

Orthocell granted European Cartilage Regeneration Patent

- The European Patent Office has issued a Decision to Grant patent entitled 'Method Of Tissue Repair'
- Patent covers the method of combining cartilage cells and scaffolds as an aid in the surgical repair of cartilage injuries
- Strengthens IP position for Orthocell's Ortho-ACI® cartilage repair product

Perth, Australia; 1st December 2017: Regenerative medicine company Orthocell Limited (ASX:OCC, "Orthocell" or the "Company") is pleased to announce it has been issued a decision to grant a European Patent. The patent is entitled 'Method of Tissue Repair' protecting the method of combining cartilage cells and scaffolds, within the surgical setting. The patent expires in 2029 and provides additional important intellectual property (IP) to protect Orthocell's Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (Ortho-ACI®) for cartilage repair applications.

Ortho-ACI® was recently included on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), enabling commercialisation within Australia. The international roll out of Ortho-ACI® has been enabled by recent regulatory approvals for Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation technologies issued by the FDA in the US and the National Institute of Clinical Excellence in the UK. Orthocell is well positioned to enter these growing markets supported by the granting of this European Patent and recent inclusion on the ARTG.

"Orthocell is focused on building and maintaining patent protection for our technologies and treatment processes. Securing this patent for cartilage repair in Europe is another milestone in strengthening our IP position in key global markets and compliments the progression of our products through the registration processes in Australia and internationally," Orthocell Managing Director Paul Anderson said.

About Ortho-ACI®:

Ortho-ACI® is the gold standard intervention for symptomatic defects of the articulating cartilage of the joints, predominately the knee and ankle. Ortho-ACI® is manufactured by Orthocell at its quality controlled Good Manufacturing Practice licensed facility in WA, using the Company's proprietary tissue engineering processes, developed in conjunction with Professor Minghao Zheng and the University of Western Australia.

Damage to articular cartilage can occur through injury or normal wear and tear. When articular cartilage is damaged, it does not repair itself effectively like other tissues and cartilage defects lead to increasing joint pain and impaired mobility, which affects activities of daily living and exercise. These defects present a difficult clinical problem and if left untreated can lead to osteoarthritis. Ortho-ACI® provides the opportunity for the body to regenerate its own cartilage and provides a functional and durable outcome. Over 400 patients have been treated with Ortho-ACI® across Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore.



For more information, please contact:

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About Orthocell Limited

Orthocell is a regenerative medicine company focused on regenerating mobility for patients by developing products for the repair of a variety of tendon, cartilage and soft tissue injuries. Orthocell's portfolio of products include TGA-licensed cell therapies Autologous Tenocyte Implantation (Ortho-ATI®) and Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (Ortho-ACI®), which aim to regenerate damaged tendon and cartilage tissue. The Company's other major product is CelGro®, a collagen medical device which facilitates tissue repair and healing in a variety of orthopaedic, reconstructive and surgical applications and is being readied for first regulatory approvals.

For more information on Orthocell, please visit www.orthocell.com.au or follow us on Twitter [@OrthocellLtd](https://twitter.com/OrthocellLtd) and LinkedIn www.linkedin.com/company/orthocell-ltd

