

PRESS RELEASE

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SpinalCyte, LLC Receives Notice Of Acceptance on 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. The cell-based therapy uses the dermal cells to differentiate into cartilage type cells necessary to regrow the nucleus pulposus.

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, collagen fibrils, and proteoglycan aggregates.

“This is another major milestone and gives us additional international protection for our position as a leader in this emerging technology,” said Pete O’Heeron, Chief Executive Officer. “This is our first Australian Patent and we are excited the Australian Patent Office has validated the uniqueness of our cell-based technology to repair the disc.”

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 technology using human dermal fibroblasts. The goal of SpinalCyte is to develop a nucleus regrowth technology using autologous dermal cells harvested from the patient. To date, SpinalCyte has been funded entirely by angel investors.

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