Gene Therapies for Rare Diseases

September 13, 2018
Rare Disease Scientific Workshop
Everylife Foundation for Rare Diseases
Washington, DC

Wilson W. Bryan
Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies (OTAT)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

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Office of Blood Research and Review

Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies

www.fda.gov
Cell and Gene Therapy
Investigational New Drug Applications

www.fda.gov
Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs) for Gene Therapy Products, 2002-2017
Gene Therapy: Scientific Advances

- Human Genome Project
  - Completed in October 2003
  - 99% of human genes sequenced to 99% accuracy

- Development of new vectors
  - Adeno-associated virus (AAV)
  - Lentivirus

- Genome editing
CAR T Cells: A Novel Way to Treat Cancer


CTL, cytotoxic T lymphocyte; MHC, major histocompatibility complex

www.fda.gov
Gene Therapy
United States Marketing Approvals in 2017

• **Kymriah** (tisagenlecleucel; Novartis)
  • CAR T cells (target – CD19)
  • Refractory childhood lymphoblastic B cell leukemia

• **Yescarta** (axicabtagene ciloleucel; Gilead (Kite))
  • CAR T cells (target – CD19)
  • Adult patients with relapsed or refractory large B cell lymphoma

• **Luxturna** (voretigene neparvovec-rzyl; Spark Therapeutics)
  • Gene therapy (adeno-associated virus vector)
  • Biallelic RPE65 mutation-associated retinal dystrophy
Gene Therapies for Rare Diseases

FDA Draft Guidance (July 2018):
*Human Gene Therapy for Rare Disease*

... consider designing ... first-in-human study to be an adequate and well-controlled investigation that has the potential ... to provide evidence of effectiveness to support a marketing application.
Efficient Development of Gene Therapies

1) Teamwork

Requires collaboration of scientists, academic investigators, sponsors (e.g., pharmaceutical industry), funding organizations, patients, patient advocacy groups, and regulatory agencies.
Efficient Development of Gene Therapies

2) Preparation

• Design and conduct Natural History studies that will support subsequent drug development

• When preclinical studies are beginning, draft the design of the clinical study(ies)

• Resolve manufacturing issues, as much as possible, before first-in-human clinical trial
Efficient Development of Gene Therapies

3) Try to hit a home run!

Design first-in-human clinical trial to provide evidence of effectiveness (e.g., include randomized controls)
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• OTAT Learn Webinar Series:
  http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/NewsEvents/ucm232821.htm

• CBER website: www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/default.htm
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Gene Therapy: Efficient Drug Development

Drug development is like baseball:
1) Preparation
2) Teamwork
3) The heroes try for the home run!
Drug Development

Preclinical - Development - Preclinical - Phase 1 - Phase 2 - Phase 3 - BLA - Post-marketing
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