

POSSIBILITIES OF CRISPR



CRISPR

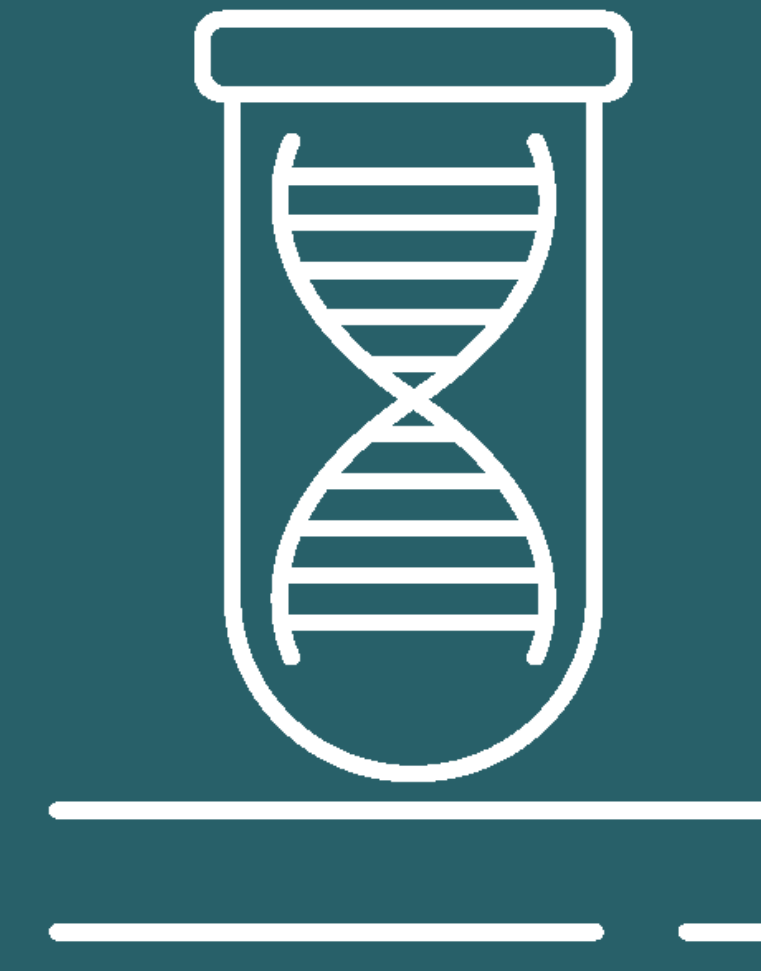
“CRISPR”: clusters of regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats. A special region of DNA with two distinct characteristics: the presence of nucleotide repeats and spacers.

CRISPR-Cas9 was adapted from CRISPR technologies in bacteria; via the natural defense mechanisms of bacteria and archaea.

Here bacteria capture invading virus through DNA snippets or CRISPR arrays. These are then made to memorize invading viruses for the bacteria. If these viruses come back the bacteria will use Cas9 or something similar to snip the DNA, disabling the virus.

Vidyasagar, A (2018, April 21). What Is CRISPR? Retrieved April 2, 2020 from <https://www.livescience.com/58790-crispr-explained.html>

RESEARCH



Testing

Safety



Research on Animal/Cell Models

Exploration in the prevention, treatment of human diseases; like cystic fibrosis or sickle cell.

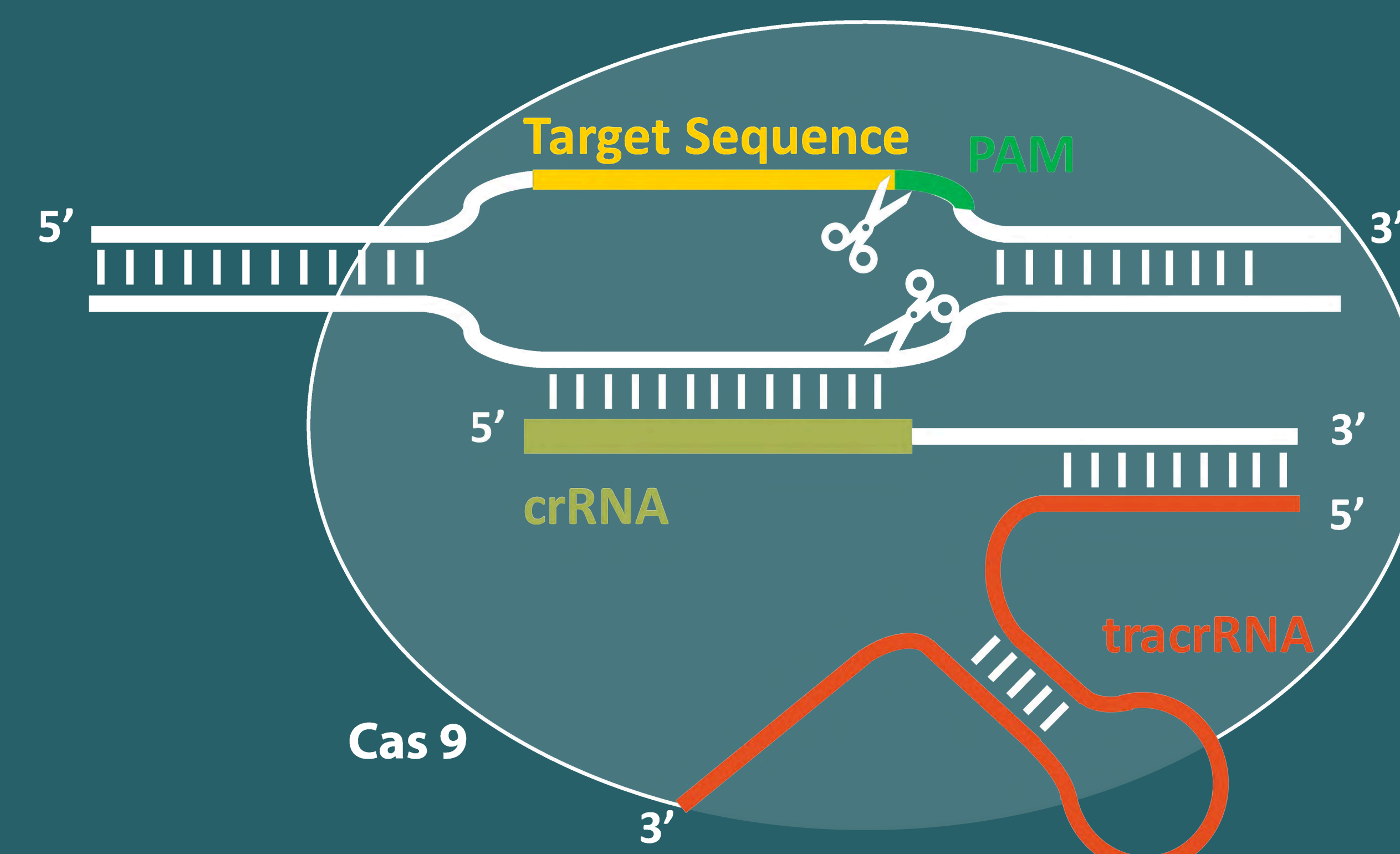
Holds promise to treating/preventing complex diseases like HIV or cancer.

GENOME EDITING

A group of technologies that allow genetic material to be



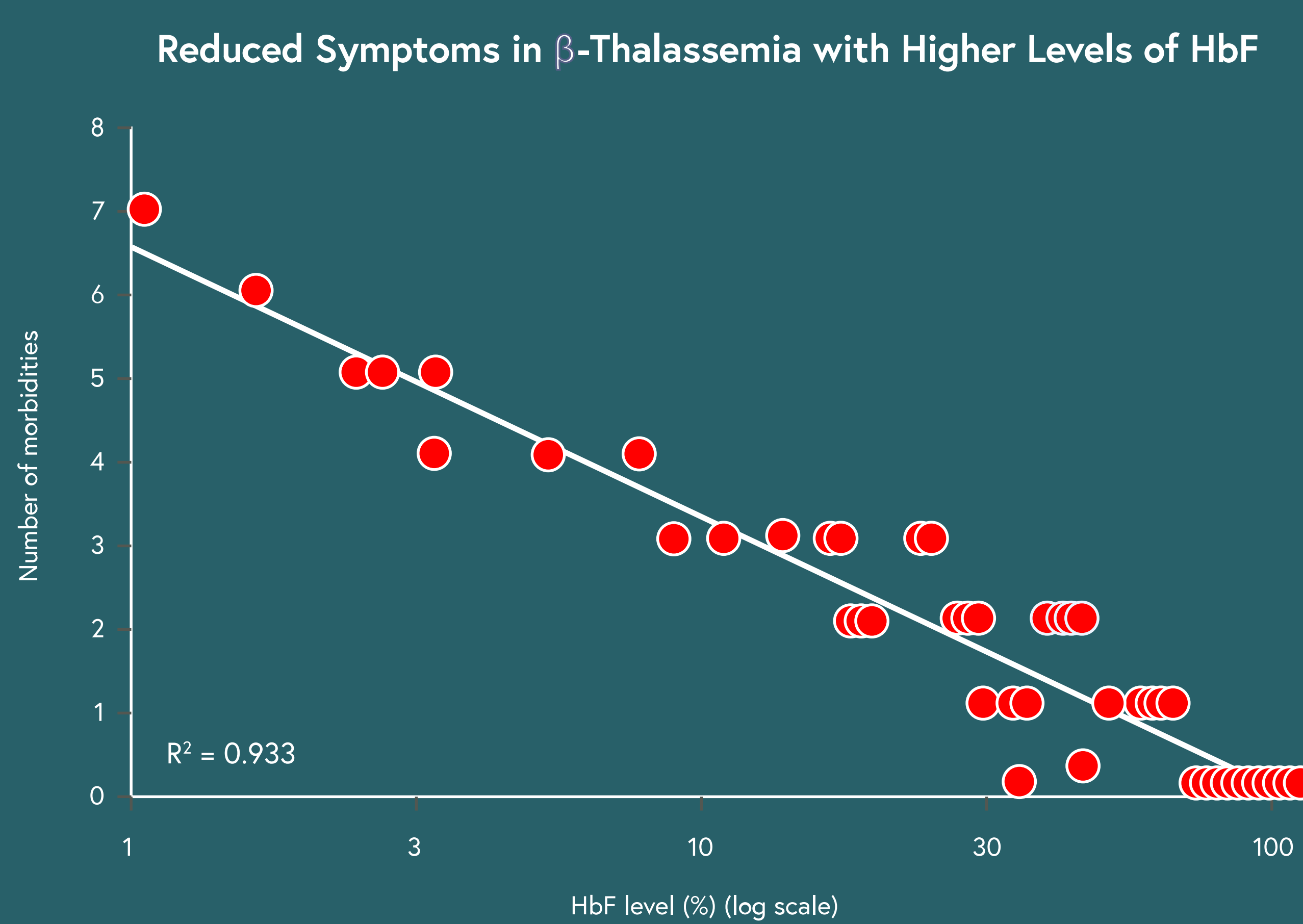
at specific locations in the genome, changing the organism's DNA



- 1 Create a small segment of RNA containing a short guiding sequence that binds to a targeted sequence of genome DNA, Cas9 enzyme.
- 2 Modified RNA is used for recognizing the new DNA sequence; cutting off the rest of the DNA.
- 3 The new DNA used to study the cell's repair machinery by add/delete/change the genetic material; making custom DNA sequences.

Ex Vivo

- 1 Removing cells from a patient
- 2 CRISPr/Cas9 inserted into removed cells via a petri dish.
- 3 New edited cells returned back to patient



Studying the treatment β -thalassemia, SCD by creating them to increase levels of fetal hemoglobin (HbF), a naturally-occurring form of hemoglobin present in all people before birth.

HbF can substitute for the diseased hemoglobin in β -thalassemia and SCD patients, reducing or eliminating symptoms.

Cell therapy with CTX001 is isolating a patient's blood stem cells, editing them with CRISPR/Cas9 to increase HbF expression, then returning the edited cells to the patient. Over time the belief is these edited blood stem cells will generate red blood cells with increased levels of HbF, which may reduce or eliminate patient's symptoms.



2017 signed an agreement to co-develop, commercialize the program

IN VIVO

- 1 Targeting genes during cell therapy
- 2 Inserting new genes; giving cells new abilities.

Non-Viral: Focused on LPNs targeting the liver. Encapsulate messenger RNA encoding Cas9, guide RNA, a donor DNA template, into LPNs to train into the liver.

Viral: Focused on other organ systems using AAV vectors. They can deliver DNA encoding for Cas9/guide RNA into specific body tissues.



For LNP Technology



For mRNA to support liver targeted research



Aiming to engineer novel AAV vectors that target separate tissue types