

## Welcome!

Cell and gene therapy in oncology - The development of academic innovations

6<sup>th</sup> of October

**ARTIS Royal Zoo** 



# **EXAMP**

## Speeding up developments by improving the innovation environment

**Highlights of KWF report** 

Cell and gene therapy in oncology, 6 October 2021 Delphi Coppens

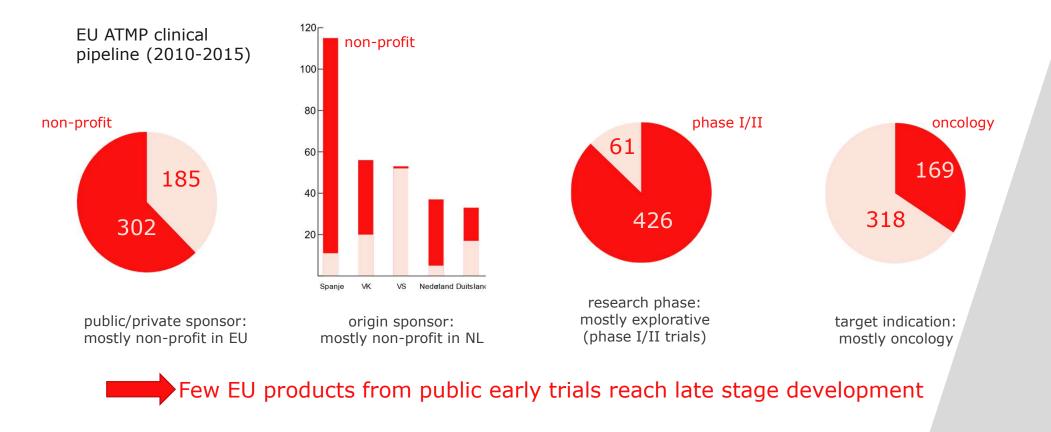
#### ₿ **KWF**

## Welcome





## Few products are reaching clinical practice



Boráň et al (2017) Hum Gene Ther Clin Dev

#### ₿ **W**KWF

## **Speeding up developments – but how?**

- Goal: provide insights in how to advance academic developments by improving the innovation system
- Inventory of academic development trajectories and perspectives:
  - T cell, NK cell, and dendritic cell products; translational research clinical practice
  - Future perspectives and role of stakeholders

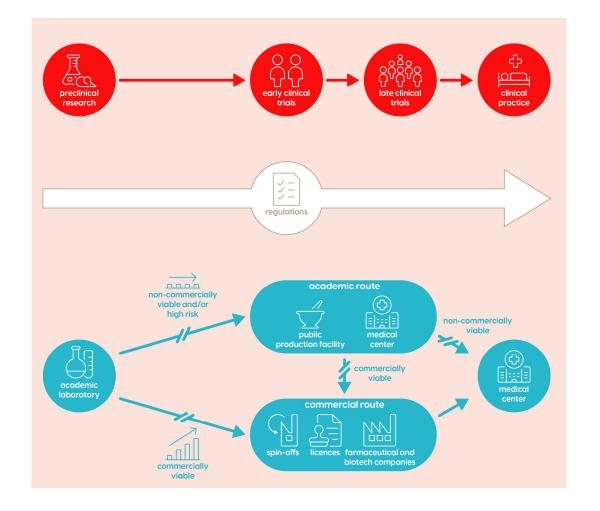
#### **WKWF**

#### Cel- en gentherapie naar de oncologische klinische praktijk

Kansen en knelpunten voor innovatie vanuit de academie

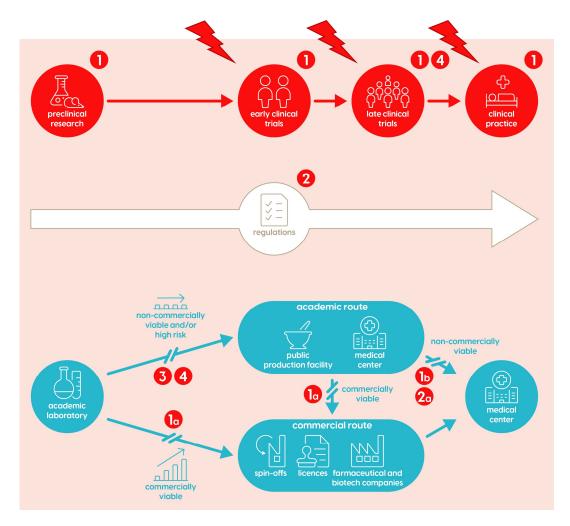


## The innovation system for cell and gene therapy



## 𝔅ϑKWF

## **Bottlenecks and recommendations**



#### **Recommendations**

- 1. Coordination and support by a centralised body
- 2. Regulatory clarity and fitfor-purpose requirements
- Platform for knowledge dissemination and collective production capacity
- 4. Financial support for product development and late stage trials

## **ℰℬKWF**

## Schedule of the day

10.30-12.00

Manufacturing and quality

- GMP production in an academic institute
- > DARE-NL
- > UK Catapult
- Panel Discussion

16.30: Conclusions

13.00-14.30

Clinical development

- Late stage trial design
- From bench to bedside to commercialisation
- > Totality of evidence
- Panel Discussion

15.00-16.30

#### Route to clinical practice

- Valorization strategy
- From phase 3 to clinical practice
- Patient perspectives
- Panel Discussion







## Session 1: Manufacturing and Quality

Moderator: Pauline Meij

- GMP production in an academic institute Harry Dolstra
- DARE-NL: Dutch platform for cancer-specific ATMP Research to ensure harmonized development, clinical testing and sustained patient access Trudy Straetemans
- UK Catapult, an independent centre of excellence to advance the growth of CGT David Sexton
- Panel Discussion



## DARE-NL

## <u>D</u>utch platform for cancer-specific <u>A</u>TMP <u>Re</u>search to ensure harmonized development, clinical testing and sustained patient access

Proposal project number 13876 Infrastructure Call 2021-II





## **Cell and gene therapy innovation in NL** Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs)



## Identification of the challenges for clinical implementation



## What makes ATMPs unique from other drugs?

- 'Living drugs'
- Often based on patients' own immune cells
- Rapid developing field: new technologies evolving
- Gene engineering
- Very short shelf-live

## NL joined forces in DARE-NL to tackle the hurdles



# Collectively defined hurdles for cancer-specific cell and gene therapy in Academia

- Scattered knowledge in NL
- Regulatory challenges at level of (ATMP for GMP, CCMO, GMO) and EU level
- Limited supply of GMP ingredients like viral vector / plasmids etc
- Need of highly skilled staff at crossroad of disciplines: biology, pharmacy & engineering, regulatory and health economics
- IP, legal expertise & business development expertise
- Uncertain and unknown pathway to clinical implementation / market authorization / HE
- Uncertainty around reimbursement & affordability
- Limited insight in actual development costs & production costs (hidden costs)

## National transdisciplinary multi-stakeholder infrastructure

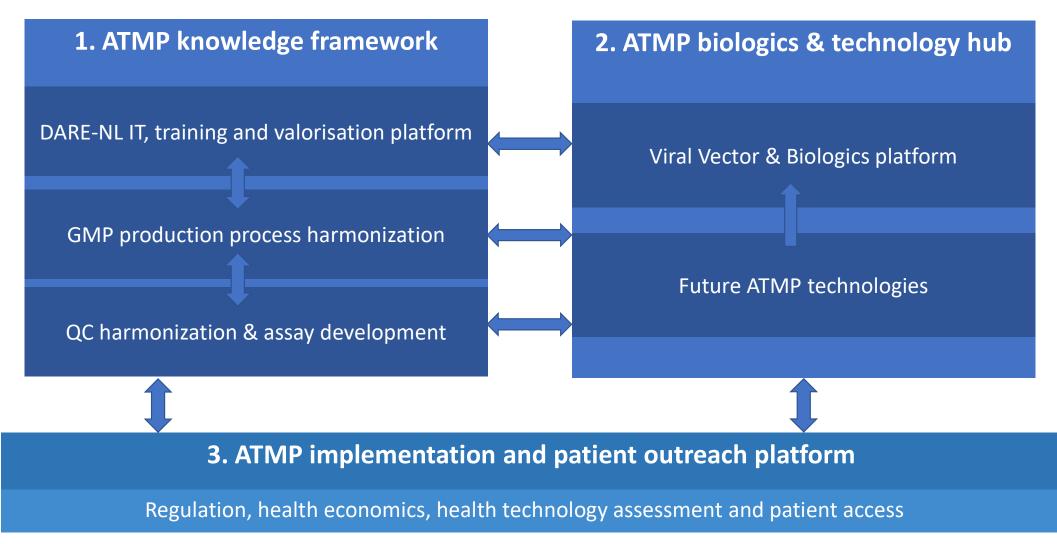
Keywords

- Connecting translational ATMP expertise in NL
- Enhance the **critical mass**
- Harmonization and exchange of procedures, protocols of quality control and processes under GMP
- Joint efforts and **dialogue towards policy makers** in NL and EU
- Availability of key GMP ingredients (i.e. viral vectors) for academic use
- Mapping needs for **innovative technologies** for their application in the clinic
- Strong project / program management
- Connection to existing structures in oncology / ATMP development national and international





## **Proposed key deliverables**



#### **1. ATMP knowledge framework**

#### Setup of DARE-NL data, training and valorization platform

- Implementation of an IT infrastructure, document, data & knowledge exchange
- Establishment of a centralized educational program tailor made for each type of ATMP personnel
- Set up a centralized valorization framework for supporting:
  - Sharing data in context of IP generated by DARE-NL partners and valorization
  - Business plan for a sustainable DARE-NL infrastructure

#### **GMP** production process harmonization

- Harmonize risk assessments for raw materials, substances and disposables
- Central qualification procedures suppliers & QC laboratories
- Harmonize generic procedures and SOPs
- Shared registry for product specific validation and production data

#### QC harmonization & assay development

- Create and validate standardized assays for safety, appearance, purity, identity and potency
- Implement standardized assays in QC laboratories of DARE-NL partners
- Overviews of international requirements for QC & joined discussions with authorities

#### 2. ATMP biologics & technology hub

#### Academic GMP viral vector manufacturing platform

- Setup of lentiviral vector production process
- Setup of retroviral vector production process
- Preclinical validation studies and QC testing
- Towards clinical-grade vector production
- Biologics Platform distribution system

#### **Future ATMP technologies**

- Mapping the landscape of new technologies
- Key non-viral engineering technologies
- CRISPR/Cas-9 reagents and transfection technologies
- GMP manufacturing roadmaps for key biologic ingredients



#### Regulation, health economics, health technology assessment and patient access

- Regulatory pathways, strategy, and evidence requirements
- HTA, reimbursement, and evidence requirements
- Map economic capabilities and business development
- Create an informal multi-stakeholder sandbox
- Stimulate expansion of timely patient access
  - Appoint a patient relations liaison
  - Voluntary HE & ATMP trials registry
  - Patients perspective on Dutch R&D strategy for ATMP development

Active support by

- -Dutch Cancer patient organization
- -Hematon
- -Vereniging Kinderkanker Nederland

#### Workpackage distribution

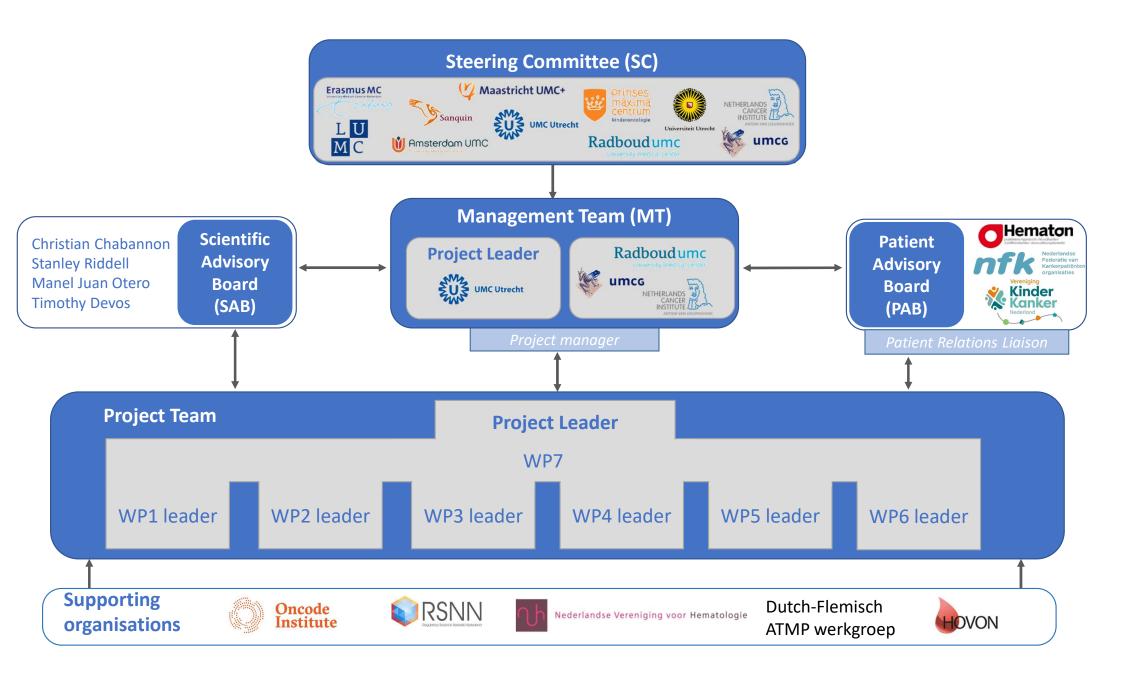
# 1. ATMP knowledge framework2. ATMP biologics & technology hubWP1: Setup of DARE-NL data, training and valorisation<br/>platform - EMCWP4: Viral Vector Platform - UMCGWP2: GMP production process harmonization - UMCUWP5: Future ATMP technologies - Radboud UMC

WP3: QC harmonization & assay development - NKI

3. ATMP implementation and patient outreach platform

WP6: Regulation, health economics, health technology assessment and patient access – LUMC

WP7: Project management - UMCU





Marc Bierings Friso Calkoen Lidwien Hanff Caroline Lindemans Stefan Nierkens Josef Vormoor



Carli Bartels Willem Dohmen Geert Frederiks Colin de Haar Renske ten Ham Jurgen Kuball Klaartje Nijssen Henk Jan Prins **Trudy Straetemans** 



LEIDEN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER Fred Falkenburg Mirjam Heemskerk Rosa de Groot Pauline Meij Els Verdegaal



John Haanen Inge Jedema Bastiaan Nuijen Cynthia Nijenhuis



Carlijn Voermans Marten Hansen Gerald de Haan





Universiteit Utrecht Lourens Bloem Marieke de Bruin Olaf Klungel



Tuna Mutis Maria Themeli Sonja Zweegman

## Radboudumc

Harry Dolstra Suzanne van Dorp Anna de Goede Gerty Schreibelt Michel Schaap Jolanda de Vries



Joachim Aerts Monique de Beijer Reno Debets Hugo van der Kuy Pim Mutsaers Emma de Pater





Jan Mol Bregje Verhoeven Marianne van Maarschalkerweerd



**Pauline Evers** 





### Session 2: Clinical Development

Moderator: Jürgen Kuball

- Late phase clinical trial design for personalized medicine and rare disease indications Peter van de Ven
- How to succesfully develop a dendritic cell product from bench to bedside to commercialisation– Joachim Aerts
- Totality of evidence as a principle for rational early drug development Joop van Gerven
- Panel Discussion



## Late phase clinical trial design for personalized medicine and rare disease indications

Peter van de Ven

Senior Clinical Trial Statistician Department of Data Science and Biostatistics Julius Center for Health Science and Primary Care UMC Utrecht



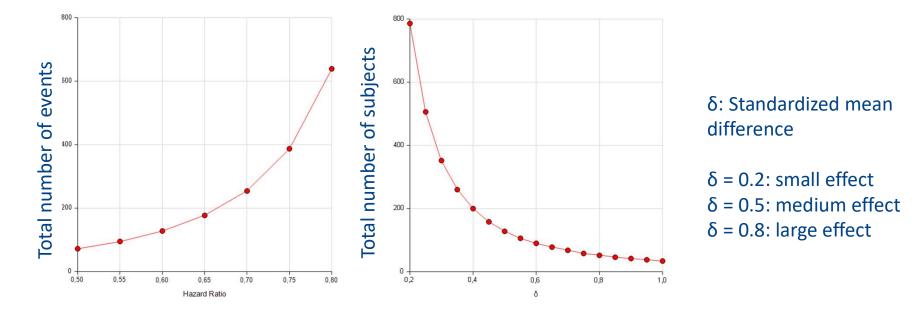
**'Cell and gene therapy in oncology - The development of academic innovations' conference 6 October 2021** 

## **Outline**

- Challenges for trials in heterogeneous and rare diseases
- Considerations for trials in heterogeneous diseases
- Examples of biomarker-driven and biomarker-based multi-arm trials
- Specific considerations for trials in rare diseases
- Conclusions



Confirmatory trials generally require large numbers of subjects



It may be simply not be possible to include the required number of subjects in (very) rare diseases **UMC Utrecht** 

- Confirmatory phase III trials are generally run in unselected patients
- Success rates in unselected populations are generally low

#### **Example:** REMoDL-B trial in unselected DLBCL patients

3449 patients screened 918 patients randomized RB(ortezomib)-CHOP vs. R-CHOP Inclusion: 2011-2015 Publication: 2019 Outcome: **negative** 



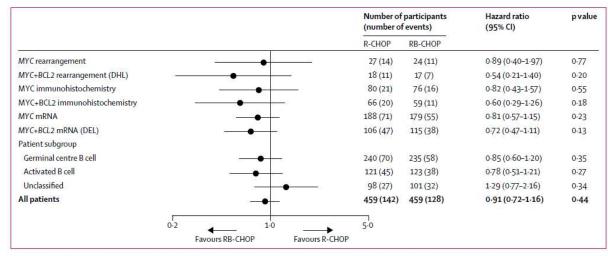


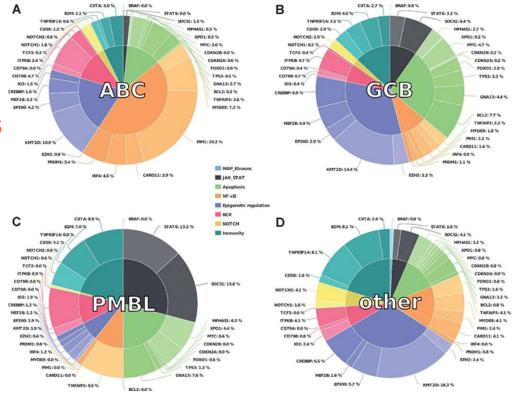
Figure 4: Forest plot of hazard ratios based on progression free survival for participants at high risk and with different molecular subtypes of disease, by treatment group

Data are for all randomised participants (ie, ITT population). Hazard ratios and p values are effect estimates from a multivariable model adjusted for IPI score. DEL=dual-expressor lymphoma. DHL=double-hit lymphoma. IPI=international prognostic index. ITT=intention-to-treat. R-CHOP=rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisolone. RB-CHOP=rituximab, bortezomib, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisolone. 34

Heterogeneity <u>reduces treatment effect</u> in unselected trial populations

## **Illustration**: Heterogeneity in mutation pathways in DLBCL patients

Dubois et al. Clin. Cancer Res (2016)





#### What about standard trials in more selected populations?

Randomized Phase II Study of R-CHOP With or Without Bortezomib in Previously Untreated Patients With Non–Germinal Center B-Cell–Like Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

John P. Leonard, Kathryn S. Kolibaba, James A. Reeves, Anil Tulpule, Ian W. Flinn, Tatjana Kolevska, Robert Robles, Christopher R. Flowers, Robert Collins, Nicholas J. DiBella, Steven W. Papish, Parameswaran Venugopal, Andrew Horodner, Amir Tabatabai, Julio Hajdenberg, Jaehong Park, Rachel Neuwirth, George Mulligan, Kaveri Suryanarayan, Dixie-Lee Esseltine, and Sven de Vos

#### Conclusion

Outcomes for newly diagnosed, prospectively enrolled patients with non-GCB DLBCL were more favorable than expected with R-CHOP and were not significantly improved by adding bortezomib.

Randomized Phase III Trial of Ibrutinib and Rituximab Plus Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin, Vincristine, and Prednisone in Non–Germinal Center B-Cell Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

Anas Younes, MD<sup>1</sup>; Laurie H. Sehn, MD<sup>2</sup>; Peter Johnson, MD<sup>3</sup>; Pier Luigi Zinzani, MD, PhD<sup>4</sup>; Xiaonan Hong, MD<sup>5</sup>; Jun Zhu, MD<sup>6</sup>; Caterina Patti, MD<sup>7</sup>; David Belada, MD, PhD<sup>8,5</sup>; Olga Samoilova, PhD<sup>10</sup>; Cheolwon Suh, MD, PhD<sup>11</sup>; Sirpa Leppä, MD<sup>12,13</sup>; Shinya Rai, MD, PhD<sup>14</sup>; Mehmet Turgut, MD, PhD<sup>15</sup>; Wojciech Jurczak, MD, PhD<sup>16</sup>; Matthew C. Cheung, MD<sup>15</sup>; Ronit Gurion, MD<sup>18,19</sup>; Su-Peng Yeh, MD<sup>26</sup>; Andres Lopez-Hernandez, MD<sup>21</sup>; Ulrich Dührsen, MD<sup>22</sup>; Caterine Thieblemont, MD, PhD<sup>23,24</sup>; Carlos Sergio Chiattone, MD, PhD<sup>26</sup>; Sriram Balasubramanian, PhD<sup>26</sup>; Jodi Carey, RN<sup>27</sup>; Grace Liu, PhD<sup>28</sup>; S. Martin Shreeve, MD, PhD<sup>26</sup>; Steven Sun, PhD<sup>28</sup>; Sen Hong Zhuang, MD, PhD<sup>28</sup>; Jessica Vermeulen, MD, PhD<sup>29</sup>; Louis M. Staudt, MD, PhD<sup>30</sup>; and Wyndham Wilson, MD, PhD<sup>30</sup>; on behalf of the PHOENIX investigators

CONCLUSION The study did not meet its primary end point in the ITT or ABC population.

## **Example:** phase II and phase III trials in non-GCB subgroup of DLBCL patients **both negative**

More <u>flexible alternatives</u> to standard trials that combine showing of efficacy and subgroup selection are clearly needed



#### **Considerations for trials in heterogeneous diseases**

Focus on: what works for which patients, rather than what works on average

Consider **<u>biomarker-driven</u>** trials and **<u>multi-arm</u>** trials (for simultaneous investigation of multiple treatments)

Already during the trial, use the observed data for:

- <u>Adaptive randomisation</u>: allocate more patients to treatments with highest predicted probability of response
- <u>Adaptive enrichment</u>: identify within the trial the subpopulation in which detection of a treatment effect is most likely (e.g. whole population of biomarker-positive only)
- Included repeated interim assessments for: <u>futility</u> of subpopulation-treatment combinations <u>efficacy</u> to identify promising subpopulation-treatment combinations



#### **Example of multi-arm trials: Platform trials**

#### Oncology

The BATTLE-2 Study: A Biomarker-Integrated Targeted Therapy Study in Previously Treated Patients With Advanced Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer



GBM AGILE (Glioblastoma Adaptive Global Innovative Learning Environment) is a clinical trial to evaluate multiple investigational treatments for either newly diagnosed or recurrent glioblastoma to determine if any of these study treatment(s) improve overall survival as compared to standard treatments



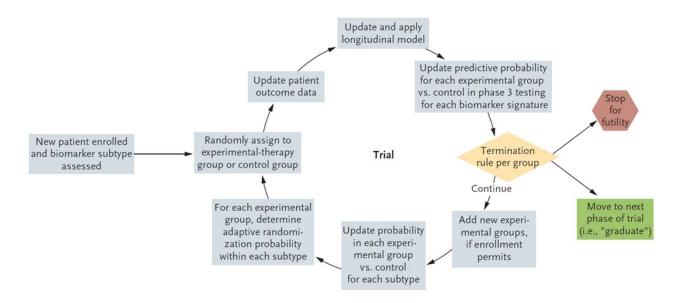
#### COVID-19 REMAP-CAP

A Randomised, Embedded, Multi-factorial, Adaptive Platform Trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia

	,439	14,732 Patient randomisations with suspected or proven COVID-19	50 Current or completed interventions in 14 Domains				
,	,182	8,162 Patients with suspected or proven COVID-19	332				
RECOVERY Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy							
	GLOBAL	CUMULATIVE TOT	ALS				
ts.	4338	6 Participants					
	<b>186</b> Ac	tive sites	38				

#### **Example of multi-arm trials: Biomarker-driven umbrella trials**

#### Schematic of I-SPY II trial in breast cancer patients



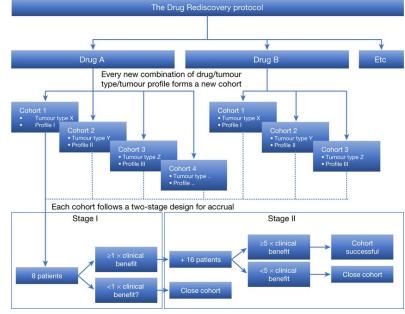
# Figure from Park et al. (2016)/Rugo et al. (2016)

#### **Innovative features:**

- Succesful treatment-subgroup combinaties are identified within the trial
- Promoting of treatments to next phase is based on predicted probability of succes in a phase III study of moderate size
- Adaptive randomisation is used to increase the likelihood that patients are allocated to a treatment to which they will respond
- Use of longitudinal models to predict unobserved outcomes (pCR) for patients already included (using MRI)
- New treatments can be added to the trial at any time
- Ongoing control arm included

#### **Example of multi-arm trials: Biomarker-based basket trials**

# Schematic of DRUP trial in patients with advanced cancers with potentially actionable variant



# Figure from Van der Velden et al. (2019)

#### **Innovative features:**

- Patients receive treatments based on their tumour profile
- Many different tumour types considered in a single master protocol
- Large number of cohorts (drug/tumour type/tumour profile combination)

#### **Example of multi-arms trials: Comparison**

	Biomarker-driven umbrella trial (I-SPY)	Biomarker-based basket trial (DRUP)
Pro's	Leaves room for unexpected efficacy in subgroup- treatment combinations	Multiple tumour types in a single trial
		Very efficient if belief in biomarker-treatment combination is correct
Con's	Early endpoint required, possibly in combination with early surrogate endpoints	Heterogeneity between tumor types ignored in some biomarker-based basket trials
	Highly complex protocol	Basically, a collection of standard phase II trials



#### **Specific considerations for trials in rare diseases**

Recommendations from small population clinical trial task force (Day et al. 2018): whenever feasible use an <u>**RCT**</u> with clinically relevant endpoint

Consider **multi-arm designs** for investigating **multiple treatments** 

<u>Advantages</u> of multi-arm designs for rare disease settings:

- Sharing control arm, less patients on placebo, higher participation rate
- Comparison of experimental treatments
- Pooling data from experimental treatments with similar mechanism of action
- Sharing of resources, reducing overall trial costs



#### **Specific considerations for trials rare diseases**

#### Increase **power** and **<u>efficiency</u>** through

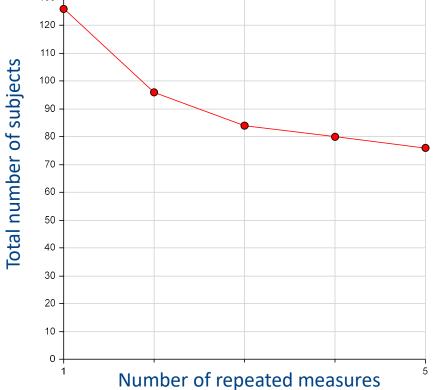
- Use of continuous endpoints and repeated measures when possible
- Use of composite endpoints and long-term follow-up (for time-to-event outcomes)
- Pooling over subgroups (also if formulation, dosing or outcome differs)
- Use of cross-over designs, group-sequential (multi-stage) designs or seamless adaptive phase II/III designs when feasible

#### Increase information and evidence collected in trials and beyond through

- Multiple endpoints (different objectives), stronger case if efficacy is shown on several clinically relevant endpoints
- Natural history and patient registry data, for primary outcome selection and potentially a extern control arm
- External sources for safety data (health records, post-marketing, extrapolation)
   UMC Utrecht

## **Specific considerations for trials rare diseases**

# Illustration: Potential reduction in sample size through use of repeated measurements



 $\delta$  = 0.5: medium effect correlation = 0.5

24% reduction through adding 2nd measurement

33% reduction through adding 2nd and 3rd measurement



#### **Concluding remarks**

- Several examples of succesfull biomarker-driven/biomarker-based trials in oncology
- Multi-arm trials have clear advantages, but require more intensive collaboration between centers, cooperation of sponsors/industry and more preparation
- Clinical trials in rare diseases will remain challenging with implicitely small sample size
- In rare and heterogeneous diseases, there is no one-size-fits-all solution for trial design
- Important factors to be considerd when designing the trial include: total number of patients available (prevalence of disease/subgroup) heterogeneity of the disease
  - a-priori belief/evidence for efficacy of biomarker-treatment combinations availability of a comparator treatment/justification for placebo arm

availability of early outcome measures and validated surrogate outcomes







#### References

- Davies et al. (2019). Gene-expression profiling of bortezomib added to standard chemoimmunotherapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (REMoDL-B): an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol. 2019 Apr 1*.
- Day S et al. Recommendations for the design of small population clinical trials. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2018 Nov 6;13(1):195. doi: 10.1186/s13023-018-0931-2
- Dubois et al (2016): Next-Generation Sequencing in Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma Highlights Molecular Divergence and Therapeutic Opportunities: a LYSA Study. *Clin Cancer Res. 2016 Jun 15;22(12):2919-28*.
- Leonard et al (2017). Randomized Phase II Study of R-CHOP With or Without Bortezomib in Previously Untreated Patients With Non-Germinal Center B-Cell-Like Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma. J Clin Oncol. 2017 Nov 1;35(31):3538-3546.
- Park et al (2016). Adaptive Randomization of Neratinib in Early Breast Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2016 Jul 7;375(1):11-22.
- Rugo et al (2016). Adaptive Randomization of Veliparib-Carboplatin Treatment in Breast Cancer. *N Engl J Med. 2016* Jul 7;375(1):23-34.
- Van der Velden et al (2019). The Drug Rediscovery protocol facilitates the expanded use of existing anticancer drugs. Nature. 2019 Oct;574(7776):127-131.
- Younes et al. (2019). Randomized Phase III Trial of Ibrutinib and Rituximab Plus Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin, Vincristine, and Prednisone in Non-Germinal Center B-Cell Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma. J Clin Oncol. 2019 Mar 22



#### Additional: Trial designs used for approved stem cell and gene therapies

Tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah) approved for

- B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) that is refractory or in second or later relapse
- relapsed or refractory (r/r) large B-cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy

Axicabtagene ciloleucel (Yescarta) approved for

relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy

Approvals were based on <u>single arm phase II studies</u>, but in such exceptional circumstances evidence must be very convincing





#### How to successfully develop a dendritic cell therapy from bench to bedside to commercialisation

Prof Joachim G Aerts, MD PhD Head of dept of Respiratory Medicine Erasmus MC University Rotterdam, the Netherlands j.aerts@erasmusmc.nl

Erasmus Mo Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterd

#### **Presenter DISCLOSURES**

Ineligible Company (formerly: Commercial Interest)	Relationship(s)
MSD, BMS, Bayer, Amphera, Eli-Lilly	consultancy
Amphera	Stock owner
Erasmus MC	Patent on tumor cell lysate, combination IO



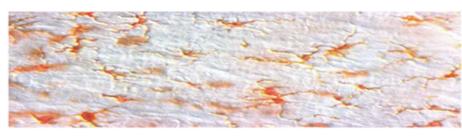
## What are we talking about

Dendritic cells are the most potent antigen presenting cells

Activate innate and adaptive immune system

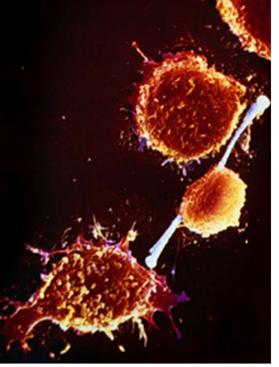
Can be loaded with different types of tumor antigens

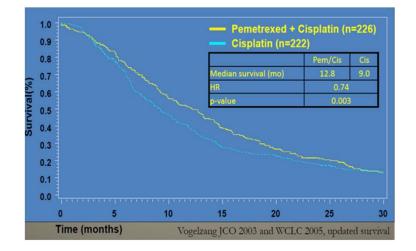
Can be cultured ex-vivo





### **The disease: Mesothelioma**



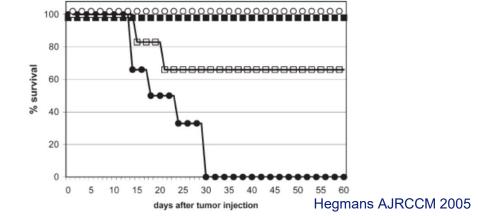






Courtesy: R Cornelissen MD PhD

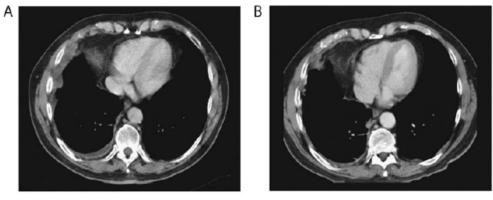
### **Dendritic cell vaccination in mesothelioma**



Collaboration with prof J de Vries and prof C. Figdor, Radboud UMC

Thanks to prof H Hoogsteden

post-doc: Joost Hegmans PhD



Hegmans AJRCCM 2010



# How to bring this further?

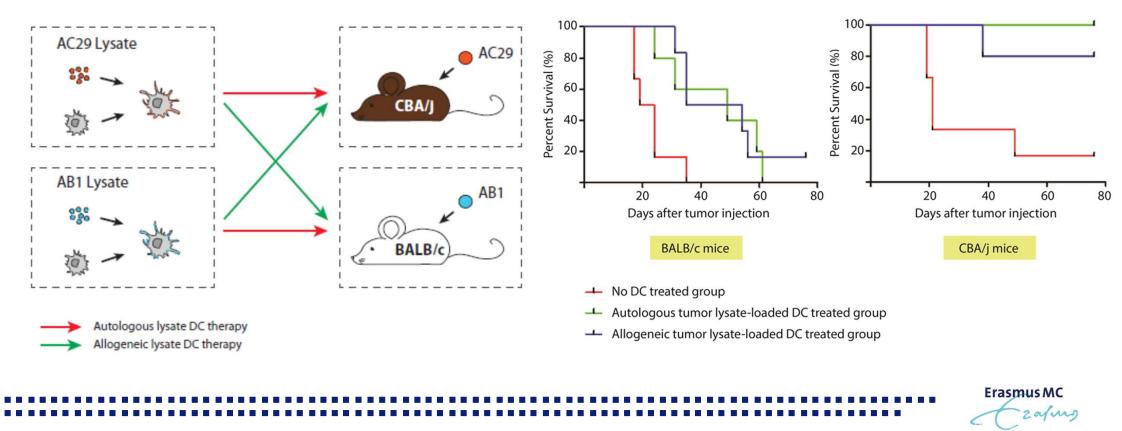
100 patients screened to enter 10

Funding for further studies

From autologous to allogenic? allogenic cells is not an option explore allogenic loading

> Erasmus MC Cafung

# Allogenic? Back to the mouse



Aerts CCR 2018

# How to bring this further?

From autologous to allogenic? allogenic loading

Is this potentially open for patent filing? different opinions

How to start the first trial? funding voor cellular therapy

> Erasmus MC Cafung

# How to bring this further ?

From autologous to allogenic? allogenic loading

Think where you want to go

Is this potentially open for patent filing? different opinions

Work with the best people

How to start the first trial? funding voor cellular therapy how to develop your trial

Work with the best people



# **Our story**

Allogenic lysate was optimally prepared.

Patent filing was supported by an experienced biotech investor.

A spin-off company was built by this investor in collaboration with TTO.



# **The Amphera story**

Involvement of experienced team to the development of the product experienced business developer experienced manager in the field of biotech experienced financial expert experienced biotech investor

Involvement of a team of experts on the different fields of development patent lawyer regulatory affairs (orphan drug designation, FDA/EMA contact) quality assurance



Winner academic startup competition 2019



# **ATMP production**

Production of product under GMP conditions.

# Dedicated team of well educated technicians

#### \Lambda NIEUWS REGIO SPORT SHOW VIDEO FUN 🔍

asbestkanker. © ANP

#### Experiment Erasmus MC met behandeling asbestkanker

Artsen van het Erasmus MC in Rotterdam hebben een nieuwe stap gezet in de strijd tegen asbestkanker. Voor het eerst wordt een veelbelovende behandeling getest op een kleine groep patiënten.

Door: Adrianne De Koning 09-06-15, 06:21 Laatste update: 04-03-16, 13:23

Longarts-oncoloog Joachim Aerts van het universitair medisch centrum is opgetogen dat zijn kliniek toestemming krijgt voor toepassing van de experimentele methode. Er bestaat nog geen medicijn tegen asbestkanker. "Daarom houden alle specialisten die met deze ernstige ziekte te maken hebben ons onderzoek de komende tijd nauwlettend in de gaten," zegt Aerts.

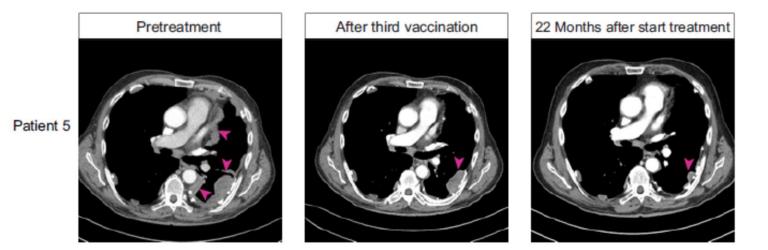
#### Witte bloedcellen

Bijzonder aan de aanpak is dat witte bloedcellen van de patiënt zo worden getraind dat het lichaam de kankercellen aanvalt. In eerdere fases van het onderzoek waren daarvoor tumorcellen van de patiënt zelf nodig. Dat gebeurde via een riskante ingreep in de longen die maar bij één op de tien patiënten mogelijk was. Die kankercellen kunnen na jaren onderzoek nu in het laboratorium van Erasmus MC worden gekweekt. De cellen worden vervolgens zo geprogrammeerd dat het afweersysteem van de patiënt een wapen wordt tegen tumoren. De nieuwe methode, die veel minder belastend is dan een chemokuur, wordt de komende maanden toegepast bij negen patiënten met asbestkanker. Als de behandeling zo succesvol is als de specialisten verwachten, komen volgend jaar meer patiënten in aanmerking.

## The start

Funding by ZonMw/KWF and Amphera: first in human study of MesoPher

Study reached primary outcome of safety and immunogenicity and clinical activity





Aerts CCR 2018

# How to go from here

Amphera and Erasmus team developed a registration phase 3 study

which was discussed with EMA and FDA

how to fund such a trial HORIZON subsidy Private investors Innovation credit (RVO)

Where to produced this ATMP



Deel deze pagina 🧰 💙 📢 😂

#### 15 maart 2018

Op 15 maart 2018 kreeg longarts prof. dr. Joachim Aerts uit Rotterdam de ZonMw Parel voor zijn werk aan het ontwikkelen van immunotherapie tegen asbestkanker. Zijn team slaagde erin om bij patiënten een afweerreactie tegen de tumor op gang te brengen. Het is de eerste stap op weg naar een effectieve behandeling van deze nu nog fatale vorm van kanker.



A phase III trial is ongoing and results are expected in 2022.

The Amphera team works on:

regulatory

registration

product development

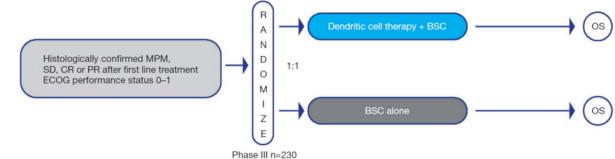
upscaling

IP

finance

etc

etc



Endpoints Primary endpoint: OS Secondary endpoints: OS at 12 and 18 months, progression free survival, overall response rate, quality of life

> Erasmus MC 2 afms

# knowledge is power

Knowledge:

on the proof of principle/prinicple/product is in the department from bench to bedside is an academic task

on the clinical development and registration is external the path towards commercialisation is a specialised task



# Thank you for your attention j.aerts@erasmusmc.nl





# Totality of evidence as a principle for rational ATMP development

Centrale

Commissie

Mensgebonden

Onderzoek

Prof dr Joop van Gerven chairman CCMO

<u>ccmo</u>

#### Overview

- ATMPs vs non-ATMPs
- Development of ATMPs:
  - case building (scientific, mechanistic)
  - bridge building (investigators → regulators)
- Towards 'totality of evidence': follow the compound



#### What are ATMPs?

Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (2020)

	Approved (Cancer)	
– cell therapies (incl NK-cells)	5	60%
<ul> <li>tissue engineered products</li> </ul>	-	-
– gene therapies (incl CAR-T)	17	76%
<ul> <li>– antisense oligonucleotides</li> </ul>	10	0%
<ul> <li>small interference RNA</li> </ul>	6	17%
<ul> <li>viruses (vaccines*)</li> </ul>	8 25%	

• CCMO is competent trial authority

\* CCMO is competent committee for new vaccines, which are not always ATMPs

- McBlade JW. Clinical trials: first in human applications - Biological products and ATMPs. EMA FIH Training, London, 30. March 2017



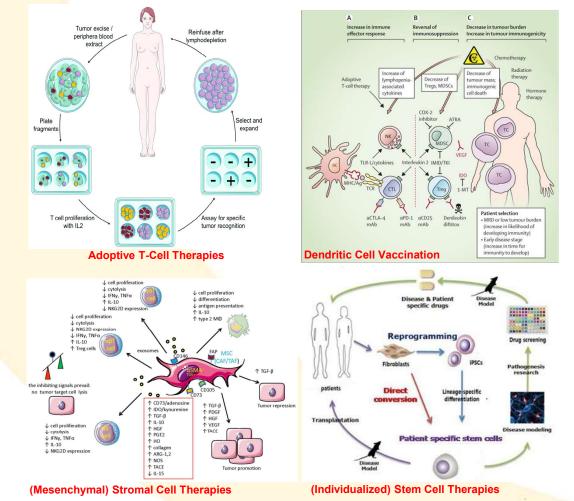
### What are not ATMPs?

- certain cell products that are *not substantially manipulated* 
  - regulated under cells and tissues directives
  - eg products for homologous use
- products used for *non-medical use* 
  - cosmetic surgical applications: 'stem cell' facelifts ...
- tissues/organs for transplant heart / liver .....
  - no manufacturing process
  - no manipulation
- whole human blood
- devices that act by means other than pharmacological, immunological or metabolic
  - some protein products are proposed as devices as they lack pharmacodynamic action



McBlade JW. Clinical trials: first in human applications - Biological products and ATMPs. EMA FIH Training, London, 30. March 2017

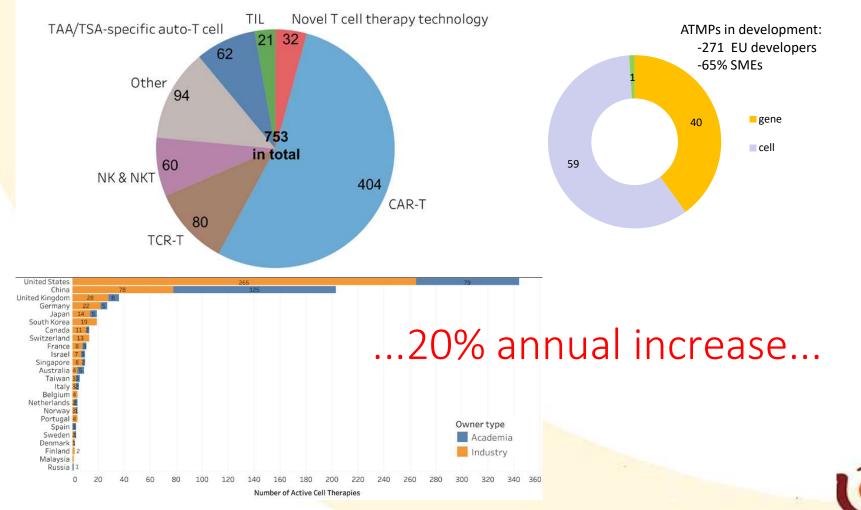
## Cell Therapy Strategies



Anguille S, Smits EL, Lion E, Van Tendeloo VF, Berneman ZN. Clinical use of dendritic cells for cancer therapy. Lancet Oncology 2014;15(7):e257-e267 Poggi A, Giuliani M Mesenchymal Stromal Cells Can Regulate the Immune Response in the Tumor Microenvironment. Vaccines 2016;4(4),41; doi.org/10.3390/vaccines4040041 Soler M. Nanoplasmonic Biosensors for Clinical Diagnosis at the Point of Care. Thesis, UA Barcelona, Apr 2015 http://jbkim.unist.ac.kr/

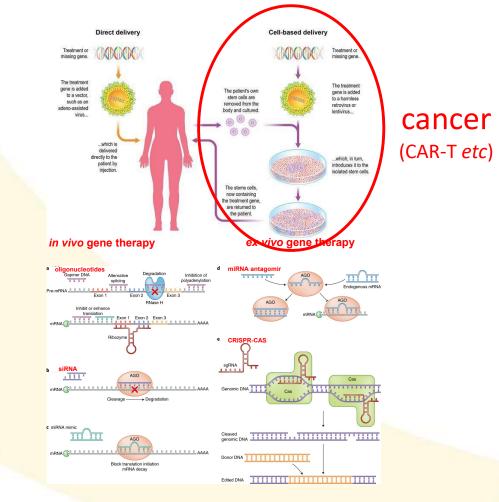


## Cell Therapies in Development (2018)



Tang J, Hubbard-Lucey VM, Pearce L, O'Donnell-Tormey J, Shalabi A. The global landscape of cancer cell therapy. Nat Rev Drug Disc 2018;17:465–466 Renske ten Ham. Challenges in commercial advanced therapy development in Europe. FIGON DMD Day 1. October 2018

## Gene Delivery and Silencing Strategies





Lieberman J. Tapping the RNA world for therapeutics. Nature Struct Mol Biol 2018;25:357–364

## **Regulatory** Guidelines for Cellular Therapies

- Cell-Therapy and Tissue Engineering
  - EMEA/CHMP/410869/2006: overarching guideline for human cell-based medicinal products
  - CHMP/BWP/271475/06: guideline on potency testing of cell based cancer immunotherapy medicinal products
  - EMEA/149995/2008: guideline on safety and efficacy follow-up and risk management of ATMPs
  - EMA/CAT/571134/2009: reflection paper on stem cell-based medicinal products
  - Others: cartilage repair (EMA/CAT/CPWP/568181/2009), (EMEA/CHMP/CPWP/83508/2009), engineered products (EMA/CAT/573420/2009)

xenogeneic tissue

#### Gene-Therapy-Derived Cell Therapies

- CHMP/GTWP/671639/2008: quality, non-clinical and clinical aspects of medicinal products containing genetically modified cells
- EMA/CAT/499821/2019: Q&A on **comparability** considerations for ATMPs
- Others
  - ICH Quality Guidelines
  - European Pharmacopoeia Quality Guidelines
  - EU2004/23/EC: European Tissues and Cells Directive
  - EMA Scientific and Quality Guidelines for specific indications
  - FDA ATMP Guidelines

https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/research-development/advancedtherapies/guidelines-relevant-advanced-therapy-medicinal-products#celltherapy

https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/biologics-guidances/cellular-gene-therapy-guidances



## **Regulatory Guidelines for Gene Therapies**

- Gene-Therapy Medicinal Products (GTMPs)
  - EMA/CAT/80183/2014: **overarching guideline** on quality, non-clinical and clinical aspects
  - EMEA/CHMP/GTWP/125459/2006: guideline on non-clinical studies required before first clinical use of GTMPs
  - EMA/CHMP/ICH/318372/2021: nonclinical biodistribution of GTMPs
  - EMA/CAT/80183/2014: Q&A on gene therapy
  - CHMP/GTWP/125491/06: guideline on environmental risk assessment of gene therapy
  - EMA/CAT/GTWP/44236/2009: reflection paper on **design modifications** during development
  - CHMP/GTWP/587488/07: reflection paper on quality, non-clinical and clinical issues relating specifically to recombinant adeno-associated viral vectors
  - EMEA/CHMP/ICH/607698/2008: ICH considerations on oncolytic viruses
  - CAT/CHMP/GTWP/671639/2008: guideline on quality, non-clinical and clinical aspects of medicinal products containing genetically modified cells
  - EMEA/273974/2005: guideline on non-clinical testing for germline transmission of gene transfer vectors
  - CAT/190186/2012: reflection paper on clinical risks deriving from insertional mutagenesis

https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/research-development/advancedtherapies/guidelines-relevant-advanced-therapy-medicinal-products#genetically



https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/biologics-guidances/cellular-gene-therapy-guidances

## ATMPs in Early Drug Development: obstructions to studies in healthy subjects

- mechanism of action may be intrinsically (too) toxic
  - eg immunostimulatory agents (cf cytokine release withTGN1412 or CAR-T-cells)
- (too) difficult route of administration
  - eg intracranial injection of cells for Parkinson's Disease
- product corrects a deficiency that is not 'wrong' in a healthy volunteer
  - eg gene therapy to insert protein missing in patients
- lifelong exposure may result / intended
  - 1<sup>st</sup> dose usually not in ideal 'target' population, but in patients who 'failed' standard Tx
- product immunogenicity
  - antibodies to product/vector may prevent potential future / readministration
  - auto-immunity to similar endogenous proteins
  - may differentially affect duration of action in animals and humans



## ATMPs:

## (Somewhat) Beyond Clinical Pharmacology

- ATMP species differences:
  - animal kinetics poorly translatable to humans
  - mainly relevant for interpretation of species-specific PD and Tox
- usually no 'pharmacokinetics' like for small molecule
  - eg target-mediated drug disposition
  - eg T-cell proliferation after transplant
- cells → hours (stromal cells) to months (T-cells etc) to years (stem cells)
- proteins → amino acids → no toxic metabolites
- genes -> years to months (immunogenicity, oncogenicity)
- gene editing (oligonucleotides, CRISPR-cas):
  - poor target cell penetration —>target ligand conjugates
  - chemical backbones --> nonspecific/toxic metabolites may occur
  - permanent off-target effects



1-FDA Guidance for Industry: Preclinical Assessment of Investigational Cellular and Gene Therapy Products (2013)2-McBlade JW. Clinical trials: first in human applications - Biological products and ATMPs. EMA FIH Training, London, 30. March 2017



G3 -phosphorothioates -chimeric modifications -2' sugar modification GERVENJMA; 25-9-2018

## Preclinical Study Considerations

- Objectives:
  - biological plausibility/mechanism of action
  - biologically active dose levels
  - starting dose level, dose-escalation schedule, dosing regimen for clinical trials
  - feasibility/safety of clinical route of administration
  - patient (/healthy) volunteer eligibility criteria.
  - biomarkers of safety and biological effect
  - potential for transmission (public health, next generation)
- Product characteristics:
  - stage-appropriate production methods acceptable
  - use same product throughout development or characterize differences
  - species-specific products may be required



## Preclinical Study Considerations (c'td)

- Animal Species Selection for Biological Effects:
  - detailed assessment of relevance!
  - comparability of physiology and anatomy to humans
    - may be non-standard laboratory animal
    - *eg* large, immunodeficient or genetically modified
  - permissiveness/susceptibility to infection by/replication of viral/microbial vectors for gene therapy
  - immune tolerance to human cell therapy product or transgene
  - feasibility of drug delivery system/procedure
    - eg CSF infusion in mouse
  - validation of biological effect biomarkers for human trials
- Animal Disease Models:
  - may also be (more!) appropriate to test biological effect
  - interactions with disease course/pathophysiology in animals/humans
  - strengths/weaknesses of disease model
    - ie limited variability/fidelity technical/physiological/anatomical constraints



## Preclinical Study Considerations (c'td)

- Proof-of-Concept:
  - 'mechanistically' effective dose range (biopharmaceutical molecules)
    - PAD →ATD
  - optimization of route of administration
    - confirmation of target site penetration
  - optimization of timing of product administration vs onset of disease/injury
  - optimization of dosing schedule
    - half-life, interval etc
  - characterization of mechanism of action or biological activities
    - biomarkers
  - adequate study design
    - natural history cohorts, concurrent controls, randomization, blinding



## Preclinical Study Considerations (c'td)

- Bioassays and Toxicology:
  - stepwise, multifactorial approach to understand biological plausibility in disease
  - in vitro characterisation
    - useful but not sufficient
  - in vivo animal models
    - toxicology/safety only in animals/models where product is biologically active
    - adequate timing/duration
- Specific toxicity risks:
  - T-cells:
  - dendritic cells:
  - stem cells:
  - adenovirus:
  - adeno-associated virus:
  - retro- and lentivirus:
  - CRISP-cas9
  - \* gene therapies

- cytokine release syndrome, neurotoxicity
- limited (auto-immunity?)
- unknown: long-term tumor risk?
  - insertional mutagenesis, replication-competent virus
  - insertional mutagenesis, immunology to capsids
    - insertional mutagenesis, replication-competent virus,
  - germline integration, altered host gene expression
    - off-target gene editing
    - local over-expression of gene product



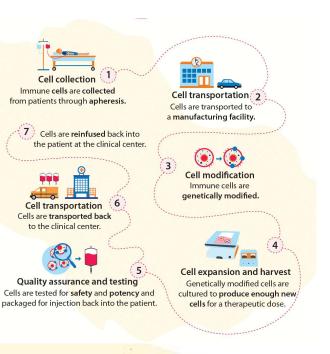
## Early Clinical Study Considerations

- Integration of preclinical and clinical information:
  - mechanism of action vs pathogenesis
  - dose and route of administration
  - timing and duration of action vs pathophysiology and disease course
  - biomarkers of biological effects related to adverse/therapeutic effects
- Population selection:
  - integration of phase I- and phase II in same patients?
  - healthy volunteers??
  - end-stage (?) adult patients
  - pre- (?) symptomatic patients
  - adolescents → younger (?) children



## Principles of ATMP Development

- 'general scientific principles within the fields of pharmacology and toxicology apply '1
- 'flexible, science-driven review process' -> combined CBG/CCMO/ZiN pre-advice
- integration of preclinical early clinical clinical stages of development during phase I-II-III
- aimed at (stepwise) validation of quality of entire process chain:
  - potency assays: 'specific ability ... of the product ... to effect a given result.'1
    - study phase dependent ('risk-based')
    - discuss options/feasibility with CCMO/CBG
  - product (class) specific test(s)
    - may require multiple *in vivo/in vitro* assays
  - quantification of biological activity
    - validated well-correlating physical assay acceptable
    - available for product-release
  - supportive release specifications:
    - viability: usually >70%
    - cell number: minimum acceptable dose
  - predefined acceptance/rejection criteria
    - 'system suitability'
    - 'out-of-specs' policy
  - quality system requirements
    - references, positive, negative controls
    - accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, precision, robustness
    - stability, consistency



1-FDA Guidance for Industry: Preclinical Assessment of Investigational Cellular and Gene Therapy Products (2013) 2-FDA Guidance for Industry: Potency Tests for Cellular and Gene Therapy Products (2011)

## Conclusions

- ATMPs create exciting new ways to treat wide range of diseases
- Complexity is challenging for development and production
  - flexible approach, communication between sponsors, investigators, authorities
  - need for academic input in development of best practices and standard approaches
- In the end, development should be built on rigorous scientific standards, aiming for integrated ('total') mechanistic evidence of clinical benefit
  - product -> biological effect -> pathophysiological effect clinical benefit on-/off-target undesirable effect -> adverse effect/risk
  - characterization -> activity -> disease biomarker biomarker risk biomarker
  - potency assay release criteria

effect biomarkers

- - surrogate endpoint
- side effect follow-up
  - clinical/cost benefit



## ccmo@ccmo.nl

## www.ccmo.nl



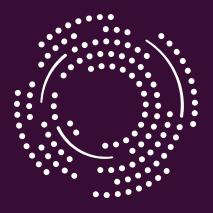


#### Session 3: Route to clinical practice

Moderator: Anke Hövels

- Oncode considerations for developing your valorization strategy Ian Bell
- Tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL) for the treatment of metastatic melanoma: how to translate results from phase 3 to clinical practice Inge Jedema
- Hematon opportunities and challenges for new therapies through the perspectives of patients Bregje Verhoeven
- Panel Discussion





## Oncode Institute

Outsmarting cancer Impacting lives

## Route to Clinical Practice

Considerations for Developing your Valorization Strategy

Ian Bell Business Development E: <u>ian.bell@oncode.nl</u> P: +31 6 28 37 4976

- Goal: Considerations for successfully moving your IP from the lab to the clinic:
  - IP Strategy
  - The Science
  - The Pitch

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- Work with your TTO
- Work with organizations like KWF and Oncode who can support you
- Seek out experts, advisors and colleagues who have done this before – they can help





## Intellectual Property Strategy



- 3<sup>rd</sup> party restrictions:
  - who funded your work?
  - Material <u>AAV</u>, lenti, CRISPR, etc.
- Leverage 3<sup>rd</sup> party data where you can (clinical trial set-up, <u>manufacturing reagents</u>, <u>DMF/ASMF</u>, etc.)
- Develop your TPP and business plan (business canvas)
- Licensing v. company creation:
  - Beware internal institution issues! admin approval, OPA, COI, etc.
  - Run virtual if you can CRA back to lab, space rental, etc.
  - Leverage non-dilutive grants
  - Have funding in place to support development and IP activities

- What is your intent (open science, license, company creation, other?)
- Plan your strategy (research results, publication and IP protection timelines)
- \*Public Disclosure Implications thesis defence, presentations, manuscripts, blogs, etc.

IP

Strategy

- Forms of IP protection (patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret)
- Use your resources (free databases for searching: <u>USPTO</u>, <u>USPTO PAIR Portal</u>, <u>Espacenet</u>, WIPO <u>Patentscope</u>, <u>Google</u> <u>patents</u>)
- **Prior art searching (white space, competition, partners)**



## **The Science**



- Develop your TPP what is your indication/properties versus gold standard equivalency?
- What is the addressable market and is there a sufficient patient population to support trials?
- FDA has issued <u>guidance</u> and <u>guidance</u> on TPPs for CGT.
- Work with the regulator:
  - FDA <u>CBER</u> guidance
  - FDA Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies (<u>OTAT</u>) – see approved products and regulatory review documents
  - EMA Advanced Therapy and Medicinal Products (<u>ATMP</u>) – <u>support and assistance</u> available (PRIME scheme), EMA <u>guidelines</u> for ATMPs

Variable	Minimum essential	Ideal	
Indication	Treatment of HIV-negative children aged 6–24 months and adults with diarrhea due to <i>Cryptosporidium hominis</i> or <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i> infection	Treatment of children $\geq$ 1 month old and adults, including HIV- positive patients, with diarrhea due to cryptosporidiosis. Curativ for additional diarrheal pathogens, and safe for use in syndromi treatment of diarrhea.	
Product	Single agent or combination drug regimen	Single agent therapy	
	Note that the risk of resistance is unknown and may require combination therapy.		
Target populations	Children ages 6-24 months with diarrhea due to cryptosporidiosis	Children ages 1-24 months with diarrhea due to cryptosporidiosis	
	Immunocompetent adults with diarrhea due to cryptosporidiosis	Immunocompromised patients with diarrhea due to cryptosporidiosis	
		Note that immunocompetent and immunocompromised patient populations may require distinct therapies.	
Target countries	Countries that have been shown to have significant endemic cryptosporidiosis or that contribute heavily to the diarrhea burden in children	Countries accounting for 90% of morbidity and mortality due to diarrhea.	
Clinical efficacy	Superiority to nitazoxanide in malnourished children	Cessation of diarrhea within 2 days in well nourished, HIV- negative children	
	Equivalent to nitazoxanide in immunocompetent adults	$\geq$ 90% efficacy in all patient populations	
		Elimination of the effects of Cryptosporidium infection on malnutrition	
Microbiologic efficacy	Superiority to nitazoxanide in malnourished children	Elimination of fecal parasite shedding within 2 days of starting therapy for all patient populations	
	Equivalent to nitazoxanide in immunocompetent adults		
	Active against both C. hominis and C. parvum		
Safety/drug-drug interactions	Safe in patients $\geq$ 6 months old	Safe for syndromic treatment of diarrhea in patients ${\geq}1$ month old	
	SAE rate $\leq$ 5% by Common Terminology Criteria for AEs; AEs $\geq$ Grade 2 no more than 30%	No drug-related SAEs by Common Terminology Criteria; minim drug-related AEs	
	No unmanageable drug-drug interactions	No CYP3A4 inhibition; no interactions with antiretroviral drugs	
Formulations and dosage	Oral; maximum 3x/day for 14 days; liquid formulation or compatible with hydrodispersible tablet or granules appropriate for children available	Oral liquid or hydrodispersible tablet or granules given as a single dose	
		Minimal or no food effect	
Stability	$\geq$ 2 years in Zone IVb (30°C 75% humidity)	≥3 years in Zone IV	
Total cost per patient	\$US2.00	≤\$US0.50 (approximate total cost of nitazoxanide 100 mg/5 ml liquid formulation in India)	

AE, adverse event; SAE, severe adverse event

doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0003987.t001

https://journals.plos.org/plosntds/article?id=10.1371/journal.pntd.0003987







#### • Prepare your business plan (Business Model Canvas)

- Leverage bootcamps and local support (HIHR, Holland BIO, NWO's <u>Venture Challenge</u>
- Regional funds
- Build your network, engage with investors early It's a courtship!

#### Final Thoughts:

- Do your due diligence on your partner it is a marriage.
- Be careful when it sounds too good.
- Above all, be realistic!

Key partners	Key activities	Value propositions	0	Customer relationships	Customer segments
We are your moet importer partners? Winch tey reaces to you acque to form partners? Which tey activities do your partners perform?	What are the activities you perform every day to anote E deliver your value proposition?	What is the value you delivery to your What is the value standard but your What is the outcomer meet that your What is the outcomer meet that your what is the products and services what and the products and services	customer? re you helping to solve? volue proposition addresses? an?	What relation the does each customer regreat	For whom as you calcular (out of the second
	Key resources			Channels	
	What are the resources you need to create & deliver your value proposition?			Haw does your value proposition reach your customer? Where can your customer buy or use your products or services?	
Cost structure     What are the important costs you make			Revenue streams How do customers reward you for the	s value vou provide to them?	
to create & delivery your value proposition?			What are the different revenue mode	10	

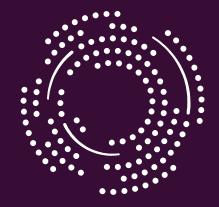
Brought to you by Business Models Inc

BMI•Business model canvas

www.businessmodelgeneration.com



#### \_\_\_\_



## Oncode Institute

Outsmarting cancer Impacting lives

### Trials and Tribulations: Glybera (gene therapy for LPLD)

- 1986 Dr. Michael Hayden (UBC) and Dr. John Kastelein (A'dam) search for gene responsible for LPLD. Kastelein returns to NL in 1998.
- ~2000 Dr. Colin Ross joins Hayden lab. In 2002 pivotal experiment succeeds. Cover of Nature in September 2004.
- Collaboration to demonstrate in feline model (Boyce Jones, Florence Italy)
- Kastelein founded Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics (AMT) in 1998; Hayden lab providing scientific support.
- 2005 enrolled 8 NL patients in a clinical trial success!
- Regulatory issues; 2.5 years for EMA approval AMT liquidated in 2012
- Assets licensed to uniQure; struggle to obtain EMA approval; partnered with Chiesi Farmaceutici Chiesi acquires EU rights, uniQure retained US/CA rights.
- EU sale in 2015 €1M per treatment. Difficult to obtain reimbursement from insurers.
- Only ever 1 paying patient from Germany.
- In 2017 (2 years after going on market, Chiesi abandoned it, allowed EU marketing license to expire. Rights returned to Uniqure.
- Remaining lots (3 doses) given away. Only ever given to 31 patients worldwide (most treated for free in trials).
- https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/glybera?webview=true&appname=news-android-app



### Trials and Tribulations: Glybera (gene therapy for LPLD)

- 1986 Dr. Michael Hayden (UBC) and Dr. John Kastelein (A'dam) search for gene responsible for LPLD. Kastelein returns to NL in 1998.
- ~2000 Dr. Colin Ross joins Hayden lab. In 2002 pivotal experiment succeeds. Cover of Nature in September 2004.
- Collaboration to demonstrate in feline model (Boyce Jones, Florence Italy)
- Kastelein founded Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics (AMT) in 1998; Hayden lab providing scientific support.
- 2005 enrolled 8 NL patients in a clinical trial success!
- Regulatory issues; 2.5 years for EMA approval AMT liquidated in 2012
- Assets licensed to uniQure; struggle to obtain EMA approval; partnered with Chiesi Farmaceutici Chiesi acquires EU rights, uniQure retained US/CA rights.
- EU sale in 2015 €1M per treatment. Difficult to obtain reimbursement from insurers.
- Only ever 1 paying patient from Germany.
- In 2017 (2 years after going on market, Chiesi abandoned it, allowed EU marketing license to expire. Rights returned to Uniqure.
- Remaining lots (3 doses) given away. Only ever given to 31 patients worldwide (most treated for free in trials).
- https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/glybera?webview=true&appname=news-android-app





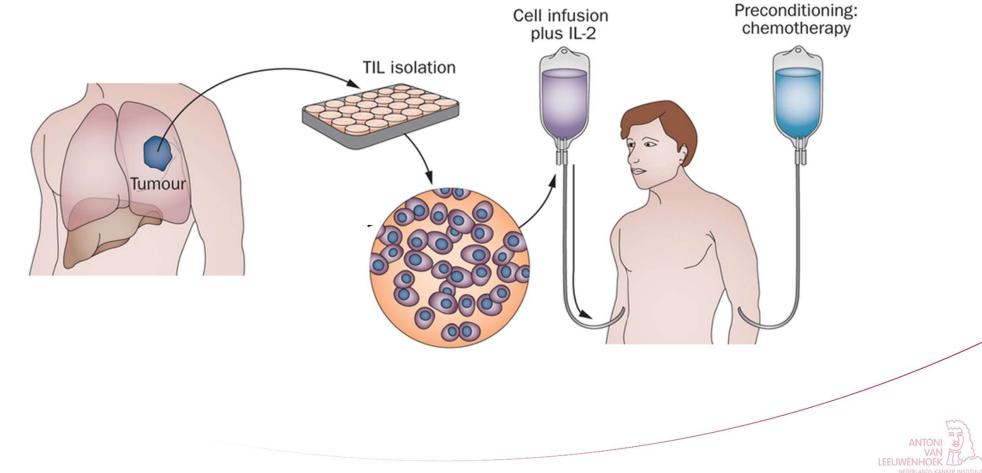
# Tumor-infiltrating Lymphocytes (TIL) for the treatment of metastatic melanoma

How to translate results from phase 3 to clinical practice

Inge Jedema, head translational cellular therapy



## **Treatment with tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL)**



Rosenberg Nat Rev Clin Oncol., 2014

TIL therapy for metastatic melanoma NKI/AVL

### **BioTherapeutics Unit (BTU) – Pharmacy AVL**

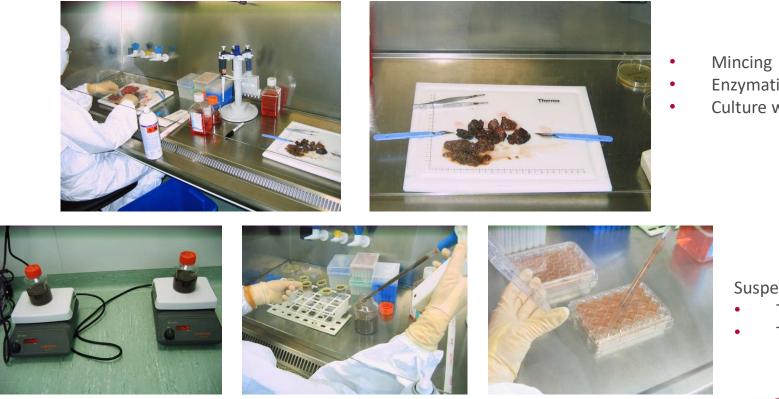


- 1 cleanroom in the old Slotervaart Hospital
- 3 cleanrooms in the new complex of the AVL
- Production of 'Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products' (ATMPs) under 'Good Manufacturing Practice' (GMP) conditions



TIL therapy for metastatic melanoma NKI/AVL

### Preparation of tumor to cell suspension & initial culture



- **Enzymatic digestion**
- Culture with 6,000 IU/mL IL-2

- Suspension with:
- Tumor cells
- T cells (TIL)



**BioTherapeutics Unit NKI/AVL** vd Berg et al, Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer 2020 TIL therapy for metastatic melanoma NKI/AVL

### **Rapid expansion phase of TIL culture**





Xuri bioreactor

- 3,000 IU/mL IL-2
- αCD3 (OKT3)
- Irradiated feeder cells

- Iogistically challenging
- success rate 90%



BioTherapeutics Unit NKI/AVL vd Berg et al, Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer 2020

## Harvest and infusion of TIL product

• Washing and preparation of TIL product in 200 ml infusion fluid (fresh product)



Quality Controls (QC)	Specification		
QC(1) Microbiological contamination	negative (day -2 before infusion)		
QC(3) Total cell number	>5x10 <sup>9</sup> TIL and < 2x10 <sup>11</sup>		
QC(4) Viability	>70% viable cells		



BioTherapeutics Unit NKI/AVL vd Berg et al, Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer 2020

# Randomized phase 3 clinical trial to assess the effectivity of TIL treatment in patients with metastatic melanoma

- Feasibility and safety: phase 1 study in 10 patients (vd Berg et al, Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer 2020)
- Ongoing randomized phase 3 study:
  - Patients with irresectable stage IIIc/IV melanoma
  - 1:1 randomization between:
    - A. Ipilimumab ( $\alpha$ CTLA4 checkpoint inhibitor)
    - B. TIL treatment (+ lymphodepleting chemotherapy & IL-2 600,000 IU/kg/dose)
  - o 168 patients
  - Study sites: AVL and CCIT, Herlev hospital (DK)
  - TIL production: AVL, Sanquin and CCIT, Herlev hospital (DK)
  - o Temporary reimbursement from the Dutch and Danish health insurance

### Future:

#### **TIL treatment for patients with metastatic melanoma**

- Analysis of study results
- Hospital exemption (IGJ)
  - Limited number of patients
  - Risk of being challenged when other (commercial) party enters the market with a registered TIL product for same indication

#### Future: TIL treatment for patients with metastatic melanoma

- Analysis of study results
- Hospital exemption (IGJ)

if study is successful





#### Future: TIL treatment for patients with metastatic melanoma

- Analysis of study results
- Hospital exemption (IGJ)
- Market authorization: registration via European Medicines Agency (EMA)
  - As NKI/AVL(support VWS or other stakeholders?)
  - With commercial partner (pharma)?
  - Production capacity?

#### $\rightarrow$ Keep TIL treatment available for patients at a reasonable price



TIL therapy for metastatic melanoma NKI/AVL

#### <u>NKI/AVL</u>

**Maartje Rohaan** Christian Blank Hans van Thienen Sofie Wilgenhof Alexander van Akkooi Jessica Borgers Marnix Geukes Foppen Lisette Rozeman Loes Pronk Anna Blokland Bernies van der Hiel Bart van de Wiel Sylvia ter Meulen Anne Miek Koenen Matthias Karger Sebastian Klobuch Clinical ward 4B John Haanen

#### Joost van den Berg Cynthia Nijenhuis

Raween Kalicharan Karina Scheiner Matthijs Linssen Maaike van Zon Saskia Scheij Josje Heuvelmans Annemijn Manger Sanne Patiwael Rhianne Voogd Noor Bakker Renate de Boer

#### Acknowledgements

Raquel Gomez Bastiaan Nuijen

Pia Kvistborg Wouter Scheper Ton Schumacher

Linday Grijpink-Ongering Henk Mallo Sandra Adriaansz Judith Lijnsveldt

#### **Referring Dutch Centers**

Sanquin Marten Hansen Carlijn Voermans

#### **CCIT Herlev, Denmark**

Inge Marie Svane Marco Donia Troels Holz Borch Özcan Met

#### **Funding**

Dutch Cancer Society (KWF) The Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development The Dutch Ministry of Health The Danish Cancer Society and Capital Region of Denmark Research Foundation **Patients and their families** 

# **WKWF**









Zorginstituut Nederland





Hematon atiëntenorganisatie bloedkanker mfklierkanker stamceltransplantatie **Are new therapies** developed with patients in mind? **Bregje Verhoeven Patient Advocate** KWF Cell and Gene Therapy Congress, Amsterdam, October 6 '2' www.hematon.nl

### **Disclosures**

Honoraria for participation Patient Advisory Boards, consultation and educational activities;

AbbVie, Amgen, Janssen, Pfizer, Takeda

Hematon receives from various industrial partners unrestricted grants to organize Hematon Webinars for patients on hemato-oncological diseases or specific treatments and their side effects. New therapies – like CAR T - give hope to patients who have no further treatment options

Is progress being made with the needs of patients - as defined by patients - in mind?

# **Dutch CAR T-Cell landscape**

3 Commercial CAR T-Cell therapies approved by EMA2 CAR T-Cell therapies reimbursed in NL

Part of SOC for Indications: R/R DLBCL, R/R ALL <25 yrs ≥ 2 lines of therapy

More is on its way

Multiple Myeloma, Mantle Cell lymphoma

### Access for all?

- In- and exclusion criteria
  - Efficacy & Safety
  - > Multi centre trials/ adaptive designs?
  - Excluding ptnts who need treatment
- Long supply chain
- Costs : price and reimbursement
- Compassionate use differs per country; Sluis period in NL

Solution: off the shelf therapies

the academic route/ HE

# The promise of the academic route

- Alternative to or additional to commercial products we know? Other indications?
- Rare diseases, small patient groups -> multicenter trials
- Shorter supply chain. No need for shipping or freezing cells
- It's said to reduce the costs of CAR-T product Spain: 50.000 vs 350.000 Euro
- Broader in- and exclusion criteria?

hope for treatment for more patients

### Let's talk about...

Regulatory hurdles

HTA

Evidence generation

# **Regulatory hurdles**

- Academic medical centers miss knowledge, time and finances to build a dossier needed for EMA
- Regulation for Hospital Exemptions do not work in favor for academic medical centers nor patients

#### Regulatory adjustments are urgently needed

➢ Pilot

# **CAR-T: Challenges to HTA**

- Are the models adapted to look beyond the immediate upfront cost and take into account <u>longer-term savings</u>?
- Value-based approaches to care must not only be evidence based but also incorporate quality-of-life considerations

# **Evidence generation**

Knowledge on Manufacturing & Regulation
 Clinical data

A uniform way of collecting (same) data needs to be part of the Dutch infrastructure

in a shared database related to academic products

Data is KEY to get the products sustainable in NL

# We need REAL WORLD DATA to evaluate CAR-T for healthcare system and patients

- How will the treatment be used in clinical practice?
- Move towards outpatient treatment settings?
- What will be the time from apheresis to infusion in clinical practice in HE compared to CP
- Cost-effectiveness HE compared to CP?

# What will be the QoL?

Long-term implications?

# What else (do we need)?

- Moving therapy to earlier lines of treatment
- Patient information and education
- Harmonised trial protocols to be widely implemented

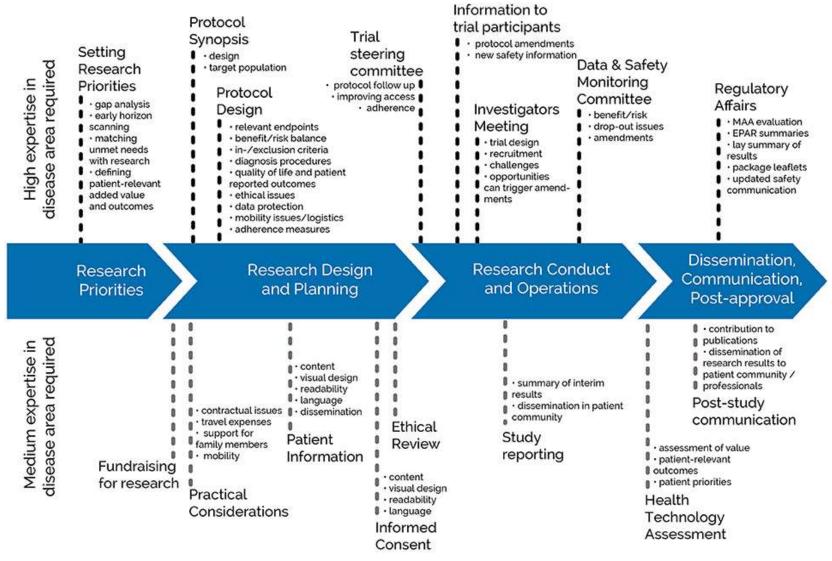
### **Patient involvement**

In early phase of R&D of new therapies Design clinical trial Ethical review of Clinical Trials – Ethic Committees\*

Regulatory authorities Health Technology Assessments

Klingmann I, Heckenberg A, Warner K, Haerry D, Hunter A, May M and See W (2018) EUPATI and Patients in Medicines Research and Development: Guidance for Patient Involvement in Ethical Review of Clinical Trials. Front. Med. 5:251. doi: 10.3389/fmed.2018.00251

#### Patient involvement in medicines R&D



### Take home messages

#### Adjustment in regulation

Structured & uniform data incl PROM QoL& RWD

Integrate this from the beginning of new therapy development to increase the possibility that new therapies will reach clinical practice and save patients' lives



Hematon maakt deel uit van de Nederlandse Federatie van Kankerpatiëntenorganisaties en wordt gesubsidieerd door KWF Kankerbestrijding



# Thank you for your attention

@bregjeverhoeven
bregjeverhoeven@hematon.nl

www.hematon.nl



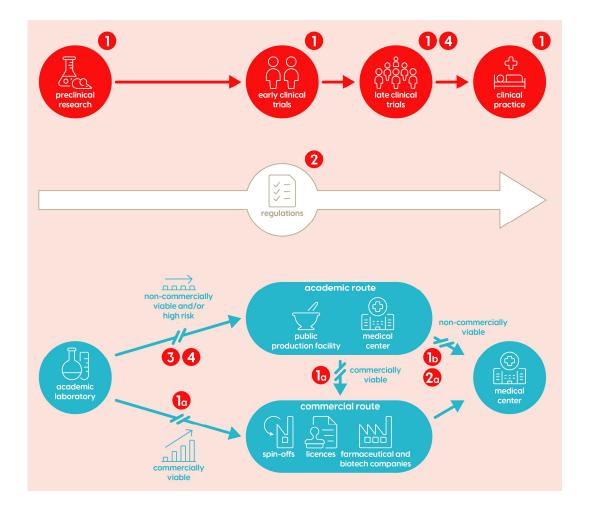


# Conclusions

Carla van Gils

### 𝔅ϑKWF

#### Take away of the day



#### **Recommendations**

- 1. Coordination and support by a centralised body
- 2. Regulatory clarity and fitfor-purpose requirements
- Platform for knowledge dissemination and collective production capacity
- 4. Financial support for product development and late stage trials

# **Our commitment**

KWF commits to the acceleration and stimulation of developments in the CGT field. We aim to act now and contribute to this goal by:

- 1. Financial support to enhance infrastructure for CGT manufacturing according to GMP.
- 2. Organizing a congress to enhance public collaboration and interaction and knowledge dissemination with organizations for valorization and regulatory bodies.
- 3. Lobbying for the development of clear, fit for purpose regulatory and HTA requirements, and more interaction among academics and regulatory bodies.



# Let's get started!!