Summary and Future Directions

- Gene-targeted mice expressing wild type levels of the human prion protein (HuPrP) are an improved model to study human prion disease because this model allows us to:
  - Assess how sCJD disease outcomes are affected by the amino acid present at residue 129 of HuPrP (MM129, MV129, VV129)
  - Study how disease course of various subtypes of sCJD changes based on if transmission is direct to the brain or indirect via the periphery
  - Identify in which tissues different subtypes/strains of human prions are detected outside of the CNS
  - Investigate how properties of sCJD subtypes evolve during serial transmission
- Transmission of sCJD and iCJD by clinically relevant routes are ongoing

- Future directions
  - Serially transmit positive peripheral tissue
  - Assess how GtHu mice challenged with iCJD compares to sCJD in our model