

Orthocell receives key tendon stem cell and scaffold combined patent in United States

- US patent granted for collagen scaffolds combined with tendon stem cells for the repair of rotator cuff tears within the shoulder
- CelGro™ patents have been previously granted in Australia, Canada, Singapore, China and New Zealand

Perth, Australia; 21st June 2016: Regenerative medicine company Orthocell Limited has today announced it has been granted a key patent in the United States covering the combination of tenocytes (tendon derived stem cells) and collagen scaffolds.

The patent, entitled “Tenocyte containing Bio-scaffolds and treatments using the same”, is a key patent that protects the combination of tendon stem cells seeded onto collagen based scaffolds for the repair of torn rotator cuff tendons within the shoulder. Tenocytes are the building blocks of tendons, which along with growth factors, facilitate tendon regeneration. The patent will expire in 2028.

The grant of this patent further complements Orthocell’s patent family covering the expansion of tendon cells for Ortho-ATI™, the method of manufacture of CelGro SMART Graft™ scaffold and the combining of the tenocyte cells and scaffolds.

This patent follows granted patents in Australia, Canada, Singapore, China and New Zealand which together provide a solid IP foundation for both Orthocell’s tendon cellular therapy and for the collagen based medical device platform CelGro™. These patents provide an important competitive edge for this type of regenerative treatment for the rotator cuff tendon within the shoulder.

Orthocell Managing Director Paul Anderson said: “Our patent family is continuing to grow and provide us with protection around our products and product development, ensuring a solid foundation for the partnering, licensing and commercialisation of our technologies.”

This patent complements Orthocell’s current Ortho-ATI™ injectable cell therapy for degenerate tendons and collagen based soft tissue medical device CelGro SMART Graft™ and follows recent granting of a Chinese patent for CelGro™ entitled “Method for Producing A Collagen Membrane And Uses Thereof”.





There are more than 370,000 rotator cuff surgeries carried out in US every year. Data presented at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting in 2015 revealed that large rotator cuff repairs regularly tear again, at a rate of up to 57% in a series of 500 patients studied. Previous research showed that 20%-90% of rotator cuff surgical repairs tore again.

The CelGro™ SMART Graft™ collagen scaffold aims to reduce this re-tear rate by providing a more cell-friendly environment to improve tissue healing and quality, and integration and stabilisation of the repair.

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About Orthocell Limited

Orthocell is a commercial-stage, regenerative medicine company focused on regenerating mobility for patients and our ageing population by developing products for a variety of tendon, cartilage and soft tissue injuries. Orthocell's portfolio of products include TGA-approved stem 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.

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