

Cell and Gene Therapy: Eight Tips To Strengthen Your Supply Chain



In cell and gene therapy, there's a day of utmost importance—when a dose of your transformative treatment is onsite at the clinic, ready to administer to a patient in need. While every therapy has its unique protocols and features, these eight proven tips from CGT veterans will help keep any team on track with a strong, synchronized supply chain.



Take your systems as seriously as your science. Breakthrough research won't matter as much if it can't reach patients. Patient access requires robust, automated orchestration, logistics, and traceability. Engage in system planning early.



Engage in collaboration every step of the way. Cell and gene therapy is highly collaborative, at any phase. If you can't collaborate efficiently with your many stakeholders, your processes and patient journeys' will stall. Prep how you'll align and communicate up-front.



Identify risks and mitigation strategies early. Does your patient journey require extremely tight timing, or temperature control? What about weather and transit delays? You will face surprises. Build in time buffers and be able to track deviations.



Keep it simple for Healthcare Providers. Your therapy is just one of many treatments and options that HCPs must consider, administer, and manage. Work with systems and ecosystem partners who know healthcare environments deeply. Limit what HCPs have to learn.



Pick your packaging with care. Packaging itself can be expensive—and so can the consequences of the wrong decision. There's the cost of the packaging. And then there's the cost of lost patient material and lost therapies. Test and validate your packaging systems with the appropriate climate, travel time, and required temperature throughout the complete product journey.



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Map out your manufacturing location. Whether you build your own or contract out, your manufacturing doesn't stand alone. What is the surrounding infrastructure? Are there reliable airports nearby—preferably more than one? Think about location, not just capacity.



Look hard at your labeling. Pre-print? Print on demand? What compliance standards must you meet? What will your healthcare providers require, and what will they support? If not managed proactively, incorrect or improperly labeled doses or packages become big bottlenecks. Strategize early, with contingencies in mind.



Plan your first mile as carefully as your last. In CGT, your logistics, Chain of Identity, Chain of Custody, and GMP manufacturing start at sample collection. When a patient is the product, every step in the journey matters. Plan and orchestrate every mile with precision.



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Together, the CGT experts at Vineti and Quick Specialized Healthcare Logistics have 35 years of combined CGT experience in both the Clinical and Commercial phases and have overseen more than 200,000 doses of cell therapy.



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