# Transforming medication management: The role of advanced therapy committees in health systems

*Executive summary*

Over the past two decades, the healthcare sector has seen a substantial increase in the development of high-cost and clinically complex medications. In response, organizations have adapted their framework for pharmacy and therapeutics (P&T) committees, which have traditionally been tasked with medication and formulary management within health systems. Specialized subcommittees focused on high-value therapeutic areas and service lines, such as oncology, have been established. As more high-cost drugs are introduced to the market, P&T committees will continue to evolve and implement dedicated high-cost and high-impact drug committees to more adeptly manage these complex medications.

Among the high-cost medications are cellular and gene therapies, which are anticipated to grow exponentially over the next decade. There are currently 25 approved cellular immunotherapies and gene therapies on the market, targeting rare diseases and cancers. However, it's anticipated that this number could double by the end of 2026, with expansion to treat more common disease states (e.g., peripheral neuropathy) and the potential for more outpatient administration. These therapies cost hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars and present significant clinical and operational challenges, including manufacturer-specific requirements to access product, reimbursement and contract negotiations, and a lack of formal guidance on proper storage and handling of many of the newer gene therapy agents. This necessitates advanced planning and extensive cross-departmental collaboration, with a greater inclusion of roles such as managed care, revenue cycle, contracting and legal teams. The heightened complexities and requirements associated with cell and gene therapies have prompted the next evolution of P&T committees to develop cell and gene therapy or advanced therapy committees.

There are currently few publications detailing the structuring and implementation of high-cost committees, and there is even less information on the development of advanced therapy committees. To learn how organizations are currently designing high-cost and advanced therapy committees within their institutions, Vizient conducted a survey in September 2024 to learn which hospitals and health systems currently have committees, how committees are structured and how these committees monitor cost, reimbursement and outcomes metrics. There were 77 individual unique and complete survey responses from various organizations.

**The current 25 approved cellular immunotherapies and gene therapies targeting rare diseases and cancers are expected to double by the end of 2026.**

Overall, 52% of survey respondents currently have a high-cost committee, and an additional 21% have a committee under development at the time of survey (Figure 1). A lower percentage of respondents (38%) have an advanced therapy committee in place, with an additional 20% indicating that one is currently under development (Figure 2). For both high-cost and advanced therapy committees, the majority (~70%) plan to implement these committees within the next six months.

**Figure 1: Percentage of institutions with a designated high-cost committee**

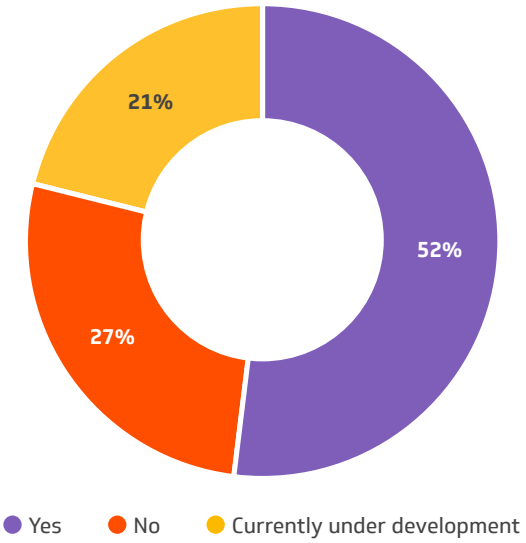
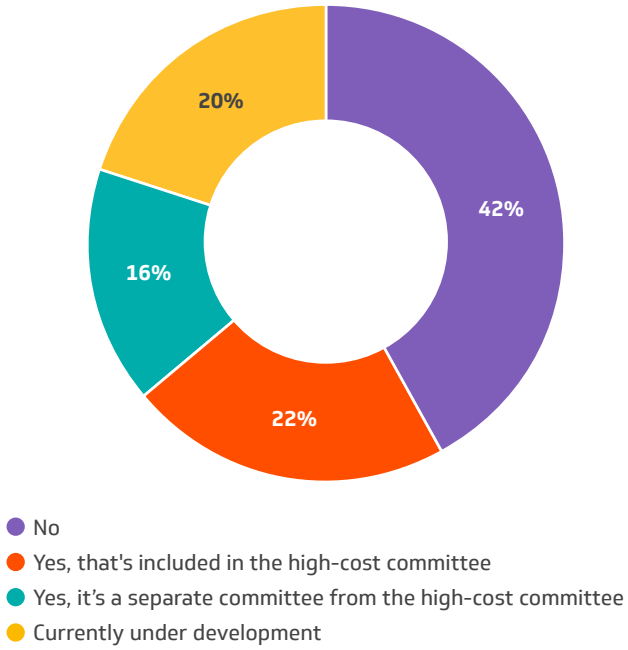



**Figure 2. Percentage of institutions with a dedicated cell and gene therapy committee**




Vizient has created a cell and gene therapy community to bring together key industry stakeholders, including payers, suppliers and providers to connect and collaborate. Executive leaders have an opportunity to discuss and provide visibility into operational and financial challenges from multiple perspectives through this community. Additionally, the community provides a platform for sharing market trends, educational resources, referral networks, financial reporting and other topics identified by participants.

## Readiness checklist for designing an advanced therapy committee within your organization

A multidisciplinary approach is crucial to the successful formation of high-cost and advanced therapy committees dedicated to the review and approval of cell and gene therapy medications within hospitals and health systems. The checklist below assists in providing the formative questions to design an advanced therapy committee within your organization.

| Area | Questions | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|---|
| Clinical | Do you know which disease states are most prevalent across the patient populations you serve in relation to currently approved and near-term cell and gene therapies? | | |
| | Do you have an adequate level of clinical expertise related to these disease states and associated cell and gene treatments? | | |
| Operational | Do you have an established high-cost and/or high-impact committee? | | |
| | If you have a high-cost and/or high-impact committee, is it structured to assess advanced therapies like cell and gene therapy efficiently? | | |
| | Does your organization have the desire and bandwidth to become a qualified treatment center or center of excellence for one or more cell or gene therapy(ies)? | | |
| | Are your government relations and pharmacy teams partnering to address critical practice issues related to high-cost drugs like cell and gene therapy? | | |
| | Do you have the infrastructure and support to collect individual patient data, including outcomes, related to the use of cell and gene therapy? | | |
| Financial | Have you educated your managed care teams regarding the unique contractual requirements related to cell and gene therapy? | | |
| | Do you have the legal, contractual and financial resources needed to manage individual agreements for cell and gene therapy in a timely manner? | | |
| | Do you know the current approach and perspective your major payers have toward cell and gene therapy, including how quickly they can be expected to reimburse for a cell or gene therapy? | | |
| | If a 340B organization, do you have an ongoing mechanism to monitor eligibility of these agents for pricing? | | |
| Vizient resources and services | Are you a member of the Vizient Oncology Network? | | |
| | Have you read the most recent edition of Pharmacy Market Outlook, specifically the forecast for cell and gene therapy? | | |
| | Have you signed up to attend the 2025 Vizient Cell, Gene & Specialty Symposium on April 22-24, 2025? | | |

If you answered “no” to any of these questions and/or would like more information from Vizient, please send a request to pharmacyquestions@vizientinc.com.

Contact us to access the full *Transforming medication management: The role of advanced therapy committees in health systems* report, including Vizient provider customer survey results.

**Learn more about our cell and gene therapy solutions: vizientinc.com/cell-and-gene-therapy**

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