

CGA/18/33 - Autologous osteogenic stem cells to prevent and heal non-union fracture

Failure of fracture healing (non-union) is a serious condition whereby the ends of a broken bone do not fuse. This affects all ages, causing major incapacity, with a loss of independence and an inability to work. About 1000 new cases are diagnosed yearly in Scotland alone. This project explores the use of the patient's own stem cells to heal the fracture, and is backed by encouraging results obtained in animals. Owing to progress made to identify patients at risk for non-union, stem cell based early interventions have the potential to prevent this morbidity and reduce treatment costs.