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AVOIDING COLD CHAIN LOGISTIC CHALLENGES BY USING SPIN FREEZE-DRYING TO STABILIZE GENE THERAPIES

Freeze-drying: a solution for cold chain logistics challenges

- Maintaining the integrity of temperature-sensitive gene therapy products during transportation and storage is a critical challenge in the distribution chain.
- Spin Freeze-Drying increases the thermostability of ATMPs by removing water from the product. Hence, it eliminates the need for temperature-controlled transport and simplifies the distribution chain accordingly.
- All products are optimally dried via spin freeze-drying \Leftrightarrow Not possible via conventional freeze-drying.



Figure 1: Freeze-drying can be used as a process step to simplify cold chain logistics

Controlled spin freeze-drying

- **Spin freezing** of vials; cooling via cold gas (*Figure 2*)
- Infrared-assisted primary and secondary drying
- Thin product layer leads up to 40x shorter processing time
- Contactless temperature measurement
- **Closed feedback-loop** freezing and drying (*Figure 3*)



Figure 2: Illustration of spin freezing - Vials rapidly rotated to create a thin frozen product layer spread over the entire vial wall



Opportunity

Minimal amount of resources for process and formulation development



Figure 3: Closed feedback loop to control the freezing and drying cycle

- Simplifying cold chain logistics by freeze-drying gene therapy products without altering CQA's
- Same quality from pre-clinical to production no scale-up issues
- **Scaling out** instead of scaling up
- Fast formulation and process development
 - Figure 4: Closed feedback loop to control the freezing and drying cycle

Questions?

Continuous spin freeze-drying enhances the thermostability of ATMPS. This simplifies the distribution chain and avoids cold chain logistics.