

CLAIMS

1. A recombinant adeno-associated virus (rAAV) comprising:
 - (a) an AAV capsid comprising an AAV capsid protein; and
 - (b) a rAAV genome comprising from 5' to 3':
 - (i) a 5' AAV ITR nucleotide sequence;
 - (ii) a transcriptional regulatory element comprising SEQ ID NO: 25;
 - (iii) a silently altered ARSA coding sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23;
 - (iv) a polyadenylation sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 45; and
 - (v) a 3' AAV ITR nucleotide sequence.
2. The rAAV of claim 1, wherein the silently altered ARSA coding sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 14, 62, or 72.
3. The rAAV of claim 1 or 2, wherein an intron is inserted in the silently altered ARSA coding sequence, optionally wherein the intron is inserted at an internucleotide bond that links two native exons.
4. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the transcriptional regulatory element further comprises a heterologous intron, or the transcriptional regulatory element further comprises a heterologous intron that is a native intron sequence of an ARSA gene.
5. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the 5' ITR nucleotide sequence has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 18, and the 3' ITR nucleotide sequence has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 19.
6. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-5, wherein:
 - the capsid protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence of amino acids 203-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17, wherein:
 - the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 206 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H; the amino acid in the capsid protein

corresponding to amino acid 312 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is Q; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 468 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is S; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 590 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G or Y; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 690 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is K; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; or, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G; or

(a) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G;

(b) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M;

(c) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R;

(d) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; or

(e) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C;

the capsid protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence of amino acids 138-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17, wherein:

the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 151 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 160 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is D; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 206 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 312 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is Q; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 468 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is S; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 590 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G or Y; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 690 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is K; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; or, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G; or

(a) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G;

(b) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M;

(c) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R;

(d) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; or

(e) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; or

wherein the capsid protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence of amino acids 1-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17, wherein:

the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 2 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is T; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 65 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 68 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is V; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 77 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 119 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is L; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 151 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 160 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is D; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 206 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 312 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is Q; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 468 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is S; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 590 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G or Y; the amino acid in the capsid protein

corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 690 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is K; the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C; or, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G, or

(a) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 2 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is T, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 312 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is Q;

(b) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 65 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is Y;

(c) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 77 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 690 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is K;

(d) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 119 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is L, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 468 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is S;

(e) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 626 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 718 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is G;

(f) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 296 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is H, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 464 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is N, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 681 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is M;

(g) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 687 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R;

(h) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 346 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is A, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is R; or

(i) the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 501 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is I, the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 505 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is

R, and the amino acid in the capsid protein corresponding to amino acid 706 of SEQ ID NO: 16 is C.

7. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-6, wherein:

the capsid protein comprises the amino acid sequence of amino acids 203-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17;

the capsid protein comprises the amino acid sequence of amino acids 138-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17; or

the capsid protein comprises the amino acid sequence of amino acids 1-736 of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, or 17.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an rAAV of any one of claims 1-7.

9. A method for expressing an arylsulfatase A (ARSA) polypeptide in a cell, the method comprising transducing the cell with the rAAV of any one of claims 1-7.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein:

the cell is a neuron and/or a glial cell, optionally wherein the cell is a neuron and/or a glial cell of the central nervous system and/or the peripheral nervous system,

the cell is a cell of a central nervous system region selected from the group consisting of the spinal cord, the motor cortex, the sensory cortex, the hippocampus, the putamen, the cerebellum optionally the cerebellar nuclei, and any combination thereof, or

the cell is a cell selected from the group consisting of a motor neuron, an astrocyte, an oligodendrocyte, a cell of the cerebral cortex in the central nervous system, a sensory neuron of the peripheral nervous system, a Schwann cell, and any combination thereof.

11. The method of claim 9 or 10, wherein the cell is in a mammalian subject and the rAAV is to be administered to the subject in an amount effective to transduce the cell in the subject.

12. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-7 or the pharmaceutical composition of claim 8 for use as a medicament.

13. A packaging system for preparation of an rAAV, wherein the packaging system comprises

- (a) a first nucleotide sequence encoding one or more AAV Rep proteins;
- (b) a second nucleotide sequence encoding a capsid protein of the rAAV of claim 6 or 7; and
- (c) a third nucleotide sequence comprising rAAV genome of the rAAV of claim 6 or 7.

14. The packaging system of claim 13, wherein the packaging system comprises a first vector comprising the first nucleotide sequence and the second nucleotide sequence, and a second vector comprising the third nucleotide sequence.

15. The packaging system of claim 13 or 14, further comprising a fourth nucleotide sequence comprising one or more helper virus genes, wherein:

the fourth nucleotide sequence is comprised within a third vector, or

the fourth nucleotide sequence comprises one or more genes from a virus selected from the group consisting of adenovirus, herpes virus, vaccinia virus, and cytomegalovirus (CMV).

16. The packaging system of claim 15, wherein the first vector, second vector, and/or the third vector is a plasmid.

17. A method for recombinant preparation of an rAAV, the method comprising introducing the packaging system of any one of claims 13-16 into a cell under conditions whereby the rAAV is produced.

18. Use of the rAAV of any one of claims 1-7, or the pharmaceutical composition of claim 8, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of metachromatic leukodystrophy (MLD).

19. The rAAV of any one of claims 1-7, or the pharmaceutical composition of claim 8 for use in the treatment of MLD.