

# Expanding the reach of genome editing



Letizia Goretti, CEO

BIO USA 2024



At **Alia Therapeutics**,  
we see a future where diseases are cured at  
their roots,  
a future where genetic medicine is a safe and  
viable option  
to restore hope and health for every person.





# CRISPR *is* ready for prime time

## **Panel Says That Innovative Sickle Cell Cure Is Safe *Enough* for Patients**

*The decision by an advisory committee may lead to Food and Drug Administration approval of the first treatment for humans that uses the CRISPR gene-editing system. **New York Times, Oct. 31, 2023***

*Intellia Therapeutics Announces FDA Clearance of IND Application to Initiate a Pivotal Phase 3 Trial of NTLA-2001 for the Treatment of Transthyretin (ATTR) Amyloidosis with Cardiomyopathy. **Globe NewsWire, Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 2023***

## *however*

- 3BN nucleotide pairs
- Off-target effects
- Efficiency limitations
- Delivery limitations
- Immunogenicity
- Commercial viability

*“Currently available tools are not sufficient to address the complexity of gene and cell therapy applications” - Prof. A. Cereseto*



## GENOME EDITING COMPANY HEADQUARTERED IN ITALY



**World class science** from the discoveries of Prof. Anna Cereseto at the University of Trento



**Top Tier Platform and Capabilities** to expand the application of the genome editing toolbox for the treatment of a broad spectrum of disorders



**Pioneering *in vivo* and *ex vivo* proof of concept** for therapeutic approaches that are **precise, safe, and effective**



Solid and expanding **IP**



Seed **funding from leading EU and Italian VCs**



## INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY LEADERS

## WORLD CLASS SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS

## LEADING EU INVESTORS

### Management team



Letizia Goretti  
**CEO**



Antonio Casini, PhD  
**Founder and CTO**



Francesca Zagari, PhD  
**Senior Project Manager**

### Scientific advisor board



Prof. Anna Cereseto,  
PhD  
**Founder and SAB chairman**



Prof. Alberto Auricchio, MD, PhD  
**University of Naples/TIGEM**



Prof. Chiara Bonini, MD  
**Vita Salute University**



Prof. Angelo Lombardo, PhD  
**Vita Salute University/SR-TIGET**



Prof. Nicola Segata, PhD  
**University of Trento**

### Board of Directors



Silvano Spinelli  
**Chairman**



Letizia Goretti  
**CEO**



Paola Pozzi  
**Sofinnova  
partners**



Adel Nada  
**Independent Director**



Pioneering groundbreaking solutions to expand the reach of genome editing and develop therapeutic approaches that are precise, safe and effective.

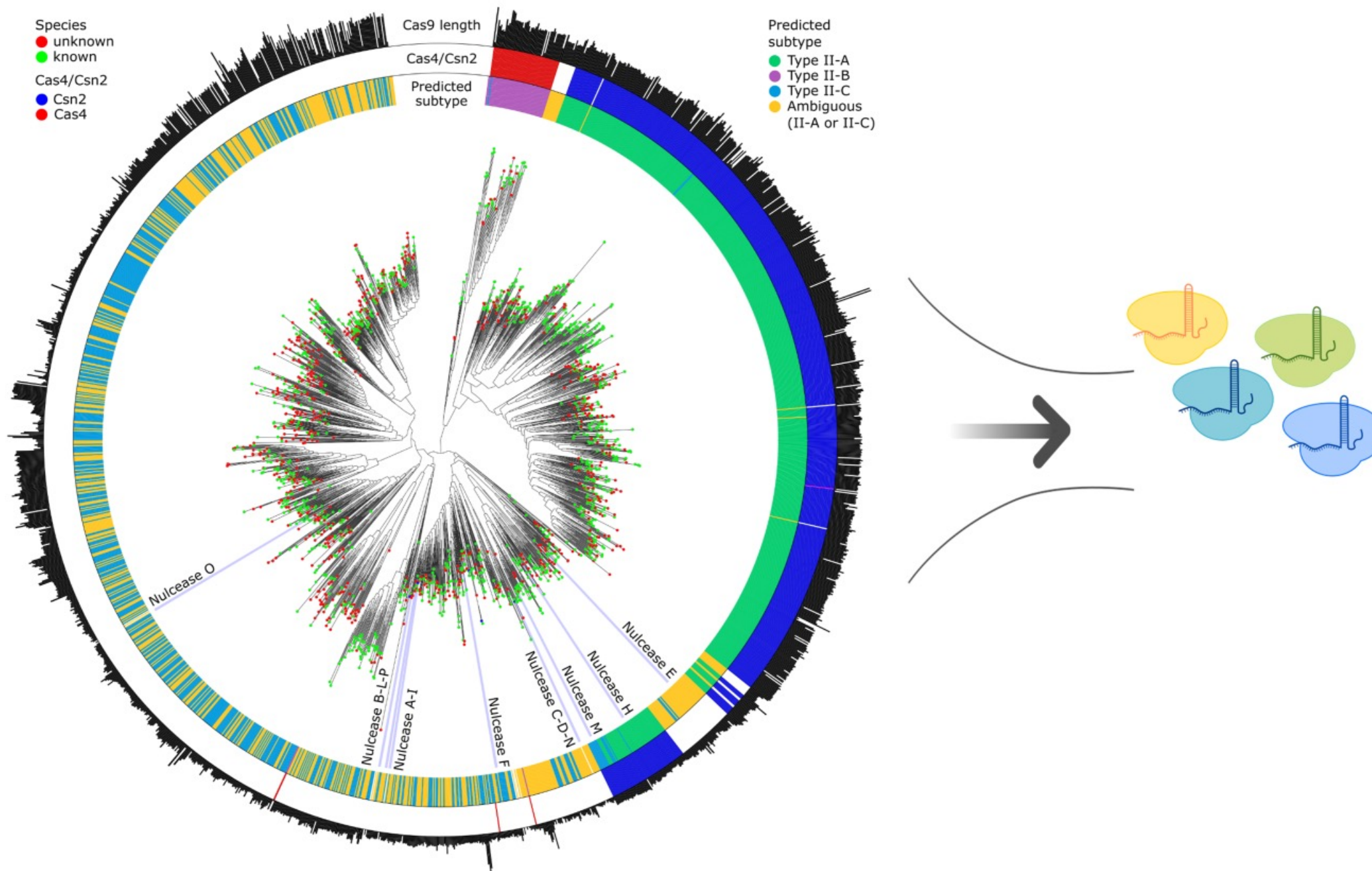
Program	Editing approach	Discovery	Proof of Concept	Preclinical to IND	Clinical Stage
IN VIVO Strategy : make gene editing a precise, safe and effective therapeutic option					
Ad RP (RHO)	All in 1-AAV Allele-specific and mutation-independent deletion	[Progress bar]			
EX VIVO Strategy : exploit vast and novel CRISPR portfolio in ex-vivo cell programming for I/O cell therapies and immunological diseases					
T-Cell programming	Simultaneous Multiplex Editing	[Progress bar]			
PLATFORM Strategy : Future Proofing through novel editing approaches and novel target hypothesis					
Type I, Type II (Cas9) Type V CRISPR systems	KO, KI Large deletions and insertions Base, prime, epigenome editing Nickase	[Progress bar]			





# Expanding the range of targetable genomic regions through the discovery of novel therapeutic nucleases from the human microbiome

## Top tier CRISPR discovery platform



## Key Differentiating Capabilities

- Next Generation Type I, Type II (Cas9), Type V CRISPR
- Commensal human microbiome (37°)
- Active and Specific in human cells
- Increased PAM diversity
- gRNA specificity
- Directed evolution and rational protein engineering capabilities
- 10 + patent families, novel and proprietary
- All editing strategies
- All delivery modalities





# First-in class mutation-independent and allele-specific targeting strategy to treat RHO dependent autosomal dominant mutations causing Retinitis Pigmentosa (adRP)

## Unmet Need

- 30% of all dominant Retinitis Pigmentosa cases (adRP)
- 200+ mutations in the RHO gene
- No treatment options
- Leading to blindness

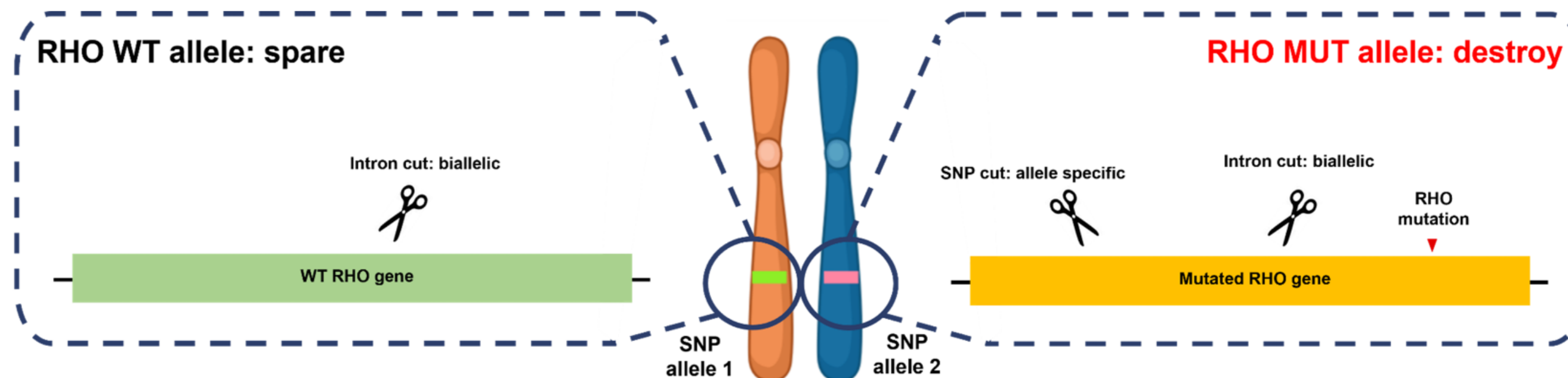
## Mutation-independent and allele-specific RHO targeting strategy

Requires highly specific and precise gene editing tools

- Selectively abolishes the expression of mutant alleles
- Spares the wild-type counterpart, preserving photoreceptor function

## Strategic advantages

- One product to target multiple mutations
- All in 1 AAV delivery
- Expansion to other autosomal dominant conditions





## KEY TAKE AWAY

SCIENCE PEOPLE CAPABILITIES COLLABORATIONS

Work / Technology & tools



The James Webb Space Telescope's 6.5-metre primary mirror (6 of 18 segments shown) can detect objects billions of light years away.

### SEVEN TECHNOLOGIES TO WATCH IN 2023

Nature's pick of tools and techniques that are poised to have an outsized impact on science in the coming year. By Michael Eisenstein

796 | Nature | Vol 613 | 26 January 2023

**Top Tier Science, Leadership, Platform and Capabilities** to expand the application of genome editing for the treatment of a broad spectrum of disorders

**On track to establishing *in vivo* and *ex vivo* proof of concept** for therapeutic approaches that are **safe, effective, and precise**

Fostering **collaborations to accelerate access to life-changing treatments**



# APPENDIX: REFERENCES AND PUBLICATIONS

## *Publications*

1. An optimized SpCas9 high-fidelity variant for direct protein delivery ***Molecular therapy, 2023***
2. Automated identification of sequence-tailored Cas9 proteins using massive metagenomic data, ***Nature Communications, 2022***
3. A highly specific SpCas9 variant is identified by in vivo screening in yeast, ***Nature Biotechnology, 2018***
4. VSV-G enveloped vesicles for traceless delivery of CRISPR-Cas9, ***Molecular therapy, 2018***

## *Congress presentations*

1. Novel and compact CRISPR nucleases for the allele-specific and mutation-independent treatment of autosomal dominant retinitis pigmentosa – **ESGCT 2023, Poster presentation**
2. CoCas9, a compact nuclease from the human microbiome for efficient and precise genome editing - **ESGCT 2023, Poster presentation**
3. Novel Cas9 Orthologs Expand The Genome Editing Toolbox For CRISPR- based therapeutics – **ASGCT 2023 , Oral presentation**
4. A novel CRISPR nuclease targeting an Usher syndrome deep-intronic mutation restores USH2A splicing - **ESGCT 2022, Poster presentation**
5. Mutation-Independent and Allele-Specific Targeting of Autosomal Dominant Retinitis Pigmentosa Using High-Fidelity CRISPR Nucleases – **ASGCT 2022 Poster presentation**

## *Member of Marie Curie (MSCA) consortia:*

- IMMERGE “storming immune monogenic conditions through multiomic and gene editing approaches”
- GET-IN “game changing innovations in viral vector production, design of experiments, quality by design, digital twin simulation, CRISPR genome editing and organoid-on-chip engineering”