

## **Treating Epilepsy in an Orphan Genetically-defined Seizure Disorder, Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC)**

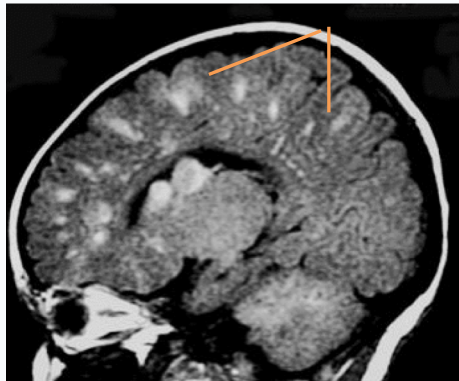
# Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, a genetically-defined (*TSC1/TSC2*) life-long epilepsy disorder



**TSC diagnosis:** First by pediatricians, referred to specialists

- 1-100 Daily Seizures: 85% of all patients (neurologists)
- Median age of seizure onset: 3 months
- Skin patches (dermatologists)

## Brain malformations



Characteristics	Current SOC	Efficacy	Comorbidities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brain Malformations</li> <li>• Childhood onset seizures</li> <li>• Life-long epilepsy</li> <li>• AED resistant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brain surgery</li> <li>• Everolimus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited efficacy</li> <li>• Side-effects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insomnia</li> <li>• Learning disabilities</li> <li>• Behavior issues (e.g., anxiety)</li> </ul>

- High burden on care givers and patients: We need new drugs to treat seizures and comorbidities

# TSC is an orphan disorder with a high societal cost

**Incidence:** 1/6,000 new births

50,000 TSC pts with epilepsy in the US

30,000-40,000 TSC pts with drug-resistant epilepsy (60-80% all pts)

**Cost of Everolimus (SOC):** \$16K/mo/pt, \$192K/year/pt

For 30,000 patients this represents a **US market opportunity of \$5-6B/year**

# TEAM

## Science



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Vice-Chair for Research  
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Science Lead

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## Clinical



**Anne Anderson, MD**

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**Jo Anne Nakagawa**

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Projects at the TSC  
Alliance (TSCA)

Liaison between TSCA  
and the **68 TSC Clinics**

## Business



**David Lewin, PhD**

Director Business  
Development, Yale, OCR

IP Management & BD

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# Inadequate SOC - Established clinical trial design

**Brain surgery:** In only 10-15% of pts

Seizures remain in ~40% of operated pts

Seizures return in 50% of seizure-free pts post-op

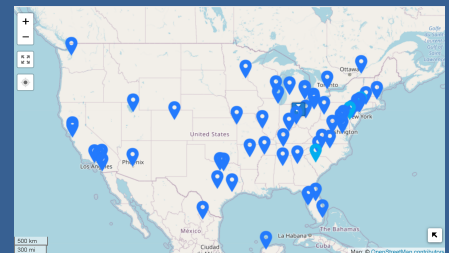
**Everolimus:** Limited efficacy (40% of pts respond at high dose)  
(Afinitor) Major side-effects

**We will use everolimus trial's design and clinical endpoints**

**Primary endpoint Phase III:** Percent change in seizure frequency  
[core phase (18 wks) vs baseline (8 wks)]

**Secondary endpoints:** Impact on behavior and quality of life (and more)

## TSC clinics



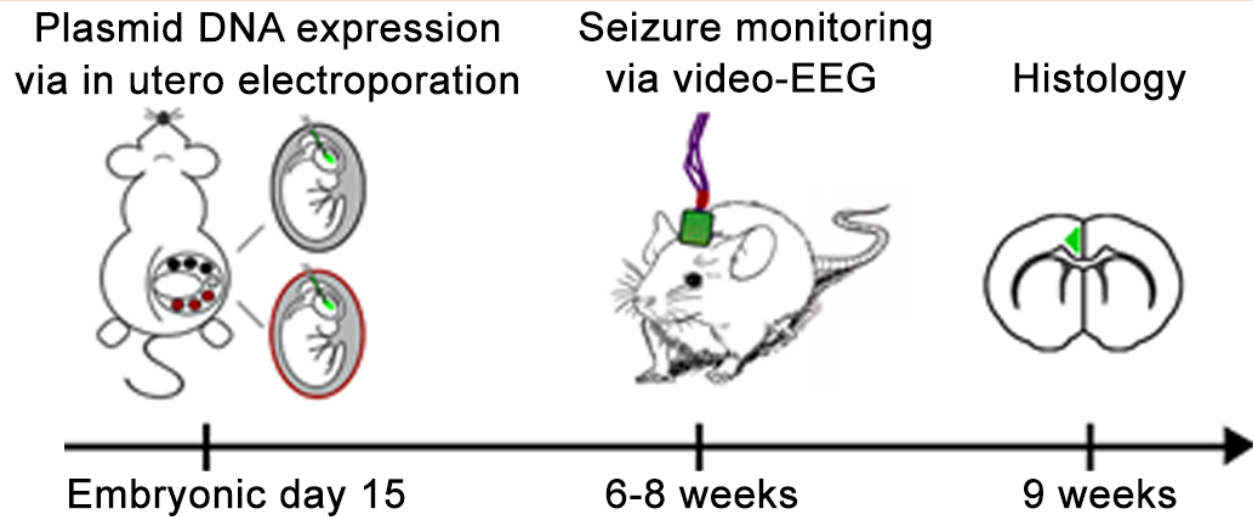
68 Centers of Excellence

# Competition

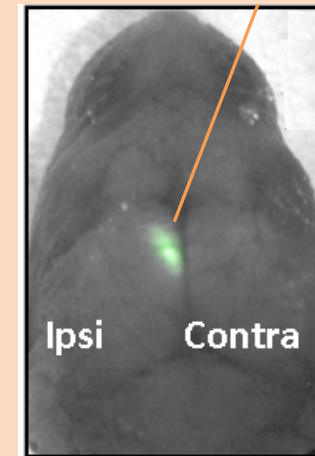
Drugs	Efficacy	Formulation	Side-effects	Mode of action	Company
<b>Conventional AED</b>	Seizure reduction in 30-40% pts	Liquid, pill, suppository	e.g., Sleepiness, nausea depending on the drug		several
<b>Everolimus (SOC) (Afinitor)</b>	40% pts with >50% seizures reductions	Liquid suspension	Many and serious: e.g., stomatitis, diarrhea, infections (bone loss)	mTOR inhibitor	Novartis
<b>Under development</b>	Unknown (failed phase II for Fragile X syndrome)	unknown	Unknown but widespread expression	mGluR5 antagonist	Noema Pharma
<b>Epidiolex (cannabidiol)</b>	Age 1-57 years, 201 pts 20% reduction (vs placebo)	Liquid solution, twice daily	serious: e.g. diarrhea, suicidal thoughts, elevated liver enzymes, sleepiness, fever, vomiting, rash	Cannabinoid receptor mTOR inhibition	Greenwich Biosciences Inc.

# Our Mouse Model: Competitive Advantage for Drug Discovery

Using in utero electroporation to model human brain malformation in TSC



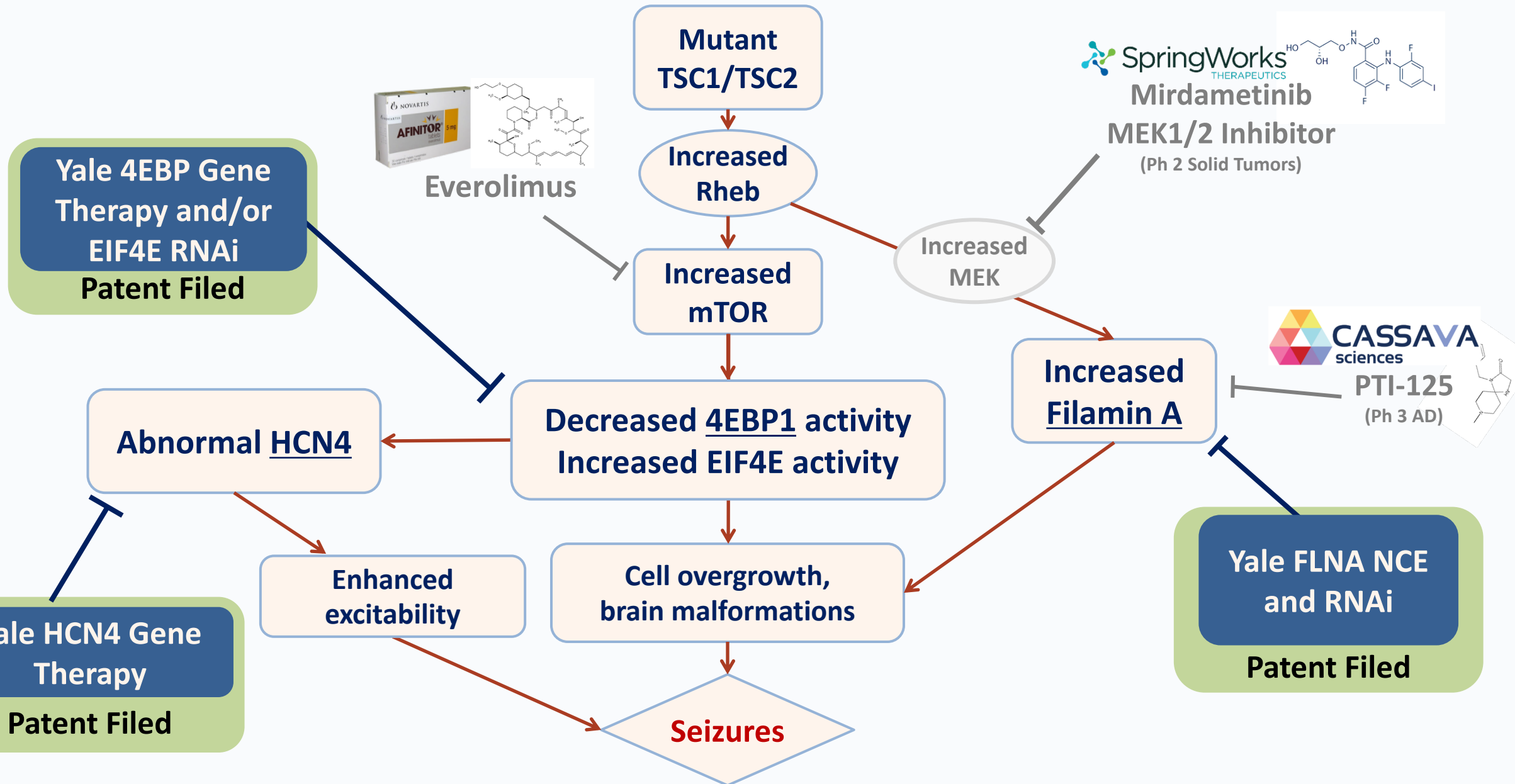
## Brain malformation



**Our mouse model: Definitive and only model for TSC seizures**

- Hsieh, Bordey 2016
- Validated through collaborations with Biotechs

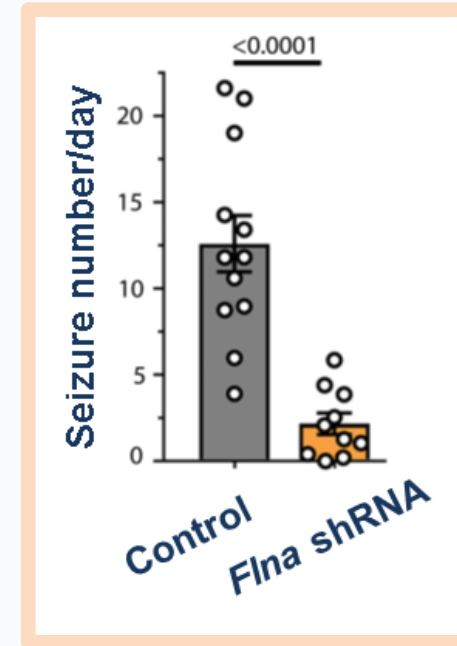
# Three New Validated Targets & Four Yale Solutions – Three patents





# Solution 1: Targeting Filamin A (FLNA) for seizure reduction is validated in adult mice

- FLNA is an actin-binding molecule that is increased in TSC patients and mouse models.
- Normalizing (shRNA) or blocking (drug) FLNA shrinks cell size and brain malformation and reduces seizure activity in the most relevant and accepted mouse model (Yale generated).

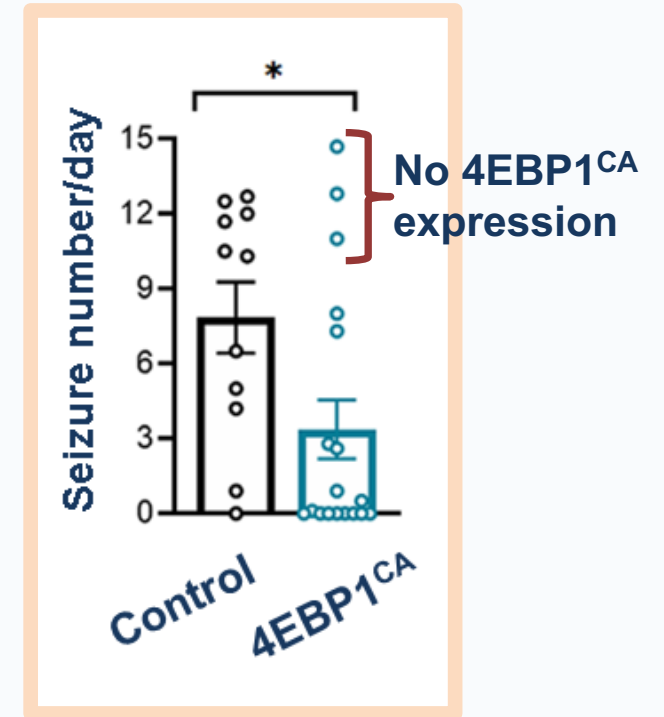


***Flna* shRNA  
decreases  
seizure activity**

Goal: CNS Injection of *Flna* siRNA

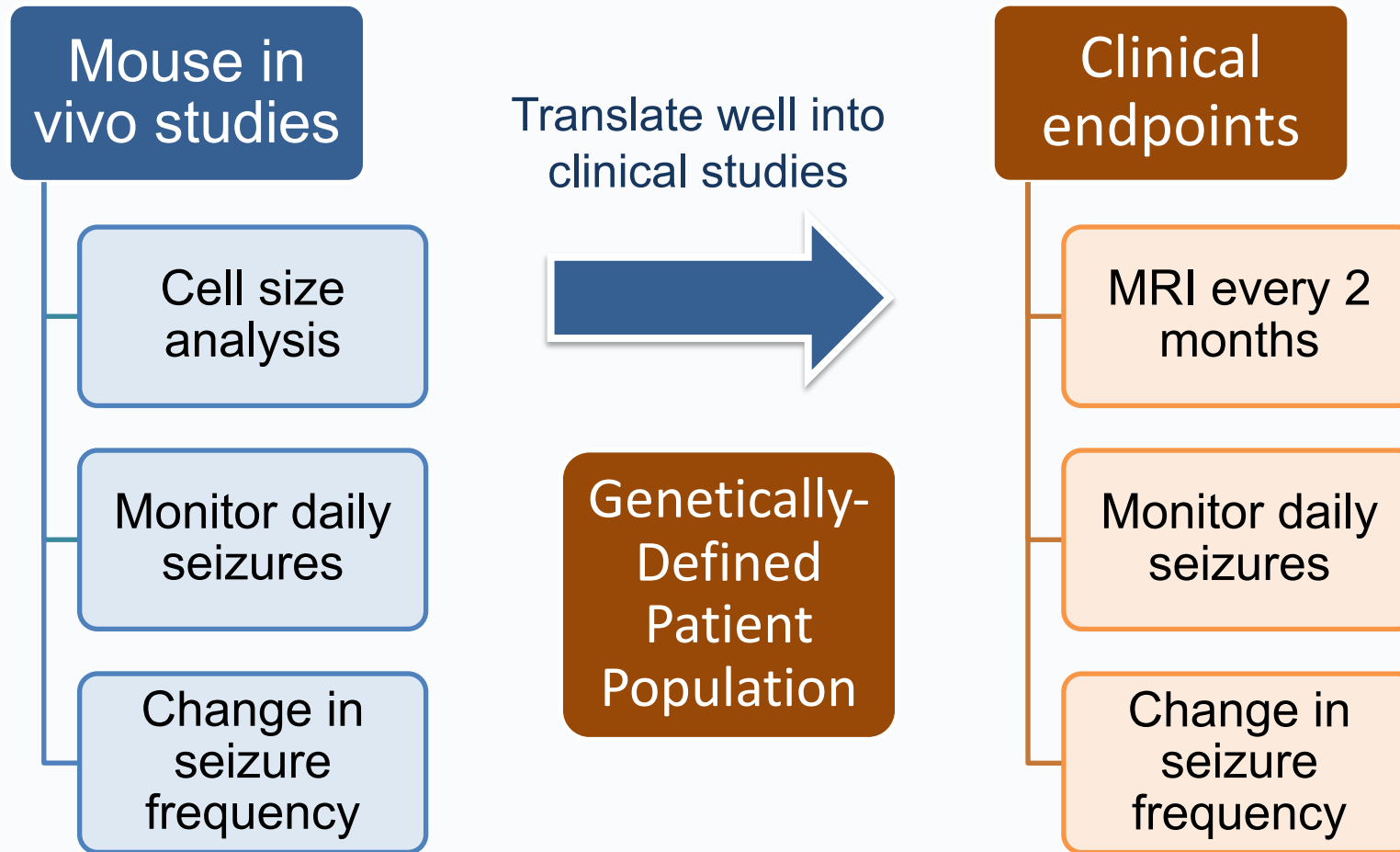
## Solution 2: Overexpressing 4EBP1 for seizure reduction is validated in adult mice

- 4EBP1 activity is decreased in TSC patients and mouse models
- Decreased 4EBP1 activity results in increased protein synthesis, cell overgrowth, and brain malformation.
- Overexpression a constitutively active 4EBP1 shrunk brain malformation and reduced seizures.



Goal: Focal delivery of 4EBP1-AAV Gene Therapy

# Mouse *in vivo* efficacy studies of RNAi and AAV will enable our IND application



# RNAi and AAV efficacy on seizures is gating to pre-IND meeting

## Completed

- ✓ Target validation FLNA and 4EBP1
- ✓ Clinical collaboration
- ✓ Animal model
- ✓ Clinical endpoints established



## *Flna* RNAi solution - \$70K

### Deliverables

Q4 2022

- RNAi being generated (commercial source)
- Efficacy on seizures via CNS injections in Yale Model
- Validation of knockdown in human neurons



## 4EBP1 AAV solution - \$70K

### Deliverables

Q3 2022

- 4EBP1-AAV being produced (commercial source)
- Efficacy on seizures via CNS injection in Yale Model

## Partnership - \$5M Seed

Q2 2023

- Efficacy on seizures via second model
- Final Tox study
- Pre-IND package