

SpinalCyte Announces Publication Supporting the Therapeutic Effects of Fibroblast Cell Therapy in Disc Degeneration and Inflammation in The Spine Journal

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HOUSTON, TX--SpinalCyte, LLC, a Texas-based regenerative medicine company focused on regrowth of the spinal disc using Human Dermal Fibroblasts, today announced the publication of results from its study on using cell transplantation as a cell therapy for disc degeneration. The article titled "Therapeutic Effects of Cell Therapy with Neonatal Human Dermal Fibroblasts and Rabbit Dermal Fibroblasts on Disc Degeneration and Inflammation," was published in *The Spine Journal* and is available at [https://www.thespinejournalonline.com/article/S1529-9430\(18\)31093-3/fulltext](https://www.thespinejournalonline.com/article/S1529-9430(18)31093-3/fulltext).

The study found that transplanting dermal fibroblasts can significantly increase the markers of disc regeneration and supported the hypothesis that the intervertebral disc is immune privileged. Taken together with previous disc degeneration studies, this suggests that fibroblast cell therapies can prevent the degeneration and promote the regeneration of the spinal disc.

"Autologous and allogenic cell therapies for disc degeneration and back pain are feasible, well tolerated, and appear to have clinical efficacy," said Howard An, M.D., The Morton International Endowed Chair Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Director Spine Fellowship Program at Rush University Medical Center, and principal investigator of this study. "Human dermal fibroblasts continue to be found safe and well-tolerated in clinical studies while being both therapeutic and regenerative in diseases including disc degeneration."

"Fibroblast cell therapy is a viable way to address the cause of disc degeneration rather than just treat symptoms," said Pete O'Heeron, SpinalCyte Chief Executive Officer. "The results from this preclinical study validate our ongoing Phase 1/Phase 2 trials in the treatment of degenerative disc disease with CybroCell, where over 85% of patients using CybroCell report significant therapeutic improvement at 6 months."

About Degenerative Disc Disease

Degenerative disc disease (DDD) is a condition in which a patient's spinal disc breaks down and can begin to collapse. It is estimated that 85% of people over the age of 50 have evidence of disc degeneration and over 1.3 million procedures a year are performed to treat the disease. The most common treatments for patients with DDD are either discectomy or spinal fusion. Discectomy is the partial or full removal of the degenerated disc to decompress and relieve the nervous system but can cause long term spinal pain. In a spinal fusion procedure, the entire disc is removed and the two adjacent vertebrae are fused together. It often increases strain on the adjacent discs and surrounding tissues leading to further degeneration.

About CybroCell

CybroCell is the first off-the-shelf allogenic human dermal fibroblast (HDF) product for the treatment of degenerative disc disease. SpinalCyte's Phase 1/Phase 2 clinical trial for injected human dermal fibroblasts in the treatment of DDD demonstrated preliminary six-month data whereby 83% of patients had an increase or no change in disc height.

About SpinalCyte

Based in Houston, Texas, SpinalCyte, LLC is a regenerative medicine company developing an innovative solution for spinal replacement using human dermal fibroblasts. Currently, SpinalCyte holds 33 U.S. and international issued patents and has filed for an additional 43 patents pending. Funded entirely by angel investors, SpinalCyte represents the next generation of medical advancement in cell therapy. Visit www.spinalcyte.com.

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