



Lincoln Park Institute
StemSave Press Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teeth Prove To Be Excellent Source For Obtaining Stem Cells

(CHICAGO, May 14, 2009) - Lincoln Park Institute for Oral, Facial and Cosmetic Surgery is very pleased to announced that it is offering patients the opportunity to recover and secure stem cells from their teeth. Researchers at the National Institutes of Health discovered stem cells in teeth and this discovery is quickly becoming a convenient and affordable way for individuals and families to recover valuable stem cells for use in future medical applications.

Stem cells are unique in that they are the only cells in the body that can regenerate, and are therefore the repair and maintenance cells of the body. Until fairly recently, researchers believed that adult stem cells could only turn into cells that were the same as those in the tissues and organs from which they were found. It's now known that "undifferentiated" adult stem cells from one area of the body can be transplanted into another area of the body to "differentiate", or grow into cell types of a completely different tissue.

Adult stem cells in dental pulp are a very exciting discovery because they are undifferentiated stem cells that appear to have a greater ability to differentiate than other adult stem cell types. Stem cell therapies are being developed to treat diseases and trauma such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, heart disease, liver disease, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, autoimmune diseases, musculoskeletal disorders

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and brain or spinal cord injury. "The potential applications of stem cell therapy are spectacular," states Dr. Greene. "It won't be long before tissues and organs that were once destroyed or lost, are predictably regenerated utilizing this cutting edge technology."

Lincoln Park Institute is one of a handful of dental practices in the area to provide the service of recovering teeth for stem cell harvesting. As Dr. David H. Hanson explains, "Baby teeth, wisdom teeth and permanent teeth are excellent candidates for stem cell recovery. Instead of throwing teeth away or keeping them as mementos, our patients now have the option of saving the teeth, and their stem cells, for future use. Compared to other methods of stem cell recovery, using your own teeth as a source is easy, minimally invasive, convenient and though not covered by insurance, still far less expensive."

The most opportune times to obtain teeth with healthy dental pulp are during childhood and adolescence. For children, the removal of a baby tooth while it's loose, but not too loose, offers the best chance for stem cell recovery. For adolescents, the extraction of bicuspid teeth in preparation for orthodontic treatment and the extraction of wisdom teeth provide two excellent opportunities.

Drs. Hanson, Greene and Andrus of Lincoln Park Institute are using the service StemSave[®] to recover and secure stem cells. The doctors examine a freshly extracted tooth to insure the presence of healthy dental pulp and then place the tooth in a vial of solution for immediate transport. StemSave[®] cryogenically preserves stem cells that are determined to be viable and then securely stores and monitors the cells until needed.

For more information about Lincoln Park Institute, visit lpinstitute.com or for an appointment call 773-327-2400. For more information about stem cells and stem cell recovery, visit stemsave.com

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