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From research to market approved medicines – the regulatory perspective

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No conflict of interest declared.



- Do you want to answer a research question?
- Do you intend to develop your research candidate to the clinic?
- Do you want to develop a medicine to EU approval?



I intend to develop my research candidate to the clinic

Strategic planning

- Medicine development follows certain rules
 - Legal European frame to ensure safe and efficacious medicines of high quality
 - EU regulations, directives, guidelines, national legislations
- What is your product?
 - Define your product
 - Chemical
 - Biological, e.g. (bi-specific) monoclonal antibody; CART cell, TCR-T cell, gene edited cells -> advanced therapy medicinal product (ATMP)



I intend to develop my research candidate to the clinic

Strategic planning (2)

- Do you want to translate your development candidate towards a first-in-human clinical trial -> scientific and procedural aspects of clinical trials -> authorisation by member states
- Do you want to develop your product towards marketing authorisation -> EU market (commercialization) -> authorisation by member state delegated experts in EU committees at EMA -> pricing and reimbursement discussions in member states



Define your product/development candidate

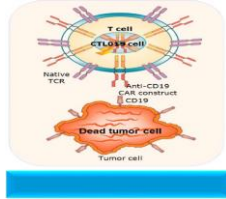
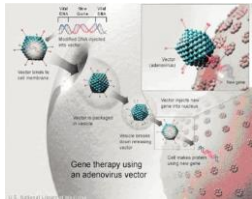
- Classification of medicines in national responsibility
 - Chemical, small molecule
 - Biological
 - Recombinant proteins, eg. Epoetin alpha
 - Vaccines
 - Monoclonal antibodies
 - Gene and cell therapies (advanced therapies, ATMP)
 - Relevant in terms of regulatory oversight, authorisation, surveillance
 - Differential responsibilities in Germany.
 - Federal Institute for drugs and medical devices (BfArM)
 - Paul-Ehrlich-Institute
 - Competent authorities Laender
 - Relevant in terms of applicable legal frames, guidelines



EU Regulation for Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) (EC) No1394/2007

- Stipulates EU authorization via the centralized procedure, coordinated by European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- Principles of existing legislation apply: quality, safety, efficacy, pharmacovigilance, post-authorisation patient follow-up, GMP, GCP
- Classification advice from EMA Committee for Advanced Therapies

Gene therapy

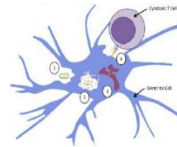


→ Recombinant nucleic acid

Rek. AAV vectors

Genetically modified cells

Somatic cell therapy



→ Pharmaco-immunological...

Expanded allogeneic MSC, complex anal fistula

Tissue engineered product



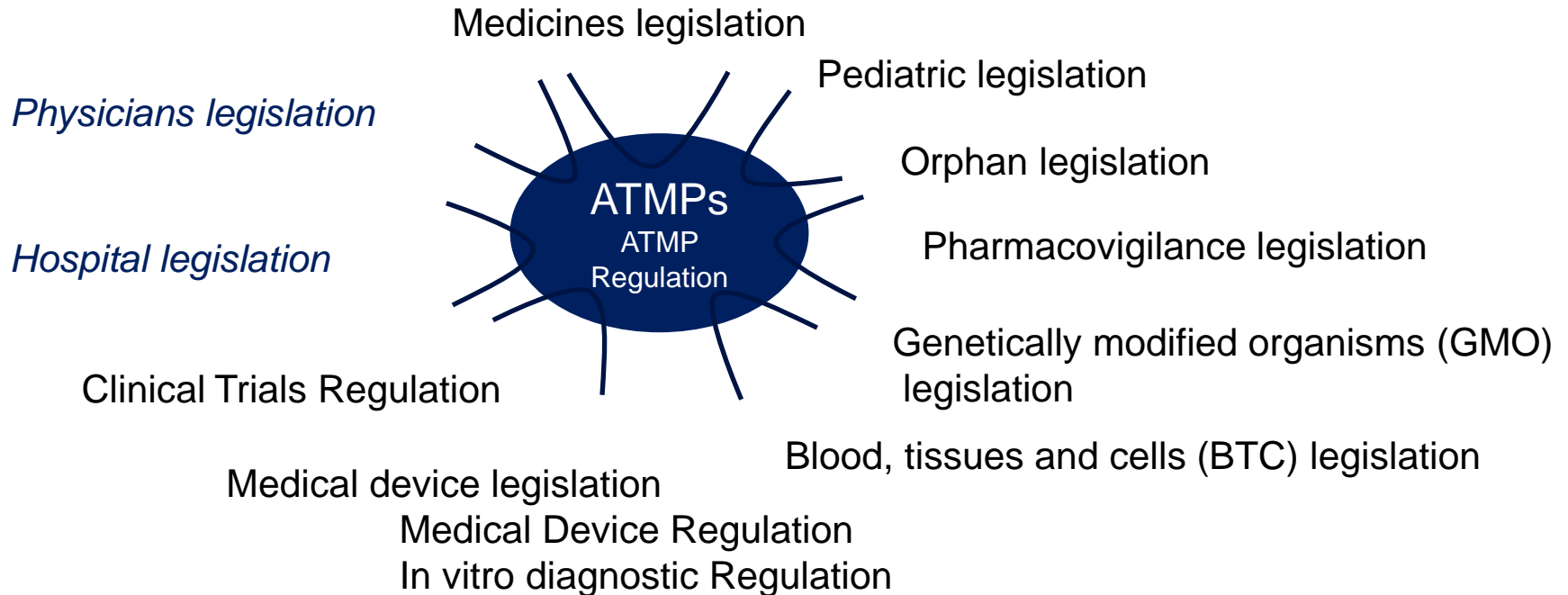
→ Regeneration, repair

Cultured chondrocytes,
Regeneration knee cartilage



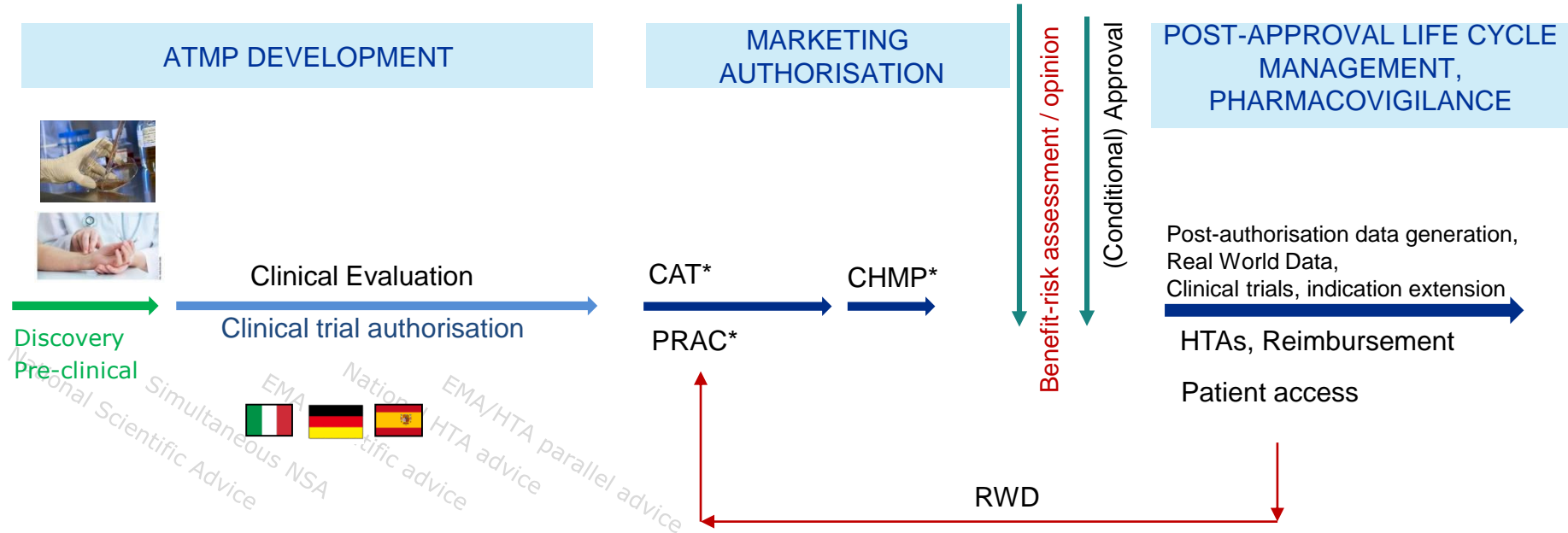
The EU legal frame for gene and cell therapies (ATMPs)

Interfacing legislation





The medicine life cycle



Scientific assessments and authorisations by experts from NCAs throughout life cycle

- *Committee for Advanced Therapies
- [Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use](#)
- [Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee](#)

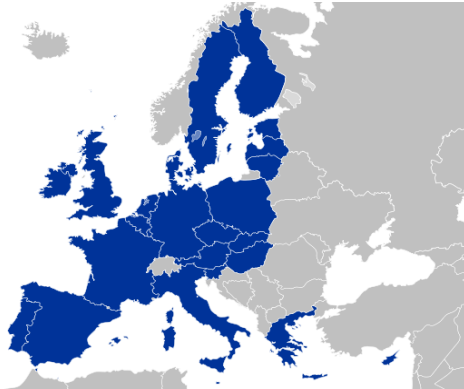
Translation of development candidate towards first-in-human clinical trial



- Scientific aspects
- Regulatory - methodological aspects
- Operational - procedural aspects
- Funding aspects



The EU Clinical Trials/Clinical Trial Information System CTIS



Clinical Trials Directive (EU 2001/20/EC)

Some harmonisation, but **national systems & processes varied**

Entered into application 1 May 2004

Clinical Trials Regulation (No. 536/2014)

Full harmonisation, efficiency through collaborative assessment of multinational trials

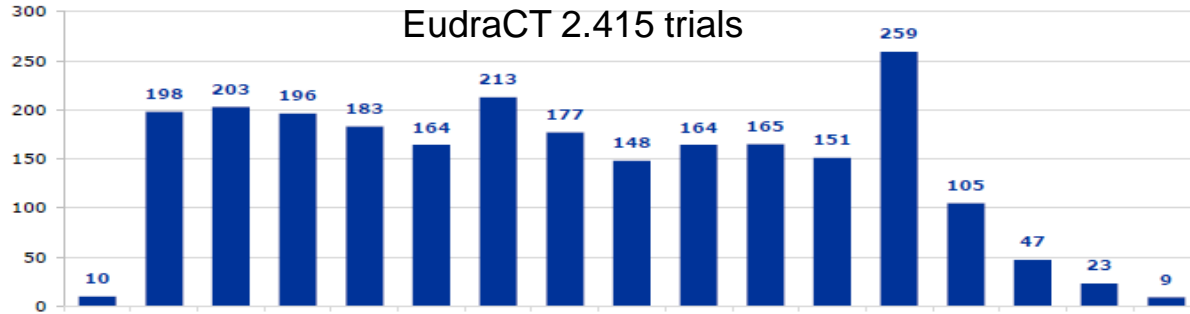
Develop EU as competitive center for innovative clinical research

Source European Medicines Agency

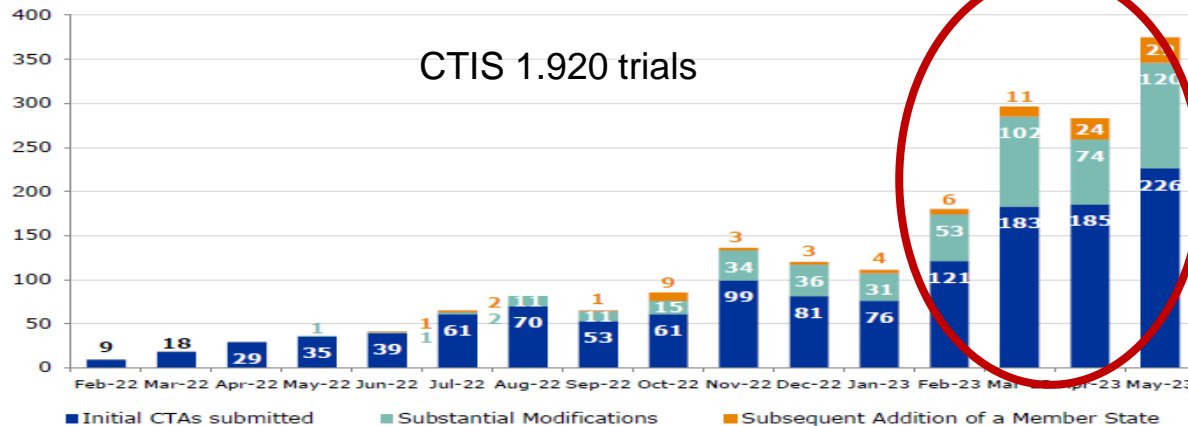


The EU clinical research/trial landscape since 2.2022

CTAs uploaded by Member States in EudraCT (CTAs are counted as individual trial protocol)



CTAs submitted in CTIS per month



Jan. - June 2023

EU-CTIS n= 791
clintrials.gov: n= 20.030
clinical trials registered

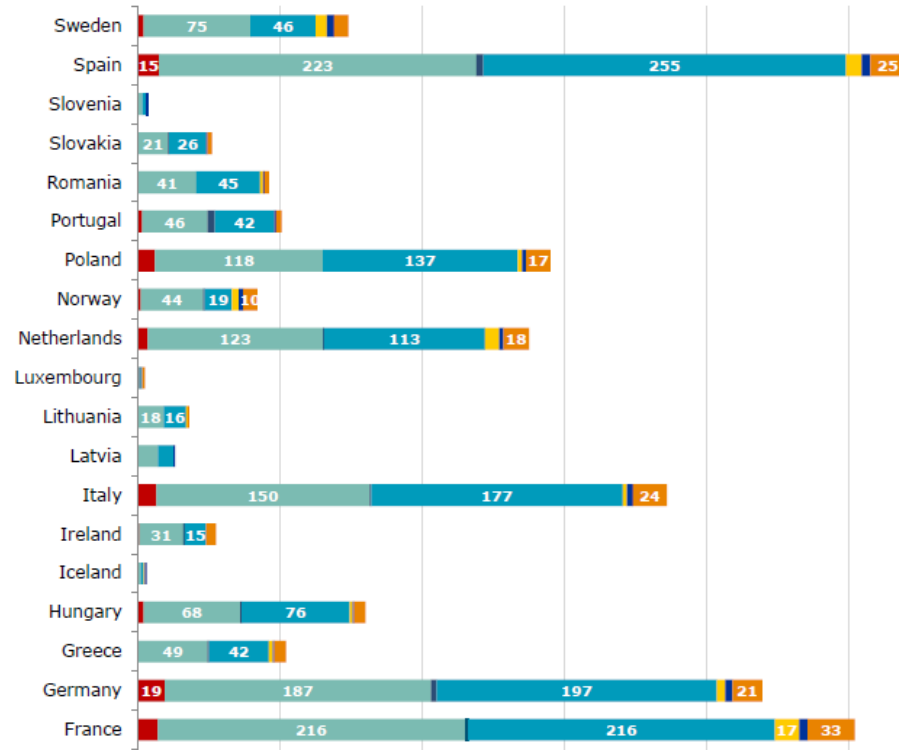
https://www.ema.europa.eu/ACT_EU_KPIs



The EU clinical trial landscape

CTIS clinical trial applications 1.2022 – 6.2023 by EU member state

Member States Concerned

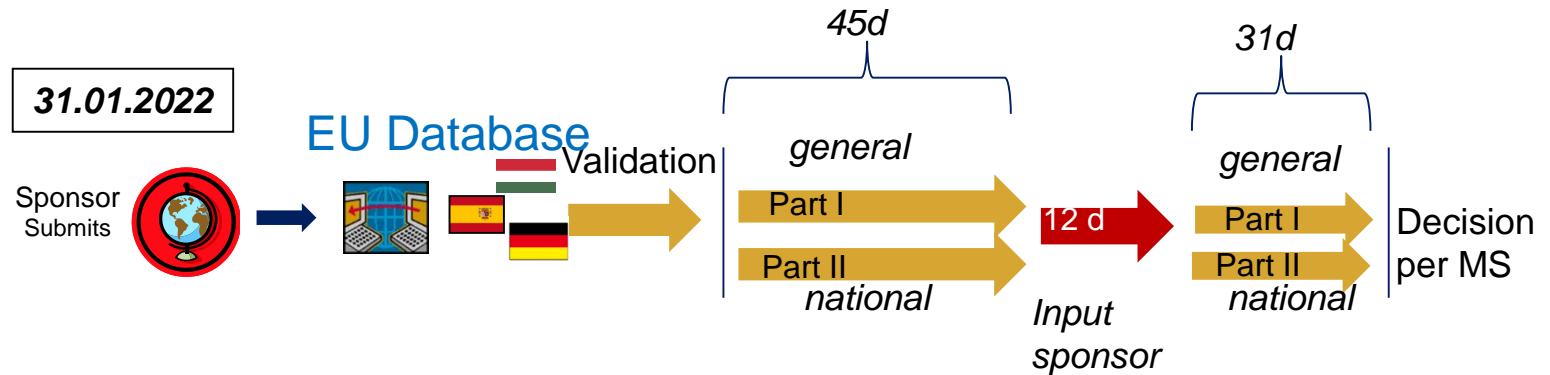


1.930 clinical trial applications in CTIS since 1.2022

Submitted applications
Spain > France > Germany
Includes multinational trials

The EU Clinical Trials/CTIS system - Regulation 536/2014

Procedural aspects



- Harmonized
 - Sponsor submits dossier through CTIS/EU portal
 - Assessment by national competent authorities - co-ordinated multinational assessment, „reporting“ and „concerned“ member states
 - Very short timelines (12d) for sponsors to address questions
- Member states retain authorisation and oversight

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/research-development/clinical-trials/>



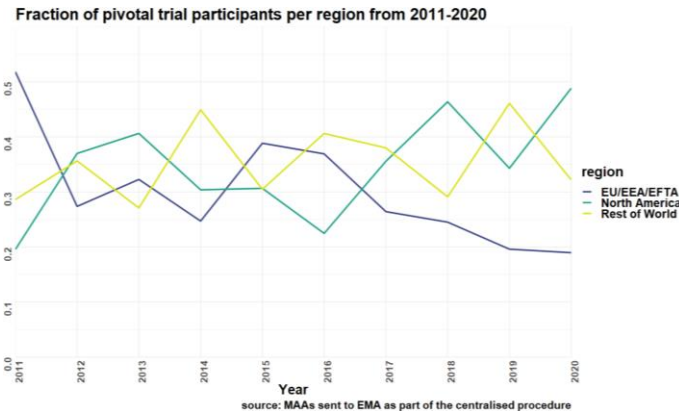
EU Clinical Research Landscape

Where do we stand?

- < 10% of (ATMP) clinical trials worldwide are conducted in the EU*
10% of these are non-commercial/investigator-initiated trials*

CTR/CTIS increases challenges for sponsors and assessment teams (NCAs)

- 5-10 times higher workload at agency, bad usability
- Shorter timelines (12 days) for sponsors to address questions
- Interface problem for gene therapies (GMO issue).
- The “Accelerating Clinical Trials” EU/EMA initiative does not tackle the translational and clinical trial bottle neck



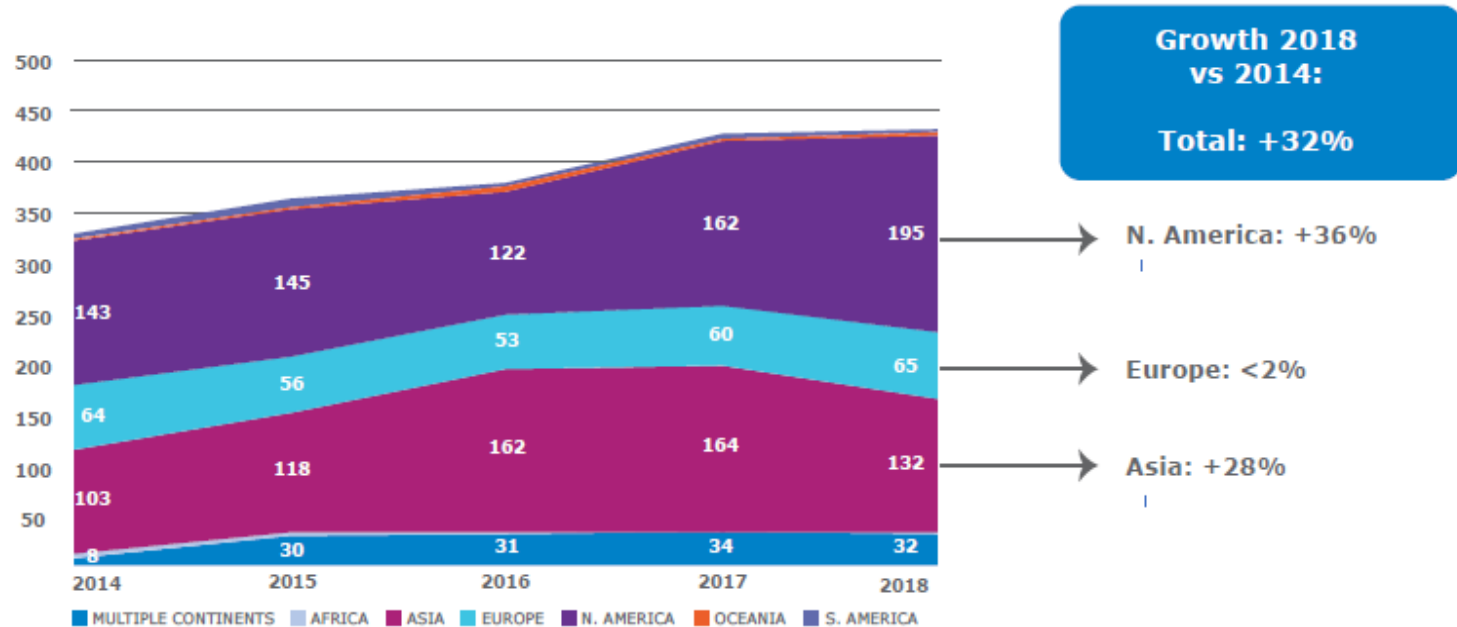
The fraction of EU/EEA trial participants is trending downwards (EMA data)

The Global Clinical Research and Trial Landscape

Gene and cell therapies 2014 - 2019 (Alliance for Regenerative Medicine)



Clinical Trials Initiated 1 Jan 2014 – 30 June 2019, by Continent and Year



Total new trials initiated during the 2014-2018 period = 2.097

(All new trials initiated in more than one continent are included in the Multiple Continents category)

The First-in-human trial application

Scientific – regulatory – methodological aspects



Strategic planning

Key discussion points prior to FIH trial







- Is my investigational ATMP sufficiently characterized (quality characterisation) to generate reproducible trial results?
- Have I planned for the manufacturing licence of the investigational ATMP?
- Is my non-clinical data package suitable for a FIH trial?
 - Pharmacodynamics – in vivo proof of principle – small and large animal models
 - Biodistribution and toxicology studies
 - immunogenicity, genomic stability, tumorigenicity, (starting) dose in humans, administration/surgical procedure
- Have I considered the main design aspects of FIH trial?
 - Patient population, safety and efficacy endpoints (clinical/biomarker), dose (escalation), administration procedure, feasibility
- Am I sufficiently prepared to navigate the Clinical Trials/CTIS system?



Support tool prior to clinical trial application

National Scientific Advice

- Driven by concept to support academia in ATMP development (PEI 2007)
- Low threshold to access regulatory-scientific advice
- Structured and less structured interaction
- Workshops

Pre-Advice	National Scientific Advice			Joint Scientific Advice	Portfolio Meeting
					
Drug Discovery / Therapy Concept	CMC / Quality	Non-Clinical Study Concepts	Clinical Trial Protocols	Pivotal Study Protocols	Pipeline Presentation

<https://www.pei.de/EN/regulation/advice/advice-content.html>



Support tool prior to clinical trial application

Simultaneous National Scientific Advice Pilot Phase 2

Multi-National Scientific Advice



CMC /
Quality



Non-Clinical
Study Concepts



Clinical Trial
Protocols



Applicant determines a coordinating authority for the scientific advice meeting

- ...for multinational clinical trials
- ...single entry point @ SNSA@pei.de
- ...may help but is not forcing to align national positions.
- ...is a pilot project of the EU-Innovation Network.



Additional NCAs dial in per phone/web-conferencing

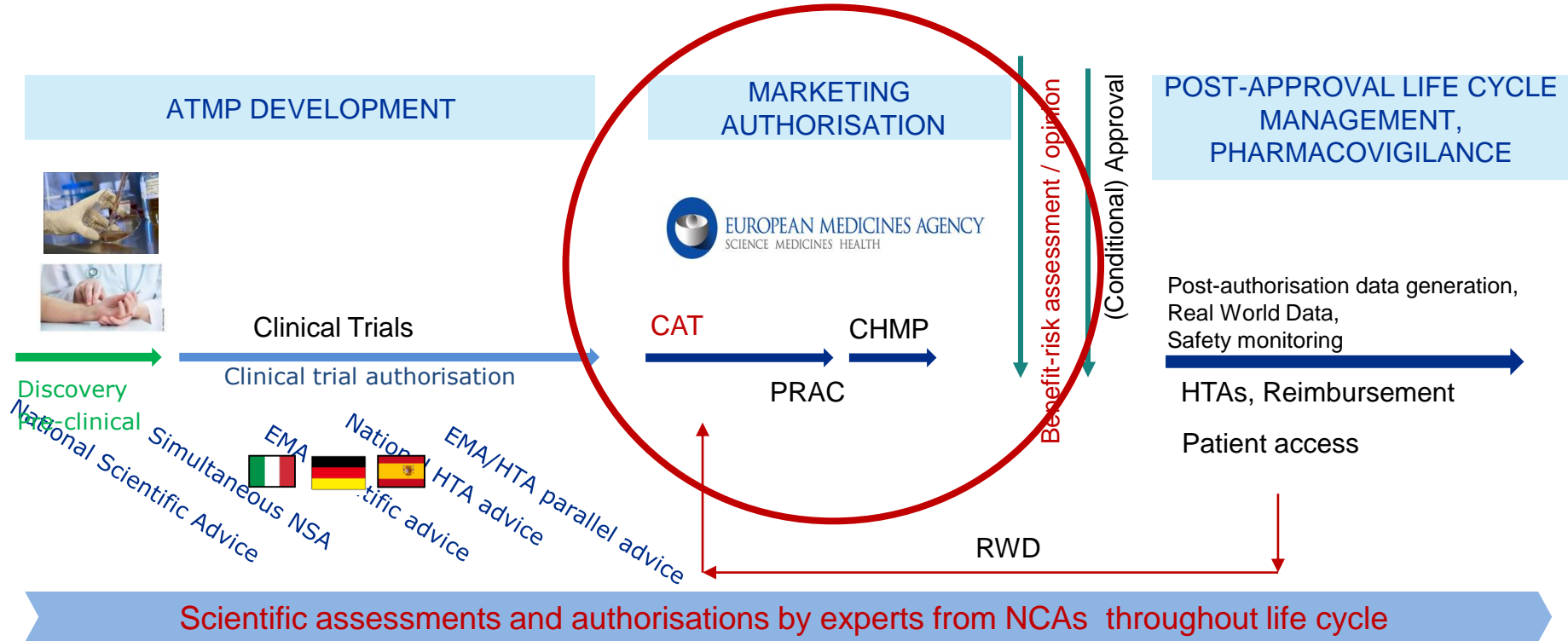


National scientific advice as support tool to tackle the EU translational/clinical trial gap

- Has become even more important in light of the new CT-Regulation.
- Make use of 2-3 in-depth scientific advices along your product development with overlapping areas.
-
- SNSA could be a useful advice format for multinational trials.
- When planning pivotal clinical trials (PhII/PhIII), ask for and bring in the positions of the EMA and/or HTA to ensure alignment with marketing authorisation and HTA (e.g. added benefit) requirements.



The medicine life cycle





The marketing authorisation application

Strategic planning

Strategic planning

Key discussion points prior to marketing authorisation submission

- Is my **manufacturing process** consistent, mature, valid for set-up of commercial manufacturing?
- Is the **non-clinical data package** complete?
- Is the **clinical data package** comprehensive and robust with compelling evidence of efficacy and safety, even if limited and based on a single arm trial?
- Have I done a **feasibility analysis for post-authorisation studies (e.g. registry-based)**?
- Do I have orphan designation and an agreed pediatric investigation plan?
- Are the companion diagnostic aspects considered?
- Have I planned for interaction with Health Technology Assessment (HTA) bodies
- Have I considered member state-specific reimbursement rules?



AADC deficiency - Upstaza, eladocagene exuparvovec

Marketing Authorisation in 7.2022

- Disease:
 - Ultra-rare genetic disease, 200 patients known/published, loss of dopamine production, no head control, sit, stand or walk, other symptoms, no approved treatments
- Indication
 - Patients aged 18 months and older with a clinical, molecular, and genetically confirmed diagnosis of aromatic L-amino acid decarboxylase (AADC) deficiency with a severe phenotype.
- Treatment concept:
 - Gene replacement based on AAV2 vector containing the cDNA of human dopa decarboxylase gene under control of CMV promoter
- Posology and method of administration
 - 1.8×10^{11} vg, **intraputaminale Infusion**, **two sites per Putamen**, **stereotactische neurochirurgische Praxis**



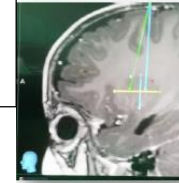


AADC deficiency - Upstaza, eladocagene exuparvovec

Post-authorisation data generation

No EU-based subjects in clinical trials (founder mutation Taiwan)
Marketing authorisation under exceptional circumstances
Annual reassessment

Feasibility of high quality Real World Data collection supports regulatory and HTA decision making



Provide more data on safety and efficacy including patients treated in the EU for annual reassessment

Is a **public registry** available as secondary data source?
Is it possible for the company to collaborate with the iNTD registry*?
Is the registry able to comply with **regulatory requirements**, e.g. real time data capture, consistent data collection? Who owns the data and may publish?

*iNTD patient registry: only global registry, set up by team of scientists/clinicians worldwide



Gene therapy on the move

2009 First CAT plenary meeting

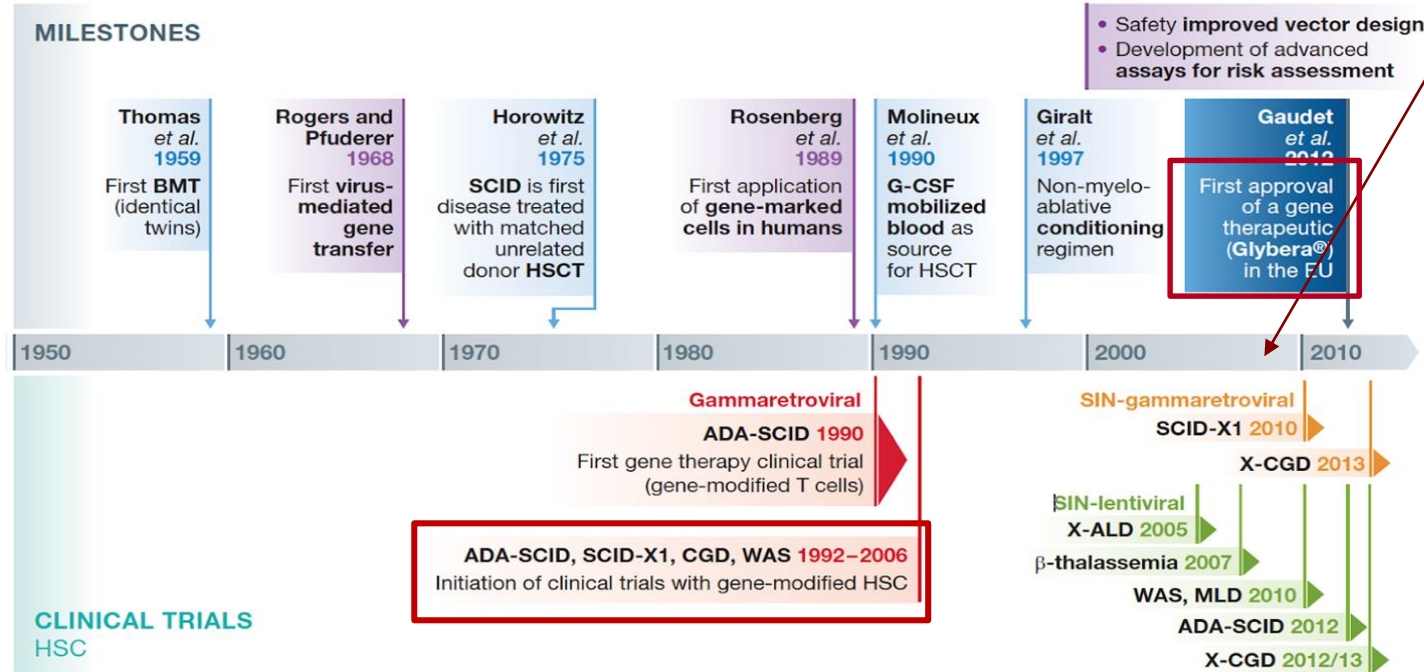
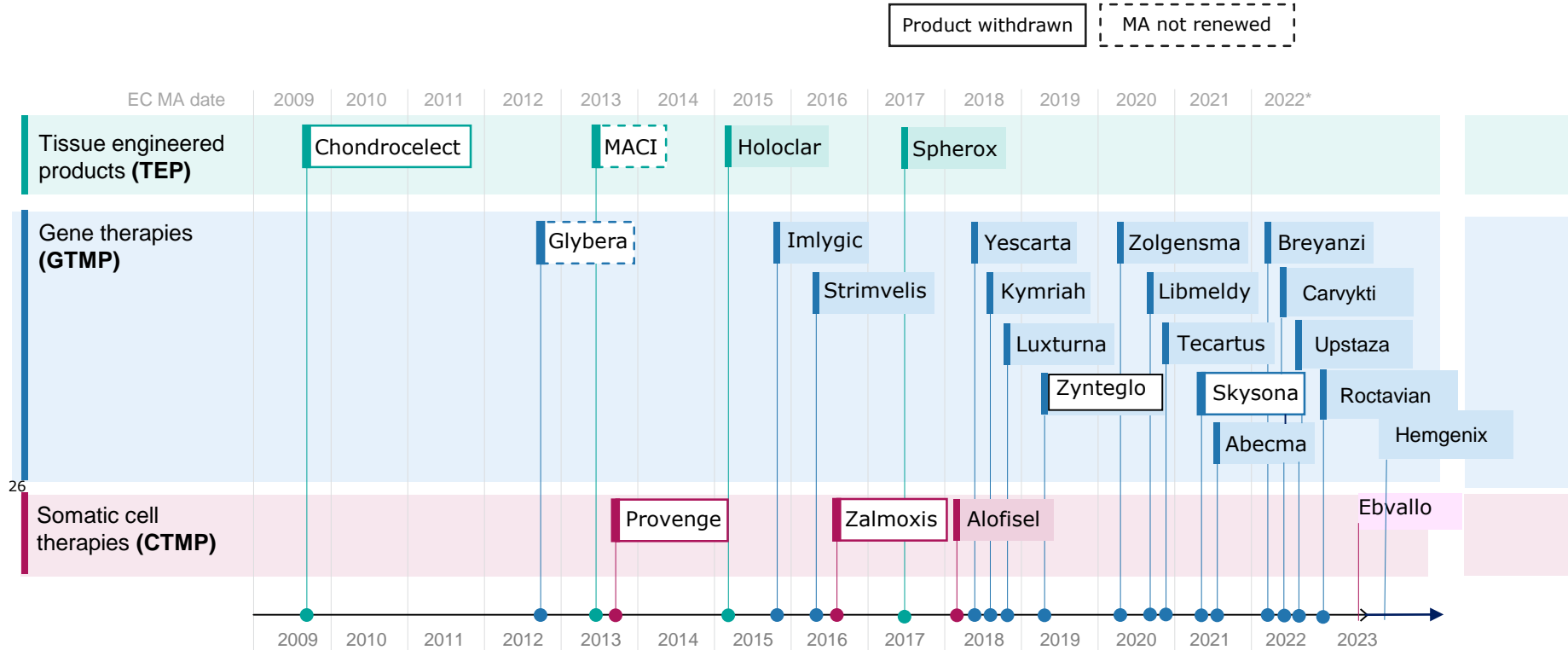


Image: Kaufmann et al. EMBO Mol Med 2013



Approved ATMPs 2023





- EU scientists and researches stand for pioneering achievements in the area of gene and cell therapies.
- We see a steep increase in market approvals in the EU of highly innovative medicines like gene and cell therapies (ATMPs).
- Developing your research candidate to the clinic requires well thought and early strategic planning.
- Improvements on different levels are needed to tackle the downward trend in EU-based innovative medicine developments and close the translational gap.





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Thank you for your attention
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