

# Health Canada Bringing Innovation to the Regulation of Advanced Therapeutic Products

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Developments in Gene Therapy Policy Landscape  
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# Health Canada and the regulation of health products

What we regulate



Pharmaceuticals  
(Generics & OTC)

Biologics & Biosimilars



Radiopharmaceuticals

Natural Health Products



Medical Devices

How we regulate



Clinical Trials

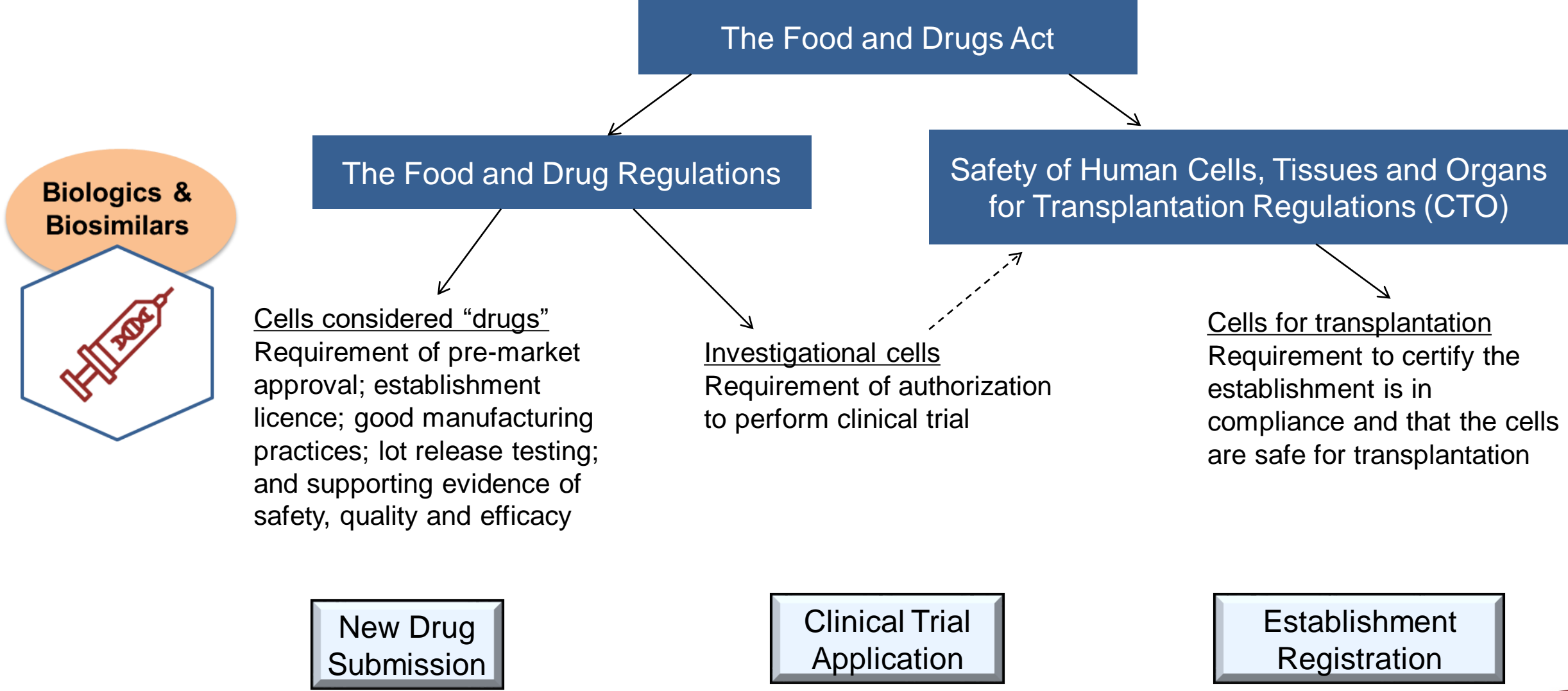


Product submission  
review and market  
authorization



Post-market  
surveillance

# The regulation of biologic drugs – advanced cell therapies



## Gene therapies at Health Canada at a glance

- 1994 - First clinical trial for a gene therapy is authorized (for intra-tumoral injection of a plasmid).
- 1994 to present – No Objection Letters issued to some 130 clinical trials for gene therapies.
- 2018 – Kymriah (tisagenlucel) CAR-T, an autologous cell-based gene therapy, is authorized for general distribution for two indications through the Priority Review accelerated pathway as it meets unmet medical need.
- 2019 – Yescarta (axicabtagene ciloleucel) CAR-T, an autologous cell-based gene therapy, is authorized for general distribution for one indication through the Priority Review accelerated pathway as it meets unmet medical need.

# WHAT IS NEXT IN THE REGULATION OF ADVANCED CELL AND GENE THERAPIES?

# Regulatory Challenges: Advanced Therapeutic Products



## Advanced Therapeutic Products

- The speed at which innovative products can be developed, the method with which they are made or distributed, and how data can be collected, has resulted in a shift away from the traditional product development model for which the current regulations are based
- Some health products are so novel and distinct that it is difficult for them to meet the current regulatory requirements
- Lack of appropriate regulatory oversight for continuously changing products and innovative business practices

## The Food and Drugs Act - Additions to Schedule G

**21.91 (1)** For the purpose of preventing injury to health or preventing a person from being deceived or misled, the Minister may, by order, add a description of a therapeutic product or a class of therapeutic products to Schedule G if the Minister believes that **the therapeutic product or products represent an emerging or innovative technological, scientific or medical development.**

## The Food and Drugs Act - The Factors

(2) Before adding a description of a therapeutic product or a class of therapeutic products to Schedule G, the Minister shall consider the following factors:

(a) the degree of uncertainty respecting the **risks and benefits** associated with the therapeutic product or products and the measures that are available to adequately manage and control those risks;

(b) the extent to which **the therapeutic product or products are different** from therapeutic products for which therapeutic product authorizations have been issued under the regulations;

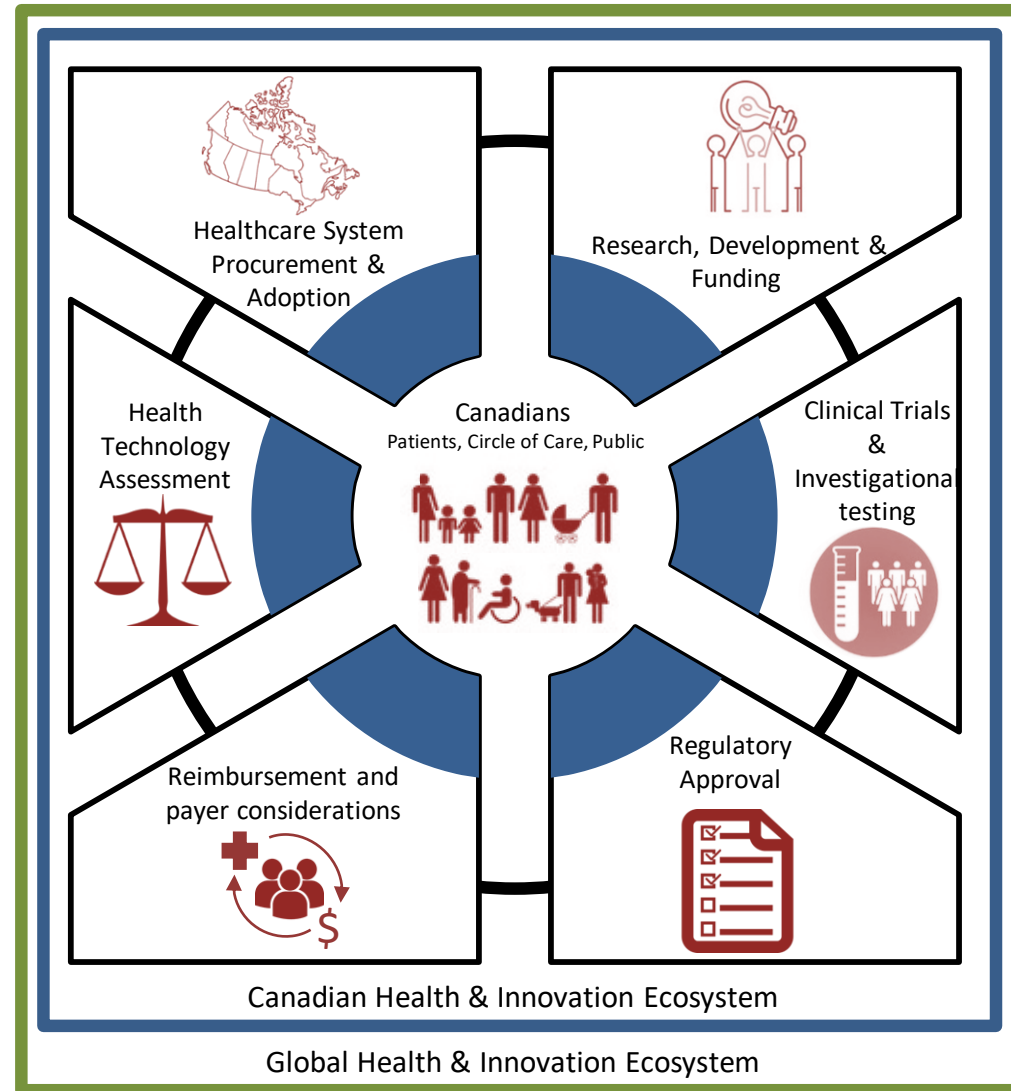
(c) the extent to which **existing legal frameworks are adequate** to prevent injury to health or to prevent persons from being deceived or misled; and

(d) the prescribed factors, if any.

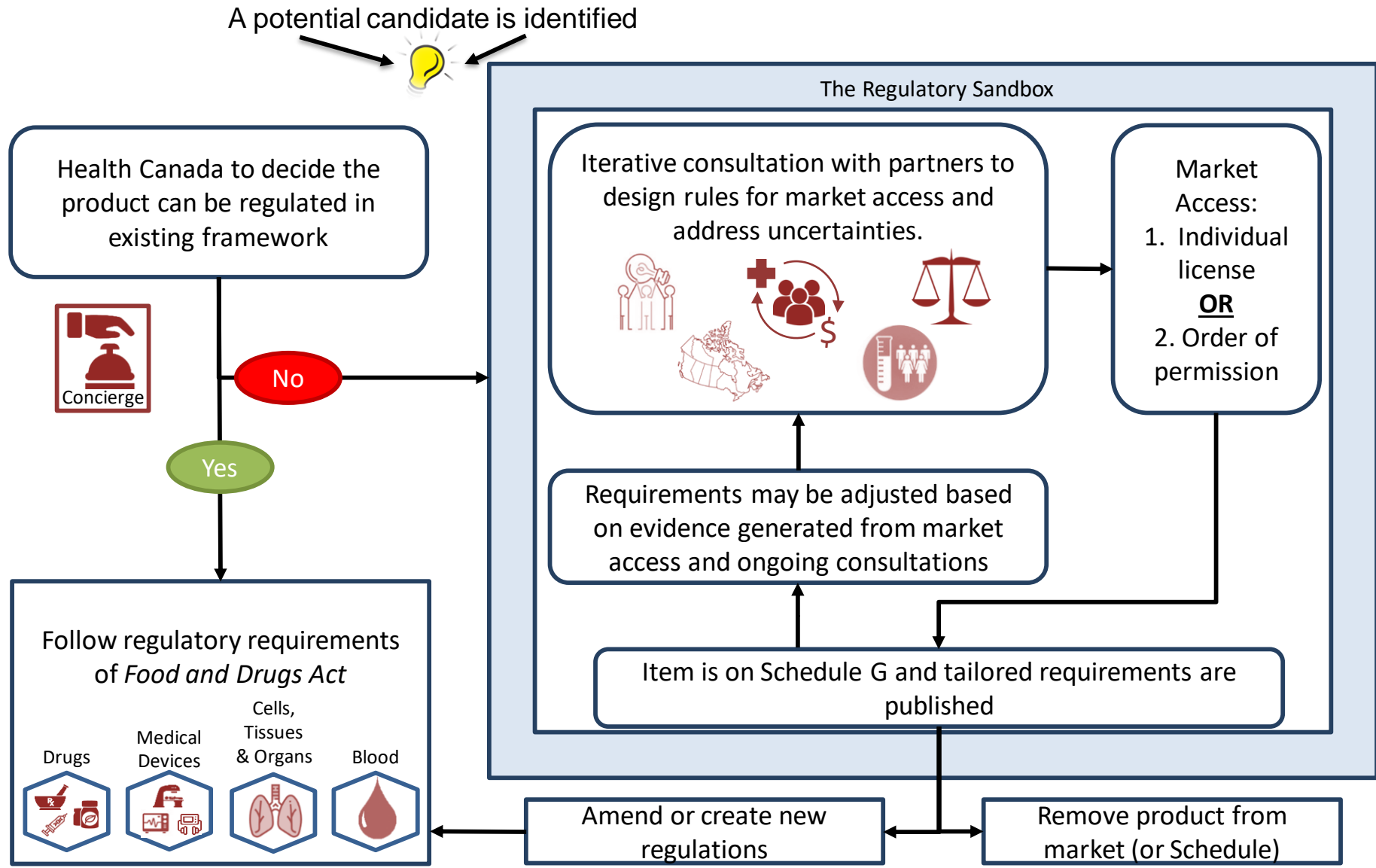


# Engaging the Health & Innovation Ecosystem

- Health Canada will view these intersecting relationships as an ecosystem.
- Health Canada's Concierge will engage throughout the ecosystem.



# Advanced Therapeutic Products and The Regulatory Sandbox



# Key Benefits of The Regulatory Sandbox

Patients	Regulated Parties	Health Practitioners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• broadens access to the most innovative advanced therapeutic products</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• facilitates sharing information, which builds trust among all points across the biomedical sector</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• support clinicians caring for patients in need of their ingenuity with treatment protocols and options to address unmet needs and improve outcomes</li></ul>

## What to Expect with Advanced Therapeutic Products in the Near Future

- Consultation with Stakeholders will continue
  - Meetings with stakeholder groups are anticipated to happen in the new year
- Health Canada is examining options to pilot this exciting new pathway
  - Launch of a website and email address
- Health Canada is developing a Guide to these new innovative authorities
  - Expect a draft for comment in the new year

# Questions

Contact:

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