

Polish scientists awarded at the congress of the Association of Tissue Banks

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Scientists from the Regional Center of Blood Donation and Treatment (RCKiK) in the southern Polish city of Katowice have developed an innovative method of autologous preparation for the transplantation of human chondrocytes, i.e. cells of the cartilage tissue.

The technology may be used in treating damaged knees. The project for a special chondrocyte carrier - a glue based on fibrinogens (plasma glycoprotein) made from patients' blood developed by RCKiK was awarded at the 18th International Congress of the European Association of Tissue Banks (EATB). The project was awarded in the competition for young scientists.

250 scientists from Europe, Israel, the USA, South Korea, Australia and Argentina attended the congress which took place in Krakow earlier this month. Participants exchanged views and experiences on current methods and research projects concerning transplanting human cells, tissues and the introduction of advanced therapies.

The main prize for the best presentation was awarded to Patrycja Malinowska from the Katowice Tissue Bank. "The project showed possibilities of stabilizing human chondrocyte carriers with the use of gel made from fibrinogens. The project was part of the Katowice Tissue Bank's research on possibilities of transplanting human chondrocytes in cases of knee damage" an organizer told the Polish News Agency.

Autologous transplant of chondrocytes consists in taking a fragment of undestroyed cartilage, reproducing it with the usage of in vitro methods. The processed cartilage is then introduced in the place of the damaged cartilage. (PAIIZ)