

PRESS RELEASE

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SpinalCyte, LLC Receives Australian Patent for Spinal Disc Tissue Engineering

HOUSTON, Texas – **SpinalCyte, LLC**, a spinal technology company focused on autologous regrowth of the spinal disc nucleus using human dermal fibroblasts, announced today the Australian Patent Office issued a Notice Of Acceptance on its patent application “Methods and Compositions For Repair Of Cartilage Using An In Vivo Bioreactor” to regrow the spinal disc, using human dermal fibroblasts. The allowed claims include the use of human dermal fibroblasts from the patient’s own body, to regrow the nucleus of the spinal disc in vivo.

“This is the sixth international patent in our growing patent portfolio and it distinguishes SpinalCyte as a world leader for regeneration of the spinal disc,” said Pete O’Heeron, Chief Executive Officer. “This is our second Australian Patent and we are excited the Australian Patent Office continues to validate the uniqueness of our technology. Regenerative medicine is leading the rapidly growing movement toward biologics, cell therapy and gene therapy and we believe our focus on autologous regrowth of cartilage will provide an eventual cure for all forms of cartilage degradation.”

The nucleus pulposus is a gelatinous material that acts as a cushion or shock absorber to the spinal column. It functions to distribute hydraulic pressure in all directions within each disc under compressive loads. The nucleus pulposus consists of chondrocytes, collagenfibrils, and proteoglycan aggrecans.

About SpinalCyte, LLC

Based in Houston, Texas, SpinalCyte, LLC is a spinal technology company founded in 2007 for the purpose of developing an innovative and autologous solution for nucleus replacement using human dermal fibroblasts. The goal of SpinalCyte is to develop a cartilage regeneration technology using autologous dermal cells harvested from the patient. To date, SpinalCyte has been funded entirely by angel investors.

Contact:

Pete O’Heeron, CEO

281.461.6211

pete@spinalcyte.com