REPEATED-MEASURE ANALYSIS OF LIFETIME LENTIVIRAL CORRECTION OF THE GENE DEFECT IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS MICE

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Introduction

Examination of successful CFTR gene transfer to correct cystic fibrosis airway dysfunction has not been attempted in the same animal over long time periods. We examined the sustainability of gene transfer success via repeated nasal potential difference (PD) measures over their lifetimes.

Methods

The nasal airway of anaesthetized CF^{tm1unc} mice was instilled with either PBS or 0.3% lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) [illegible] delivery of a lentivirus (LV) CF transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene. In a third group [illegible] LV vector control. Nasal PD measurements (Fig. 1a) were performed [illegible] 3, 6, 9, 12 & 1[illegible]nths after treatment in each m[illegible] ΔPD was calculated from the low chloride response under amiloride perfusion.

Results

The initial basal PD response was the same in all groups (Fig. 2.), indicating there was no separate LPC effect on PD by the 1 week post treatment point (n.s. ANOVA, (n=6-12/group). In the two control groups, PBS pre-treatment and LV-MT (Fig. 2.), there was no significant change in the ΔPD over time (n.s. RM ANOVA). A continuous partial correction [illegible] was seen in mice receiving LPC and LV-CFTR persisting for at least 12 months (Fig. 4. ANOVA).

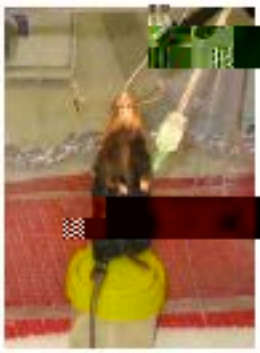
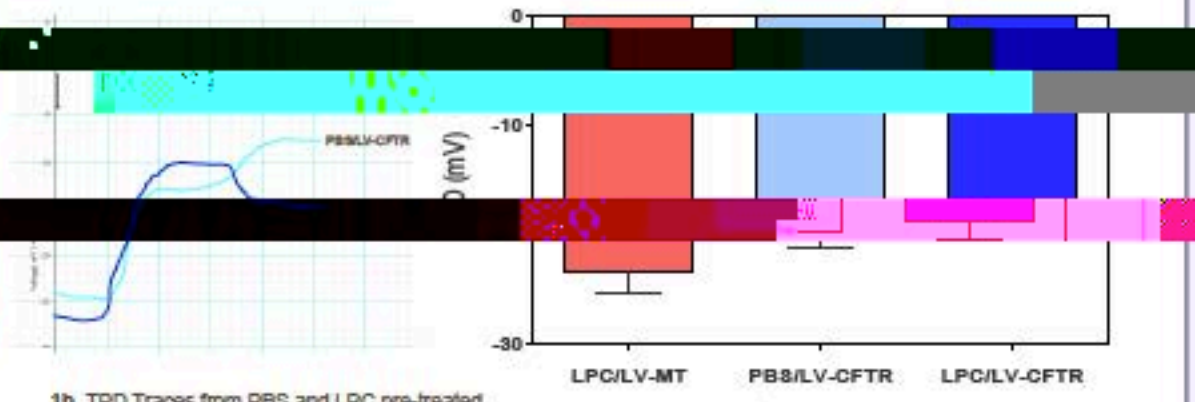


Fig. 1a. Nasal TPD measurement



1b. TPD Traces from PBS and LPC pre-treated LV-CFTR mice. (B=basa[illegible] LC+A=low [illegible])

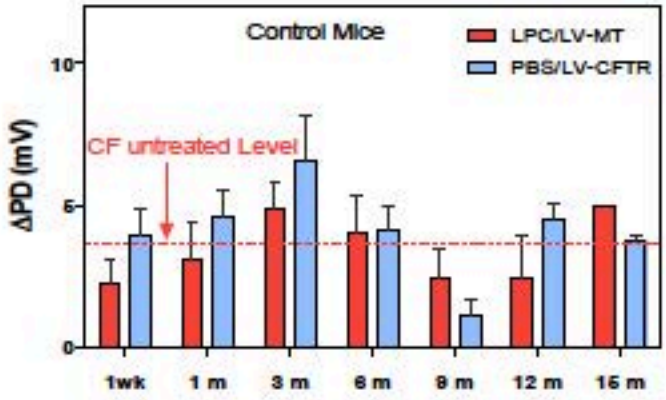


Fig. 3. Control groups over time, n=1-6.

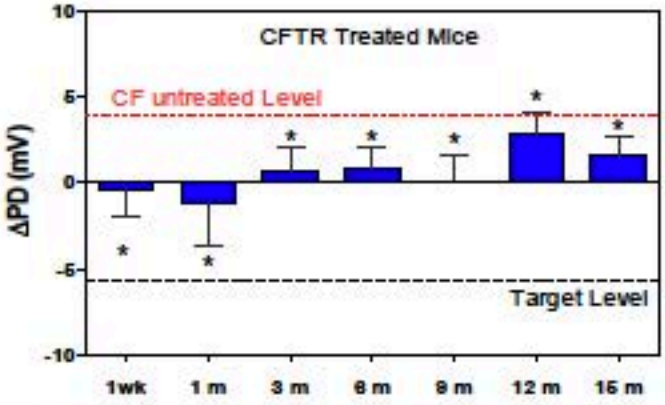


Fig. 4. Partial CFTR correction over time (*p<0.05, RM ANOVA, n=7-12).

Conclusions

In this continuing study we show that sustained partial correction of the Cl[illegible] persists for at lea[illegible]2 months, supporting the notion of a single-dose gene transfer therapy.

Acknowledgements

NH&MRC and (www.Cure4CF.