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Stem Cells in Cardiac Repair – Recent Developments and Future Directions

Abstract

Myocardial infarction (MI) is the leading cause of death among people in the industrialised world and will, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), become the leading cause of death in the world in 2020. For the treatment of patients with MIs and ischaemic cardiomyopathies, remarkable medical advances have been made during the second half of the 20th Century that have increased patient survival. As a consequence, patients with heart disease are living longer and the incidence of congestive heart failure in patients is significantly increasing. New treatments for patients with acute MI and ischaemic cardiomyopathies are needed. In this regard, the next major advance in the treatment of patients with cardiac disease promises to be stem cells and stem cell products. Currently, basic research scientists and clinicians worldwide are investigating human embryonic stem cells, skeletal stem cells (myoblasts), adult bone marrow stem cells, cardiac stem cells and human umbilical cord stem cells for the treatment of patients with MIs and ischaemic cardiomyopathies. This review highlights the recent developments and the future directions of each of these stem cells in the treatment of patients with heart disease.

Tế bào gốc trong phôi tim - Các tín hiệu gốc n dây và khuynh hướng tái tạo lại

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