



# Progressive Worsening of Central Nervous System Phenotype in Children with Classic Galactosemia: a Cross-Sectional Analysis

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# GALACTOSEMIA



Presented by

Dr. Riccardo Perfetti, MD, PhD

Chief Medical Officer, Applied Therapeutics



## Progressive Worsening of Central Nervous System Phenotype in Children with Classic Galactosemia: a Cross-Sectional Analysis

Discuss disease manifestation in children with a specific focus on the CNS phenotype.

Review recent evidence demonstrating that Galactosemia is a progressive disease, significantly worsening with age.

Review current knowledge on disease pathogenesis and potential opportunities for intervention through clinical trials.

**Disclaimer:**

Riccardo Perfetti and Francesca Lawson are employees of Applied Therapeutics

## Galactosemia: a Rare Metabolic Disease With No Approved Therapies

Galactosemia is a **rare, slowly progressing metabolic disease** caused by a **genetic inability to break down the sugar galactose**. Galactose is found in foods, but the human body also naturally produces galactose on its own

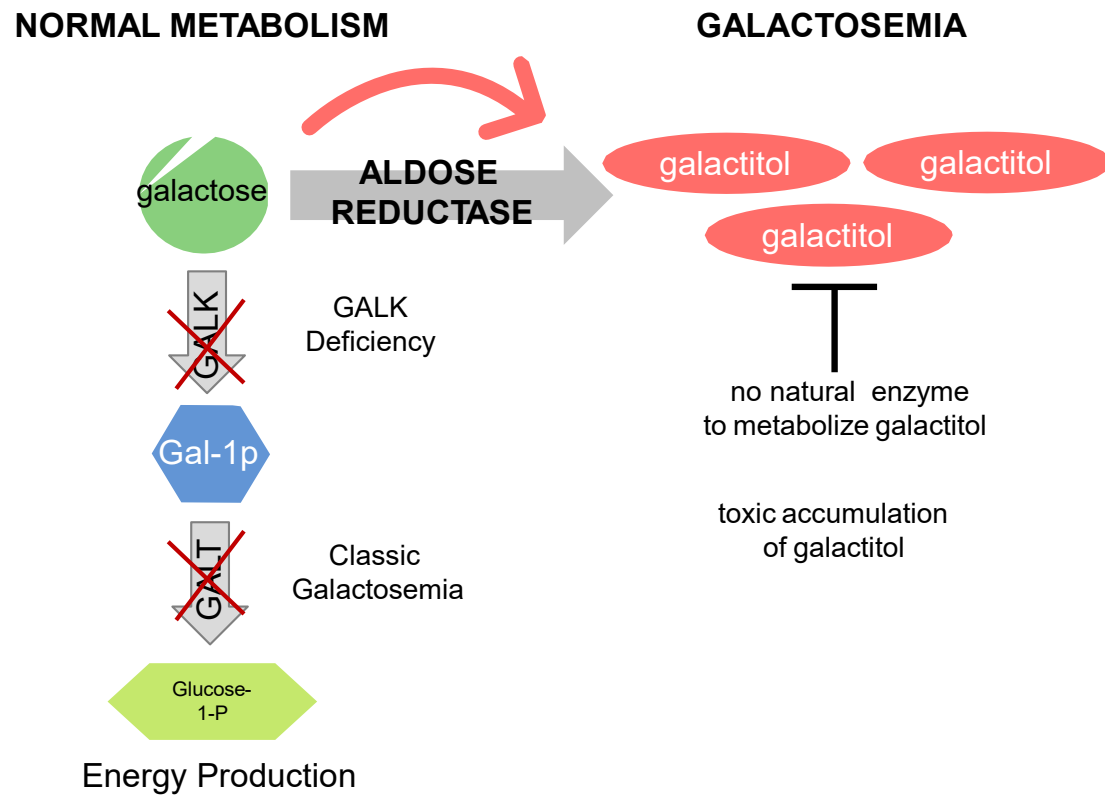
**~3,000 patients in the US** with Galactosemia; ~80 new births per year; Mandatory newborn screening in US and most EU countries

**Aldose Reductase (AR) enzyme** converts galactose into **galactitol, an aberrant toxic metabolite that builds up in tissues and organs** and causes long-term disease complications

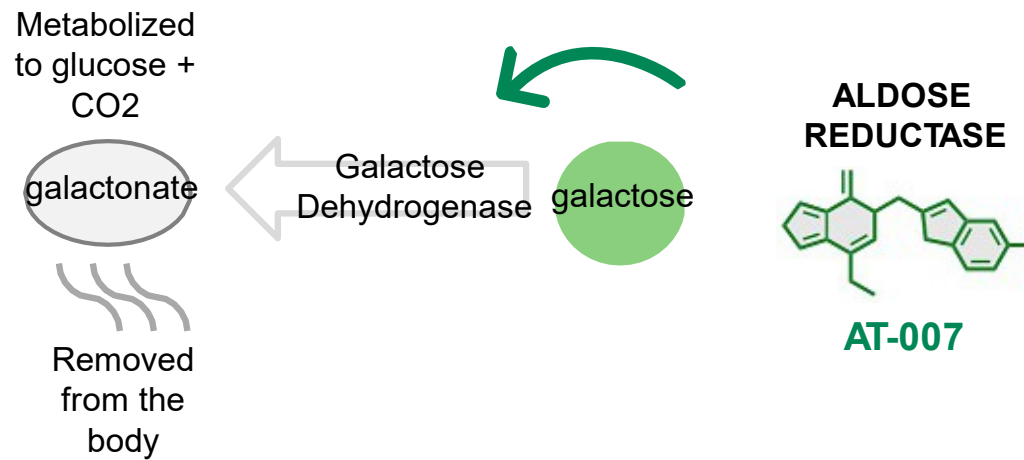
**AT-007**, a novel CNS penetrant Aldose Reductase inhibitor, **prevents galactitol formation and accumulation** in adult Galactosemia patients; pediatric study ongoing

# Galactosemia: Deficiency in GALT or GALK Leads to Inability to Metabolize Galactose

## Aldose Reductase Converts Excess Galactose to Toxic Galactitol



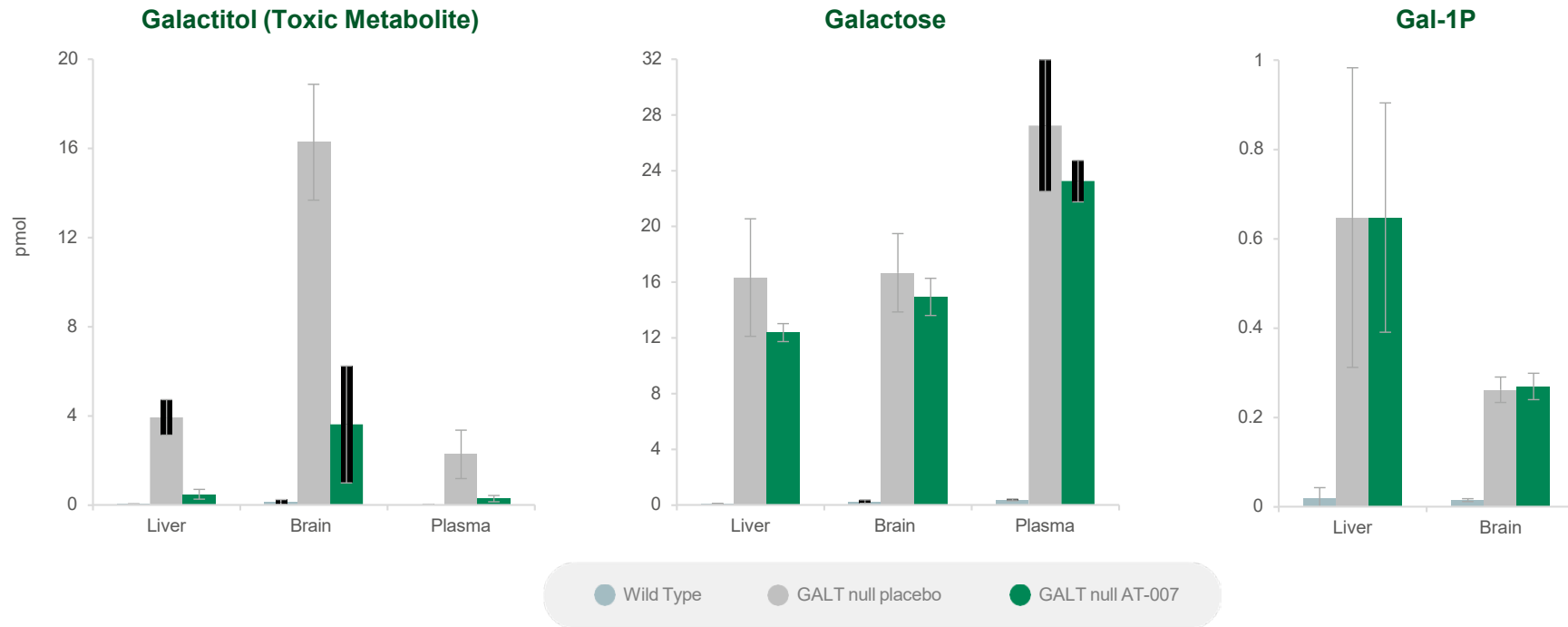
## AT-007 Blocks Aldose Reductase Conversion of Galactose to Galactitol Galactose is then shunted through a nontoxic pathway for metabolism and excretion





PRE-CLINICAL

## AT-007 Significantly Reduces Toxic Galactitol Levels in All Target Tissues Without Increasing Galactose or Gal-1P

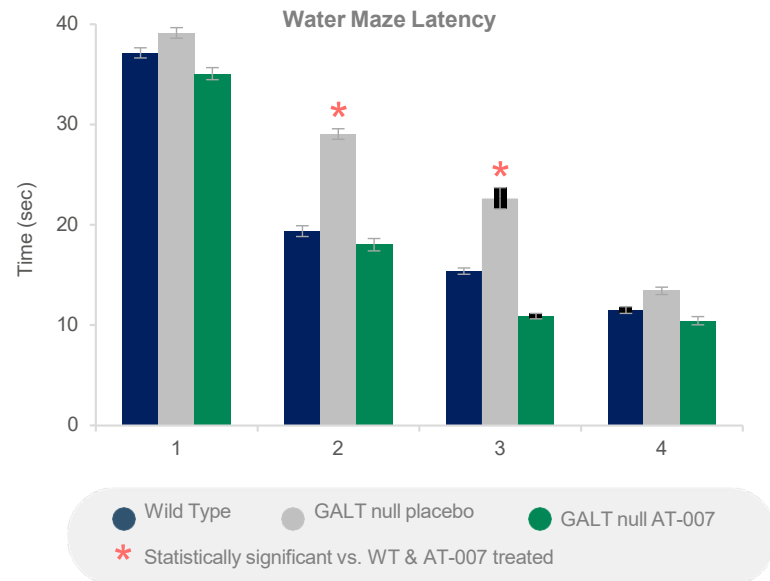


AT-007 treatment from neonatal Day 1 to Day 10 significantly reduced galactitol in liver, brain and plasma  
AT-007 treatment did not increase galactose or Gal-1P levels; similar results seen at Day 22 and age 5 months

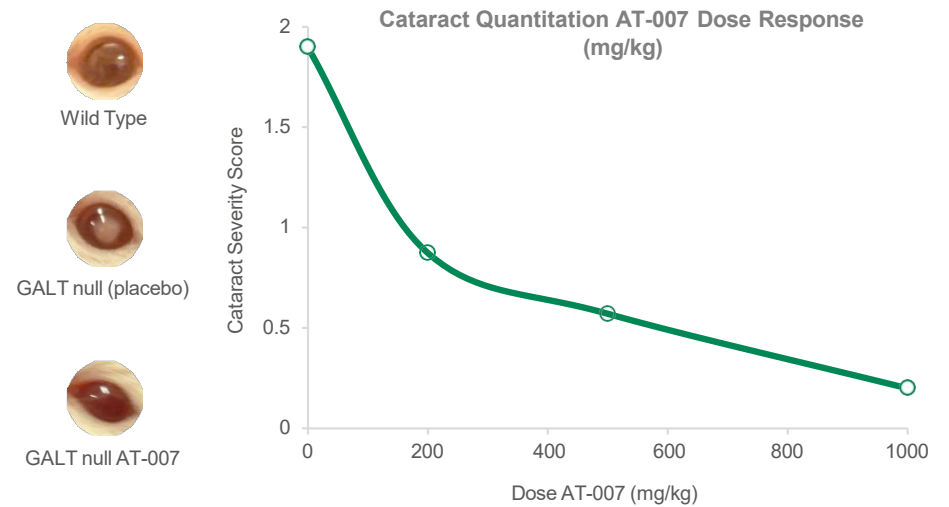
PRE-CLINICAL

## In a Rat Model of Galactosemia, AT-007 Treatment Prevented the CNS Phenotype of Disease, Including Learning, Cognition and Motor Deficiencies, and Prevented Cataracts

AT-007 treatment normalized CNS outcomes on both water maze and rotarod



AT-007 treatment prevented galactitol accumulation in tissues, resulting in absence of cataracts



Rats were on a lactose-restricted diet similar to humans; rat breast milk contains very low lactose levels; supplemented with soy formula; rat chow has low galactose levels similar to allowed foods such as legumes

## How Do We Know Galactitol is Responsible for Long-Term CNS Complications in Galactosemia?

- In a rat model of Galactosemia (GALT null), **reduction in galactitol** levels resulted in **normalization of CNS outcomes** of disease (learning, cognition, memory, motor skills) as measured by Water Maze and rotarod
- The GALT null mouse model **does not display elevated galactitol levels**, and these mice **do not have a CNS phenotype** of disease (because mice express low levels of Aldose Reductase as compared to rats and humans)
- **GALK deficient patients** are missing the GALK enzyme, and do not produce other galactose metabolites, such as Gal-1p; they **only have elevated galactitol levels**. These patients are rare, but they do **demonstrate a CNS phenotype similar to Classic Galactosemia**, including cognitive and intellectual deficiency, brain edema, and microcephaly
- A small number of “**biochemical variant**” Classic Galactosemia patients exist with a low level of residual GALT activity. These patients have **lower levels of galactitol** vs. typical Classic Galactosemia patients, and as a result have **less severe outcomes**.

# Galactosemia Phase 1/2 Registrational Study (ACTION-Galactosemia)

## Multi-Center Placebo-Controlled Study in Healthy Volunteers & Adult Galactosemia Patients

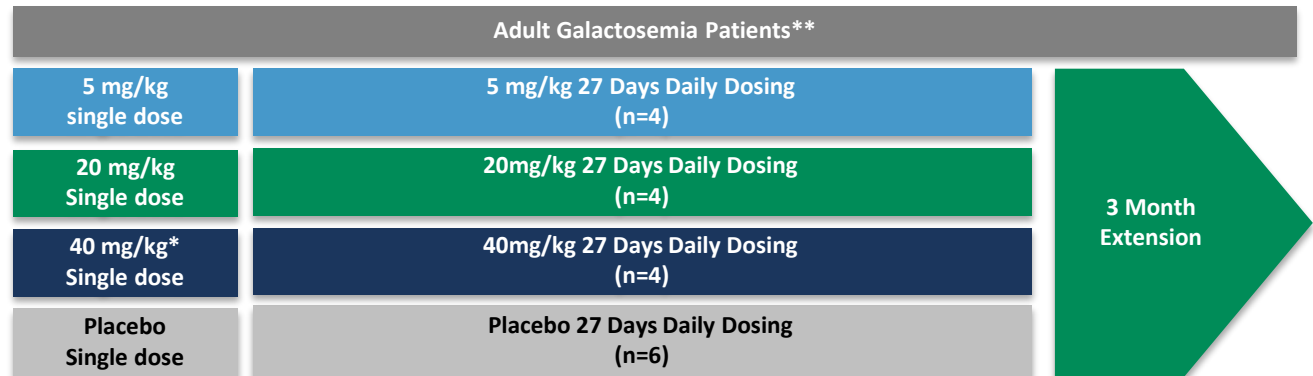


Endpoints:

- Safety
- Pharmacokinetics
- CNS Penetrance (via CSF sample)

Endpoints:

- Safety
- Pharmacokinetics/  
Pharmacodynamics
- **Efficacy Biomarker - Galactitol**



\*Based on initial topline data from Jan 2020, the study was expanded to include a 40mg/kg dose in healthy volunteers and then Galactosemia patients. This cohort also included 2 additional placebo patients

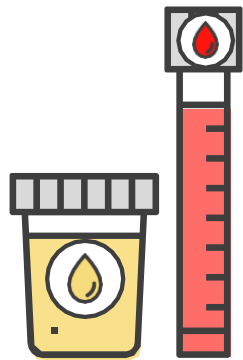
\*\*Due to the small size of the population and burden of study participation (travel, missed work for caregivers etc), the protocol proactively allowed for patients to participate in more than 1 cohort. If participating in a second cohort, the patient had to remain blinded, washout for  $\geq 1$  month, and a new baseline was taken. (Crossover design is in line with FDA guidance)  
Patients were on lactose-restricted diet prior to enrollment and throughout study

# Healthy Volunteer Data Demonstrated Safety, CNS Penetrance, PK Supportive of QD Dosing

## Safety

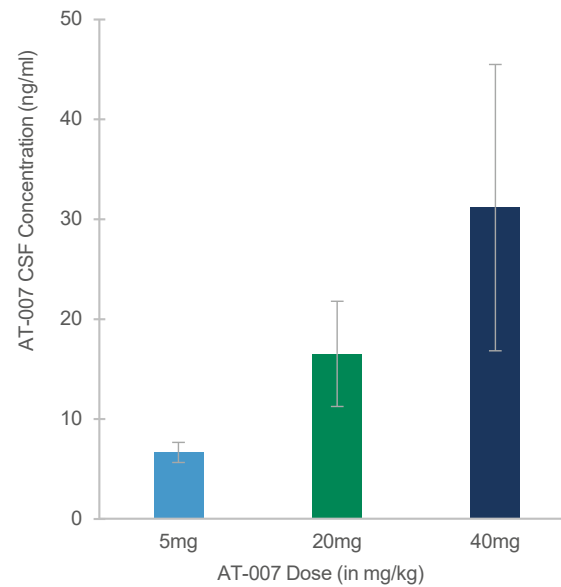
~80 healthy volunteers treated

AT-007 was safe and well tolerated at all doses



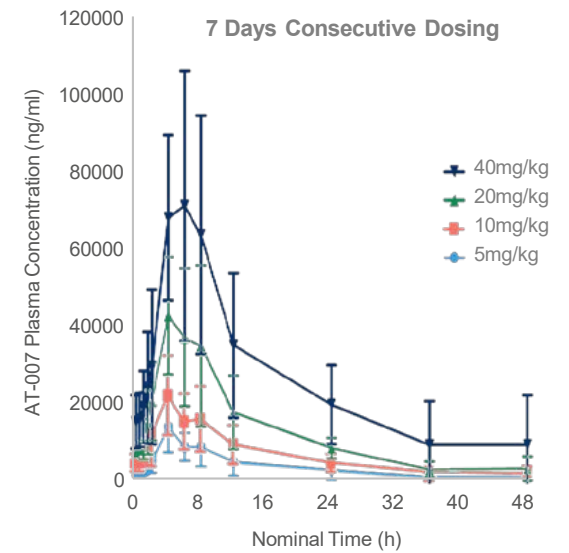
## Brain Penetrance

Drug crosses into brain when dosed orally (CNS penetrant)



## Pharmacokinetics

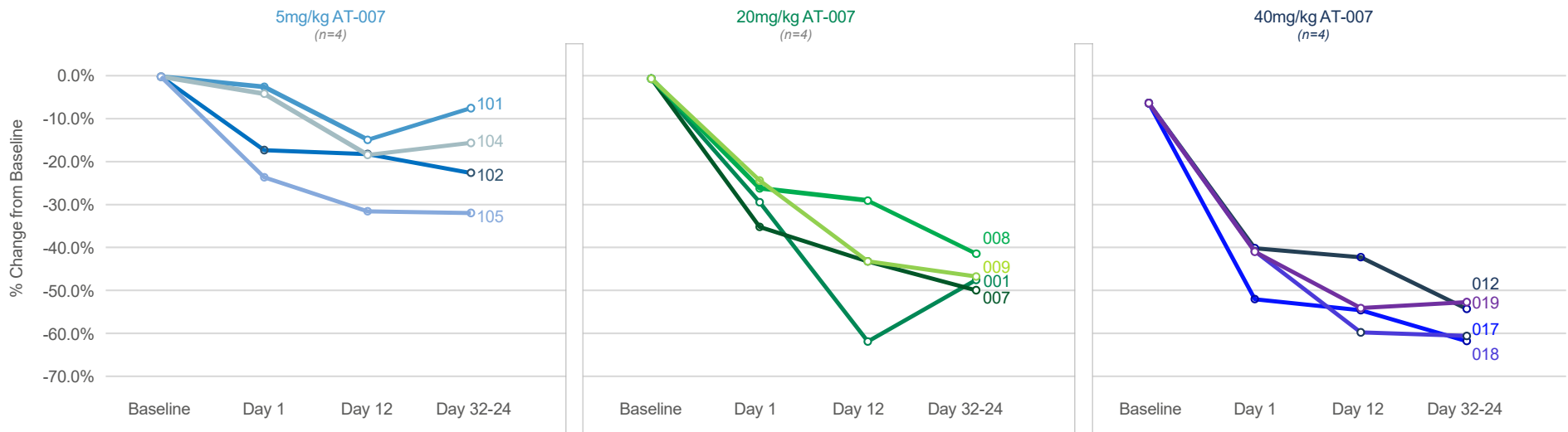
Dose-dependent increase in exposure; supportive of once daily oral dosing



## AT-007 Decreased Galactitol Levels in All Treated Patients

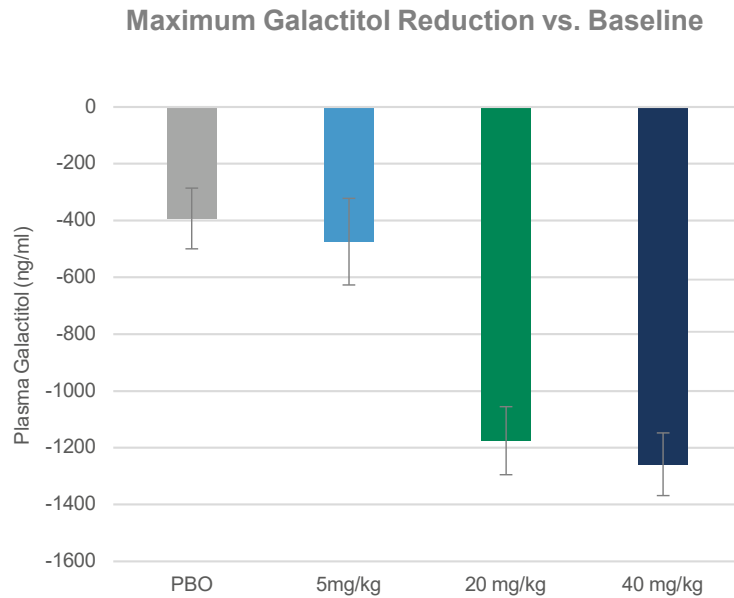
Decrease was dose-dependent, rapid and sustained; statistically significant at 20 & 40mg/kg

Individual Maximum Reduction in Galactitol Percent Change From Baseline



Further Characterization of AT-007 in adult Galactosemia patients is ongoing in a long-term safety study

## AT-007 Significantly Decreased Galactitol Levels; Safe and Well Tolerated



P<0.01 for 20mg/kg vs. placebo and 40mg/kg vs. placebo  
Placebo group updated to include 2 additional patients who participated in 40mg/kg cohort  
Maximal reduction on Day 32

### Safety

- Favorable safety and tolerability in core study and 3-month extension

### Pharmacokinetics/ Pharmacodynamics

- PK supports once-daily dosing
- Rapid and sustained reduction in plasma galactitol
- Galactitol reduction in the brain demonstrated by MR Spectroscopy

*All biomarker assays were developed, validated, and performed by Icon Labs Whitesboro, NY (independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party lab)*

# GALACTOSEMIA PEDIATRIC PROGRAM



Presented by

Francesca Lawson, MD, FAHA

Head of Development, Applied Therapeutics



# Galactosemia: Disease Progression is Slow But Debilitating



## Newborn

- Liver failure
- Kidney problems
- Sepsis
- Brain edema
- Pseudotumor cerebri
- Feeding difficulties
- Growth problems
- Cataracts



## Infants/Toddlers

- Speech/language delays
- Coordination problems (fine and gross motor skills)
- Developmental delays
- Attention issues
- Growth problems
- Cataracts



## Young Children

- Learning delays
- Issues with fine and gross motor skills (e.g., handwriting)
- Growth problems
- Speech/language problems
- Behavioral and emotional issues
- Tremor



## Teen

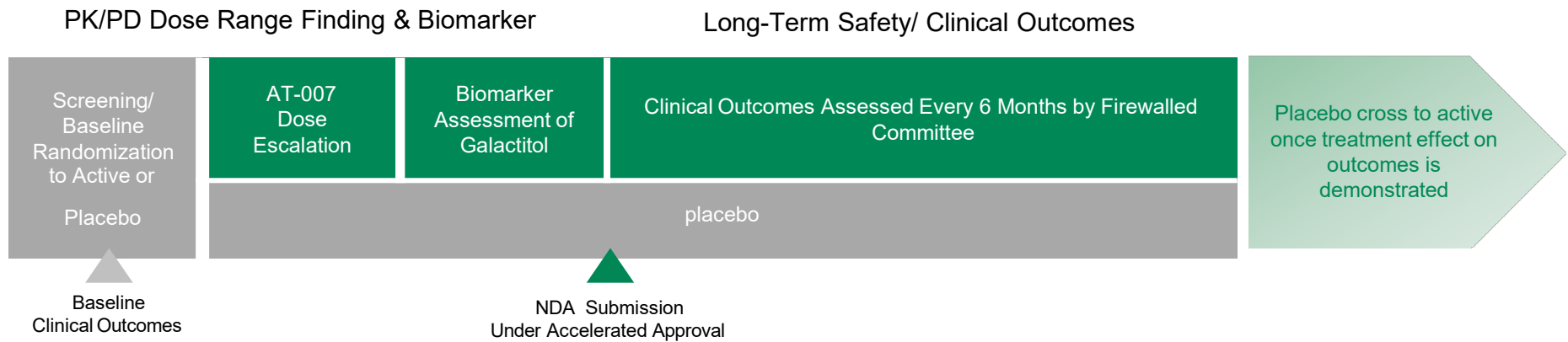
- Puberty and fertility problems (females)
- Growth delays
- Anxiety
- Social problems
- Learning difficulties
- Tremor



## Adult

- Tremor
- Seizures
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Cataracts

## ACTION-Galactosemia Kids Pediatric Registrational Clinical Study Design



- Dose range finding PK/PD study to determine optimal dose in children. and biomarker-based assessment of galactitol reduction for NDA submission under Accelerated Approval
- Long-term clinical outcomes to assess impact on how patients feel and function and to provide long-term safety data

## Outcomes Assessed by Composite Endpoint Consisting of 4 Quadrants: Speech, Cognition, Behavior, Motor Skills



### Speech

- Expressive Language
- Receptive Language

OWLS-2 (Oral & Written Language Skills 2);  
Picture Vocabulary Test; Oral Reading Recognition Test



### Cognition & Learning

- Cognitive and Intellectual Development
- Attention
- Executive Function
- Memory (episodic and working memory)
- Processing speed

NIH Toolbox Cognition Battery:  
Flanker Inhibitory Control & Attention Test; Dimensional Change Card Sort; Picture Sequence Memory; List Sorting; Pattern Comparison Processing Speed



### Behavioral / Psychosocial

- Atypical Behavior
- Mental Health (Anxiety/Depression)
- Adaptive/Behavior Social Skills
- Communication

Behavior Assessment System for Children (BASC) Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales



### Motor Skills

- Dexterity
- Balance
- Gait Coordination
- Tremor

9-Hole Pegboard; Standing Balance; Scale for Assessment & Rating of Ataxia (SARA); Spiral Drawing Test

## Galactosemia Outcomes Worsen Over Time

- **The Galactosemia population has not yet been studied prospectively in a longitudinal study** (same children progressing over time)
  - However, individual patients have been tracked over time, demonstrating progressively worsening symptoms
- **In the ACTION-GALACTOSEMIA Kids trial, a cross-sectional analysis of the first 19 pediatric patients at baseline** was performed to evaluate the effect of age on disease outcomes
  - This analysis provided baseline outcomes assessments on children age 3-15 across all 4 quadrants – speech, cognition, behavior motor skills
- **Disease severity increased with age, demonstrating that Galactosemia progressively worsens over time, impacting speech, cognition, behavior, motor skills**

## Baseline Characteristics & Results Overview

### Age & Gender

- 19 participants age 3 - 15
- 11 female and 8 male
- 7 patients 2-6yrs, 9 patients 7-12yrs, 3 patients 13-17yrs

### Galactosemia characteristics

- 9 patients homozygous Q188R
- 1 patient homozygous K285N
- 9 patients compound heterozygous

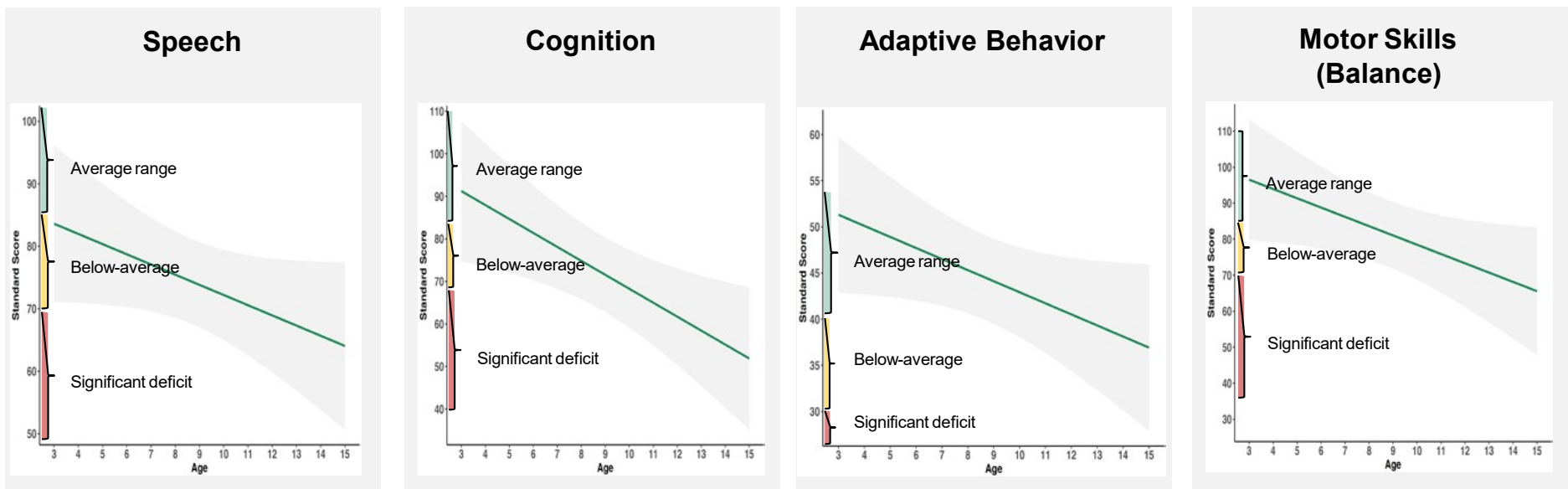
Domain	% Patients with severe impairment (Standard Scores below 2 SD)		
	2-6 yr	7-12 yr	13-17 yr
Speech	0	33.3	66.7
Cognition	0	75.0	100.0
Adaptive Behavior	0	0	33.3
Motor	0	50.0	66.7

## Baseline Characteristics

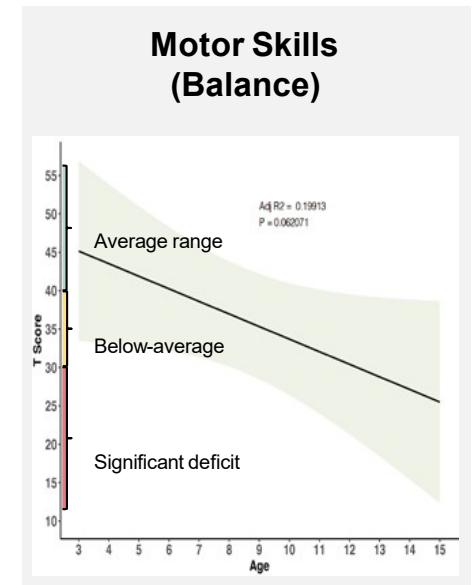
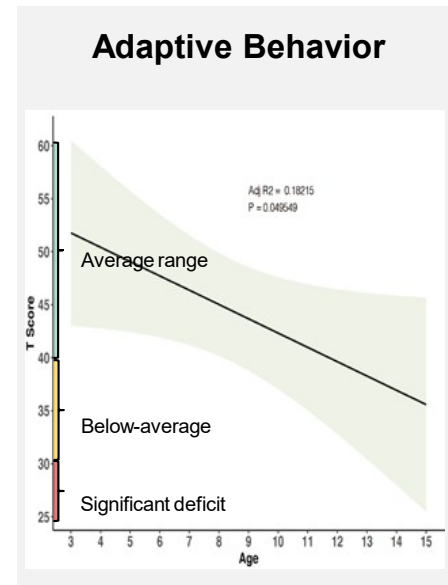
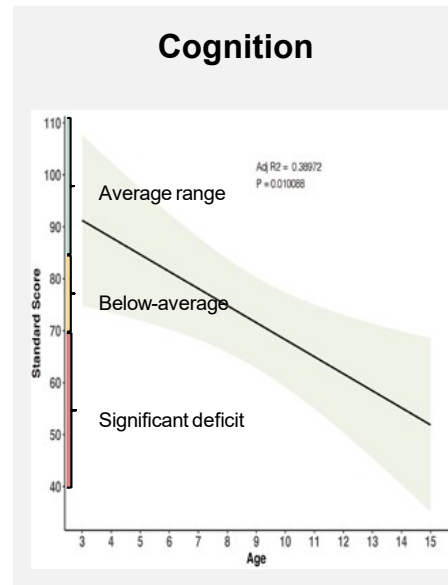
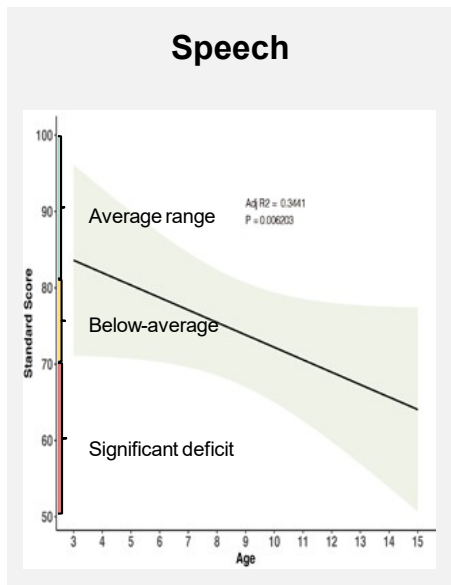
Age at entry (years)	Gender	Plasma galactitol (ng/mL)	GALT enzyme activity (nmol/h/mg)	Gene mutation
15	Female	2450	0.1	p.Q188R
14*	Female	233	0.4	p.K285N
13	Female	2530	0	p.Q188R
12	Male	1710	0	p.Q188R
12	Female	2530	0	p.Q188R, p.Q188P
12	Male	2010	0	p.Q188R, p.Y209C
11	Female	2720	0.1	p.Q188R
9	Male	2400	0.1	p.K285N/other
9	Male	2180	0	p.Q188R (Gin188Arg)
9	Female	2360	0	p.Q188R, p.Y209C
8	Male	2020	0.1	p.Q188R
7	Female	2200	0	p.Q188R
6	Male	2540	0	p.Q188R
5	Female	2060	0	p.Q188R, p.Q344K
4	Male	1470	0	p.Q188R, p.K285N
4	Female	2310	0	p.Q188R
4	Female	N/A	0	p.Q188R (Gin188Arg)
4	Female	1820	0	p.Q188R
3	Male	1880	0	p.L95P, p.Q188R

\*This patient is believed to be a “biochemical variant” patient with remaining residual GALT enzyme activity.

## Cross Sectional Analysis of Outcomes in Children Age 3-15 Demonstrates Significant Progressive Worsening of Disease Over Time



# Cross Sectional Analysis of Outcomes in Children Age 3-15 Demonstrates Significant Progressive Worsening of Disease Over Time (Sensitivity Analysis)



Analysis excludes biochemical variant patient



## Summary & Conclusions

- Galactosemia is a slowly progressive rare disease, which worsens over time with age
- Complications are caused by accumulation of the toxic aberrant metabolite, galactitol
  - Naturally produced by the human body despite galactose-free diet
- Galactitol reduction with AT-007 in a rat model of disease prevented CNS symptoms
- AT-007 treatment in adults with Galactosemia significantly reduced galactitol levels by ~50%
  - Similar degree of reduction shown to be effective in preclinical model
- A pediatric biomarker study is ongoing; patients seamlessly transition to the long-term part of the study, which will study clinical outcomes

Thank You



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