



**REGENERATIVE
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Venture Forum Highlights Potential New Medical Treatments

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Winston-Salem, N.C. – An outpatient procedure to regenerate disc tissue and treat lower back pain? An injectable therapy to prevent heart failure after heart attacks? These treatments aren't pipe dreams. They were among 18 new therapies in the development pipeline that were featured at a first-ever regenerative medicine venture forum today at the Translational Regenerative Medicine Forum. The conference, which concluded today, was sponsored by the Regenerative Medicine Foundation.

"These technologies under development – with some already being evaluate in patients – highlight the promise of the field of regenerative medicine to literally transform medicine," said DaLaura Kader, vice president for strategic initiatives for the Regenerative Medicine Foundation.

Representatives from the startup biotechnology companies presented their technologies to a group of venture investors including DeNovo Ventures, Excel Venture Management, InterSouth Partners, Livingston Securities, Proteus Ventures, and Quaker BioVentures.

"I was impressed with the opportunities out there from around the country," said P. Sherrill Neff with Quaker BioVentures. "I was pleased to see not only product companies, but infrastructure such as bioreactors and cryopreservation. That tells me we've got a real industry forming."

At least one company sealed a funding deal at the conference. "The networking opportunities available at this event were invaluable and resulted in a significant investment for the company I manage," said Kerr Spencer, CEO for Creative Bioreactor Designs Inc.

The forum is an annual event to convene the regenerative medicine community to focus on fulfilling the promise of regenerative medicine, including best practices and business models. Keynote speakers and panelists discussed scientific and clinical advances, trial design, venture funding and obtaining regulatory approval.



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Companies presenting their technologies were:

- ACell – extracellular matrix devices to repair and remodel damaged tissues and organs.
- America Stem Cell Inc. – technologies to enhance and expand the therapeutic potential of stem cell transplants.
- Articular Engineering – cells and tissue to repair articular cartilage and intervertebral disc disorders.
- Arterion – artificial blood vessels for coronary heart complications.
- Avita Medical – a cell harvesting, processing and delivery technology to treat skin defects using the patient's own cells in a regenerative process.
- Axerion Therapeutics Inc. – technology to regenerates central nervous system axons for treatment of spinal cord injuries.
- Bioheart – autologous cell therapies for the treatment of chronic, acute heart damage, and peripheral vascular disease.
- Creative Bioreactor Designs Inc. – equipment and techniques to develop and deliver tissue-engineered products to the marketplace.
- Healionics – biomaterial scaffolds to improve and enable implanted medical devices.
- ISTO Technologies Inc. – biologic products to regenerate and restore damaged cartilage and bone.
- Juventas Therapeutics – a therapy to recruit the body's own stem cells to damaged tissue. Potential applications include preventing cardiac cell death after heart attacks and in peripheral vascular disease and wound healing.
- KeraNetics – keratin-based biomaterial products for regenerative medicine and trauma care.
- Kryosphere – a repository to ensure safe storage of research samples.
- Ocular Systems Inc. – replacement corneal implants.
- Pharminova – natural silk fibrin-based biomaterials.
- Soft Tissue Regeneration – regeneration of the anterior cruciate ligament of the knee.
- Southern Access Technology – live-saving durable heart valve devices for children in Africa affected by rheumatic fever.
- Ventrix – injectable cell therapy to treat heart attack victims.

In addition to the forum, today's event also included panels on best practices in commercialization and designing deals.



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For more information about the event, go to www.regenerativemedicinefoundation.org
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About the Regenerative Medicine Foundation

The Regenerative Medicine Foundation (www.regenerativemedicinefoundation.org) is an internationally-focused, not-for-profit organization created to enable the advancement of new treatments and therapies based on regenerative medicine, and ultimately, to realize the goals of personalized medicine.

Launched in 2005, the Foundation hosted one of the first regulatory meetings with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the topic of regenerative medicine, and was instrumental in the formation of STRAC, the Soldier Treatment and Regeneration Consortium, a precursor to the Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM), and the Washington, DC-based Alliance for Regenerative Medicine.

Through educational programs, translational conferences and public policy initiatives, the Foundation advocates for increased medical research, promotes the training and education of scientists, and facilitates the translation of therapies to patients.