DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Food and Drug Administration
[Docket No. FDA–2015–D–3399]

Recommendations for Microbial Vectors Used for Gene Therapy; Guidance for Industry; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a document entitled “Recommendations for Microbial Vectors Used for Gene Therapy; Guidance for Industry.” The guidance document provides investigational new drug application (IND) sponsors, with recommendations concerning IND submissions for microbial vectors used for gene therapy (MVGTs) in early phase clinical trials. The guidance focuses on the chemistry, manufacturing, and control (CMC) information that sponsors should submit in an IND for MVGTs and provides an overview of preclinical and clinical considerations for these products. The guidance announced in this notice finalizes the draft guidance of the same title dated October 2015 and supplements the guidance entitled “Guidance for FDA Reviewers and Sponsors: Content and Review of Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Control (CMC) Information for Human Gene Therapy Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs),” dated April 2008.

DATES: Submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments as follows:

Electronic Submissions
Submit electronic comments in the following way:
• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to http://www.regulations.gov will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on http://www.regulations.gov.

• If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

Written/Paper Submissions
Submit written/paper submissions as follows:
• Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions): Division of Dockets Management (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

• For written/paper comments submitted to the Division of Dockets Management, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2015–D–3399 for “Recommendations for Microbial Vectors Used for Gene Therapy; Guidance for Industry.” Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at http://www.regulations.gov or at the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

• Confidential Submissions—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on http://www.regulations.gov. Submit both copies to the Division of Dockets Management. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56449, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: http://www.fda.gov/regulatoryinformation/dockets/default.htm.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Division of Dockets Management, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

Submit written requests for single copies of the guidance to the Office of Communication, Outreach and Development, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER), Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 71, Rm. 3128, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist the office in processing your requests. The guidance may also be obtained by mail by calling CBER at 1–800–835–4709 or 240–402–8010. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for electronic access to the guidance document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Tami Belouin, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 71, Rm. 7301, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 240–402–7911.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a document entitled “Recommendations for Microbial Vectors Used for Gene Therapy; Guidance for Industry.” The guidance provides IND sponsors, with recommendations concerning IND submissions for microbial vectors used for MVGTs in early phase clinical trials. The guidance focuses on the CMC information that sponsors should submit in an IND for MVGTs and provides an overview of preclinical and

Guidances/default.htm or http://www.regulations.gov.

Dated: September 12, 2016.
Leslie Kux,
Associate Commissioner for Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration
[Docket No. FDA–2013–N–1214]

Clinical Investigator Training Course

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in collaboration with the University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation (M–CERSI), is announcing a 3-day training course for clinical investigators on the scientific, ethical, and regulatory aspects of clinical trials for medical products. This training course is intended to provide clinical investigators, such as clinicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other health care providers involved in conducting clinical trials, with expertise in the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical trials; to improve the quality of clinical trials; and to enhance the safety of trial participants. Senior FDA staff, along with other experts, will present on issues critical for successful conduct of clinical research.

DATES: The training course will be held on November 7, 2016, from 8:20 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (registration begins at 7:30 a.m.); on November 8, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; and on November 9, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The course will be held at the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910. GPS device address: 8525 Fenton St., Silver Spring, MD 20910. For additional information, please refer to http://www.silverspringdowntown.com/go/silver-spring-civic-building-and-veterans-plaza. (FDA has verified the Web address, but FDA is not responsible for subsequent changes to the Web site after this document publishes in the Federal Register.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicole Silva, Office of Medical Policy, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, Rm. 6323, Silver Spring, MD 20993, 301–796–3419, Nicole.Silva@fda.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Clinical trial investigators play a critical role in the development of medical products. They bear the responsibility for ensuring the safe and ethical treatment of study subjects and for acquiring adequate and reliable data to support regulatory decisions. This course is intended to train clinical investigators in all elements of clinical trials, including the preclinical and clinical information needed to support the investigational use of medical products; the statistical design of trials; and scientific, regulatory, and ethical considerations related to conduct of clinical trials. The course lecturers will include a diverse representation of senior FDA staff and other experts, enabling communication on issues critical for successful conduct of clinical research.

II. Description of the Training Course

A. Purpose

The training course is designed to provide clinical investigators with an overview of the following information:

- The essential toxicological, pharmacological, and manufacturing data to support investigational use in humans;
- Fundamental issues in the design and conduct of clinical trials;
- Statistical and analytic considerations in the interpretation of trial data;
- Appropriate safety evaluation during studies; and
- The ethical considerations and regulatory requirements for clinical trials.

In addition, the course aims to:

- Foster a cadre of clinical investigators with knowledge, experience, and commitment to investigational medicine;
- Promote communication between clinical investigators and FDA;
- Enhance investigators’ understanding of FDA’s role in experimental medicine;
- Improve the quality of clinical trial data; and
- Enhance protection of subjects in clinical trials.

B. Agenda

The course will be conducted over 3 days and will be presented mainly by senior FDA staff with other lecturers presenting on selected topics. The agenda is available at http://www.fda.gov/Training/ClinicalInvestigatorTrainingCourse/default.htm.

C. Target Audience

The course is targeted toward clinicians, nurses, pharmacists and other health care professionals responsible for, or involved in, the conduct and/or design of clinical trials.