

## **Development of AAV-Galanin for Temporal Lobe Epilepsy**

ASKLEPIOS BioPharmaceutical Inc (Askbio) is a privately-held clinical-stage company founded in 2003. Askbio is developing a gene delivery technology platform suitable for targeting multiple diseases and multiple tissues, a platform built upon 25+ years of experience developing AAV vectors. This mature IP platform consists of over 22 issued patents and forms a solid foundation for the development of a broad pipeline. Askbio has a track record of successful collaborations and/or licensing deals with small and large pharma including GSK, Bayer, Medtronic and Merck. Askbio has recently initiated a therapeutic program targeting mesial temporal lobe epilepsy. The neuropeptide Galanin has been identified as an endogenous anti-convulsant. There is a significant body of preclinical research evaluating the therapeutic potential of galanin in models including transgenic overexpression, direct peptide administration, and more recently, in the paradigm of Galanin gene delivery to the hippocampus of seizure models. We are developing AAV based Galanin gene delivery for the treatment of epilepsy following a preclinical and clinical development strategy focused on the generation of a novel therapeutic with the label claim, “For the treatment of intractable mesiotemporal lobe epilepsy”. Proof of concept studies indicate that this approach may have both anticonvulsant and neuroprotective benefits, and is a potentially far less invasive intervention than surgical resection. This program has received SBIR funding. Askbio is interested in investment opportunities to support and accelerate the development of galanin gene delivery for epilepsy.