



# Stem cells in (regenerative) orthopedics

Between basic research and clinical  
practice in orthopedic surgery

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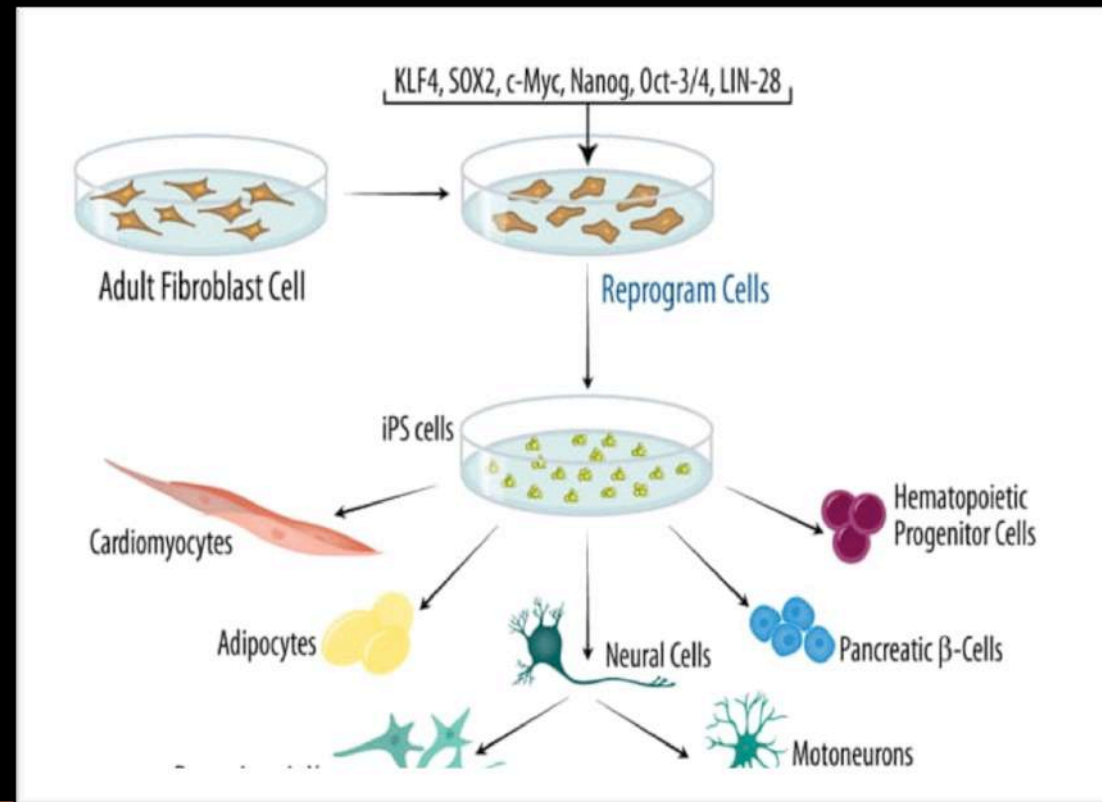
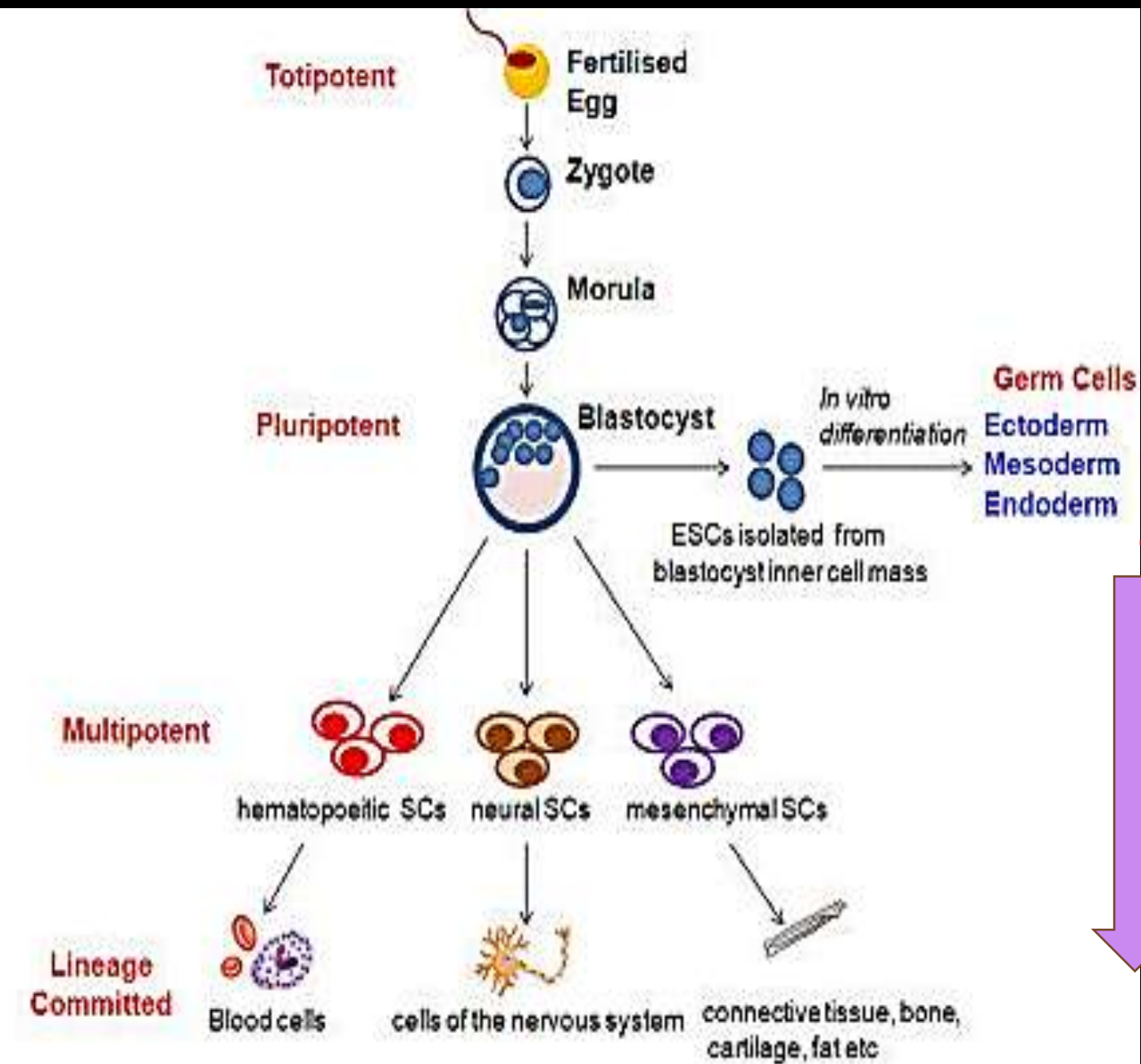
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magnetic nanomaterials)*

# Outline

- Stem cell definition
- Type of stem cells
- Stem cells and regenerative medicine
- Stem cell in orthopedics-cell sources
- Current available orthobiologics and ATMPs

# Stem cells

- Basic units of organism, organ and tissue development , maintenance & repair;
- A distinctive trait – asymmetric division & differentiation;
- A hierarchy based on their ability to give rise to progeny;
- Tremendous hope for harnessing their potential in preventing and treating diseases;
- Autologous /allogeneic/xenogeneic.



Totipotent  
 Pluripotent  
 Multipotent  
 Unipotent /oligopotent  
 Differentiated (lineage committed adult cells)

# Stem cell hierarchy

# Regenerative medicine

- “Restitutio ad integrum” anatomical, functional of diseased, degenerated, congenitally abnormal or absent , lost (to trauma or tumor) tissue, organs, systems –
- Leland Kaiser 1992, William Haseltine 1999



# Regenerative medicine - stem cell-based therapies-

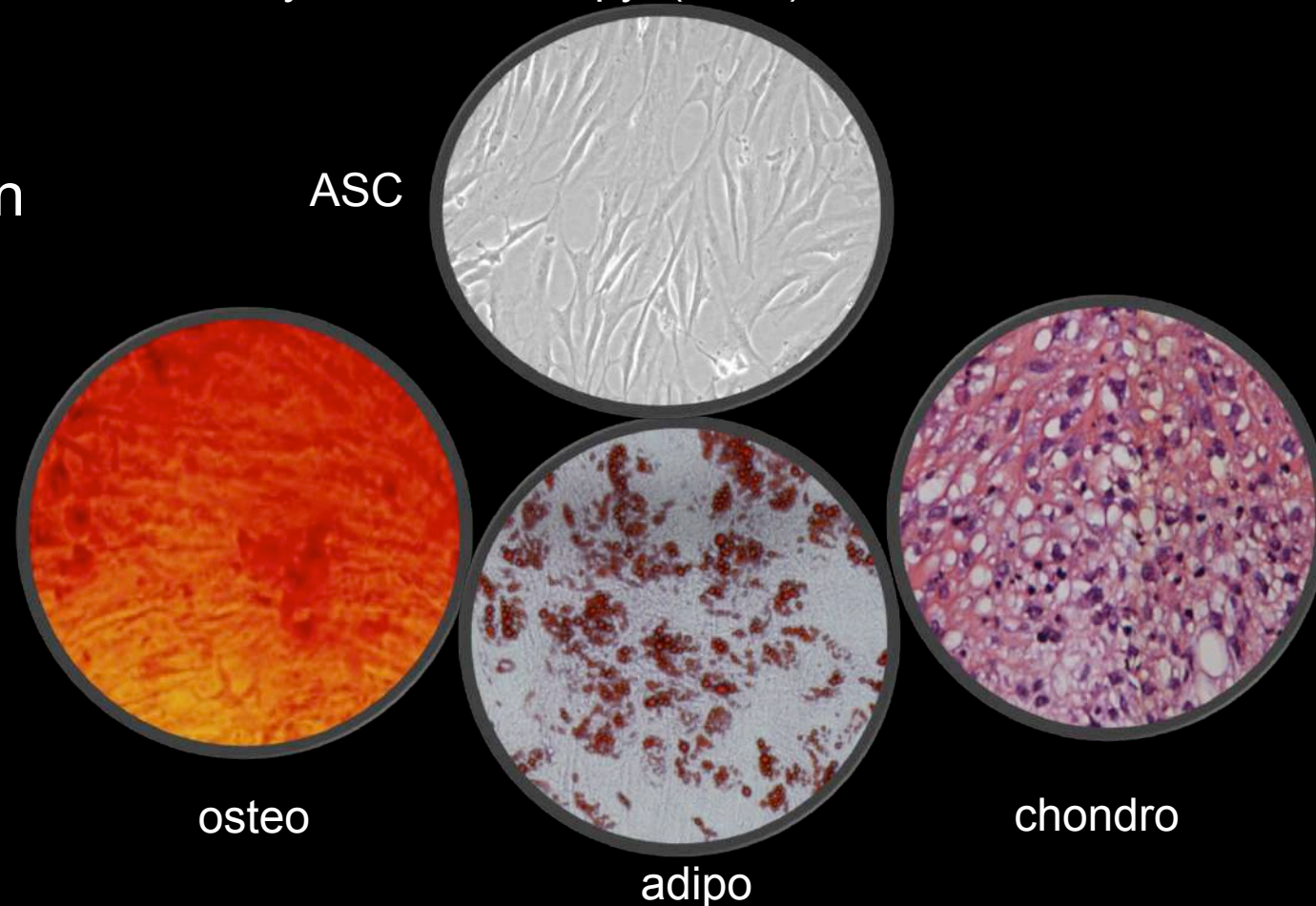
- Tissue engineering (classical “triad” cells, scaffolds, growth factors to in vitro or ex vivo engineer tissues, organs/additive manufacturing)- direct role of stem cells
- Cell therapy – (stem) cell suspension delivered locally, regionally or systemically; functional tissue regeneration- cytokines, growth factors, metabolic tissue modulation, stimulation of local progenitor cell types, vasoactive,– anti-inflammatory & immune modulation role
- Gene therapy (Cell& gene therapy); correction of (mostly) monogenic inherited diseases
- Drug Delivery Devices/Systems –DDD/S- stem cell targeting role

Minimal criteria for defining MSCs International Society for Cell Therapy (ISCT) criteria

Tissue derived stem cells for musculoskeletal regeneration –mesenchymal stem cells- MSC

Bone marrow- BM-MSCs  
Adipose tissue ASC  
Peripheral blood PbMSC  
Perichondrium PcMSC  
Wharton jelly & placenta MSC WJMSC

Freshly isolated  
Culture expanded



“Surface markers CD105, CD73 and CD90, and lack expression of CD45, CD34, CD14 or CD11b, CD79alpha or CD19 and HLA-DR” Dominici M, Le Blanc K, Mueller I, Slaper-Cortenbach I, Marini F, Krause D, Deans R, Keating A, Prockop Dj, Horwitz E. Minimal criteria for defining multipotent mesenchymal stromal cells. The International Society for Cellular Therapy position statement. *Cytotherapy*. 2006;8(4):315-7. doi:10.1016/j.jcyt.2006.07.002

SVF, CD45-CD235a-CD31-CD34+ Bourin P, Bunnell BA, Casteilla L, et al. Stromal cells from the adipose tissue-derived stromal vascular fraction and culture expanded adipose tissue-derived stromal stem cells: a joint statement of the International Federation for Adipose Therapeutics and Science (IFATS) and the International Society for Cellular Therapy (ISCT). *Cytotherapy*. 2013;15(6):641-648. doi:10.1016/j.jcyt.2013.02.006

# Orthopedic Surgeon





Quod Natura relinquit imperfectum, Ars perfici/what nature left imperfect, (Medical) Art can make it perfect / Paracelsus

# orthobiologics

- **Ortho + Biologics are biological substance(s) made from naturally occurring materials in the body; treatments aimed at restoring “musculoskeletal function” by harnessing the natural healing processes of the body”**
- Ortho + Biologics are not: a “cure-all”; a way to restore worn-out tissues in the mature patients, eventually, target full tissue regeneration.
- Not routinely recognized by health insurance, and therefore not always reimbursed. (Bravo D, Jazrawi L, Cardone DA, Virk M, Passias PG, Einhorn TA, Leucht P. Orthobiologics A Comprehensive Review of the Current Evidence and Use in Orthopedic Subspecialties. Bull Hosp Jt Dis (2013). 2018 Dec;76(4):223-231. PMID: 31513506.)

The art of healing is like any other art; it is made up of many elements, and no one yet become a master in all of it.“ Ibn Sina

# Orthobiologics- levels of complexity

- Marshal Urist 1964 – bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) –bone and fracture healing, nonunion cure;
  - **Ist generation – hyaluronic acid visco-supplementation (HA);**
  - **IInd generation – PRP (platelet rich plasma)**
  - **IIIrd generation – stem & cell therapies**

(Sampson, Mendelbaum, Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine, 2008. 1(3-4): p. 165-174)

# Bone marrow aspirate → BMAC

Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy (2023) 31:2140–2151  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00167-022-07153-6>

SPORTS TRAUMATOLOGY



## Bone marrow aspirate concentrate quality is affected by age and harvest site

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### Abstract

**Purpose** To compare the number and properties of bone marrow stromal cells (BMSCs) collected from bone marrow aspirate concentrate (BMAC) obtained from different harvest sites and from patients of different ages.

**Methods** BMAC was obtained from two groups of patients based on age ( $n = 10$  per group):  $19.0 \pm 2.7$  years for the younger and  $56.8 \pm 12.5$  for the older group. In the latter, BMAC was obtained from both iliac crest and proximal tibia for a donor-matched analysis. Mononucleated cell count and CFU-F assay were performed, together with phenotype characterization of BMSCs from iliac crest and proximal tibia, the study of chondrogenic and osteogenic differentiation capacity, histological staining and spectrophotometric quantification, and the analysis of mRNAs expression.

**Results** Cells derived from iliac crest and proximal tibia showed the same phenotypic pattern at flow cytometry, as well as similar chondrogenic and osteogenic potential. However, a significantly higher number of mononuclear cells per ml was observed in younger patients ( $3.8 \pm 1.8 \times 10^7$ ) compared to older patients ( $1.2 \pm 0.8 \times 10^7$ ) ( $p < 0.0005$ ). The latter yield, obtained from the iliac crest, was significantly higher than resulting from the BMAC harvested from the proximal tibia in the same group of patients ( $0.3 \pm 0.2 \times 10^7$ ,  $p < 0.0005$ ). This result was confirmed by the CFU-F analysis at day 10 ( $15.9 \pm 19.4$  vs  $0.6 \pm 1.0$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) and day-20 ( $21.7 \pm 23.0$  vs  $2.9 \pm 4.2$ ,  $p = 0.006$ ).

**Conclusion** Harvest site and age can affect the quality of BMAC. BMSCs obtained from iliac crest and proximal tibia present comparable mesenchymal markers expression as well as osteogenic and chondrogenic differentiation potential, but iliac crest BMAC presents a four times higher number of mononucleated cells with significantly higher clonogenic capacity compared to the tibia. BMAC of younger patients also had a three-time higher number of mononucleated cells. The identification of BMAC characteristics could help to optimize its preparation and to identify the most suitable indications for this orthobiologic treatment in the clinical practice.

# Adipose tissue → stromal vascular fraction (SVF)



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Journal of Clinical Orthopaedics and Trauma

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jcot](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jcot)



### Knee intra-articular administration of stromal vascular fraction obtained from adipose tissue: A systematic review



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#### ABSTRACT

Osteoarthritis is a debilitating chronic degenerative disease of cartilage joint surfaces and the knee is the weight-bearing joint most frequently plagued. Intra-articular cell therapies have recently emerged as a method to manage knee osteoarthritis. A literature search identifying all articles involving use of SVF to treat knee osteoarthritis was performed, consulting several databases. In conclusion, 24 clinical trials analysed report good to excellent clinical and radiographic results for the treatment of knee OA with the use of intraarticular administration of SVF.

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# Peripheral blood → Pb mesenchymal stem cells



Peripheral blood derived  
MSCs Pb-MSCs  
Mononuclear cells from  
blood

Cartilage repair  
augmentation  
Osteoarthritis,  
Tibial osteotomies (Saw, K., Anz, A.,  
Merican, S., Tay, Y., Ragavana  
idu, K., Jee, C. S. Y., et al. (2011). Articular Cartilage  
Regeneration With Autologous Periphe  
ral Blood Progenitor Cells and Hyaluronic Acid After  
Arthroscopic Subchondral Drilling: A Report of 5 Cases  
With Histology. Arthroscopy: J. Arthroscopic Related  
Surg. 27, 493–506. doi: 10.1016/j.arthro.2010.11.054

Spectra Optia Apheresis System (terumobct.com)

# Perichondrium derived progenitor cells



Autologous homologous cartilage progenitor therapy



Orthopedia\_video

Chondrocytes and perichondrium progenitor stem cell suspension cytokines, growth factors

Ceccarelli G, Gentile P, Marcarelli M, et al. In Vitro and In Vivo Studies of Alar-Nasal Cartila  
ge Using Autologous Micro-Grafts: The Use of the Rigena® Protocol in the Treatment of an Osteochondral Lesion of the Nose. Pharmaceuticals (Basel). 2017; 10(2):53. Published 2017 Jun 13. doi:10.3390/ph10020053

Used for  
knee, hip, finger  
OA up to 3KL

# Human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products (HCT/Ps)-FDA

HCT/Ps = most novel orthopaedic regenerative products and are defined as products containing or consisting of human cells or tissues that are intended for implantation, transplantation, infusion, or transfer into human recipient **RMAT** (2016) is a special designation for products intended to treat serious or life-threatening conditions. This pathway mandates preliminary evidence that the product may address unmet clinical needs.

Category	FDA HCT/P oversight	Examples
Lowest risk	Not required	PRP, BMAC, Fat graft
Low risk	361	DMB, cellular bone matrix, chondrocytes SVF mechanically processed
Higher risk	351	Cultured chondrocytes, amniotic products, cultured mesenchymal cells, enzymatically processed SVF

**Murray, I. R. (2022). Regulatory and Ethical Aspects of Orthobiologic Therapies. *Orthopaedic journal of sports medicine*, 10(11),. /doi.org/10.1177/23259671221101626**

## Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products ATMPs -EMA

European Community (EC) No. 1394/ 2007 and the Human Cells and Tissues Directive (2004/ 23/EC).<sup>23</sup> define advanced therapy medicinal products **ATMPs** to include gene therapy products, somatic cell products, or tissue engineered products that are more than minimally manipulated or used in a nonhomologous fashion. The “hospital exemption” clause within EC No. 1394/2007 allows nonroutine administration of ATMPs manufactured and prescribed within the same member state to individual patients.

ATMP in Turkey = incorporated under the regulatory and registration of medicinal products for human use. Turkey keeps GMP and national regulation on medical devices updated as per the standards of the EMA and the FDA under Turkey Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (TITCK) **Arcidiacono J. International Harmonization for Cell and Gene Therapy Products. *Adv Exp Med Biol*. 2023;1430:235-240. doi:10.1007/978-3-031-34567-8 14**

# Global current availability of HCT/P 351/ ATMPs for orthopedics

- 19 cell therapy approved - 2 for orthopedic use  
Cartistem/ Republic of Korea for knee OA,  
Spherox/ EU for cartilage defects
- 22 Tissue engineered products (adult/stem cells) : 5 for orthopedics=
- 4 cartilage defects (JACC Japan, MACI –US,  
Novocart EU, Ortho\_ACI Australia), 1 Ossron –  
Korea, India bone defects



(  
[Available Products - Alliance for Regenerative Medicine \(alliancerm.org\)](http://alliancerm.org))

- Clinical trials going on - 109 for OA, 54 for cartilage defects (clinicaltrials.gov) 162 OA (https://trialssearch.who.int/)

South Korea	Cartistem	Cell therapy
Tuttingen Germany/EU	Spherox	
Japan	JACC	
USA	MACI	
Tetlow Germany/EU	Novocart	Tissue engineered
Australia	Ortho ACI	
India & South Korea	Ossron	



# Stem cell-containing available therapeutics

## Fresh extracted MSC suspension

- Autologous
- One step procedure (except Peripheral blood)
- Medical devices for closed tissue/ cell manipulation ;single use disposable kits
- Non reimbursed

## MSC based products HTC/P ATMP

- Autologous/allogeneic
- One step or two step procedure
- GMP manufactured products/ jurisdiction dependent marketing authorization
- Product delivery
- Non reimbursed (exception ORTO-ACI Australia)

# 3 P Success triad with 3rd generation orthobiologics

## Patient profile

BMI, age  
Comorbidities  
Lifestyle  
Profession  
Leisure  
Expectancies  
MSJ disease stage  
Rehabilitation

## Point of Care

Clean room/  
operating room  
Basic equipment  
Ultrasound  
Rehabilitation facility

## Physician

Education  
Training  
Frequent update  
Analytical thinking  
Procedure choice

- Autologous fresh stem cell suspension
- Minimally processed
- Used in same surgical/interventional procedure
- Results dependent on :cell and growth factor quantity& quality, stage of MSK disease, patient willingness to undergo rehabilitation, correct (targeted)delivery and procedure choice.

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ISU

ISTINYE  
UNIVERSITY  
I S T A N B U L

NetwOArk  
The European Network on OsteoArthritis

cost  
EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Teşekkürler  
Thank you