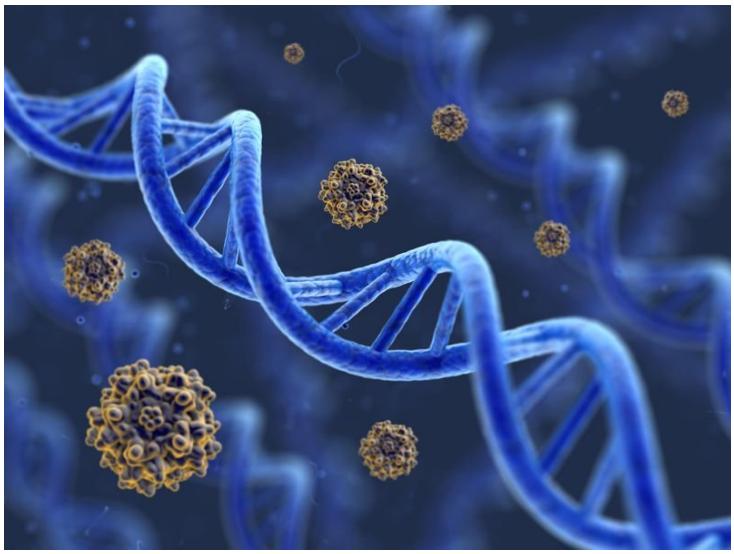
BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

CanSino partners with Ocugen to work on gene therapy

October 2, 2019 | News

To develop Ocugen's orphan drug designated gene therapy candidate in its modifier gene therapy platform



Ocugen, Inc., a UK based clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on innovative therapies that address rare and underserved eye diseases, has entered into a strategic partnership with China based CanSino Biologics on Ocugen's gene therapy pipeline product candidates for inherited retinal diseases, which are currently in development with Schepens Eye Research Institute of Massachusetts Eye and Ear, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

Under this strategic collaboration, CanSinoBIO will provide all CMC development and clinical supplies for the development of OCU400, Ocugen's first gene therapy product candidate in its modifier gene therapy platform. CanSinoBIO maintains the option to support commercial manufacturing for Ocugen. The agreement also provides commercialization rights to CanSinoBIO in Greater China.

OCU400 has received two different orphan drug designations (ODD) from the U.S. FDA. The first, for the treatment of *NR3E3* mutation-associated retinal degeneration and, most recently, for the treatment of *CEP290* mutation-associated retinal disease.