Scientific recommendation on classification of advanced therapy medicinal products

Disclaimer: This document is a summary for public release of a scientific recommendation on classification of advanced therapy medicinal products. The original text adopted by the Committee for Advanced Therapies (CAT) has been redacted to delete commercially confidential information.

The present scientific recommendation refers exclusively to the case as presented to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) without prejudice to future evaluations by the Agency.

It is stressed that the scientific recommendation on advanced therapy classification does not amount to any endorsement of the plausibility of the product, including the mode of action or therapeutic indication(s) claimed by the applicant.

Brief description (or name when available) of the active substance(s)
Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector encoding genes from an algae channel rhodopsin.

Brief description of the finished product
Suspension for intravitreal injection.

Proposed indication
Treatment of retinitis pigmentosa.

EMA/CAT conclusion
The procedure was finalised on 30 May 2016 for the following recommendation.

On the basis that the product:
- contains an active substance which consists of a recombinant nucleic acid administered to human beings with a view to adding a genetic sequence;
• its therapeutic effect relates directly to the product of genetic expression of this sequence,
the EMA/CAT considers that the product falls within the definition of a gene therapy medicinal product,
as provided in Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) 1394/2007.