Tissue engineering of human cartilage for reconstructive surgery using biocompatible, resorbable fibrin glue with polymer structures.

[German]

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Publication Date: 1996

Abstract:

Current practical approaches in cartilage engineering still face problems with threedimensional cell

distribution or require components for cell immobilization, raising biocompatibility problems. In this

study, we present a new model using cells cross-linked by fibrin within biocompatible resorbable

polymers. Both components have been in clinical use for a long time. Immunohistochemical

procedures showed that this model provides optimal requirements for in vitro cartilage production.

Immunochemically, cartilage-specific extracellular components such as proteoglycan, chondroitin

sulfate and collagen II were characterized. Histomorphological methods showed a mechanically

stable tissue compound that lasted for at least 5 weeks. This model may be the first to provide all

biocompatible requirements for in vitro production of autologous cartilage transplants for

reconstructive surgery.