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AREA(S) OF FOCUS:

Improving outcomes for patients with muscular dystrophy

Dr. Demonbreun is developing protein therapeutics, designed using information from genetic signals, for the treatment of muscle diseases and muscle injury.

KEY RESEARCH AREAS:

Targeting muscular repair

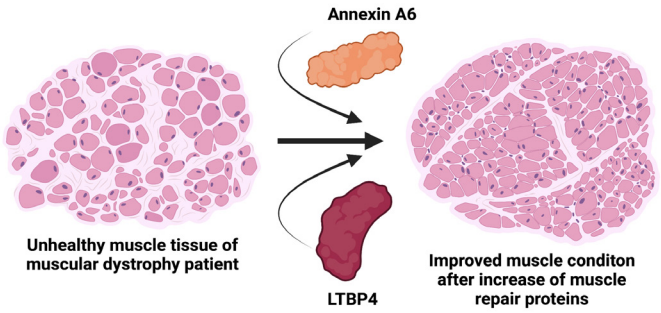
Develop protein therapies to enhance the normal healing process of diseased muscles including muscular dystrophy muscles.

Reducing fibrosis in muscle disease

Develop antibodies that target and reduce proteins that cause excessive scarring.

Enhance recovery from acute muscle injury

Develop biologics that promote membrane repair and protect against acute muscle injury.



ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS:

Lakeside Discovery

Dr. Demonbreun is developing therapies for muscular dystrophy through NIH support of work done as a collaboration between Northwestern and Ikaika Therapeutics, as well as Lakeside Discovery, a collaboration between Northwestern University & the investment firm Deerfield Management.

Muscular dystrophy is a group of genetic disorders with many different subtypes. Very few treatments are available, and these treatments are only applicable to a small number of patients and have limited efficacy.

The pipeline includes:

- Development of treatment approaches for all muscular dystrophy mutations
- Delivery of proteins such as Annexin A6 to promote repair of diseased or injured muscle.
- Development of treatment approaches for all muscular dystrophy mutations
- Delivery of antibody against a TGF-b binding protein to promote membrane stability, improve muscle strength and reduce fibrotic scar.

IKAIKA Therapeutics

- Delivery of proteins such as Annexin A6 to promote repair of diseased or injured muscle.