Experimental use of fibrin glue to induce site-directed osteogenesis

from cultured periosteal cells.

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Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to determine whether a combination of fibrin glue and cultured

periosteal cells will result in new bone formation at heterotopic sites in nude mice. Growing cells and

developing matrices surrounding periosteal explants from the diaphyses of radii of newborn calves

were minced and mixed with fibrin glue in a syringe. The cell/matrix-fibrin glue admixture was then

injected into the subcutaneous space on the dorsum of athymic nude mice. After 12 weeks of

implantation, gross morphology and histologic investigations showed newly formed bone structures

in all cell/matrix-fibrin glue admixtures, but none in fibrin glue injected alone and used as control

samples. Osteopontin, a protein important in bone development, was identified by a Western blot

assay of the cell/matrix-fibrin glue composite. This study supports the feasibility of initiating site-

directed formation of bone structures at heterotopic tissue sites by means of injection of cultured

periosteal cells and matrix in a fibrin glue carrier.