CONTINUING EDUCATION / CELL AND GENE THERAPIES

Bridging the Gap

Continuing education in cell and gene therapies

Cell and gene therapies (CGTs) are transforming modern medicine. They create new opportunities to treat disease while introducing scientific, technical, regulatory and clinical challenges. Translating these therapies from the laboratory to patients requires specialised knowledge and collaboration across disciplines.

Bridging the Gap is a collaborative educational initiative led by Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), together with Avans University of Applied Sciences and HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht, with support from PharmaNL.

The programme provides continuing education for professionals working in research, biotechnology, pharmaceutical development, manufacturing and healthcare. Through online learning, expert led sessions and practical training, participants can broaden their understanding of the Advanced Therapy Medicinal Product (ATMP) value chain or develop specialised technical skills.

Courses are offered as independent modules, allowing participants to select training opportunities that match their background, interests and professional development needs.

Flexible, modular and practice oriented education

The programme is developing complementary modules covering the development and implementation of cell and gene therapies, from early discovery and therapeutic design to manufacturing, quality assurance, regulatory affairs, clinical translation and patient access.

It combines flexible online self study with expert led lectures, interactive workshops, practical training and case based learning. Participants can take individual courses according to their needs or pursue a broader learning pathway.

Bringing together expertise from academia, healthcare and industry, the programme helps participants connect scientific knowledge with real world challenges.

LEARN AT YOUR OWN PACE

Choose individual modules or combine courses to build knowledge across the ATMP value chain.

AUDIENCE / UPCOMING COURSES

Who is the programme for?

Bridging the Gap is designed for life sciences professionals with a higher professional (HBO) or academic (WO) background who want to broaden their knowledge or develop specialised skills in cell and gene therapies.

It is particularly relevant for researchers, laboratory specialists, professionals in biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, clinicians and healthcare laboratory analysts. Lecturers and researchers may also integrate selected educational materials into their teaching and training.

Individual courses may have specific entry requirements depending on their content and level.

Course calendar 2027

Explore planned introductory and specialised modules covering the ATMP value chain, technologies, manufacturing and quality control.

Course	Lead	Format	Planned live dates
Introduction to the ATMP value chain	LUMC	Self study + 3 live half days	17–19 Feb 2027
Stem cell and organoid cultures	HU	Self study + 2 live days	29 Mar – 2 Apr 2027
Mass photometry: QC for AAVs and lentiviral production	Avans	Self study + 2 live days	13–14 May 2027
Receptor presentation using flow cytometry	Avans	Self study + 2 live days	10–11 Jun 2027
Endotoxin and mycoplasma analysis	Avans	Self study + 2 live days	24–25 Jun 2027
CRISPR/Cas technology for cell and gene therapy	LUMC	Self study + 2 live days	Autumn 2027
Serum free cultivation techniques for CGT	HU	Self study + 2 live days	Autumn 2027

Dates and formats are indicative and may change. For current details and registration, use the relevant course page on Life Science Talent.

About Bridging the Gap

Bridging the Gap: Innovative Continuing Education for Cell and Gene Therapies

The initiative is developed within the PharmaNL Human Capital Growth programme, bringing together expertise from LUMC, Avans University of Applied Sciences and HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht. It aims to strengthen the skills and knowledge needed to support the development, production and clinical implementation of innovative cell and gene therapies.