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Cell based therapy for treatment of cartilage defects



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Content

Cell therapy for cartilage defects

Short company history

Medical need

Procurement, processing and application Product specifications, release tests Reporting to TRIP





50 µm













Autologous chondrocyte implantation

Spheroid based, tissue-engineered product

- Non-cellular based therapies (physiotherapy, hyaluronic acid, e.g.), mosaicplasty, microfracture, e.g.
- ACI development throughout the years
 - Monolayer cell-suspension (first generation ACI)
 - Monolayer cells in exogenous matrix: M-ACI (Vericel, TETEC)
 - Monolayer cells transferred in 3D cell culture to form spheroids (CO.DON AG)



- ATMP: Advanced therapy medicinal product
- TEP, tissue-engineered product
- Donor = recipient: autologous

Clinical application of chondrocyte spheroids

Autologous chondrocyte implantation





Chondrocyte spheroids

Product characteristics



3D Cell aggregates Embedded in ECM ECM characteristic for cartilage Synthesised by chondrocytes

Restored expression of chondrogenic genes Phenotypic and Genetic stable cells Tumorigenicity, biodistribution

Self-adhesive Dose: 10-70 spheroids/cm2 defect



Product portfolio

Pipeline



* Indication: Femurkondyle und Patella, Erwachsenen und Jugendlichen mit geschl. Wachstumsfuge

** Indication: Tibia, Erwachsenen und Jugendlichen mit geschl. Wachstumsfuge



Manufacturing process

Procurement – processing - application



Manufacturing Process

Integrated Isolator Technology IIT[®]

- fully integrated technology of the manufacturing process, clean room class A
- A-septic environment: **continuous process chain** from raw material to cell transplant
- Safety: extremely low risk of contamination





Manufacturing process

high level of reproducibility of products with the intended biological activity

- ATMP: Advanced therapy medicinal product
 - TEP, tissue-engineered product
- Donor = recipient: autologous
 - high variability between donors/products
- Major challenges during CMC development
 - Critical process parameter (cPP)
 - Critical quality attributes (cQA)
 - Robust manufacturing process
- > Clinically relevant limits for operational ranges and release parameter





Product development

Safety and efficacy of the product

MA EMA/Swissmedic/MHRA





Quality control regime

Safety and efficacy



Manufacturing process

Critical process parameters:

- Cell cultivation times/ efficacy
- Cell expansion/ genetic stable cells

In-process controls (>50)

- Cell number
- Cell viability
- Surface integrity
- Colour

Product Specifications

Critical Quality Attributes:

are chemical, physical, biological and microbiological attributes that can be defined, measured, and continually monitored to ensure final product outputs remain within acceptable quality limits

- Safety: microbiological tests (Eu. Ph.)
- Identity
- (Im)purity
- Potency

sterility endotoxin mycoplasm



Chondrocyte spheroids

Product specifications – safety first

		Parameter	Method			
critical quality attributes		Sterility	Test according Ph. Eur. 2.6.27 or Ph. Eur 2.6.1] [Product-specific adjustments/validations established at CO.DON	1
		Endotoxin	Test according Ph. Eur. 2.6.14			i.
		Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma test According Ph. Eur. 2.6.7			
		Identity	Biomarker mRNA levels (T/R) determined by qPCR		,,	
		Purity	percentage synoviocytes as determined by Biomarker mRNA expression levels using qPCR	-	Product-specific tests	į
		Potency	Biomarker mRNA levels (T/R) determined by qPCR		developed by CO.DON	į
		Allocation of the product to the patient	visual	-		
		Appearance of the product	visual			
		Cells/ spheroid	Cell count			
		Cell viability	Staining			
		Sterility	Test according Ph. Eur. 2.6.27 or Ph. Eur 2.6.1			



Clinical validation of cQAs and cPP

Purity

Potency



Purity test for Spherox

Synoviocyte-content in final product

- Risk of cellular contamination during biopsy procurement
- Synoviocytes
- *EBF3* mRNA levels representing % of synoviocytes in the product
- Basis for QC release test
- Acceptance limit clinically validated





Release test for ,Purity'

Clinical validation

- Assessment of spheroids used in Phase II+III clinical trials
- No correlation with clinical improvement
- Limit justified by highest contamination with clinical improvement



Impurity based on EBF3 expression



Release test for ,Potency'

Potency assay

- Human cartilage repair model
 - Proof of biological activity of the final product
 - Not eligable for release test
 - Find a biomarker that correlates with regenaration capacity of the product?
 - Development of a surrogate potency assay
 - Method: Quantitative PCR
 - potency marker: ACAN (mRNA)





NC – native cartilage ML – multilayer RT – regenerated tissue S – spheroid SB, subchondral bone

HE staining

Bartz et al., 2016 (Journal of Translational Medicine)



Release test for ,Potency'

Clinical validation

- Assessment of spheroid batches used in Phase II+III clinical trials
 - ACAN mRNA levels
 - Clinical improvement (KOOS>8)
- No statistical correlation found
- Lowest ACAN levels: no improvement





Cell based therapy for cartilage repair

CMC/Product development – built-in quality



Predictive markers Operational ranges

Phase II+III clinical trials

- Identify and determine parameters for manufacturing and Quality Control
- Develop specific tests. Determine analytical methods.
- Clinical validation phase: justify release criteria using clinical data



Meldingen aan TRIP

CO.DON AG, Duitsland

DADA, Nederland > TRIP



Pharmacovigilance

Melden van bijwerkingen

PSUR, periodic safety update report Europees:

Duitsland: PSUR •

- Product-gerelateerd: ,dilamination of graft' •
- Bijwerkingen die ontstaan tijdens de chirurgische ingreep •
- Kwaliteit-gerelateerde meldingen: bijv. kontaminatie van transportbuffer •
- Nederland: jaarlijkse berichtgeving aan TRIP

via DADA consultancy B.V.

EMA/Swissmedic/MHRA Paul-Fhrlich-Institut

Meldingen aan TRIP

Handleiding TRIP

Procurement:

Communicatie:

Bloed

•

- Kraakbeen (biopt)
- Serum isolatie, filtratie
- Celisolatie, expansie, aggregatie



contamination/potency/purity/identity

Processing:

Pharmacovigilance CO.DON DE >> DADA NL >> TRIP

- Jaarlijkse berichtgeving: •
 - OOS (out of spec) productieprocess ۲
 - OOS Quality Control ٠
 - Aantal behandelde patienten, aantal & reden van OOS, tweede biopt ۲



Application:

ACI



Meldingen aan TRIP

Handleiding TRIP

Procurement:

- Bloed
- Kraakbeen (biopt)

Processing:

- Serum isolatie, filtratie
- Celisolatie, expansie, aggregatie



Product wordt niet vrijgegeven: out of specification

- cQA/release parameter: **purity**
- cQA/release parameter: **potency**
- cPP/IPC+release parameter: **celkultuur** celkultuur proces

waarde is boven de toegestane limiet

- waarde is onder der toegestane limiet
- kultiveringsduur te lang, celexpansie, afbreken van het
- cQA/release parameter: steriliteit (endotoxine, mycoplasma, steriliteit)



Hartelijk dank!

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Pharmaceutical Development

Safety and efficacy – Quality by design



Process Validation



Pharmaceutical Development

From invention to commercial product



• Product specifications