

# Tech Session 3: Immuno Delivery

**Kunwoo Lee, Ph.D.**

CEO and Co-founder  
GenEdit

**CRS 2022 Annual Meeting & Expo**

July 11 – 15, 2022 | Montreal Congress Center, Montreal Canada

**Advanced Delivery Science**



# Delivery of Genetic Medicines with Non-Viral Polymer Nanoparticles

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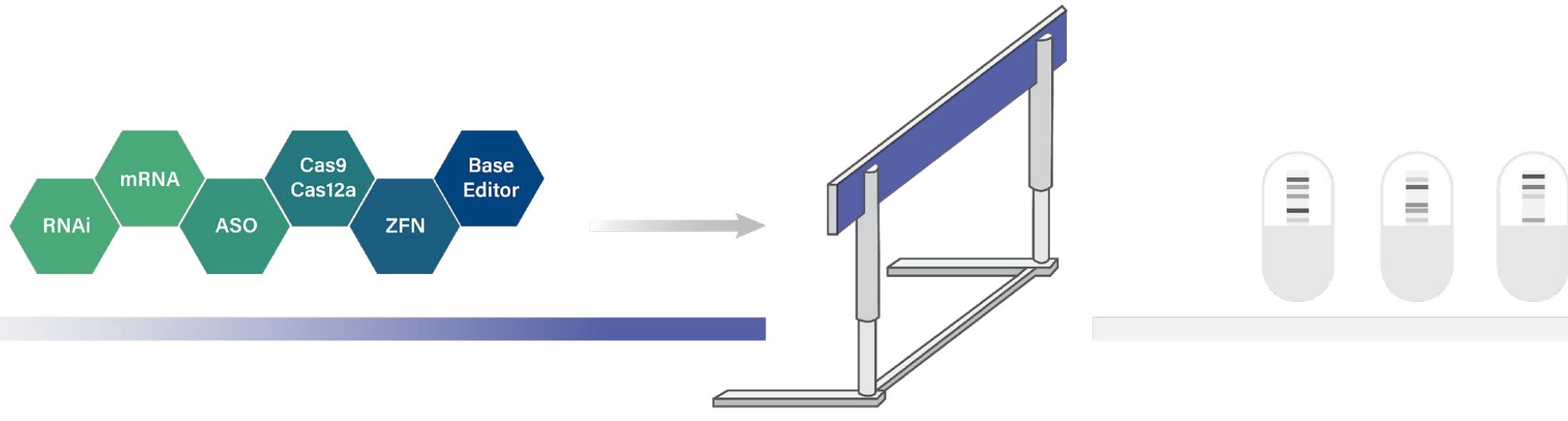
# Rise of New Genetic Medicine Modalities

But success is **Limited** to Vaccine and Liver Targeting



Genetic Medicine Has Potential to Treat Many Diseases

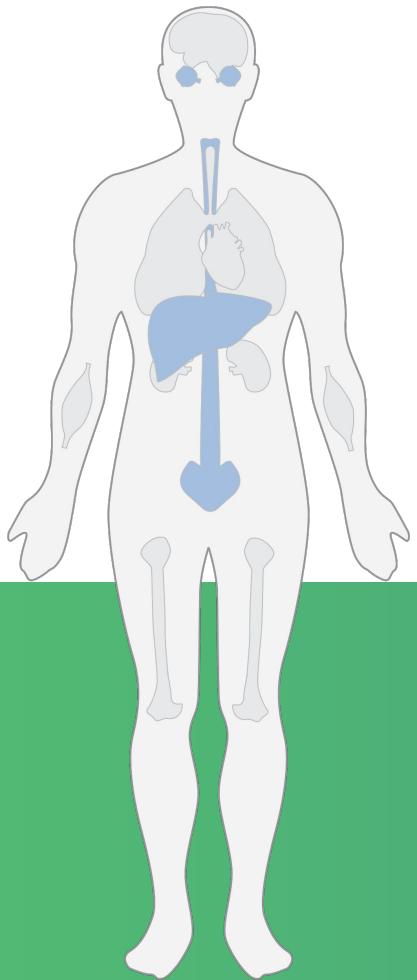
# However, Delivery Is THE HURDLE



**Payloads**

**Delivery Challenge**

**Unrealized Therapy**



Limited Delivery with  
Conventional Technology

# Conventional Delivery Technology Has Limitations

Major Challenges of Delivery  
Technology

1

**Tissue  
Selectivity**

2

**Payload  
Flexibility**

3

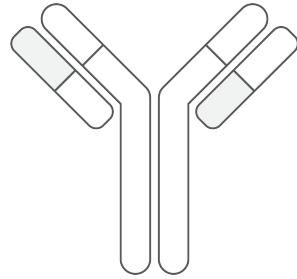
**Ability to  
Redose**

4

**Ease of  
Manufacture**

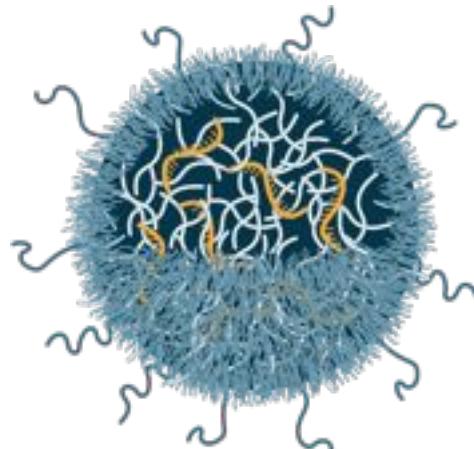
# Screening of Hydrophilic Polymers Enables Selective Tissue Targeting

## Hydrophilic Domains



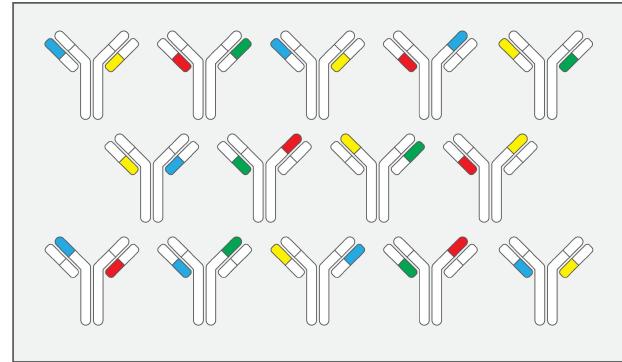
Antibody

## Hydrophilic Polymer

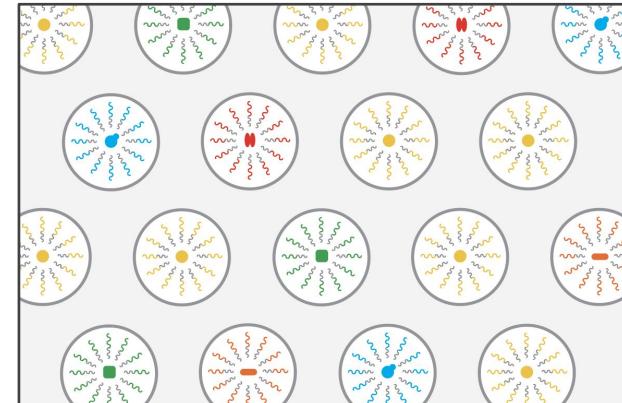


NanoGalaxy™  
Polymer

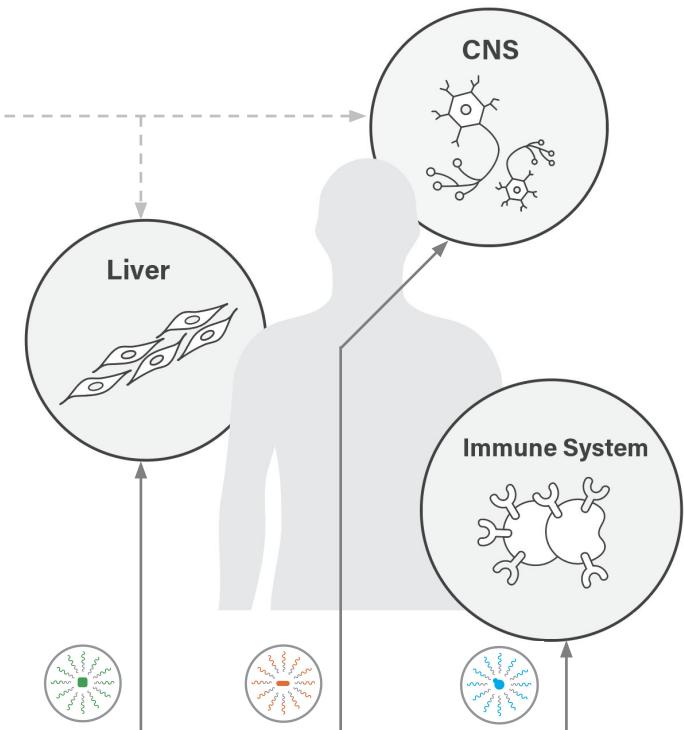
## Natural selection from Library



## NanoGalaxy™ Polymer Library with variations of physicochemical properties



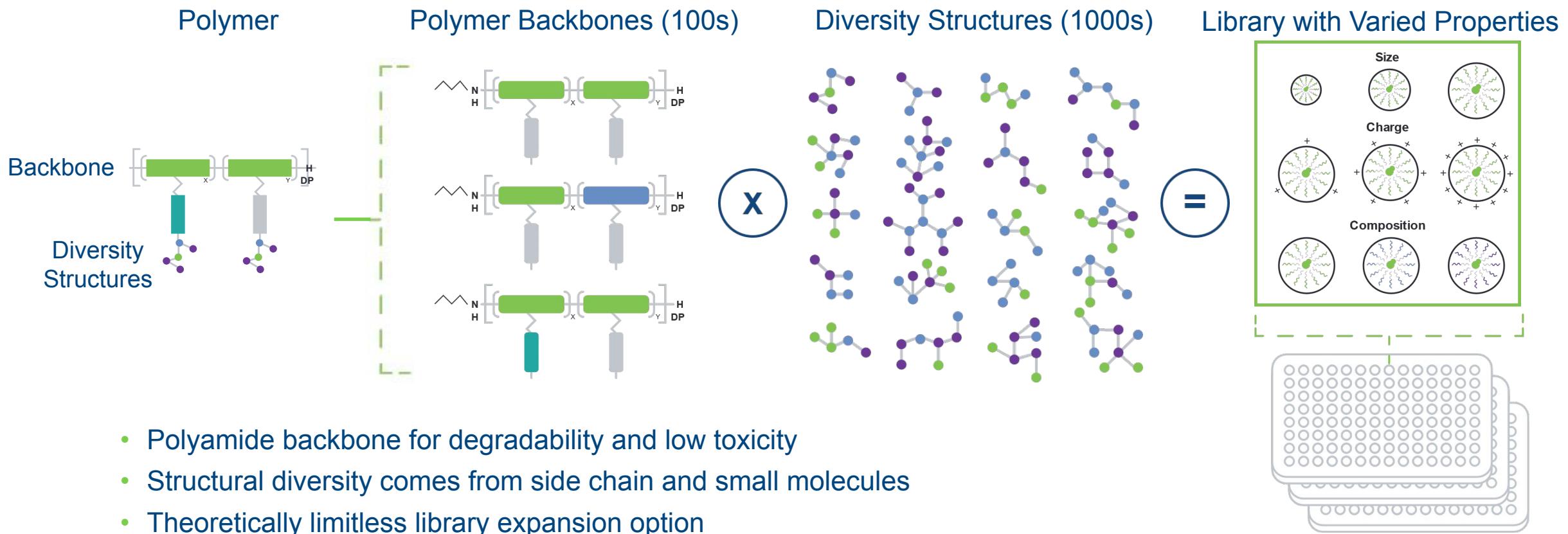
## Target Organs



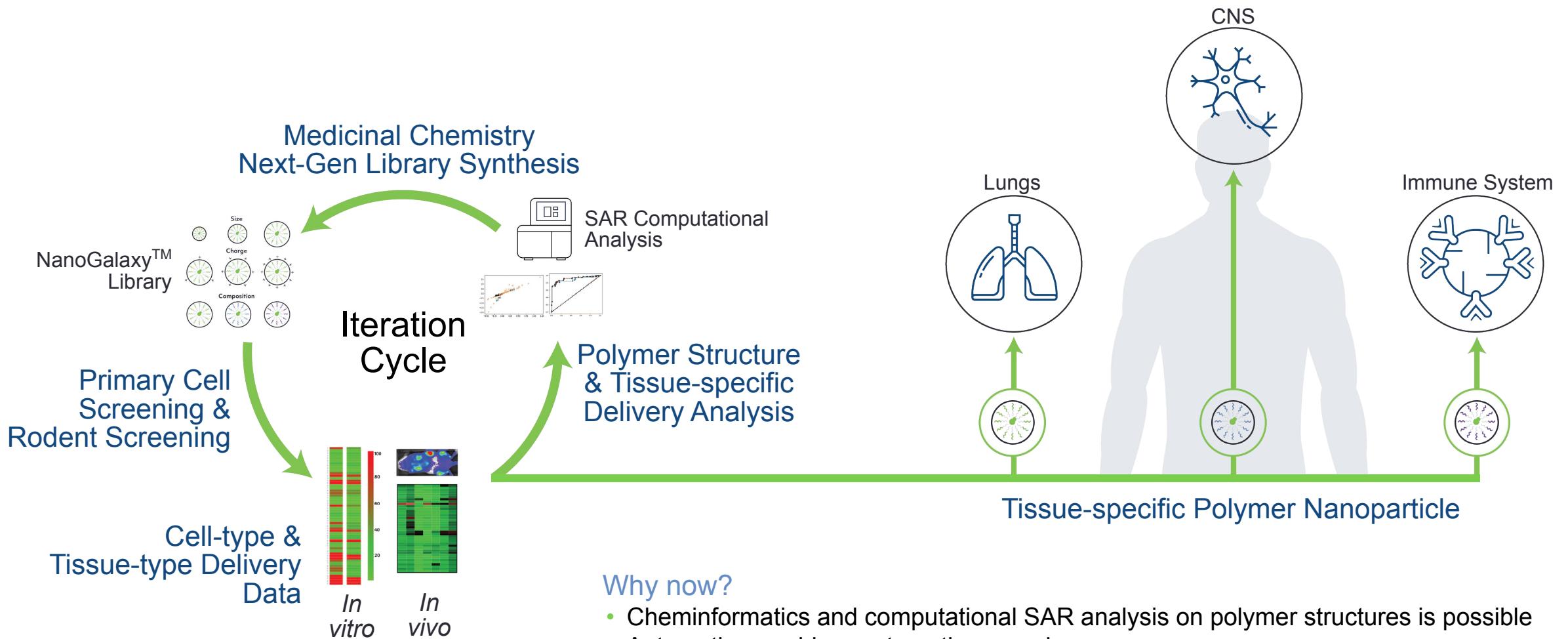
**Systematic screening and optimization**  
enables selection of hydrophilic polymers  
for targeted delivery to specific organs

# Diversity of Polymer Library Is the Key for Targeted Delivery

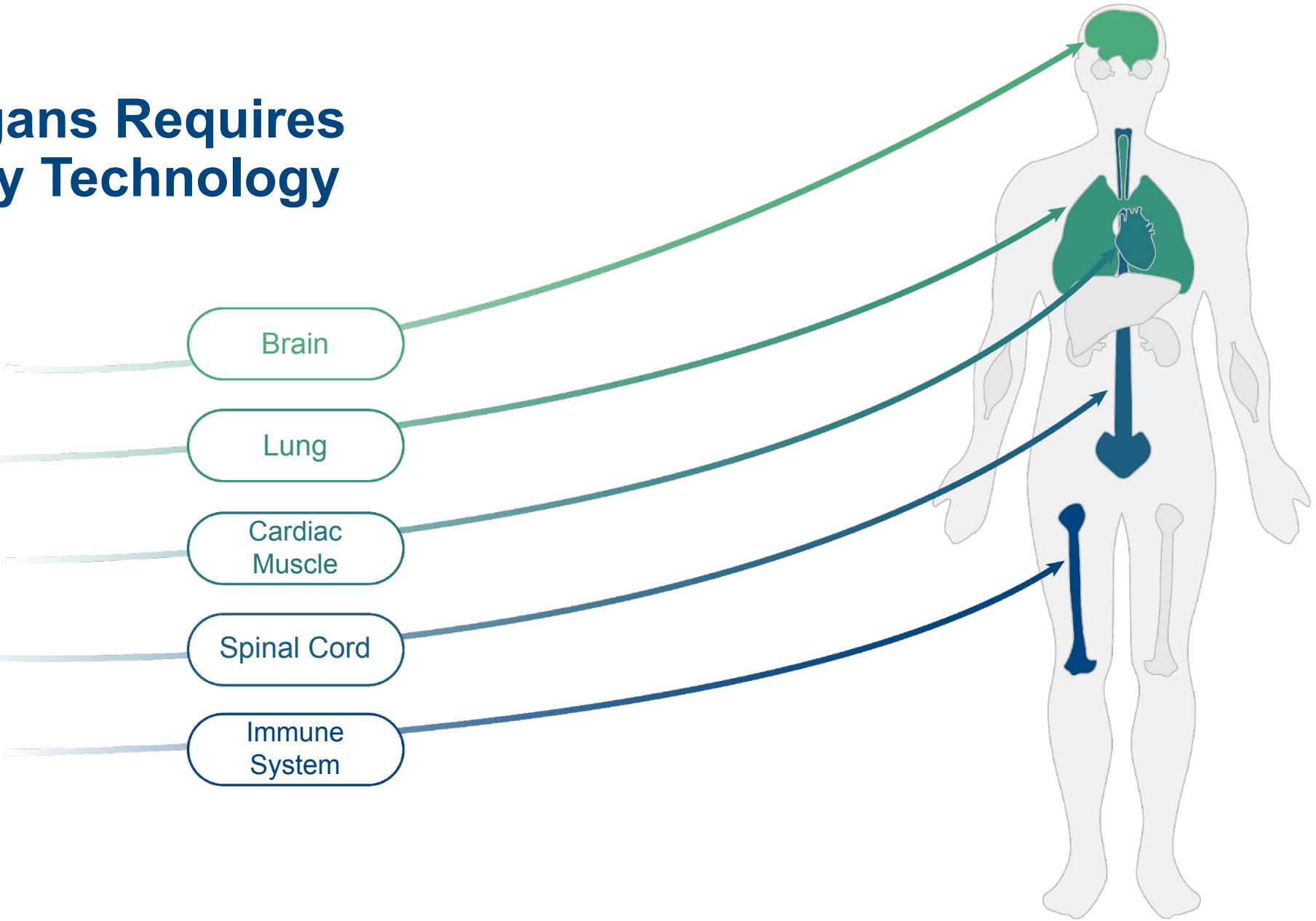
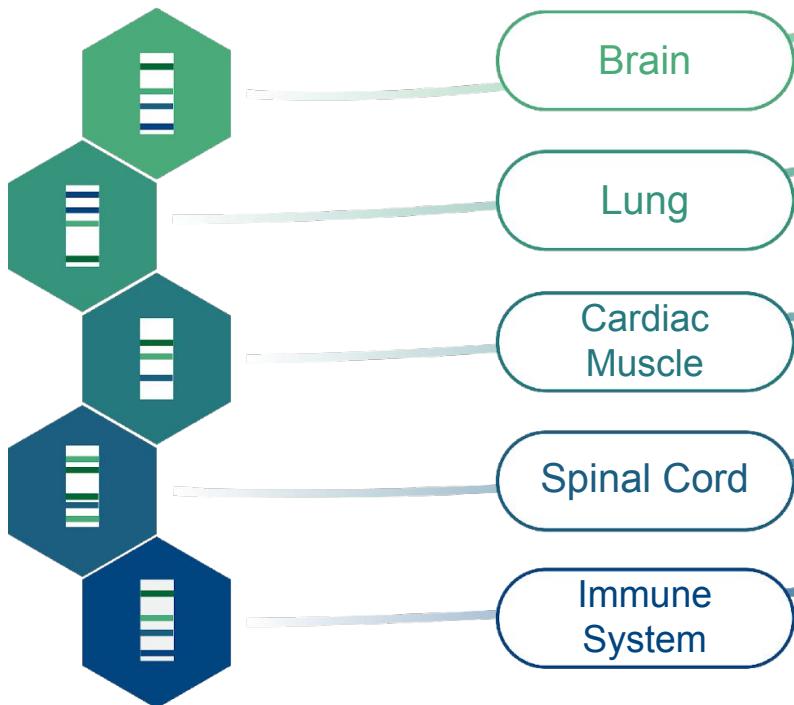
Optimized Chemistry Produces Diverse Set of Polymers in One Step



# Iterative Screening Process Identifies Tissue-Selective PNP<sup>s</sup>

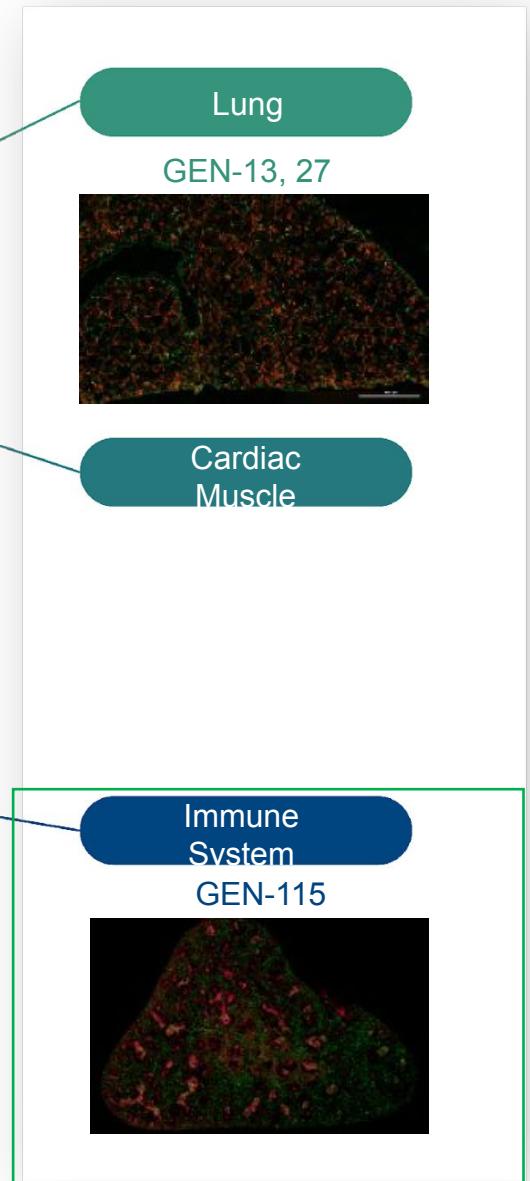
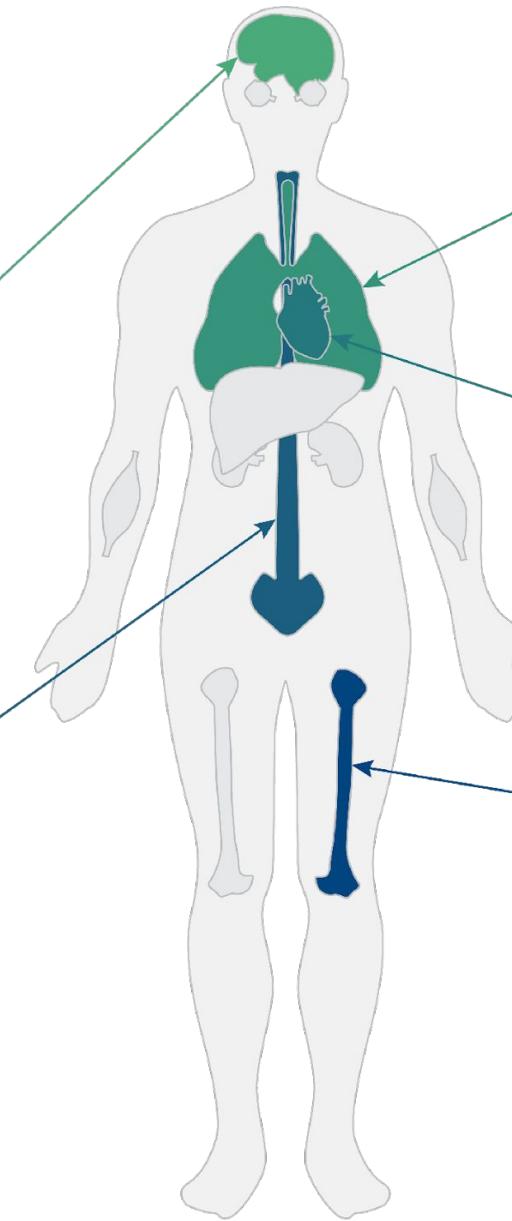
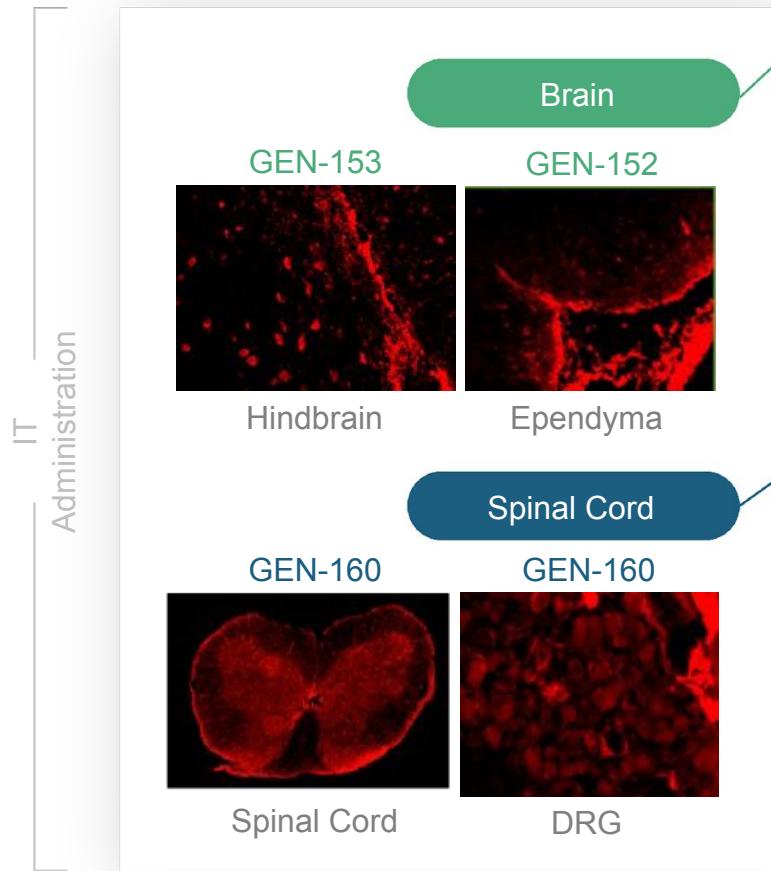


# Targeting Organs Requires Novel Delivery Technology



Delivery PoC to  
CNS, Immune  
system, and

## Lung Tissue Selective Delivery of NanoGalaxy™



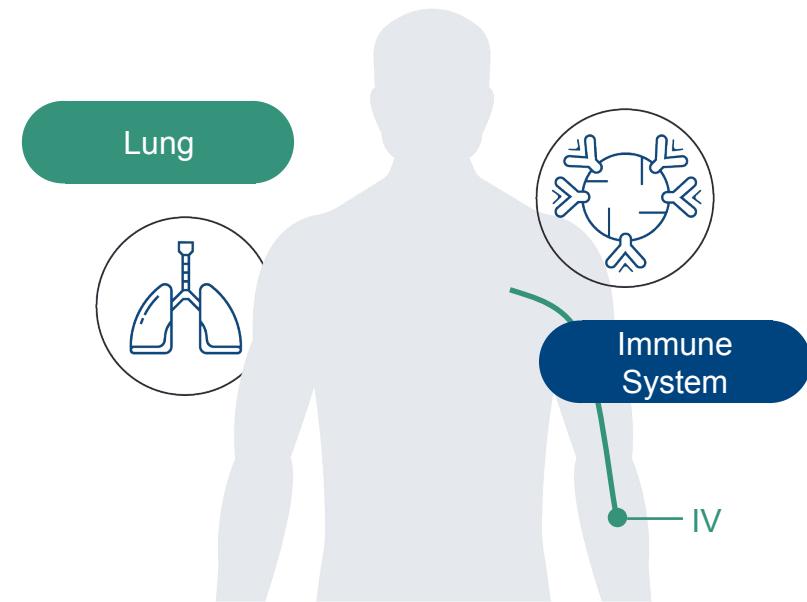
# Demonstration of Targeted Delivery via IV Administration

## Challenges

- Stability of PNP in serum
- Access the target tissue and de-targeting liver

## Our approach

- Serum stable PNP selection
- Iterative screening of serum stable PNPs toward target organs

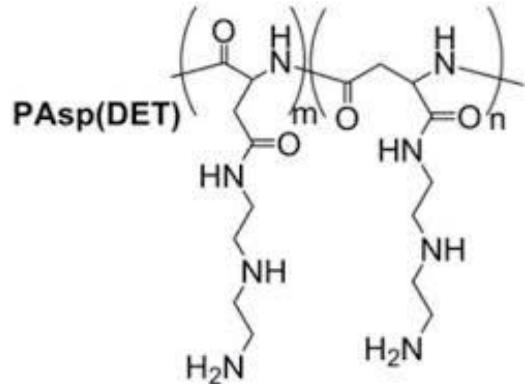


## Results

- Delivery beyond liver and targeting other organs

# The First Step Is Making PNPs Serum-Stable

## Inspiration

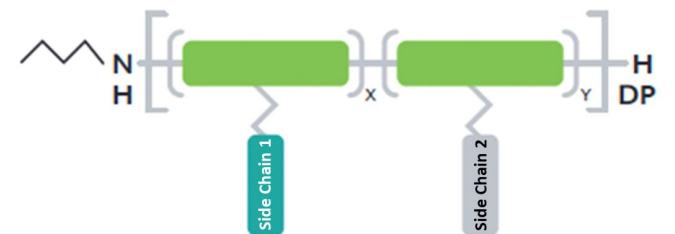


Kazunori Kataoka, Kanjiro Miyata

- Screened side chain structures can add serum stability
- Side chain 2 shows serum stability once  $\geq 8$  chains are added

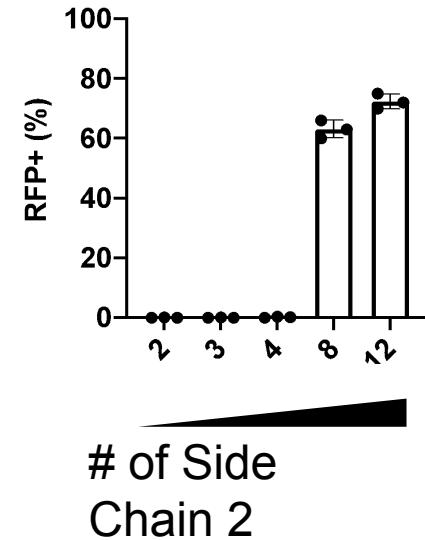
## Challenge

- Stability of PNP in blood



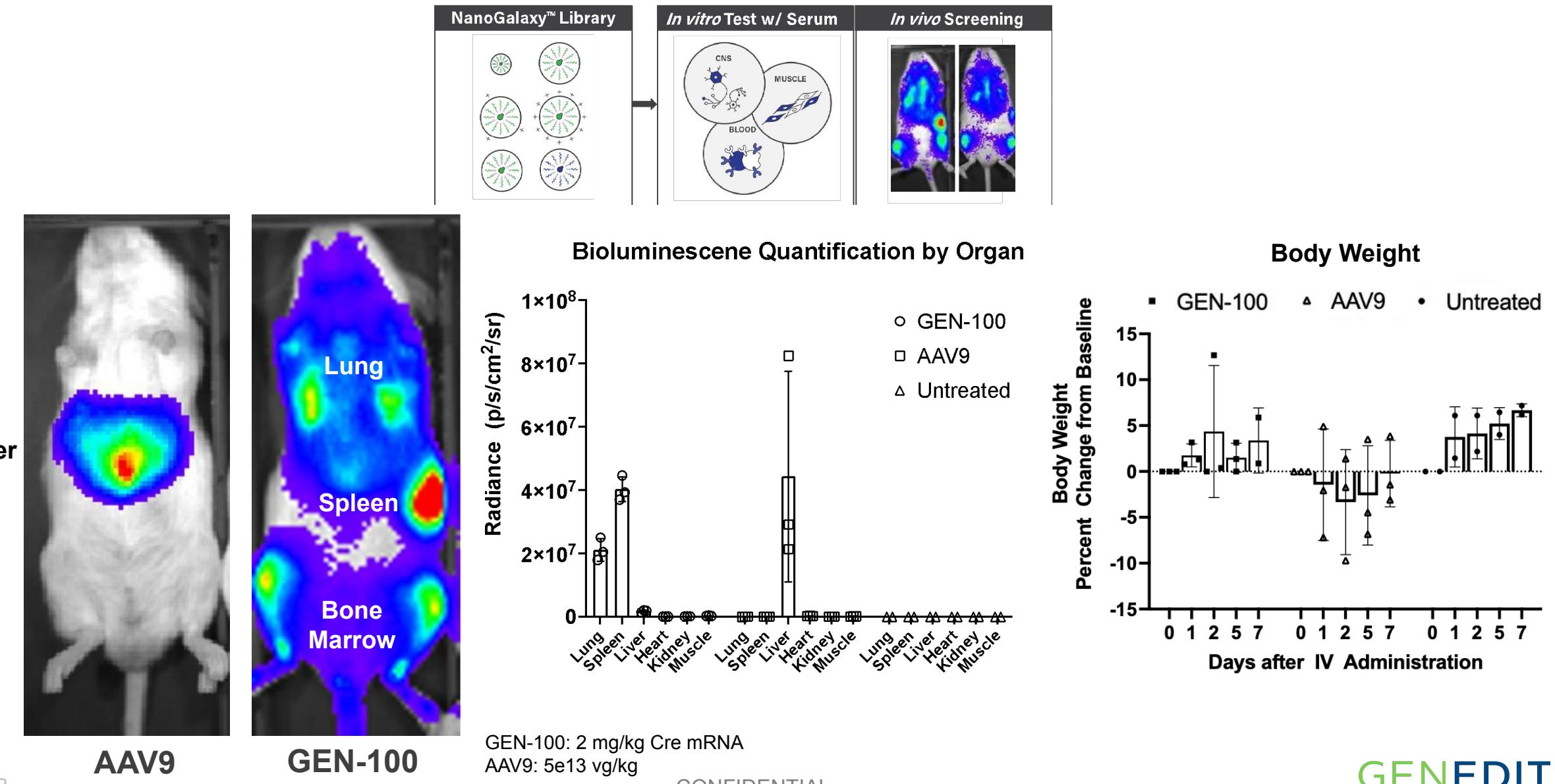
## Our approach

- Serum-stable PNP selection

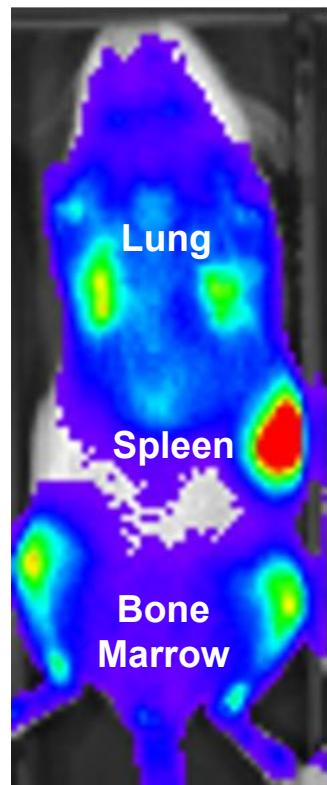
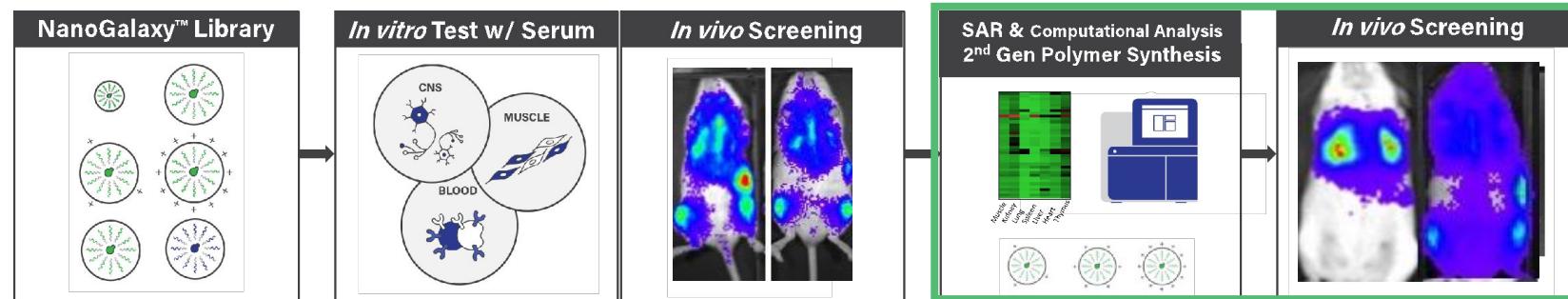


Transfection of RFP mRNA in serum-containing medium

# Systematic Screening Identified a PNP Delivering Outside Liver

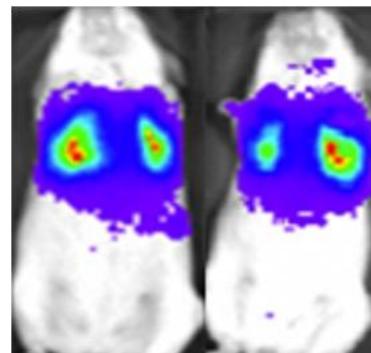


# Iterative Screening Tunes Tropism of PNP for Select Tissues



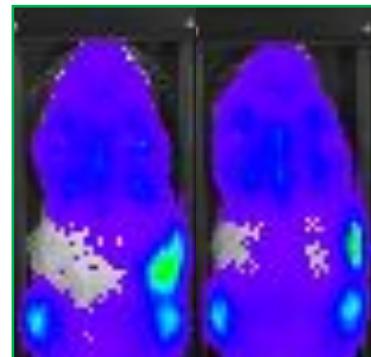
Medicinal Chemistry  
2<sup>nd</sup> Gen PNP Screening

Property A  
Focused Library



Reduced  
Immune Delivery

Property B  
Focused Library



Enhanced  
Immune Delivery

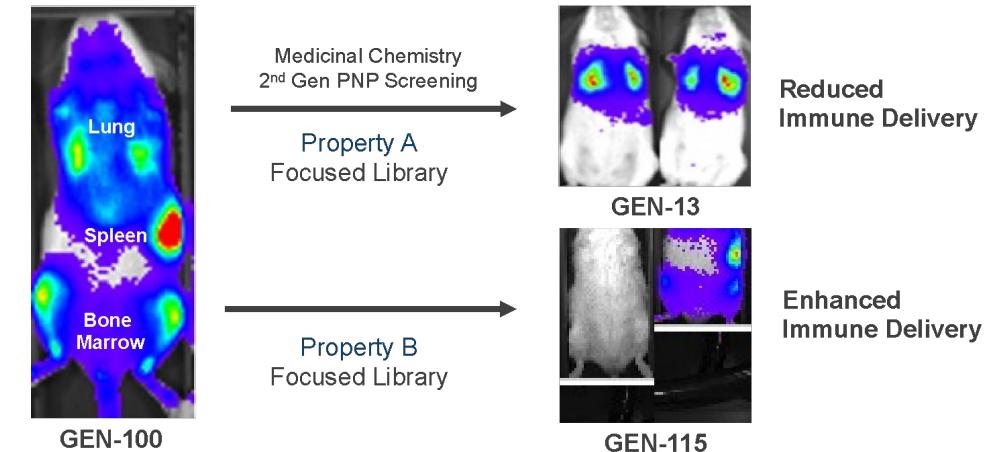
# Delivery in NHP with PNPs identified from Screening in Mouse



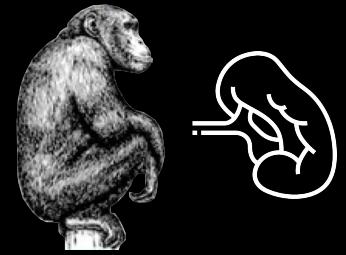
- Objective of the study is to test translation of PNP result in rodent to NHP
- Conventional technologies like AAV and LNP showed challenges in NHP delivery previously (rodent result does not guarantee NHP result)

## Study Details

- Bolus administration of single dose (2 mg/kg GFP mRNA)
- Tissue distribution histology at 24hr post-injection
- Preliminary assessment of tolerability of a single dose



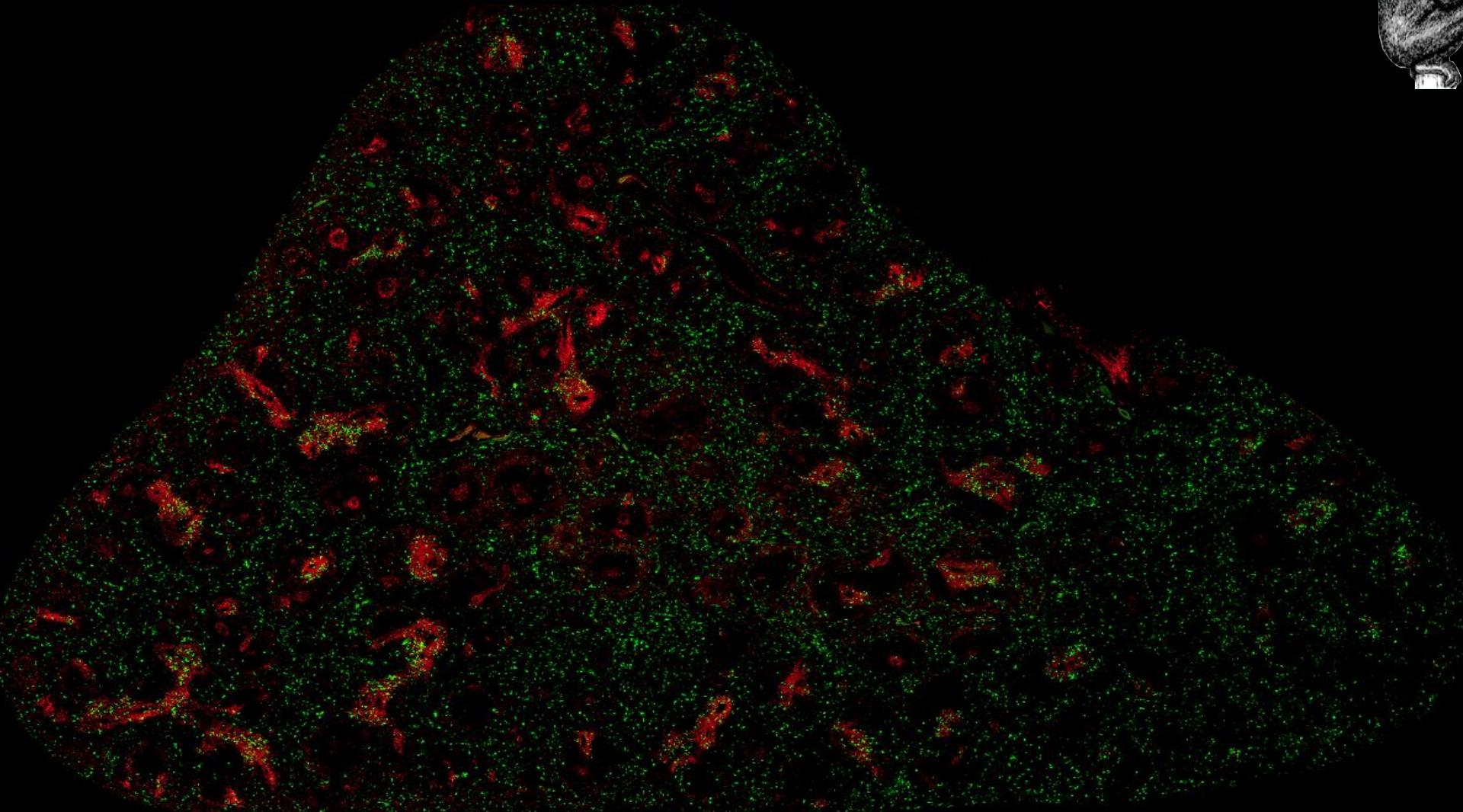
# GEN-115 Delivers mRNA to Immune System in NHP



GEN-115

GFP

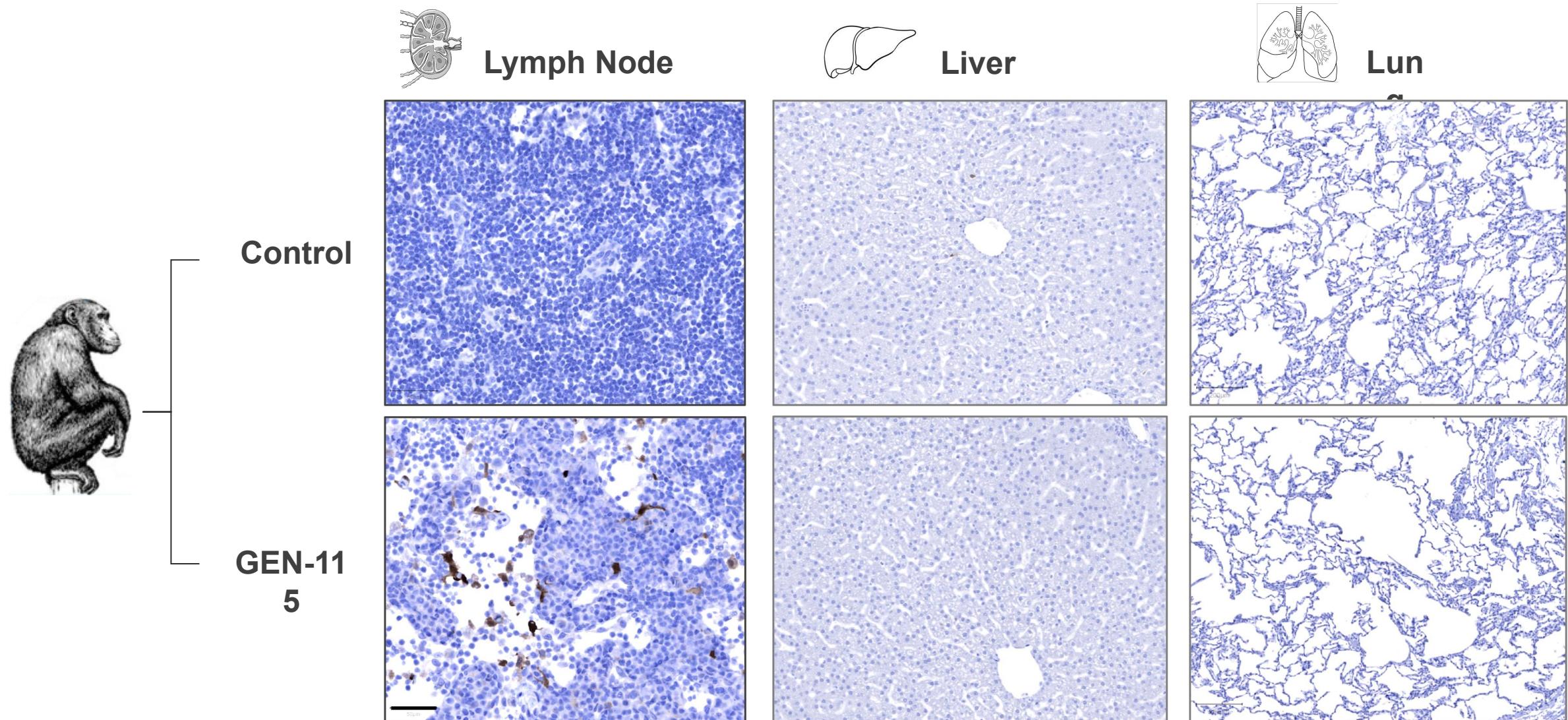
CD3



GFP mRNA (2 mg/kg dose) in Cyno (NHP)

Spleen harvested 24 hr after IV administration, IHC staining

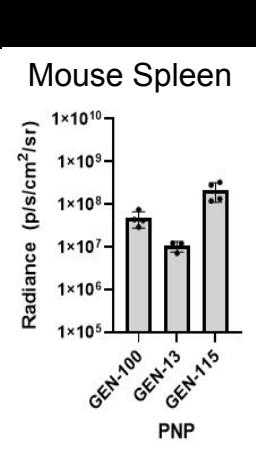
# GEN-115 Delivers mRNA to Lymph Node But Minimally to Liver and Lung



GFP mRNA (2 mg/kg dose) in Cyno (NHP)

Spleen, lymph node harvest 24 hr after IV administration, DAB staining, Scale bar: 50 μm

# Three PNPs Show Similar Delivery Trend in NHP to Mouse



GEN-13 Family



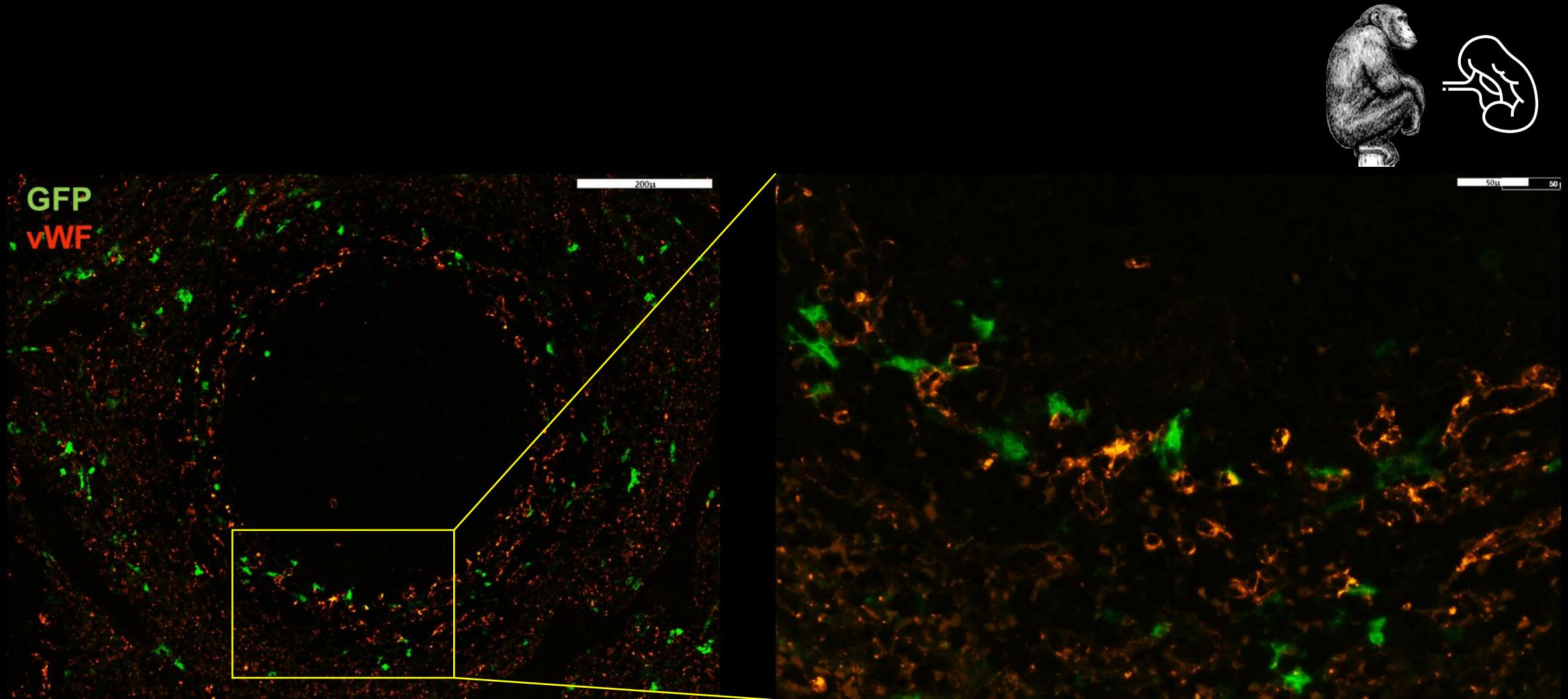
Reduce  
Immune Delivery

Enhance  
Immune Delivery

GEN-1  
00

GEN-1  
15

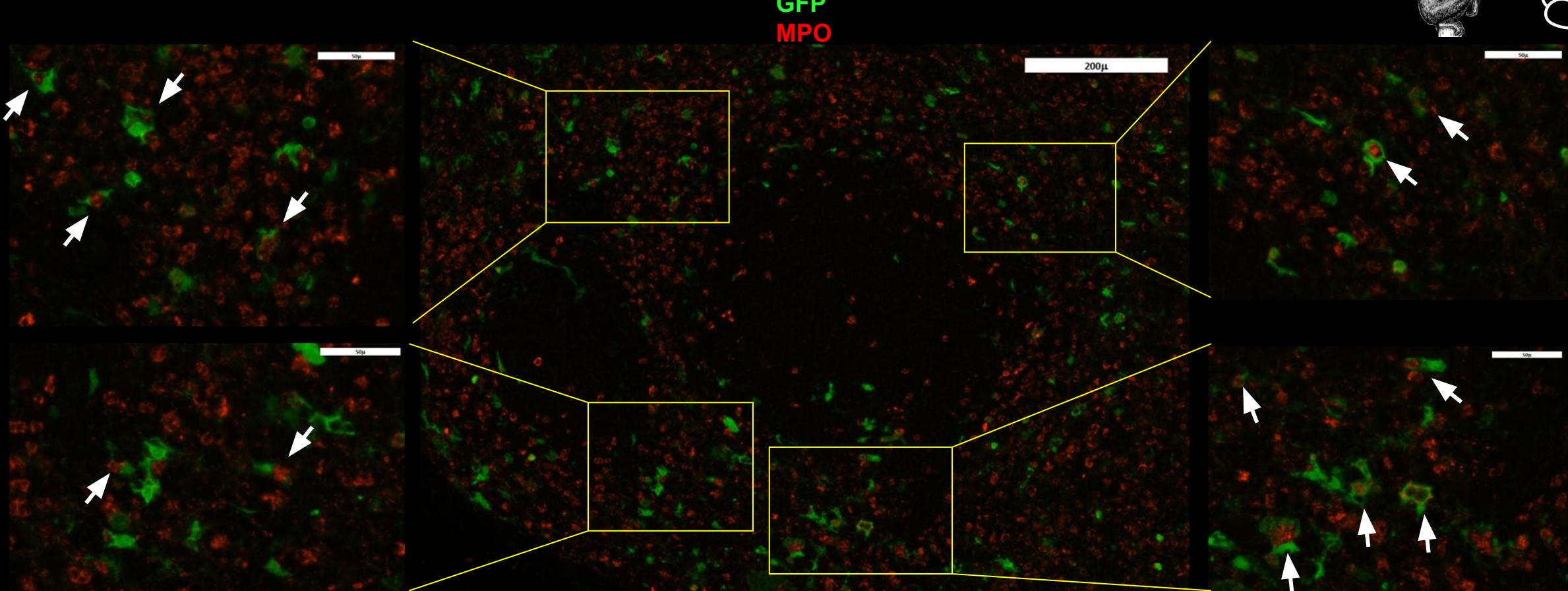
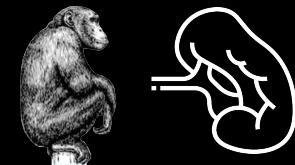
# No Significant Co-staining of GFP with vWF Endothelial Cell Marker



Single injection of GEN-115 transfected some endothelial cells in the marginal zone

# GEN-115 Delivers to Splenic Macrophages/Myeloid Cells in NHP

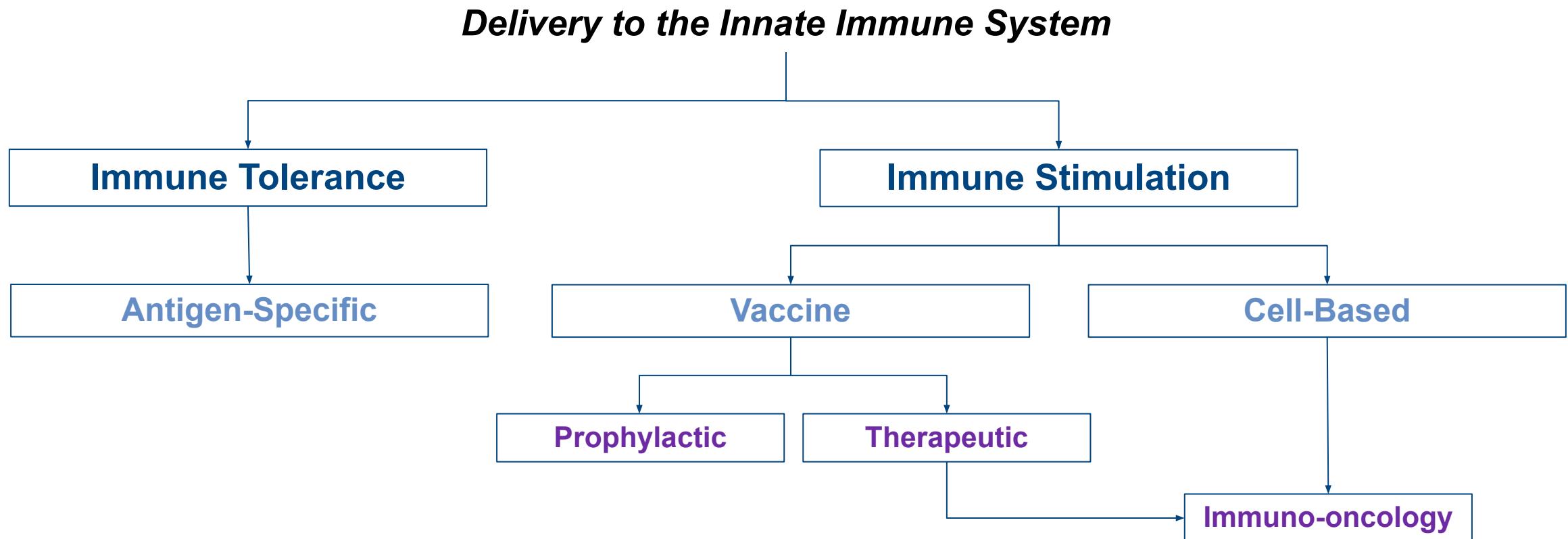
Co-staining of GFP<sup>+</sup> cells with MPO observed throughout the spleen



GFP<sup>+</sup> MPO<sup>+</sup> cells are highlighted (arrows)

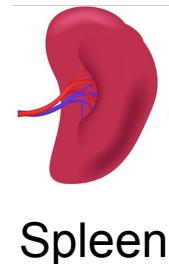
MPO protein is found in granules and IHC staining results in a punctate red pattern within the cytoplasm surrounded by GFP (green)

# Opportunities for Immune Tolerance and Stimulation



# Further Iteration from GEN-115 Is On-going

New PNPs Show Enhanced Delivery or New Target Tissues



PNP	% T cells (CD3 <sup>+</sup> )	% B cells (CD19 <sup>+</sup> )	% NK cells (CD335 <sup>+</sup> )	% Macrophages (F4/80 <sup>+</sup> )	% DC (CD11c <sup>+</sup> )	% Endothelial (CD45 <sup>neg</sup> CD31 <sup>+</sup> )
GEN-1016	0.5 ± 0.2	0.5 ± 0.2	2.4 ± 0.8	14.9 ± 2.8	2.3 ± 1.2	2.0 ± 0.8
GEN-1021	0.2 ± 0.1	0.2 ± 0.0	3.2 ± 3.3	12.2 ± 2.0	2.9 ± 0.6	1.1 ± 0.5

PNP	% Total Live RFP+ cells	% Live RFP+ HSC
GEN-1016	0.78 ± 0.20	3.07 ± 1.04
GEN-1021	0.30 ± 0.07	1.83 ± 1.59



Bone marrow

- Conducting additional iteration generated new PNPs like GEN-1016 and 1021 that show enhanced delivery to Macrophages, NK cells, and dendritic cells in spleen
- Additionally, they show potential hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) delivery in bone marrow

cre mRNA (2 mg/kg dose) in ai9 mouse

Spleen and bone marrow harvested 10 days after IV administration tissue and flow cytometry to identify target cells

## Summary of Delivery with GEN-115 in NHP

- Immune-specific *in vivo* delivery translation from mouse to NHP demonstrated with GEN-115
- GEN-115 shows efficient delivery to hematopoietic tissues with low levels of delivery to other organs
- No signs of significant sustained acute tolerability issues

# Various Payload Can Be Loaded to PNP

1	2	3	4
<b>Tissue Selectivity</b>  Ability to diversify polymers and assess SAR enables identification of targeted polymers	<b>Payload Flexibility</b>  Hydrophilic polymers are compatible with all nucleic acid and ribonucleoprotein payloads	<b>Ability to Redose</b>  Low potential immunogenicity and degradable backbone	<b>Ease of Manufacture</b>  Fully chemically synthesizable, scalable formulation, water soluble and lyophilizable



# GEN-115 Can Encapsulate A Large Range of RNA Sizes

## Optimized Formulation

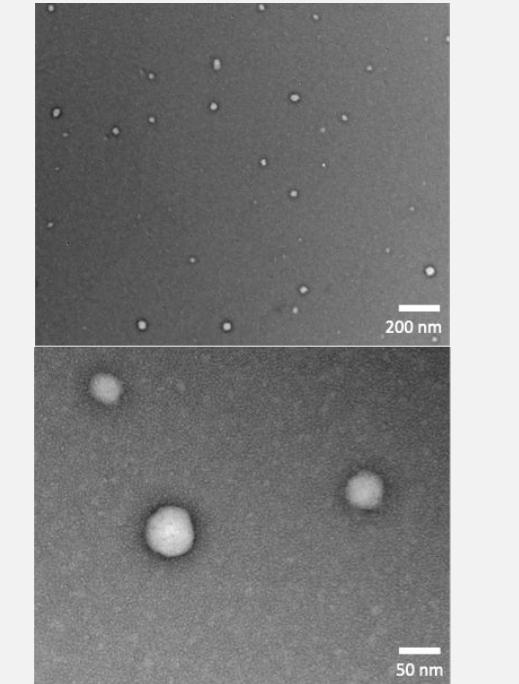
- Optimized formulation condition for all nucleic acid cargos from siRNA to 10 kb DNA/RNAs
- Encapsulation yield was >95% for all DNA/RNAs
- Established scale up formulation method

## Various Cargo Encapsulation

Dynamic light scattering (DLS) of GEN-115 with various Cargoes

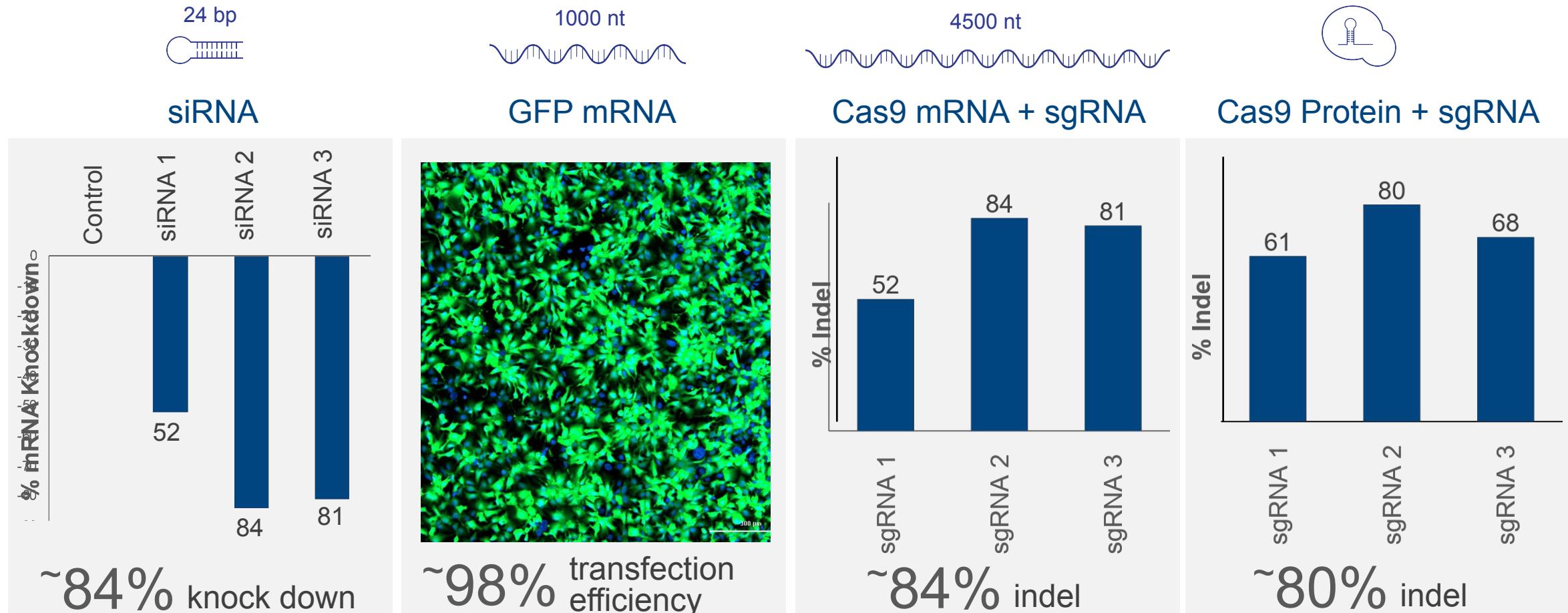


## TEM image of GEN-115



# PNP Can Deliver Various Payloads

## In vitro PoC with GEN-115



GEN-115 PNP encapsulating either GFP mRNA, siRNA, Cas9 mRNA, or Cas9 RNP treated in Hep3B cells  
GFP expression imaging 24 hr after treatment, mRNA expression: 72 hr after treatment, DNA sequencing: 72 hr after treatment

# Summary

## NANO GALAXY™ PLATFORM



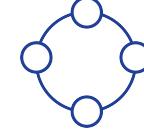
Non-viral, non-lipid  
delivery technology  
for genetic medicine

## TARGETED DELIVERY



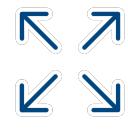
PoC delivery  
data show that  
iterative screening  
achieves targeted  
*in vivo* delivery  
in NHP

## KEY ADVANTAGES



Payload flexibility,  
Repeat dosing,  
Ease of manufacture

## APPLICABILITY



Rapidly expandable  
platform with optimized  
proprietary discovery  
engine to develop  
various genetic  
medicines

# Acknowledgements



## GenEdit R&D

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Rammohan Devulapally  
Sam Wong  
Yvonne Angell  
Santanu Maity  
Gopi Tiruchinapally  
Meng Zhuang  
Justin Tran  
Carlos Medina  
Tin Mao  
Seyeol Yoon  
Beobsoo Kim

## Hiring

We are actively hiring 10 positions across all R&D teams

Visit [Genedit.com](http://Genedit.com)

# Acknowledgement

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University of Tokyo

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Jacob Corn  
UC Berkeley

# Various Partnership



# Thank You to Our Session Sponsor

AstraZeneca

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*Advanced Delivery Science*

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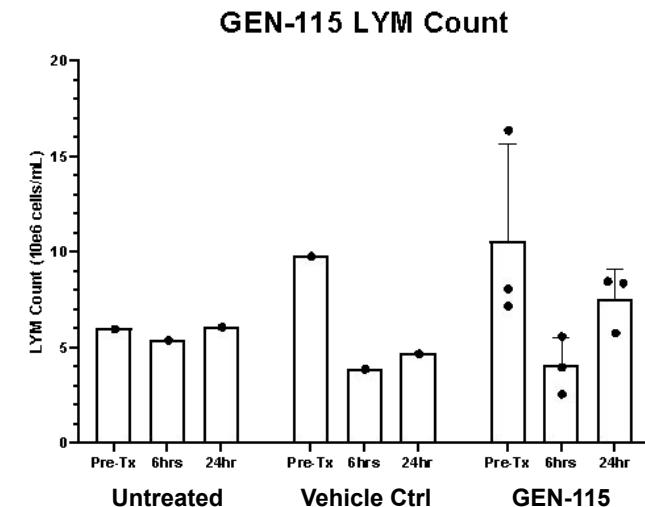
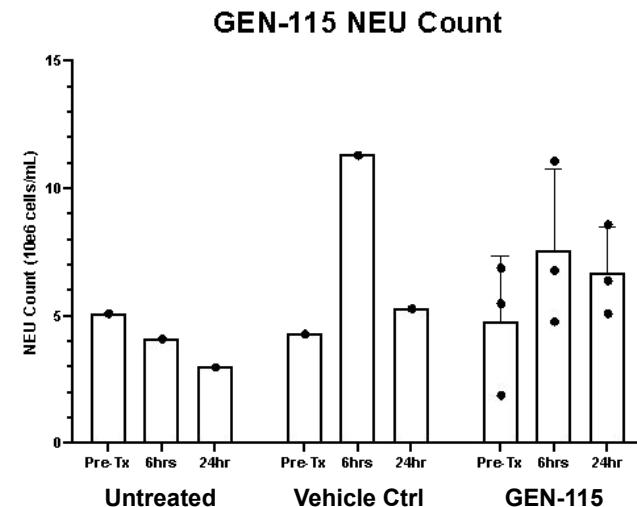
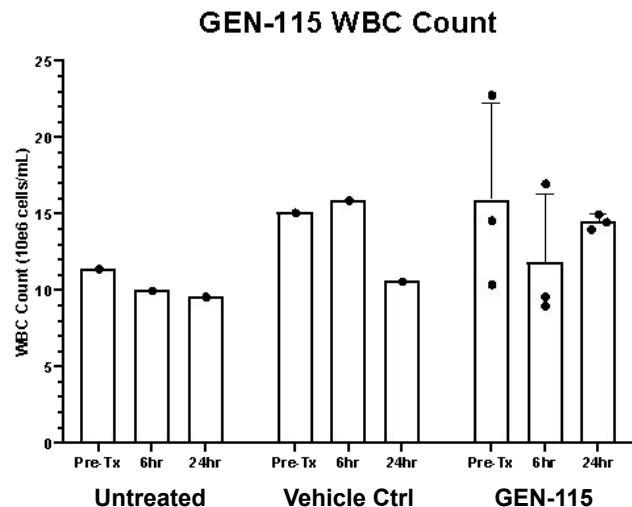


# Comparison of Key Delivery Technologies

GenEdit PNPs address limitations of existing technologies

Criteria	Attributes	Limitations of existing technologies		The Solution
		AAV (adeno associated viruses)	LNP (lipid nanoparticles)	
Tissue Selectivity	Target Tissues	Broad distribution; high off-target expression	Limited to liver	Targeted tissues
Payload Flexibility	Potential Payloads	DNA only (<5kb)	DNA/RNA only	DNA/RNA (any size) Protein
Safety & Immunogenicity	Pre-Existing Immunity	High	Low	Low
	Ability to Re-Dose	No	Yes	Yes
	Genome Integration	Yes	No	No
Manufacturing	Cost & Complexity	Costly cell-based production	Low cost, complex mixture, requires cold chain	Low cost, chemical synthesis in aqueous solution
	Lyophilization	No	No	Yes

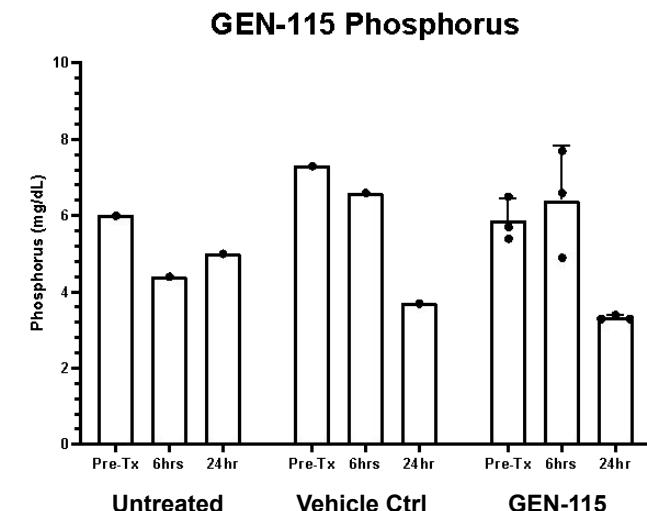
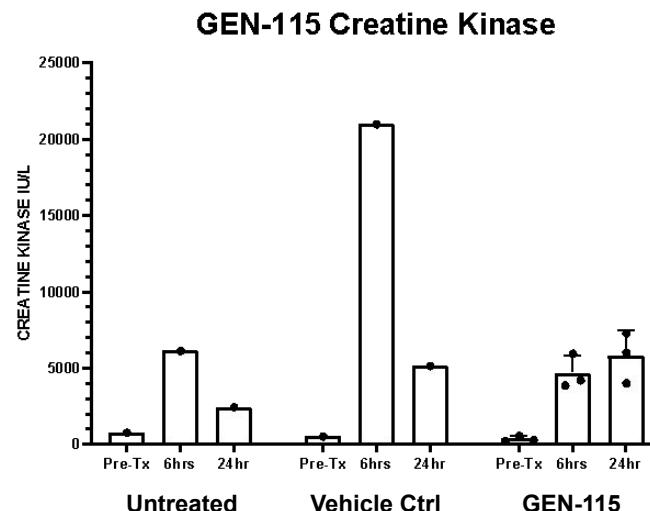
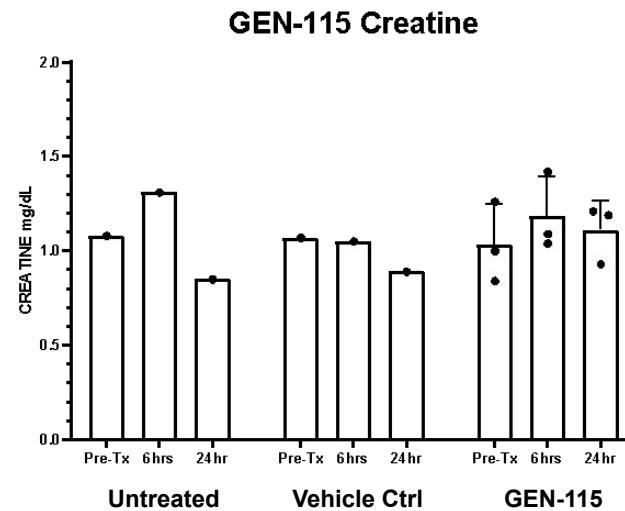
# GEN-115 Dosing Did Not Induced Significant Changes in NEU and LYM Counts



- A slight increase in neutrophil counts and slight decrease in lymphocyte counts was observed at 6 hours post-injection but levels returned to pre-injections by 24 hours

Vehicle control: buffer only IV administration  
GFP mRNA (2 mg/kg dose) in Cyno (NHP)  
Blood collection either 18hr or 24 hr after IV administration

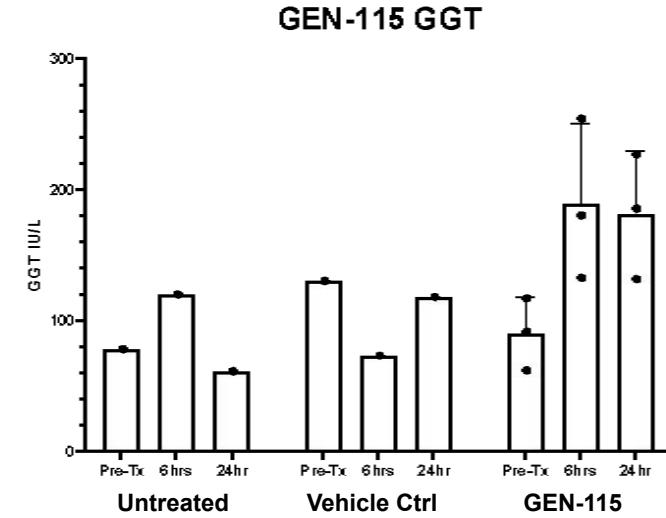
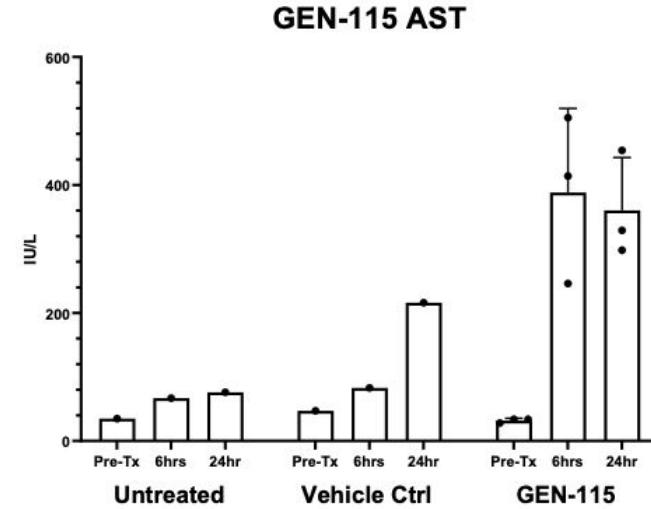
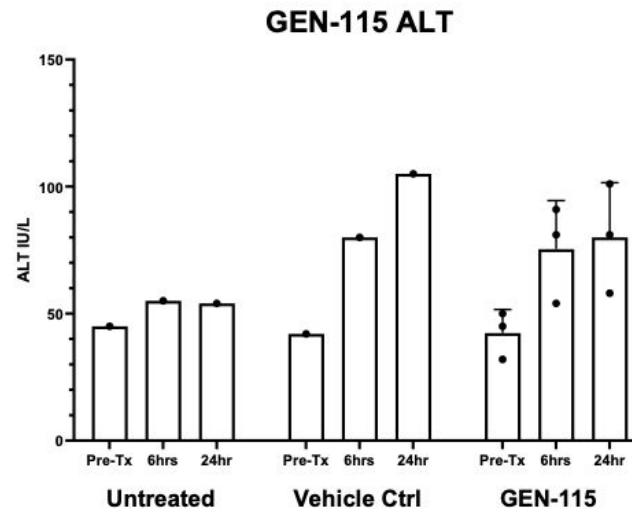
# GEN-115 Did Not Elevate Creatine, Creatine Kinase, Phosphorus Levels



- Creatine kinase levels were mildly elevated 24 hours after GEN-115 injection. Injection of the vehicle induced a transient increase in CK.
- Phosphorus levels were decreased about 2X at 24 hours for both vehicle and GEN-115 groups

Vehicle control: buffer only IV administration  
GFP mRNA (2 mg/kg dose) in Cyno (NHP)  
Blood collection either 18hr or 24 hr after IV administration

# GEN-115 Showed Elevation of AST While ALT Is Stable



- AST showed elevation with both vehicle control and GEN-115
- GEN-115 injection did not significantly elevate levels of ALT and GGT

AST, aspartate aminotransferase

ALT, alanine aminotransferase

GGT, gamma glutamyl transpeptidase