Title: TREATMENT OF INTERVERTEBRAL DISC DEGENERATION

Abstract: The present application discloses a method for preventing or retarding degeneration of intervertebral disc at an intervertebral disc defect site, which includes injecting a mammalian connective tissue cell into the intervertebral disc defect site.
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**International application No.**

PCT/US 09/37987

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(B) - A61K 45/00 (2009.01)

USPC - 424/93.7; 435/366

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

USPC: 424/93.7; 435/366

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

USPC: 424/93.7; 435/366 (text search – see terms below)

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**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 2007/0128174 A1 (Kleinsiek et al.) 7 June 2007 (07.06.2007), abstract, para [0003], [0576], and claim 2</td>
<td>1, 3, 5, 6, 19</td>
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<td>8-11, 13-18, 21</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>US 2006/0292131 A1 (Binette et al.) 28 December 2006 (28.12.2006), para [0005], [0010], [0049], [0052]</td>
<td>2, 4, 10, 11, 16</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>US 2006/0115463 A1 (Song et al.) 1 June 2006 (01.06.2006), para [0002], [0017], [0018], [0023], [0034], [0081]</td>
<td>13-18, 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

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**"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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**"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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**Date of the actual completion of the international search**

25 April 2009 (25.04.2009)

**Date of mailing of the international search report**

20 May 2009

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**Name and mailing address of the ISA/US**

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents

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PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (April 2007)