

Clinical Results:

Phase I Trial

Ex Vivo Nerve Growth Factor Gene Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease

- Cognitive Testing
- PET scans

(In press, *Nature Medicine*)

**MLV vector transduced primary autologous
fibroblasts, grafted into Nucleus Basalis**

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Conflict of Interest Statement: Mark Tuszynski, Armin Blesch, Jeffrey Kordower are scientific founders of Ceregene, Inc.

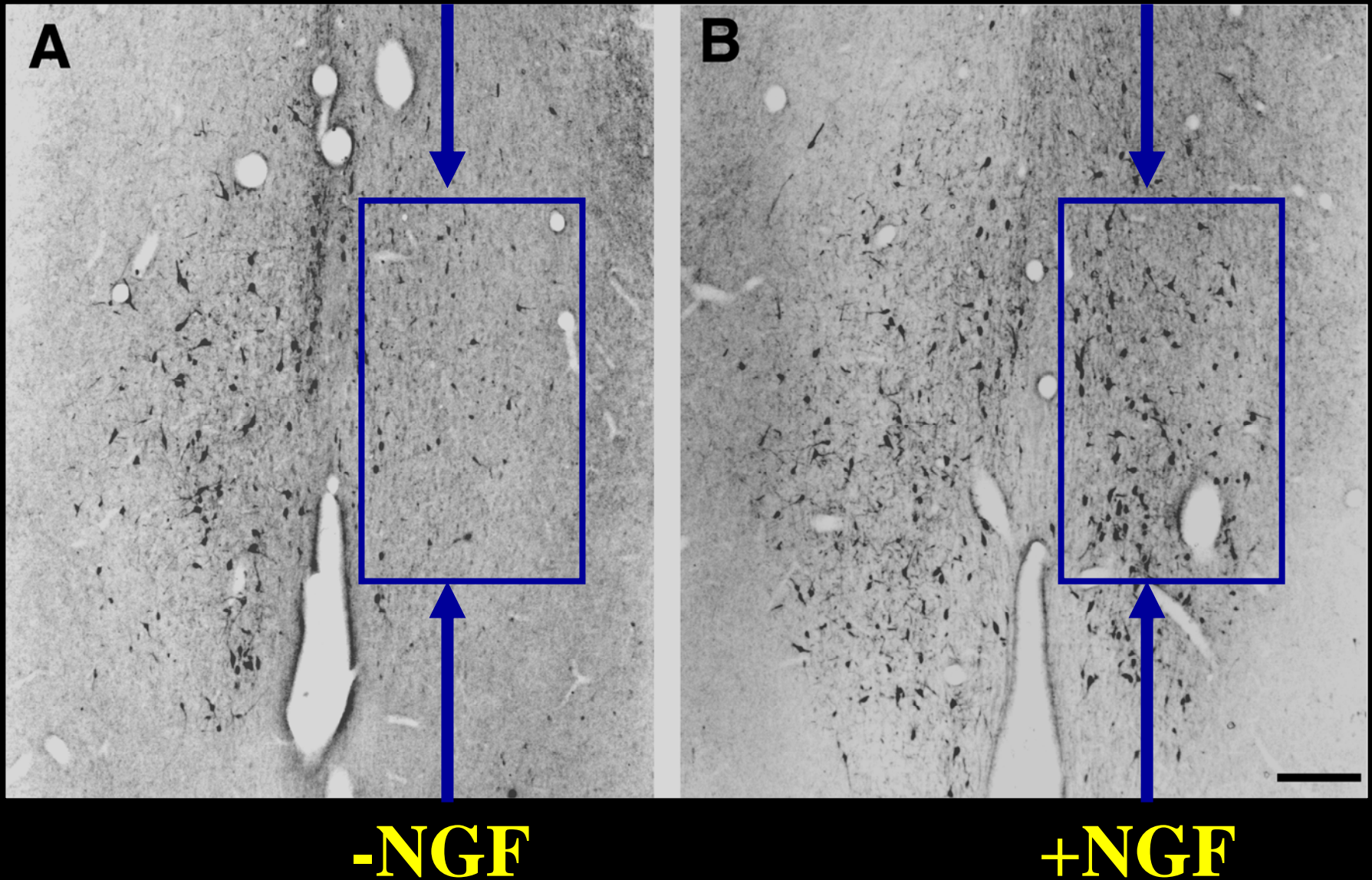
Growth Factor Premise:

Growth factors potently

- **prevent death** of responsive cell populations
- **augment function** of responsive cell populations

Potential for the treatment of progressive diseases of the nervous system

NGF Prevents Cholinergic Neuron Death in the Adult Primate Brain



Clinical Assessment Group

- 6 subjects: 5F, 1M who safely completed cell injection procedure
- Mean Age: 67.1 years (range 53-76 years at entry)
- Diagnosis of early, Probable Alzheimer's disease
 - recruited at early disease stage to allow informed consent and to test potential for *neuroprotection*
- Dose escalation:
 - 1-2: 25 ul cells, **right**-NBM only (5 ul per site, 2.5×10^6 cells)
 - 3-4: 50 ul cells total, **bilateral** (5 ul per site, 5.0×10^6 cells)
 - 5-6: 100 ul cells total, **bilateral** (10 ul per site, 10×10^6 cells)

RESULTS:

Phase I Trial of Ex Vivo Gene Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease: Cognitive Function

1. Mini-Mental Status Examination

- 30 point scale; mean score = 20.7 ± 2.0 at time of treatment

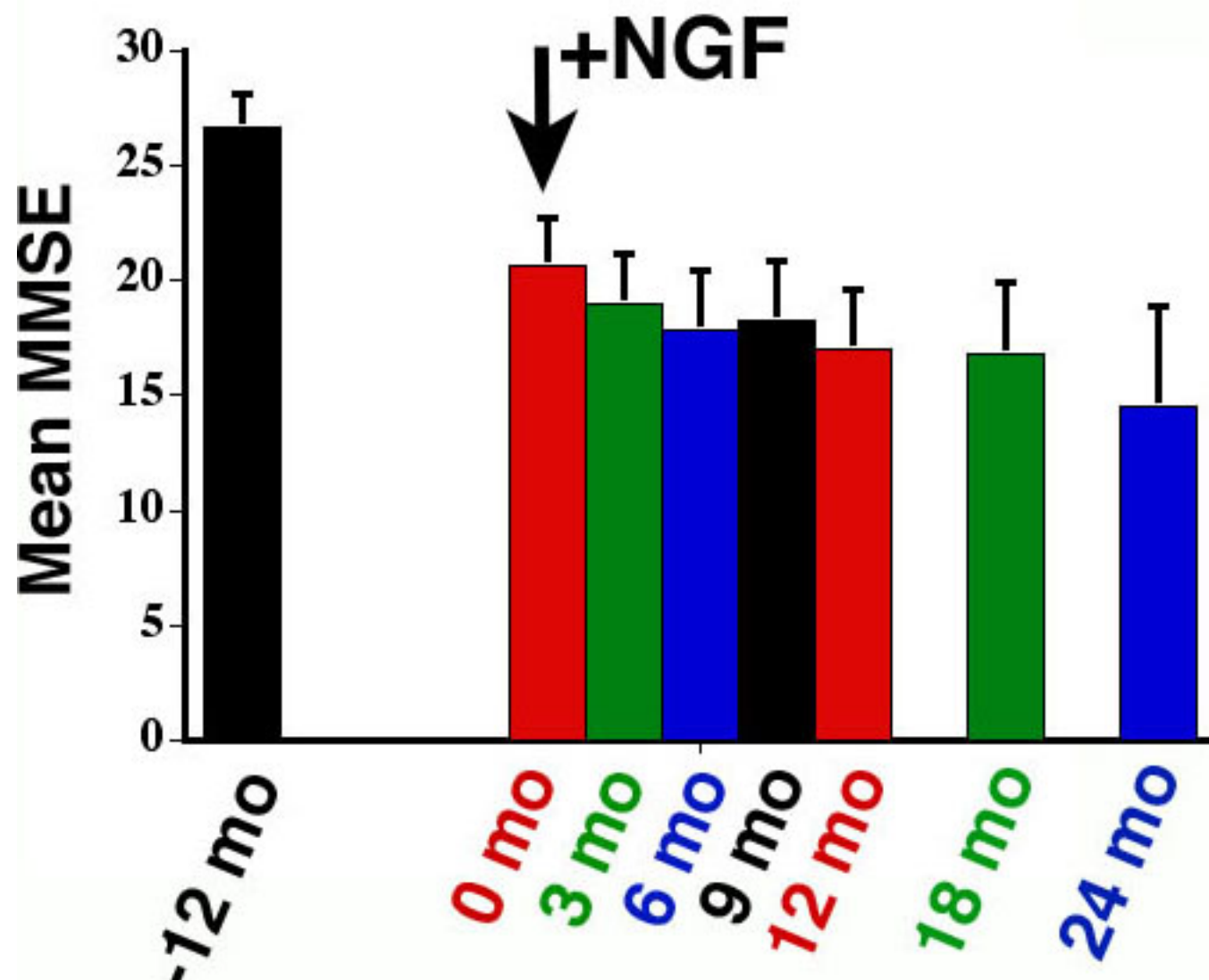
2. ADAS-Cog

- 70 point scale

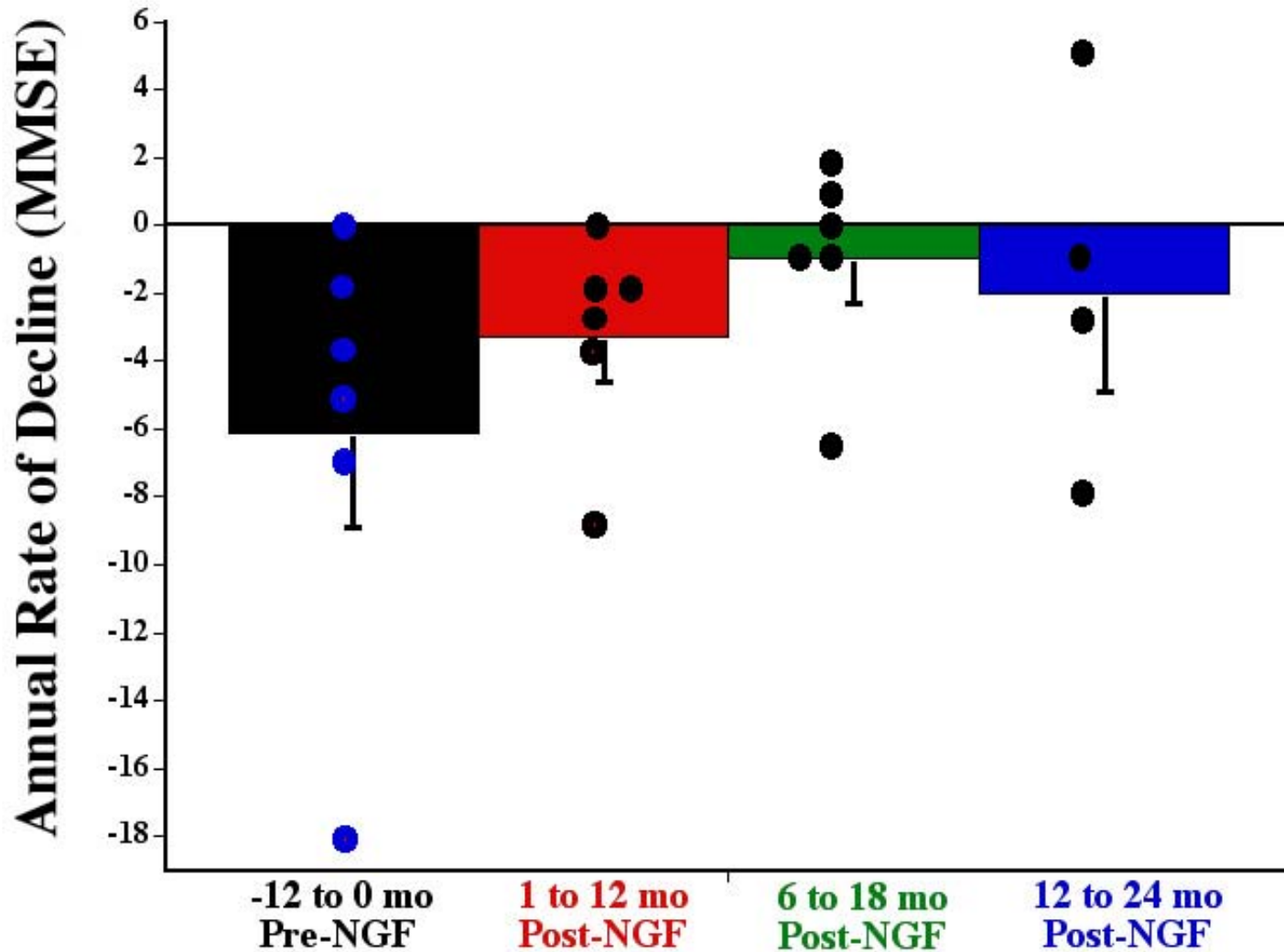
Open small phase I trial

- no placebo controls
- no blinding

Mean MMSE Score

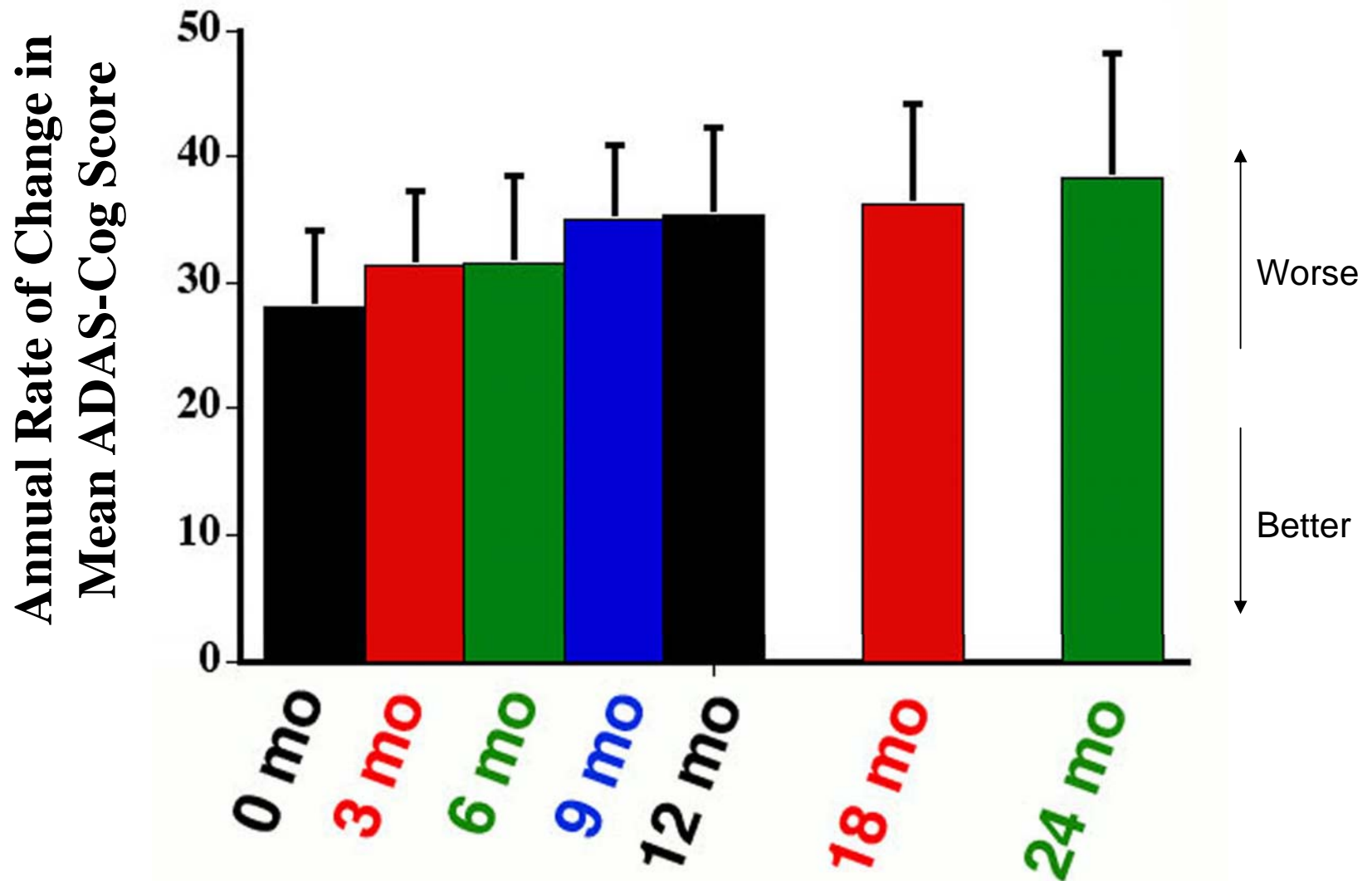


Change in **Mean** MMSE Over Time

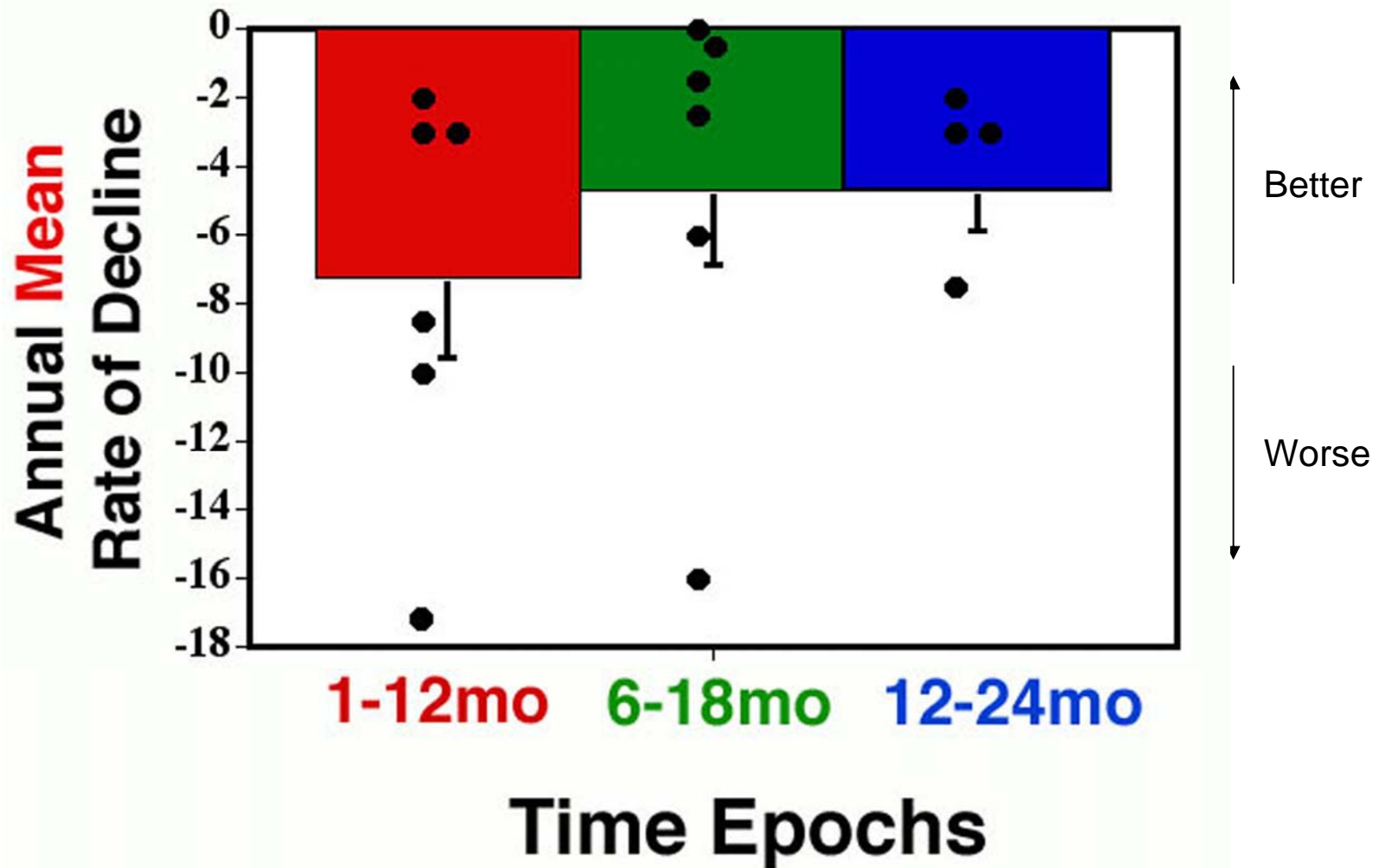


- 49% Reduction in Rate of Decline Over 2.2 Years
- Effect of Cholinesterase Inhibitors ~5%, for 3-6 Months

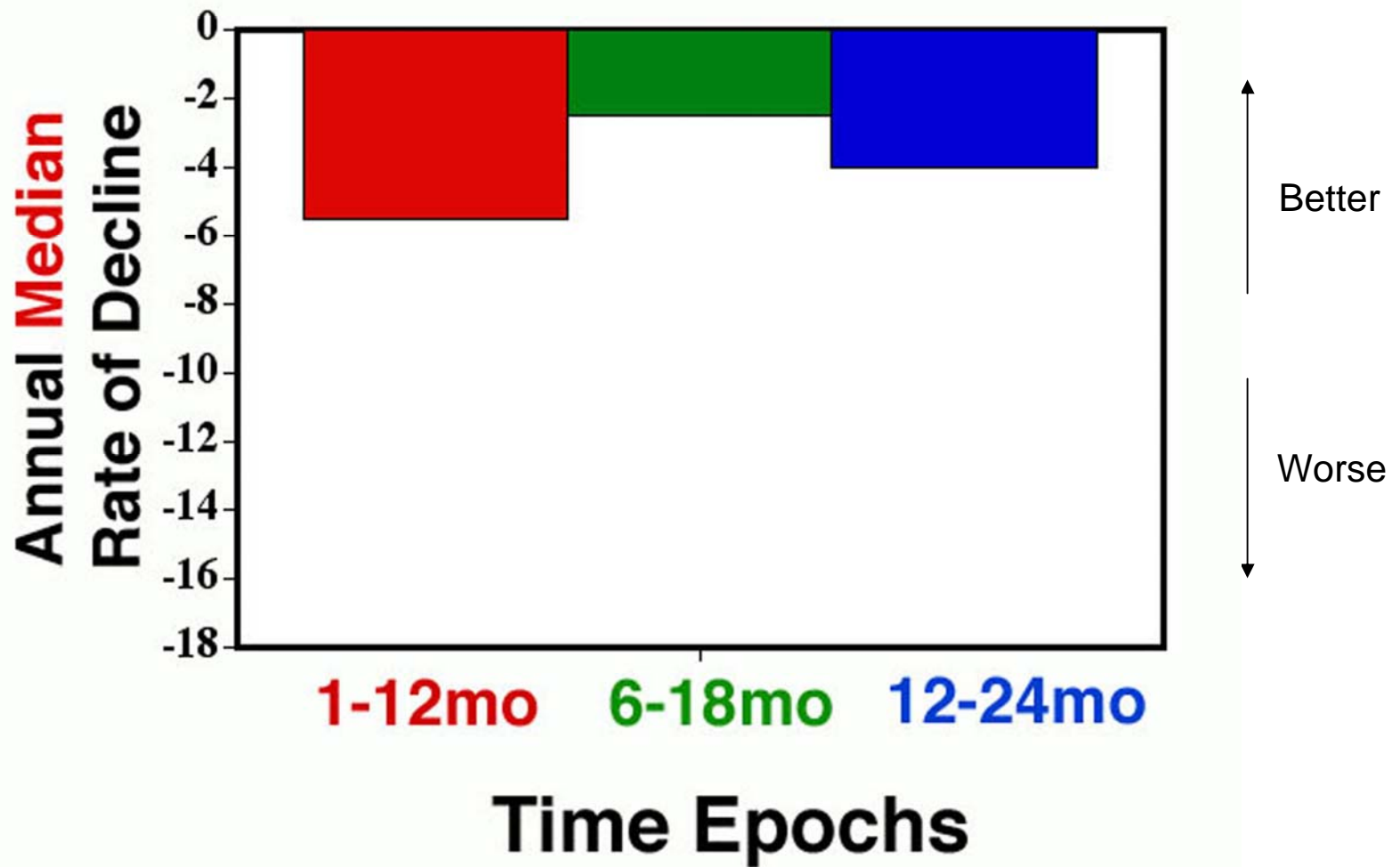
Mean ADAS-Cog Score



Change in **Mean** ADAS-Cog Over Time



Change in **Median** ADAS-Cog Over Time



- Median Rate of Decline Over 2.2 yr Period = 4.4 pt/yr

RESULTS

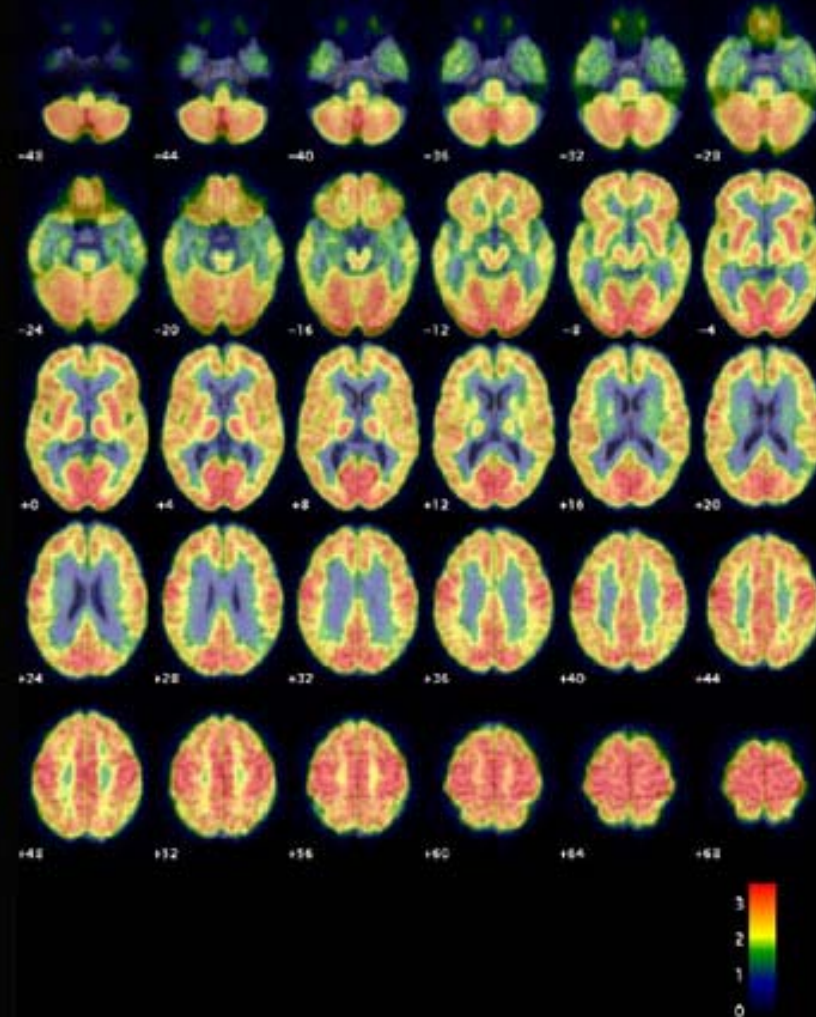
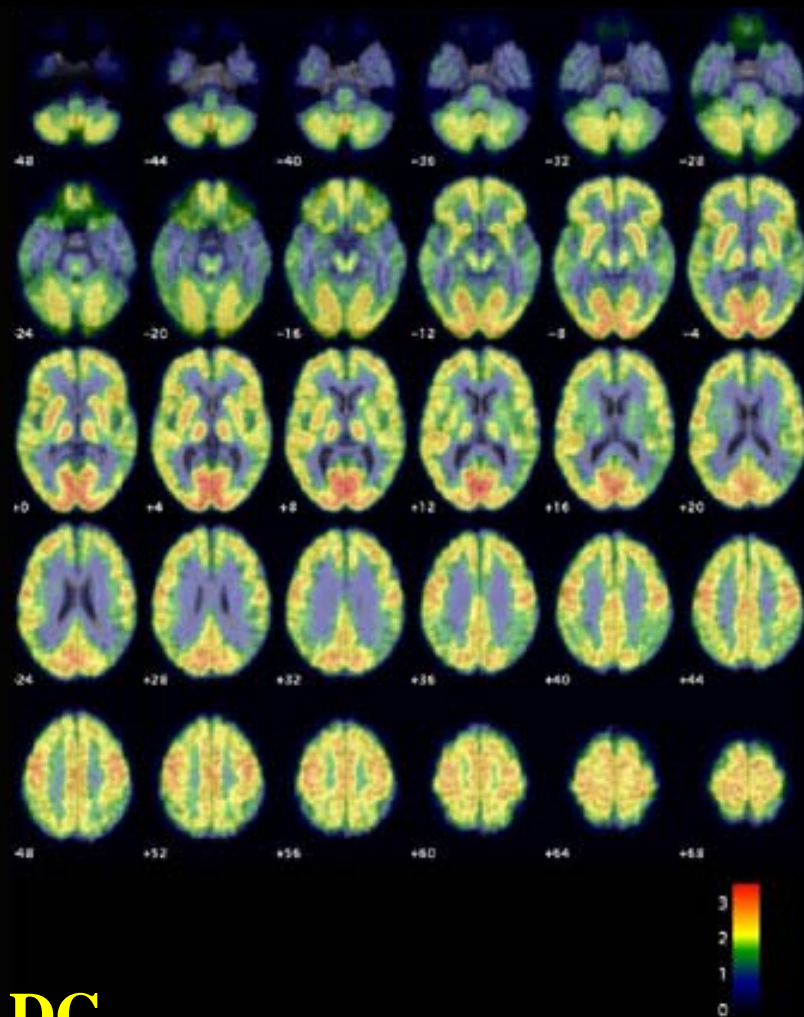
Phase I Trial of Ex Vivo Gene Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease: PET Imaging

1. 2-deoxy glucose uptake as reflection of metabolic activity
 - PET activity **declines** over time in AD
2. Serial PET scans in four subjects (bilaterally injected):
 - showed **increased mean cortical PET activity** after NGF delivery ($p < 0.05$)

PET Scan Averages, 4 Bilaterally Treated Subjects

Scan 1

Scan 2



2-DG

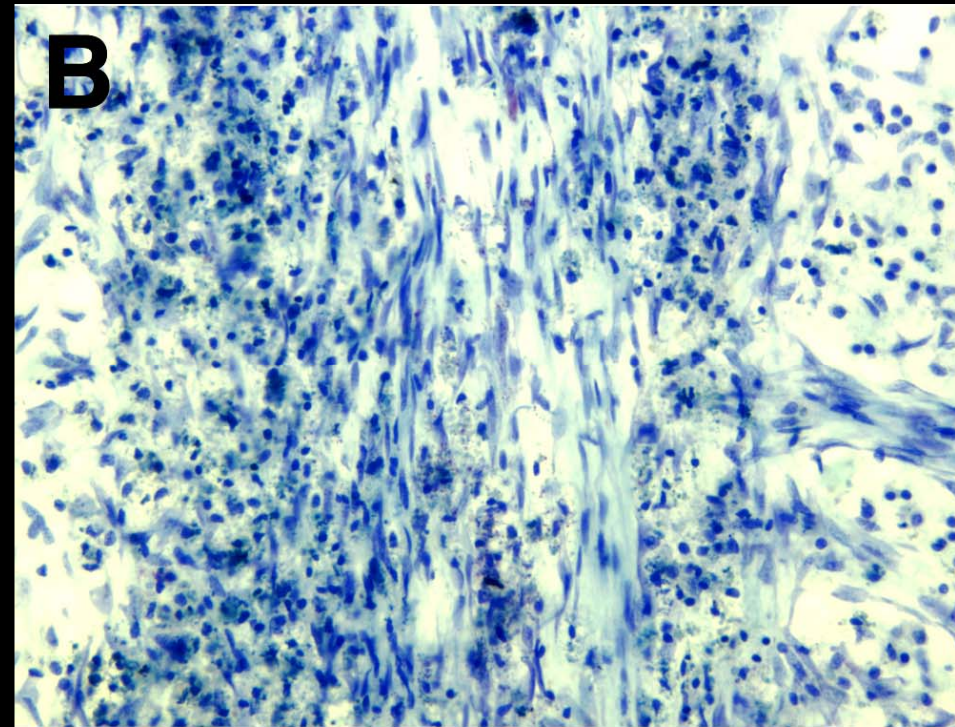
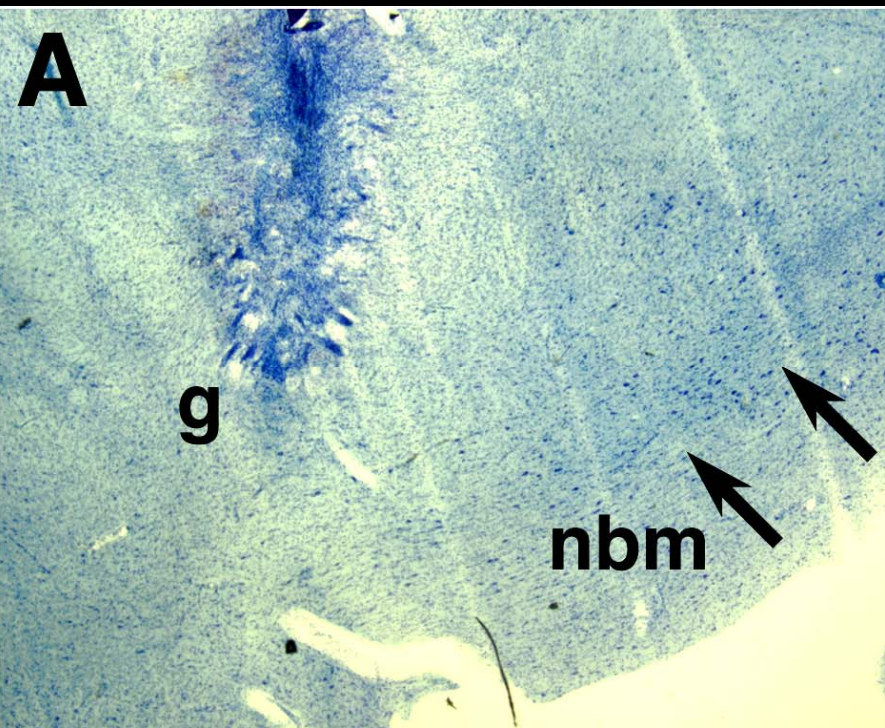
$P < 0.05$ Scan 2 vs. Scan 1

CONCLUSIONS:
Phase I Trial of Ex Vivo Gene Therapy for
Alzheimer's Disease:

- 1. No adverse effects** related to the growth factor or the gene delivery system in the human brain using a non-regulated vector (2-4 yr period)
- 2. Significant increase in cortical activity by 2DG PET Scan**
- 3. Cognitive analysis (in small, unblinded, non-controlled cohort)** shows apparent reduction in rate of decline to an extent substantially exceeding effects of current AD therapies, providing rationale for a follow-up trial of AAV-NGF in AD

**Phase I Trial of Ex Vivo Gene Therapy for
Alzheimer's Disease:**

AAV-NGF gene delivery for AD

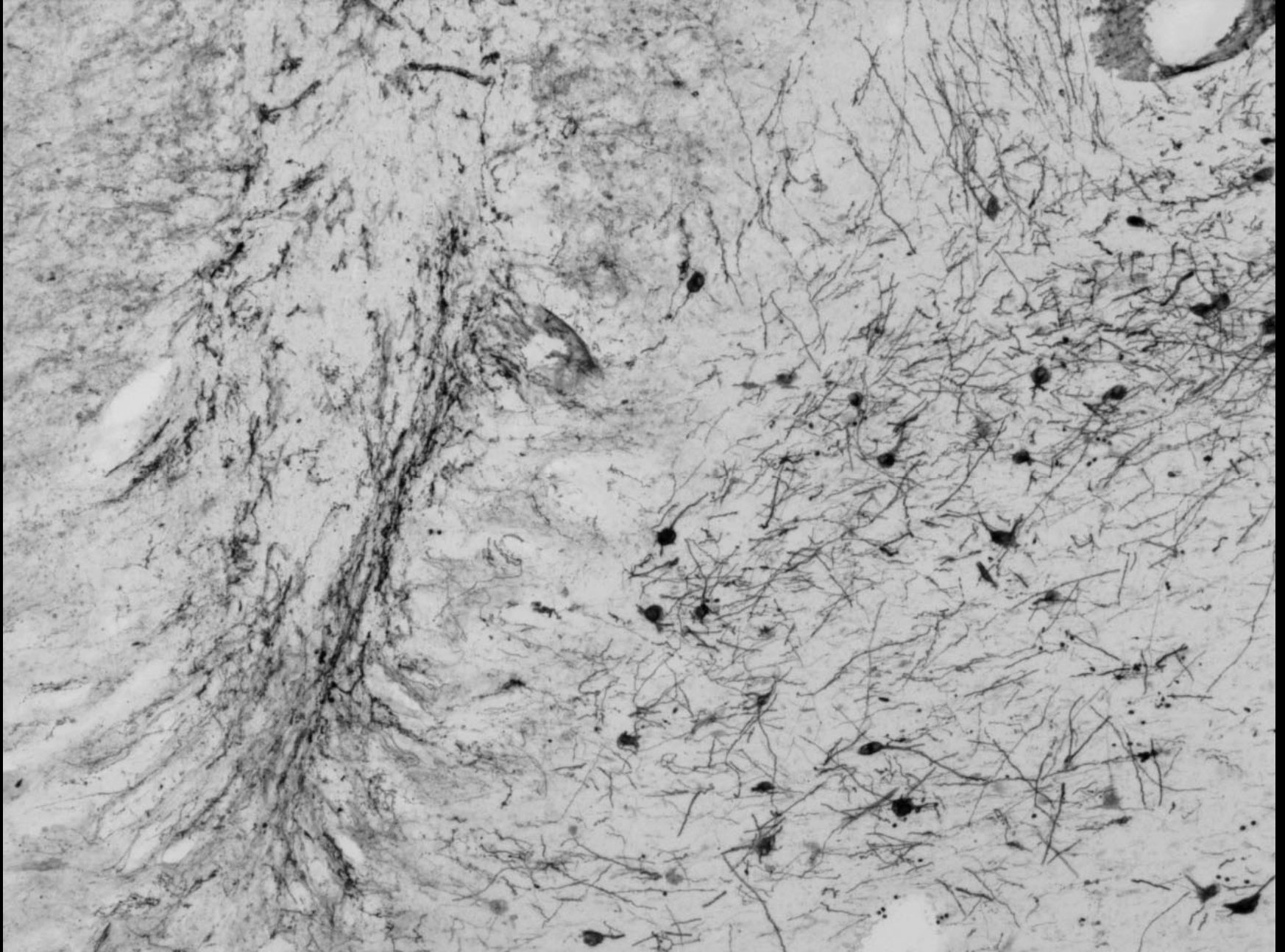


1. Genetically modified cells accurately located within brain
2. Cell survival and morphology consistent with previous non-human primate studies



Robust in vivo gene expression at 5 wk

“Trophic” Response to NGF in the AD Brain



Cholinergic Neurons in AD Express a Trophic Response to NGF



“Trophic” response in
human AD



“Trophic” response in
aged primate

