



# The Relevance of Global Convergence to Accelerating the Availability of Gene Therapies

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# Outline

- The case for global regulatory convergence
- Timing for global education and harmonization
- Overcoming barriers to delivering gene therapy
- Practical next steps

# Bottom Line Up Front

- Delivering safe and effective gene therapies to those in need should be a global priority to alleviate suffering from various serious diseases
- Global regulatory convergence in high income countries could help facilitate commercial availability and pave the way for the use of gene therapies in low and middle income countries

# Approved Gene Therapies

- United States
  - Kymriah (2017)
  - Yescarta (2017)
  - Luxturna (2018)
  - Zolgensma (2019)
- European Union
  - Strimvelis (2016)
  - Kymriah (2018)
  - Yescarta (2018)
  - Luxturna (2018)
  - Zynteglo (2019)

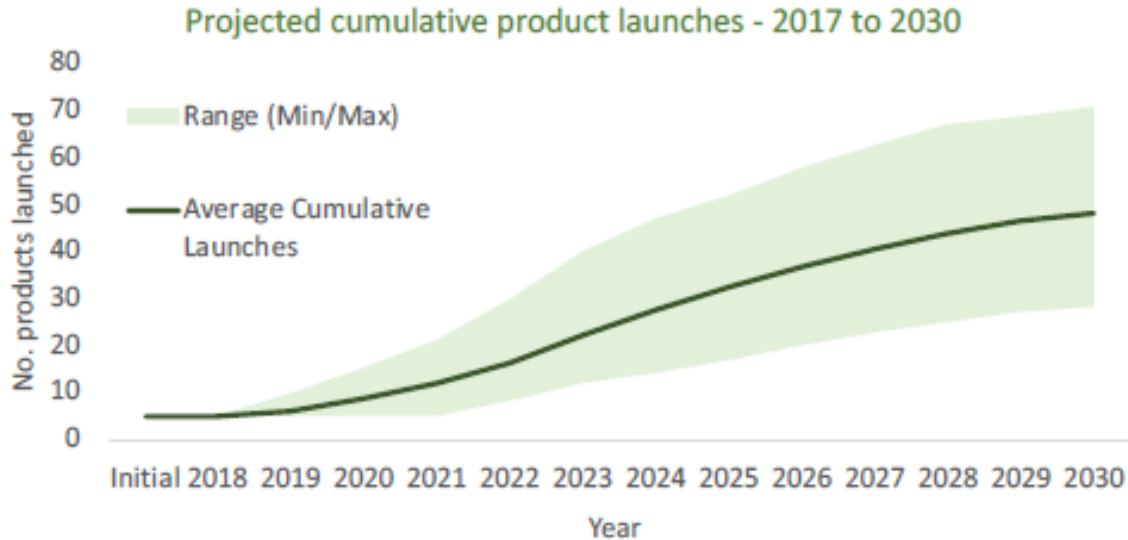
Glybera (approved 2012, withdrawn 2017)

# Robust Global Pipeline

- Hemophilia A and B
- Retinal disorders
- Lysosomal storage disorders
- Neuromuscular diseases
- Hemoglobinopathies
- Cancers (genetically-modified T cells)

# Gene Therapy Projections

Prediction of 40 to 60 product launches and more than 500,000 treated by 2030



From: MIT NEWDIGS Research Brief 2018F210-v027-Launches

# Commercial Viability in 2019





# Importance of Gene Therapy for Rare Disorders

- There are hundreds of disorders affecting a few hundred individuals per year that could potentially be addressed by gene therapy
- Evolution of gene therapy toward increased use of genome editing may transform more common disorders into a collection of rare disorders





# Global Regulatory Convergence: High Income Countries

- Robust commercial viability requires at least about 200 gene therapy treatments per year
- Any one country may not have enough patients to make many products commercially viable
- However, marketing across high income countries could result in commercial viability



# Global Regulatory Convergence: Low and Middle Income Countries

- Populations in low and middle income countries may stand to benefit the most from gene therapy because of lack of access to supportive care
- Relying on a provided regulatory framework and on harmonized regulatory decisions equivalent to “pre-qualification” could help facilitate access

# Regulatory Needs:

## Low and Middle Income Countries

- Many countries have little or no experience with the regulation of cell or gene therapies
- The availability of a globally-developed general regulatory framework could ultimately expedite patient access, since developing regulations out of nothing could be quite challenging

# Manufacturing Needs:

## Low and Middle Income Countries

- Production of viral vectors in current generation of cell lines is relatively inefficient and costly
- Purification procedures for gene therapies are complex and are not standardized
- Concerted effort required to reduce cost of production and easy of therapeutic delivery

# Importance of Global Collaboration for Gene Therapy

- Science of gene therapy is evolving rapidly and manufacturing technology is lagging behind
- The effect of a poorly conceived or improperly manufactured product on the entire field of gene therapy could be chilling, regardless of where the product is produced or administered



# Potential Areas for Convergence

- Preclinical study requirements
  - Toxicology studies
- Environmental assessments
- Manufacturing information
  - Identity, purity, potency
- Clinical outcomes

# Practical Next Steps

- More active harmonization of regulatory approach in high income countries
  - Meetings between US, EU, Canada, others
- Encourage sponsors considering global development programs that include the US to invite other regulators to early stage meetings (INTERACT, pre-IND)

# Practical Next Steps

- Produce white paper on potential regulatory framework for cell and gene therapies for low and middle income countries
- International collaboration on advancing methods for production of gene therapies
- Develop public-private partnerships that can facilitate gene therapy for ultra rare disorders



# Summary

- Delivering safe and effective gene therapies to those in need should be a global priority to alleviate suffering from various serious diseases
- Global regulatory convergence in high income countries could help facilitate commercial availability and pave the way for the use of gene therapies in low and middle income countries



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