

# The Relationship between CSF Biomarkers and Efficacy of Treatment with NurOwn (MSC-NTF cells)

*ALS ONE, Industry Presentations*

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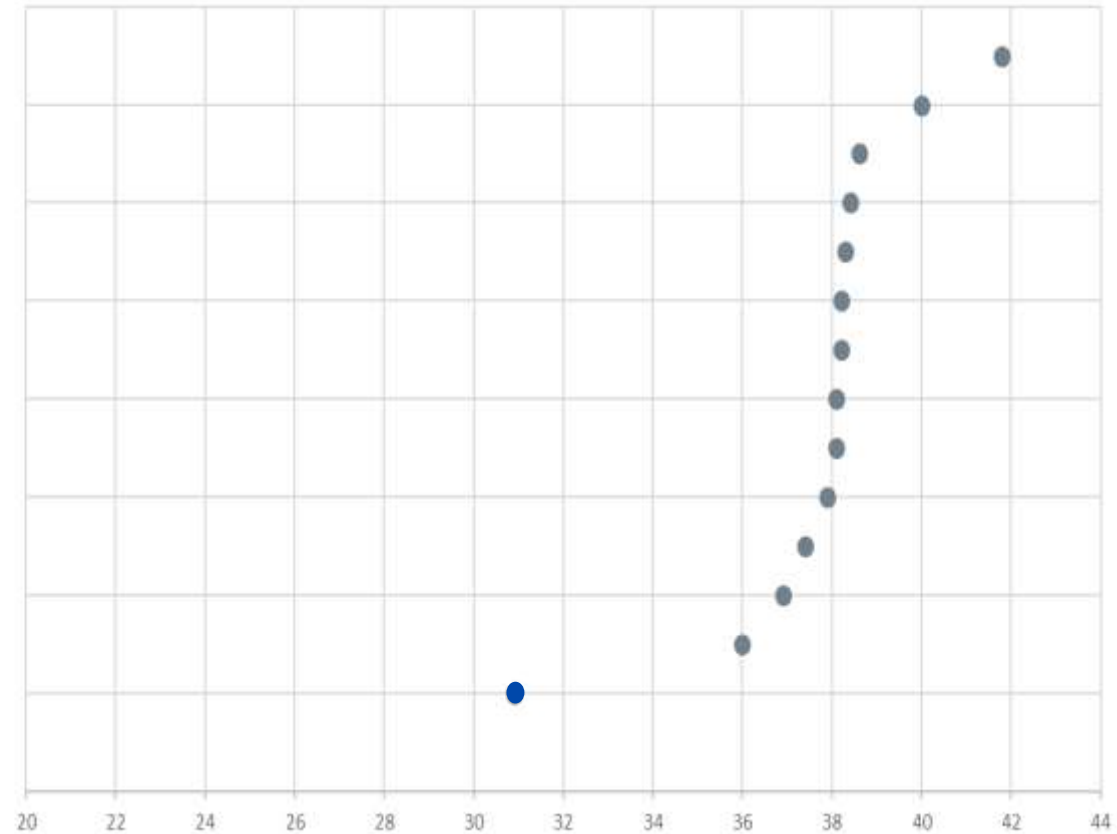
October 7, 2022

Participants with baseline ALSFRS-R  $\leq 25$  are impacted by the floor of the scale\*

ALSFRS-R Subscale	% participants with value of 0 at baseline
Bulbar	7%
Fine Motor	42%
Gross Motor	37%
Respiratory	1%

NurOwn Phase 3 featured participants with advanced ALS disease resulting in a floor effect

Edaravone J-19  
 Methycobalamin  
 Lithium  
 Proact Data Base  
 EPO  
 NP001  
 Dexamipexole  
 Tirasemtiv  
 Masitinib  
 Minocycline  
 Reldesemtiv  
 Ceftriaxone  
 AMX0035  
 NurOwn BCT02

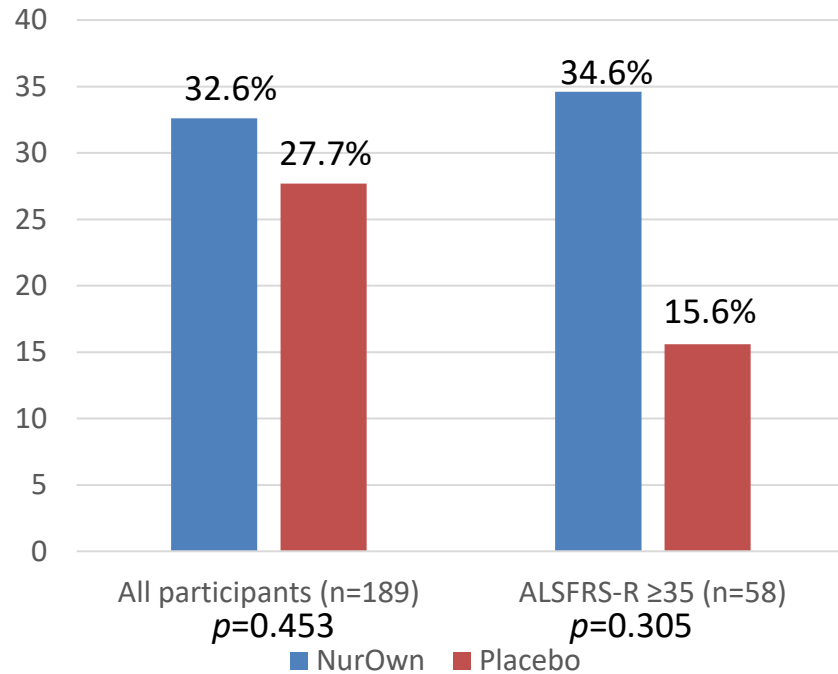


\* Number of participants with baseline ALSFRS-R  $\leq 25$  = 44 of 189 (23.3%)

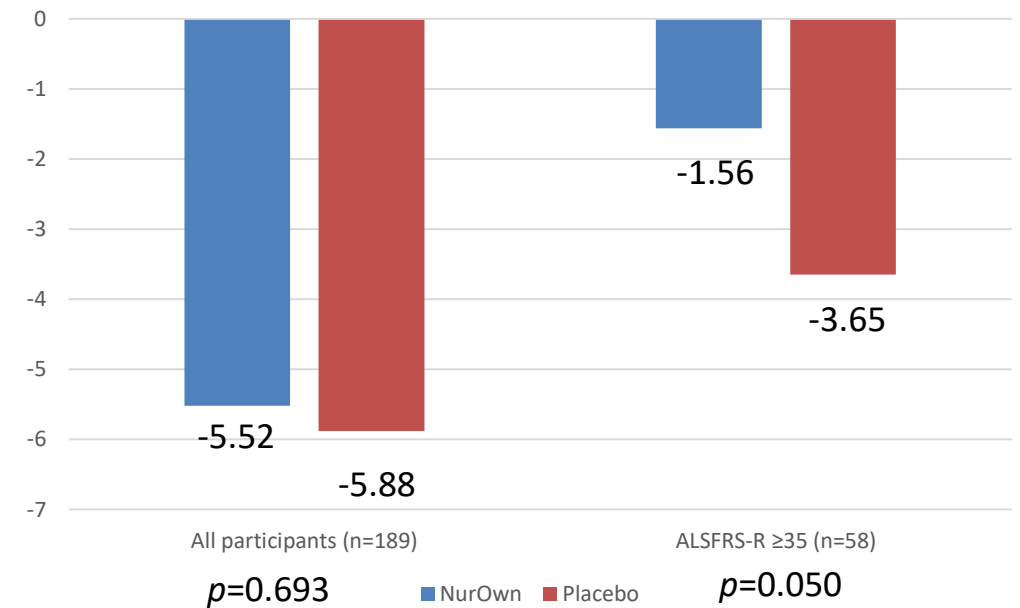
# NurOwn treatment suggests effect in participants with less advanced disease

Evidence from trial aligns with historical data when the ALSFRS-R floor effect is accounted for

## Primary Endpoint: % Response at week 28



## Secondary Endpoint: Average Change from baseline to Week 28, ALSFRS-R



Cudkowicz, M, Lindborg S, Goyal N, et al. [Musc Nerve, Jan 2022](#)  
[Supplemental File](#) & [Erratum](#) published Aug 2022

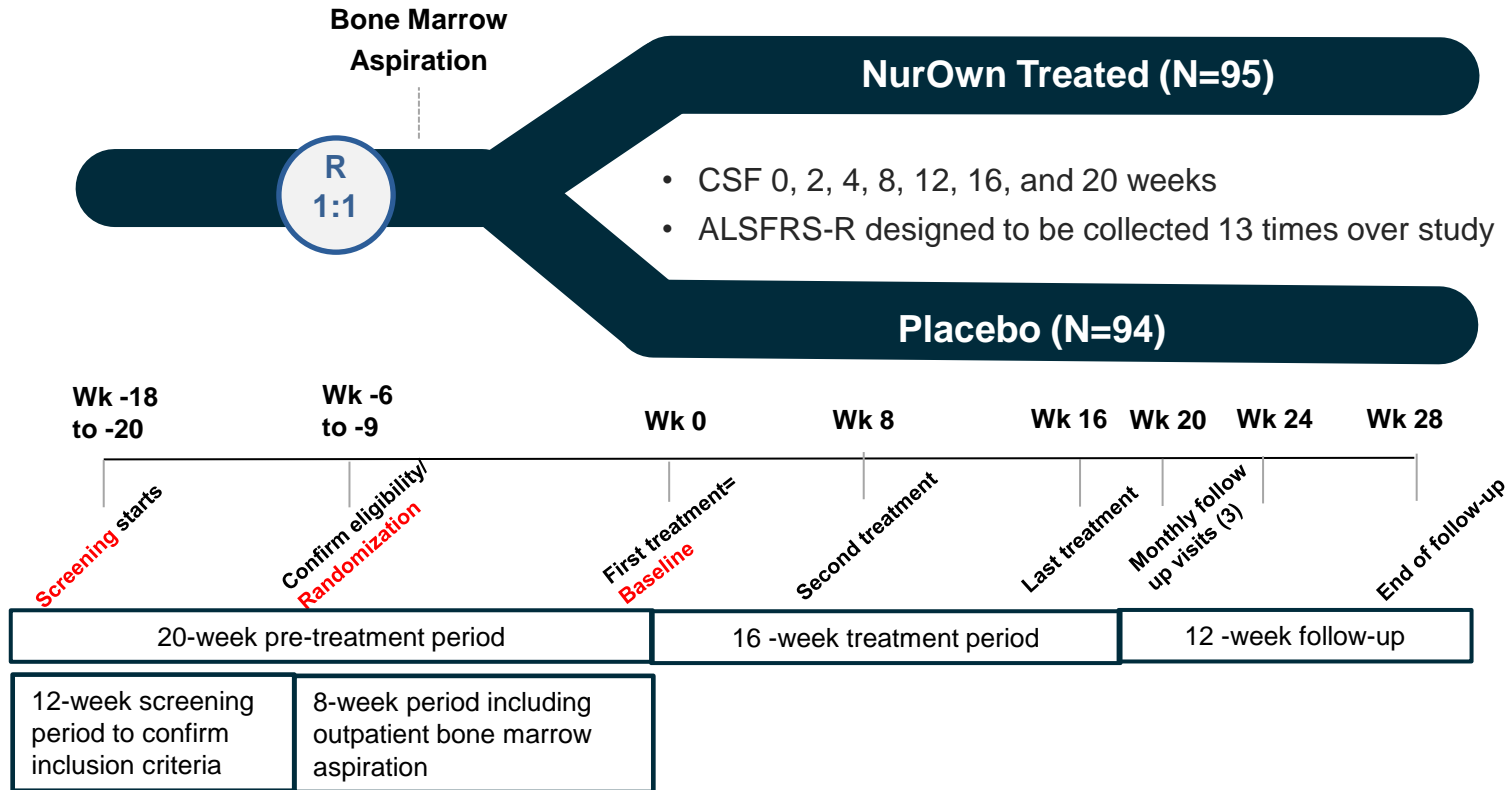
# OBJECTIVE

Evaluating the effect of NurOwn and placebo on CSF biomarkers across pathways of neuroinflammation, neurodegeneration and neuroprotection from a Phase 3 RCT

- using statistical methods that focus on univariate and multivariate data
- to understand the role that baseline ALSFRS-R values plays with biomarker trajectories
- to understand the predictive power of biomarkers on clinical outcomes

# Phase 3 Trial Study Design: Designed to exclude slow progressors

Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Randomized Trial



**Designed to exclude slow progressors.**

Inclusion criteria specified:

- ALSFRS-R  $\geq 25$  at Screening Visit (Not at Baseline).
- Decline in ALSFRS-R total score of 3 or more points in the 12 weeks before randomization.

## **Biomarker Analysis Methods**

- **7 CSF samples over 20 weeks - collected prior to and after each treatment**
  - Validated assays at Thermo Fisher, Quanterix, Olink, Ray Biotech and Norgen
  - Biomarker Statistical Analysis Plan submitted to FDA before trial unblinding
  - Due to skewness in the distribution, biomarker data are log transformed for statistical analysis

### **Three Main Analyses**

- 1. Principal Component Analysis** - used biomarker data from the treatment period, and pre-specified biological pathways to identify groups of relevant biomarkers.
- 2. Individual Biomarker Trajectories** - plotted using an MMRM model
- 3. Prediction of NurOwn Response** - mixed stepwise regression model selected significant biomarkers predicting response to NurOwn.

## Clinical Outcomes Considered as Measure of Efficacy

Two different clinical measures based on ALSFRS-R specified in the biomarker SAP:

**Clinical outcome based on change between pre-treatment and post-treatment: Clinical Response (primary endpoint)<sup>a</sup>**

*See Cudkowicz, et al. Musc Nerve, Jan 2022 for results*

**Clinical outcome based on a post treatment change (rate of decline): piecewise slope<sup>b</sup>**

<sup>a</sup>  $\geq 1.25$  points/month improvement in post-treatment vs. pre-treatment slope in ALSFRS-R score through week 28

<sup>b</sup> Powerful model which jointly borrows information available from the pre-treatment period to better characterize the slope post-treatment

## Pre-specified biomarkers passed validation and were analyzed by pathway

### 16 Neuroinflammatory/Anti-inflammatory markers:

Inflammation: CHI3L1/YKL-40, Chitotriosidase-1, ICAM-1, IP-10, MCP-1, OPG, S100B, SDF-1a, TREM-2, GFAP

Anti-inflammation: Fetuin-A, IL-37, LAP/TGF $\beta$ 1, MSR1, miR 146a, miR 146b

### 8 Neurodegeneration markers:

Caspase-3, DR6, miR 142-5p, NfL, pNfH, Tau, TWEAK, UCH-L1

### 9 Neuroprotection markers:

BDNF, Clusterin/ApoJ, Galectin-1, G-CSF, GDF-15, HGF, LIF, NMNAT1, VEGF-A

- Only biomarkers that passed validation at the time of analyses were included. Additional samples were sent for analysis for each biomarkers that didn't pass validation and were included in analyses once available.
- Biomarkers that have >20% missing data are not included in the multivariate analyses (PCA, stepwise model selection)\*

\* Includes 5 biomarkers: Neuroinflammatory (OPG, miR 146a, miR 146b), Neurodegenerative (miR142-5p) and Neuroprotective (LIF)



# ALS Phase 3: Biomarker Evaluation

NurOwn decreases Neuroinflammation and Neurodegeneration, and increases Neuroprotection over 20 weeks (BCT-002)

Patterns observed with individual biomarkers confirmed in analysis across biomarkers leveraging Principal Component Analysis

## Neuroinflammation decreased with NurOwn

Placebo Neuroinflammation levels remain high

## Neurodegeneration decreases with NurOwn

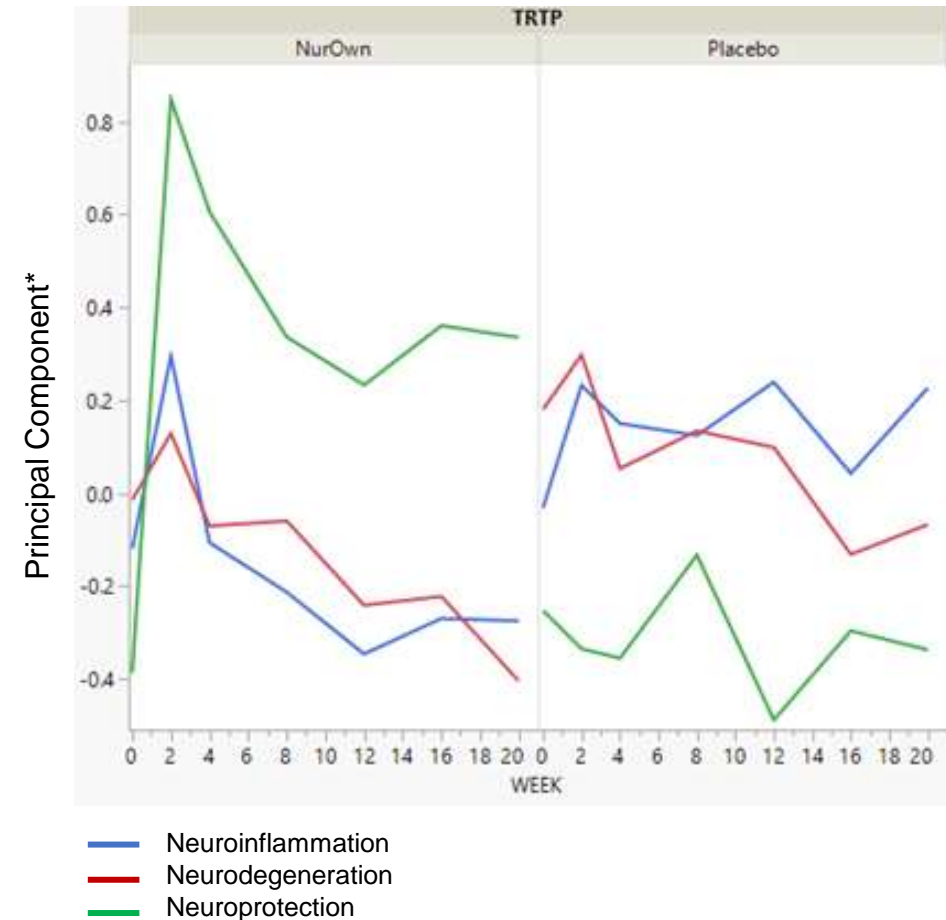
Placebo Neurodegeneration levels decrease across the study, remain elevated relative to NurOwn.

## Neuroprotection increased with NurOwn treatment, maintained over 20 weeks

Placebo Neuroprotective levels remain low

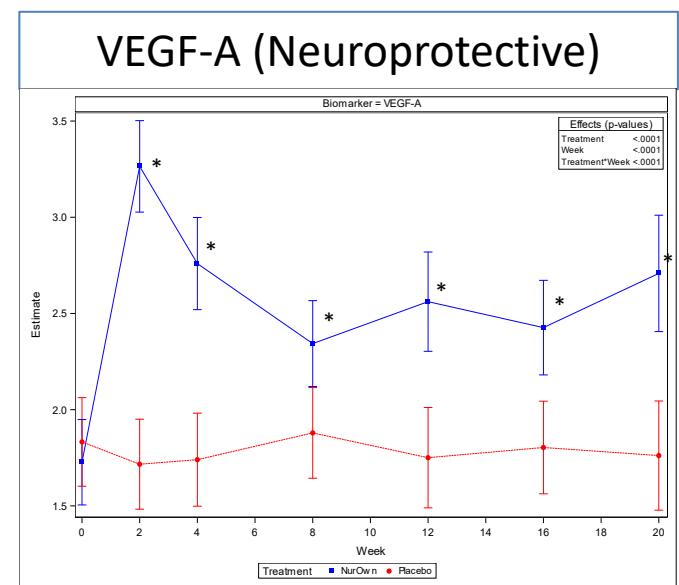
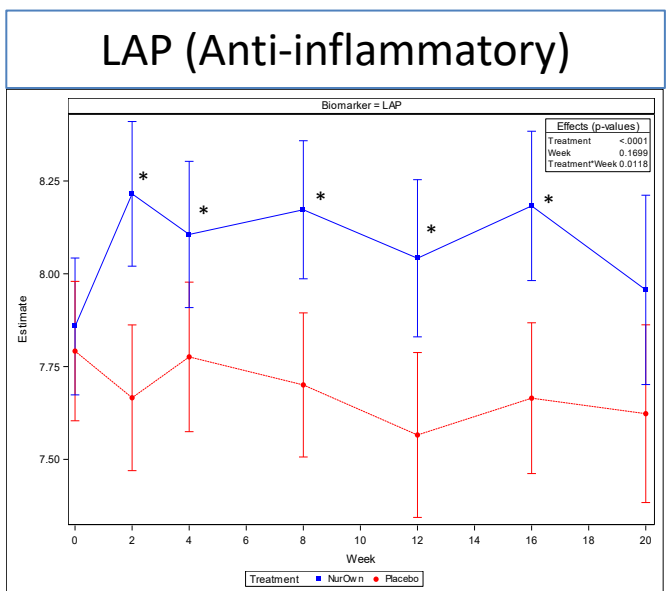
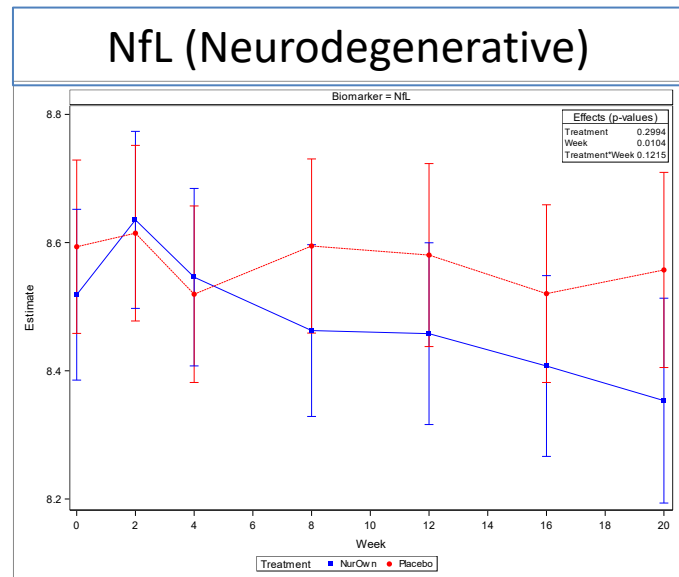
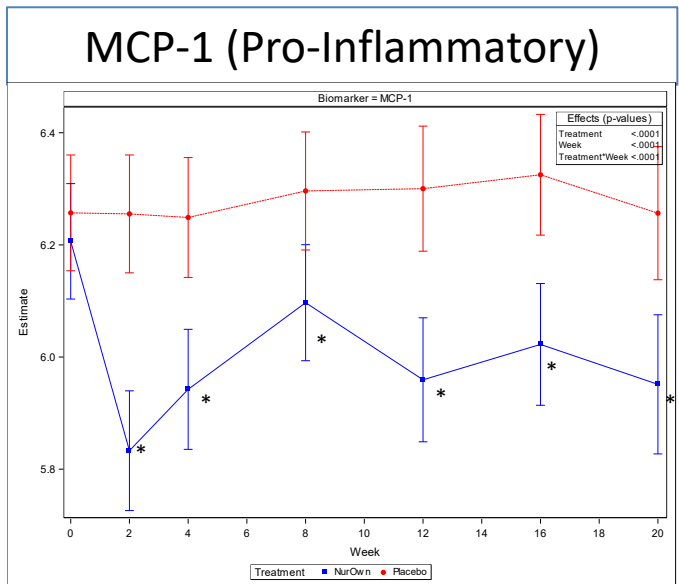
Biomarkers driving Principal Component Analysis:

- Neuroinflammation: CHI3L1, Chit-1; IP-10, MCP-1, Trem2
  - 63% of the variation in the data is described by two principal components (36% PC1, 27% PC2)
- Neurodegeneration: NfL, UCH-L1, pNfH
  - 75% of the variation in the data is described by one principal component
- Neuroprotection : Follistatin, VEGF, BDNF; Clusterin
  - 67% of the variation in the data is described by two principal components (45% PC1, 22% PC2)



\*Graph produced the first Principal component from each pathway

# NurOwn Improves Biomarkers Across Multiple Pathways Over Time, LS Mean (95%CI)



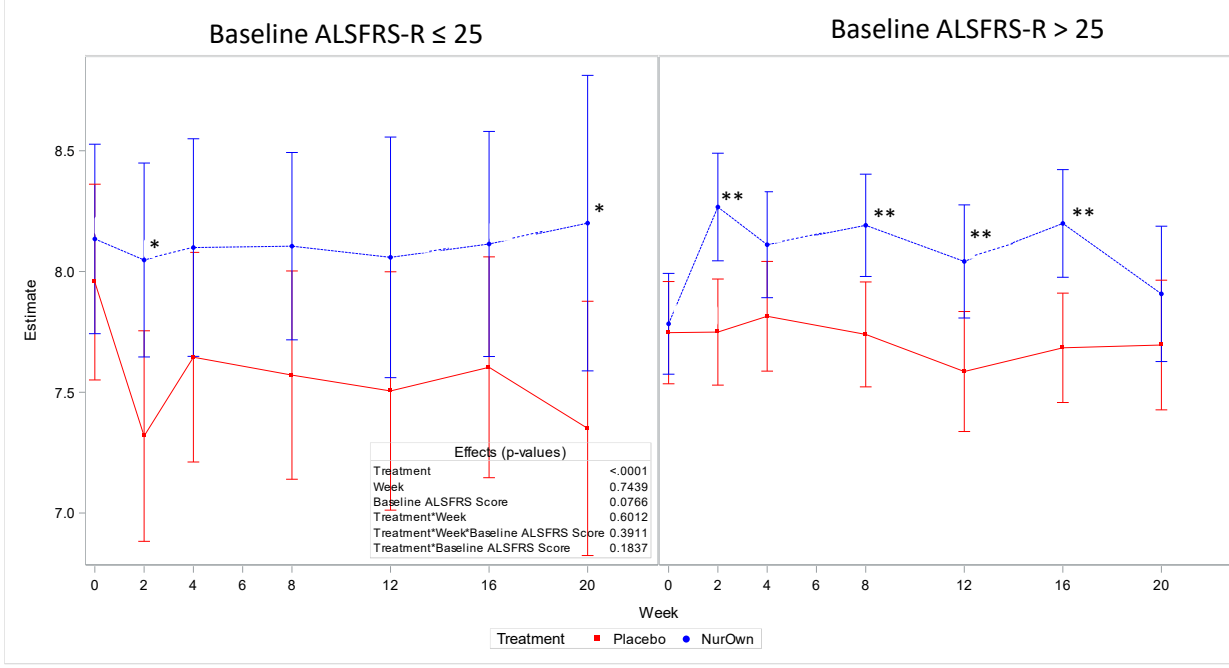
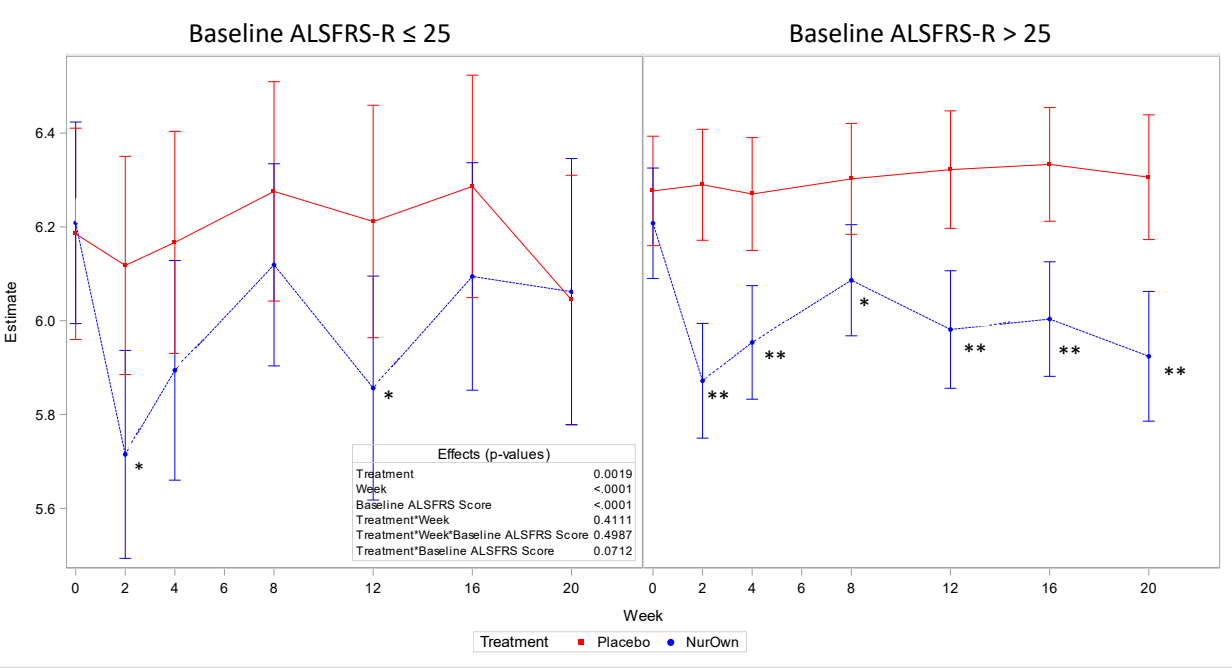
— NurOwn  
 - - - Placebo

\*p < 0.05

# Biomarkers are not impacted by the floor effect of the ALSFRS-R

MCP-1

LAP



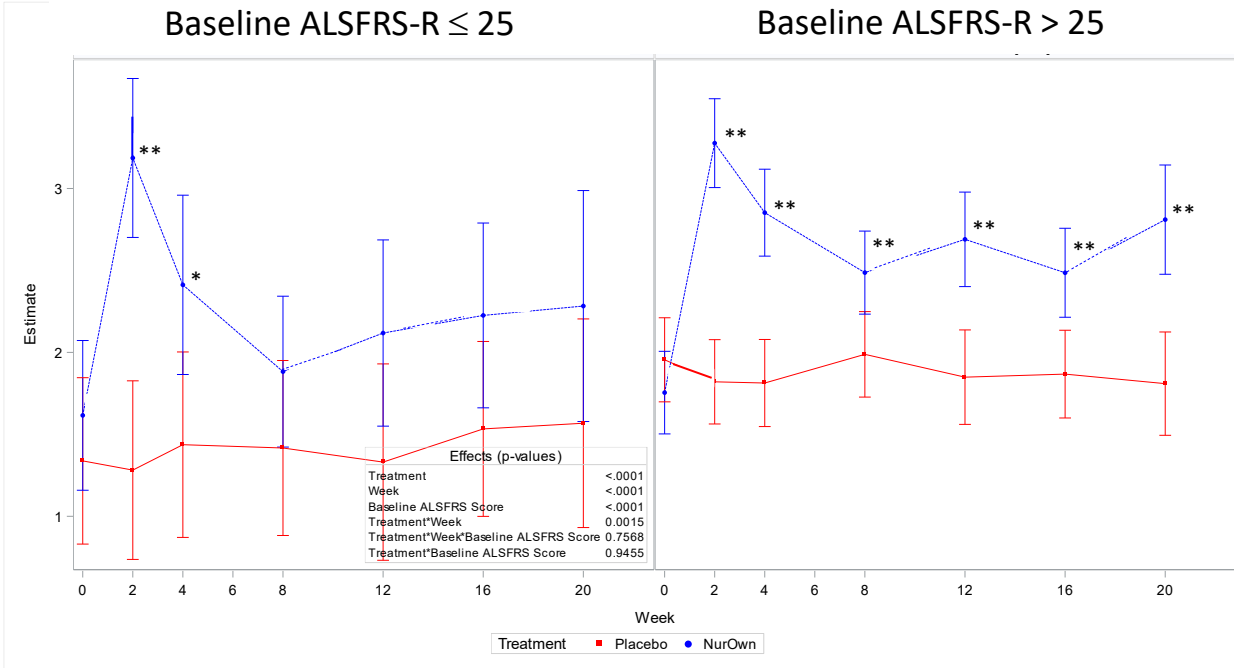
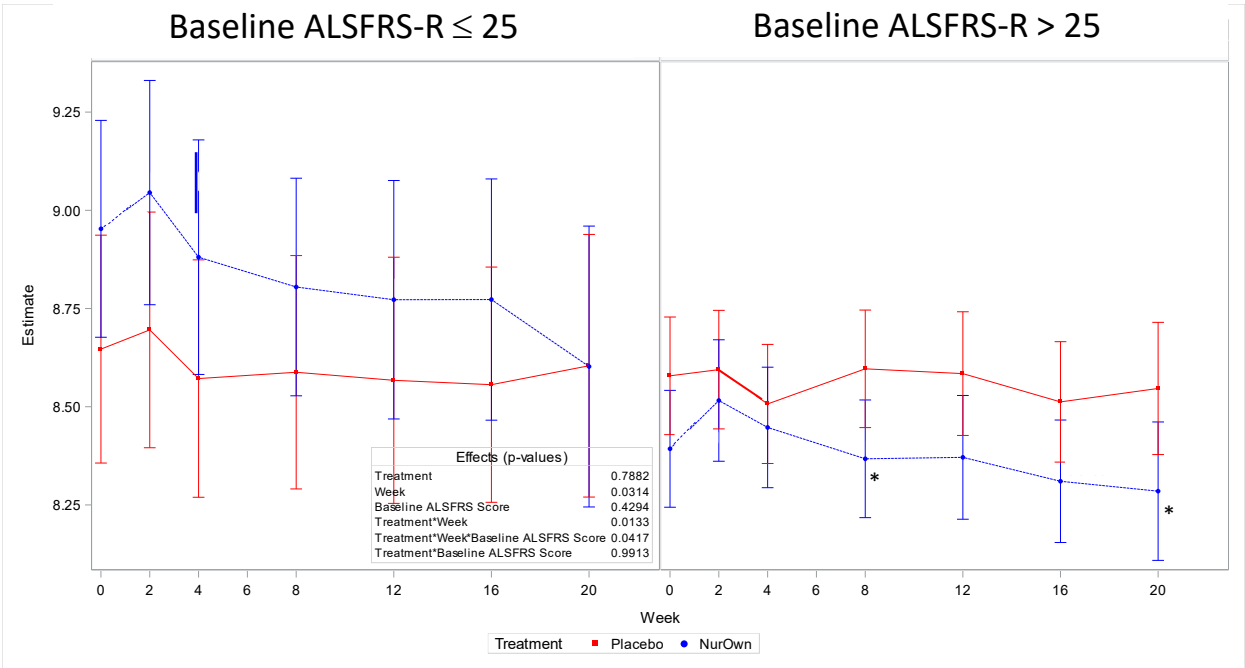
--- NurOwn  
--- Placebo  
 \* p-value < 0.05  
 \*\* p-value < 0.01

- Pro- and Anti-Inflammation Biomarkers: A large difference is observed between NurOwn and Placebo at the first post-treatment visit, indicating a treatment effect in reducing inflammation quickly following treatment with NurOwn
- Large p-values from the interaction terms with Baseline ALSFRS-R score indicate no significant difference in the ≤25 subgroup and >25 subgroup

# Biomarkers are not impacted by the floor effect of the ALSFRS-R

NfL

VEGF-A






- - - NurOwn  
— Placebo  
 \* p-value < 0.05  
 \*\* p-value < 0.01

- Neurodegeneration: NfL values decreased for NurOwn participant while the placebo group showed a flat trend
- Neuroprotection: VEGF values increase rapidly in both subgroups relative to placebo, remain elevated.

# The Relationship Between Biomarkers and Clinical Outcomes reveal biomarkers across 3 pathways are important to predicting the clinical response observed

**Clinical outcome based on a post treatment change (rate of decline): piecewise slope**

Stepwise Regression Model for NurOwn Group
Baseline LAP
Baseline NfL
mean Change Galectin-1

-  Neuroinflammation
-  Neurodegeneration
-  Neuroprotection

- Statistical model identifies 3 biomarker that are predictive of clinical outcomes
- NfL selected as a biomarker associated with both clinical outcome measures
- Similar to the biomarkers selected related to the primary endpoint, these biomarkers span all three key pathways
- good model fit

# Summary

Changes in biomarkers following NurOwn treatment are statistically linked to clinical outcomes from the trial

- Treatment with NurOwn elevates markers of neuroprotection, and lowers markers of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration over time compared to placebo
- The same biomarker responses, including patterns by treatment, are observed across biomarker pathways in participants with less advanced ALS, and advanced ALS
- Statistical modeling identifies biomarkers that have the potential to predict a clinical response with NurOwn, with two different clinical endpoints
  - Markers of neuroinflammation, neurodegeneration and neuroprotection were all selected in the final model.
  - The Relationship Between Biomarkers and Clinical Outcomes reveal biomarkers across 3 pathways are important to predicting the clinical response observed.
- Novel therapies that simultaneously target multiple pathways may offer great potential

## Manufacturing Sites



City of Hope Center for Biomedicine & Genetics



Dana-Farber Harvard Cancer Center  
*Cell Manipulation Core*

## Treatment Centers



## Funding

