





When Patients Lead:

A Blueprint for the Future of Personalized Medicine

Silvia Cerolini - mum of Vicky
Founder & CEO of **Eyes on the Future**

PATIENTS  PARTNERS[®]
EUROPE

 **Eyes**
on the Future

Vicky is 12 years old and she is going blind...

1

RDH12 Inherited Retinal Dystrophy

2

Progressive Blindness by late teens

3

No Available treatment

4

Thousands of Patients Affected Worldwide



Over the years we have shown how patients are not just patients but are true partners

In just a few years, we have **raised millions**, built a global community and a **global patient registry**, funded **cutting-edge research**, and convened **world-leading scientists, industry and regulators**.



Leading to a gene therapy treatment that can save Vicky's sight and is ready to start clinical trials

AAV Gene therapy Proof of Concept Evidence:

- Restores enzyme activity in human cell models
- Preserves retinal function and photoreceptors in mouse models
- Demonstrates a strong preclinical safety profile
- Built on a validated platform – a similar AAV therapy is already **FDA-approved for a similar condition**

OPEN ACCESS

ARVO Annual Meeting Abstract | June 2022

Preparation for a Gene Augmentation Trial for *RDH12*-Associated Retinal Degenerations

Thomas S Akerman, Elana A Bell, Bowen Chomizec, Junwei Sun, Wangyi He, Jianyi V Peng, Yali Albert W Vogler, Amy R Pearson, Ivan Drazichuk, Shengshen Zhou, Angela Loo, Fati Mangano, Zhonggang Wu, Jian He, et al.

Article PDF Available

Gene Therapy for *Rdh12*-Associated Retinal Diseases Helps to Delay Retinal Degeneration and Vision Loss

Drug Design, Development and Therapy

August 2021 · 15:3581-3591

DOI: 10.2147/DDDT.S305378

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> Hum Gene Ther. 2019 Nov;30(11):1325-1335. doi: 10.1089/hum.2019.017. Epub 2019 Aug 5.

Development of a Gene Therapy Vector for *RDH12*-Associated Retinal Dystrophy

Kecia L Feathers¹, Lin Jia¹, Nirosha Dayanthi Perera¹, Adrienne Chen¹, Feriel K Pressowala¹, Naheed W Khan¹, Abigail T Fahim¹, Alexander J Smith², Robin R Ali^{1,2}, Debra A Thompson^{1,3}

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 31237438 PMCID: PMC6854515 DOI: 10.1089/hum.2019.017

Even getting press coverage from around the world



**BUT the vials have been stuck on
the freezer for years due to lack
of commercial investment**

Science is outpacing Funding and Business Models

The Traditional Model Fails Rare Diseases

- Too few patients → no commercial return.
- Traditional Clinical development too expensive
- Investors and companies walk away as not commercially attractive



Owen, UK

So we had to take our mission to the next level and take things in our own hands

Opus Genetics and the Global RDH12 Alliance Partner to Advance RDH12 Gene Therapy for Inherited Childhood Blindness

July 23, 2025 08:00 ET | Source: [Opus Genetics, Inc.](#)

Follow

Showing a new, smarter and collaborative model where industry and patients work together



**DIVERSIFIED
FINANCING**



**PATIENT-DRIVEN
DEVELOPMENT**

**NEW,
FASTER,
COST-EFFECTIVE**



EFFICIENCY



**REGULATORY &
ACCESS INNOVATION**

Diversified financing

Life Science
Leader

Patients And Industry Need
A New Model For Rare
Disease Gene Therapy

By Silvia Cerolini

Philanthropy + Venture

Funding & Resources

Milestone based Risk sharing

Efficiency

ROPES & GRAY

Home About Blog Services Publications Insights News & Events Locations Contact Us

Home > News & Events > Pro Bono Team Advises Global RDH12 Alliance and Eyes on the Future in Collaboration with Opus Genetics to Advance Gene Therapy for Inherited Childhood Blindness

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In The News | 8/27/2025

Lean Clinical Development: Efficient Trial Design, Manufacturing, Access and Commercial Models

Partnerships and In Kind Contribution

Innovation



New regulatory pathways for rare disease

Novel In Silico/ AI Approaches to Clinical Development

Novel AI driven endpoints

Patients driven

"This collaboration is much more than a financial arrangement. We value each other's insights, experience and connections as critical to a successful co-development of this gene therapy."



RDH12
Fund for Sight



Eyes
on the Future



RDH12
Alliance



OPUS
GENETICS

Sense of Urgency

Only what truly matters

Shared Resource and Governance

Our clinical trial are now FINALLY in sight...

April 06, 2026 7:00 am EDT



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Opus Genetics plans to provide an update later in 2026 on its earlier stage programs, including OPGx-RDH12, OPGx-MERTK, and OPGx-RHO.

- **RDH12-LCA:** This program is expected to enter the clinic in the U.S. in Q4 2026. OPGx-RDH12 is the second asset licensed from Dr. Jean Bennett's lab and is partially funded through a partnership with the RDH12 Alliance to bring this program to the clinic. RDH12 is an IRD that affects children at an early age with a prevalence estimated to be 2,500 patients in the U.S. and 30,900 globally¹.

We need YOUR help to change the future of life science

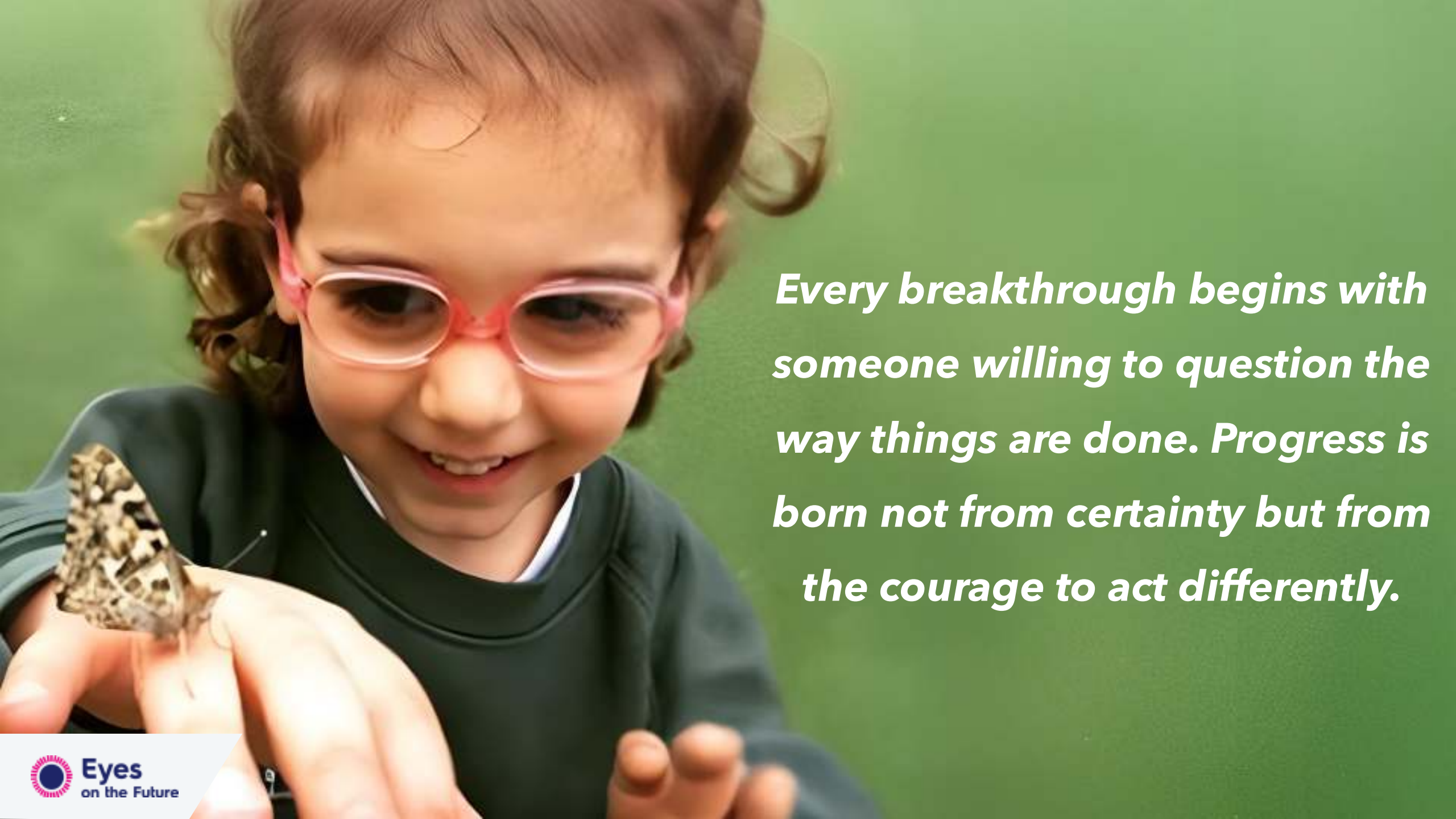
Elliot,
USA



- **For Vicky and our community:** save sight, see the world.
- **For rare diseases:** replicable blueprint – de-risked, capital-efficient, scalable.
- **For healthcare:** a PATIENT & INNOVATION driven path to sustainable precision medicine for ANY disease

Vicky, UK &
Anna, Cyprus








Every breakthrough begins with someone willing to question the way things are done. Progress is born not from certainty but from the courage to act differently.



Eyes on the Future

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