Gene Therapy Mythbusting

Gene Therapy is a Cure

Myth: Gene Therapy is a Cure
Fact: Gene therapy has the potential to be curative, but more research is needed on its long term effects. It may be more realistic to say it is about controlling disease progression for now.

Insurance Doesn’t Cover Gene Therapy

Myth: Insurance Doesn’t Cover Gene Therapy
Fact: The approved treatments on the market are covered by many health insurance options, including Medicare. Many groups, including ASGCT, are advocating for sufficient coverage and reimbursement.

Parents Can Change Their Odds of Having Affected Children

Myth: Parents Can Change Their Odds of Having Affected Children
Fact: Genetic diseases are inherited from the parents and influenced only by the family’s genetic background, so the odds are left to chance. Genetic testing allows the parents to find out if they are carriers of some diseases.

Animal and Human Trials Have the Same Results

Myth: Animal and Human Trials Have the Same Results
Fact: Preclinical results may show us the treatment is successful in animals. Unfortunately, this often does not mean it will be successful in a clinical trial for humans. These are very different steps of the research process.