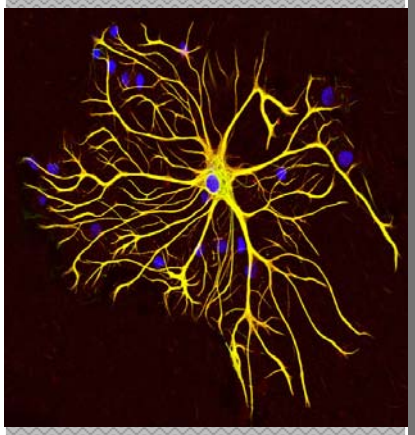

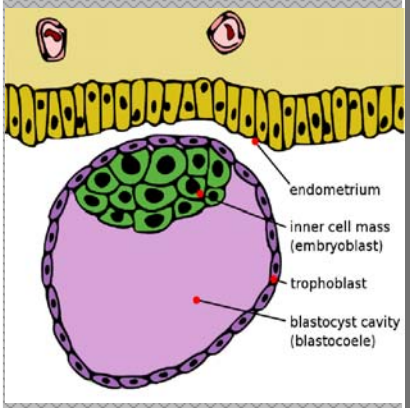

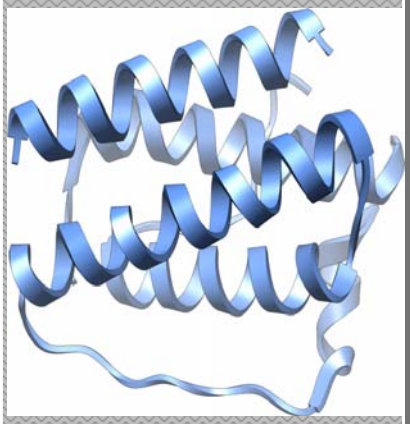

EMGEN Newsletter

Vol. 5, Issue 9

IN THIS ISSUE:

Eastern Mediterranean Health Genomics and Biotechnology Network (EMGEN) was created in 2004 with collaboration of representatives of selected centers of excellence in (health related) molecular biology, biotechnology & genomics in the Eastern Mediterranean region by recommendations and efforts of WHO/ EMRO. Sponsored by Iran Biotechnology Development Council.

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TISSUE ENGINEERING

Tissue engineering (TE) is the application of a of cells, manufacturing resources and approaches, and appropriate biological and chemical aspects to increase or substitute organic tissues. TE comprises the practice of a framework for the creation of novel feasible tissues for a therapeutic goal. TE might avoid the difficulties related to tissue injury. At the moment, it is cured by transplants, machine-driven strategies or clinical renovation. TE stands up from the essence of afford extra conclusive answers to tissue overhaul in hospitals and intends to attain this aim by the expansion of *in vitro* strategies that would overhaul the injured tissues *in vivo*. TE similarly move towards the engineered tissues, which might let us to educate the humanoid physiology *in vitro*. Cells in the body mature inside a systematized 3D Extra Cellular Matrix (ECM), enclosed by other cells. Certainly, the connections among cell-cell and cell-ECM may define whether a specified cell undertakes propagation, variation, apoptosis or invasion. Nevertheless, researches on cells and tissues have normally been completed on 2D cultures, somewhere cells developed in non-physical circumstances. Explicitly, they are extraordinarily separated, requiring one lateral linked to a firm and smooth material and another subjected to the culture, which decreases cell-cell and cell-ECM connections.

Accordingly, 2D cultures do not reconstruct correctly *in vivo* structures in relations of cellular relevance, gene and protein expression template and dispersal of solvable particles. On the other hand, animal samples can show the combined replies that outcome from multifaceted connections among tissues and organs. These 3D cultures achieve the necessity of *in vitro* methods that permit a precise research of the molecular instruments based on humanoid illnesses and an improved forecast of medicines and treatment effects. TE includes principally three elementary basics: frameworks, cells and biomolecules. So, it is essential to cautiously select which arrangement beseem healthier for the target submission.

Scaffolds and frameworks

A main objective in TE is the layout of frameworks talented of restoring the *in vivo* situation, which is mostly delivered by the ECM. Thus, these constructions should include the suitable biochemical, biomechanical and biophysical signs that instruct cell propagation, variation, upkeep and action. Concerning biophysical gesturing, a vital operation of the ECM is to provide dock to the cells. Definitely, the ECM extremely permeable nanostructure affords an appropriate 3D situation and communicates biological gesturing via two instruments:

a) linkage of a wide range of solvable enzymes, Growth Factors (GF), and further effector particles, regulating

their dispersal and indigenous condensation; and, b) the contact of definite motifs which are identified by cellular bonding receptors. Consequently, ECM is vigorously incorporated with the intracellular signaling routs that control gene expression and contribute in the cell phenotype specification.

Moreover, the cells are talented to feel the matrix hardness, which leads to mechanical gesturing. Cells regularly shrink to pull on the environment to which they are connected, causing internal traction. This mechanical motive is transformed into a biological reply via a procedure named as mechano-transduction, which has been stated to effect instantly on cell variation. Because of the difficulty and communication amid all these signals, TE emphases on simulating the best appropriate ECM possessions to expand appropriate frameworks based on the tissue to be reconstructed. Frameworks for TE can be grouped in indigenous and artificial, based on its source. Indigenous frameworks are freely available and deliver a vast variety of indications that contribute in the procedure of morphogenesis and function gaining of diverse cell kinds *in vivo*. Nevertheless, its configuration intensely is related to the precise animal source and the separation and cleansing processes, including analyzing repeatability. Instead, artificial frameworks can be custom designed to emulate definite ECM assets, preparing manageable cellular situations. Illogically, this improvement makes this type of biomaterials more interesting since varied range of aspects has to be recognized and exactly combined. Truly, unless surface-alterations are functional, frameworks just help to retain and steer cells in 3D space until they generate their specific biological atmosphere situation.

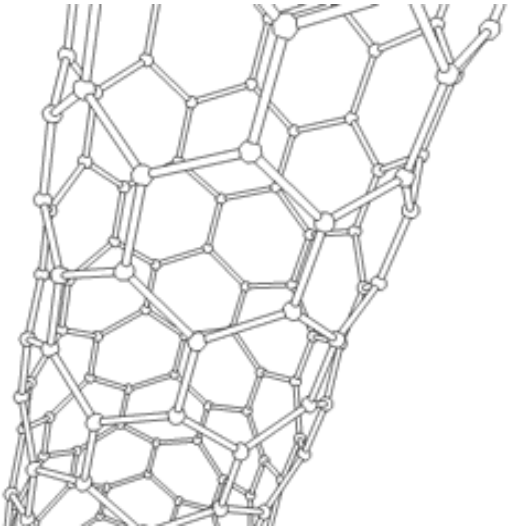

Figure 1. A sample tissue framework (carbon nanotube).

Cells

A significant choice to be make when planning for TE is the cell collection. This phase becomes a significant subject, particularly when these plans are intended to be clinically practical. Prominently, cells should achieve a basic necessity: incorporate themselves in the precise tissue and discharge numerous GF and cytokines that trigger the internal tissue renewal path.

The primary method in cell grounded methods is the practice of natural progenitor cells. The focal issue is the intrinsic trouble of developing some precise cell types to gain great amounts. As a result, stem cells both embryonic (ESCs) and mature (ASCs) have arisen as capable substitute cell sources. ESCs are multipotent cells

that are capable to distinguish into any ancestry but their utilization is extremely limited because of moral arguments and their potentiality to yield cancers. Alternatively, ASCs are totipotent cells, so they have more imperfect capability to distinguish than ESCs. However, they can dominate some difficulties related to ESCs, being more suitable for TE.

Biomolecules

In addition of a suitable framework and cell culture, signaling particles show an exciting instrument in TE to control numerous features of cell biology, from propagation volume to particular phenotypic structures of completely distinguished cells. In the cellular setting, the attendance and slope of solvable aspects as well as cytokines, chemokines, and GF show a significant pattern in natural occurrences as well as morphogenesis, chemotaxis, and lesion curing. These indications are firmly organized and are unrivaled to each structure. Signaling particles applied in TE may be raised to the culture as solvable aspects or appended to the framework by covalent and non-covalent relations. Initially, the straight distribution of these particles in the culture and the outcome of these signs regularly applies to *in vitro* assess. Nevertheless, these biomolecules are quickly reduced and neutralized by some cell-derived enzymes, authorized for their small natural half-live. Therefore, for medical submissions, connected elements to the matrix assists to guard them from decaying. Subsequently, the organized discharge of diverse elements from frameworks permits their endless regeneration, having a countless possibility to manage tissue renewal and development.

TE for modeling human physiology

Alternative rising usage of TE is the establishment of *in vitro* humanoid copies, which assist us to recognize and understand the aspects that motivate cellular progressions. Specially, the opinion is to rebuild the multifarious cellular atmosphere into easier classifications with the purpose of examining the pattern of diverse biological, mechanical and/or physical aspects. Significant struggles are being done en route to educate the diverse ailments as well as skin fibrosis, arrhythmia, and lesion therapy and the understanding of the living operation of wholesome tissues; e.g. mammary gland, blood-brain barrier and skin enlargement. Hence, we will discuss about 3D modeling in drug discovery and cancer ailment.

Cancer

Cancer is an important reason of illness internationally. Meaningfully, 90 percent of these diseases are created by the metastatic growth of initial tumors. This dangerous procedure is begun when tumor cells acquire the capability to reduce their basal membrane and assault the nearby tissue.

A chief trial in cancer study is the improvement of *in vitro* simulations that restructure the procedure of tumor development, with specific emphasis on relocation and assault main stages. To attain this goal, it is essential to create a precise demonstrating of tumor atmosphere. In traditional 2D cultures, tumor cells are unusually divided and have their external mostly uncovered to the culture and inflexible lamella. Conversely, 3D cultures can arrest tumor construction preferable, categorized by having inactive or necrotic cells situated at the interior core of the tumor and extremely proliferative cells at the external. This condition happens because of logically ascending mass transfer incidences, which are produced by a raised sedimentation of ECM constituents and a weakly structured vascular system. Therefore, 3D cultures can deliver the micro-ecological circumstances that regulate tumor beginning. Throughout the last two decades, a wide variety of biomaterials have been cautiously calculated with the purpose of lead and boost tumor development. Normal biomaterials have been widely applied, being Matrigel and collagen, the most distinguished ones. An additional phase in cancer study has comprised of increasing artificial biomaterials that deliver both a re-generable cellular atmosphere and the malleability to separately adjust a physical or chemical distinctive with the goal of examining its precise role in the illness. Up to now, polymers for example PLG, PLA, PEG, and PLGA and also hydrogels as well as RAD16-I have been applied to model cancer. Prominently, there are two ECM factors that perform as crucial controllers of cellular reaction in cancer and, consequently, it is vital to describe and regulate them: matrix arduousness and molecular configuration. A part of biomaterial standpoint is the tumor atmosphere which is also included the stroma cells, which comprise immune system cells, pro-angiogenic cells and fibroblasts. They are accountable for the creation, sedimentation and demonstrating of a large percentage of the ECM proteins. Additionally, they discharge numerous paracrine GFs that contribute in cancer cell development. Hereafter, these cells operate as dynamic members in tumorogenesis rather than inactive spectator's. Hence, co-cultures have been announced in cancer study. Currently, macrophages, endothelial cells and fibroblasts have been cultivated accompanied by tumor cells in collagen gels. Outcomes displayed that stroma cells taking part in the tumor cells relocation and the vasculature germinate creation via the up-regulation of proteases and the distribution of angiogenic elements correspondingly.

Drug discovery

Currently, it is assessed that a medicine candidate classically necessitates 15 years of study and preclinical assessment, having just 8% of probabilities to be used as a medicine. An important reason for this great failure level is the use of simulations that lose or change numerous tissue-associated utilities and, accordingly,

weaken their anticipated supremacy. Hence, 3D cultures are being presented into drug designing as hopeful platforms to examine the outcome of medicine achievement, completing the efficiency and decreasing the finance of this procedure. They are talented to reconstruct in a more accurate method, while the difficulty of humanoid tissues are holding the capability for high output testing and cellular optimizing.

The importance of 3D cultures becomes obvious in the calculation of a medicine security outline, in terms of its interplay with the liver. This tissue has the purpose of regulating the biotransformation and removal of poisonous leftover materials from the body. Hepatocytes cultured in single-layers dedifferentiate after some passages and mislay liver-particular utilities, as well as the generation of medicine digesting enzymes. Instead, liver poisoning is beings peculiar. the results gained with animal simulations cannot be openly interpreted to hominids. To evade these variations, important endeavors have been done in “humanizing” rats by transferring humanoid cells. However, these creatures are yet difficult and costly to approve in an examine set-up. Therefore, 3D cultures have been suggested as substitute cellular structures forecasters in medicine study procedures, in so much it has been revealed that hepatocytes recovered their morphology and expression of major-liver proteins when cultivated in alginate and artificial auto-accumulating peptides by the sandwich technique. An unanswered difficulty for TE is the conversion of 3D cultures from the bench to the medicinal production. To attain this objective, 3D cultures should confront a set of necessities, separately from biological significance: calibration, high output applicability and financial possibility.

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4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tissue_engineering

TISSUE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR (tPA)

This is an enzyme that accelerates the alteration of plasminogen to plasmin for clot initiation. tPA was initially discovered by recombinant DNA methods in 1982. The tPA genes are situated on chromosome 8. The principal transcript generated by this gene undertakes further splicing, forming three separate mRNAs. It is a serine protease located on endothelial cells, the cells that furnish the blood vena. It is the main enzyme accountable for clot segregation. Since it acts on the clotting structure, tPA is applied in medical studies to cure embolic or thrombotic infarction. Its consumption is banned in hemorrhagic infarction and skull lesion. The remedy for tPA in the instance of poisoning is aminohexanoic acid. tPA can be synthetize by recombinant methods. One of recombinant tPAs marketed as alteplase.

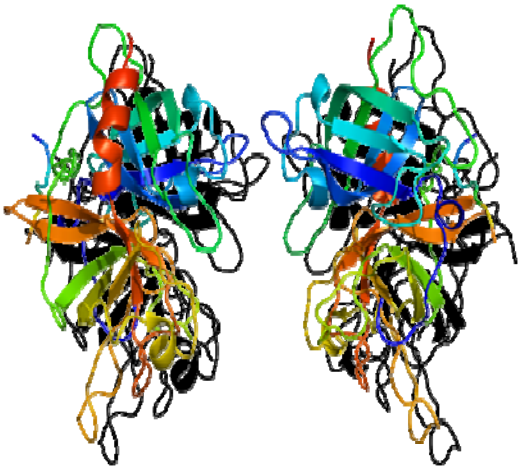

Figure 1. Tissue plasminogen activa-

Medical uses

tPA is utilized in some circumstances of illnesses that feature blood clots, as well as myocardial infarction, pulmonary embolism, and stroke, in a therapeutic action named thrombolysis. The most popular usage is for ischemic infarction. It can also be managed based on the program, in the case of severe ischemic stroke, severe myocardial infarction, and most circumstances of severe enormous pulmonary embolism, or directed via an arterial catheter straight to the spot of blocking in the case of marginal arterial thrombus and thrombus in the proximal profound veins of the foot.

Recombinant tissue plasminogen activators (rtPA)

rtPAs comprise tenecteplase, reteplase, and alteplase. Alteplase has FDA acceptance for healing myocardial infarction with central venous admission strategies, acute enormous pulmonary embolism, and severe ischemic stroke. Reteplase has FDA acceptance for severe myocardial infarction, wherever it has additional suitable usage and quicker thrombolysis than alteplase. This is for, it is a 2th descendant modified tPA, therefore, its half-life is up to twenty minutes, which permits it to be used as a bolus shot instead of a shot like Alteplase. Tenecteplase is likewise designated in severe myocardial infarction, presenting less hemorrhage difficulties, but has similar fatality amounts after one year in contrast to alteplase. Further rtPAs, for example desmoteplase, are in medical investigations.

Ischemic stroke

There have been 12 huge size, high-quality experiments of rtPA in severe ischemic infarction. An extra study of these experiments determined that rtPA given during 6 hours of an infarction meaningfully amplified the chances of staying vivid at last follow-up, principally in patients cured during 3 hours. Though, there was an additional death in curing patients in the initial week after the occurrence, mostly from skull hemorrhage. It has been recommended that if tPA is operative in ischemic infarction, it must be used as soon as possible after the beginning of infarction indications. Generally, tPA has become extensively assumed as a typical option in severe ischemic infarction, until the patient shows after the beginning of infarction indications. Numerous standard protocols comprising the AHA have concluded, this group of researches which proposing that there are precise subclasses who may get help from tPA and hence indorsed its usage during a restricted time space after the incident. Procedure strategies need its usage intravenously during the initial 3 hours of the incident, after which its harms may outbalance its profits. For instance, the Canadian Stroke Network standard explains "All patients with paralyzing severe ischemic infarction who can be cured during 4.5 hours of indication beginning should be assessed without lag to define their suitability for therapy with tPA". Therefore, just about three percent of persons succeed for this therapy, as most patients do not pursue medicinal help rapidly.

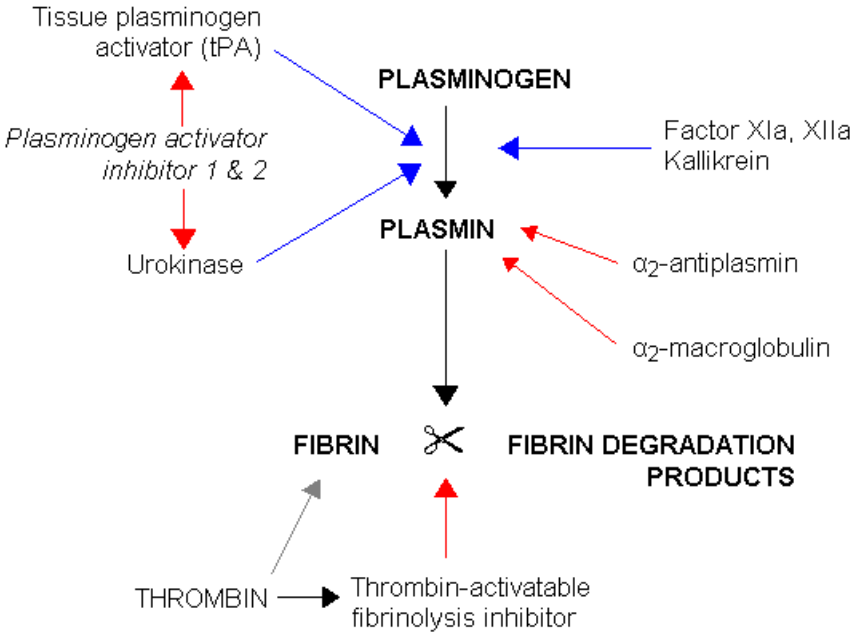

Figure 2. A shortened diagram shows clot activation. Blue arrows: incitement, red arrows: inhibition.

Utilization of tPA in the US in curing the patients who are qualified for its usage, has no prohibition and arrival at the healing capacity 3 hours after beginning of indications, is described to have increased from 2003 to 2011. Nevertheless, numerous patients who were qualified to cure were not cured. tPA has also been con-

aged 90 years and beyond cured with tPA for severe ischemic infarction retrieval, most patients have a little 30-day practical consequence or decease. Furthermore, persons with chilblain cured with tPA had a less ablation than those not cured with tPA. There is an important discussion concerning rtPA's efficiency in ischemic infarction. After several experiments, the NNT Group on evidence-based medicine determined that it is unsuitable to merge insufficient trials into a solitary examination, due to considerable medical dissimilarity.

Function

tPA and plasmin are the focal enzymes of the fibrinolytic pathway; wherein, tPA induces plasmin creation. To be determined, tPA splits plasminogen on the Arg561 - Val562 peptide bond, into the serine protease plasmin. Amplified enzymatic activity of tPA induces hyper fibrinolysis, which demonstrates as extreme hemorrhage. Furthermore, Reduced activity of tPA induces hypo fibrinolysis, which may result in thrombosis or embolism. In ischemic infarction patients, reduced tPA activity was stated to be related with a growth in plasma P-selectin condensation. tPA likewise has an influence on cell relocation and tissue renovation.

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YOGA AND AQUATIC EXERCISE CAN HELP COMBAT MS SYMPTOMS

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a persistent and progressive autoimmune sickness in which the body's particular immune system assaults the nervous system, potentially causing motion syndromes. In an accidental study, scientists from Iran have publicized that these indications meaningfully decreased after 8 week plan of yoga and aquatic practice. In comparison to the control group, depression, paresthesia, and exhaustion were meaningfully decreased in patients who participated in a 3 times weekly exercise plan. In the non-activity group, the probability of temperate to acute depression was 35 times greater than in the groups who participated in yoga or aquatic practice. In this study, 44 women with MS and a mean age of 34 were allocated to one of three groups: yoga, aquatic practice or no activity. Formerly and afterward the experiment, patients was requested to fulfil a survey about their indications. All patients continued with their current remedy, comprising any medicine used to control the immune system. "Appropriate activities should be performed in the upcoming as suitable supplements to current MS cures", noted by the researchers.

Reference: https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/05/160503072414.htm

DIVIDING T CELLS: A POTENTIAL TARGET FOR IMPROVING CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

When an immune T cell separates into two daughter cells, the activity of an enzyme named mTORC1, which regulates protein creation, cleaves unequally among the offspring, creating two cells with dissimilar characteristics. Such "unequal separation" revealed by Johns Hopkins scholars by laboratory-cultured cells and particularly propagated mice, could compromise new methods to improve cancer immunotherapy. These trials in mice presented that when a T "mother" cell that is immature to immune fulminations meetings an activator and divides, one of its daughter cells receives far more mTORC1 activity compared with the other daughter cell. The variance in mTORC1 activity rates among the two daughter cells is various.

This unequal dispersal, seems to reorganize the usage of energy and other metabolic events of each daughter

cell so that the high-activity daughter goes on to produce the active immune system killers, named effector T cells, while the low-activity daughter produces memory T cells. To specify the unequal dispersal of mTORC1, the researchers stimulated mouse T cells with a particular immune-motivating antigen. When activated, the T cells separated, and scientists applied antibodies to identify mTORC1 enzyme activity in each of the daughter cells. Afterwards, the researchers arranged the two daughter cells and studied their function by shooting them into mice, infected with equal infections and followed the cell`s activity. The cells with great rates of mTORC1 were detected to be strongly stimulated and identified as effector T cells, though the cells with a small rate of mTORC1 performed similar to memory T cells, persevering for long-term courses of time and quickly activating upon reinfection.

Reference: https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/07/160701142326.htm

WOMEN WITH BRCA1 GENE MUTATION ARE AT HIGHER RISK OF DEADLY UTERINE CANCER

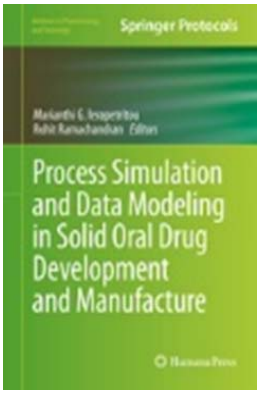
Females who have the BRCA1 gene alteration that intensely enhances their risk of breast and ovarian tumors are likewise at greater risk for a deadly form of uterine tumor, based on an investigation carried out by Duke Cancer Institute scholars. Currently, females with the BRCA1 alteration regularly have prophylactic surgeries to take out both breasts, in addition to their ovaries and fallopian tubes, according to investigations, it is concluded that the gene alteration raises their danger for tumors in those tissues. However, incompatible signs has made the argument on the necessity to take out the uterus. Other researchers recognized a connection among the gene alteration and uterine tumor, but the proof to change procedure has disappeared due to outcomes from a well-planned research using a greater patient number. In the present research, about 1,083 females have been studied. Whole the samples had BRCA1 or BRCA2 genetic alterations, and their ovaries and fallopian tubes were removed. Occurrences of uterine tumor in the BRCA-positive females in the training were likened to the amounts that would be estimated in the total population. In the BRCA-positive females, there were 8 uterine tumors reported during the research period. Among the 8 tumors, still, 5 were of an unusual subtype named serous endometrial tumor, which is particularly hostile. All except one of the serous endometrial tumors happened in females with the BRCA1 genetic alteration. Accordingly, only about 18 cases would be predictable

between females with the BRCA1 alteration during the time period examined in the community, placing these females with the BRCA1 trait at meaningfully greater risk. Scholars have noted that the results are particularly vital since the serous endometrial tumor has a death percentage of 50 and is escapable for females who are experiencing surgical actions at present to remove their ovaries and fallopian tubes. Also, for females with BRCA1 alterations who have previously experienced surgeries to remove their ovaries and fallopian tubes, the results are less clear.

Reference: https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/06/160630140508.htm

Book Alert

PROCESS SIMULATION AND DATA MODELING IN SOLID ORAL DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE



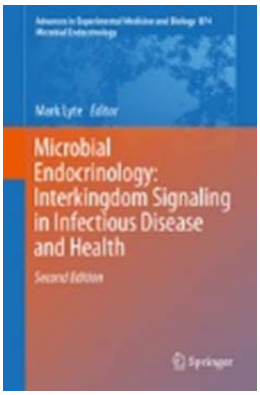
Publisher: Springer international publishing.

Authors: M.G. Ierapetritou and R. Ramachandran

Publication date: 2016

ISBN: 978-1-4939-2996-2

MICROBIAL ENDOCRINOLOGY: INTERKINGDOM SIGNALING IN INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND HEALTH



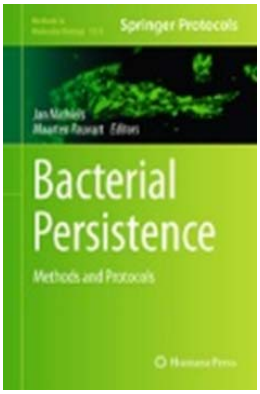
Publisher: Springer international publishing.

Author: M. Lyte

Publication date: 2016

ISBN: 978-3-319-20215-0

BACTERIAL PERSISTENCE



Publisher: Springer international publishing

Authors: J. Michiels and M. Fauvart

Publication date: 2016

ISBN: 978-1-4939-2854-5

Announcements

https://www.gtcbio.com/conferences/medicinal-chemistry-drug-design-overview

https://www.gtcbio.com/conferences/non-coding-rna-rnai-therapeutics-overview

Cell Symposia

Functional RNAs

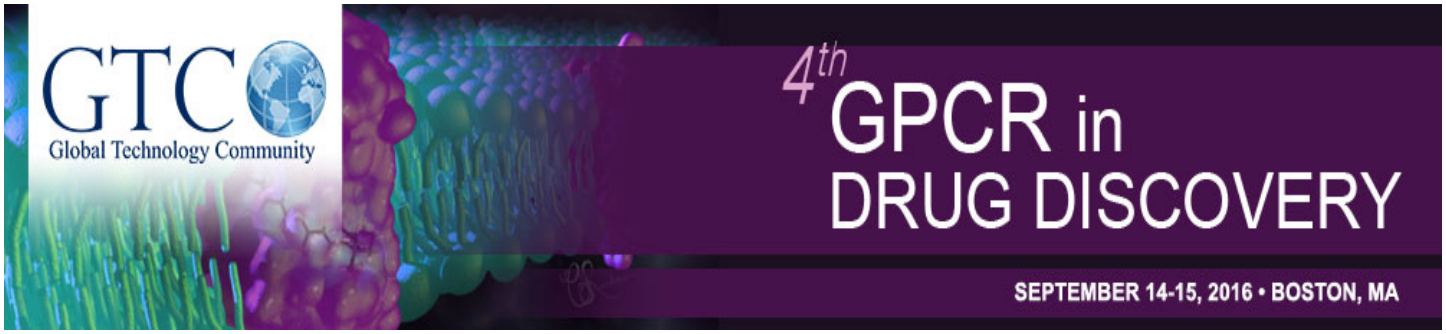
November 6–8, 2016 — Guangzhou, China

http://www.cell-symposia-rna-2016.com/

Announcements

http://www.celltherapy-congress.com/download-agenda-marketing/

http://www.icbme.org/



https://www.gtcbio.com/conferences/gpcr-drug-discovery-overview/

ASTROCYTE

The astrocytes are a subcategory of neuroglia cells in the CNS. These cells are stellar formed and enclosed in synapses created by neurons. Astrocytes are typically recognized by histological examination. Some forms of astrocytes occur in the CNS comprising filamentary (in white texture), protoplasmic (in grey texture), and axial form. Astrocytes are macroglial cells in the CNS, and are a derivative of mixed residents of ancestor cells in the neuroepithelium of the emerging CNS. The operations of astroglial cells are countless; they make the brain setting, make the micro-construction of the brain parenchyma, preserve brain homeostasis, supply and release energy substances, regulate the expansion of neural cells, and afford a guard for brain protection.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astrocyte

BLASTOCYST

The blastocyst is a cell assembly shaped in the initial enlargement of mammals. It contains an internal cell mass which afterward forms the embryo. The external coat of the blastocyst contains the cells together named the trophoblast. This coat cinctures the internal cell mass and a watery hole identified as the blastocoele. The trophoblast allows the growth of the placenta. In hominids, blastocyst creation starts nearly 5 days after insemination, when a watery hole shows up in the morula, a sphere containing a few dozen cells. The blastocyst has a width of near 0.1-0.2 mm and contains 200-300 cells succeeding quick cleavage. After near 1 day, which is the period typically necessary to attain the uterus, the blastocyst starts to insert himself into the endometrium of the uterine wall, where it will continue further growing procedures, containing gastrulation. Inserting of the blastocyst into the endometrium needs that it crosses the zona pellucida, which avoids it from cohering to the oviduct as it continues its path to the uterus. The blastocyst is entirely inserted in the endometrium just 11–12 days after insemination. The usage of blastocysts in *in vitro* insemination (IVF) contains culturing an inseminated egg for five days before embedding it into the uterus. The internal cell mass of blastocysts is likewise an origin of embryonic stem cells.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blastocyst

LEPTIN

Leptin is a cell signaling hormone vigorous in the adjustment of hunger, nourishment and body heaviness. Studies have revealed that the lack of leptin in the body or leptin blockage can cause wasteful nurturing and weight increase. Leptin performs as a hormone that controls the size of the adipose tissues. Leptin also performs on definite receptors in the hypothalamus to prevent hunger via both nugatory and stimulatory approaches.

Leptin also has a significant effect in adjusting and controlling the beginning of maturity. For instance, malnourished and skinny females take more time to reach maturity than weighty girls. Skinny girls usually fail to ovulate or discharge an egg from an ovary throughout menstruation cycles. Genital development and fat supplies are thus biotic in the regulation of reproduction.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leptin