

February 17, 2017

Dear Mary Ann, Bob, and all Blazeman Warriors:

We would like to provide you with an update of the status of our research to develop recombinant heat shock protein (Hsp) 70 as a potential treatment for ALS.

As we reported previously, the results from an analysis of purity of our protein indicated that our preparations contain the full-length protein with little if any contamination of other proteins. Furthermore, the activity assays indicate that our in house protein's activity is 30% greater than commercially available protein, or protein we made initially before making final modifications to the production protocol.

We are currently completing treatments of the SOD1^{G93A} mouse model of ALS with four different doses of the protein. After consultation with our biostatisticians, 32 animals (16 male; 16 female)/dose are being treated in order for us to have significant power. As of today, we have approximately half of the animals treated, with a little less than 50% of the tissue processed. Our goal is to have the dose response study by the end of March/mid-April at the latest. Because these are blinded studies, we will not have results until all animals have been treated and experimental codes revealed. With positive results as we hope to obtain, our ALS scientists and clinicians will begin to design initial clinical trials in patients.

On behalf of all members of our ALS Center, we continue to express our gratitude to the Blazeman Foundation - because of this support we continue as Jon asked, we choose to "Believe...Pick a stronger word than Hope...Cure"