

Press Release



world conference on
regenerative medicine

[Germany | Leipzig 2009]

Leipzig,
19 December 2008

To breathe again: A new windpipe through regenerative medicine

Regenerative Medicine offers extraordinary new options to doctors and patients. Recently a new windpipe was given to a patient with severe respiratory problems. This cutting-edge application for tissue engineering is one of many topics which will be addressed at the World Conference on Regenerative Medicine on October 29-31, 2009 in Leipzig.

There have been several reports over the last few weeks regarding the miraculous recovery of a Columbian woman who was implanted with a new windpipe created through tissue engineering. An international team succeeded in replacing this complex organ in June in Barcelona. Four months after the operation the new windpipe functions without complications and the patient is not required to take any medications for the suppression of rejection reactions.

Prof. Paolo Macchiarini from Barcelona, Spain who coordinated the implantation will be present at the World Conference on Regenerative Medicine (WRM), taking place on October 29-31, 2009 in Leipzig. He will give a comprehensive report regarding the success in this and other planned interventions and therefore will confirm the impact of tissue engineering on modern medicine.

The basis for the new windpipe was a seven centimetre long piece of a donor windpipe. All living cells on it were removed and only the scaffold was used for the subsequent steps. Autologous stem cells were differentiated in chondrocytes and autologous respiratory epithelial cells were expanded. Then, both cell types were seeded respectively on the external and internal surface of the scaffold using a specific designed bioreactor. Afterwards the scaffold with the expanded cells was implanted into the patient.

This windpipe replacement was able to prevent the removal of one of the woman's lungs and opened an incredible new opportunity for long-term future health and vitality for her.

Contact:

Christina Kühn

Phone +49 (0) 341 / 355 36-9322

Fax +49 (0) 341 / 355 36-8 9300

press@wcrm-leipzig.com

Conference Office

event lab.

Talstraße 30

04103 Leipzig

Phone +49 (0) 341 / 401 19 36

Fax +49 (0) 341 / 479 17 80

info@wcrm-leipzig.com



The WRM 2009 brings together important experts from different areas of regenerative medicine to discuss and develop new approaches for the treatment of widespread diseases and degenerative illnesses. Further reports regarding successful treatments for critically ill patients and clinical breakthroughs will be forthcoming.

Further information about the conference you can find on www.wcrm-leipzig.com.