

# **CNS PENETRANT AAV VECTORS ENCODING HER2 ANTIBODIES REDUCE TUMOR BURDEN IN MODELS OF BREAST CANCER BRAIN METASTASIS**

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**ASGCT 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

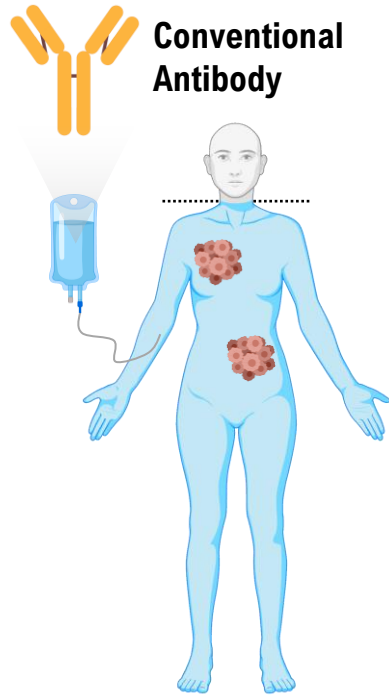
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Program Lead, Senior Scientist  
Neuro-Oncology Group  
Voyager Therapeutics

Rm 204, Abstract #63  
May 16, 2022, 5:15 pm

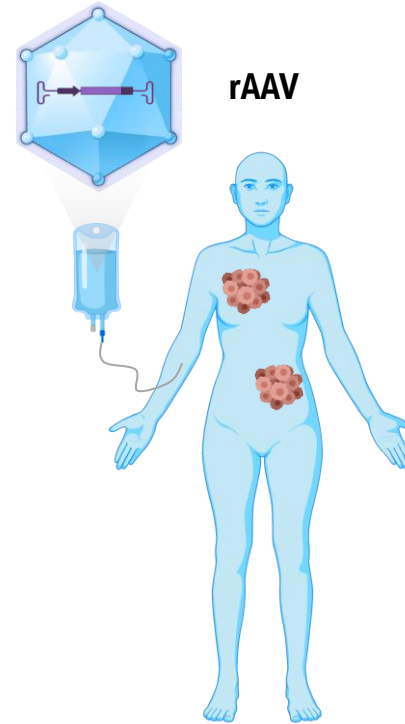
# Disclosures

Dan Laks is a full-time employee of Voyager Therapeutics

# Hypothesis: AAV mediated production of anti-HER2 antibodies in the CNS will mitigate prognosis of metastatic HER2+ breast cancer



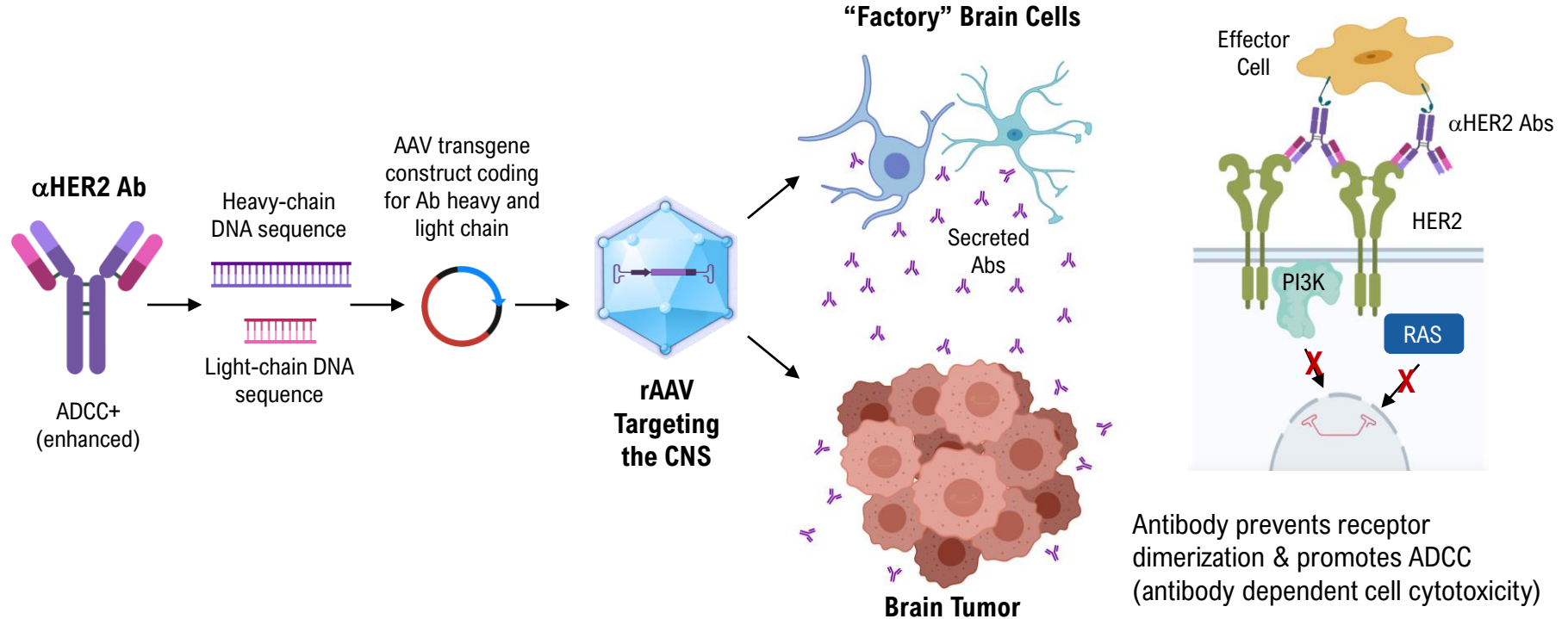
Systemic  $\alpha$ HER2 antibody therapies are limited in their CNS distribution by the blood-brain barrier and CNS efflux



AAV gene therapy can enter the brain and generate stable expression of therapeutic antibodies

Addressing an unmet medical need

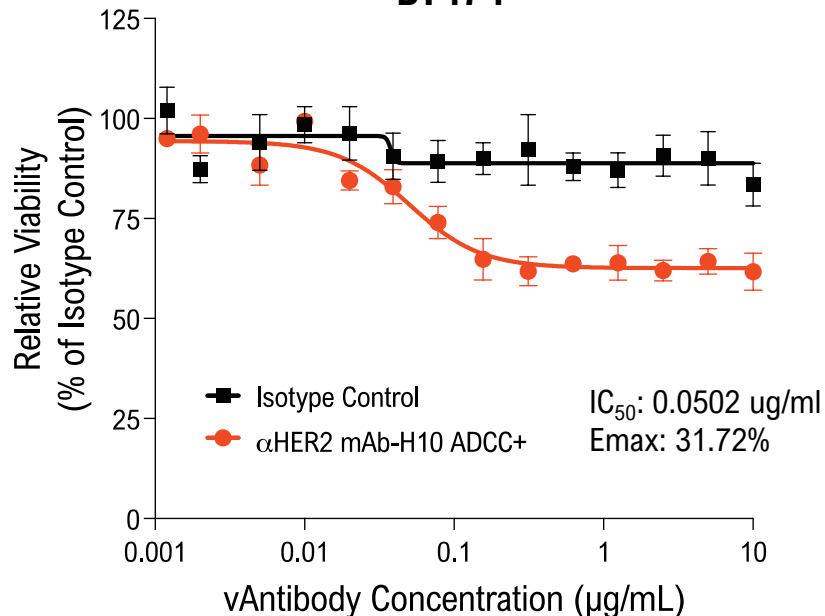
# Strategy: Employ brain cells as antibody factories through AAV mediated gene therapy



Vectorized antibodies are a method to generate persistent, high coverage target-engagement in the CNS

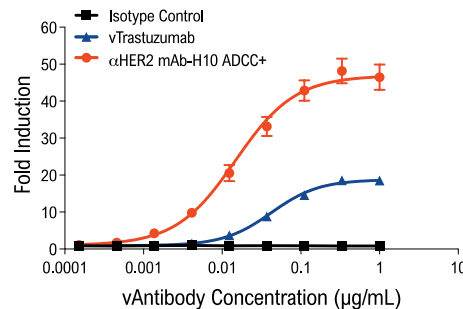
# Transgene: A vectorized $\alpha$ HER2 mAb with enhanced ADCC (ADCC+) properties

## BT474



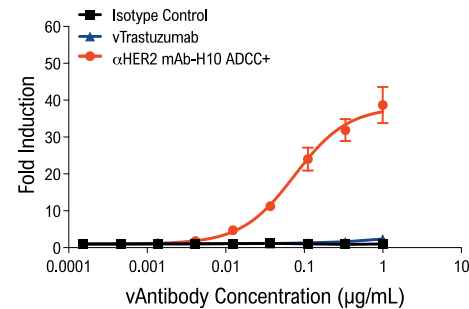
## Promega ADCC Reporter Bioassay Fc $\gamma$ RIIIa V158 Variant (High Affinity)

BT-474 Target Cells



## Promega ADCC Reporter Bioassay Fc $\gamma$ RIIIa F158 Variant (Low Affinity)

BT-474 Target Cells



- Kenny Chen

## Cell/Tumor Models

**BT-474-Luc:** Primary HER2 ductal carcinoma, breast cancer tumor cells

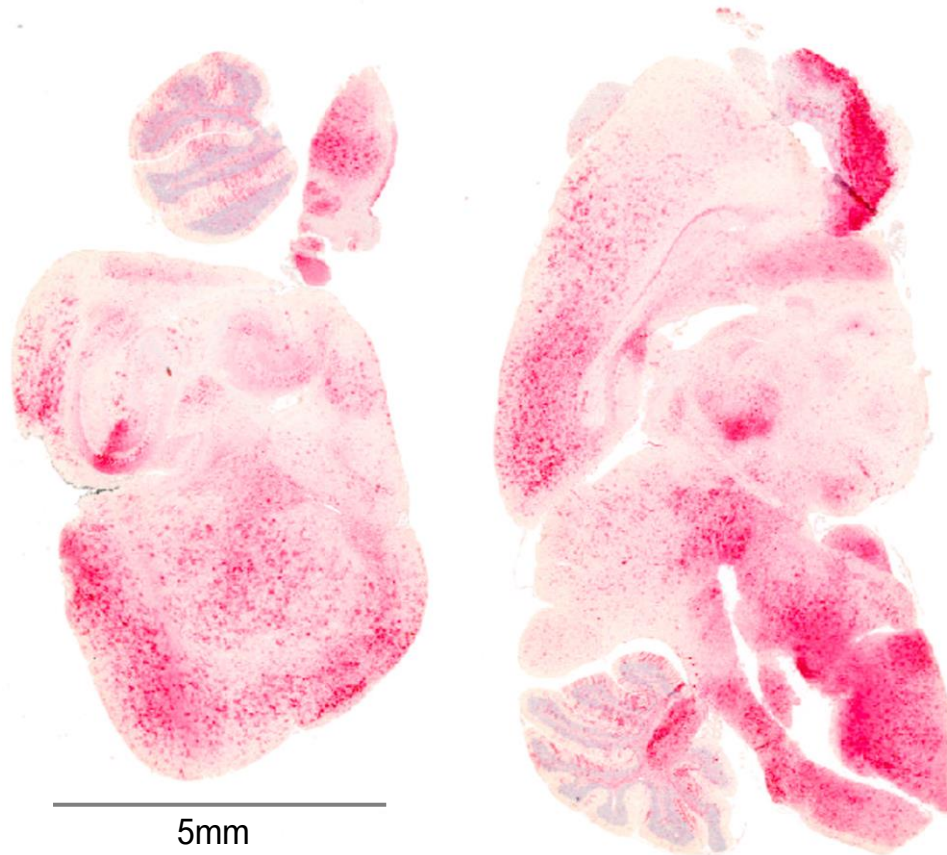
**MDA-MB-361-Luc:** Originated from breast cancer brain metastasis tumor cells, of HER2 adenocarcinoma (glandular), cultured as tumorspheres

# Proof of Concept Delivery: Broad expression in the brain using the Voyager TRACER Capsid 9P39

Sagittal mouse brain slices after i.v. administered AAV with 4e11 VG TRACER capsid 9P39, expressing EGFP transgene

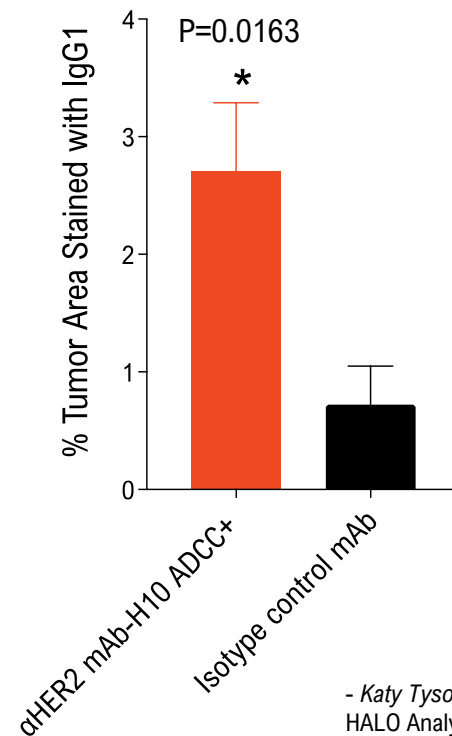
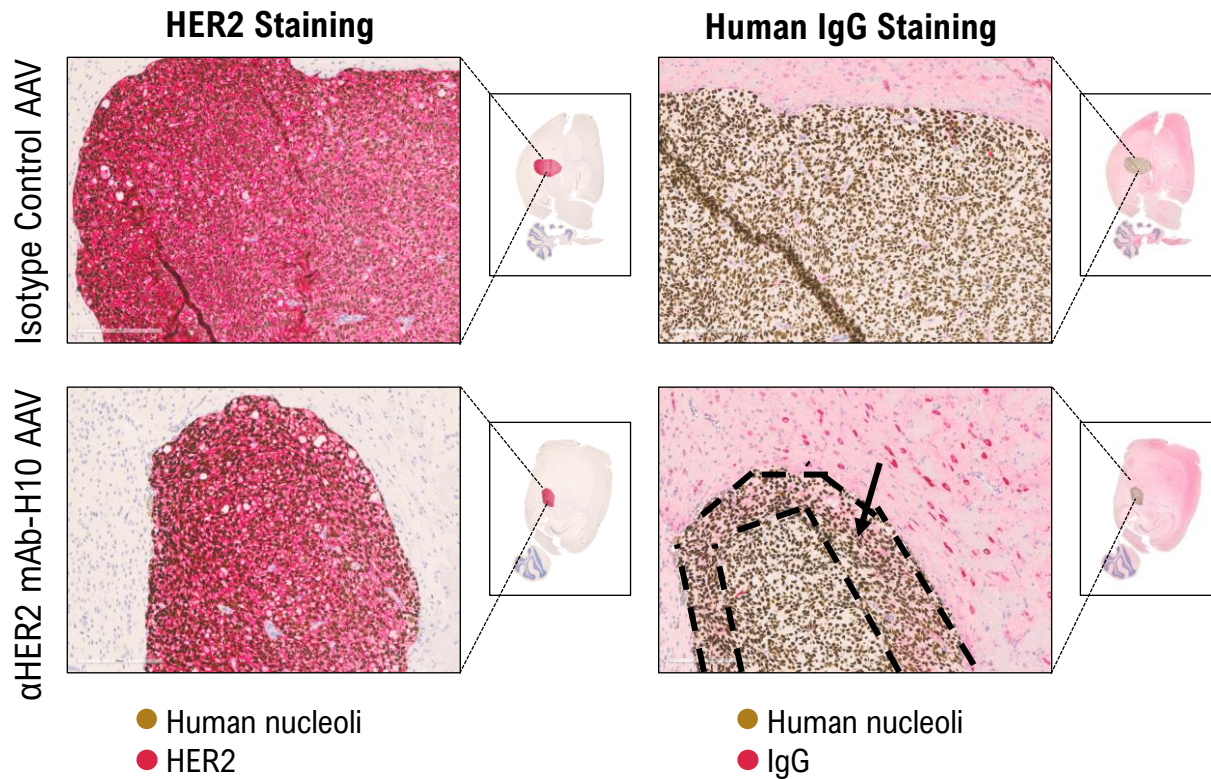
9P39 has mouse specific BBB penetrance- serves as proof of concept

-9P39 data outlined in Nonnenmacher, 2020



IHC performed with anti-GFP antibody, a red chromogenic dye

# HER2+ orthotopic xenograft brain tumors in mouse co-stain with vectorized $\alpha$ HER2 ADCC+ mAb

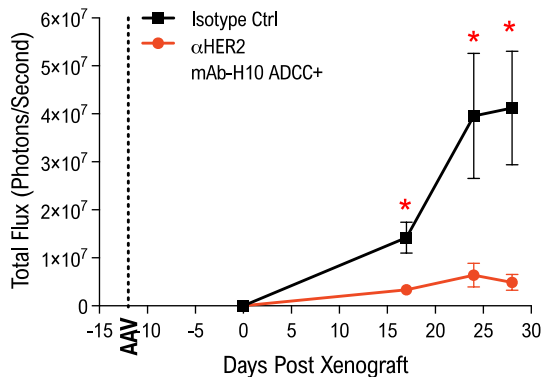


- Katy Tyson  
HALO Analysis

# Proof-of-principle: Demonstration of pre-clinical efficacy in 3 models

## Model 1

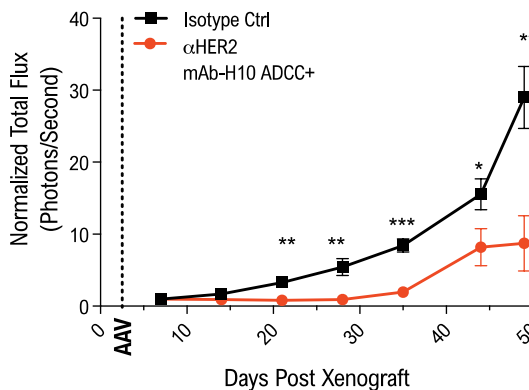
### Systemic Prevention of Metastasis



- i.v. administration of 5e11 Vg AAV-9P39 in a tumor prophylaxis study design
- CNS-targeted AAV vector
- Deliver AAV 12 days prior to engrafting MDA-MB-361-Luc tumorspheres (orthotopic)
- N=10 per group

## Model 2

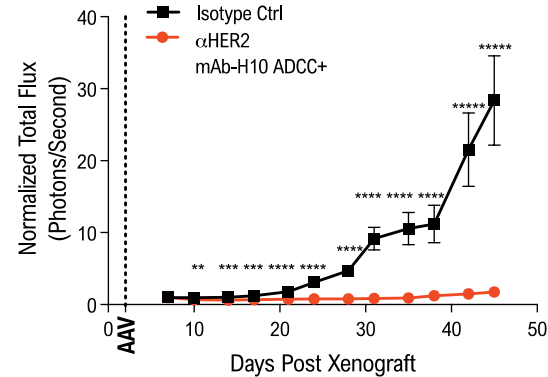
### Systemic Treatment of Metastasis



- i.v. administration of 2.5e11 VG AAV-9P39 in a tumor treatment study design
- CNS-targeted AAV vector
- Deliver AAV 2 days post engrafting MDA-MB-361-Luc tumorspheres (orthotopic)
- N=5 per group

## Model 3

### Local Treatment of Metastasis



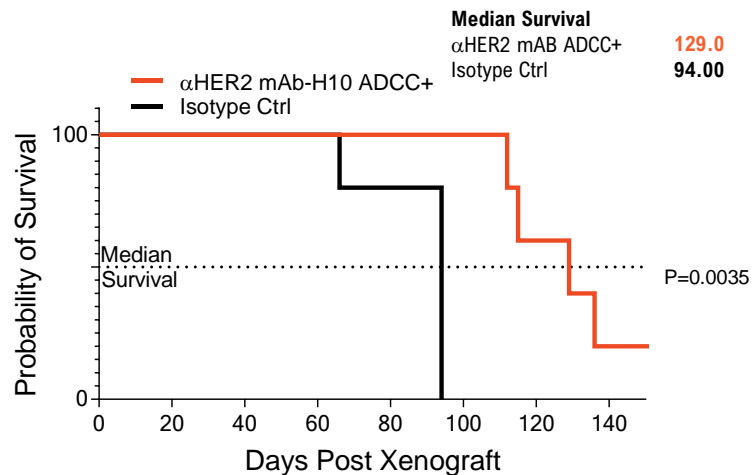
- Intra-tumoral administration of 6e10 VG AAV PHP.eB in a tumor treatment study design.
- Deliver AAV 2 days post engrafting BT-474-Luc cells.
- N=15 per group

# vHER2 gene therapy confers survival benefit

## Model 2

### i.v. Administration in a Tumor Treatment Study Design (Mouse Orthotopic Xenograft)

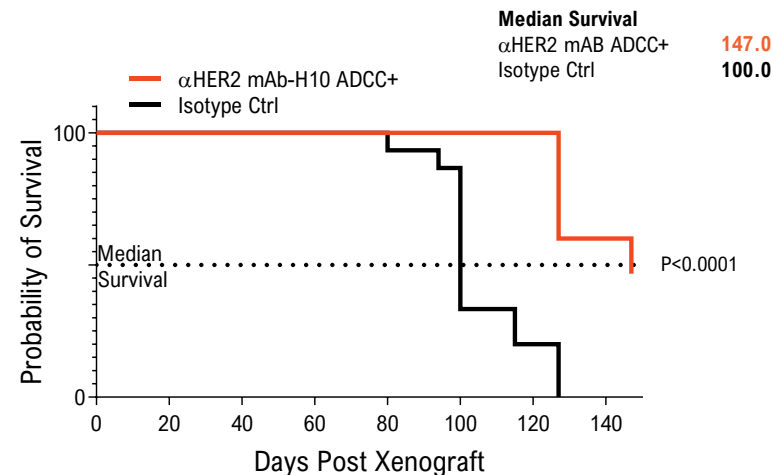
- AAV-9P39 delivery 2 Days post xenograft of MDA-MB-361-Luc tumorsphere cells
- N=5 per group



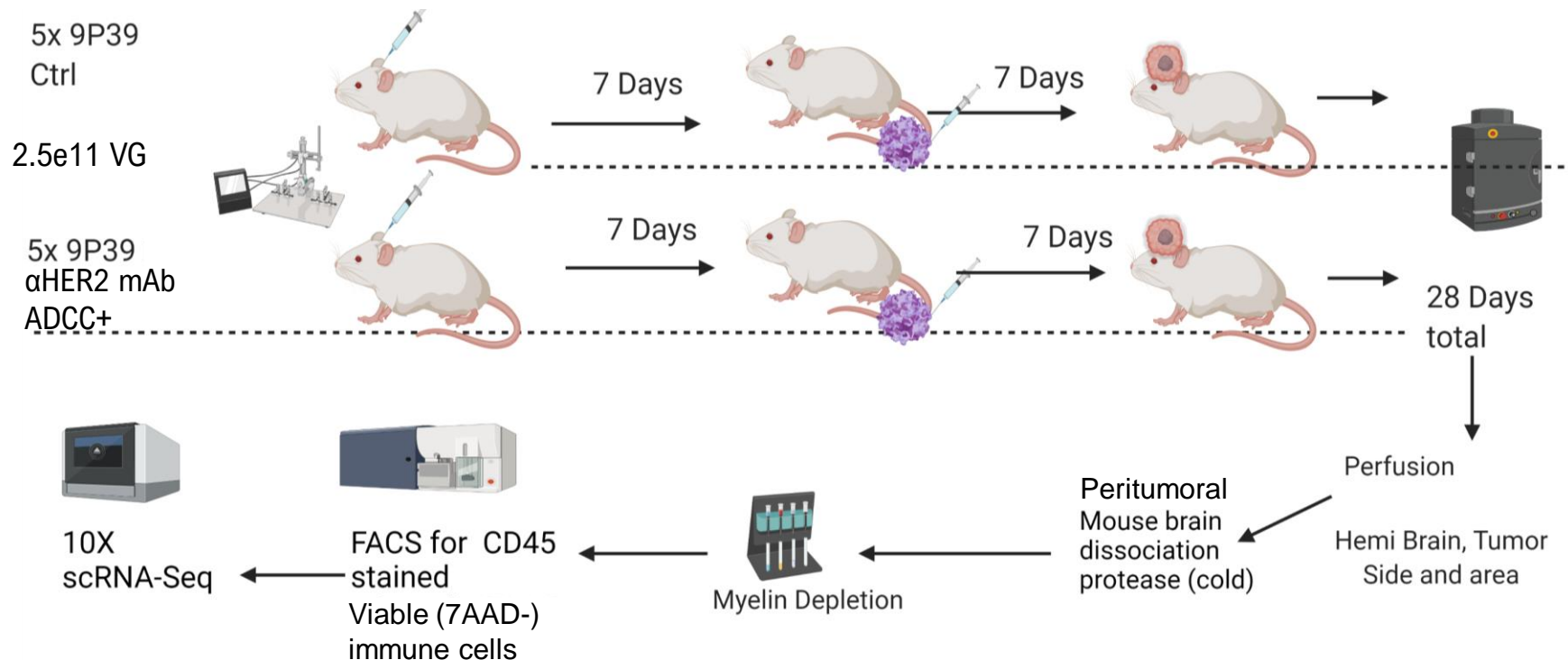
## Model 3

### Direct Intracranial Injection Administration in a Tumor Treatment Study Design (Mouse Xenograft)

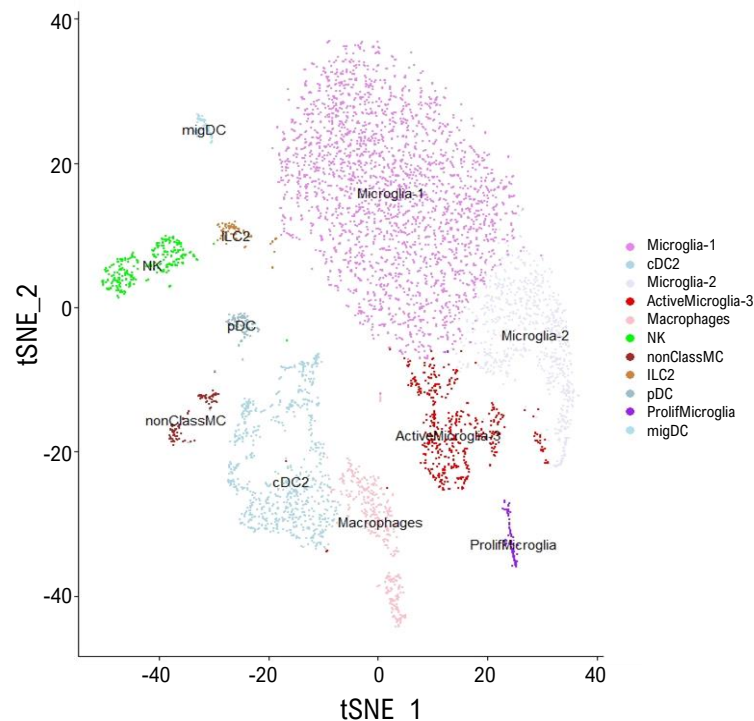
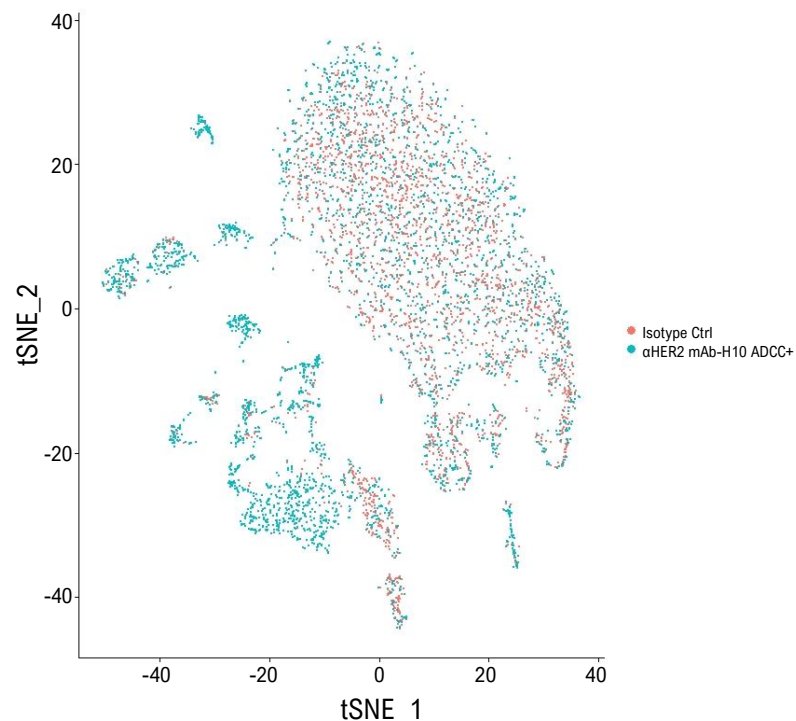
- AAV PHP.eB delivery 2 Days post xenograft of BT474-Luc cells
- N=15 per group



# Mechanism of Action scRNA-Seq Study Design



# Mechanism of Action: Peritumoral CD45+ Immune Cells Demonstrate Differential scRNA-Seq Cluster Distribution from 9P39 mediated $\alpha$ HER2 mAb ADCC+ as compared to isotype control

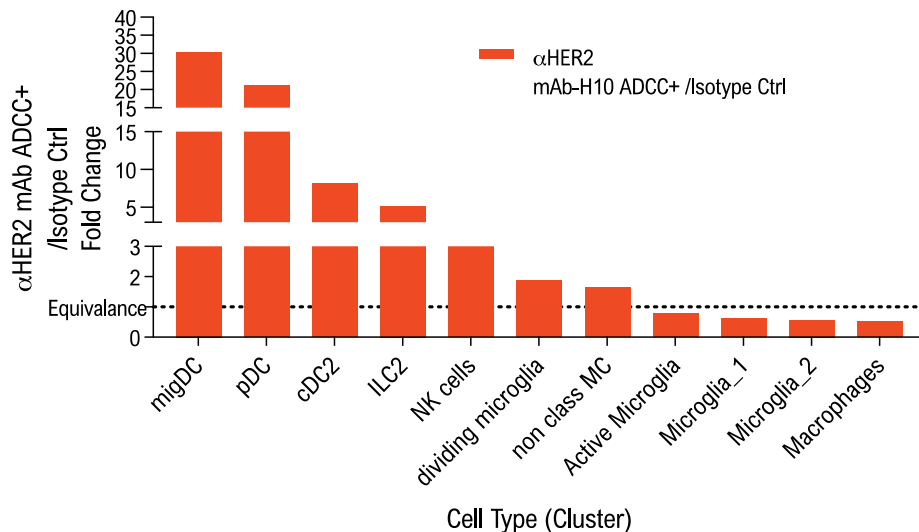


Microglia cDC2 Macrophages NK ncMC ILC2 pDC migDC  
conventional dendritic cells Natural Killer non classical innate plasmacytoid migratory dendritic cells dendritic cells monocytes lymphoid cell dendritic cells dendritic cells

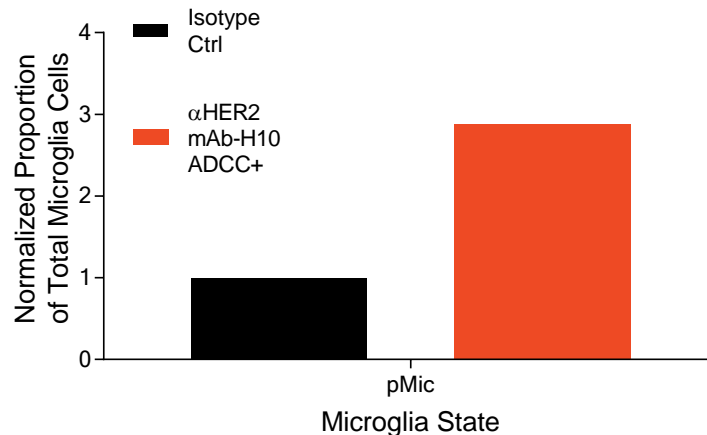
- Xiaojin Ren (NGS)

# Innate immune response is evident in $\alpha$ HER2 mAb ADCC+ treated cohort

## CD45 Sorted Mouse Peritumoral Cells



Microglia cDC2 Macrophages NK ncMC ILC2 pDC migDC  
conventional Natural Killer non classical innate plasmacytoid migratory  
dendritic cells dendritic cells monocytes lymphoid cell dendritic cells dendritic cells



Normalized to Isotype control

# VCAP-102, a translational capsid that targets the CNS, identified by TRACER

VCAP-102 yielded a translatable enrichment over AAV9 in brain that was consistent between NHP and mouse

**Session Date/Time:** Thursday May 19, 2022 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM

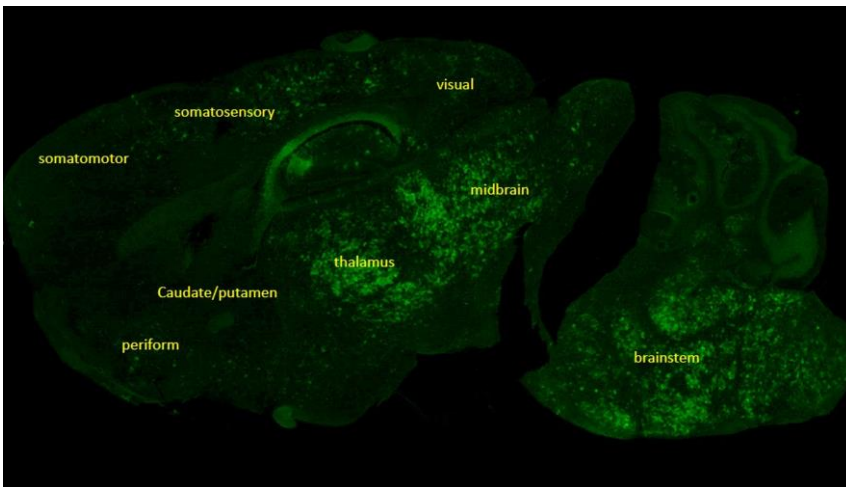
**Session title:** Novel AAV Capsids for the Brain, Eye and Kidney

**Room:** Ballroom A

**Your Presentation Time:** 11:00am - 11:15am

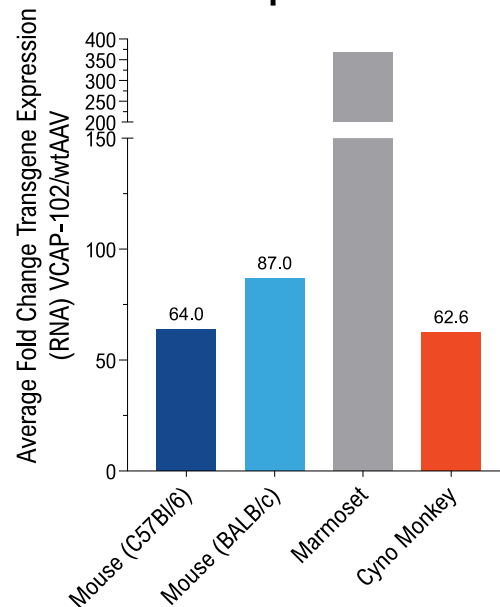
**Final abstract number:** 1198

-Tyler Moyer



VCAP-102-GFP Mouse Brain - Charlotte Chung

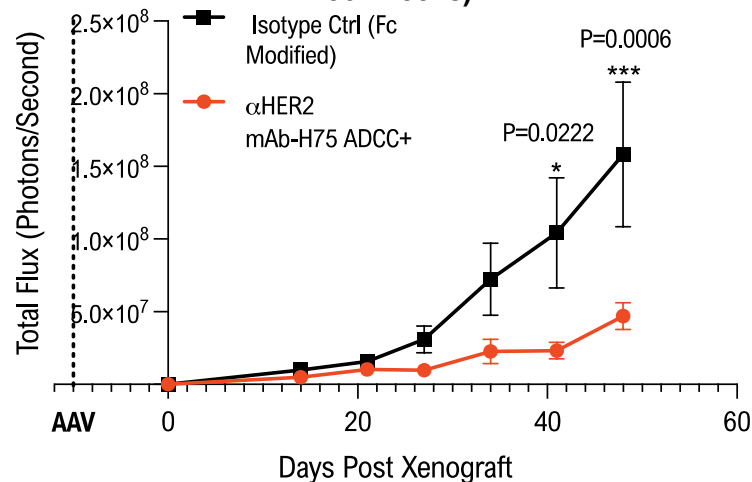
## Brain Expression



- Mathieu Nonnenmacher  
- Tyler Moyer

# Pre-clinical efficacy of VCAP-102- $\alpha$ HER2 mAb ADCC+ in prophylaxis treatment model

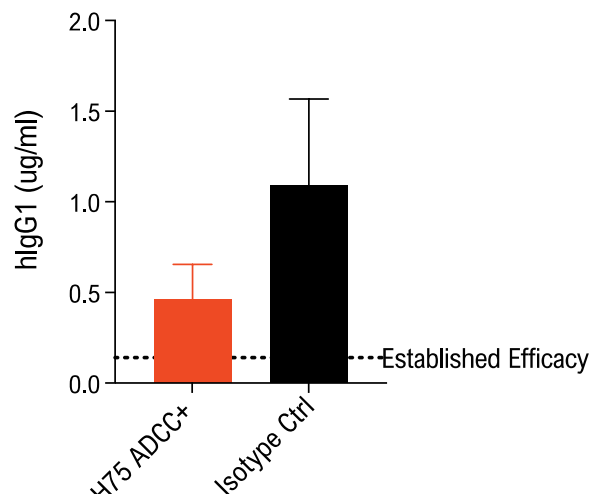
## i.v. 2.5e11 VG VCAP-102 Prophylaxis Model Orthotopic Xenograft Treatment (MDA-MB-361L Cells)



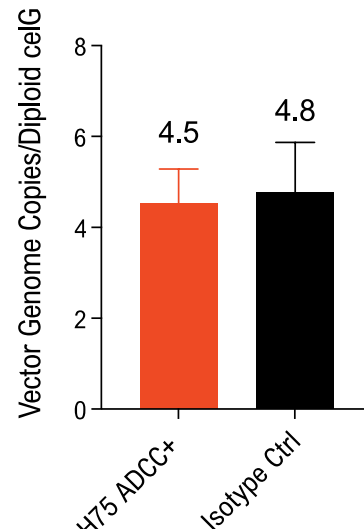
N=5; 2 Way Anova Sidak's multiple comparison test

5x Difference in Tumor Burden at Day 41 Post Xeno  
3x at Day 48

## Day 53: VCAP-102 CSF vAb



## Day 53: VCAP-102 Vector Genome Copies: Brain



- Ishan Shah  
- Jeff Thompson  
- Joe Clement

## Summary and Next Steps

### **A BBB penetrant capsid mediating vHER2 ADCC+ mAb brain expression represents a novel, single dose, systemic therapy for the treatment of HER2+ metastatic brain cancer**

- Paired a functional ADCC+ vectorized antibody with CNS penetrant AAV including a translational capsid, VCAP-102
- This approach produced successful pre-clinical interventions that attenuated tumor burden and extended survival in mouse orthotopic xenograft models of metastatic brain cancer
- Potential mechanisms of action for our vHER2 gene therapy include inhibition of cell proliferation, ADCC and the innate immune response: Dendritic cells mediate between innate and adaptive immune responses

We plan to advance this gene therapy to tolerability and biodistribution studies in NHP

# Acknowledgments

Todd Carter

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Kelly Bales

Charlotte Chung

Maneesha Paranjpe

Kyle Grant

Tim Fiore

Jeffrey Thompson

James Kaufman

Joe Clement

Katie Tyson

Nilesh Pande

Adam Gallagher

Omar Bermudez

Jiangyu Li

Ambreen Sayed-Zahid

Tyler Moyer

Michael Grannan





**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR TIME**

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