

# SECTOR SNAPSHOT

DECEMBER 2023

GENE THERAPIES POISED  
TO REACH MORE PATIENTS

In this  
edition...



Q3 data and  
2024 pipeline  
outlook






Gene therapy  
indications that are  
driving higher  
patient populations



Impact of the first  
gene therapies for  
sickle cell disease

# Q3 2023 Sector Data

	North America	Asia Pacific	Europe	Total
 <b>Developers</b>	1,115	861	514	2,575
 <b>Clinical Trials</b>	940	747	340	1,804
 <b>Investment</b>	\$1.1B	\$0.9B	\$0.1B	\$2.2B

To access our full data with different visualizations, visit [www.alliancerm.org/data](http://www.alliancerm.org/data) or scan the QR code.



## Clinical Pipeline Update



The UK's MHRA became the first regulatory agency globally to approve a CRISPR therapy – for sickle cell disease and TDT – on November 16, and the EMA CHMP delivered a positive opinion for the same therapy on December 15



The FDA approved the first two gene therapies for sickle cell disease on December 8, including the first CRISPR gene editing therapy



The FDA approved five gene therapies for rare genetic diseases in 2023 alone



PDUFA dates have already been set for five new therapies in the first five months of 2024

# Pipeline Outlook

	Therapy	Therapy ( <i>Indication</i> )	Status
Regulatory decision scheduled	<b>Lifileucel</b> (Iovance Biotherapeutics)	Cell Therapy (Metastatic melanoma)	February 24, 2024 (FDA) EMA MAA submission possible in H1 2024
	<b>Libmeldy</b> (Orchard Therapeutics)	Gene Therapy (Metachromatic leukodystrophy)	March 18, 2024 (FDA)
	<b>Casgevy</b> (Vertex Pharmaceuticals & CRISPR Therapeutics)	Gene Editing Therapy (Sickle cell disease and Beta-thalassemia)	FDA decision for $\beta$ -thalassemia set for March 30, 2024 EU decision for sickle cell disease and $\beta$ -thalassemia anticipated in Q1 2024
	<b>Kresladi</b> (Rocket Pharmaceuticals)	Gene Therapy (Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency-I)	March 31, 2024 (FDA)
	<b>Fidanacogene Elaparvovec</b> (Pfizer)	Gene Therapy (Hemophilia B)	April 27, 2024 (FDA) MAA accepted; 2024 decision possible (EU)
	<b>Pz-cel</b> (Abeona Therapeutics)	Cell Therapy (Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa)	May 25, 2024 (FDA)
BLA or MAA submitted or submission expected in 2023. 2024 decision possible.	<b>Afami-cell</b> (Adaptimmune Therapeutics)	Cell Therapy (Advanced synovial sarcoma)	2024 FDA approval decision possible
	<b>Vyjuvek</b> (Krystal Biotech)	Gene Therapy (Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa)	2024 EU approval decision possible
	<b>Obe-cel</b> (Autolus Therapeutics)	CAR-T Cell Therapy (R/R B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia)	2024 FDA approval decision possible EMA MAA submission possible in H1 2024
	<b>Upstaza</b> (PTC Therapeutics)	Gene Therapy (AADC deficiency)	2024 FDA approval decision possible
	<b>Elevidys</b> (Sarepta Therapeutics and Roche)	Gene Therapy (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)	2024 EU approval decision possible
BLA or MAA submission possible in 2024	<b>RP-L102</b> (Rocket Pharmaceuticals)	Gene Therapy (Fanconi anemia)	FDA BLA and EMA MAA submissions possible in H1 2024
	<b>Tab cel</b> (Atara Biotherapeutics)	Cell Therapy (Epstein-Barr virus-associated post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder)	BLA submission possible in H1 2024
	<b>Giroctocogene fitelparvovec</b> (Pfizer)	Gene Therapy (Hemophilia A)	BLA and MAA submissions possible in H1 2024
	<b>ExoFlo</b> (Direct Biologics)	Exosome (COVID-induced acute respiratory distress syndrome)	BLA submission possible in H1 2024



# Is the patient population increasing for gene therapies?

With the approval of two new gene therapies to treat sickle cell disease on December 8, 2023, the FDA has now approved a total of 10 gene therapies for rare genetic diseases. The European Union (EU) also has eight rare genetic disease gene therapies approved for market use, while three were approved but then withdrawn from the market. As the clinical pipeline matures, innovative therapies are targeting diseases with larger patient populations.

The first eight US gene therapies for rare genetic diseases approved by the FDA have a combined estimated eligible patient population approaching 18,000, while in the EU, the estimated number approaches 16,000. The two recently approved gene therapies to treat sickle cell disease, one of which also treats transfusion-dependent beta-thalassemia (TDT), will expand the number of treatable patients significantly. Casgevy is up for approval in the EU to treat sickle cell disease and TDT in early 2024.

**EMA-Approved Rare Genetic Diseases Gene Therapies**



**<16,000 patients**

Estimated EU eligible patient population

**FDA-Approved Rare Genetic Diseases Gene Therapies**



**<18,000 patients**

Estimated U.S. eligible patient population

**Sickle Cell Disease Gene Therapies**



**25,000 patients**

Estimated U.S. and EU eligible patient population

Estimates based on developer reports and press releases.

CVS Health, Gene Therapy Pipeline 3Q 2021-2H 2025; CVS Health, Gene Therapy Pipeline 2Q 2022-4Q 2025

PharmExec, Vertex Pharmaceuticals Touts Potential of CRISPR Gene Editing Therapy



# In Focus: Sickle cell disease

On December 8, 2023, the FDA approved two gene therapies to treat sickle cell disease, marking a seminal moment in the history of biotechnology and human health. Casgevy, developed by CRISPR Therapeutics and Vertex Pharmaceuticals, represents the first-ever approval of a gene-editing medicine in the United States (it was previously approved in the United Kingdom and Bahrain). Lyfgenia, developed by bluebird bio, joins Casgevy as the first two gene therapies ever approved in the United States to treat sickle cell disease.

An estimated 15,000 people in the UK and 100,000 people in the US have sickle cell disease, making it among the most prevalent rare genetic diseases in both countries. Up to 2,000 patients in the UK will be eligible for treatment, along with 25,000 in the US and EU, according to Vertex Pharmaceuticals. According to bluebird bio, there are up to 20,000 eligible patients for its therapy in the US.



## Potential patient populations for therapy in the US. sickle cell disease

**01 Therapy :**  
Casgevy  
CRISPR Therapeutics and  
Vertex Pharmaceuticals

**Stage :**  
Approved for market use on  
November 16, 2023

**Potential patient population :**  
2,000 in the United Kingdom (Source:  
Vertex Pharmaceuticals)

**02 Therapy :**  
Casgevy  
CRISPR Therapeutics and  
Vertex Pharmaceuticals

**Stage :**  
Approved by the FDA on  
December 8, 2023

**Potential patient population :**  
25,000 in the United States and EU  
(Source: Vertex Pharmaceuticals)

**03 Therapy :**  
Lyfgenia  
bluebird bio

**Stage :**  
Approved by the FDA on  
December 8, 2023

**Potential patient population :**  
20,000 in the United States (Source:  
bluebird bio)

# The patient population for approved non-oncology gene therapies could grow considerably in the coming years.

Several gene therapies are in the pivotal stage of the clinical pipeline and could receive a regulatory decision during 2024-2026. If approved, they could thrust non-oncology gene therapy into the mainstream and reach millions of patients. Several new treatments aim to target more prevalent conditions, such as eye conditions and diabetic complications.

## Possible patient population growth for non-oncology gene therapies

US and EU gene therapies for sickle cell disease\*



<25,000 estimated patients in US and EU

US and EU approved gene therapies for other rare genetic diseases



<34,000 estimated patients in US and EU

Therapies for eye conditions and diabetic complications



Estimated patients reaching into the millions

\*As of December 2023, there are two therapies for sickle cell disease approved in the US, and one in the EU awaiting approval

# A look into the pipeline



## Prevalent eye conditions and diabetic complications

Eye conditions found in millions of patients, such as wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD), retinitis pigmentosa, and diabetic retinopathy, are targeted by a growing number of therapies in the late-stage pipeline.

Additionally, there are over 37 million Americans with some form of diabetes according to the American Diabetes Association. For many, diabetes comes with other health complications, such as foot ulcers and nerve damage. Gene therapies are increasingly targeting these diabetic-related conditions.

### Example indications in late-stage clinical trials

#### Diabetic Retinopathy



**Therapy:** RGX-314 (REGENXBIO)  
Possible patient population = 20 million in the US, EU and Japan  
(Source: REGENXBIO)

#### Wet AMD



**Therapy:** RGX-314 (REGENXBIO)  
Possible patient population = 5.7 million in the US, EU and Japan  
(Source: REGENXBIO)

#### Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy



**Therapy:** Engensis (Helixmith)  
Possible patient population = 4 million in the US  
(Source: Helixmith)



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## Events



### Cell and Gene Meeting on the Mesa

**Phoenix, AZ** October 7-9, 2024

[Meetingonthemesa.com](https://meetingonthemesa.com) ↗



### Cell and Gene Meeting on the Med

**Rome, Italy** April 9-11, 2024

[Meetingonthemed.com](https://meetingonthemed.com) ↗

## Get Involved

ARM has opened a new governance structure and decision model to support our 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. We introduced Membership Forums in June 2023 for broader member engagement, discussion, and information sharing. To get involved in a forum, please get in touch with Elaine Blausler at [eblausler@alliancerm.org](mailto:eblausler@alliancerm.org)

## Stay engaged

### BECOME A MEMBER

**Contact:** Robin Muthig, [rmuthig@alliancerm.org](mailto:rmuthig@alliancerm.org) ↗

### MEDIA INQUIRIES

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