FIGs. 20A-20C show about 1.4-2.8-fold miR-29c expression up-regulation in left gastrocnemius (FIG. 20A), diaphragm (FIG. 20B), and left ventricle (FIG. 20C), respectively, using a miR-29c-μDys fusion construct of the invention in AAV9 vector.

FIG. 21 shows no reduction of μDys expression at RNA and protein level in gastrocnemius with miR-29c up-regulating fusion AAV9 vector.

FIG. 22 shows up to 50% mSLN mRNA down-regulation in diaphragm, left gastrocnemius (left gast), and atrium, respectively, via AAV9-mediated expression of shSLN-μDys fusion construct relative to μDys-only AAV9. Up to 50% mSLN mRNA down-regulation was also observed in tongue (data not shown).

FIG. 23 shows similar levels of μDys RNA/protein expression in diaphragm via an shSLN-μDys fusion construct of AAV9. Similar results were also obtained for tongue and atrium (data not shown).

FIG. 24 shows that miR-29c solo and miR-29c-μDys fusion constructs of AAV9 reduce serum CK levels.

FIG. 25 shows that miR-29c solo and miR-29c-μDys fusion constructs of AAV9 reduce serum TIMP1 levels.

FIG. 26 shows largely similar biodistribution of miR-29c or shSLN vectors in gastrocnemius from several miR-29c-μDys fusion vectors of AAV9 or shSLN-μDys fusion vectors of AAV9.

FIG. 27 shows similar titer of AAV9 vectors in liver for miR-29c-μDys fusion and shSLN-μDys fusion vs. μDys solo construct.

FIG. 28 shows added benefit of the fusion constructs of the invention over μDys construct alone in diaphragm, based on their effects on two fibrotic marker genes.

FIG. 29~~30~~ shows predicted 2D structure for a representative modified miR-29c construct based on the miR-30E backbone sequence.

FIG. 30~~1~~ shows predicted 2D structure for a representative modified miR-29c construct based on the miR-101 backbone sequence.

FIG. 31~~2~~ shows predicted 2D structure for a representative modified miR-29c construct based on the miR-451 backbone sequence.