



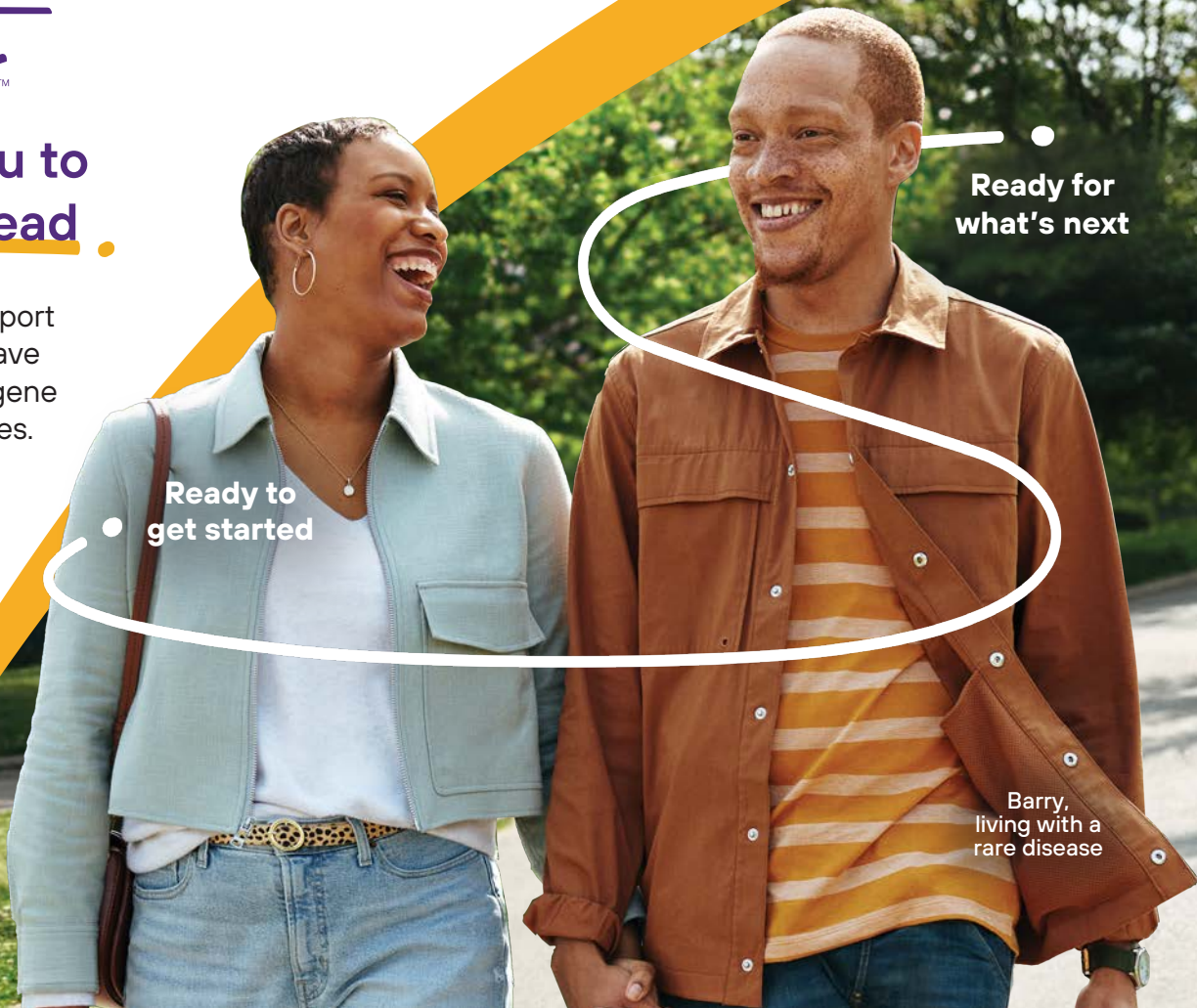
Connecting you to the journey ahead

Vertex Connects™ is a support program for people who have been prescribed a Vertex gene therapy and their loved ones.

Ready to
get started

Ready for
what's next

Barry,
living with a
rare disease



Getting started with Vertex Connects

Gene therapy can be a one-time treatment, but it is a journey with many steps. That's why keeping you and your loved ones connected to resources is at the center of everything we do.

The Vertex Connects Patient Support Program takes the time to understand you and your educational needs throughout your gene-therapy treatment journey.

Through this program, you'll receive*:



Educational resources
to help you prepare
for what's ahead



Access to a
Care Manager



Support throughout
your treatment journey



To speak with a Care Manager and learn more about Vertex Connects,
call **1-833-VERTEX-5 (1-833-837-8395)**, Monday through Friday,
from 8 AM to 8 PM ET or visit VertexConnects.com

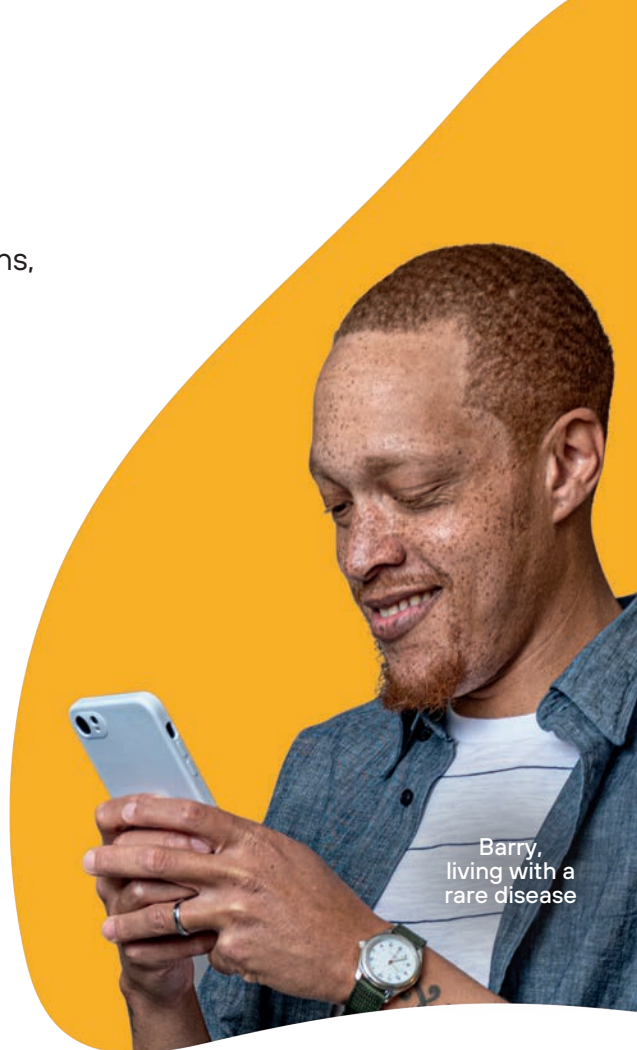
*Eligibility requirements and restrictions apply. A completed Vertex Connects enrollment form is needed to participate in the program and determine eligibility for certain program offerings. Enrollment in Vertex Connects Patient Support is not required to receive Vertex gene therapy.

Our commitment to you .

At Vertex Connects, your treatment journey is our focus. We are dedicated to being there every step of the way—with support that listens, tools that empower, and education as you move forward. Because on the path to reaching your treatment goals, every connection matters.

What you'll find inside:

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Barry,
living with a
rare disease

Support for your journey.

From the start of your treatment journey, your Vertex Connects Care Manager will be ready to help you. They understand the gene-therapy process and have experience working with patients and their families.

After enrolling* in Vertex Connects, your Care Manager will:



Share resources to help you understand each step of the treatment process and answer key questions



Keep in touch with your treatment center team to help coordinate the logistics of your treatment journey



Connect in a way that works best for you—whether it's by email or phone



Determine eligibility for additional treatment-related support programs, such as travel and lodging assistance*

*Eligibility requirements and restrictions apply. A completed Vertex Connects enrollment form is needed to participate in the program and determine eligibility for certain program offerings. Enrollment in Vertex Connects Patient Support is not required to receive Vertex gene therapy.

Working with your Care Manager .

Vertex Connects™ Care Managers are here to support you throughout your treatment journey. They are available when you have questions and can help you understand what to expect during the treatment process with Vertex gene therapy.

It's important to remember that Care Managers do not provide medical advice, and you should always reach out to your healthcare team at your Authorized Treatment Center, or ATC, with questions about gene therapy.

Here are some tips to help guide your Care Manager conversations:



Share your goals

Talking to your Care Manager about your treatment journey goals can help them know the best ways to support you



Speak up about what you're going through

If you have questions or concerns about any step in the treatment process, your Care Manager can be a resource to help you find answers



Get in touch when you need support

Your Care Manager is just a phone call or email away. Even if you call after hours, they'll get back to you within the next business day

Get the conversation started.

Use the conversation starters below to help you think about what to bring up with your Care Manager.

- A few of my goals are . . .
- Can you tell me more about . . .
- How can I best prepare for . . .



Remember, your Care Manager is just one call away:
Call 1-833-VERTEX-5 (1-833-837-8395), Monday through Friday,
from 8 AM to 8 PM ET



Ashebia, living
with a rare disease

Your Circle of Care .

Deciding to start gene therapy is a personal choice, but that doesn't mean you have to go through it alone. Having a strong support system is essential. This support system is your Circle of Care.

Every member of your circle plays an important role in helping you reach your goals. Your healthcare team at your Authorized Treatment Center, or ATC, and your loved ones can be your primary support network. Your Care Manager is another resource to help support you along the way.



Loved ones

Your family, friends, and community can provide emotional support. They can go to appointments with you and help manage life at home while you're away



ATC care team

The doctors, treatment coordinators, and other members of your care team at your ATC are experts in gene therapy. They will help guide you at every step of the treatment journey



Vertex Connects Care Manager

You can connect with your Care Manager through email or phone. They'll be available to talk through what to expect during the treatment journey

Committing to your care.

Weighing your options and deciding on gene therapy is a big decision. It means making your health a priority. And your Circle of Care can help. Turn to them as you prepare for the journey ahead.

Here are some tips to help you start and stay prepared:



Identify and connect with people in your life who can provide emotional support as well as physical support, such as helping you get to appointments



Prepare yourself for long stays away from home, work, or school. This may include planning with your employer, teachers, or family members



Map out your personal goals for the treatment journey and share them with your care team



Use a journal or a personal blog to capture your thoughts and feelings and to help keep track of your progress

There's strength in connection .

It's important to connect with others during this process—whether that's friends, family, or your care team. Keep in touch in ways that work best for you—whether that's a phone call, video chat, or even by mail.

Your well-being is key

It is normal if your thoughts and feelings change during the treatment journey based on what you learn and experience during each step. Through it all, here are some ways you can continue to take care of yourself:



Ask your treatment center if they can connect you with others who have been through the process



Reach out to your community or faith-based organizations



Unwind with activities that bring you joy



Daniella, living with a rare disease

Support for caregivers .

If you're caring for a loved one who's going through gene therapy, you play a key role in their Circle of Care throughout their treatment journey. This process can come with challenges, so it's important that you also prepare for what's ahead.

Caregiving may impact other responsibilities, such as work, school, or caring for other children. It may help to identify people in your life who can share these responsibilities or provide emotional support.

How to offer support for your loved one:



Learn about the treatment journey so you can offer encouraging words and support at key moments



Ask them what type of support would help them the most, from physical support to emotional support



Get to know your loved one's care team. Ask questions when you are meeting with their doctors and nurses



Help your loved one stay organized by keeping track of appointments and important documents

Caring for you.

Self-care is important for you too. The suggestions here can help you stay strong as you support your loved one.

- Join a caregiver support group in your area, either in person or online
- Find mindfulness tools to de-stress that work for you, such as meditation or yoga
- Write your feelings down in a journal to help process your experience
- Don't hesitate to ask for help. Ask your loved one's care team for additional resources or support



Vertex Connects is for people who have been prescribed a Vertex gene therapy and their loved ones. To get involved as a caregiver, call 1-833-VERTEX-5 (1-833-837-8395), Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 8 PM ET or visit VertexConnects.com



Maria, living with a rare disease

Connecting you to support organizations.

There are many organizations and advocacy groups that you can turn to for information and extra support.* You can also see if there are other local groups and resources in your area.

Select the names in the boxes below to learn more:

National Organization
for Rare Disorders

Sickle Cell Community
Consortium

Thalassemia International
Foundation

American Society of
Gene & Cell Therapy

EveryLife Foundation
for Rare Diseases

Sickle Cell Disease
Association of America

Cooley's Anemia
Foundation

Global Genes
RARE Community

Sickle Cell 101

RareGuru

Centers for
Disease Control and
Prevention–Thalassemia

*Please note that these organizations are not affiliated with Vertex and Vertex does not recommend any particular third-party resource.

Notes and questions



You may have questions as you continue to learn about the gene-therapy journey. Use the space below to keep track of your questions and conversations with your care team.

VERTEX Connects PATIENT SUPPORT™

Support that moves you forward.



Educational resources
to help you prepare
for what's ahead



Access to a
Care Manager



Support throughout
your treatment journey

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This material was created
by Vertex with insight
and support from the
rare disease community.