













### NETWORKS ACCELERATE THERAPY DEVELOPMENT

#### **ALS PLATFORM TRIAL**

ACCELERATING ALS THERAPY DEVELOPMENT

BRAINSTORMING NEURODEGENERATION
CIRM 4/15/2019

#### Agenda

#### 1. Why now?

- ✓ Lessons from NeuroNEXT
- ✓ The Healey Center and NEALS
- Scientific breakthroughs and the ALS drug development pipeline

#### 2. Platform Trial for ALS

- ✓ Definition
- ✓ Operational and scientific efficiencies
- ✓ Design considerations
- ✓ Platform for other Neurodegenerative Disorders



#### The NEXT Generation of Neurologic Treatments NIH-Network for Excellence in Neuroscience Clinical Trials

Conduct studies in neurological diseases through partnership with academia, private foundations and industry

#### Expand the NINDS capability to:

- Respond quickly as new opportunities arise to test promising therapies for people with neurological disorders
- Test promising new therapies (5-7 in 7 years)
- Increase efficiency of clinical trials before embarking on larger studies



#### Highlights of Network Success



## Rich Pipeline

• 9 studies funded to date

5 completed;3 actively enrolling;1 in start-up



# **Operational Efficiency**

- Decreased study start up time
- Meeting study recruitment and retention targets
- Innovative study design
- Exceptional data quality



Partnerships

Network

## Expanded number of trained investigators Built cohesive network

 Partnerships with academics, foundations and industry



#### NeuroNEXT: Each study contributing to field: Versatile





- NN102 Ibudilast in Progressive Multiple Sclerosis SPRINTING
   Medicinova
- NN103 Rituximab in Myasthenia Gravis



• NN104 3K3A-APC in Acute Stroke, First X01, ZZ Biotech



NN105 SRX246 for Irritability in Huntington's Disease
 First SBIR Azevan



• NN106 Cytochome C as Biomarker in Glioblastoma Multiforme



- NN108 Topiramate for Cryptogenic Peripheral Neuropathy
- NN109 ManNAc for GNE Myopathy

#### Contributions to Neuro Community

#### Model Network for executing clinical trials

- Rapid study start up (central IRB, contracting)
- Efficient on schedule enrollment
- High quality data and optimized study close out
- Optimized safety monitoring
  - single DSMB, medical monitoring and safety reporting
- Sharing SOPs publically and with other networks

#### Cohesive, well-functioning Network

- Clinical trial experts from diverse neurologic fields learning from each other
- Integrating rather than fragmenting neurological subspecialists
- Training new investigators in trial design and leadership





#### 130 academic sites

#### 20+ years experience

#### **Academic Contract Research Organization**

- 57 studies (21,113 participants (21 industry-sponsored trials)
- **PRO-ACT** (patient data > 10,000 ALS participants in clinical trials)
- ANSWER ALS (1000 participants)
- Biorepository (>90,000 cryovials)
- Central IRB
- **Trainings** (>1,800 trained; Investigators, Outcomes, Site Management, Patients)
- NEW 2019 : PLATFORM TRIAL & FAST DIAGNOSTIC CENTERS



#### PRESSING NEED TO INNOVATE ALS TRIALS

- Breakthroughs in our understanding of disease genetics and mechanisms
- Growing pipeline of therapeutic candidates
- Urgency to improve care for people affected by this serious illness + increase access to trials



**Early Phase Pipeline Pressure** 

## ALS PLATFORM TRIAL DESIGN COMMITTEE





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#### **NEALS ADVISORY PANEL**

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#### **The Status Quo**

 We rebuild a new stadium every time we run a trial

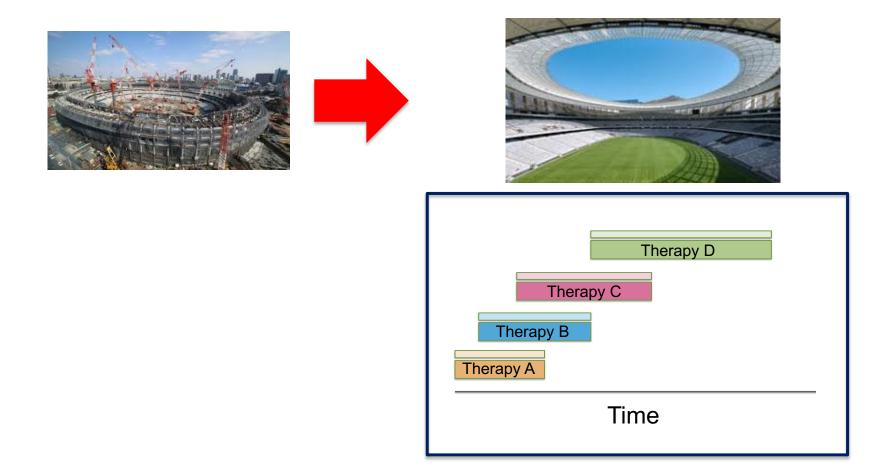


 Rules are different in every match and nobody can watch the game

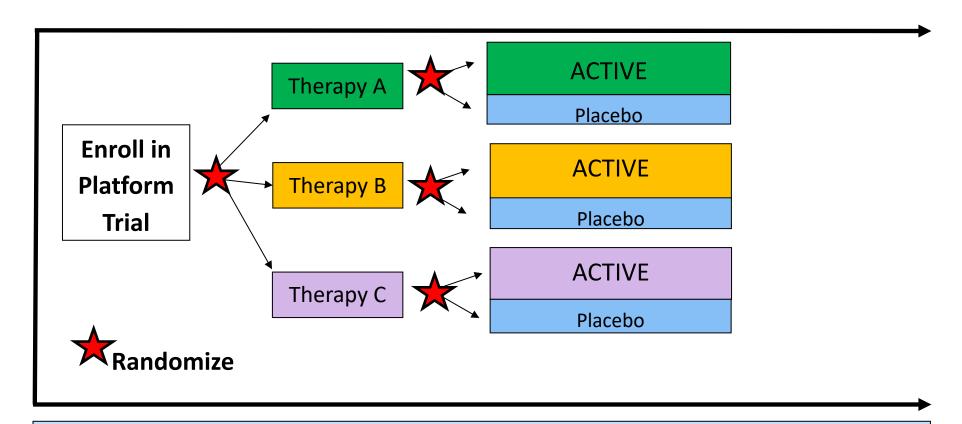
What if we had <u>one</u> arena and we all played at the same time, learning as we go along?

#### Platform Trial - definition

To study multiple therapies in the context of a single disease in a perpetual manner, with therapies allowed to enter or leave the platform on the basis of a decision algorithm



#### Platform Trial – patient experience



#### **Pooled Placebo**

- Highest statistical power comes from 1:1 randomization
- People with ALS prefer to minimize placebo
- We can achieve both of these by pooling placebo participants and "sharing" power

#### **Operational Efficiencies**

#### √ Faster start-up

- ✓ Trial-ready sites
- ✓ Master Contracts
- √ Central IRB
- ✓ Ready EDC

#### ✓ High-quality execution

- ✓ Network of selected investigators and sites
- ✓ Uniform data and samples
- ✓ Recruitment and retention strategies
- ✓ Robust monitoring

#### **Scientific Efficiencies**

- √ Shared placebo
  - √ Sample size savings
  - ✓ Appealing for patients
- ✓ Test more therapies
- ✓ Learn about disease and novel endpoints/biomarkers

(speech analysis, neurofilaments, WGS, EIM, HHD)

✓ Adapt trial methodology







**PRECISION PROMISE** 

Parent Project
Muscular Dystrophy
LEADING THE FIGHT TO END DUCHENNE

Examples of Platform Trials





## Basket Trial Design (ALS/AD/FTD Basket trial in design stage)

- One Treatment
- Multiple
   Diseases/Populations

Disease	Treatment
Type A	?
Type B	?
Type C	?
Type K	?





## VISION FOR FIRST ALS PLATFORM TRIAL

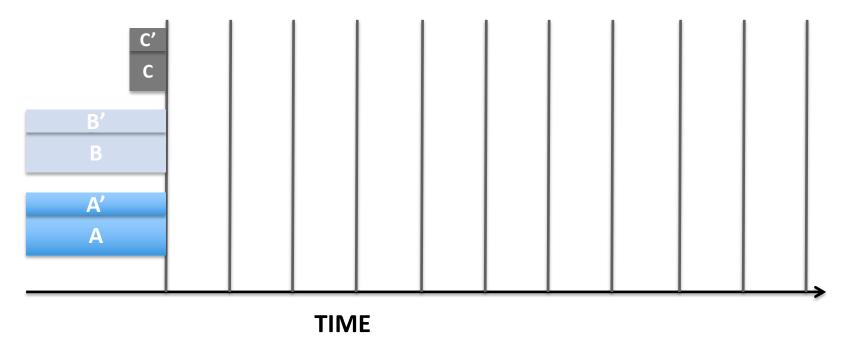
- Randomized equally to all enrolling regimens
- Within a regimen randomize 3:1 Active:PBO



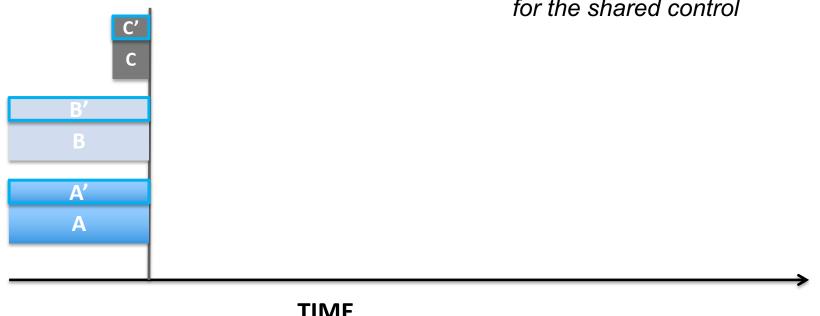
- Can add treatment regimens "as appropriate"
  - Available, Enrollment support, ...
  - Not a protocol change!



- Interim Analyses:
  - Occur every 3 months for platform
  - Some regimens "actionable" at interim: Min. amount of data observed



- Interim Analysis Regimen A:
  - Combine all control participants together for analyses for each regimen
    - Different routes of administration
    - Pool all routes of administration for the shared control



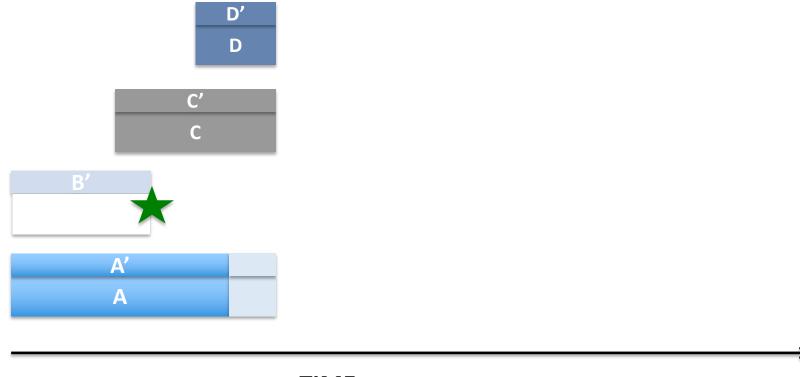
- Interim Analyses:
  - Demonstrate early efficacy on ALSFRS-R

Option to start OLE or continue follow-up for safety or seamless phase II /

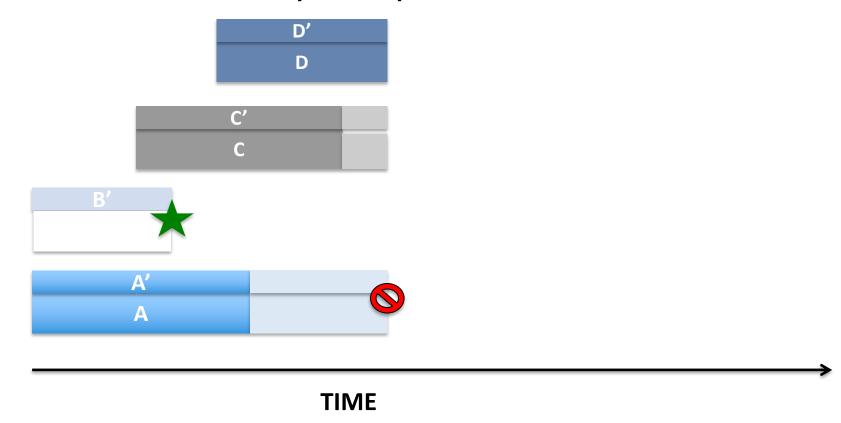
B' B A' A A TIME



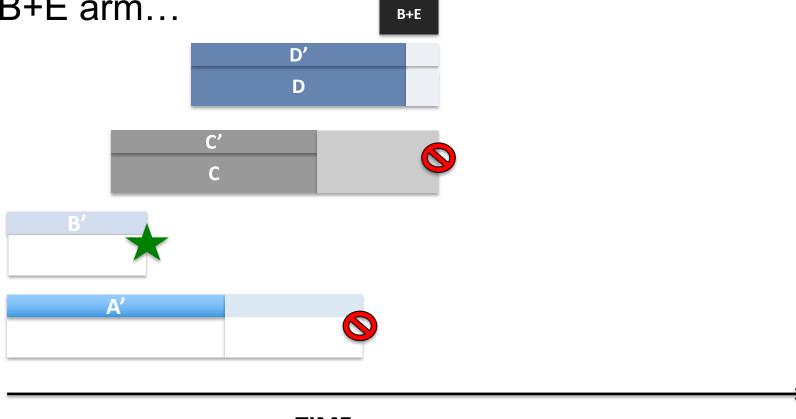
- Another regimen added ....
- Enrollment to A ended, still follow...



- Drop a regimen for futility based on lack of efficacy
- Option to re-randomize participants



- Stopped C
- Added B+E arm...



B+E'

#### **Master Protocol Vs Regimen Appendix**

#### **Master Protocol**

- Trial Eligibility
- Visit schedule & data collection
- Sample Size: 120 per reg.
- Randomization: 3:1 Active:PBO
- Follow-up Time: 6 Months
- Recommended
  - Primary Endpoint: ALSFRS-R
  - Primary Analysis: Bayesian mixed effects repeated measures model
  - Success Criteria: Prob. Slow Progression > Thresh. (OF)
    - Overall Type I error = 5%
  - Futility Criteria: Prob. Slow
     Progression by at least 10% < .05</li>



#### **Regimen Flexibility**

- Additional restrictions on Inclusion/exclusion: Due only to safety / MOA
- Additional endpoints to be collected
- Specifics on
  - Prespecified subgroups
  - Primary Endpoints and analyses
  - Alt. thresh. for success; spending function; type I error
  - More aggressive futility

#### Key Challenge

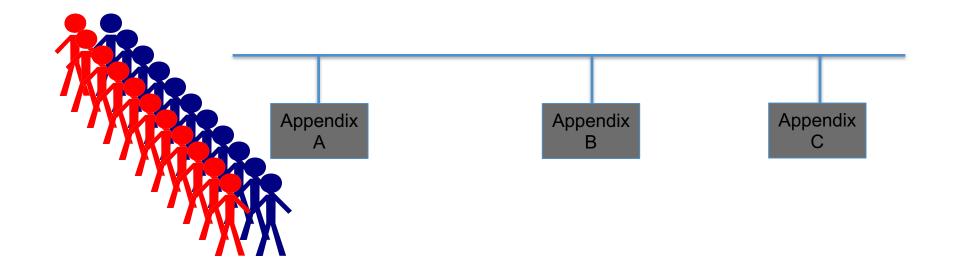
- Find Balance of Synergy vs. Flexibility
  - What is specified in the Master Protocol vs. Appendix
  - Too much in the Master Protocol hard to reach consensus
  - Too much left to the Appendix lose efficiencies

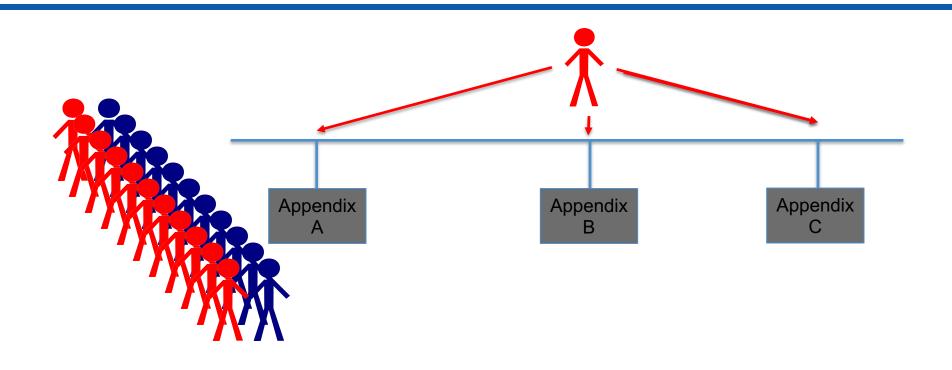


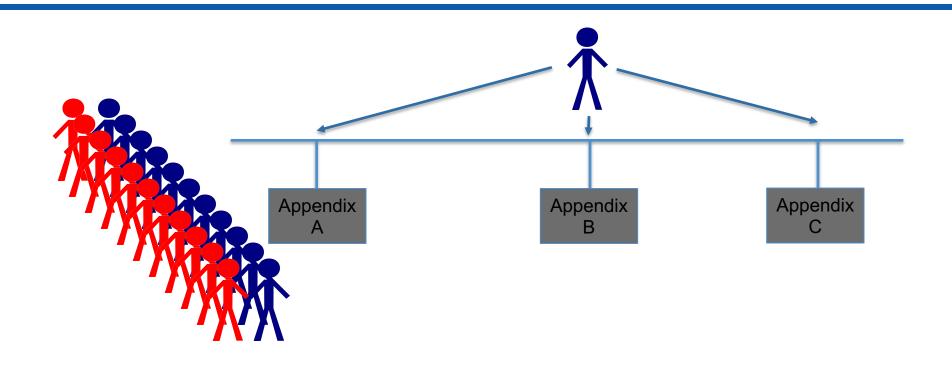
#### **Specific Considerations for ALS: Endpoints**

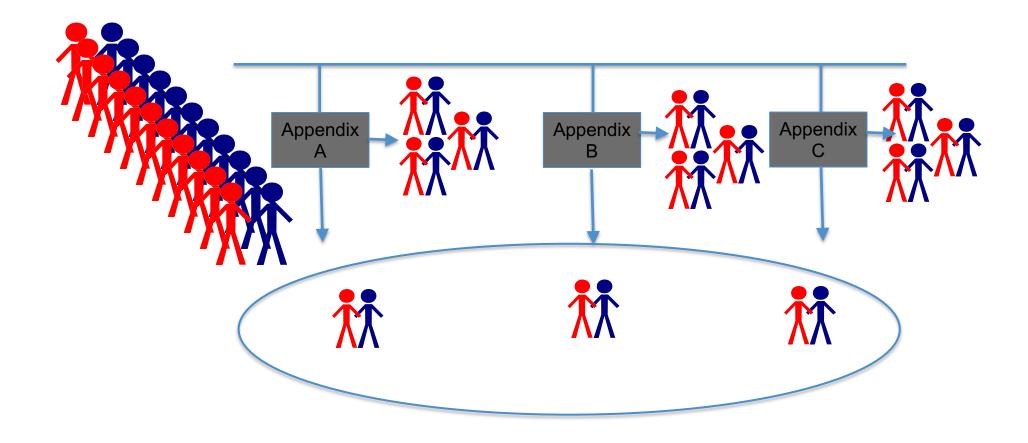
- Clinical and functional endpoints such as ALSFRS-R
- Novel endpoints such as HHD, Voice, EIM, Neurofilaments
- Platform trial as "Endpoint Engine"
  - Plan to collect a set of clinical and novel endpoints on all patients
  - Analyze the relationships between the novel endpoints and ALSFRS-R
  - Developing the candidate set of early, phase II endpoints, in particular model their ability to predict Phase III success on the clinical endpoints
- Potentially have a protocol defined suggested endpoint and analysis, but allow flexibility in each appendix

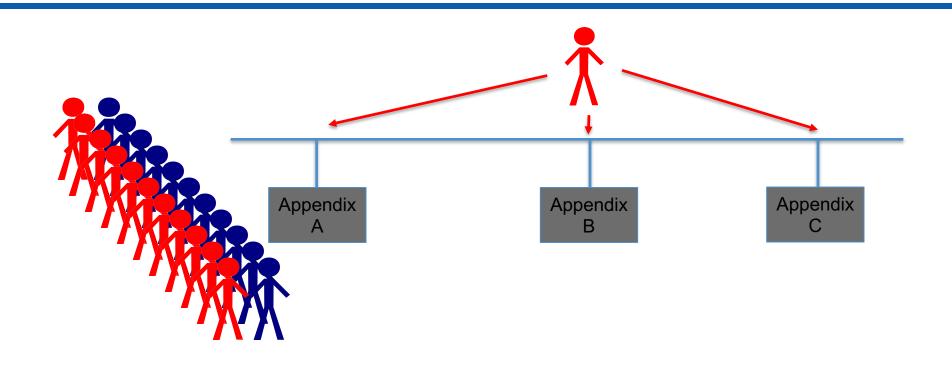
- Under discussion
- Subgroups may be of interest for
  - Clinical homogeneity
  - Because of a biomarker that corresponds to a particular MOA
- Every appendix having its own population of interest has the potential to negatively impact the shared control arm as well as enrollment to other appendices
- Likely only consider appendix-specific subgroup enrollment restrictions for MOA purposes

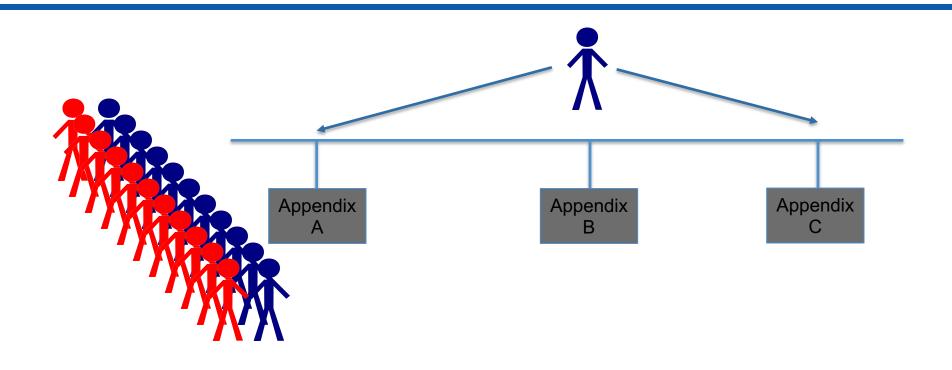


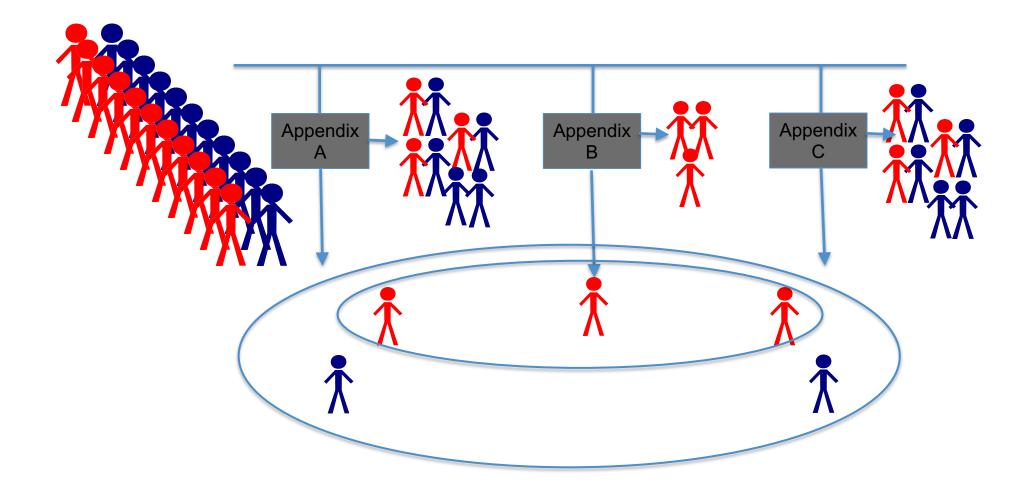












### ALS PLATFORM TRIAL Healey Center Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at Mass General

# Regimen B Regimen C Regimen C Visit Visit Visit Week 24

#### **Clinical measures**

ALSFRS-R SVC Muscle Strength (HHD) Speech Analysis Electrical Impedance Myography

#### Biomarkers and samples

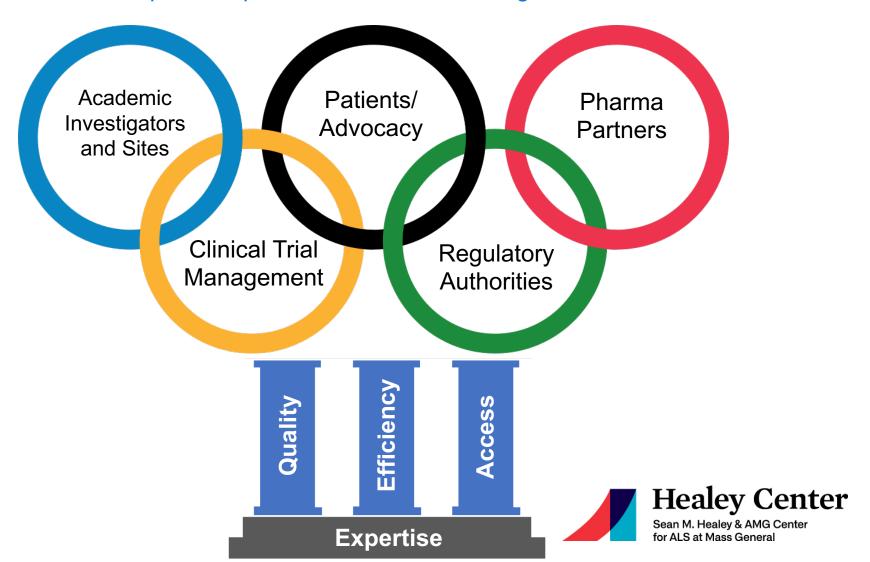
WGS
Neurofilament levels
Urine p75ecd
+/- bank biofluids (Sponsor decision)

#### Regimen flexibility to be discussed with industry partners

- Additional restrictions on inclusion/exclusion due to safety / MOA
- Additional endpoints to be collected
- Specifics on
  - Prespecified subgroups
  - Primary Endpoints and analyses
  - Alternative threshold for success;
     spending function; type I error
  - More aggressive futility

#### **Engaging the entire community**

Test multiple therapies and learn faster, using less resources



#### **ALS PLATFORM TRIAL**



#### **Healey Center**

Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at Mass General

#### **Request for Proposals of Therapies**

**Application Due Date:** Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Notification of therapy selection: End of May or early June 2019

RFP includes: CDA template; ALS Platform Trial Therapy Application Form

#### **Review Criteria:**

- Relevance of target in human disease
- Pre-clinical data to support target and therapy
- Clinical trial readiness (availability of compound and placebo, IND)
- Availability of relevant biomarkers





