

PRESS RELEASE

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SpinalCyte, LLC Receives Japanese 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 Japan Patent Office issued a Certificate Of Patent 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 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 a major addition to our growing patent portfolio and further distinguishes SpinalCyte as the international leader for regeneration of the spinal disc,” said Pete O’Heeron, Chief Executive Officer. “This is our first Japanese Patent and we are excited the Japanese Patent Office has validated the uniqueness of our technology.”

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 nucleus regeneration technology using autologous dermal cells harvested from the patient. To date, SpinalCyte has been funded entirely by angel investors.

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