

LifeCell – Daily News Update

May 8 , 2009

DIRECT COVERAGE

Publication	Hindu.com
Headline	For the mom-to-be
Gist of the article	<p>As Mothers' Day is round the corner, it is time to spare a thought for the lady who reared you in her womb, gave birth to you, and later put her career on the backburner so you could grow up with a well-rounded personality. This Mothers' Day on May 10, let's spare a thought for not just the mothers but also for the would-be mothers. Dr. Anita Sharma, a urogynaecologist associated with the Fortis Hospital chain in New Delhi, feels it is vital for a would-be mother to understand the physiological changes in her body with every passing day of pregnancy.</p> <p>Speaking on the sidelines of a medical conference in New Delhi this past week, organised by LifeCell, India's first umbilical blood stem cell bank with over 40 centres across the country, Dr.Sharma advised the would-be mothers on different facets of pregnancy and its phases. The would-be mother can experience some changes in her mood, she said. At times, she can be irritating, short-tempered because of the hormonal changes, and sheer dislike for some food can also happen.</p>

Key Industry News:

Publication	wisn.com
Headline	Wisconsin Stem Cell Research Could Lead To Medical Breakthroughs
Gist of the article	<p>There is a stem cell research project under way in Wisconsin that could change almost everything about that field.</p> <p>It could lead to medical breakthroughs without the ethical concerns that often surround stem cell research.</p> <p>But what may be more incredible is the local man who's helping to make that project possible.</p> <p>Researchers at University of Wisconsin-Madison are moving forward on the study of skin stem cells, which, they believe, may eventually replace embryonic stem cell research.</p> <p>And it's happening, in part, because of a Brookfield man who simply refuses to let anything stop him.</p> <p>In a UW-Madison laboratory -- floating in a tube of red liquid -- is the future. There are tiny cells that may hold the key to curing terrible diseases or helping the paralyzed to walk.</p>

	<p>"These are cells we can take from someone's skin, a skin sample. We can put them in a test tube, add some genes, a cocktail of genes, and we can make them into embryonic-like stem cells," UW-Madison stem cell researcher Clive Svendsen said.</p> <p>Stem cells that aren't from embryos. Stem cells that may some day fulfill the promise of this medical science in a way that even its staunchest opponents can accept.</p> <p>"The ethics have plagued the field of embryonic stem cell research because you have to destroy an embryo in order to make the embryonic stem cell lines. The new induced plueripotent stem cells get around the ethics. It's a whole new age of stem cell biology," Svendsen said.</p> <p>The work these researchers are doing is part of what's called the Jeff Kaufman Project, named for a man who has helped spearhead the effort in a almost miraculous way.</p>
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Publication	seekingalpha.com
Headline	<u>NeoStem Makes Headway in Stem Cell Industry</u>
Gist of the article	<p>NeoStem, Inc. (NBS) in-licensed worldwide rights to Primcel, a mesenchymal (bone marrow) stem cell product that, in early clinical studies, shows promise of accelerating the healing of chronic wounds. NeoStem has opened adult stem cell collection sites in the US and has invested in regenerative medicine companies in China. When NeoStem received new capital from Asian investors in April 2009, the company declared its intention to enter the medical tourism business.</p> <p>Primcel was developed by Vincent Falanga, MD, Chairman of the Department of Dermatology and Skin Surgery at Roger Williams Medical Center, Providence, R.I., and a past President of the Wound Healing Society. Primcel is expected to be a prepackaged product, ready for physician use, consisting of three applications over a 12-week period.</p> <p>Dr. Robin Smith, CEO of NeoStem, said in a statement that the US Department of Defense appropriated \$800,000 last year for NeoStem to evaluate the use of adult stem cells to treat wounds. The net amount of the grant, which must be distributed to NeoStem by October 2010, will be \$681,000.</p> <p>In addition to accident victims, Primacel may also help the chronic wounds of diabetics, who face amputation from unhealed wounds.</p> <p>NeoStem is also investigating another of its licensed technologies for wound healing. VSEs (very small embryonic-like stem cells) have exhibited several physical characteristics generally found in embryonic stem cells, and NeoStem is testing this technology as a wound healing treatment as well.</p>