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)

Non-replicating recombinant adeno-associated virus carrying a fragment of the Channelrhodopsin-2 (ChR2) protein.

Brief description of the finished product

Sterile frozen solution for intravitreal injection.

Proposed indication

Treatment of retinitis pigmentosa.

EMA/CAT conclusion

The procedure was finalised on 20 July 2018 for the following recommendation.

On the basis that:
• the product is administered to human beings with a view to treating a disease via a pharmacological mode of action;
• the product contains an active substance which contains 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.