

Imperial College London

Basics of Cell Therapy

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Can stem cells repair the body?



Differentiation: is the process by which a less specialized cell becomes a more specialized cell type



What tissues in your body regenerate themselves?



Clinical trials are aiming to replace or boost natural regeneration

Which stem cells shall we use?

Stem cells given back to the same patient = autologous

<u>Advantages</u>

- Not rejected by the immune system
- Do not need to be stored

Disadvantages

- May be affected by the patient's disease
- May need to be transported to a lab to be modified
- Cannot be prepared in advance

Stem cells transplanted from one person to another = allogeneic

<u>Advantages</u>

- Can be tested for quality
- Can be prepared in advance, made into a tissue engineered product

Disadvantages

• May be rejected by the immune system and need immunosuppression





Bone Marrow contain stem cells which are being injected back into damaged organs



UCL BAMI trial

Mesenchymal stem cells – reduce inflammation and suppress immune response? Can be used for patient-to-patient transfer?

> Bone marrow stromal cells Adipose tissue Amniotic fluid Cord blood Cardiospheres



Pluripotent stem cells can make any cell type (except placenta)



Human embryonic stem cells discovered in 1998

In vitro fertilization day 1

Embryos frozen at 1-7 days (at this point, ~80% embryos do not implant either naturally or after IVF)

Unused embryos must be destroyed

Permission requested at that point to use for research

Cell line made

Held in Stem Cell Bank

Distributed free to researchers

Can become any cell type in the body



Human induced pluripotent stem cells -2008 Nobel Prize 2012

- Skin fibroblasts are treated with retroviruses carrying "stemness" factors discovered in embryonic stem cells
- They form embryonic-like stem cells which differentiate into many cell types (including cardiomyocytes):-
- Person-specific stem cells with matched immune systems



adult induced pluripotent human cells stem cells Patient-specific genotype Patient-specific repair drugs genetic and in clinical trials cardiovascular pharmaceutical cells screen **Reduces** in vitro animal use disease modelling

Generation of human scale engineered heart tissue patches





Spontaneous beating human scale-EHT

Weinberger and Eschenhagen

Human embryonic stem cell-derived cardiac progenitors for severe heart failure treatment: first clinical case report.

Intraoperative view of the progenitor cell-loaded fibrin patch that has been slid into the pocket between an autologous pericardial flap and the epicardial surface of the infarct area.



Menasche et al

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Japan approves first trials of stem cell-based heart treatment

iPS procedure raises hopes for alternative to donations and artificial organs

Nikkei staff writers MAY 16, 2018 15:16 JST



Osaka University professor Yoshiki Sawa outlines his plans for treating heart failure in 2017. (Photo by Hiromasa Matsuura)

...iPS cells .. at the Center for iPS Cell Research and Application at Kyoto University, where Nobel laureate Shinya Yamanaka serves as director. The created cells, in the form of 0.1 millimeter-thick sheets, will be layered onto the surface of the patient's heart

Doctors hope for blindness cure after restoring patients' sight

Treatment for common cause of blindness could be available within five years, scientists say



Moorfield – retinal cells from pluripotent stem cells

CAR T-cells – gene+cell therapy



Thank you for listening

Any Questions?