



Louisiana's TCA Cellular Therapy's Findings Reported at World Stem Cell Summit -- Patients' Legs Saved from Amputation Using Adult Stem Cells

Interventional Cardiologist Gabriel Lasala, MD and Cell Biologist Jose Minguell, PhD's adult stem cell human clinical trial results to treat leg ischemia are being presented at the World Stem Cell Summit in Baltimore, MD. All of the trial patients have experienced improved leg circulation; many have been saved from amputation and diabetic patients reported pain from diabetic neuropathy has ceased. TCA Cellular Therapy is the only company in the world utilizing two different types of adult stem cells, Endothelial Progenitor Cells and Mesenchymal Stem Cells, to grow new stable blood vessels to treat Peripheral Vascular Disease and Peripheral Arterial Disease. Phase III trials are planned to begin before the year's end.

Baltimore, MD (PRWEB) September 23, 2009 -- This week TCA Cellular Therapy's (www.tcacellulartherapy.com) Medical Director Gabriel Lasala, M.D. (http://www.tcacellulartherapy.com/our_team.html#gabriel_lasala) of Covington, Louisiana presents advances in adult stem cell treatments (http://www.tcacellulartherapy.com/our_clinical_trials.html) for severe limb ischemia at the World Stem Cell Summit in Baltimore, Maryland. These findings are capturing the interest of many in the medical community. Not only is this therapy improving leg circulation and saving patients from amputation; it has had a profound and unexpected effect on diabetic neuropathy.

Lower limb ischemia is a condition where plaque build-up causes decreased circulation in the lower leg. Symptoms of the condition include intense pain, swelling, ulcers, and gangrene, often leading to amputation.

Lasala, together with the company's Scientific Director and cell biologist Jose Minguell, PhD (http://www.tcacellulartherapy.com/our_team.html#jose_minguell), treated 33 patients during the Phase I and Phase II safety/efficacy clinical trials using a combination of the patient's own endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) and mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs). A total of 40 patients will have finalized their studies by the end of this year.

TCA Cellular Therapy is the only company in the world utilizing two different types of adult stem cells to treat Peripheral Vascular Disease and Peripheral Arterial Disease (PVD / PAD). The formation of new mature blood vessels with the ability to appropriate blood supply requires participation of several types of adult stem cells and growth factors. "We are examining and proving Dr. Minguell's theory that it takes a combination of cells to grow new stable blood vessels that can regenerate and stimulate blood circulation," stated Lasala.

The adult stem cells, obtained through bone marrow aspiration, were separated, multiplied, mixed and infused in areas with damaged blood vessels to develop mature stable vessel formation in ischemic limbs.

According to Lasala, there were no adverse effects as a result of the infusions. All of the patients participating in the program have experienced improvement in their walking tests, ankle brachial pressure index, oxygen pressure, angiography and quality of life. Several of the patients were spared from amputation. The TCA Cellular Therapy combination cell product that was injected in areas with damaged blood vessels developed mature stable vessel formation in ischemic limbs, improving circulation, non-healing ulcers, gangrene and pain.

"The similarity in the recovery of our patients is promising," said Lasala. "We find that the stem cells, once re-injected, go about forming new blood vessels, thus increasing circulation dramatically. The diabetic patients participating in the program have even reported that the pain from diabetic neuropathy has ceased."

TCA Cellular Therapy plans to complete Phase II and begin Phase III trials before the year's end. Several institutions have initiated talks about participating in Phase III trials with the company.

Dr. Lasala has founded the Stem Cell Foundation, a nonprofit organization to help patients in need for adult stem cell therapies.

About TCA Cellular Therapy:

TCA Cellular Therapy is the only private company in the United States that is participating in FDA protocols related to adult stem cell research. It is the only company in the world utilizing two different types of adult stem cells to treat cardiac and vascular conditions. Under the direction of Medical Director Gabriel Lasala, M.D. and Scientific Director Jose Minguell,

Ph.D., TCA Cellular Therapy is undergoing pioneering research with adult stem cell therapy for limb and coronary ischemia. Dr. Lasala is also president and partner of Tchefuncte Cardiovascular Associates (<http://www.tcaway.com>). The companies are located in Covington, Louisiana.

TCA Cellular Therapy

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