the transfected cells. The disclosure also provides for viral particles comprising any of the recombinant AAV vectors of the disclosure.

[0036] In another example, the present disclosure also provides for methods of producing a functional micro-dystrophin protein comprising infecting a host cell with a recombinant AAV vector expressing micro-dystrophin as disclosed herein and expressing a functional micro-dystrophin protein in the host cell. In another aspect, the present disclosure also provides for in vitro methods of producing a functional micro-dystrophin protein comprising infecting a host cell with a recombinant AAV vector expressing micro-dystrophin as disclosed herein and expressing a functional micro-dystrophin protein in the host cell.

[0037] In another example, the disclosure provides for methods of reducing fibrosis in a subject in need comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of any rAAV vector of the disclosure expressing micro-dystrophin. For example, any of the rAAV of the disclosure are administered to subjects suffering from muscular dystrophy or dystrophinopathy to reduce fibrosis, and in particular reduces fibrosis in skeletal muscle or in cardiac muscle of the subject.

[0038] In another example, the disclosure provides for methods of preventing fibrosis in a subject in need comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the any recombinant AAV vector of the disclosure expressing micro-dystrophin. For example, any of the rAAV of the disclosure are administered to subjects suffering from muscular dystrophy or dystrophinopathy to prevent fibrosis, e.g. the rAAV of the disclosure expressing micro-dystrophin are administered before fibrosis is observed in the subject. In addition, the rAAV of the disclosure expressing micro-dystrophin are administered to a subject at risk of developing fibrosis, such as those suffering or diagnosed with dystrophinopathy or muscular dystrophy, e.g. DMD or Becker muscular dystrophy. The rAAV of the disclosure are administered to the subject suffering from dystrophinopathy or dystrophinopathy muscular dystrophy in order to prevent new fibrosis in these subjects.

[0039] The disclosure also provides for methods of increasing muscular force and/or muscle mass in a subject suffering from muscular dystrophy or dystrophinopathy comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of any of the rAAV vector of the disclosure expressing miR-29.

[0040] Any of the foregoing methods comprising the step of administering the rAAV expressing miR-29c of the disclosure may comprise a further step of administering any of the rAAV expressing the micro-dystrophin described herein. The terms “combination therapy” and “combination treatment” refer to administration

What is claimed:

1. A recombinant AAVrh74 vector comprising in the 5' to 3´ direction an inverted terminal repeat (ITR), a muscle-specific control element, a chimeric intron sequence, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7, a poly A tail, and an ITR.

2. The recombinant AAVrh74 vector of claim 1 wherein the muscle-specific control element comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10 or SEQ ID NO: 11.

3. The recombinant AAVrh74 vector of claim 1 or 2, wherein the chimeric intron sequence is set forth as nucleotides 844-993 of SEQ ID NO: 9.

4. The recombinant AAVrh74 vector of claim 1, wherein the sequence of said poly A tail is set forth as nucleotides 4585 to 4640 of SEQ ID NO: 9.

5. A composition comprising the recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. A composition comprising the recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 for use in therapy.

7. Use of the recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 or the composition of claim 5 for the preparation of a medicament for treatment of muscular dystrophy.

8. Use of a recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 or the composition of claim 5 for the preparation of a medicament for reducing or preventing fibrosis in a subject suffering from muscular dystrophy.

9. Use of the recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 or the composition of claim 5 for the preparation of a medicament for increasing muscular strength or muscle mass in a subject suffering from muscular dystrophy.

10. The use of any one of claims 7-9 wherein the medicament is to be administered before fibrosis is observed in the subject or before muscle force is reduced in the subject or before muscle mass is reduced in the subject.

11. The use of any one of claims 7-10 wherein the subject is suffering from Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

12. The composition for use or use of any one of claims 6-11 wherein the composition or medicament is formulated for intramuscular administration, intravenous injection, parental administration or systemic administration.

13. An in vitro method of producing a functional micro-dystrophin protein comprising infecting a host cell with a recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 and expressing a functional micro-dystrophin protein in the host cell.

14. The recombinant AAVrh74 vector of any one of claims 1-4 for use in an in vitro method of producing a functional micro-dystrophin protein, the method comprising infecting a host cell with the recombinant AAV vector and expressing a functional micro-dystrophin protein in the host cell.