

Glossary

Alginate encapsulation - The living cells are covered in a seaweed-derived coating (alginate encapsulation) to form capsules which isolate the transplanted cells from the patient's immune system but allows the free passage of small nutrient molecules, oxygen and cell products.

Choroid plexus - A type of brain cell that produces cerebral spinal fluid and a number of factors important for the health and survival of the brain.

Diabetes - A chronic disease characterised by high blood glucose levels resulting from the body not producing insulin or using it properly. Type 1 Diabetes occurs when the pancreas gland no longer produces the insulin needed.

DiabeCell - LCT's porcine (pig) pancreatic cell product for the treatment of insulin-dependent diabetes.

Edmonton Protocol - This procedure consists of transplanting insulin-producing islet cells, into the livers of patients with diabetes. The technique requires anti-rejection drugs and is not available to children.

Fac8Cell - LCT's liver cell product aimed at producing blood clotting factor to treat haemophilia.

Haemophilia - A blood clotting disorder in which one of the essential clotting factors is deficient. Haemophilia A is the most common form of haemophilia and is due to the deficiency of factor VIII. (Also Classical Haemophilia). Haemophilia B is due to the deficiency of factor IX. (Also Christmas Disease).

Huntington's disease - An inherited neurological condition. It is a degenerative brain disease with a gradual physical, emotional and cognitive deterioration over 10 to 25 years, leading to total incapacitation and eventual death.

Immunosuppressive drug - A drug that blocks the body's ability to fight infection. A person receiving a kidney, pancreas, or islet cell transplant uses such drugs to prevent the rejection of the new organ or tissue.

Microencapsulation - A process by which tiny parcels of a gas, liquid, or solid active ingredient are packaged within a second material for the purpose of shielding the active ingredient from the surrounding environment.

Neurotrophins - A family of molecules that encourage survival of nervous tissue.

NeurotrophinCell - A LCT choroid plexus (brain) cell product with the potential to treat diseases of the nervous system Huntington's disease and stroke.

Porcine - Relating to, affecting, resembling or derived from a pig.

Pre-clinical trials - Laboratory / animal testing to determine toxicity and some safety and efficacy.

Phase I-III Clinical Trials - Phase I involves human trials with up to 30 patients to check safety and dosage. Phase II is up to 300 patient volunteers to check efficacy and for any side-effects. Phase III involves large numbers of patients and is used to monitor reactions to long-term drug use.

Stroke - Occurs when the supply of blood to the brain is suddenly disrupted.

Xenotransplantation - The transfer of living cells or tissues from one species to another, such as pig cells into humans.

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