

Beta-cell replacement therapy for diabetes

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Beta-cell replacement therapy for diabetes

James Shaw, Professor of Regenerative Medicine for Diabetes



Overview

- Introduction to type 1 diabetes
- Need for beta-cell replacement therapy
- NHS-adopted islet cell transplant programme
- Addressing remaining challenges through ATs

Global predictions for the diabetes pandemic 2003 - 2025



Type 1 diabetes: 30 million worldwide

Type 1 diabetes incidence increasing



Standardised incidence rate Type 1 diabetes (age 0-14) 4.6 cases per 100 000 per year in northern Greece 42.9 annual cases per 100 000 in Finland

The Endocrine System Glands which release chemicals directly into the blood stream.





Type 1 diabetes

- Auto-immune destruction of the beta-cells
 - insulin loss: no other pathology
- Successful insulin replacement
 - restoration of normal health and lifestyle
 - prevent all complications









Toronto 1922



'Unspeakably wonderful!' Elizabeth Hughes 1907-1981







Major risk factor for MI / CVA Life expectancy reduced up to 10 years



Section 5: Clinical Trials in Diabetes

The Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT)

Complication	Primary prevention (Risk reduction, %)	Secondary prevention (Risk reduction, %)	Both cohorts (Risk reduction, %)
Retinopathy	76**	54**	63''
Microalbuminurla (UAE ≥ 40 mg/24 hrs)	34*	43**	39**
Albuminuria (UAE ≥ 300 mg/24 hrs)	44	56*	54*
Neuropathy	69*	57**	60''

*p<0.04, **p≤ 0.002 by the two-tailed rank-sum test. UAE urinary albumin excretion.

'My greatest phobia is rats but I would rather hold a rat than have a hypo'

Hypoglycaemia

- Discovery of insulin one of the medical miracles of the 20th century
- 'Insulin reactions' seen since its earliest use
- *`....dangerous hypoglycaemia can occur without warning symptoms.....'*

`....insulin is not a cure for diabetes, but a potent preparation, alike for evil and for good.'

Joslin, 1922

24-hour plasma glucose and insulin profiles in healthy individuals



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Owens DR et al. Lancet 2001;358:739-746

Conventional therapy

- 100 years' experience with insulin therapy
 - hypoglycaemia remains limiting factor for optimal control 50% PA
- Closed loop biochemical hypoglycaemia
 - Those at highest risk have not yet been studied

Exogenous insulin replacement – inextricably linked to hypoglycaemia





Blueprint for a double transplant

To cure Scott Bowles' diabetes and restore his body's ability to filter toxins from his blood, doctors transplanted two organs from an accident victim. The double transplant is an increasingly popular though controversial treatment among the nation's 1 million insulindependent diabetics. About 1,000 such transplants are performed each year in the United States.

How it's done: Doctors attach a new pancreas and kidney to the major blood vessels in the lower abdomen. Scott's defective but somewhat functional pancreas and kidneys are left untouched.

Whole pancreas transplantation

- Offers potential of a 'cure'
 - normal glucose
 - prevention of hypoglycemia
- Major operation 3-5% mortality
 - 20% reoperation may lead to graft pancreatectomy
- Requires life-long immunosuppression
- Combined with a kidney transplant





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ISLET TRANSPLANTATION IN SEVEN PATIENTS WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES MELLITUS USING A GLUCOCORTICOID-FREE IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE REGIMEN

A.M. JAMES SHAPIRO, M.B., B.S., JONATHAN R.T. LAKEY, PH.D., EDMOND A. RYAN, M.D., GREGORY S. KORBUTT, PH.D., Ellen Toth, M.D., Garth L. Warnock, M.D., Norman M. Kneteman, M.D., and Ray V. Rajotte, Ph.D.

- 7 Type 1 patients with severe hypoglycaemia
 metabolic instability
- 2-3 donors for each recipient
- Steroid (cyclosporin)-free immunosuppression
- All off insulin at 1 year

Successful but very expensive to set up in all transplant centres 10% insulin independence at 5 years



NCG islet transplant centre

First health service funded programme as an established clinical intervention NHS / NICE: prevention of SH / HbA1c <7%

irst UK recipient of transported islets Octobe 2008 – 56 transplants to date









Aldibbiat A *et al., Cell Medicine* 2012 Brooks A / Oram *et al., Diab Care* 2014, 2015 Brooks A *et al., AJT* 2013, 2015

Newcastle recipient CGMS



Pre-Tx

Sensor Modal Day





Post-Tx

Severe hypoglycaemia / overall control



<50% sustainable insulin independence despite majority 2 transplants

Instant Blood Mediated Inflammatory Reaction



Smink AM et al., Diabetes 2013

DOI: 10.1111/ajt.14521

CASE REPORT

Loss of end-differentiated β -cell phenotype following pancreatic islet transplantation





Unmet needs: sustainable insulin independence from single graft / long term immunosuppression

- Two factors preventing curative therapy for all (30 million)
 - Cannot achieve sustained insulin independence
 - from single minimally invasive procedure
 - Need for toxic life-long immunosuppression
 - to prevent allo- and auto-immune rejection

Development of ES differentiation protocol



Resource

Generation of Functional Human Pancreatic β Cells In Vitro

Felicia W. Pagliuca,^{1,3} Jeffrey R. Millman,^{1,3} Mads Gürtler,^{1,3} Michael Segel,¹ Alana Van Dervort,¹ Jennifer Hyoje Ryu,¹ Quinn P. Peterson,¹ Dale Greiner,² and Douglas A. Melton^{1,*}

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Immunobarrier encapsulation



Hypoxia appears to be main limiting factor

Stem cell derived beta-cell replacement therapy



Krentz N *et al Lancet D+E* 2021 (in press)

Tissue Engineered Product: Scaffold / Islets Adjuvant molecules / gene therapy / cell therapy



Krentz N *et al Lancet D+E* 2021 (in press)

Northern Alliance Advanced Therapies Treatment Centre / Betalin Therapeutics UK



Engineered Micro-Pancreas Islets (Green) fused onto decellularised Micro-Organ Matrix (Red)

Summary

- Type 1 diabetes is caused by loss of insulin production
 - Conventional therapy remains burdensome and cannot prevent risk
- Islet transplantation is minimally invasive
 - proven therapy for type 1 diabetes complicated by recurrent SH
- Conversion into a truly curative therapy for all will require
 - Sustainable single graft insulin independence
 - Avoidance of life-long systemic immunosuppression
- SC-derived beta-cells may provide sufficient numbers for all
 - Tissue engineered scaffolds may overcome innate immunity
 - Adjuvant Gene / Cell Therapy may circumvent immunosuppression



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LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES.