

Supplementary Materials

Title: RNAi-mediated silencing of SOD1 profoundly extends survival and functional outcomes in ALS mice

Authors: Alexandra Weiss^{1†}, James W. Gilbert^{2†}, Iris Valeria Rivera Flores^{2†}, Jillian Belgrad^{2†}, Chantal Ferguson², Elif O. Dogan¹, Nicholas Wightman¹, Kit Mocarski^{1,3}, Dimas Echeverria², Ashley Summers², Brianna Bramato², Nicholas McHugh², Raymond Furgal², Nozomi Yamada², David Cooper², Kathryn Monopoli², Bruno M.D.C. Godinho^{2§}, Matthew R. Hassler^{2§}, Ken Yamada², Paul Greer³, Nils Henninger^{1,4}, Robert H. Brown Jr.^{1*}, Anastasia Khvorova^{2,3†*}

†, ‡: These authors contributed equally to this work

*Correspondence can be addressed to Robert H. Brown Jr. (robert.brown@umassmed.edu) and Anastasia Khvorova (anastasia.khvorova@umassmed.edu)

Affiliations:

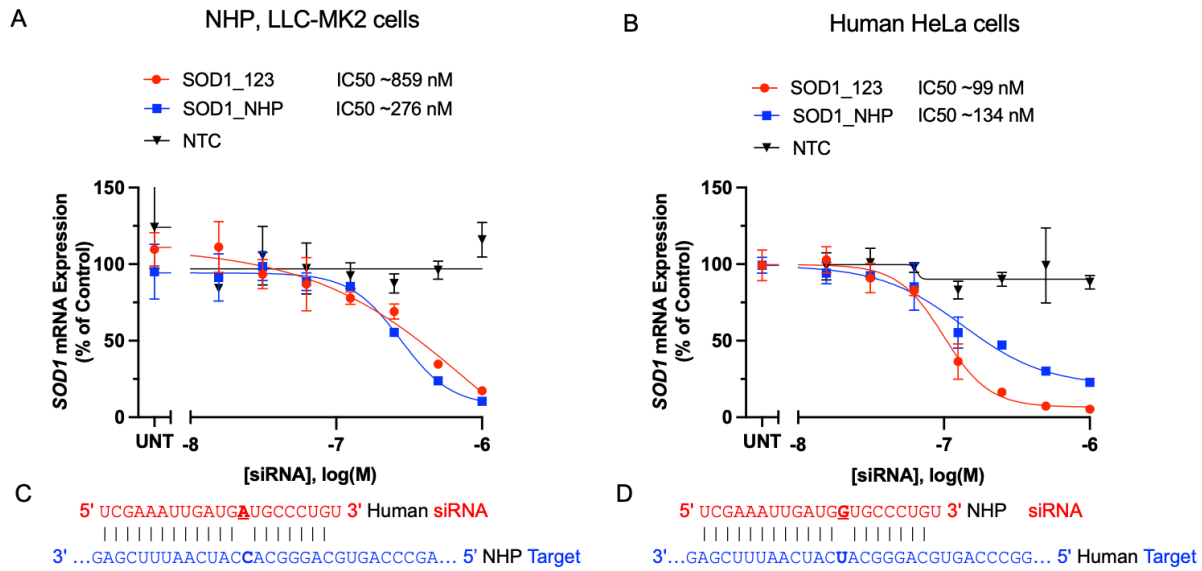
¹Department of Neurology, UMass Chan Medical School; Worcester, MA, USA.

²RNA Therapeutics Institute, UMass Chan Medical School; Worcester, MA, USA.

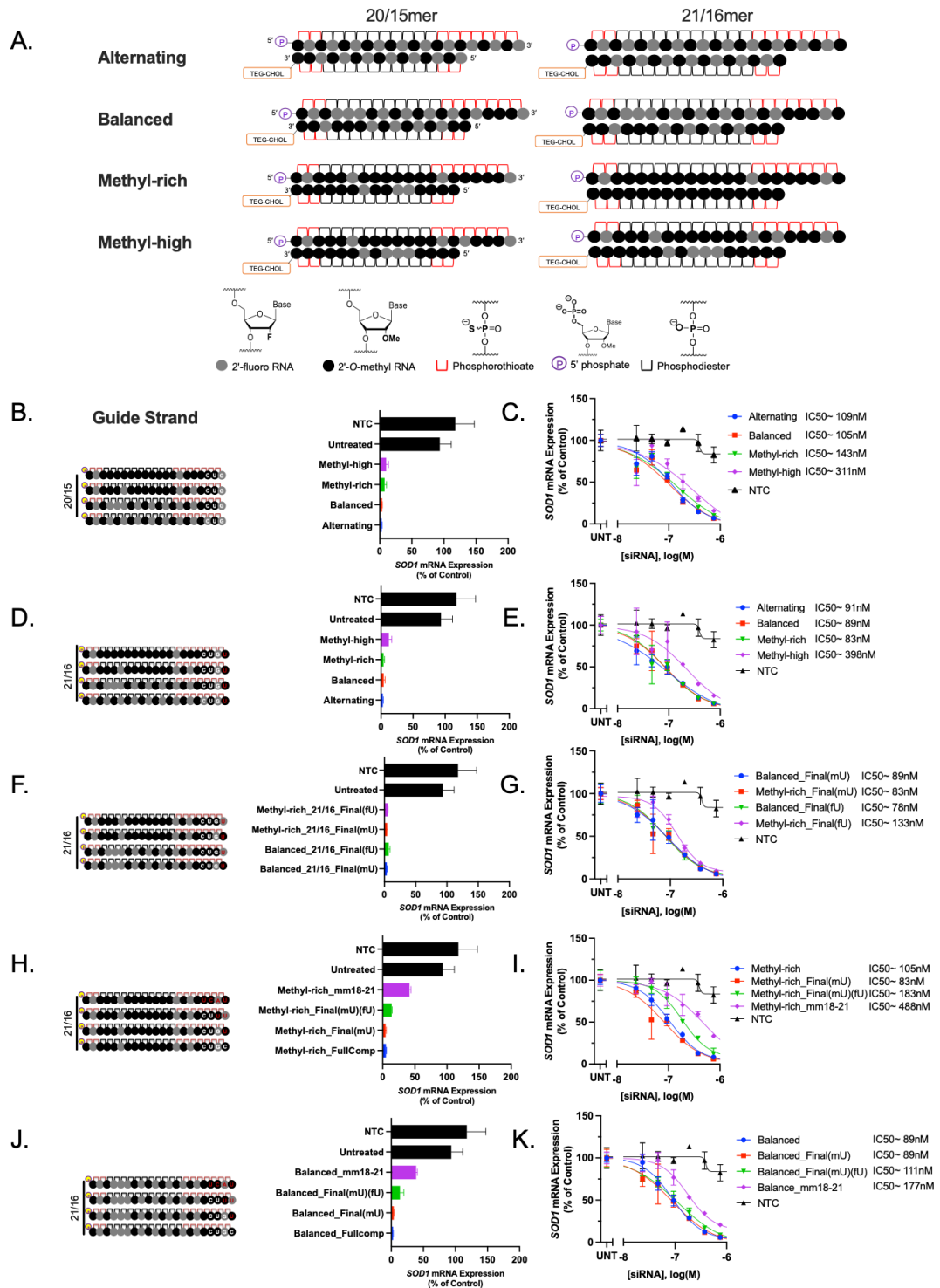
³Program in Molecular Medicine, UMass Chan Medical School; Worcester, MA, USA.

⁴Department of Psychiatry, UMass Chan Medical School; Worcester, MA, USA.

[§]Current address: Atalanta Therapeutics; Boston, MA, USA.

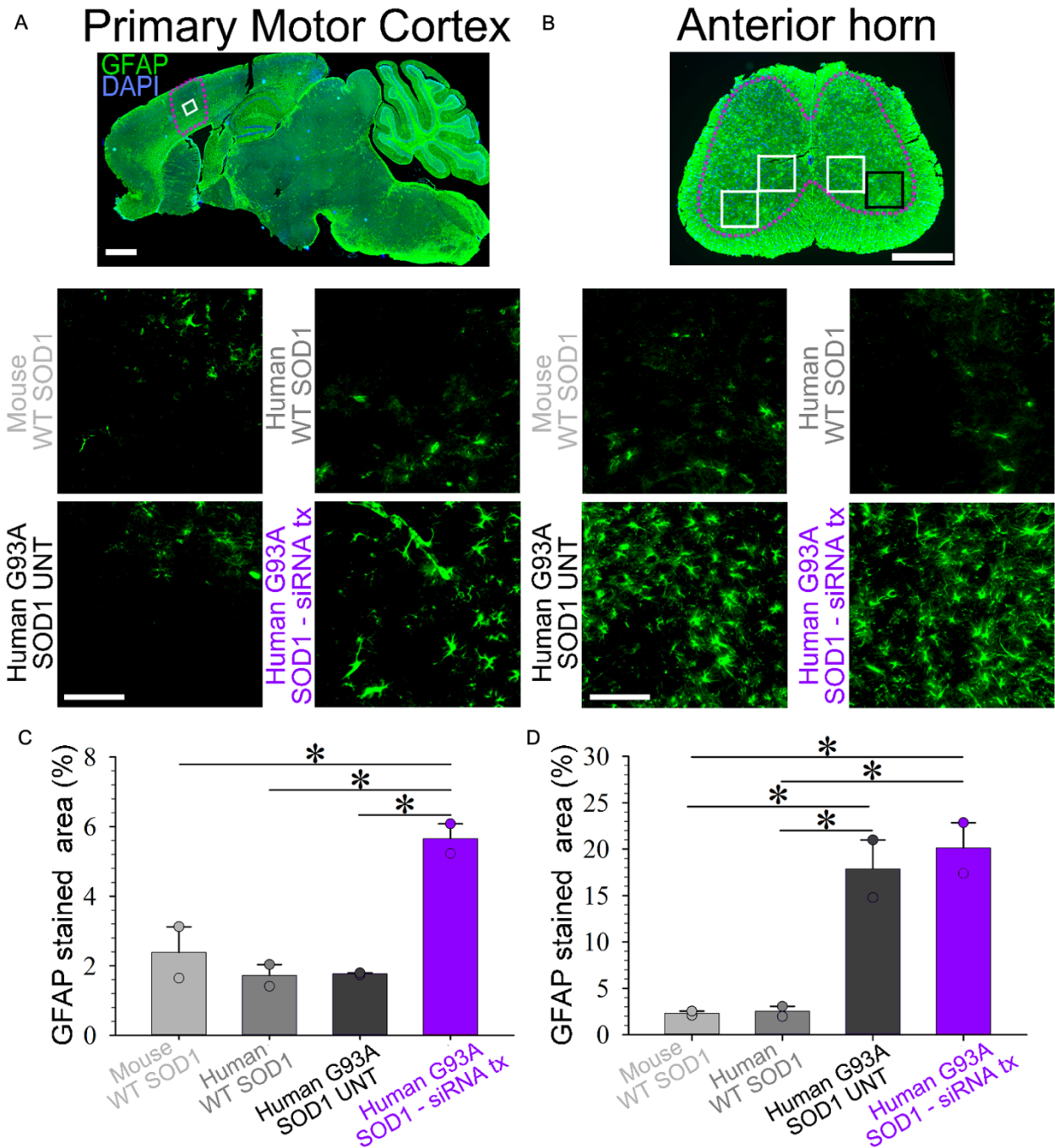


Supplemental Figure 1: SOD1_123 silences both human and non-human primate mRNA *in vitro*. (A, B) 7-point dose-response curves for SOD1_123 and SOD1_NHP in (A) LLC-MK2 cells (NHP-derived) or (B) HeLa cells (human-derived) (n = 3, mean ± SD). HeLa and LLC_MK2 cells were treated with siRNAs at concentrations shown for 72 h (Passive uptake). mRNA levels were measured using QuantiGene, (n=3, mean ± SD), UNT (untreated), NTC (non-targeting control). (C) Sequence of the human-targeting siRNA guide (red) against the NHP target mRNA (blue). Mismatch shown in bold. (D) Sequence of the NHP-targeting guide strand (red) against the human target mRNA (blue). Mismatch shown in bold. IC₅₀ values are shown above the graph. IC₅₀ values were calculated using the nonlinear least squares method (GraphPad Prism).



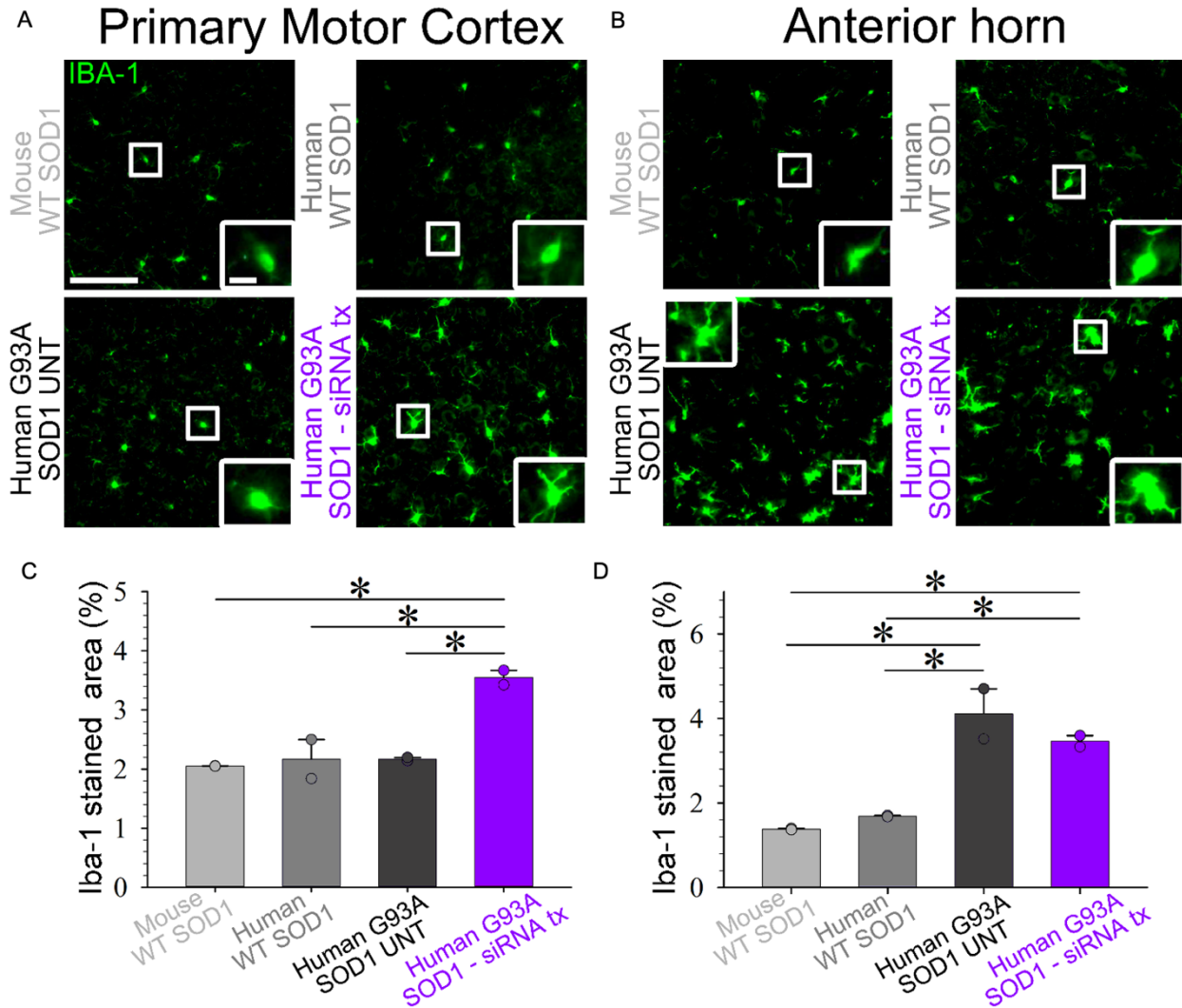
Supplemental Figure 2: Chemical optimization of SOD1₁₂₃ reveals multiple potent configurations. (A) Schematic of siRNA patterns (top), and chemical modifications (bottom). (B)

HeLa cells treated by passive uptake with SOD1_123 in four distinct patterns. The left panel shows diagram of the guide strands. **(C)** 7-point dose-reponse curves for siRNAs in B. **(D)** HeLa cells treated (by passive uptake) with SOD1_123 **(E)** 7-point dose-response curves for siRNAs described in D. **(F)** HeLa cells treated (by passive uptake) with the modification patterns shown **(G)** 7-point dose-response curves for siRNAs described in F. **(H)** HeLa cells treated (by passive uptake) with four SOD1_123 siRNAs in the Methyl-rich pattern, **(I)** 7-point dose-response curves for siRNAs described in F. **(J)** As in H but in the Balanced pattern. **(K)** Dose-dependent analysis of siRNAs described in H but in the Balanced pattern. Top dose 1.5 μ M, SOD1 mRNA evaluated at 72 hours, QuantiGene, (n=3, mean \pm SD). NTC (nontargeting control siRNA), UNT (untreated). The target site and IC₅₀ values are shown in the graphs. IC₅₀ values were calculated using the nonlinear least squares method (GraphPad Prism).



Supplemental Figure 3: Astrogliosis in the cortex but not lumbar spinal cord of di-siRNA treated G93A mice versus untreated G93A mice. (A, B) GFAP-stained sagittal section of brain (A) and transverse lumbar spinal cord (B) images with rectangles indicate the regions of interest (ROIs) used for quantification. (C) Representative images of layer V of primary motor cortex

and anterior horn. Scale bar=100 μm . **(D, E)** Quantification of GFAP signal in layer V of primary motor cortex **(D)** and anterior horn of lumbar spinal cord **(E)**. Data in the bar graphs are shown as mean \pm SEM n=2 per group. One-way ANOVA with post hoc Holm-Šídák test.



Supplemental Figure 4: Di-siRNA treatment activates cortical microglia and attenuates microgliosis in the anterior horn. (A) Representative images and insets of Iba-1 stained microglia in Motor cortex. Scale bar=100 μm Scale bar=15 μm (inset). (B) Representative images and insets of Iba-1 stained microglia in anterior horn. Scale bar=100 μm , scale bar in inset=15 μm . (C) Quantification of Iba-1 stained microglia in layer V of primary motor cortex and (D) anterior horn of lumbar spinal cord. Data in the bar graphs are shown as mean \pm SEM n=2 per group. One-way ANOVA with post hoc Holm-Šidák test.

