

Considerations for the Use of Human- and Animal-Derived Materials in the Manufacture of Cellular and Gene Therapy and Tissue-Engineered Medical Products

Draft Guidance for Industry

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For questions on the content of this guidance, contact OCOD at the phone numbers or email address listed above.

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1 **Considerations for the Use of Human-and Animal-Derived**
2 **Materials in the Manufacture of Cell and Gene Therapy and Tissue-**
3 **Engineered Medical Products**
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8 *This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug*
9 *Administration (FDA or Agency) on this topic. It does not establish any rights for any person*
10 *and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the*
11 *requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. To discuss an alternative approach,*
12 *contact the FDA staff responsible for this guidance as listed on the title page.*

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15 **I. INTRODUCTION**
16

17 The use of human- and animal-derived materials¹ to manufacture cellular and gene therapy
18 (CGT) products and tissue-engineered medical products (TEMPs) raises several key issues to
19 consider, including transmission of adventitious agents, material lot-to-lot consistency, and
20 material identity, as well as general material qualification considerations. We, FDA, are
21 providing you, manufacturers of CGT and TEMP products, with recommendations regarding
22 assuring the safety, quality, and identity of materials of human and animal origin used in the
23 manufacture of these products. In addition, recommendations are provided regarding the
24 chemistry, manufacturing, and control (CMC) information submitted in an investigational new
25 drug application (IND) relating to the use of human- and animal-derived materials.
26

27 This guidance supplements the following two final guidances: “Chemistry, Manufacturing, and
28 Control (CMC) Information for Human Gene Therapy Investigational New Drug Applications
29 (INDs); Guidance for Industry” dated January 2020 (Gene Therapy CMC Guidance) (Ref. 2) and
30 “Guidance for FDA Reviewers and Sponsors: Content and Review of Chemistry,
31 Manufacturing, and Control (CMC) Information for Human Somatic Cell Therapy
32 Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs)” dated April 2008 (Cell Therapy CMC
33 Guidance) (Ref. 3).
34

35 In general, FDA’s guidance documents, including this guidance, do not establish legally
36 enforceable responsibilities. Instead, guidances describe the FDA’s current thinking on a topic
37 and should be viewed only as recommendations, unless specific regulatory or statutory

¹ As defined in “Q7 Good Manufacturing Practice Guidance for Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients; Guidance for Industry,” (September 2016) (Ref. 1), “material” is a general term used to denote raw materials (starting materials, reagents, solvents), process aids, intermediates, active pharmaceutical ingredients, and packaging and labeling materials. See section II of this guidance for exclusions and inclusions under the definition of material in this guidance.

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38 requirements are cited. The use of the word *should* in FDA’s guidances means that something is
39 suggested or recommended, but not required.

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42 **II. BACKGROUND**

43

44 Human- and animal-derived materials may be used directly during manufacturing of a drug
45 substance (DS) and drug product (DP). In addition, these materials may be used in the
46 manufacture of reagents or substrates used in manufacturing, such as cell banks, viral stocks,
47 antibodies, and other proteins. Some common examples of human- and animal-derived materials
48 include human or animal blood, antibodies produced in sera from animal hybridoma cells, and
49 cytokines produced in insect cell lines.

50

51 The “materials” covered by this guidance include (1) the reagents, feeder cells², and excipients
52 (and other inactive ingredients in the DP) that are in direct contact with the starting material,
53 intermediates, and final products, (2) any materials used to manufacture reagents, feeder cells,
54 and excipients, and (3) materials incorporated in TEMPs. The “materials” excluded from this
55 guidance are human cells used as starting material to manufacture human cells, tissues, and
56 cellular and tissue-based products, including TEMPs. Please refer to Gene Therapy CMC
57 Guidance (Ref. 2) and Cell Therapy CMC Guidance (Ref. 3) for guidance on the use of cellular
58 materials, such as cell banks used to manufacture cell therapy DPs, transduced cells that
59 constitute gene therapy DPs, and primary allogeneic cells used as DPs.

60

61 Sponsors of IND applications for new DPs, including investigational CGT products and TEMPs,
62 must describe the CMC information as prescribed in Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations
63 (CFR) section 312.23 for the DS (21 CFR 312.23(a)(7)(iv)(a)) and the DP (21 CFR
64 312.23(a)(7)(iv)(b)). A regulatory submission must describe the safety and quality of materials
65 used in manufacturing (21 CFR 312.23(a)(7)(i)). FDA may place the IND on clinical hold if the
66 IND does not contain sufficient CMC information “to assess the risks to subjects of the proposed
67 studies” (21 CFR 312.42(b)(1)(iv)) or if the CMC information indicates that the “[H]uman
68 subjects are or would be exposed to an unreasonable and significant risk of illness or injury” (21
69 CFR 312.42(b)(1)(i)). The use of human- and animal-derived materials at any point in the
70 manufacturing process can affect the safety, potency, purity, and stability of the final product.

71

72 Use of human- and animal-derived materials during product manufacturing may increase risks of
73 infectious disease transmission, and raises potential safety concerns, such as the possible
74 introduction of adventitious agents or other impurities into CGT products and TEMPs. Thus,
75 human- and animal-derived materials should be thoroughly characterized and described in your
76 regulatory submission.

77

² Human- or animal-derived cells used for manufacturing of gene therapy viral vectors are not considered as feeder cells and are beyond the scope of this guidance.

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78 Human- and animal-derived materials can also contribute to product variability by affecting the
79 reproducibility of your manufacturing process or the quality of your final product. For example,
80 differences among serum lots used for cell culture may lead to differences in cell growth rate or
81 differentiation potential. Concerns regarding product variability and quality underscore the need
82 for early studies to define critical attributes for materials and to establish acceptance criteria for
83 specified attributes of each material.

84
85 This guidance includes recommendations when developing CGT products and TEMPs that are
86 manufactured using human- and animal-derived materials. These considerations include donor
87 screening and testing, adventitious agent testing and screening, risk assessment, and materials
88 management. The guidance also includes points to consider for manufacturers of human- and
89 animal-derived materials used in the manufacture of CGT products or TEMPs.

90
91

92 **III. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS: HUMAN- AND ANIMAL-DERIVED** 93 **MATERIALS**

94
95 In your IND, you must provide a list of all materials used in manufacturing and a description of
96 the quality or grade of these materials (21 CFR 312.23(a)(7)(iv)(b)). We recommend that you
97 provide such list in tabular format, including, but not limited to, manufacturer, catalog number,
98 source (e.g., human, animal, bacterial, insect), grade, and stage at which the material is used in
99 the manufacturing process (e.g., culture media, excipient). In submissions adhering to the
100 Common Technical Document (CTD) organizational structure, this information may be provided
101 in sections 3.2.S.2.3 (Control of Materials) and 3.2.P.4 (Control of Excipients).

102
103 If your product is subject to FDA's CGMP regulations, you must develop and implement
104 materials management procedures for all materials, including supplier qualification and relevant
105 acceptance criteria for materials arriving at the manufacturing facility (21 CFR part 211, subpart
106 E).³ Furthermore, such materials must be held in quarantine before they have been tested or
107 examined, whichever is appropriate, and released (21 CFR 211.82(b)). Quarantine procedures
108 minimize the risk of introduction of adventitious agents into the facility and manufacturing
109 process.⁴ We recommend that you provide documentation in your regulatory submission that the
110 material used for manufacturing meets standards appropriate for its intended use (e.g.,
111 specifications, Certificates of Analysis (COA), Certificates of Origin (COO), package inserts).
112 For human- and animal-derived materials, documentation provided in the regulatory submission
113 should include the source of the material and/or specifications for adventitious agent testing
114 performed by the supplier, as appropriate. Please note that manufacturers of the CGT or TEMP
115 product may need to perform additional testing of the material before acceptance by the

³ An investigational drug for use in a phase 1 study is subject to the statutory requirements set forth in section 501(a)(2)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 351(a)(2)(B)). The production of such a drug is generally exempt from compliance with the CGMP regulations in 21 CFR parts 210 and 211. See 21 CFR 210.2(c). However, the general principle of material controls is also important for investigational drugs for use in a phase 1 study.

⁴ For this reason, the practice of quarantining is advisable when manufacturing products for use in a phase 1 investigation that are not subject to the CGMP regulation in 21 CFR 211.82.

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116 manufacturing facility if the testing performed by the supplier is not sufficient to assure the
117 safety of the DS or DP in the context of the manufacturing process.
118

119 For all materials, we recommend that you use materials of the highest quality available, which
120 may include articles that are FDA-licensed, -approved or -cleared and used as materials, if
121 appropriate. Alternatively, you may wish to consider using materials that are free of human- or
122 animal-derived proteins (e.g., tissue culture media free of human or animal-derived materials,⁵
123 recombinant proteins), because they may have fewer safety risks and may be less variable in
124 their composition, thus avoiding donor-to-donor variability, and avoiding the variability in how
125 such proteins affect cellular or tissue growth and properties.
126

127 **A. Adventitious Agents**

128
129 Human- and animal-derived materials increase the risk of introducing adventitious
130 agents, including viruses, parasites, bacteria, mycoplasma and agent(s) responsible for
131 transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). If the manufacturing process of the
132 material includes steps that you rely upon to remove or inactivate potential infectious
133 contaminants from these materials, the regulatory submission should describe how the
134 manufacturing method for the material has been demonstrated to remove adventitious
135 agents. For example, you or the manufacturer of the material should qualify the
136 processing methods and any sterilization techniques used in material manufacture for
137 their ability to inactivate and remove infectious contaminants. If removal or inactivation
138 of the potential infectious contaminant cannot be demonstrated, such as agent(s)
139 responsible for TSEs, careful source material selection may be a risk mitigation strategy.
140

141 The introduction into a manufacturing facility of a material that is contaminated with an
142 adventitious agent carries the risk of contaminating other products or infecting personnel
143 with the adventitious agent. For example, a mycoplasma contamination introduced via a
144 material can be spread to equipment and personnel. We recommend that you develop
145 procedures to ensure that contaminated materials do not compromise the quality and
146 purity of the product. In cases where adventitious agent testing or examination of
147 materials is pending at the time of receipt, quarantining the material until completion of
148 the testing must be part of an overall current good manufacturing practice (CGMP)-
149 compliant strategy under our CGMP regulations (21 CFR 211.82).⁶
150

151 **B. Risk Management Process**

152
153 As described in FDA’s “Guidance for Industry: Q9(R1) Quality Risk Management,”
154 dated June 2006 (Ref. 4), risk assessment consists of the identification of hazards and the
155 analysis and evaluation of risks associated with exposure to those hazards. A risk
156 management process consists of a systematic process encompassing risk assessment,

⁵ Please note that “serum-free” medium and supplements may still contain human or animal components (see section IV.C.4 of this guidance).

⁶ As stated above, the practice of quarantining is advisable when manufacturing products for use in a phase 1 investigation that are not subject to the CGMP regulation in 21 CFR 211.82.

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157 control, review, and communication. You should assess the potential risk for
158 introduction of adventitious agents by human- and animal-derived materials. Process
159 qualification or viral clearance validation studies can help to assess risk, and the
160 manufacturing process can be designed to mitigate risks, where appropriate. As
161 mentioned above, contaminated materials may present unacceptable risks to the
162 manufacturing environment, and these risks should be evaluated in your risk assessment.

163
164 We recommend that you provide risk assessments of human- and animal-derived
165 materials in CTD section 3.2.A.2 of your regulatory submission. We recommend that the
166 risk assessments include consideration of the source of the material (species and
167 geographical origin). Moreover, you should describe how your material acceptance
168 specifications mitigate risks. Finally, for all materials, you should list the manufacturing
169 steps where the material will be used. In CTD format, you should list all the materials
170 and the steps where they are used in sections 3.2.S.2.3 (Control of Materials) and sections
171 2.3.P.4 (Control of Excipients).

172
173 You should consider the potential impact of the change in suppliers of such materials. A
174 change in suppliers may have a profound effect on material safety and quality, given that
175 different suppliers may use a different starting material, pool sizes, and manufacturing
176 approaches. Such an effect on the material could significantly alter the safety or quality
177 of the CGT product or TEMPs being manufactured.

178 179 **C. Material Acceptance Testing**

180
181 CGMP regulations require identity testing of materials, and specific tests should be used
182 if they are available (21 CFR 211.84(d)(1)). Although the production of an
183 investigational drug for use in a phase 1 study is exempt from compliance with the
184 regulations in 21 CFR part 211 (21 CFR 210.2(c)), manufacturers must follow statutory
185 CGMP required under section 501(a)(2)(B) of the FD&C Act⁷, and you should consider
186 implementing identity testing, even during phase 1 clinical investigations, in order to
187 minimize any unintended compromise to product safety or quality. For example, if there
188 is a similar material being used in the same facility, such as similar types of sera or media
189 supplements, it is important to verify material identity. For phase 1 investigations, you
190 should establish written procedures describing the handling, review, acceptance, and
191 control of materials used in the manufacture (Ref. 5).

192 Materials must be tested for conformance with all appropriate written specifications for
193 purity, strength, and quality; or alternatively you may rely on a report of analysis from
194 the supplier, provided that the manufacturer conducts at least one specific identify test
195 and establishes the reliability of the supplier's analyses (21 CFR 211.84(d)(2)). Your risk
196 analysis should determine whether it is adequate to rely on testing performed by the
197 supplier and reported on a COA, or whether you should also perform additional tests
198 prior to acceptance of a material. For example, if not reflected in the COA, it may be

⁷ See Reference 5.

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199 important to perform tests for potentially harmful impurities in the material, or functional
200 testing to ensure that the material will perform as intended and with adequate
201 reproducibility in your manufacturing process.

202 Materials of human or animal origin may show donor-dependent variation in purity,
203 strength, and quality profiles. When a material is a biologically complex mixture that
204 may vary among lots, it is important to establish acceptance criteria for the attributes that
205 will affect the performance of the material in your product manufacturing process. For
206 example, materials derived from blood are frequently pooled during material
207 manufacturing. Pooling is generally thought to improve lot-to-lot consistency of the
208 material, but it may still be necessary for either you or the supplier to test certain
209 attributes of the material to ensure that new lots will perform adequately in your product
210 manufacturing process. The level of pooling may vary considerably by supplier, or even
211 among lots from the same supplier.

212 Material consistency can be evaluated by assessing material performance because
213 changes in performance may indicate that the material is not consistent. To help ensure
214 material consistency, we therefore recommend that you evaluate whether it is necessary
215 to test material performance when accepting a new lot (e.g., including an assay to
216 evaluate whether the new lot of material performs adequately and as intended, including a
217 comparison to previously used lot(s), if applicable). For example, in some cases you may
218 determine that it is necessary to test the ability of each new lot of human serum to support
219 growth of the cell lines used during manufacturing of your product. For some materials
220 you may decide, after determining that different lots from the same supplier produce
221 similar results, that you have sufficient confidence in the supplier's testing that no
222 additional testing is needed.

223 Testing for relevant communicable disease agents or diseases should be performed using
224 donor screening tests that are licensed, approved, or cleared by FDA specifically for
225 donor screening, not only for in vitro diagnostic testing.⁸ Because of the difference in the
226 intended population and how the results are used, donor screening tests are approved
227 based on different standards compared to those intended for diagnostic purposes. You
228 should also document the size of the pool of donor material and verify that any tests for
229 human infectious agents that were performed on the pooled material are approved by
230 FDA for testing pools of that size (FDA-approved tests are approved for specific matrices
231 and specific pool sizes, as stated on the specific tests' Instructions for Use). Human- and
232 animal-derived materials should generally also be tested for microbiological
233 contamination.
234

⁸ Please note that for human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products (HCT/P's) subject to 21 CFR part 1271, it is required that testing be performed using appropriate FDA-licensed, approved, or cleared donor screening tests, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, to adequately and appropriately reduce the risk of transmission of relevant communicable disease agents or diseases. 21 CFR 1271.80(a). However, until such time as appropriate FDA-licensed, approved, or cleared donor screening tests for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and for *Neisseria gonorrhoea* are available, manufactures must use FDA-licensed, approved, or cleared tests labeled for the detection of those organisms in an asymptomatic, low-prevalence population. *Id.*

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IV. MATERIALS DERIVED FROM HUMAN BLOOD AND BLOOD COMPONENTS

Human-derived materials are frequently obtained from blood and blood components,⁹ including Source Plasma. Source Plasma is the fluid portion of human blood collected by plasmapheresis and intended as a source material for further manufacturing use. The definition excludes single-donor plasma products intended for intravenous use (21 CFR 640.60). Some materials used in manufacturing CGT products and TEMPs can be derived from multiple types of donated source material. For example, human AB serum can be manufactured from whole blood, single-donor plasma, or Source Plasma. The testing requirements for Source Plasma are different than those for whole blood and plasma. For example, Source Plasma, which is intended solely for further manufacturing use, is not required to be tested for human T-lymphotropic virus (HTLV), West Nile virus (WNV), and Chagas disease (21 CFR 610.40 (a)(2)(ii)) and the requirements for testing Source Plasma donations for syphilis differ from the requirements for testing donations of other blood components for syphilis (see 21 CFR 610.40 (a)(2)(i) and 21 CFR 640.65(b)(2)) (see section IV.C.2 of this guidance). Thus, your regulatory submission should document the type of donated source material (e.g., blood, plasma, platelets, Source Plasma, etc.) used to manufacture the human-derived material.

A. Collection and Testing of Donated Source Material

The collection, processing, compatibility testing, storage and distribution of human blood and blood components must be performed in accordance with applicable requirements for current good manufacturing practices (21 CFR part 606) and must be collected in accordance with applicable requirements for donor eligibility and donation testing requirements in 21 CFR part 630, subpart B, 21 CFR part 640, and 21 CFR 610.40. We recommend that you source your blood and blood components from blood establishments that are FDA-registered.¹⁰

In your regulatory submission, please include a statement that collection of the blood or blood component is performed by a registered blood establishment to ensure that blood and blood components are collected, processed, and tested per appropriate regulations cited above. In addition, we recommend that you document the type of donated source material and the tests performed on this material (for blood or blood components). If testing was performed on pooled donated source material (e.g., a plasma pool), we recommend that you document that the pool size for each test does not exceed the pool size for which the test has been licensed, approved, or cleared by the FDA. Please be aware that the testing requirements and recommendations outlined in this guidance may differ depending on the type of blood component, as discussed in section IV of this guidance.

⁹ See definition of blood component at 21 CFR 606.3(c).

¹⁰ We make this recommendation throughout the draft guidance. FDA-registered establishments are in FDA's database for scheduling inspections and are subject to periodic inspection to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

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276 **B. Reducing Risks of TSE in Human-Derived Materials**

277
278 In general, TSE may be transmitted between humans, and thus, human-derived materials
279 pose a risk of TSE transmission. Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) and variant
280 Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD) are relevant transfusion-transmitted infections (RTTI)
281 diseases under 21 CFR 603.3(h) and blood establishments must assess a donor’s medical
282 history to identify risk factors closely associated with an RTTI. The guidance titled,
283 “Recommendations to Reduce the Possible Risk of Transmission of Creutzfeldt-Jakob
284 Disease and Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease by Blood and Blood Components,” dated
285 May 2022 (CJD guidance) (Ref. 6), outlines the possible risks associated with the
286 transmission of CJD (a type of TSE) and vCJD by blood and blood components and
287 provides donor deferral recommendations. We recommend that human blood-derived
288 materials are derived from donations collected at blood establishments that follow the
289 recommendations in the CJD guidance.

290 291 **C. Special Considerations for Commonly Used Human-Derived Materials**

292 1. Human Platelet Lysate (HPL)

293
294 HPL is the soluble fraction isolated from disrupted platelets, and HPL may be
295 used by manufacturers as a growth medium supplement to substitute for serum.
296 The types of donated source material for HPL include expired licensed platelets,
297 whole blood, platelet-rich plasma, and apheresis platelets or platelets collected by
298 apheresis. HPL is obtained through repeated freeze-thawing cycles, sonication, or
299 by applying platelet activators such as thrombin or calcium chloride. If using
300 HPL, we recommend that you provide the following information:

- 301
- 302 • If platelets are used as a starting material to manufacture HPL, you should
303 document whether expired or non-expired units of platelets were used because
304 the stability of platelet-associated growth factors may be affected by length of
305 storage. You should describe the acceptance criteria for expired platelets
306 (e.g., length of storage, the minimum levels of a certain growth factor, etc.).
 - 307 • You should provide documentation that the donated source material is
308 collected at an FDA-registered blood establishment in accordance with 21
309 CFR part 640, subpart C requirements and ensure that the platelets are
310 collected, processed, and tested per appropriate regulations cited above.
 - 311 • You should include information about how the donated source material is
312 stored.
 - 313 • To address possible concerns about cross-contamination, you should describe
314 the procedures used to prepare HPL, provide information on any materials or
315 equipment involved in its production, and indicate the facility used.

316 2. Human Serum

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318 Human serum, such as AB serum, is generally obtained from plasma, Source
319 Plasma, or whole blood. In your IND, you should describe the whole blood or
320 plasma testing, collection, and processing procedure. We recommend that you
321 document that collection, testing, and processing are performed in compliance
322 with 21 CFR part 606 and 21 CFR part 640, subparts A, D, or G at an FDA-
323 registered blood establishment.

324
325 Manufacturers of Source Plasma are not required to test donations for certain
326 RTTI, including HTLV, WNV, Chagas disease, or babesiosis (21 CFR 610.40).¹¹
327 Source Plasma donations are tested for syphilis in accordance with 21 CFR
328 640.65(b)). Source Plasma has unique testing requirements because it is intended
329 to be used for further manufacturing of plasma-derived biologic products that are
330 manufactured using validated viral inactivation/removal procedures such as
331 column chromatography, detergent treatment, or extensive heat inactivation.
332 Human AB serum manufacturing processes do not typically include such
333 manufacturing steps. Consequently, we do not consider Source Plasma to be an
334 appropriate starting material for human AB serum manufacture, unless you can
335 provide documentation that the Source Plasma was tested using FDA-licensed,
336 approved, or cleared donor screening tests for HTLV, Chagas, WNV, babesiosis,
337 and syphilis to align with the requirements for other blood components as
338 required in 21 CFR 610.40.

339
340 You should document the entire human AB serum manufacturing process, starting
341 with any processing steps performed on the donated source material, defibrination
342 steps (if applicable), and the conditions of heat inactivation (time and
343 temperature) and irradiation (type of irradiation and irradiation dose in kGy), if
344 applicable. If bovine thrombin is used during manufacture, documentation
345 supporting its safety should be submitted. Safety may be supported by data
346 demonstrating freedom from bovine adventitious agents in the bovine thrombin.

347 3. Human Serum Albumin (HSA)

348
349 In general, HSA used as an excipient in a CGT or TEMP product should be
350 licensed in the United States (U.S.), since the HSA will be directly administered
351 to the patient and the use of licensed HSA helps ensure safety and quality. For
352 HSA used in manufacturing of CGT products and TEMPs not as an excipient, we
353 recommend that you use U.S.-licensed or U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP)-grade
354 albumin to also help ensure safety and quality. If you choose to use a version of
355 human blood-derived HSA that is not licensed in the U.S. in the manufacture of
356 CGT products and TEMPs, we recommend that you provide a justification for
357 such use.

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¹¹ If the human AB serum is derived from plasma or whole blood, it is important to note that testing for Zika virus is no longer required for human blood and blood components, including plasma and serum (Ref. 7).

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359 You should provide information on the HSA used at any point in your
360 manufacturing process. If using a licensed albumin, you should indicate which
361 licensed product is being used and provide a copy of the package insert.
362

4. Human-Derived Proteins in Culture Media

363
364
365 Human blood-derived proteins can be added to culture media. For example,
366 transferrin is a blood protein that is used as a media additive to minimize
367 oxidative stress by chelating iron. It is often added as a supplement to “serum-
368 free,” “serum-reduced,” “xeno-free” or other supplemented cell culture media.
369 For example, although there are recombinant forms of transferrin, commercial
370 media formulations often contain human plasma-derived transferrin. The
371 presence of a human-derived protein in cell culture media, such as transferrin or
372 HSA, may not be immediately apparent on the COA supplied for the medium.
373 Therefore, you should document in the submissions to FDA the presence of
374 human-derived proteins in all media used to manufacture CGT products and
375 TEMPs. Moreover, you should include information to document conformance to
376 donor testing requirements specified in 21 CFR 610.40 and that the human-
377 derived material has been manufactured using procedures that have been validated
378 to clear or inactivate human adventitious agents. Manufacturers of culture media
379 used in manufacture of CGT or TEMP products who wish to provide confidential
380 information about their media to FDA should submit a Type II drug master file
381 (DMF) to the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER). If a MF is
382 available for a material, a letter of authorization that authorizes the
383 cross-reference of information in the MF and that is signed by the person who
384 submitted the cross-referenced information should be included in an IND
385 submission (21 CFR 312.23(b)).
386
387

388 **V. HUMAN-DERIVED FEEDER AND BYSTANDER CELLS AND CELL-DERIVED** 389 **PARTICLES**

390
391 Human-derived feeder and bystander cells and cell-derived particles (e.g., extracellular vesicles,
392 exosomes, secreted proteins) may be used to propagate human cells during manufacturing of
393 CGT products and TEMPs. Some examples include immortalized feeder cells, allogeneic cells
394 irradiated at high dose to yield cell particles, and cells that have been genetically modified to
395 express certain stimulatory proteins. Ascertaining complete absence of residual cells from the
396 final product is technically challenging, and the feeder or bystander cells and cell-derived
397 particles may thus be present in the DS and DP as impurities. Moreover, feeder or bystander
398 cells and cell-derived particles are frequently used in culture with CGT products or TEMPs for
399 prolonged periods of time, which may increase the risk of transmission of adventitious agents
400 from the feeder cells to cells in the final product. For these reasons, we recommend that feeder
401 and bystander cells and cell particles derived from human cells should be derived from donors
402 who meet the eligibility criteria in 21 CFR part 1271, subpart C. We also recommend that feeder
403 and bystander cell banks are tested for sterility, mycoplasma, relevant human adventitious

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404 agents, including, but not limited to, in vivo adventitious agent testing (master cell bank), in vitro
405 adventitious agent testing (master cell bank and working cell bank), viral particles by
406 transmission electron microscopy, human pathogens by polymerase chain reaction, and
407 retroviruses, if the cells come into contact with non-human cells and/or reagents. The extent of
408 testing may depend on the banking and expansion strategy, and, if feeder and bystander cell bank
409 testing is limited, it may be necessary for the cellular product manufacturer to demonstrate that
410 the drug substance or drug product is free of potential adventitious agents. Testing for species-
411 specific viruses may also be required if the banks are produced using animal-derived materials.
412 For relevant concepts on the methods, please refer to “Guidance for Industry: Characterization
413 and Qualification of Cell Substrates and Other Biological Materials Used in the Production of
414 Viral Vaccines for Infectious Disease Indications,” dated February 2010 (Ref. 8).

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417 **VI. MATERIALS DERIVED FROM ANIMALS**

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419 For all animal-derived materials, we recommend that you conduct testing consistent with the testing
420 described in 9 CFR 113.47 and 9 CFR 113.53.

421

422 **A. Animal-Derived Feeder Cells**

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424 For feeder cells and feeder cell particles from animals (e.g., murine feeder cells), we
425 recommend that cell banks are tested for relevant animal adventitious agents, including,
426 but not limited to, in vivo adventitious agent testing (master cell bank), in vitro
427 adventitious agent testing (master cell bank and working cell bank), and retroviruses. If a
428 feeder cell line of animal origin is used to propagate human cells (i.e., if human and non-
429 human cells are co-cultured), we would consider the final product to be a
430 xenotransplantation product.¹²

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432 **B. Bovine- and Ovine-Derived Materials**

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434 To assure the safety of bovine-derived materials, we recommend following the
435 procedures described in 9 CFR 113.47 and 9 CFR 113.53, and the recommendations in
436 Cell Therapy CMC Guidance, and Gene Therapy CMC Guidance (Refs. 2 and 3). In
437 addition, please refer to Cell Therapy CMC Guidance and Gene Therapy CMC Guidance
438 (Refs. 2 and 3) for information about documentation of bovine spongiform-related risks.
439 Even if bovine-derived materials are not used directly in the manufacture of CGT
440 products or TEMPs, you should document whether bovine material is used during the
441 manufacturing of any material used to manufacture CGT products or TEMPs. For
442 example, some enzymes are manufactured from bacteria that are grown in media that
443 contain bovine-derived materials, meaning that if the enzyme is used in manufacture of
444 the product, the above-cited safety considerations should be addressed. If your
445 manufacturing process uses a recombinant protein derived from bacterial fermentation,
446 you should identify and document any bovine-derived materials used for bacterial

¹² For information on xenotransplantation products, please refer to Refs. 9 and 10.

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447 fermentation and protein purification. Bovine and ovine materials, such as albumin, are
448 sometimes added as carriers in the formulation of small quantities of protein reagents. In
449 cases where obtaining the documentation may be difficult, we recommend that carrier-
450 free materials be used in manufacturing. For all bovine-derived materials, including
451 those with indirect contact, you should provide documentation reflecting freedom from
452 adventitious agents and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) (e.g., documentation
453 that the herds are born, raised, and slaughtered in a country with negligible BSE risk).

454 **C. Porcine-Derived Materials**

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457 The Cell Therapy CMC Guidance and Gene Therapy CMC Guidance outline the
458 concerns associated with porcine materials (Refs. 2 and 3). Trypsin is a commonly used
459 material that is derived from pigs. We recommend that you use a trypsin alternative that
460 is free of porcine-derived materials, if it is appropriate for your specific application. For
461 safety testing of porcine materials, we recommend testing consistent with the testing for
462 ingredients of animal origin used for production of biologics described in 9 CFR 113.53
463 and consistent with the test methods outlined in 9 CFR 113.47. Documentation should
464 also demonstrate that the porcine-derived materials are tested for porcine circovirus
465 (PCV) 1 and 2 and porcine parvovirus.

466 **D. Insect-Derived Materials**

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469 Cytokines and other proteins may be manufactured using insect cell lines. Insect-derived
470 materials may introduce rhabdovirus (Ref. 11) and spiroplasma (Ref. 12). Thus,
471 materials made in insect cell lines should be tested for rhabdovirus, mycoplasma, and
472 spiroplasma. You should submit additional information regarding any additional specific
473 adventitious viral agent testing that was performed on the material and/or cell line and
474 describe any viral clearance/reduction procedures that were performed during purification
475 of the material.

476 **E. Materials From Other Animals**

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479 You should closely examine the formulations of media and enzymes, because the use of
480 animal-derived reagents may not be readily apparent on the COA. For instance, chicken
481 egg-derived lecithin is a media additive, and some enzymes may be derived from
482 crustaceans. Moreover, non-mammalian animal-derived materials may be used in
483 fermentation of bacteria used to produce enzymes. If specific pathogen-free animals are
484 available, we recommend that materials be sourced from specific pathogen-free animals.
485 Your regulatory submission should contain information regarding any testing for relevant
486 animal pathogens, including the acceptance criteria for any animal tissues that are used in
487 the manufacture of the material. You should also submit the results of testing and release
488 criteria for animal tissues used in TEMPs (e.g., parts of DS or DP of the TEMP derived
489 from animal source such as porcine-derived extracellular matrix). You should perform a
490 risk assessment and document any viral inactivation steps present in the manufacture of
491 the animal-derived material.

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VII. RECOMBINANT MATERIALS

Recombinant human or animal proteins, such as growth factors and antibodies, particularly growth factors marketed for research purposes, may contain impurities or contaminants from the expression system. This may also include adventitious agents. Monoclonal antibodies may be used as reagents in drug manufacturing, and we recommend that you refer to “Guidance for Industry: Monoclonal Antibodies Used as Reagents in Drug Manufacturing,” dated March 2001 (Ref. 13) for considerations to ensure that monoclonal antibodies are free of adventitious agents or process-related impurities. In addition, some growth factors may be purified by affinity chromatography using monoclonal antibodies that have not been tested for adventitious agents. It is your responsibility to obtain appropriate information regarding any purification of all recombinant materials used in the manufacture of your CGT products or TEMPs.

VIII. TISSUE-ENGINEERED MEDICAL PRODUCTS

TEMPs commonly incorporate cells and scaffolds. Manufacturing of TEMPs may include animal- and human-derived materials, such as media, media supplements, and scaffolds. Unlike other types of materials used in product manufacturing, scaffolds may be an integral part of the final formulated TEMP that contributes to the intended therapeutic effect. The general concepts outlined in this guidance for animal- and human-derived materials apply to TEMPs, including those that may become a part of a DS or DP. In cases where TEMPs include a device constituent derived from animal sources (e.g., an animal-derived scaffold used as a part of a cell-scaffold construct may be classified as a device constituent part in certain TEMPs), we recommend that you follow the recommendations in the FDA guidance “Medical Devices Containing Materials Derived from Animal Sources (Except for In Vitro Diagnostic Devices); Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff” dated March 2019 (Ref. 14) which contains additional guidance regarding animal-derived materials used in devices.

The use of materials derived from animal tissues and organs in TEMPs poses the risk of transmission of animal adventitious agents. For decellularized tissue matrix, you should provide evidence of the absence of cellular material, both viable and non-viable, document the methods of decellularization and terminal sterilization (if applicable), and document the sterilization assurance level. If you are relying on decellularization and sterilization methods for viral inactivation, you should submit data demonstrating the viral inactivation properties associated with the manufacturing and/or sterilization processes. The results of your viral inactivation studies should include the sum of the log₁₀ reduction in virus from selected processing steps and sterilization process(es) (i.e., the overall virus reduction factor).

Extracellular matrix scaffolds and proteins abundant in the extracellular matrix (e.g., collagen) derived from animals may also be used in TEMPs. As for all animal-derived materials, it is important to document the sourcing and testing of animal tissues and to document capabilities of the manufacturing and sterilization processes to eliminate animal pathogens.

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IX. COMMUNICATION WITH THE FDA REGARDING THE USE OF HUMAN- AND ANIMAL-DERIVED MATERIALS

We recommend communication with the Office of Therapeutic Products (OTP) in CBER early in product development, before submission of an IND, via pre-IND (Ref. 15) or Initial Targeted Engagement for Regulatory Advice on CBER products (INTERACT) meeting request.¹³ In your pre-IND or INTERACT meeting request, we recommend that you include specific questions about human- and animal-derived material safety and quality and provide sufficient background information to support their safety and quality, as outlined above, in this section of the guidance. Changes to materials for products under an IND or a biologics license application (BLA) should be reported in an IND amendment or BLA supplement, respectively.

¹³ For additional information about INTERACT meetings, please see <https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/industry-biologics/interact-meetings>.

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