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# The Survey on Cellular and Engineered Tissue Therapies in Europe in 2013

Ivan Martin, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Hilary Ireland, MSc,<sup>1</sup> Helen Baldomero, BSc,<sup>2</sup> Massimo Dominici, MD,<sup>3</sup> Daniël B. Saris, MD, PhD,<sup>4</sup> and Jakob Passweg, MD<sup>2</sup>

Following the coordinated efforts of five established scientific organizations, this report, the sixth of its kind, describes activity in Europe for the year 2013 in the area of cellular and engineered tissue therapies, excluding hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) treatments for the reconstitution of hematopoiesis. Three hundred eighteen teams from 31 countries responded to the cellular and engineered tissue therapy survey; 145 teams from 25 countries reported treating 2187 patients, while a further 173 teams reported no activity. Indications were musculoskeletal/rheumatological disorders (45%; 89% autologous), cardiovascular disorders (20%; 99% autologous), hematology/oncology, predominantly prevention or treatment of graft versus host disease (GvHD) and HSC graft enhancement, (19%; <1% autologous), neurological disorders (3%; 100% autologous), gastrointestinal disorders (2%; 32% autologous), and other indications (11%; 67% autologous). The majority of autologous cells (88%) were used to treat musculoskeletal/rheumatological (57%) and cardiovascular (27%) disorders, whereas allogeneic cells were used mainly for hematology/oncology (64%). The reported cell types were mesenchymal stem/stromal cells (MSC) (49%), HSC (28%), chondrocytes (11%), dendritic cells (2%), keratinocytes (1%), and others (9%). In 46% of the grafts, cells were delivered following ex vivo expansion, sorted in 17% of the reported cases and transduced in only 3%. Thirty three percent of treatments were delivered intravenously or intra-arterially, and of the remaining 67%, 37% used a membrane/scaffold, 28% a suspension, and 2% a gel. The data are compared to those previously collected to identify trends in a still unpredictably evolving field.

# Introduction

CELL- AND TISSUE-BASED therapeutic approaches are progressively gaining ground in the clinics, in part, due to renewed interest shown by public bodies, for example, government-sponsored programs and public charities, together with increasing attention from private funders. In Europe, the main drivers in this arena have been academic institutions and small-medium enterprises that have been able to progressively "GMPify" cellular and tissue-engineered therapy approaches to make them compliant with the 2007 regulatory framework and the subsequent national and EUguidelines. This development is still ongoing and it has been of fundamental importance in allowing an understanding of the safety and clinical relevance of cells and

tissues as therapeutic tools. Moreover, it represents a fundamental learning phase for process setup, manufacturing and delivery of cells and tissues from the laboratories to the patients, thereby creating a basis for individualized therapies and, simultaneously, identifying limitations that need to be overcome. Mapping this scenario is of the utmost importance for the progression of the field, which currently involves thousands of patients affected by different conditions and impacts clinical, biomedical, regulatory as well as commercial stakeholders.

Against a background of innovations in science, together with the above-mentioned regulatory environment concerning the use of cellular and engineered tissue therapies, the European sections of the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS-EU),

For the Joint Survey Committee of the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS)-Europe, the International Cartilage Repair Society (ICRS), the International Society for Cellular Therapy (ISCT)-Europe, the International Federation for Adipose Therapeutics (IFATS) and the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Department of Biomedicine, University Hospital Basel, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>EBMT Activity Survey Office, University Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Division of Oncology, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences for Children & Adults, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena Policlinic, Modena, Italy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>UMC Utrecht, Orthopaedics, Utrecht, Netherlands.

of the International Society for Cellular Therapy (ISCT), of the International Federation for Adipose Therapeutics (IFATS), and of the International Cartilage Repair Society (ICRS), in a joint initiative with the European group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), established a survey of cellular and engineered tissue therapies. Since 2008, the number of patients treated in Europe with cells or engineered tissues has been collected and sorted by specific therapeutic indications, cell/tissue and donor types and, together with the processing and delivery modes, analysed to describe the evolving situation at the European level.<sup>3–7</sup> It is thanks to the continued efforts of the different working groups that this yearly collection of data represents a means of monitoring changes and capturing trends in a complex and still rather unpredictably developing field.

In this study, we report the results of the sixth survey for the activity, related to patients treated in 2013. The information presented is generally available ahead of published studies, since safety/efficacy data are not required and is complementary to that available in public databases (e.g., www.clinicaltrials.gov), the survey specifying the number of treatments effectively conducted opposed to those planned.

#### **Patients and Methods**

#### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this survey, *cellular and engineered tissue therapy* is any clinical treatment based on living cells, excluding donor lymphocyte infusions and nonmanipulated hematopoietic cells, for hematological reconstitution.

#### Data collection and validation

Participating teams were, as in previous years, requested to report their data for 2013 by indication, cell type and source, donor type, processing method, and delivery mode. Some modifications were made to the survey form: dendritic cells were added to the cell type and source, the delivery mode was amended (intravenous/intra-arterial [i.v./i.a.] and intra-organ—either suspension, gel or membrane/scaffold), and a new question included to identify the number of patients treated as part of a clinical trial, as individualized/ single cases or as a routine therapy.

The survey followed the traditional principles of the EBMT transplant activity survey, which concentrates on numbers of patients with a first cellular therapy. Six hundred eighty-seven teams known to be actively transplanting in 48 countries (39 European and 9 affiliated countries) were contacted for the 2013 EBMT survey, to which were added members of the other participating societies and teams who had contributed to any earlier survey. The non-European countries affiliated with the EBMT activity survey are Algeria, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Tunisia. Extended questionnaires, in the format displayed in Supplementary Table 1 (Supplementary Data are available online at www.liebertpub.com/tea), were received in paper form and electronically.

## Transplant rates

Transplant rates, defined as the reported numbers of patients receiving cellular or engineered tissue therapies and the number of teams reporting treatments per 10 million

inhabitants, were computed for each country, without adjustments for patients who crossed borders or received treatment in a foreign country. Population numbers were obtained from the 2013 US census office database (www.census.gov).

#### **Results**

# Participating teams

Three hundred eighteen teams from 31 countries (28) European, 3 EBMT affiliated countries) responded to the cellular and engineered tissue therapy survey of patients treated in 2013. One hundred forty-five teams (25 countries: 23 European, 2 EBMT affiliated—Iran, Israel) reported performing cellular or tissue-engineered therapies: 142 of these teams provided detailed information on indication, cell source and type, donor type, cell/tissue processing, and delivery mode. A further 173 teams reported no activity. Teams who reported treating patients for the previous survey edition (treatments in 2012) and did not respond this year were directly contacted with repeated personal messages. Teams that responded with detailed information on their activity are listed in Appendix 1 in alphabetical order of country, then city. In addition, their EBMT CIC code (if applicable), the total number of reported cellular or tissueengineered therapies, and the split between allogeneic and autologous donors is included.

# Number of cellular or tissue-engineered therapies and disease indications

According to the received reports, 2187 patients were treated with cellular or engineered tissue therapies: data on six patients were excluded from the analysis due to the absence of complete information. Of the remaining 2181 patients, 1552 (71%) were treated with autologous cells and 629 (30%) with allogeneic cells (Table 1). Indications were musculoskeletal/rheumatological disorders (45%; 89% autologous), cardiovascular disorders (20%; 99% autologous), hematology/oncology (predominantly prevention or treatment of graft versus host disease [GvHD], and hematopoietic stem cell [HSC] graft enhancement) (19%; <1% autologous), neurological disorders (3%; 100% autologous), gastrointestinal disorders (2%; 32% autologous), and other indications (11%; 67% autologous).

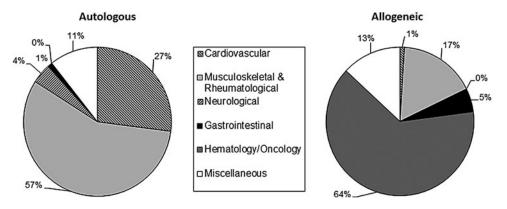
As in the previous year, cartilage and bone repair were by far the most frequently reported indications among the musculoskeletal/rheumatological disorders, comprising almost half of all treatments in this group, followed by reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement (21% of treatments). Treatments for decubitus and leg ulcers were the main reasons for a cellular or engineered tissue therapy among the cardiovascular disorders, closely followed by peripheral artery disease, together accounting for 62% of treatments in this group of indications. The number of patients treated for neurological and gastrointestinal indications was fairly small (114) and mostly confined to Crohn's disease (gastrointestinal) followed by multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (neurological). Among the remaining indications, most patients were treated for skin reconstruction (burns) or for solid tumor excision (Table 1). One hundred eighteen patients were reported under miscellaneous, that is, they were treated for indications other

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF REPORTED CELLULAR AND ENGINEERED TISSUE THERAPY TREATMENTS IN EUROPE IN 2013 SORTED BY INDICATION, CELL SOURCE, AND DONOR TYPE

Autologous   Dendritic   Den						cen ispe and source	a source							
Pandritic   Pand				Au	tologous				$Allo_{0}$	geneic				
131   131	Indication		MSC	Chondrocyte	Keratinocyte					·		Autologous	Allogeneic	Tota
biomyopathy	Cardiovascular Perinheral artery disease	131										131		131
1	Cardiomyopathy	61						2				61	2	63
ubinis and leg ulders 113 18 4 557 4 151 16	Heart failure	26	11									37		37
Second Control Contr	Myocardial ischemia	4 ;	16								•	57	•	ري ز
Participation   Participatio	Decubitus and leg ulcers	113	18								4	131	4	135
1	Omer/unspecined Musculoskalatal/thanmatalogical	r										n		• ,
1	Bone repair (maxillofacial)	75										75		7.
1   2   2   2   2   2   2   2   2   2	Bone repair (orthopedics)	18	39	13					1			70		71
titage repair (orthopedics)   159   224   98   4   883   100   2	Osteogenesis imperfecta								1				1	
social constructive surgery/ solution constructive solution constructiv	Cartilage repair (orthopedics)	(	159	224					86 •		4	383	$\frac{102}{2}$	485
12   20   20   20   20   20   20   20	Muscle repair	7 (	7 %				Ç		7			4 !	7	Ů į
State of the construction of treatment   14	Tendon/ligament	$\mathcal{E}$	36				12					51		51
14   8   6   6   6   6   6   6   6   6   6	Reconstructive surgery/		700		9							206		202
hritis bridge br	ussue ennancement		c									Ó		ć
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tology/oncology  tology/oncology  HD prevention or treatment  C graft enhancement  I s 32  C graft enhancement  I laneous  n reconstruction—burns  n r	Liver insufficiency	7				4	4		4			10	4	17
HD prevention or treatment  C graft enhancement  I g 32  C graft enhancement  I laneous  I neconstruction—burns  n reconstruction—burns  n reconstruction—burns  n a repair  betes  d tumor  3 13 26  1 47  47  47  48  65  65  65  65  66  66  67  67  68  69  69  60  60  60  60  60  60  60  60	Hematology/oncology												,	
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Haneous n reconstruction—burns	HSC graft enhancement	—						15	32			-	47	48
n reconstruction—burns  nea repair  hear sepair  betes  23 42 65  betes  1 5 1 5  betes  id tumor  3 13 13 17 128 40 508 23 3 55 1552 679	Miscellaneous												1	Ì
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	Total	578	266	237	9	37	128	40		ιτ	55	1552	629	2181

HSC, hematopoietic stem cell; MSC, mesenchymal stromal/stem cell; GvHD, graft versus host disease.

FIG. 1. Percentage of indications for cellular and engineered tissue therapies in Europe in 2013, sorted by donor type. Data used for this chart were derived from the extended questionnaire and the standard European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) survey sheet.



than those mentioned in the form, for example, for hemorrhagic cystitis.

## Cell type, source, and donor type

The reported cell types were mesenchymal stem/stromal cells (MSC) (49%), HSC (28%), chondrocytes (11%), dendritic cells (2%), keratinocytes (1%), and others (9%). This year, no treatments were reported using dermal fibroblasts. From 1074 MSC-based therapies, 53% were autologous transplants, and of the 618 HSC treatments, 94% were autologous transplants (Table 1). Of the remaining cell sources, all chondrocyte transplants, 93% of dendritic cells, 21% of keratinocytes and 70% of other cell sources, were autologous.

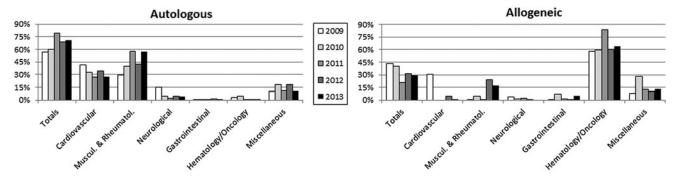
The majority of autologous cells (88%) were used to treat musculoskeletal/rheumatological, cardiovascular, or neurological indications (57%, 27%, and 4%, respectively). Although only a small number of patients (67) had neurological disorders, all treatments used autologous cells. The main uses of allogeneic cells were, as in previous years, for hematology/oncology (64%) and for musculoskeletal/rheumatological indications (17%), almost all of which were for cartilage repair (Fig. 1). The trends for the various therapy areas over the last 5 years are shown in Figure 2.

In 2013, MSC were mostly obtained from bone marrow (69%) or adipose tissue (30%). MSC were used mainly for GvHD (32%) or for two musculoskeletal indications, namely cartilage repair (24%) and reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement (19%). For the HSC treatments, cells were derived from peripheral blood (70%) or bone marrow (29%): 61% of them were used to treat cardiovascular disorders, mainly

periperhal artery disease or decubitus and leg ulcers, and 25% for musculoskeletal/rheumatological indications, mainly bone repair. All chondrocyte preparations were for cartilage and bone repair. Keratinocytes were almost exclusively used for either skin reconstruction or reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement. Only a small number of patients (40) were treated with dendritic cells, here identified as a cell source for the first time. These cells were used for solid tumor (29 patients), arthritis and liver insufficiency. The cell source "other" (i.e., not among those foreseen in the form) was reported for 183 (8%) patients. The teams also reported the use of combinational treatments, for example, fat cells augmented with monocytes from peripheral blood cells (in reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement or chondrocytes with allogeneic MSC for cartilage repair). These could not be consistently captured by the format of the questionnaire and data display, but are worth being qualitatively mentioned here since they are in line with recently published trends.<sup>8,9</sup> The use of hybrid products such as these, combining cell types or combining cells with bone marrow fraction or blood-derived additives, is clearly on the rise and will need to be monitored in a revised survey edition in future years.

# Cell processing and delivery mode

Of all the grafted products, just under half underwent cell expansion (46%), 3% (55 patients only) were transduced, and 17% were sorted (Table 2). Ninety-two percent of cardiovascular, 53% of musculoskeletal/rheumatological, and 45% of neurological indications were treated with nonexpanded cells, while gastrointestinal indications were mainly treated (60%) with expanded cells. Expanded cells



**FIG. 2.** Comparative analysis of indications for cellular and engineered tissue therapies in Europe from 2009 to 2013, sorted by donor type. Data used for this chart were derived from the current study and four previous reports.<sup>3–7</sup>

Table 2. Number of Reported Cellular and Engineered Tissue Therapy Treatments in Europe in 2013 Sorted by Processing Mode

				Cell process	ing			
Indications	Nonexp.	Expanded	Untransduced	Transduced	Unsorted	Sorted	Automated	Manual
Cardiovascular								
Peripheral artery disease	131		131		130	1	119	12
Cardiomyopathy	63		63		7	56	58	5
Heart failure	26	11	14	23	37			37
Myocardial ischemia	41	16	57		45	12	16	41
Decubitus + leg ulcers	129	6	135		135	12	129	6
Other/unspecified	3	O	3		3		3	U
*			3		3		3	
Musculoskeletal/rheumatologi	cal							
Bone repair (maxillofacial)	75		75		75		75	
Bone repair (orthopedics)	48	23	71		56	15	45	26
Osteogenesis imperfecta		1	1		1			1
Cartilage repair	112	373	483	2	284	201	87	398
(orthopedics)								
Muscle repair	4	2	6		4	2	2	4
Tendon/ligament	11	40	51		48	3	5	46
Reconstructive surgery/	200	6	206		206	Ü	154	52
tissue enhancement	200	O	200		200		131	32
Scleroderma	14	8	22		22			22
Arthritis	62	6	68		27	41	45	23
	2	4			4	2	2	4
Other/unspecified	2	4	6		4	2	Z	4
Neurological								
Multiple sclerosis	4	18	22		21	1	7	15
Amyotrophic lateral	11	9	20		20		11	9
sclerosis								
Parkinson's	3		3			3		3
Peripheral nerve	4		4			4		4
regeneration (trauma)	-		·			•		•
Other/unspecified	8	10	18		10	8		18
•	Ö	10	10		10	O		10
Gastrointestinal		• •						
Crohn's disease	13	20	33		33			33
Liver insufficiency	6	8	10	4	12	2		14
Hematology/oncology								
GvHD prevention	23	333	353	3	354	2		356
or treatment	23	333	333	3	331	_		330
HSC graft enhancement	1	47	48		44	4	1	47
_	1	47	40		44	7	1	47
Miscellaneous					- <del>-</del>			
Skin reconstruction—burns	42	23	65		65		42	23
Cornea repair		1	1		1			1
Diabetes	6		6		6			6
Solid tumor	38	18	45	11	44	12	11	45
Other	95	23	106	12	106	12	13	105
Total	1175	1006	2126	55	1800	381	825	1356
1 Ota 1	11/3	1000	2120	33	1000	301	023	1330

nonexp, nonexpanded.

were also used for 94% of hematology/oncology treatments and 35% of treatments for skin reconstruction.

Cell sorting was applied predominantly for musculo-skeletal/rheumatological (69% of all sorted cells) and cardiovascular indications (18% of all sorted cells). 264 patients with musculoskeletal/rheumatological indications (27% of all patients in this group), of whom 201 were treated for cartilage repair, received treatment with sorted cells as did 69 patients with cardiovascular indications (16% of all patients in this group).

Of the 39% of cells reported to be processed using an automated device, most were used to treat musculoskeletal/rheumatological (50%) and cardiovascular (39%) indications.

Thirty-three percent of the cells were delivered intravenously or intra-arterially. Of the remaining 67% (intra-organ delivery), 37% used a membrane/scaffold, 28% a suspension, and 2% a gel (Table 3). Intravenous (i.v.) or intra-arterial (i.a.) delivery was reported for all hematology/oncology treatments (56% of all i.v. and i.a. treatments) and for 74% of gastrointestinal indications. Eighty-five percent of treatments delivered through a gel were for musculoskeletal/rheumatological indications (for either bone and cartilage repair or scleroderma). The use of a suspension for cell delivery was reported mainly for musculoskeletal/rheumatological (55%) and cardiovascular (28%) indications, while the use of a membrane/ scaffold was split between musculoskeletal/rheumatological

Table 3. Number of Reported Cellular and Engineered Tissue Therapy Treatments in Europe in 2013 Sorted by Delivery Mode

	Cell delivery mode						
			Intra-o	rgan			
Indications	i.v. or i.a	Suspension	Gel	Membrane/scaffold			
Cardiovascular							
Peripheral artery disease	17	26		88			
Cardiomyopathy	2	61					
Heart failure	3	34					
Myocardial ischemia	9	48					
Decubitus + leg ulcers		2		133			
Other/unspecified	3						
Musculoskeletal/rheumatological							
Bone repair (maxillofacial)				75			
Bone repair (orthopedics)		16	13	42			
Osteogenesis imperfect		1					
Cartilage repair (orthopedics)	70	166	18	231			
Muscle repair	2	4					
Tendon/ligament	12	14		25			
Reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement		65		141			
Scleroderma	14		8				
Arthritis		64		4			
Other/unspecified		2		4			
Neurological							
Multiple sclerosis	18	4					
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	9	11					
Parkinson's		3					
Peripheral nerve regeneration (trauma)		4					
Other/unspecified	5	13					
Gastrointestinal							
Crohn's disease	25	8					
Liver insufficiency	10	4					
Hematology/oncology							
GvHD prevention or treatment	356						
HSC graft enhancement	48						
Miscellaneous							
Skin reconstruction—burns		5		60			
Cornea repair		5		1			
Diabetes	6			1			
Solid tumor	14	36		6			
Other	94	17	7	v			
TOTAL	717	608	46	810			
IOIAL	/1/	000	40	010			

i.a, intra-arterial; i.v., intravenous.

(64%), decubitus and leg ulcers (16%), peripheral artery disease (11%), and skin reconstruction (burns) (7%).

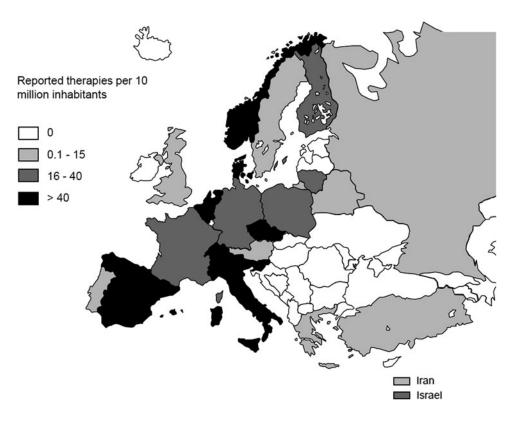
Treatments for both musculoskeletal/rheumatological and cardiovascular indications were predominantly delivered through membrane/scaffold (53% and 52%, respectively) or suspension (40% and 34%, respectively), with 92% of treatments for skin reconstruction (burns) administered through membrane/scaffold. No neurological or gastrointestinal indications were treated using a gel or membrane/scaffold. As this revised approach to recording the mode of delivery was introduced with this survey, no identification of trends is possible.

# Transplant rates and active teams

Reported cellular and engineered tissue therapies were performed in a limited number of countries and with different intensity. Figure 3 displays the reported transplants per 10 million inhabitants in the different European and EBMT-associated countries. The highest transplant rates (i.e., >40 per 10 million population) were reported in (in decreasing order) Slovenia, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Norway, and Switzerland.

The number of teams reporting cellular and tissue-engineered therapies were also mapped in the different European and EBMT-associated countries after normalization to the inhabitant numbers (Fig. 4). The number of reporting teams per 10 million inhabitants were higher than 4 in Slovenia, Finland, Belgium, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Spain (again in decreasing order).

As of last year, the top 10 countries (out of 31 total) accounted for 85% of all patients treated.

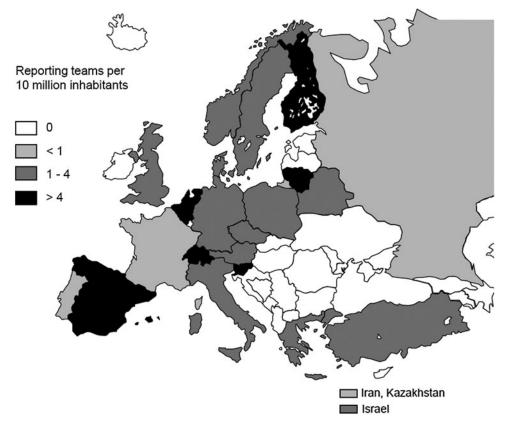


**FIG. 3.** Number of cellular and engineered tissue therapies per 10 million inhabitants reported in Europe in 2013.

Treatments as part of a clinical trial versus individualized treatment or routine therapy

With this survey, teams were asked for the first time to report if patients were treated with cells/engineered tissues

in the context of a clinical trial, as individualized/single case treatment, or as a routine therapy. Where information was provided (from 77 teams for 1479 patients, 70% of total patient number), 46% of patients were treated as routine therapy, 34% as part of a clinical trial, and 20% as



**FIG. 4.** Number of teams per 10 million inhabitants reporting cellular and engineered tissue therapies in Europe in 2013.

individualized/single cases. Fourteen teams reported treating 675 patients with routine therapies: most (58%) were treated for musculoskeletal and rheumatological indications (of which 38% for reconstructive surgery/tissue enhancement and 50% for cartilage and bone repair), followed by cardiovascular disorders (32%, of which 60% for decubitus and leg ulcers and 40% for peripheral artery disease) and 6% for skin reconstruction following burns. Importantly, 64% of the treatments reported as "routine therapy" involved the use of fat- and/or peripheral blood-derived cells. Of the 33 teams who reported treating 502 patients as part of a clinical trial, most (59%) were treated for musculoskeletal and rheumatological indications (of which 53% for cartilage repair), followed by cardiovascular disorders (15%).

#### **Discussion**

The data collected for this sixth edition of the cellular and engineered tissue therapy survey show a modest increase from the previous year in both the number of reporting teams and number of patients treated. Since the survey's inception, the total number of teams reporting the use of cellular and engineered tissue therapies has risen from 143 in 2008 to 318 in 2013, with the number of teams reporting full data rising from 33 in 2008 to 142 in 2013. At the same time, the total number of patients treated has risen from 1040 in 2008 to 2187 in 2013 (Fig. 5).

We have compared the results obtained from patients treated in 2013 for specific indications with previous years and found few significant differences. Although no patients were treated for bypass graft in 2013, numbers in previous years were also rather limited (six in 2012 and nine in 2011). The treatments for patients with heart failure accounted for 9% of all cardiovascular ones, compared to 13% and 17%, in 2011 and 2012 respectively. This reduction can most likely be attributed to changes in a limited number of highly active teams, who did not respond to the survey this time.

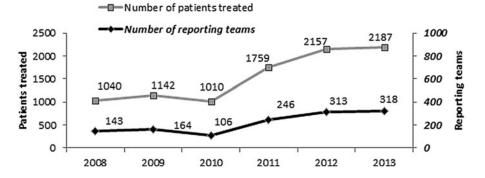
As in the previous 2 years, the most used cell source in 2013 was MSC, accounting again for around 50% of the treatments. The most represented indication for their use was again GvHD prevention or treatment (15% of all patients, 333 in all). The use of dermal fibroblasts, employed almost exclusively for skin reconstruction in previous surveys, was not reported in 2013, indicating that the promise of bilayered or composite tissue-engineered skin 10,11 is still not reflected in the clinical scenario, which is dominated by the more conventional use of keratinocytes only. The primary use of dendritic cells, although for a small number of

patients (29 patients), was related to solid tumor, consistent with last year's report, followed by arthritis and liver insufficiency.

Analysis of treatments reported as being carried out in the context of clinical trials or as a routine therapy was combined with data on associated indications and cells used. Collectively, such assessments indicate that intra-operative isolation and use of cells, predominantly in the context of plastic and reconstructive surgery, are considered a routine treatment, while procedures employing cell expansion, and therefore subject to registry under ATMP (Advanced Therapy Medicinal Product) regulations, are prevalently considered experimental and thus part of a clinical trial. This trend is consistent with the fact that ATMPs are only allowed in the routine clinical practice after having passed cell quality and efficacy indicator checks, to assure patient, provider, payer, and policy maker of the safe and effective application of expensive and personalized treatments. In the specific context of cell-based cartilage repair, we received reports indicating a roughly 50-50 split between the use within a clinical trial or as a routine therapy. Underlying this dichotomy could be the fact that cartilage cell therapy is part of the reimbursement system only in some European countries. There is currently no way to predict the development of reimbursement of cell therapy for specific indications (e.g., cartilage repair) in individual EU regions and/or countries. This will have a considerable influence on the field and affect the number of patients who can be treated in future. Such considerations indicate that treatment selection and growth, or decline of treatment choice, is greatly influenced by both political and local economic factors and related to the social healthcare systems.

The fact that 66% of patients were treated as either individualized/single cases or part of routine therapy rather than as part of a clinical trial indicates that data from clinical trials represent a subset of those presented here. Nevertheless, analysis of trends from registered clinical studies (e.g., www.clinicaltrials.gov) and of market data from companies providing expansion of cells intended for cell therapy as a service would, although challenging, be highly informative to complement the yearly survey reports. We are aware that centers where cellular therapy treatments are performed likely in significant numbers did not participate in the survey and a personalized team-hunting strategy (e.g., toward previously active or publishing teams) is only partially effective. However, the program is based on answers supplied on a voluntary basis. The most convincing incentive for active teams to report through our survey will be (1)

**FIG. 5.** Number of reporting teams and patients treated using cellular and engineered tissue therapies from 2008 to 2013. Data used for this chart were derived from the current study and previous reports.<sup>3–7</sup>



to demonstrate the increased recognition of the initiative by the field and (2) to convey the importance to further develop it through contributions which are transparently acknowledged without compromising opportunities to publish or protect clinical data.

Toward the end of 2014, IFATS, the International Federation for Adipose Therapeutics and Science, became a supporting society. This addition underlines that the survey program is continuing to receive growing recognition as a reference platform for the collection and dissemination of information that is not available in public databases or scientific publications. ISCT with its other sister societies has also been increasingly supportive of this European initiative since its inception. The international nature of most of the involved societies represents a push for widening the data collection to other world regions, with global repository of data, as well as for accelerating the process of data collection and analysis, toward more timely dissemination of the information to the Regenerative Medicine and Tissue Engineering Community. Indeed a larger collective effort will be necessary to guarantee that cell-based and tissueengineered therapies, despite the challenges to be overcome, will seriously develop into global opportunities to counteract still lethal diseases and unmet clinical needs.

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# **Disclosure statement**

No competing financial interests exist.

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Address correspondence to:

Ivan Martin, PhD
Department of Biomedicine
University Hospital Basel
University of Basel
Hebelstrasse 20
Basel CH-4031
Switzerland

E-mail: ivan.martin@usb.ch

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# Appendix:

# List of Centers Reporting Use of Cellular and Engineered Tissue Therapy in Europe in 2013

Format: City, Hospital, Department, Centre Identification Code (CIC—as used for EBMT teams in the EBMT standard survey), Physicians (Total treatments: allogeneic/ autologous)

#### Austria

Krems, University Krems, Regenerative Medicine and Orthopaedics, S. Nehrer, T. Luksch, P. Holzmann, M. Gruber (5:0/5)

Vienna, Medical University Hospital, Traumatology, S. Aldrian, C. Albrecht (4:4/0)

Vienna, Universitätsklinik für Innere Medizin-AKH, CIC 227, H. Greinix, P. Kalhs (1:1/0)

#### Belarus

Minsk, Belorussian Centre, CIC 591, N. Minakovskaya, Y. Mareika, A. Alexeichik, O. Aleinikova (15:15/0)

#### Belgium

Antwerp, Antwerp University Hospital (UZA), CIC 996, W. Schroyens, Z. Berneman (24:0/24)

Brussels, Military Hospital Queen Astrid, Burn Wound Centre, G. Verbeken (23:23/0)

Gent, University Hospital, CIC 744, L.A. Noens (1:1/0)

Leuven, University Hospital Gasthuisberg, CIC 209, J. Maertens, G. Verhoef, M. Renard (1:1/0)

Liège, CHU Liege, Gastrology, E. Louis (10:10/0)

Liège, CHU Liege, Surgery and Transplantation, M. Meurice (2:2/0)

Liège, University Hospital Sart-Tilman, CIC 726, Y. Béguin, B. de Prijck (22:22/0)

#### Czech Republic

Prague, Academy of Sciences, Institue of Experimental Medicine, E. Sykova, S. Konradova, Z. Koci, P. Markova (27:0/27)

Znojmo, General Hospital Znojmo, Orthopaedics and Traumatology, R. Hart, P. Smid, M. Komzak (29:0/29)

#### Denmark

Copenhagen, The Heart Centre Rigshospitalet, Cardiac Catherization Lab., J. Kastrup (32:0/32)

Copenhagen, University Hospital, Clinical Immunology, A. Fischer-Nielsen, E. Haastrup, R. Oliveri (6:0/6)

#### Finland

Helsinki, Children's Hospital, CIC 219, K. Vettenranta (2:2/0) Helsinki, Helsinki University Central Hospital, CIC 515, L. Volin (1:1/0)

Helsinki, HUCH Jorvi Hospital, Orthopaedics, Traumatology, T. Paatela (1:0/1)

Turku, University Central Hospital, CIC 225, M. Itälä-Remes, M. Kauppila, M. Putkonen, U. Salmenniemi, K. Remes (10:10/0)

# France

Clermont Ferrand, CHU Estaing, Centre de Biotherapie d'Auvergne, CIC 273, J. Kanold, P. Halle, J.-O. Bay (6:0/6)

Grenoble, CHU de Grenoble (St. Ismier), Unite de Therapie et d-Ingenierie Cellulaire, A. Moisan, V. Persoons, H. Egelhofer, O. Detante (14:8/6)

Marseille, Arthosport Centre, Knee Institute, M. Assor (85:85/0)

Nantes, CHU Nantes, UTCG, Institut de Biologie, CIC 253,B. Dreno, S. Saïagh, S. Bercegeay, D. Heymann, P. Chevallier (8:6/2)

Paris, Hôpital St. Louis, CIC 960, H. Dombret, L. Degos, P. Rousselot (1:0/1)

## Germany

Chemnitz, Klinikum Chemnitz GmbH, Innere Medizin III, CIC 104, M. Hänel, A. Morgner (7:7/0)

Darmstadt, Agaplesion Elisabethenstift, Klinik für Orthopädie, Unfallchirurgie und Sportmedizin, T. Schreyer (0:0/14)

Dinslaken, St. Vinzenz Hospital, Orthopädie und Unfallchirurgie, W. Zinser, F. Glahn, M. Rüter (36:0/36)

Dresden, Universitätsklinikum Carl Gustav Carus, Medizinische Klinik und Poliklinik I, CIC 808, G. Ehninger, M. Bornhäuser, M. Gahr (22:22/0)

Essen, Universitätsklinikum, CIC 259.1, O. Basu, B. Kremens (2:2/0)

Frankfurt, J. W. Goethe Universität, CIC 138, T. Klingebiel, P. Bader (3:3/0)

Frankfurt, Klinikum Frankfurt Oder, CIC 190, M. Kiehl (20:20/0)

Halle, BG-Clinic Bergmannstrost, Neurosurgery, H.J. Meisel (13:0/13)

Hannover, Hannover Medical School (MHH), Haematology, Haemostasis, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation, CIC 295.1, A. Ganser, J. Krauter (7:1/6)

Hannover, Medizinische Hochschule, CIC 295.2, C. Kratz, K.W. Sykora (1:1/0)

Homburg/Saar, Universitätsklinikum Saarlandes, Experimental Orthopädie, H. Madry (8:0/8)

Munich, Klinikum Schwabing, C.M. Wendtner, N. Fischer (1:1/0)

Munich, Technische Universität München, Paediatrics, CIC 189, S. Burdach, A. Wawer, I. Teichert- von Lüttichau (2:2/0) Münster, Universitätklinikum Münster, CIC 505, H. Jürgens, K. Ehlert (1:1/0)

Tübingen, Universitätsklinikum, CIC 535, R. Handgretinger, P. Lang (6:3/3)

Würzburg, Universitätsklinikum, CIC 196, P. Schlegel (1:1/0)

#### Greece

Athens, Academy of Athens Biomedical Research Foundation, Hellenic Cord Blood Bank, A.C. Papassavas, T.T. Chatzistamatiou, E. Michalopoulos, C. Stavropoulos-Giokas (15:0/15) Athens, University of Athens, CIC 604, P. Tsirigotis (1:1/0)

# Iran, Islamic Rep.

Shiraz, Nemazee Hospital, Shiraz University Medical Sciences, CIC 188, M. Ramzi (15:0/15)

Teheran, Shariati Hospital, CIC 633, A. Ghavamzadeh, M. Jahani (7:7/0)

#### **Israel**

Jerusalem, Hadassah University Hospital, CIC 258, R. Or, S. Slavin (16:16/0)

Petach-Tikva, Children's Medical Centre, CIC 755, J. Stein (1:1/0)

Tel Hashomer, Edmond and Lily Safra Children's Hospital, Sheba Medical Centre, CIC 572, A. Toren, B. Bielorai, G. Goldstein, D. Hutt (11:11/0)

#### Italy

Bologna, 6th div Rizzoli Orth. Institute, RIT- Cell Factory, L. Roseti, A. Bassi, A. Maso (5:0/5)

Bologna, Hospital St. Orsola, CIC 240, G. Bandini, M. Cavo, F. Bonifazi (2:0/2)

Bologna, Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, 3rd Orthopaedic and Traumatology Clinic, D. Donati (24:0/24)

Cagliari, Ospedale per le Microcitemie, CIC 811.2, M. Orofino (1:1/0)

Florence, AOU Careggi, BMT Unit, CIC 304, A. Bosi, R. Saccardi, S. Guidi (4:0/4)

Genova, Istituto Giannina Gaslini, CIC 274, G. Dini, E. Lanino (1:1/0)

Milan, Istituto Scientifico H.S. Raffaele; Univ. Milan\*, Stem Cells Research Centre; Dept Neurological Sciences\*, CIC 813, G. Cossu, F. Ciceri; Y. Torrente\* (2:2/0)

Milan, OASI Bio-research Foundation, Ortho. Arthro. Surgery Int., A. Gobbi, D. Lad (47:0/47)

Milan, University of Milan IRCCS, CIC 265, A. Cortelezzi, E. Tagliaferri (1:1/0)

Monza, Ospedale San Gerardo, CIC 279, A. Rovelli (5:5/0) Rome, Università "La Sapienza," Experimental Medicine, C. Marchese, E. Vescarelli, S. Ceccarelli, C. Nodale (21:0/21)

Rome, University Tor Vergata, Reconstructive Surgery, V. Cervelli, D.J. Bottini, B. De Angelis (473:42/431)

#### Kazakhstan

Astana, National Research Centre for Oncology and Transplantation, I. Pivovarova (2:2/0)

## Lithuania

Vilnius, Santariskiu Klinikos, CIC 644, L. Griskevicius, I. Trociukas (11:11/0)

Vilnius, University Children's Hospital, CIC 508, J. Rascon (2:1/1)

#### **Netherlands**

Amsterdam, Antoni Van Leeuwenhoek Cancer Institute, CIC 976, S. Rodenhuis, J. Baars (1:0/1)

Amsterdam, VU Medical Centre, Dermatology, S. Gibbs (4:4/0)

Amsterdam, VU University Medical Centre, CIC 588, E. Meijer, G.J. Ossenkoppele (6:6/0)

Groningen, University Hospital, CIC 546, G. van Imhoff (2:2/0)

Leiden, University Hospital, CIC 203, J.H. Veelken, M. Egeler, P.A. von dem Borne (51:14/37)

Rotterdam, Erasmus Medical University Centre, Orthopaedics, S. de Jonge, R.-J. de Vos, J.A.N. Verhaar, J.L. Tol (12:0/12)

Utrecht, UMC, Orthopaedic Surgery, D. Saris (70:6/64) Utrecht, UMCU/WKZ, CIC 239.2, M. Bierings, N.M. Wullffraat (7:7/0) Utrecht, University Hospital UMCU, CIC 239.1, E. Petersen (23:23/0)

#### Norway

Oslo, Oslo University Hospital, *Ex vivo* cell lab, Dept. Immunology, CIC 235, J. Brinchmann (2:0/2)

Tromso, University Hospital North Norway, Orthopaedic Surgery, G. Knutsen (20:0/20)

#### **Poland**

Bydgoszcz, Nicolaus Copernicus University, CIC 764, M. Wysocki, J. Styczynski, R. Debski (2:2/0)

Cracow, University Children's Hospital JUMC, Transplantation, CIC 507, J. Gozdzik, W. Czogala, O. Wiecha, S. Skoczen (3:3/0)

Katowice, Regional Blood Centre, Tissue Bank Department, H. Bursig, A. Wysocka–Wycisk, P. Sitek, A. Kurzak (13:0/13)

Lublin, Children's University Hospital, Haematology, Oncology, Transplantation, CIC 678, J. Kowalczyk, K. Drabko, A. Zaucha-Prazmo (1:1/0)

Warsaw, Carolina Medical Centre, R. Smigielski, Z. Pojda (51:0/51)

Warsaw, Maria Sklodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Centre and Institute of Oncology, CIC 800, S. Mazur, Z. Pojda (27:0/27)

Wroclaw, Lower Silesian Centre, BM Donor Registry, CIC 538, A. Lange (2:0/2)

# **Portugal**

Lisbon, Instituto Portugues de Oncologia, CIC 300, M. Abecasis (1:1/0)

### **Russian Federations**

Moscow, Federal Research Centre, Pediatric Haematology, CIC 694, A. Maschan, D. Balachov (22:22/0)

Moscow, Research Haematology Centre of RAS, CIC 930, V.G. Savtchenko (30:30/0)

Moscow, The Russian Children's Research Hospital, CIC 411, E. Skorobogatova (3:3/0)

St. Petersburg, Pavlov Medical University, CIC 725, B.V. Afanasyev, L. Zubarovskaya (32:6/26)

St. Petersburg, Russian Research Institute of Haematology, BMTU, K.M. Abdulkadyerov, S. Voloshin, A. Kuzyaeva, I. Iapreeya (9:0/9)

#### Slovenia

Ljublijana, Educell d.o.o, N. Kregar-Velikonja (3:0/3)

Ljublijana, UMC Ljubljana, Advanced Heart Failure and Transplantation Centre, B. Vrtovec, G. Poglajen, M. Sever, G. Zemljic (38:0/38)

Ljublijana, University Medical Centre, Haematology, CIC 640, S. Zver, J. Pretnar (30:0/30)

# Spain

Barcelona, Hospital Clinic, CIC 214, M. Rovira (6:1/5)

Barcelona, Hospital Quirón Teknon, ITRT, Institut de Teàpia Regenerativa Tissular, L. Orozco, A. Munar, R. Soler, F. Soler (116:7/109)

Cadiz, Hospital de Jérez, CIC 612, S. Garzon (1:1/0)

Cordoba, Hospital Reina Sofia, CIC 238, A. Torres-Gomez, I. Herrera (26:2/24)

Granada, Hospital Virgen de la Nieves, Serv. Hematologia y Hemoterapia, CIC 559, M. Jurado Chacon, L. Moratalla López, A. Romero Aguilar, E. López Fernández (1:1/0)

- Leon, Hospital Universitario de Leon, CIC 426, F. Ramos, N. de las Heras (1:0/1)
- Madrid, Clinica CEMTRO, Traumatology and Orthopaedics, P. Guillén-García, I. Guillen-Vicente, M. Guillen-Vicente, S. Arauz de Robles (20:0/20)
- Madrid, Fundacion Jimenez Diaz, CIC 309, J.L. Lopez-Lorenzo (0:0/0)
- Madrid, Hospital de la Princesa, CIC 236, A. Figuera, A. Alegre (3:3/0)
- Madrid, Hospital Doce de Octubre, CIC 382, J.J. Lahuerta, J. de la Serna (3:0/3)
- Madrid, Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Maranon, CIC 819, J.L. Diez-Martin (14:6/8)
- Madrid, Hospital Uni Materno Infantil Gregorio Maranon, CIC 410, C. Belendez (3:0/3)
- Madrid, Hospital Universitario Puerta de Hierro, CIC 728, J.R. Cabrera Martin (8:8/0)
- Murcia, Hospital Virgen de la Arrixaca, CIC 323, J.M. Moraleda (19:0/19)
- Palma de Mallorca, USP Clinica Palmaplanas, Stem Centre SL, S. Dos Anjos Vilaboa (18:0/18)
- Pamplona, Clinica Universitaria de Navarra, Cell Therapy Area, F. Prosper Cardoso, E.J. Andreu, S. Inoges, A. Lopez (143:7/136)
- Pamplona, Clinica Universitaria de Navarra, CIC 737, J. Rifon (1:1/0)
- Pamplona, Hospital de Navarra, CIC 577, E. Olavarria (6:6/0) Salamanca, Complejo Hospital, CIC 727, D. Caballero (18:18/0)
- Santiago de Compostela, Hospital Clinico Universitario, CIC 570, J.L. Bello Lopez (2:2/0)
- Valencia, Hospital Clinico Universitario, CIC 282, C. Solano (1:1/0)

#### Sweden

- Linköping, RIL, University Hospital, CIC 740, A. Sandstedt, K. Le Blanc (1:1/0)
- Uppsala, University Hospital, CIC 266, K. Carlson (3:3/0)

#### **Switzerland**

- Basel, University Hospital, Traumatology, M. Jakob, F. Saxer, M. Mumme (10:0/10)
- Geneva, Concept Clinic, K.-U. Schlaudraff (19:0/19)
- Lugano, Cardiocentro Ticino, Cardiology, D. Sürder, T. Moccetti, L. Turchetio, M. Radrizzahi (3:0/3)
- Zurich, Universitäts Kinderklinik, CIC 334, T. Güngör, F. Scherer (1:1/0)

# **Turkey**

Adana, Baskent University of Adana, CIC 589, H. Ozdogu, C. Boga, S. Asma, S. Yuce (2:2/0)

- Ankara, Children's Hospital, B. Tunc, F.M. Azik (1:1/0) Ankara, Gazi University, Besevler, CIC 169, G. Sucak (1:1/0) Ankara, University of Ankara, CIC 620, E. Unal, M. Ertem (5:5/0)
- Antalya, Medical Park Antalya Hospital, Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation Unit, CIC 911, A. Yesilipek (5:5/0)
- Antalya, Medical Park Hospitals, CIC 919, Y. Koc (1:1/0) Gaziantep, Gaziantep University Medical School, CIC 402, M. Pehlivan (3:3/0)
- Istanbul, Acibadem University Atakent Hospital, CIC 457, G. Öztürk, F. Erbey (6:6/0)
- Istanbul, Cerrahpasa Medical School Istanbul University, BMT Unit, CIC 761, T. Soysal, S.O. Aydin (1:1/0)
- Istanbul, Medical Park Goztepe Hospital, CIC 929, G. Karasu, O. Dogru (5:5/0)
- Istanbul, University of Istanbul, CIC 760, M. Aktan (4:4/0) Kayseri, Erciyes University Faculty of Medicine, CIC 627.2, M. Karakukcu (1:1/0)
- Kocaeli, Anadolu Saglik Merkezi, CIC 440, Z. Gülbas (2:2/0) Kozyatagi, Istanbul, Acibadem Kozyatagi Hospital, S. Ratip (2:2/0)

# **United Kingdom**

- Birmingham, Heartlands Hospital, CIC 284, E. Nikolousis, S. Paneesha (3:3/0)
- Birmingham, The Birmingham Children's Hospital, CIC 781, S. Lawson (8:8/0)
- London, Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust, CIC 205, J. Apperley, E. Olavarria, E. Kanfer, A. Rahemtulla, R. Szydlo (9:9/0)
- London, King's College Hospital, CIC 763, G. Mufti, A. Pagliuca (1:1/0)
- London, London Chest Hospital, Cardiac Research, A. Mathur, S. Hamshere (3:0/3)
- London, St Mary's Hospital, CIC 866, J. de La Fuente (3:3/0) London, The Royal Free Hospital, CIC 216, S. Mackinnon (2:2/0)
- Manchester, Royal Children's Hospital, CIC 521, R. Wynn (2:2/0)
- Manchester, University Manchester, CT Unit, R. Guest (7:0/7) Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Hospitals Foundation Trust, Cellular Therapy Facility, A.M. Dickinson, D. Bradley (13:0/13)
- Oswestry, RJAH Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital, P. Harrison (29:0/29)
- Sheffield, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Haematology, CIC 778, J. Snowden, A. Vora (7:4/3)
- Southampton, CRC Wessex, CIC 704, A. Duncombe, D. Richardson (2:2/0)