the safety profile for carbetocin.

19 DR. BOSSIE: I can take that.

20 DR. FARCHIONE: Yes. This is Dr. Farchione.  
21 It's not that they're counted against them. We can  
22 agree with the applicant that that may have been a

1 preplanned surgery or whatever, but they are still  
2 captured in adverse event reports, so we're just  
3 presenting the data as it is. Whether or not it's  
4 related to the medication is something that we  
5 determined in our review.

6 DR. BOSSIE: I can add.

7 DR. FARCHIONE: Go ahead, Paul.

8 DR. BOSSIE: Thank you for the question, and  
9 I understand where it's coming from. I believe in  
10 some of those cases, those are counted as adverse  
11 events either because of the surgical procedure or  
12 the hospitalization for the procedure. So that  
13 sort of automatically counts as a serious adverse  
14 event even though, as you point out, there doesn't  
15 appear to be any causal relationship between  
16 carbetocin or an underlying condition in  
17 Prader-Willi syndrome.

18 Does that answer your question?

19 DR. SHAPLEY: Yes. Thank you. I was just  
20 wondering if you can confirm your impression that  
21 this does seem to be incredibly safe. I think  
22 Dr. Farchione was saying you have no concerns about

1 the safety profile.

2 Is that sort of where you're coming from as  
3 well, that there are no significant safety  
4 concerns?

5 DR. BOSSIE: At this point in the review,  
6 no. And as Dr. Farchione mentioned, any reviews  
7 ongoing and any issues that might occur would be  
8 something that we could address in other ways. We  
9 wanted to focus today on the efficacy question.

10 DR. SHAPLEY: Thank you.

11 DR. NARENDRAN: I don't see any more  
12 questions. We still have 9 minutes or more than  
13 9 minutes.

14 Are there any other questions for the agency  
15 from the committee members?

16 (No response.)

17 DR. NARENDRAN: I don't see any raised  
18 hands. So if there are no further questions, I  
19 believe we should be able to break for lunch.

20 We will now break for lunch. We could  
21 reconvene at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.  
22 Panel members, please remember that there should be

1 no chatting or discussion of the meeting topic with  
2 other panel members during the lunch break.

3           Additionally, there's a preference for  
4 everybody to please rejoin at around 1:15 p.m. to  
5 ensure that you're still connected before we  
6 reconvene at 1:30 p.m. Thank you.

7           So at 1:30 p.m., we'll see everybody back  
8 and start with the OPH.

9           (Whereupon, at 12:32 p.m., a lunch recess  
10 was taken.)

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A F T E R N O O N S E S S I O N

(1:30 p.m.)

**Open Public Hearing**

DR. NARENDRAN: We will now begin the open public hearing session.

Both the FDA and the public believe in a transparent process for information gathering and decision making. To ensure such transparency at the open public hearing session of the advisory committee meeting, FDA believes that it is important to understand the context of an individual's presentation.

For this reason, FDA encourages you, the open public hearing speaker, at the beginning of your written or oral statement to advise the committee of any financial relationship that you may have with the sponsor, its product, and if known, its direct competitors. For example, this financial information may include the sponsor's payment of your travel, lodging, or other expenses in connection with your participation in the meeting.

1           Likewise, FDA encourages you, at the  
2 beginning of your statement, to advise the  
3 committee if you do not have any such financial  
4 relationships. If you choose not to address this  
5 issue of financial relationships at the beginning  
6 of your statement, it will not preclude you from  
7 speaking.

8           The FDA and this committee place great  
9 importance in the open public hearing process. The  
10 insights and comments provided can help the agency  
11 and the committee in their consideration of the  
12 issues before them.

13           That said, in many instances and for many  
14 topics, there will be a variety of opinions. One  
15 of our goals for today is for the open public  
16 hearing to be conducted in a fair and open way,  
17 where every participant is listened to carefully  
18 and treated with dignity, courtesy, and respect.  
19 Therefore, please speak only when recognized by the  
20 chairperson. Thank you for your cooperation.

21           Speaker number 1, your audio is connected  
22 now. Will speaker number 1 begin and introduce

1 yourself? Please state your name and any  
2 organization you are representing for the record.

3 MS. MATESEVAC: My name is Lisa Matesevac,  
4 and I'm a parent of a person with PWS. The FDA has  
5 expressed a desire to understand the patient  
6 experience, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to  
7 share with you today our son's experience with use  
8 of LV-101.

9 My name is Lisa Matesevac, and I'm the  
10 mother of a teenager with Prader-Willi syndrome.  
11 Upon diagnosis, a bleak outlook was painted, as we  
12 were told that his future behaviors would place him  
13 in grave danger and that he would have many  
14 limitations. But I think the hardest part was  
15 hearing that there was no treatment for the  
16 insatiable hunger that would dominate our future.

17 We eagerly began participating in research  
18 studies and clinical trials. I count myself  
19 fortunate to have had the resources to do this. To  
20 be clear, it is not simple or effortless. It is  
21 incredibly challenging for a person with PWS whose  
22 need for routine structure and reassurance of food

1 availability demand a carefully crafted plan at all  
2 times. It is a little like the game of Jenga,  
3 where at any moment if you move the wrong piece,  
4 the entire tower crumbles, and you are left with a  
5 person utterly unstable.

6           Despite the inherent challenges of the  
7 clinical trial, we made the choice to participate  
8 because we want a different life for our son.  
9 Before enrollment in the clinical trial, life with  
10 PWS held many challenges. Notably, his hunger  
11 drive dominated every action we took. Every moment  
12 of every day was planned to ensure food safety and  
13 security, not only because of PWS, but because he  
14 has the added danger of severe food allergies.

15           When he eats something to which he is  
16 allergic, he has anaphylaxis. He stops breathing.  
17 Before carbetocin, this happened to him twice  
18 because his biological drive to eat superseded all  
19 logic. All he cared about was that he was hungry  
20 and there was food.

21           Now, imagine sending him to school and  
22 hoping he doesn't gain access to food from a

1 backpack, from the lunch table, from the garbage  
2 can, and the infinite number of other places food  
3 is accessible, much of which could quite literally  
4 cause his death. I hope this paints a clear  
5 picture of the terror we lived with each and every  
6 day.

7           Additionally, his behaviors were difficult  
8 to manage. He frequently displayed explosive  
9 behavior outbursts resulting in breaking things,  
10 verbal arguments, refusal to comply, and difficulty  
11 transitioning. At school, he was not working up to  
12 his potential because his dominating obsession with  
13 food would prevent him from fully participating in  
14 learning. Teachers were fearful of him and his  
15 significant needs, and living with PWS was hard  
16 back then, especially in school.

17           Our lives changed when he began receiving  
18 the carbetocin. We see measurable improvements in  
19 behaviors. He is calmer and has more control over  
20 his emotions because the hyperphagia has markedly  
21 improved. Our previously anxious and overwrought  
22 son became peaceful. Use of this drug changed his

1       demeanor and allowed him to reach a potential he  
2       had not previously experienced because he is no  
3       longer perseverating about food.

4               One example of this change is a transition  
5       from a special education classroom setting to a  
6       general education setting, where he is earning all  
7       A's and B's. He is experiencing successes we  
8       didn't see for him before using carbetocin. He is  
9       able to work independently, and when frustrated, he  
10      is able to verbalize this rather than have a  
11      behavioral outburst.

12              His need for routine has diminished  
13      considerably. He tolerates uncertainty with ease.  
14      He is accepting of lengthier, unexpected delays in  
15      meals. Gone are the questions seeking reassurance  
16      about what, when, and where he will eat. Recently,  
17      for the first time ever, we allowed him to stay  
18      with family overnight without us present because we  
19      can finally feel safe knowing he will not food seek  
20      and he is not in danger.

21              On the way home from this visit when we  
22      stopped to eat, he told us he wasn't hungry.

1       Instead, he watched us eat while he chatted with us  
2       about all the fun things he did while visiting with  
3       family. He left his food untouched in front of  
4       him. He wasn't ill. He wasn't distracted by a  
5       video game. He simply wasn't hungry. Let me say  
6       that again. He wasn't hungry. He packed up his  
7       food for later, and we got back in the car to  
8       continue home.

9               I now see a hopeful way forward with this  
10       treatment and a path that can lead him to achieve  
11       things we didn't dare dream for him before  
12       carbetocin because he is unburdened by the hunger  
13       and the anxiety. It is meaningful for our son. It  
14       is life-altering. There's a safety now that we  
15       didn't have before this treatment.

16              I see carbetocin as a necessary tool that  
17       allows our son to shine through and for PWS to  
18       finally take a back seat. Currently, there are no  
19       approved treatments, but I urge you to approve  
20       carbetocin for PWS. It is safe, it is effective,  
21       and we need it, now. Thank you.

22              DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

1           Speaker number 2, your audio is connected  
2 now. Will speaker number 2 begin and introduce  
3 yourself? Please state your name and any  
4 organization you are representing for the record.

5           MS. WILSON: My name is Deahl Wilson. First  
6 off, I just want to thank you for hearing my  
7 comments today. Like I said, my name is Deahl  
8 Wilson. I am the parent of Matthew Wilson, who's a  
9 preteen. He was born in 2009 with Prader-Willi  
10 syndrome.

11           After his diagnosis, my husband and I as his  
12 parents wanted more than anything to give Matthew  
13 every opportunity in life we could for him.  
14 Matthew was accepted into the carbetocin study back  
15 in November of 2018. We were very excited and  
16 hopeful about this opportunity. Our family  
17 desperately wanted this drug to deliver and promise  
18 helping Matthew get a step closer to a more normal  
19 life outside of Prader-Willi syndrome.

20           As months went on, on this drug, Matthew's  
21 behavior didn't show any improvement, and in fact,  
22 his behavior had become even worse. I was getting

1 constant calls of concern from his teachers at  
2 school due to defiant behavior that we hadn't seen  
3 in Matthew before; things such as dumping trash on  
4 his head; running from the school; and hitting his  
5 teachers.

6 He became obsessive with skin picking, nail-  
7 biting, even to the point his fingers would bleed.  
8 His anxiety was so extreme that at times we would  
9 have to tell him to just go to his room so that we  
10 could get a little bit of peace. He would get  
11 nosebleeds and nose sores, and even began  
12 developing breast tissue. And as you can imagine  
13 for a boy, this was quite traumatizing.

14 These were difficult experiences and were  
15 not the behaviors we had seen previously in  
16 Matthew, so being on carbetocin, my husband and I  
17 quickly felt a deeper burden having a child that  
18 had the special needs.

19 In addition to dealing with Matthew's  
20 behavior at home and at school, there were so many  
21 criteria that we had to follow exactly to keep the  
22 medicine as effective as possible. It quickly

1 became like another child needing special care. We  
2 had to keep the drug at a perfect temperature. We  
3 had to pick it up/drop it off every day at school.  
4 We had to remember to take the medication  
5 everywhere we went, still keeping it at the correct  
6 temperature. We had to remember to administer the  
7 drug before every meal.

8           But despite all of these efforts, we held  
9 out hope that carbetocin would do the one thing we  
10 truly needed it to do, which was lessen the effects  
11 of hyperphagia. Sadly, after months went on,  
12 carbetocin, we saw no change. In fact, after all  
13 this effort, we had to deal with the adverse side  
14 effects it had caused in Matthew and in our lives.

15           In addition to the negative side effects,  
16 carbetocin did not deliver any relief to his  
17 hunger, which was obviously the whole point of  
18 taking this drug. Our whole family was devastated  
19 that the carbetocin had not helped Matthew. We  
20 were so disappointed by the side effects and the  
21 lack of efficacy of this drug that we had hoped  
22 for, that would improve all of our lives, but it

1 absolutely did not help, but rather made matters  
2 worse for Matthew and our family, and our school  
3 situation. It did nothing to help the hyperphagia,  
4 which was the whole point of this drug, making it  
5 completely useless for us to continue the use of  
6 it.

7           So I ask, do we really want to waste our  
8 resources and provide false hope on a drug that  
9 doesn't produce the needed result, and in fact even  
10 adds negative results? Every Prader-Willi parent  
11 wants to find relief for that hunger and their  
12 Prader-Willi child in need. This drug does nothing  
13 that would prove to be effective in helping with  
14 the vital task of relieving the effects of  
15 hyperphagia.

16           This constant feeling of hunger is  
17 devastating, and we would do everything to help our  
18 child live a more comfortable life. I do want to  
19 thank you for your time for listening to a parent  
20 of Prader-Willi syndrome.

21           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

22           Speaker number 3, your audio is connected

1 now. Please introduce yourself and state your name  
2 and organization you're representing for the  
3 record.

4 MS. SENESE: My name is Maggie Senese. I am  
5 a caregiver, and my daughter Bridget was born with  
6 PWS. I want to start by acknowledging that the  
7 concerns in the FDA briefing document are concerns  
8 that I have as well. Ultimately, carbetocin did  
9 not show statistical significance at 9.6 milligrams  
10 like it set out to do. I question the duration and  
11 the efficacy of the trial data for the reasons that  
12 are listed in the document. If carbetocin is  
13 approved there, there should at least be a  
14 confirmatory trial. It is important to ensure that  
15 only effective drugs are marketed.

16 Bridget is only four, so hyperphagia has yet  
17 to hit. Well, she was not a patient in the trial,  
18 I have researched and spoke to patient families.  
19 Like others, the hope of a treatment for  
20 hyperphagia has been alive since Bridget was born.  
21 I don't want just any treatment, but rather one  
22 that I'm confident is safe and effective for my

1 child.

2 While there are risks that I'm willing to  
3 take, it is important to me that those risks are  
4 taken with a treatment that has shown continued  
5 long-term efficacy. As was said earlier, there is  
6 no risk that is acceptable in lack of benefit.

7 At the PWSA conference, Elizabeth Roof  
8 stated that the primary analysis includes all  
9 patients who completed the baseline and at least  
10 one post baseline visit in week 2 or week 8 prior  
11 to March 1st. My interpretation is in some of  
12 these patients, the FDA would only review data for  
13 them up to a maximum of 2 weeks on the trial, and  
14 in some cases, only up to 8 weeks.

15 It's important to ensure that carbetocin  
16 will continue to be monitored and adverse effects  
17 will continue to be documented. Up to 2 weeks for  
18 some patients isn't long enough for a drug to be  
19 studied for long-term use. This isn't substantial  
20 evidence of effectiveness.

21 I learned Levo eventually transitioned all  
22 patients to the 3.2-milligram dose. We know the

1 lower dose outperformed the higher dose in trials,  
2 but no other doses were studied beyond them. What  
3 if even lower doses are more effective? What if  
4 fewer times a day is more effective? We just don't  
5 know. No other dosing schedules were studied. Has  
6 there been long-term data collection with all the  
7 patients once they all transitioned to the  
8 3.2-milligram dose? These questions are all  
9 reasons why continuing the carbetocin is so  
10 important.

11 At the SPWR conference, Dr. Jay Cormier  
12 mentioned that at the higher 9.6-milligram dose,  
13 they saw off-target effects happening in  
14 individuals in the study. Some of those  
15 individuals ended up withdrawing from the study.  
16 He does add that at the 3.2-milligram dose, that  
17 they are able to avoid more of the off-target  
18 effects. I am concerned that he said able to avoid  
19 more and not able to avoid all of the off-target  
20 effects at the lower dose.

21 If these off-target effects led to some  
22 individuals withdrawing from the study, I'm not

1       sure this is a risk I'm comfortable exposing my  
2       daughter to. From reading the FDA's briefing  
3       document, I see that these could be psychiatric  
4       adverse effects, which correlates with the patient  
5       experience I heard, and an increased risk of  
6       psychiatric adverse effects is not a risk I am  
7       comfortable taking for my daughter. For some  
8       individuals with PWS, the rates of psychosis are  
9       higher. Is this a risk that would be worth it to  
10      them?

11               Levo has argued that the off-target effects  
12      were not evident in the phase 2 trial because of  
13      the shorter duration, and the impact of adverse  
14      effects came with a longer duration of exposure.  
15      How do we know the same won't eventually happen on  
16      the 3.2-milligram dose? Will the longer duration  
17      of exposure eventually cause off-target effects?

18               You are tasked with looking to approve a  
19      drug that could be used for a lifetime in a person  
20      living with PWS. Failure to follow up for the long  
21      term would be unethical. These are children's  
22      lives we're talking about.

1           If approved, I hope carbetocin continues to  
2 be studied. We know that it is not possible to  
3 predict all of the drug's effect during its  
4 clinical trial. A confirmatory trial would make  
5 sure that carbetocin is truly safe and effective  
6 for the long term, so it would not be a burden, but  
7 rather a practical solution.

8           Our community is excited about the prospect  
9 of a treatment and has shown great support for  
10 carbetocin. I do not believe that there would be  
11 barriers to a confirmatory study. The community  
12 support could translate the potential trial  
13 candidates for a follow-up study. Ultimately, Levo  
14 must provide substantial evidence of effectiveness,  
15 and this could help.

16           I understand the urgency of our community to  
17 have an option to try, and I want treatments for  
18 hyperphagia. But I need to know that they are safe  
19 and effective for the long term. Thank you.

20           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

21           Speaker number 4, your audio is connected  
22 now. Please introduce yourself and state your name

1 and organization for the record. Thank you.

2 MS. MOUREAU: Hi. I'm Katie Moureau. My  
3 6-year-old Cade was born with PWS. Cade is not on  
4 carbetocin, as he's not in hyperphagia, nor has  
5 debilitating anxiety, but I know it's coming. I  
6 see all those with PWS eventually hit hyperphagia.  
7 This is a fear of mine. I fear of losing my child  
8 one day, as he cannot control his hunger and will  
9 eat himself to death.

10 With that said, I'm excited for the  
11 potential treatments for Cade and the PWS  
12 community, but he is my child, and I'm not  
13 comfortable with giving him a drug that has known  
14 psychiatric side effects. This is a risk that I am  
15 not willing to take, especially knowing carbetocin  
16 did not meet its primary endpoint with statistical  
17 significance.

18 We already know those with PWS are more  
19 likely to have psychiatric issues. Why would I  
20 want to try a drug that has known psychiatric side  
21 effects, such as increasing aggression and  
22 agitation? I would not. According to the FDA

1 briefing document, carbetocin has had patients  
2 dropped because of these psychiatric side effects.

3 In addition, the dosage submitted to the FDA  
4 for approval is 3.2 milligrams. How can we be sure  
5 this is the correct dosage for the entire PWS  
6 community for all ages without the flexibility to  
7 adjust? How can we be sure our loved ones won't  
8 have an overdosing side effect? On the other hand,  
9 how can we be sure that this is ultimately a high  
10 enough dose? As our loved ones stay on the drug  
11 long term, maybe it'll lose effectiveness and be  
12 too low to help with a debilitating anxiety and  
13 hunger for our children.

14 Now, I'd like to address the execution of  
15 this treatment. Is it feasible? It is a  
16 3-times-a-day dosing with 2 sprays in each nostril  
17 with meals. Is this a reasonable expectation for  
18 families, at least during the school year? This  
19 would mean one treatment during the school day at  
20 school. Will schools be supportive in helping the  
21 parents with this, or will parents have to come in  
22 to distribute the medication each day?

1           Have other dosing schedules been examined to  
2 see if there is room for change in it to make it  
3 more accommodating for families? Are all families  
4 going to be able to correctly dose as directed?  
5 What happens if they can't?

6           We don't know the answer to these questions.  
7 Would you be able to easily give your child a nasal  
8 spray 3 times a day, with their meals, without ever  
9 missing a dose? I hope that more follow-up could  
10 be done to look at these questions to make sure  
11 that our loved ones are getting the full benefit  
12 and treatment.

13           Carbetocin also needs to stay frozen. We  
14 travel to see specialists all over the U.S. for  
15 Cade, and as we travel for family vacations. I  
16 don't know how we could easily travel with  
17 carbetocin while keeping it frozen on a road trip  
18 or cross-country flight. This is definitely a time  
19 when we would need it most because of changes in  
20 routine, diet, and schedule.

21           I'm afraid of having to keep it frozen will  
22 become a barrier to being able to travel with the

1 drug. Carbetocin does not seem like a medication  
2 that you can easily travel with. How would this be  
3 normal? Cade and either myself or my husband would  
4 be forced to skip and ruin a family vacation. If  
5 the treatment is able to go for a longer period  
6 without being frozen, that could help, but my  
7 understanding is that it wasn't trialed.

8 Further follow-up is needed here to ensure  
9 that carbetocin can remain safe and effective.  
10 These are some of the things we just don't know  
11 yet. Would not keeping carbetocin frozen be a  
12 possibility? Could dosing schedule be altered?  
13 What happens when doses are skipped? These were  
14 not tested. Addressing some of these variables in  
15 a clinical setting would give families like mine  
16 the reassurance that carbetocin will remain safe  
17 and effective if it's approved.

18 It is important that we continue to follow  
19 carbetocin with a confirmatory trial after  
20 approval. It is extremely important that the  
21 safety and efficacy of this drug continues to be  
22 monitored, and if the drug is on the market and

1 available to those with PWS, we don't know how this  
2 drug will affect those in the long term. PWS is  
3 rare, and with rare, they may have many unknown  
4 side effects, even the most common drugs. For the  
5 safety of our entire community, this drug needs to  
6 be studied longer term after approval.

7 Lastly, carbetocin has only been trialed in  
8 patients ages 7 to 18. What happens to those over  
9 18? PWS will not just go away. The debilitating  
10 symptoms of PWS need to have the treatment beyond  
11 the ages of 18. This is the age where they're to  
12 become legal adults and hopefully be able to go off  
13 on their own.

14 In a typical kid, this is scary enough to  
15 think of, but when you add PWS and the added  
16 challenges, maybe carbetocin would help with that,  
17 but we won't know unless approval goes beyond the  
18 age of 18. If carbetocin works, and then it is  
19 stopped, will our nightmares return? Thank you for  
20 your time.

21 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

22 Speaker number 5, your audio is connected

1 now. Please introduce yourself and state your name  
2 and organization for the record.

3 DR. SCHWARTZ ROTH: Thank you. I have no  
4 financial relationship with the sponsor. My name is  
5 Lauren Schwartz, and I'm here today to speak about  
6 my experience as a mother of a young adult with  
7 Prader-Willi syndrome and as a clinical  
8 psychologist at the University of Washington.

9 My daughter participated in a 2014 phase 2  
10 carbetocin trial when she was in middle school. At  
11 that time, there were constant struggles to manage  
12 her stressness, anxiousness, and food focus.  
13 During the trial, we noticed impactful, positive  
14 changes in her challenging PWS behaviors, and  
15 tended to decrease distress and decreased food  
16 focus. This gave us a glimmer of what life could  
17 be like if carbetocin was made available to our  
18 loved ones. Unfortunately, she could not  
19 participate in the phase 3 trial, as she was too  
20 old.

21 Now I'm going to put on my psychologist hat  
22 and talk a bit about the trial results from that

1 perspective. As you are aware, PWS has many  
2 challenging behavioral features such as hyperphagia  
3 and anxiousness, both of which were key outcomes of  
4 the LV-101 trial. Anxiety, as parents refer to as  
5 anxious behaviors, is highly significant in PWS and  
6 impacts daily function.

7 This very important feature in PWS was well  
8 captured in the LV-101 study by the PWS Anxiousness  
9 and Distress scale, or the PADQ, which was used as  
10 an endpoint in the LV-101 trial. The PADQ items  
11 are consistent with a recently published article  
12 from experts in the field on consensus definition  
13 of PWS behaviors, including the unique aspects of  
14 anxiousness in PWS. The qualitative interviews  
15 conducted with over a dozen PWS caregivers as part  
16 of the development of the PADQ confirmed that the  
17 items captured important behaviors individuals with  
18 PWS displayed when anxious.

19 As a PWS parent for 22 years, and as a  
20 psychologist for longer than that, I can  
21 confidently say that the behaviors the PADQ  
22 captures are very significant and represent the

1 essence of anxiousness and distress in our loved  
2 ones with Prader-Willi syndrome.

3 Treating hyperphagia and anxiety behaviors  
4 have also been identified as a top priority for the  
5 PWS community. Several published studies have been  
6 shown that caregivers identify hyperphagia and  
7 other PWS associated behaviors, such as  
8 anxiousness, as the most important symptoms that  
9 urgently need treatment. A recently published  
10 study involving individuals with Prader-Willi  
11 syndrome found that they also prioritize treatment  
12 that would reduce their anxiety, distress, as well  
13 as their hunger.

14 Given that there are no approved treatments  
15 for PWS associated hyperphagia anxiety, these  
16 studies highlight the profound unmet medical need.  
17 LV-101 offers to be an important and safe step  
18 towards addressing this unmet need for our  
19 community.

20 Lastly, as it's been mentioned, many  
21 families are using psychiatric drugs, other drugs,  
22 and over-the-counter supplements to try to manage

1 the difficult PWS associated behaviors already.  
2 These drugs and supplements have not been  
3 rigorously tested for safety or efficacy in the PWS  
4 population, and many are known to have negative  
5 side effects, but parents are desperate to try  
6 anything that might help.

7 One of the risks of not recommending  
8 approval for LV-101 is continued off-label use of  
9 drugs and supplements that could cause further harm  
10 to our loved ones with PWS. Additional risks of  
11 untreated hyperphagia also include, as you've  
12 heard, accidents, choking, and gastric rupture for  
13 our loved ones.

14 It is also important to consider that the  
15 burden of clinical trials in our population is  
16 tremendous. Additional evidence cannot be  
17 practically required for this drug by another large  
18 clinical trial. It would take years to complete an  
19 additional trial, putting people with PWS at risk  
20 for serious health issues, as well as deaths  
21 related to the challenge of untreated hyperphagia.

22 The stories from today and the written

1 submissions reflect that many parents have seen  
2 observable positive changes in hyperphagia and  
3 anxiousness in their loved ones who participated in  
4 the trial. Having a medication such as carbetocin,  
5 with even modest improvements in some individuals  
6 with Prader-Willi syndrome and the key challenging  
7 behaviors with a low risk of side effects, would be  
8 a crucial tool to allow individuals with PWS the  
9 potential to have greater independence and improve  
10 quality of life. LV-101 offers the possibility of  
11 effectively and safely managing some of the  
12 challenging aspects of PWS.

13 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

14 Speaker number 6, your audio is connected  
15 now. Please introduce yourself and state your name  
16 and organization for the record.

17 MS. HEDSTROM: Thank you for this  
18 opportunity to speak in support of the approval of  
19 carbetocin for the treatment of PWS. My name is  
20 Susan Hedstrom, and I'm the executive director of  
21 the Foundation for Prader-Willi Research and mother  
22 to a 12-year-old son with PWS.

1           The FDA has asked for the patient  
2 perspective, and here it is. Our families need  
3 access to carbetocin. Currently, there is no  
4 effective treatment for PWS associated hyperphagia  
5 and anxiety, highlighting a significant unmet  
6 medical need. The improvements that have been seen  
7 with the treatment of carbetocin are meaningful to  
8 people with PWS and their families.

9           In the absence of a cure, we would welcome  
10 treatments that alleviate even just some symptoms  
11 of PWS. A beneficial effect in even a portion of  
12 people with PWS would be significant due to the  
13 lack of other effective treatments. For many, even  
14 a modest improvement in hyperphagia would be  
15 life-changing, allowing for more independence and  
16 improved health and quality of life.

17           The PWS community is tolerant to risk. In  
18 fact, families have indicated they are willing to  
19 accept considerable risk in exchange for modest  
20 improvement in hyperphagia. Risk is not new to our  
21 community. We live with risk every day. PWS is  
22 associated with increased mortality with a median

1 age of death of only 29.5 years. Common causes of  
2 death include complications of obesity and  
3 hyperphagia-related accidents, such as getting hit  
4 by a car when running away to get food, or choking  
5 while rushing to eat food, and gastric rupture due  
6 to excessive food intake.

7 In addition, many families are using  
8 psychiatric drugs, compounding oxytocin and buying  
9 supplements such as CBD off the internet to try to  
10 manage PWS associated behaviors. None of these  
11 drugs have been rigorously tested for safety or  
12 efficacy in the PWS population, and many are known  
13 to have significant side effects. Carbetocin  
14 offers the possibility of effectively managing some  
15 of the most challenging aspects of PWS with a lower  
16 risk of side effects compared to the medications  
17 that families currently employ.

18 We appreciate that the FDA needs to do what  
19 it can to ensure a drug is effective prior to  
20 approving it, but from our perspective, the  
21 potential for a type 2 error that is not approving  
22 a drug that ultimately turns out to be safe and

1 effective is just as important and requires equal  
2 consideration. In this case, we have a drug that  
3 has an excellent safety profile in PWS and has  
4 persuasive evidence of efficacy in domains that are  
5 critically important to our patient population and  
6 for which there are currently no effective  
7 treatments; zero.

8 Our PWS community urges you to consider the  
9 flexibility that the FDA is afforded in evaluating  
10 new treatments for life-threatening rare diseases  
11 with high unmet need. The guidance for industry on  
12 demonstrating substantial evidence of effectiveness  
13 specifies that for rare disease, FDA may interpret  
14 the substantial evidence standard flexibly,  
15 considering the harmful consequences of false  
16 negative results and, in fact, the FDA has a strong  
17 history of doing so for orphan products.

18 Finally, in an ideal world, we'd be able to  
19 quickly complete large additional trials to collect  
20 additional proof of efficacy, but our world is far  
21 from ideal. Participating in clinical trials is a  
22 tremendously difficult undertaking for our loved

1 ones with PWS who have significant behavioral  
2 issues, anxiety, and medical challenges. Many of  
3 our families are barely hanging on, and completing  
4 additional large studies for this drug is not  
5 realistic.

6 Our community got the CARE-PWS study done  
7 despite the rarity of condition, despite the  
8 challenges of PWS, and despite a global pandemic,  
9 which is still ongoing. It would be an undue  
10 burden to ask our rare community to undergo  
11 additional years of clinical trials when there are  
12 ways to continue to acquire data on effectiveness  
13 post-approval, while giving the community access to  
14 this important drug.

15 In this case, we believe the potential harm  
16 of not approving carbetocin far outweighs the  
17 current uncertainty of benefit. We have seen a  
18 great safety profile for carbetocin. Let us give  
19 this drug a chance. Thank you.

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

21 Speaker number 7, your audio is connected  
22 now.

1 MS. WOLFER: Thank you for giving me the  
2 opportunity to share our experiences with LV-101,  
3 or carbetocin as it is known in our family. My  
4 name is Roxanne Wolfer. My son, Trevor, now 17  
5 years old, diagnosed with Prader-Willi syndrome at  
6 3 weeks of age, has been participating in this  
7 clinical trial for 22 months. During this time  
8 while traveling extensively and with occasional  
9 missed doses, he has not had any adverse side  
10 effects while his hyperphagia and anxiety have  
11 decreased significantly.

12 When Trevor was a small child, I would read  
13 stories of other people with Prader-Willi syndrome  
14 who died because of gastric rupture. I wondered,  
15 "Would this be our story? In a moment of no one  
16 watching, is that how this would end? How would it  
17 feel to be so hungry that you would do anything to  
18 find a bit of comfort?"

19 We knew once hyperphagia began, it would  
20 never leave. Before carbetocin, that was an always  
21 present threat because no matter how much Trevor  
22 ate, not only was he unable to feel full, he still

1 felt hunger. He could never say that he had had  
2 enough, and what would happen if I wasn't watching  
3 that one time when he had the opportunity to eat  
4 enough to actually burst his stomach? Now, because  
5 of carbetocin, he has finally had the opportunity  
6 to know what being full for a moment feels like.  
7 He still loves to eat, but the threat of death is  
8 alleviated.

9 At the beginning of this clinical trial, I  
10 was asked to keep track of how often Trevor was  
11 asked about food in a day. It was so often that I  
12 couldn't keep track of the number and stay sane.  
13 Now with carbetocin, his anxiety and preoccupation  
14 around food has greatly improved.

15 Because of all the food everywhere in our  
16 society, we used to spend a lot of time  
17 coordinating care with others so he wouldn't be in  
18 danger whenever he was away from us as parents. At  
19 youth group, we would always ask someone to watch  
20 him and send us pictures of whatever food Trevor  
21 had. When I dropped him off at Spanish class at a  
22 private school, I would always watch to make sure

1 he didn't go through the lunch room unattended.

2 Carbetocin has given Trevor the ability to  
3 self-regulate his food intake at a safe level so  
4 that he can now be independent at youth group with  
5 his peers, and I no longer worry when I drop him  
6 off outside the school building for classes.  
7 Independence of any sort is an immeasurable  
8 treasure for our loved ones.

9 Before carbetocin, we kept food at home  
10 locked when we were not actively monitoring Trevor.  
11 The environmental controls that we had in place  
12 have been learned and employed for years. We have  
13 had a hard time changing or removing any of them  
14 because of the fears and stress we have been living  
15 under. However, after being on carbetocin, we gave  
16 Trevor some rice cakes that were his to eat  
17 whenever he wanted. He actually let them sit in  
18 the cupboard until they were inedible, and I threw  
19 them away.

20 As a homeschooling family, Trevor has plenty  
21 of time to spend with his four younger siblings.  
22 They see the greatest benefits of carbetocin in the

1 ways Trevor responds to changes, even the exciting  
2 and fun changes in our routines. The amount of  
3 unnecessary questions and need to control his  
4 environment is not so overwhelming because of the  
5 lower level of anxiety due to carbetocin. They can  
6 now enjoy going on field trips and outings with him  
7 instead of constantly being prepared for an  
8 outburst. I feel it has given us glimpses of who  
9 Trevor is without some of the limitations of  
10 Prader-Willi syndrome.

11 I asked Trevor what he would like me to  
12 share with you. He said that one of the greatest  
13 benefits to him personally is that with less  
14 anxiety in his life, it helps him reduce skin and  
15 nail picking. Skin picking in the PWS population  
16 is a self-soothing but dangerous reality because of  
17 the high level of anxiety. The self-injurious  
18 behavior results in open sores and wounds that can  
19 become infected and last for weeks or months,  
20 sometimes requiring medical attention.

21 Trevor says he also enjoys more independence  
22 during all social events where food is served. He

1 now goes through the food line at potlucks safely  
2 by himself. He feels much better as a 17 year old  
3 without having a parent always at his side.

4           Once again, I'd like to thank you for asking  
5 for our perspective on LV-101. Our families need  
6 you to approve carbetocin so we can enjoy the time  
7 we have with our children. Our loved ones with  
8 Prader-Willi syndrome need you to approve this  
9 treatment to save lives and increase independence.  
10 Thank you.

11           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

12           Speaker number 8, your audio is connected  
13 now.

14           DR. ZUCKERMAN: I'm Dr. Diana Zuckerman,  
15 president of the National Center for Health  
16 Research. Our non-profit think tank scrutinizes  
17 the safety and effectiveness of medical products,  
18 and we don't accept funding from companies that  
19 make those products.

20           My perspective today is based on my training  
21 in clinical psychology, epidemiology, and public  
22 health and as a former faculty member and

1 researcher at Yale and Harvard. I also have a  
2 brother born with a serious disability, so I have  
3 that perspective as well. In my current position,  
4 I frequently testify about the safety and  
5 effectiveness of medical products and have  
6 participated in more than a hundred FDA advisory  
7 committee meetings over the years.

8           Testimony from family members in the open  
9 public hearing has been compelling, and even those  
10 experiences do not consistently support approval.  
11 Unfortunately, the evidence provided by the sponsor  
12 today is among the worst I've ever seen and would  
13 set a terrible precedent that would compromise the  
14 reputation of the FDA and the public's confidence  
15 in FDA approval.

16           The sponsor and parents have done an  
17 excellent job of explaining why hyperphagia is a  
18 terrible condition, and families urgently need help  
19 to treat or manage it. But that's the point; the  
20 treatment needs to work and not make matters worse.  
21 It's not appropriate for the sponsor to try to make  
22 this panel or the FDA feel guilty for expecting an

1 appropriate level of the scientific evidence.

2 We can see in the FDA briefing document the  
3 many ways that the FDA clearly told the sponsor  
4 what type of data they needed to provide to merit  
5 approval, and that the sponsor repeatedly ignored  
6 that advice. The pandemic interfered with the  
7 study, but that's not the main problem. The  
8 studies had other serious inadequacies, and that's  
9 why they do not prove efficacy for this very  
10 serious chronic condition.

11 None of us are asking for a perfect study.  
12 We're asking for a good study of an adequate number  
13 of patients studied for a reasonable amount of time  
14 with clinically meaningful and statistically  
15 significant results, not one-sided at the  
16 0.10 level, and not a study that doesn't control  
17 for type 1 error.

18 The phase 2 study was only 2 weeks and only  
19 administered the higher dose. Of the only  
20 38 patients randomized, six had major protocol  
21 violations, including being given the wrong drug.  
22 All the patients were white, except one, and only

1 14 were boys, and that includes placebo patients.

2 So this was really a small study.

3 The phase 3 study was only 8 weeks long for  
4 the placebo-controlled portion. Neither of the two  
5 primary endpoints showed a statistically  
6 significant improvement for the higher dose, and  
7 the open-label part of the study is not good  
8 science. For example, only one patient receiving  
9 the lower dose stayed in the study for a year. If  
10 the drug worked, wouldn't more patients have stayed  
11 in the study?

12 Adverse events leading to discontinuation  
13 were primarily psychiatric, as you've heard. For  
14 the phase 2 trial, one child discontinued due to  
15 agitation, increased aggression, increased  
16 hyperphagia, and a broken bone. And there were  
17 only 20 patients that got the drug in that study,  
18 so that's a 5 percent serious adverse event rate.  
19 In the phase 3 trial, once again, 5 percent of  
20 patients taking the higher dose discontinued during  
21 the placebo-controlled period, in that case, due to  
22 impulsive behavior and tachycardia.

1           In the real world, will these psychiatric  
2 adverse events be dealt with adequately? This  
3 morning, the sponsor also mentioned one child who  
4 started acting out sexually. That can be very  
5 serious. Psychiatric adverse events are a real  
6 concern given how desperate parents are to give the  
7 drug a chance to work, but if there is no proven  
8 benefit, these adverse events matter.

9           In conclusion, I agree with the FDA's  
10 criticisms of the evidence. Families urgently need  
11 help, but the company should spend a few more  
12 months to establish whether this drug is effective  
13 and safe for more than 8 weeks before FDA considers  
14 approving it. Meanwhile, to help those families  
15 who need it, we encourage the sponsor to facilitate  
16 free access to this experimental treatment through  
17 FDA's expanded access program, which is more  
18 appropriate than approval at this time. Thank you  
19 very much.

20           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

21           Speaker number 9, your audio is connected  
22 now.

1 MS. FISCHER: Hello. My name is Rachael  
2 Fischer, and my husband and I enrolled our son in  
3 the LV-101 clinical trial in February 2019 when he  
4 was just 7 years old. I am not receiving any  
5 kickback or incentive to participate on this call  
6 today. Moreover, we have no issue administering  
7 carbetocin at school, home, or during travel,  
8 including international travel for the 2 years and  
9 8 months since we have been in the trial.

10 To fully explain how LV-101 has impacted our  
11 lives, I want to briefly recount the reason we  
12 pursued treatment. Our son was diagnosed with PWS  
13 when he was around 2-and-a-half years old. As a  
14 spectrum disorder, we hoped his later diagnosis  
15 would indicate higher functioning. Unfortunately,  
16 we soon realized that timing of diagnosis is not  
17 correlated to onset or severity of symptoms.

18 One of the criteria for the clinical trial  
19 was having a child in hyperphagia. Prior to his  
20 diagnosis, we thought hyperphagia was only the  
21 unrelenting intense pursuit of food, however, when  
22 you have a 7 year old with hypertonia and speech

1 issues, hyperphagia looks a little bit different.  
2 For us, it included rigid routines to accommodate a  
3 consistent meal schedule; inability to enjoy basic  
4 life moments like travel, play dates, outings to  
5 the pool, the park, or the zoo, without the  
6 constant obsession over meals or stealing food.

7 Changes in routine would rise hyperphagia.  
8 He choked on multiple occasions due to the rapid  
9 ingestion of food, requiring the use of the  
10 Heimlich maneuver on countless occasions. In  
11 addition to hyperphagia, he was also severely  
12 anxious. He had OCD-like behaviors. He was  
13 hoarding. He had prolonged meltdowns and  
14 aggression.

15 As parents, we were desperate. We took  
16 sugar out of his diet. We engaged in weekly  
17 behavior therapy. We administered methylphenidate  
18 to help him with impulse control. We gave medical  
19 grade CBD oil for anxiety. We increased speech  
20 therapy to help him use his words over his hands.  
21 We locked our stairs, our fridge, our trash can,  
22 our pantry.

1           At the young age of 7, PWS was completely  
2           controlling our lives. It was at this point we  
3           decided to pursue enrollment into a clinical trial.  
4           The one we chose was LV-101, and we will forever be  
5           thankful. Jude is now a thriving 10-year-old boy.  
6           Removing hyperphagia unlocked potential in ways we  
7           never expected, and moreover, we experienced no  
8           side effects.

9           For most individuals with PWS, the symptoms  
10          of hunger, aggression, rigidity, and other adverse  
11          behaviors increase over time. PWS becomes the  
12          definition of their journey. With our son, at  
13          10 years of age, he's thriving and loved by his  
14          peers, family, and educators alike. We recently  
15          sat in an annual IEP meeting where all seven of his  
16          providers expressed that Jude is their favorite,  
17          and I quote, "an absolute joy to work with." His  
18          previously 80-page IEP is now just 29 pages because  
19          he no longer requires a behavior intervention plan.

20          By reducing hyperphagia, our son has better  
21          self-regulation, better executive functioning, and  
22          can read social cues. He has a funny sense of

1 humor, and he now knows how to make and be a  
2 friend. Moreover, since the trial, we haven't had  
3 to utilize the Heimlich maneuver because he eats  
4 more slowly, he engages in conversation during  
5 meals, and he can walk away from the table when  
6 he's full. He also now has food preferences and  
7 will not eat something that is not appetizing.

8 We never experienced this before. Because  
9 of LV-101, he's now brave, courageous, confident,  
10 engaging, and is beginning to experience the joy of  
11 being a 10 year old who can be free of the constant  
12 unrelenting hunger that once shadowed every moment  
13 of his life.

14 Conquering hunger has allowed our son to  
15 dive into the depths of his natural interests and  
16 skill sets, helping him discover new untapped  
17 potential. We now see he's capable of building  
18 Lego kits, riding a bike, skiing, fishing, golfing,  
19 playing video games, and truly loving nature and  
20 science. He is inquisitive and can focus on  
21 learning opportunities that were previously lost on  
22 him.

1           Truly, carbetocin has been such a gift to  
2           our family and our community, and we urgently ask  
3           you to recommend approval of this treatment.  
4           Please, help us open the door for people living  
5           with PWS so all can find freedom from this cruel  
6           disorder. Thank you.

7           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

8           Speaker number 10, your audio is connected  
9           now.

10           MS. RIVARD: Good afternoon. My name is  
11           Paige Rivard. I am the CEO of the Prader-Willi  
12           Syndrome Association USA, but most importantly I'm  
13           mom to Jake Rivard, an 11 year old living with  
14           Prader-Willi syndrome. I'm honored to speak with  
15           you today in support of the approval of LV-101.

16           Prader-Willi syndrome has a devastating and  
17           life-threatening impact on families and individuals  
18           living with PWS. At PWSA USA, we speak with  
19           thousands of families each year, and many of them  
20           are in crisis. They are dealing with the effects  
21           of their child's constant state of hunger, anxiety,  
22           and behaviors associated with the syndrome for

1 which there are currently no treatments.

2           Hyperphagia and anxiety are by far the  
3 largest concerns for our families. These symptoms  
4 can limit PWS individuals' ability to engage in  
5 normal daily activities and live an independent  
6 life. Parents and caregivers are constantly  
7 monitoring, thinking about, and planning their days  
8 around food, hoping to deter any adverse behaviors,  
9 such as the meltdown in the grocery store and  
10 outbursts in the restaurant, or any number of other  
11 situations that may cause anxiety and distress.

12           School is also a very common place where  
13 hyperphagia can disrupt daily activities.  
14 Individuals must be monitored constantly to make  
15 sure that they are not obtaining food from peers,  
16 teachers, or even trash cans. Parents must  
17 seriously advocate for their school to not use food  
18 as rewards or manipulatives in the classroom. The  
19 constant state of hunger makes it difficult for  
20 children with PWS to focus and learn, and can lead  
21 to disruptive behaviors in the classroom.

22           All of this can cause families to feel

1 isolated. We have heard from parents who have had  
2 to leave their careers to take care of their  
3 children with PWS. The impact to the entire  
4 family, including siblings, is significant.  
5 Caregiver burden is a serious issue in our  
6 community, and the symptoms of PWS are relentless.

7 It is also important to note that with PWS,  
8 clinical trials are often difficult for our  
9 community. As a rare disorder, PWS has a small  
10 patient population. Trials often involve travel,  
11 which can be difficult due to the disruption of  
12 routine, additional access to food, and concern for  
13 increased behaviors.

14 Today, we are asking for a choice. We have  
15 heard numerous ways families and individuals with  
16 PWS are impacted. We are asking for the approval  
17 of LV-101 to give our loved ones a chance because  
18 today there are no other treatments that address  
19 these symptoms. Given the unmet need and safety  
20 profile, we believe even a modest improvement in  
21 these symptoms could be life-changing for  
22 individuals with PWS and their families.

1           From the entire PWS community, we thank you  
2           for your time and opportunity to speak with you  
3           today, and for your consideration and approval of  
4           LV-101. I will now turn it over to Rob Lutz.

5           Rob?

6           MR. LUTZ: Thank you, Paige.

7           I have a 21-year-old daughter with  
8           Prader-Willi syndrome. You have read and heard  
9           today about all the yucky stuff about PWS, and all  
10          of it is true. But what is harder to describe is  
11          all the good stuff.

12          I am incredibly proud of my daughter with  
13          PWS. She may not have graduated from high school  
14          with a high GPA, with AP class credits, or with  
15          varsity letters, but she did win an award, which is  
16          given to the student that, quote, "Best Exemplifies  
17          Strong Work Ethics, Be Respectful, and Has Overcome  
18          Adversity to Be an Inspiration to Others." My  
19          daughter is not unique when it comes to PWS. Many  
20          win awards for their effort, their dedication, and  
21          their spirit. What can make a parent more proud?

22          Every day in school was hard for Isabel,

1 much harder than for a typical child. Academics  
2 were hard, and friends were hard. Being surrounded  
3 by food was hard. She would come home exhausted  
4 from just trying too hard, and yet we as a society  
5 and as parents ask for more. "Can't you just not  
6 steal food? Can't you just not worry about the  
7 field trip tomorrow? Can't you just not cause a  
8 scene at dinner in public?"

9 So my hope and belief is that carbetocin and  
10 other potential treatments for Prader-Willi  
11 syndrome will give them a better chance to realize  
12 a payoff from their efforts, to allow their hearts  
13 and the good stuff to shine through.

14 I am not expecting a cure for PWS, but it  
15 would mean more than I can express in words if my  
16 daughter could have a chance. Could she, despite  
17 our horrible luck at conception, have the  
18 opportunity to be happier, and less anxious, and  
19 less distracted by food?

20 I hope I have helped put into context what  
21 carbetocin could mean, and what individuals with  
22 PWS deserve, a safe treatment option that offers

1       them the opportunity to be more successful when  
2       they try so hard.  Don't you think they've earned  
3       it?  Thank you.

4               DR. NARENDRAN:  Thank you.

5               Speaker number 11, your audio is connected  
6       now.

7               MS. MCGHEE:  I'm asking for your approval of  
8       carbetocin as a treatment for PWS.  My name is  
9       Kathryn McGhee.  I'm a parent of an adult with PWS,  
10       and I have no financial relationship with the  
11       sponsor.  My daughter Hannah has been in the  
12       CARE-PWS trial for 33 glorious months, and by  
13       glorious, I do mean glorious if I compare it to our  
14       life prior to carbetocin.  Hannah has experienced  
15       zero side effects and she has never missed one  
16       single dose.  It is far too important, so she would  
17       never allow us to forget.

18               Hannah is 20, the youngest of our four  
19       children, and she was diagnosed with PWS at  
20       12 days.  She has exhibited food-seeking behavior  
21       since she was only two.  The first time we caught  
22       Hannah eating trash from the kitchen, we were

1 shocked. We learned to lock the trash in the  
2 pantry and throw away food in the disposal. I was  
3 horrified and disgusted after finding the garbage  
4 disposal part displaced every morning. The camera  
5 revealed Hannah was searching for food in the  
6 garbage disposal.

7 We've then made sure the disposal was always  
8 left empty, but that led her to early-morning  
9 visits to our back-alley trash bins. My neighbor's  
10 found her multiple times eating spoiled trash. Her  
11 hunger was so bad, she would eat anything to try  
12 and satisfy it. Some of the more disturbing things  
13 she consumed were 24 frozen waffles, 3 large cans  
14 of orange juice concentrate, and once at a park,  
15 she ate a cupcake that was completely covered in  
16 ants.

17 Hannah loved visiting her grandma, but it  
18 became too difficult to keep her safe. Despite  
19 sending locks and cameras, she would always gain  
20 weight. Once she gained 15 pounds during a  
21 two-week visit. She never got a break from the  
22 constant feeling of starvation, so she spent most

1 of her time thinking about how to get more food.  
2 It ran her life, and ours. Our family truly  
3 struggled under the burden of PWS.

4           When Hannah started carbetocin, everything  
5 changed. At the start of the trial, she was at her  
6 heaviest weight of 137 pounds. Shortly thereafter,  
7 her food-seeking behavior ceased. She slowly began  
8 losing weight, even getting too thin at 107 pounds.  
9 We actually had to add food to her diet, which is  
10 unheard of with PWS adults, who usually need more  
11 food restrictions, not less. She is steadily  
12 holding at 118 pounds.

13           Since starting the trial, Hannah has not  
14 once touched the garbage disposal. Her nightly  
15 visits to the fridge completely stopped, and she  
16 finally sleeps through the night. Her every  
17 thought no longer revolves around food, leaving her  
18 more relaxed and less anxious. She has more  
19 self-control and independence. She can transition  
20 better, adapt easier to change, and is really able  
21 to enjoy so much more of life, family, and friends.  
22 The old Hannah would eat each and every chip she

1 ever found in her brother's room. The new Hannah  
2 brings us the chips uneaten. She just wants a  
3 picture of holding the bag with a huge smile on her  
4 face, so we can shame that brother for leaving food  
5 out.

6 I used to worry about her future all the  
7 time, but now, yes, I still worry, but I no longer  
8 have the constant debilitating and terrifying fear  
9 that my daughter might eat herself to death, and we  
10 no longer have to supervise her 24/7. It's hard to  
11 describe as a mother what a relief and a blessing  
12 this has been. Hannah's anxiety has gone down  
13 several levels, and our whole family is in a much  
14 better place. It has lessened the burden and made  
15 all of our lives better. It is not perfect, but  
16 the improvements have been life-changing.

17 It would be devastating to Hannah and her  
18 family if carbetocin is not approved. "The new and  
19 improved version," says Hannah, "is infinitely  
20 better." We beg you to please approve carbetocin  
21 as treatment for the most debilitating symptoms of  
22 PWS. You have the opportunity to change and

1 possibly save an untold number of lives. Please  
2 take it. Thank you.

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

4 Speaker number 12, your audio is connected  
5 now.

6 MS. McDOUGALL: Good afternoon. My name is  
7 Amy McDougall, and I'm mother to Noelle, who is 19  
8 and diagnosed with Prader-Willi syndrome. I'd like  
9 to thank you for the opportunity to share today  
10 about our family's experiences as we strive to meet  
11 the needs of our daughter.

12 As Noelle was considered failure to thrive  
13 as an infant, our primary concern was getting  
14 enough nutrition in her. But as you can see from  
15 our first slide, when her hyperphagia emerged, the  
16 traumatic change was difficult to process. The  
17 physical impact of the hyperphagia was unmistakable  
18 and places our children at extreme risk.

19 Our family's lifestyle changed in ways my  
20 husband and I never would have dreamed when we  
21 began having children. Noelle would cry and ask  
22 perseverative questions about when she could eat

1 and what she could have. She wouldn't sleep at  
2 night because she would be up at night seeking  
3 food. We put locks on our kitchen with keys in the  
4 lock box, and we had to change the codes every so  
5 often so she wouldn't figure them out. We  
6 installed cameras and motion sensors.

7 Noelle would cry and punch herself in the  
8 stomach and say things like, "Shut up, belly." She  
9 needed a one-to-one at school to keep her safe from  
10 stealing or taking food from the garbage. She was  
11 unable to participate in class parties because the  
12 presence of additional food was so stressful to  
13 her. One teacher shared about the fact that  
14 opening a cough drop across the room  
15 [indiscernible] to Noelle being so distracted that  
16 she missed 20 minutes of a lesson.

17 It was incredibly difficult to manage her  
18 need for routines around food in her food seeking  
19 to the point that it interfered with our ability to  
20 participate in family and community events.  
21 Despite our best efforts, Noelle found ways to  
22 circumvent our food security. She actually stole

1 one of my credit cards, set up a Door Dash account,  
2 and instructed the provider to park at a place out  
3 of sight of the cameras.

4           When people would ask me about Noelle's  
5 needs, I would often just shrug and be like, "Well,  
6 that's what we do." I'm a school psychologist by  
7 profession, and I thought that I was well equipped  
8 to do what our family needed. A defining moment  
9 came for me one weekend, where I realized the  
10 extreme amount of daily stress the hyperphagia  
11 created for our family.

12           At a hockey tournament, I realized I didn't  
13 know where Noelle was, and I started to have a  
14 panic attack as I cycled through all the dangerous  
15 possibilities that Noelle's hyperphagia could lead  
16 her to. I could only start to breathe again when  
17 my husband reminded me that we hadn't brought  
18 Noelle with us that weekend. We had left her with  
19 a family member.

20           The emotional and physical toll that  
21 hyperphagia takes on, not only the affected  
22 individual, but on families, is immense. With no

1 effective treatment on the horizon, our hopes were  
2 limited. In contrast, carbetocin has given our  
3 family a whole new perspective. Noelle's ability  
4 to attend school had improved. She started showing  
5 stronger academic growth. Her grades were better.  
6 She actually graduated from high school with a  
7 Regents diploma last June, which is the highest  
8 awarded in New York. She felt comfortable enough  
9 to enjoy attending events such as her prom, even  
10 though there would be food there.

11 Her anxiety has decreased to the point that  
12 she can actually enjoy family gatherings and  
13 events. This summer, we were actually able to go on  
14 vacation with our full family, and Noelle was able  
15 to go with the flow enough that she could enjoy  
16 what was going on with a minimal amount of  
17 redirection. My husband and I paused at one point  
18 and said that we knew that we wouldn't have been  
19 able to even stay out that week if we didn't have  
20 the carbetocin. We would have probably had to go  
21 home, given the amount of stress that she would be  
22 under.

1           For me, however, what's even more meaningful  
2 than my own reduced stress is the fact that my  
3 daughter is actively advocating to remain on  
4 carbetocin. She speaks about her reduced stress,  
5 her ability to enjoy activities, and the successes  
6 that she's experiencing. While she still needs  
7 external structures to keep her safe, she's talking  
8 about possibilities for her future that she wasn't  
9 able to focus on previously.

10           She is anxiously awaiting the results of  
11 this hearing, as she desperately does not want to  
12 return to the hunger and anxiety-dominated life  
13 that she suffered before carbetocin. Thank you so  
14 much for your time.

15           DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

16           Speaker number 13, your audio is connected  
17 now.

18           MS. TWEEL: Good afternoon. My name is  
19 Sasha Tweel. I am mom to Sophia Tweel who has  
20 Prader-Willi syndrome, and I have no financial  
21 affiliation with anyone. I'm here speaking on  
22 behalf of my daughter.

1           I'd like you to pretend with me for just a  
2 moment. Pretend that you're the hungriest you've  
3 ever been. Maybe you were on a diet, maybe you  
4 were fasting for a medical procedure or religious  
5 reason, or maybe you simply didn't have enough  
6 money to access food. How did it make you feel?  
7 What were you thinking when you were unable to eat?

8           I'm willing to guess that it was difficult  
9 to think of anything but your next meal. If you're  
10 anything like me, you fantasized about exactly what  
11 you were going to eat and how wonderful it would be  
12 to finally feel satiated, to finally feel full.

13           Now imagine for just a moment that you were  
14 never able to achieve that relief, that you would  
15 never feel full. What must that feel like to never  
16 have those thoughts, that natural drive to eat to  
17 fullness, fulfilled? I wonder about this a lot, as  
18 I know that it is my daughter Sophia's reality.  
19 How heartbreaking it has been as a parent to not be  
20 able to make this better.

21           January 2, 2019, Sophia and I traveled to  
22 Nashville to begin her participation in a

1        carbetocin clinical trial. During that visit,  
2        Sophia was very anxious. She had many repetitive  
3        questions for the team mostly around timing of the  
4        process, but the underlying current always being,  
5        "When am I going to eat next?"

6                One of the biggest challenges for families  
7        with a loved one with PWS is deviating from any  
8        normal schedule, as anxiety skyrockets, and  
9        unexpected departures from a plan often lead to  
10        uncontrollable meltdowns, as the person with PWS is  
11        simply too overwhelmed to deal with the unknown.

12                Looking back, that first visit was painful  
13        because I could see clearly what we were up  
14        against. The initial questionnaire showed me how  
15        much of her behavior was ruled by her fear and  
16        anxiety. While I was still hopeful, I felt a bit  
17        taken aback considering the scope of what I was  
18        hoping would change. And after that beginning, we  
19        returned to Nashville every few weeks to check in,  
20        and at first I didn't noticed much change. The  
21        visits got easier, but I attributed that to  
22        becoming a new routine, and Sophia becoming more

1 accustomed to the process.

2 But then things started shifting, slowly,  
3 but there were differences. When there were shifts  
4 in the plan, her adjustment to the new plan was  
5 less difficult. Always ruled by a very rigid  
6 timetable because of her hunger, Sophia stopped  
7 asking what time it was all the time. She would  
8 forget to ask for a snack. She could play with her  
9 friends and not need to be right next to me at  
10 5 p.m., asking when dinner would be ready. In  
11 fact, one night when we were at a barbecue, there  
12 was food everywhere, and she didn't ask for  
13 anything to eat until after 8 p.m. This was  
14 unheard of before she began taking carbetocin. It  
15 felt like a miracle.

16 In early December 2019, our family took a  
17 week-long vacation to Disney World. We had been  
18 there once before, and it was a total disaster.  
19 There was such a focus on food and when everything  
20 would happen, that it was impossible to enjoy the  
21 delights all around us. I had wondered if it was  
22 truly the most magical place on earth. We were so

1 miserable, and no number of princesses could fight  
2 the monster that was my daughter's insatiable  
3 hunger.

4           But this time it was different. It was  
5 different because we had carbetocin. Sophia was  
6 wondering when we would eat, but it didn't rule our  
7 days. We were able to make our plans and enjoy all  
8 the things we were there to see. Princesses, and  
9 characters, and swimming, and shows were equally as  
10 important as where we would be eating dinner. And  
11 sometimes we lost ourselves so fully to the  
12 experiences, that it was easy to forget that we  
13 were different than the other families all around  
14 us. That was true magic, a vacation that could be  
15 enjoyed, not ruled by food, anxiety, and fear.

16           When I asked Sophia what she might like me  
17 to tell you about her experience with carbetocin,  
18 she said she wanted you to know that she feels  
19 better. "I'm not so hungry all the time." In  
20 Sophia's case, the hunger has not disappeared, but  
21 it has significantly diminished. She still asks  
22 for food, and what will be served, and when, and

1 makes her plans around it. But if things change or  
2 we don't know the answer to that question, it's ok.  
3 That is such an improvement that we cannot imagine  
4 going backwards to when things felt so frightening  
5 and out of control.

6 There is no other treatment available to  
7 help my daughter manage these unmanageable  
8 feelings. We ask that you please help us to help  
9 our daughter, and all of the other individuals who  
10 struggle with PWS, and approve carbetocin for this  
11 use. Thank you.

12 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

13 Speaker number 14, your audio is connected  
14 now.

15 DR. DYKENS: Thank you. My name is  
16 Dr. Elizabeth Dykens. I'm a clinical psychologist  
17 and professor in Vanderbilt University's Department  
18 of Psychology. I have no financial relationship  
19 with Levo, although Vanderbilt was a site for the  
20 LV-101 trial.

21 My publications have focused on the  
22 behavioral features and trajectories of persons

1 with Prader-Willi syndrome. Today, I want to  
2 address two issues, the development of the HQ-CT  
3 and the course of hyperphagia and behavior problems  
4 in PWS.

5 First, my colleagues and I developed the  
6 Hyperphagia Questionnaire because previous efforts  
7 to measure hyperphagia were not successful. Two of  
8 these five failed efforts included, first, giving  
9 people with PWS unlimited access to food and  
10 measuring your food intake, which was deemed  
11 unethical and too risky by all of my university  
12 IRBs; and second, using self-reports of  
13 food-related behavior, which is unreliable, as  
14 individuals with PWS often lie about their food  
15 consumption in order to avoid getting in trouble  
16 for sneaking food.

17 As such, we developed the Hyperphagia  
18 Questionnaire, using FDA guidelines for  
19 patient-reported outcomes. Based on our extensive  
20 clinical experiences of PWS, we generated a bank of  
21 pertinent items, administered it to parents, and  
22 solicited their feedback, including behaviors that

1 we may have missed. We used this feedback to  
2 revise the questionnaire, administered it to  
3 another large cohort of parents, and conducted  
4 psychometric and factor analyses of their  
5 responses. With input from the FDA, the  
6 Hyperphagia Questionnaire was subsequently adapted  
7 for use in clinical trials by only including items  
8 that tapped observable behaviors.

9           The HQ-CT has now been successfully used as  
10 a primary endpoint in multiple PWS clinical trials.  
11 In addition, preliminary studies find that the  
12 HQ-CT relates to biomarker indices of hyperphagia,  
13 specifically with eye-tracking measures of food  
14 versus other stimuli in visual exploration tasks  
15 and visual event-related potentials of food  
16 stimuli.

17           A second issue relates to the possible  
18 attenuation of hyperphagia with advancing age. Our  
19 lab at Vanderbilt has evaluated 350 people with  
20 PWS, age 4 to 66 years. We find that despite some  
21 fluctuations in hyperphagia due to stressful life  
22 events or changes in food security, that once

1 hyperphagia onsets in childhood, individuals remain  
2 hyperphagic throughout the life course. None of  
3 our 350 participants show reduced hyperphagia,  
4 consistent with a proposed and very rare PWS  
5 nutritional phase 4.

6           Indeed, our recent interview study of adults  
7 with Prader-Willi syndrome, referenced earlier by  
8 Dr. Schwartz, overwhelmingly indicate that their  
9 hunger is unrelenting. One young man stated, "The  
10 food around me, I gotta have it, but it's like a  
11 poisonous drug that kills me." Another offered,  
12 "I'm surrounded everywhere by fast food I shouldn't  
13 eat. I struggle so hard." And from a young woman,  
14 "Food, it just calls out to me. I can't do or  
15 think of anything else until I eat it."

16           These reflections are supported by HQ-CT  
17 longitudinal data that were presented earlier  
18 today, as well as follow-up analyses of only those  
19 individuals assessed two or more times. These  
20 analyses showed an increase in hyperphagia in  
21 adolescents and young adults and relative stability  
22 than high HQ-CT scores among older adults.

1 Relatedly, our longitudinal data revealed an  
2 escalation of psychiatric, behavioral, and  
3 emotional problems with advancing age in PWS, which  
4 complicates the reporting of psychiatric AEs as  
5 related to carbetocin.

6 In brief, HQ-CT was developed with FDA  
7 guidance, filled the gap left by previous failed  
8 efforts, and has performed quite well in clinical  
9 trials. As well, the improved hyperphagia and  
10 related symptoms in PWS reported by Levo are best  
11 attributed to treatment effects of intranasal  
12 carbetocin and not to the natural history of this  
13 life-threatening disorder. Thank you for your  
14 time.

15 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

16 Speaker number 15, you're our last speaker.  
17 Your audio is connected now.

18 MS. ROOF: Hi. I'm Elizabeth Roof. I was a  
19 subinvestigator on both carbetocin trials, both 114  
20 and 301. I'm a PWS researcher from Vanderbilt  
21 University, working with more than 350 people with  
22 PWS, doing seven clinical trials in PWS over my

1 27-year career.

2 I've talked with so many parents who've told  
3 me about how PWS affects their lives. The most  
4 important common symptom of PWS, hyperphagia,  
5 emerges when their children are quite young, and  
6 it's incredibly difficult for families to manage.

7 Hyperphagia can kill. That's not an  
8 overstatement, as I've had 6 patients die from  
9 hyperphagia, not from obesity or related comorbid  
10 conditions, but hyperphagia itself. One young man  
11 stands out to me, a tall, thin 21 year old with a  
12 bright smile and beautiful blue eyes. Growth  
13 hormone made him tall, and his mom kept him thin  
14 and healthy, making sure his food was secure, and  
15 he was always supervised.

16 One day while attending a holiday party, the  
17 usual staff monitoring him was gone for 5 minutes.  
18 This young man went home, didn't want to eat  
19 dinner, and was complaining of stomach pain. His  
20 parents drove him to the local ER. This healthy  
21 young man who kept saying that he had not eaten any  
22 extra food died of a gastric rupture the very next

1 day. His family will always grieve the loss of  
2 this amazing young man with such a tragic end.

3 PWS puts such a burden on these families.  
4 Hyperphagia is such a tremendously stressful thing  
5 to manage, as it's life-threatening and there are  
6 no currently FDA-approved treatments. Even though  
7 hyperphagia itself can be difficult to manage, that  
8 makes it no less real or deadly.

9 The Hyperphagia Questionnaire we developed  
10 is a snapshot of hyperphagia and food-related  
11 behaviors. Just like snapshots, it doesn't show us  
12 everything, but we get a glimpse of what parents  
13 see and manage every day. The decrease in HQ-CT  
14 scores in those with PWS highlights the real and  
15 meaningful and measurable changes that parents  
16 reported when their children took carbetocin. We  
17 personally saw changes in talking and asking less  
18 about food. We saw less arguing and negotiating  
19 about when and what they would eat. We saw less  
20 food stealing, fewer meltdowns, and more  
21 flexibility about when meals were served. At  
22 visits, we saw visible easing of stress for

1 patients and their families.

2 We noticed that kids went from asking  
3 constantly about breakfast to being able to have  
4 conversations about school, their pets, favorite  
5 sport teams, and even which Marvel hero was the  
6 coolest. It was amazing to see how things changed,  
7 and I had a front-row seat with the countless hours  
8 I spent with these families every week.

9 Finally, I have something to offer PWS  
10 patients besides a grim future based on what I've  
11 seen in the past. Carbetocin offers substantial  
12 benefit, the substantial benefit of real symptom  
13 relief of hyperphagia and even related to stress  
14 and anxiety. Hope for a better future with  
15 carbetocin turns down the blinding glare of  
16 hyperphagia like a dimmer switch, a place where  
17 children with PWS can learn, hang out with friends,  
18 and maybe be able to spend some time without their  
19 parents having to monitor every morsel that goes in  
20 their mouth.

21 Parents get to see a glimpse of normal life  
22 when they don't have to institutionalize their

1 children at home just to keep them safe from the  
2 deadly effects of hyperphagia. Parents aren't  
3 asking for much here, just hyperphagia managed so  
4 that their children can thrive, maybe even survive  
5 until adulthood. Asking parents to do another  
6 trial is such a disservice to all of our families  
7 who've sacrificed so much in the three years.  
8 Families did the heavy lifting here, the traveling,  
9 the scheduling, 3-times-a-day dosing, the time away  
10 from work, school, and family.

11           Would so many people do that for three years  
12 during a pandemic for a medicine that doesn't work?  
13 No, because carbetocin works, and the effects are  
14 durable as we follow still more than 20 patients  
15 currently. No drug is going to work for every  
16 person, but we want the FDA to meet us halfway and  
17 realize that another trial is not going to prove  
18 anything different than we've already demonstrated  
19 with our stories, that carbetocin provides  
20 substantial benefit.

21           Dr. Farchione eloquently pointed out that  
22 the FDA understood, but it's difficult to do a

1 dose-finding study in these rare populations and  
2 that the FDA didn't want to pin all of our hopes on  
3 one dose. Well, the PWS community doesn't have  
4 that luxury. We have to pin all of our hopes on  
5 that one 3.2-milligram dose of carbetocin because  
6 it may be the very thing standing between life and  
7 death for our kids, and we don't have any  
8 FDA-approved treatments for hyperphagia.

9 As we've shown substantial evidence here  
10 today for carbetocin, I urge you to approve this  
11 drug. Thank you so much for your time.

12 **Questions to the Committee and Discussion**

13 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

14 The open public hearing portion of this  
15 meeting is now concluded, and we will no longer  
16 take comments from the audience. The committee  
17 will now turn its attention to address the task at  
18 hand, the careful consideration of the data before  
19 the committee, as well as the public comments.

20 We will proceed with the question to the  
21 committee and panel discussions. I would like to  
22 remind public observers that while this meeting is

1 open for public observation, public attendees may  
2 not participate except at the specific request of  
3 the panel.

4 After I read the question, we will pause for  
5 any questions or comments concerning its wording;  
6 then we will open the question to discussion. I  
7 will read the first question, which is a voting  
8 question.

9 Question number 1, has the applicant  
10 provided substantial evidence of effectiveness for  
11 carbetocin nasal spray, LV-101, in the treatment of  
12 hyperphagia associated with Prader-Willi syndrome?

13 Are there any questions about the question,  
14 panel members?

15 (No response.)

16 DR. FRIMPONG: Good afternoon. This is the  
17 designated federal officer, Joyce Frimpong. I will  
18 provide instructions for the voting.

19 Our question is a voting question. Voting  
20 members will use the Adobe Connect platform to  
21 submit their votes for this meeting. After the  
22 chairperson has read the voting question into the

1 record, and all questions and discussion regarding  
2 the wording of the vote question are complete, the  
3 chairperson will announce that voting will begin.

4           If you're a voting member, you will be moved  
5 to a breakout room. A new display will appear  
6 where you can submit your vote. There'll be no  
7 discussion in the breakout room. You should select  
8 the radio button that is the round circular button  
9 in the window that corresponds to your vote, yes,  
10 no, or abstain. You should not leave the "no vote"  
11 choice selected.

12           Please note that you do not need to submit  
13 or send your vote. Again, you only need to select  
14 the radio button that corresponds to your vote.  
15 You will have the opportunity to change your vote  
16 until the vote is announced as closed. Once all  
17 voting members have selected their vote, I will  
18 announce that the vote is closed.

19           Next, the vote results will be displayed on  
20 the screen. I will read the vote results from the  
21 screen into the record. Thereafter, the  
22 chairperson will go down the roster and each voting

1 member will state their name and their vote into  
2 the record. You can also state the reason why you  
3 voted as you did, if you want to.

4 Are there any questions about the voting  
5 process before we begin?

6 (No response.)

7 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

8 I'll read the question again.

9 Has the applicant provided substantial  
10 evidence of effectiveness for carbetocin nasal  
11 spray in the treatment of hyperphagia associated  
12 with Prader-Willi syndrome?

13 Are there any questions about the question  
14 from the panel members? If you do, please raise  
15 your hand.

16 (No response.)

17 DR. NARENDRAN: I see no questions or  
18 comments concerning the wording of the question.  
19 If that's the case, we will now begin the voting on  
20 question number 1.

21 DR. FRIMPONG: We will now move voting  
22 members to the voting breakout room to vote only.

1 There will be no discussion in the voting breakout  
2 room.

3 (Voting.)

4 DR. FRIMPONG: The voting has closed and is  
5 now complete. Once the vote results display, I  
6 will read the vote result into the record.

7 (Pause.)

8 DR. FRIMPONG: The vote results are  
9 displayed. I will read the vote totals into the  
10 record. The chairperson will go down the list, and  
11 each voting member will state their name and their  
12 vote into the record. You can also state the  
13 reason why you voted as you did, if you want to.

14 There is 1 yes, 12 noes, and no abstentions.

15 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

16 We will now go down the list and have  
17 everyone who voted state their name and vote into  
18 the record. You may also provide justification for  
19 your vote, if you wish.

20 We'll start with Dr. Dunn.

21 DR. W. DUNN: This is Walter Dunn, and my  
22 vote was no. This was based on a narrow

1 interpretation of the question with the focus on  
2 the phrase "substantial evidence." However, if the  
3 question posed were, is their modest evidence of  
4 effectiveness, then I perhaps would have to  
5 reconsider my vote. But my vote for this question  
6 was no.

7           The foremost question in my mind in arriving  
8 at the conclusion was were the findings from the  
9 3.2-milligram dose real; that is, were those  
10 results simply by chance? The lack of replication  
11 and the absence of a clear pathway to formally  
12 evaluate the p-value of that 3.2-milligram group  
13 suggest that any interpretation of finding should  
14 be conducted with extreme caution.

15           The next question in my mind was, is that  
16 proposed U-shaped response curve a plausible  
17 explanation for the nature of the results? I think  
18 based on the oxytocin literature, this is certainly  
19 believable, but with the data at hand, with the  
20 carbetocin data at hand, I do not see convincing,  
21 or really even credible evidence, that off-target  
22 effects of aggression were responsible for the

1 negative results for that 9.6-milligram dose.

2 So ultimately, we're left with no good  
3 explanation as to the lack of replication. This is  
4 not to say that U-shaped response curves are not  
5 possible in the absence of an exploratory model.  
6 We have certainly seen this in recently approved  
7 antipsychotic medications.

8 I'll conclude by saying that the term "unmet  
9 medical need" is often liberally used portraying  
10 use in proposed treatment, but I believe that  
11 carbetocin is a sincere attempt to address a true  
12 and severe unmet medical need for patients with  
13 Prader-Willi syndrome and their families.  
14 Ultimately, this will only be one of many  
15 considerations that the FDA will be contemplating  
16 in their final decision. Thank you.

17 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

18 Next is Dr. Keller.

19 (No response.)

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Dr. Keller, you might be  
21 muted.

22 DR. KELLER: Yes. This is Dr. William

1 Keller, and I voted no. I don't have anything  
2 further to add.

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

4 Dr. Troendle?

5 DR. TROENDLE: Hello. This is James  
6 Troendle. I voted no. I think that the wording is  
7 critical, as Dr. Dunn's already mentioned, but I  
8 don't think that it even met even a low bar for  
9 evidence, let alone substantial evidence. It's far  
10 from that.

11 The FDA's analysis shows that even the  
12 3.2 milligram, even if you ignore the multiplicity  
13 issues, which are abundant, is not really a robust  
14 analysis. That does not even show that it passes  
15 the lowest bar possible. I do think it's  
16 interesting that this is worded this way because it  
17 doesn't talk at all about any possible risk-benefit  
18 trade-off. There are just [inaudible - audio gap]  
19 benefits, whatsoever.

20 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

21 Dr. Thomas?

22 DR. THOMAS: Hello. This is Patrick Thomas,

1 and I voted no for some of the similar concerns  
2 previously stated.

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Dr. Jeffrey?

4 DR. JEFFREY: Hi there. Jessica Jeffrey  
5 from UCLA. Given that there are no current  
6 therapies approved to treat hyperphagia associated  
7 with PWS, I would like to have seen substantial  
8 evidence for LV-101. But unfortunately, I just  
9 don't believe substantial evidence of effectiveness  
10 has been provided by the applicant today, and my  
11 detailed reasoning is similar to Dr. Dunn.

12 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you, Dr. Jeffrey.

13 Next is Dr. Shapley.

14 DR. SHAPLEY: Hi. This is Alice Shapley. I  
15 voted yes. I believe that substantial evidence was  
16 presented for the efficacy of carbetocin with a  
17 liberal view of the term "substantial evidence."  
18 But in particular, I think in light of the  
19 promising safety profile of carbetocin, I'm  
20 convinced of the high ratio of benefit to risk for  
21 this treatment for the PWS community. Thank you.

22 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

1           Next is Dr. Billington.

2           DR. BILLINGTON: This is Charles Billington.

3 I voted no as well. I was very moved by the  
4 compelling stories of family members who find  
5 effectiveness of the drug, but as my colleagues  
6 have said, given the question that we've been  
7 asked, is there substantial evidence, I'm afraid  
8 the answer must be no. It's hard to find any  
9 evidence of a signal at all. Thank you.

10          DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you, Dr. Billington.

11          This is Raj Narendran. I voted no. I also  
12 struggled with this notion that it seemed it was  
13 not very clear to really figure out whether this is  
14 a by-chance finding with the 3.2 milligram,  
15 especially with the statistical issues that were  
16 involved with the prespecified endpoint not being  
17 met.

18          With that, I'll pass it on to

19 Dr. Fiedorowicz.

20          DR. FIEDOROWICZ: Yes. Hello. This is Jess  
21 Fiedorowicz from the University of Ottawa and the  
22 Ottawa Hospital. I voted no. The testimonies of

1 those affected by Prader-Willi syndrome are  
2 compelling, at times heartbreaking, and the unmet  
3 medical need is unquestionable.

4 I think it seems everyone on this committee  
5 recognizes that the question is related to whether  
6 there's substantial evidence of effectiveness of  
7 carbetocin for Prader-Willi syndrome, and on this  
8 question, I agree with the overall conclusions of  
9 the FDA.

10 There are suggestions of an efficacy signal  
11 for the lower 3.2-milligram dose that should  
12 encourage further study, but neither study provides  
13 substantial evidence of efficacy by the statutory  
14 standard, even granting the deserved exception to  
15 at least two adequate and well-controlled clinical  
16 investigations.

17 In CARE-PWS, the primary endpoints were  
18 definitively negative. Secondary endpoints were  
19 encouraging, but questionable, and not even  
20 statistically significant when appropriately  
21 analyzed. I'm sorry to report to patients and  
22 families that carbetocin does not have substantive

1 evidence of effectiveness for Prader-Willi syndrome  
2 at this time. Thank you.

3 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

4 Dr. Iyengar?

5 DR. IYENGAR: This is Satish Iyengar from  
6 Pittsburgh. I also voted no. I heard the phrase  
7 "two studies" several times during the course of  
8 the day, but the focus here is on the 3.2 dose, and  
9 for that we only have one study, which, first of  
10 all, doesn't meet the regulatory requirements.

11 The FDA identified a number of statistical  
12 issues/problems with their study, and the thing  
13 that stuck out to me most was that the 9.6-dose  
14 study did not replicate. And given the fact that  
15 the 3.2-dose study didn't really hold up strongly  
16 to the sensitivity analysis that they did, I just  
17 have no confidence. I have little confidence that  
18 it will replicate. I'm done.

19 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

20 Dr. McGough?

21 DR. MCGOUGH: It's Dr. McGough. I voted no.  
22 I would have loved to be able to vote yes. This is

1 an orphan condition with dire consequences. I  
2 think the safety profile of this drug sounds very  
3 favorable, but in terms of the evidence of actually  
4 effect, I think there's significant evidence of  
5 bias in the study design, at least in the analytic  
6 plan used.

7 I'm worried about type 1 error. I think the  
8 story around the U-shaped response mechanism of  
9 action is speculative at best, and what we heard  
10 today just doesn't meet the threshold of  
11 substantial evidence supporting efficacy. So my  
12 vote's no.

13 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

14 Dr. Krishna?

15 DR. KRISHNA: Hi. This is Dr. Sonia  
16 Krishna. I voted no. I was incredibly moved by  
17 these serious stories and descriptions, and  
18 appreciate the photos of your family members, and  
19 unfortunately I don't think the data matches at  
20 this point. Thank you.

21 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

22 Ms. Witczak?

1 MS. WITCZAK: Yes. Kim Witczak. I voted  
2 no. I think that the wording "substantial  
3 evidence" needing two studies, the original goal it  
4 looks like it was trying to replicate the 9.6, and  
5 it didn't. I don't know about that 3.2, and if  
6 that is the ideal dose, there are a lot of  
7 questions. I, too, would love to see something  
8 like this for all the people that were there, and  
9 truly believe that this is an unmet need.

10 I would like to -- and maybe this is more  
11 something that the FDA can answer or let us know if  
12 it is something. The idea of expanded access is  
13 possibly an option for the families that do want  
14 it. I would encourage the company to continue  
15 studying it, and maybe it's 3.2 and some other  
16 doses and seeing if it replicates. Thank you.

17 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

18 In summary, everybody on the panel agrees  
19 there's a great unmet need for hyperphagia in  
20 Prader-Willi syndrome. This is a really  
21 heartbreaking problem, and it would be great to  
22 have a drug. However, the panel members felt that

1       carbetocin, as tested, didn't really meet the goals  
2       for the higher dose.

3               For the lower dose, it was a little bit  
4       exploratory. There are concerns about lack of  
5       replication, of whether that would hold up. There  
6       are also statistical issues related to interpreting  
7       it that people felt diminished it, and it didn't  
8       meet the substantial efficacy standard.

9               Some people felt there was maybe some  
10       moderate efficacy possibly, and it's worth  
11       exploring further. Maybe it meets the threshold  
12       for a liberal definition of substantial  
13       effectiveness. But overall, it seems there is good  
14       congruence that people were concerned enough that  
15       they didn't feel it meets the definition for  
16       substantial effectiveness for hyperphagia in  
17       Prader-Willi syndrome. And there was also a lot of  
18       concerns about whether the U-shaped curve in itself  
19       explains the lack of efficacy for the higher dose  
20       as well.

21               So that's my summary. Are there any other  
22       closing comments from the agency about thoughts to

1 the panel? I'll turn it over to the agency.

2 DR. FARCHIONE: Thanks, Raj.

3 This is Dr. Farchione again. Again, I just  
4 want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for  
5 their time today and for their consideration of the  
6 presentations. I particularly want to thank the  
7 folks who took the time to provide comments during  
8 the open public hearing. Those experiences are  
9 always very valuable to us as we consider the state  
10 of the application and as we think about how we're  
11 going to complete the review as we move forward at  
12 this point.

13 So again, it's really been very valuable,  
14 all of the feedback, and the questions, and the  
15 information that was presented today, so thank you  
16 all so much.

17 **Adjournment**

18 DR. NARENDRAN: Thank you.

19 I do want to thank members of the public,  
20 once again, for coming forward and providing the  
21 testimony. I do also want to thank the FDA staff  
22 and Levo Therapeutics, and the division, for their

1 efforts in conducting this online through the  
2 pandemic.

3 With that, we'll now adjourn the meeting.

4 Thank you.

5 (Whereupon, at 3:05 p.m., the meeting was  
6 adjourned.)

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