

## Wave crashes as Duchenne data disappoint



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Wave Life Sciences now has only one shot of finishing the year on a positive note. Today the group said widely awaited data for its Duchenne muscular dystrophy project [suvodirsen had failed](#) to show any dystrophin increases from baseline in the OLE trial at both the 3.5mg/kg and 5.0mg/kg dose, more than halving shares to \$17.94. Wave also announced the end of development for the exon 51 skipping asset, as well as WVE-N531, an exon 53 asset in DMD. Investor focus will now inevitably shift to Wave's other end-of-the-year catalyst, [phase I/II results from WVE-120101 and WVE-120102](#) in Huntington's disease. And despite Wave's chief executive, Paul Bolno, insisting that "not having success in delivering exon skipping is different to a drug getting into the brain", many analysts reduced the probability of success for the Huntington's trial. In terms of delivering on Huntington's Wave has set itself a much harder task than its nearest rivals, Ionis and Roche, by using an antisense oligonucleotide that it hopes will distinguish between mutant and wild-type HTT, thereby providing greater patient benefits. However, if the group fails to show any benefit here it hard to see a future for it.