



Tissue Bioengineer: Mix and Match



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Submission: June 04, 2018; **Published:** June 11, 2018

Opinion

Through the very first publication [1] on tissue bioengineer in the year 1966, the questions have arisen between a heterologous, autologous or now days, printed tissue. Every mature cell, involving from the cell membrane, passing through the organelles and reaching the DNA has a specific function in the human body. Why not share and transform cells from different organs that have the same function but probably not the same morphology?

Mesothelial cells form a monolayer of specialized pavement-like cells that line the body's serous cavities and internal organs. The primary function of this layer, termed the mesothelium, is to provide a slippery, non-adhesive and protective surface. However, mesothelial cells play other pivotal roles involving transport of fluid and cells across the serosal cavities, antigen presentation, inflammation and tissue repair, coagulation and fibrinolysis and tumour cell adhesion. With this concept and the knowledge of endothelium corneal cells is that the question arises if any similarity exists between them, not only theoretically [2].

The purpose of the study [3] we did was to evaluate whether mouse adipose tissue mesothelial cells (ATMCs) shared morphologic and biochemical characteristics with mouse corneal endothelial cells (CECs) and to evaluate their capacity to adhere to the decellularized basal membrane of human anterior lens capsules (HALCs) as a potential tissue-engineered surrogate for corneal endothelium replacement.

The results were surprising, corneal endothelial cells and ATMCs share morphologic (structural) and marker (functional) similarities [corrected]. The ATMCs adhered and formed structures mimicking focal adhesion complexes with the HALC basal membrane. Monolayer structure and achieved density of ATMCs support the proposal to use adult human mesothelial cells (MCs) as a possible surrogate for damaged corneal endothelium. Mixing and matching is a possibility to have functional cells to be transferred from one healthy tissue to another pathological tissue.

Latest studies published in tissue engineer has a broad spectrum. New study on future autologous pancreatic cells have shown the development tissue-engineered human pancreatic islets in a laboratory that develop a circulatory system, secrete hormones like insulin and successfully treat sudden-onset type 1 diabetes in transplanted mice [4].

On the other hand, robots are playing a main role in developing stem cells. A robotic system has been developed to automate the production of human mini-organs derived from stem cells. The ability to rapidly, mass produce or ganoids promises to expand the use of mini-organs in basic research and drug discovery. The system was tested in producing kidney or ganoids [5].

Up to date, we need to continue finding new alternatives for autologous cell transplants meanwhile study on stem cells development is the leading field for future tissue replacement in every area, despite that the uncertainty in science is a certainty.

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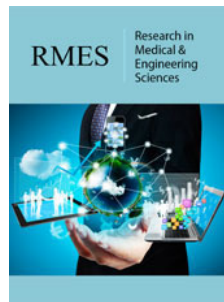
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