RESEARCH ARTICLE



Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation and Differentiation of Synovial Membrane-derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells (SM-MSCs) from Osteoarthritis Patients

Marlina¹, Rizki Rahmadian¹, Armenia¹, Wahyu Widowati², Rizal³, Hanna Sari Widya Kusuma³, Satrio Haryo Benowo Wibowo³, Wahyu Setia Widodo³, Ika Adhani Sholihah³

¹Faculty of Pharmacy, Andalas University, Padang, Indonesia
 ²Medical Research Center, Faculty of Medicine, Maranatha Christian University, Bandung, Indonesia
 ³Biomolecular and Biomedical Research Centre, Aretha Medika Utama, Bandung, Indonesia

Background: Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) are the cells which have high renewal capacity and and are capable for differentiating into some types of cells. MSCs can be obtained from several tissues including bone marrow, synovial membrane, blood, adipose tissue and periosteum. The proliferation and self-repair ability of MSCs are the advantages to use as stem cells-based therapy of various diseases. The aim of this study was to determine the differentiation, characterization and proliferation of synovial membrane-derived MSCs (SM-MSCs).

Materials and Methods: The cells proliferation capacity was determined by cell counting using trypan blue, characterization of MSCs (cluster of differentiation (CD)90, CD11b, CD73, CD34, CD19, CD45, CD105 and human leukocyte antigen-DR isotype (HLA-DR)) using flow cytometry analysis, and differentiation capability into three lineage cells was determined with red alcian blue, oil red O and alizarin staining.

Results: The type culture of SM-MSCs was adherent and showed positive CD44, CD105, CD73, CD90 and negative of CD19, HLA-DR, CD11b, CD45, CD34 surface marker. Based on the result, SM-MSCs P3 showed differentiation potency into adipogenic, chondrogenic, and osteogenic lineage cells. The population doubling time of SM-MSCs has increased from P3 to P8. The population doubling time of SM-MSCs P3 was 1.69 days and SM-MSCs P8 was 3.64 days.

Conclusion: The results indicated that SM-MCSCs from osteoarthritis patients are able to differentiate into osteocytes, chondrocytes, adipocytes and highly express of CD105, CD73, CD90, CD44 and negative for CD34, CD45, CD14, CD19.

Keywords: synovial membrane, mesenchymal stromal cells, adipocyte, chondrocyte, osteocyte

Introduction

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common disease in the joints associated with disability and pain.¹ The prevalence of OA

Date of submission: July 16, 2019 Last Revised: August 21, 2019 Accepted for publication: August 23, 2019

Corresponding Author: Wahyu Widowati Medical Research Center, Faculty of Medicine Maranatha Christian University Jl. Surya Sumantri, Bandung, Indonesia e-mail: wahyu_w60@yahoo.com increases due to aging and an increase in related factors such as obesity. Radiographic evidence of knee OA is present in about 30% of men and women over the age of 65 years. Estimates around the world are that 9.6% of men and 18.0%





of women over the age of 60 have symptomatic OA. About 80% of those with OA will have limitations in movement, and 25% cannot carry out their daily activities.^{2,3} OA is one of degenerative diseases in old age population. The disease damage joints and bones around it, and leading to chronic disability.⁴ The main target of OA is cartilage tissue, and the starting point for OA is cartilage damage or loss.⁵ The rate of chondrocytes regeneration as the component of cartilage tissue was decreased in older people⁶, as a result, therapy is needed to cure OA. Unfortunately, the existing OA therapy has been used drugs administration and surgery for total joint replacement.7 This therapy is not effective because long-term drug administration causes negative effects on the other organs such as cardiovascular, kidneys, and digestive system.^{8,9} Consequently, an alternative therapy is necessary to regenerate damaged articular cartilage.

Chondrocytes are the main cellular component of cartilage, which is widely used for OA treatment.Autologous chondrocytes implantation (ACI) is a biomedical treatment cell-based for OA patients, the procedure takes place in three stages including cartilage isolation, cell grown *in vitro* and cell implantation to patient.¹⁰ But this therapy still has various disadvantages, for example surgery that causes cartilage damage, dedifferentiation in chondrocytes and has lower regeneration potency.¹¹ Therefore, another approach is required for regeneration of cartilage in OA patients.

Stem cells can be used in tissue regeneration, for stem cells have the ability to differentiate and self-renew at the time of embryonic stage, in which cells can proliferate into tissue or certain organs during the developmental process.¹² Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) can differentiate into adipocytes, chondrocytes and osteocytes.^{13,14} MSCs can be isolated from various sources such as bone marrow (BM-MSCs), adipose tissues (AT-MSCs), umbilical cords (UC-MSCs), Wharton's jelly (WJ-MSCs), synovial tissues (ST-MSCs), and other tissues.^{15,16}

MSCs isolated from synovial membrane (SM) have ability to differentiate into chondrocytes that very suitable for cartilage regeneration therapy. MSCs are able to fuse with cartilage defects, proliferate, regenerate articular cartilage, reduce the concentration of synovial fluid from prostaglandin¹⁷ and reduce the progressiveness of OA.¹⁸ Future research should be directed at addressing the gap in diagnostics and therapy for OA. Hence, research on the potential of SM from OA patients in its use as autologous therapy necessary to be done. The objective of this study was to determine the character, differentiation and proliferation of synovial cells of membranes P4 and P8 isolated from patients with OA.

Materials and methods

MSCs Isolation from SM

SMs were obtained from three knee in patients with OA from Dr. M. Djamil Hospital, Padang, Indonesia. The patients have signed the informed consent using the guidelines approved by Research Ethics Committee, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Andalas, Padang, Indonesia (No. 226/ KEP/FK/2019). SMs then washed using phosphate buffer saline (PBS) (Catalogue #14200075, Gibco, Massachusetts, USA), 1% antibiotic and antimycotic (ABAM) (Catalogue #15240062, Gibco) and 1% Amphotericin B (Catalogue #15290026, Gibco). SMs were cut into small pieces and washed, cleased from skin and fat. The synovial membranes were put into centrifuge tube (Catalogue #50015, SPL, Pocheon, South Korea) containing Collagenase enzyme type I (Catalogue #17100017, Gibco), Hyaluronidase (Catalogue #H-3506, Sigma Aldrich, Massachusetts, USA) and Trypsin-EDTA 0.1% (Catalogue #25200072, Gibco). The tube stored in CO₂ resistant shaker (Catalogue #SHKE2000CO₂, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Massachusetts, USA) at 300 rpm for 16 hours in the incubator (Catalogue #8000DH, Thermo Fisher Scientific) of 5% CO₂ and 37°C.¹⁶ The remaining SM was removed, and the supernatant was centrifuged (MPW-260R, Warsaw, Poland) at 1600 rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatant was removed, and the pellet was mixed with complete medium: Mem- α (Catalogue #32561037, Gibco) which supplemented by 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS) (Catalogue #10270106, Gibco), and 1% ABAM, 1% Amphotericin B addition. SM-MSCs was cultured at density of 2x10⁶ cells in T-flask 25cm² (Catalogue #90026, TPP, Trasadingen, Switzerland). The cells were incubated on T-flask 25cm³ at 5% CO₂ and 37°C incubator.¹⁹

SM-MSCs Surface Markers Characterization

The SM-MSCs reached 80% confluence were harvested for analyzing the positive and negative cluster differentiation (CD) markers (Fowcytometry analyzer 10, Macsquant, California, USA). The cells were stained with hMSCs analysis kit (Caltalogue#562245, BD stem flowTM Kit, New Jersey, USA) and the procedure was according to the manufacture protocol. The experiments and measurement were performed in triplicate.^{18,20}

Differentiation Capability of SM-MSCs

The osteogenic differentiation, SM-MSCs (P4 and P8) were seeded at density $5x10^3$ in 24 well plate (Catalogue #142475, Nunc, Massachusetts, USA) using StemPro Osteogenesis Differentiation Kit (Catalogue #A10072-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. Osteocytes were visualized using Alizarin Red S (Catalogue #A5533, Sigma Aldrich).

The chondrogenic differentiation, SM-MSCs (P4, P8) were seeded 5x10³ cells 24 well plate using StemPro Chondrogenesis Differentiation Kit (Catalogue# A10071-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. Chondrocytes were confirmed using Alcian blue (Catalogue#A5268, Sigma Aldrich).

Adipogenic differentiation of SM-MSCs was executed by StemPro Adipogenic Differentiation Kit (Catalogue #A10070-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. To confrim lipid droplets in the culture as the marker of adiponic differentiation using Oil Red O staining (Catalogue #00625, Sigma Aldrich).^{13,21}

Population Doubling (PD) Time of SM-MSCs

P4-P8 of SM-MSCs in T75 flask were detached by 3 mL of trypsin-EDTA 0.25% (Catalogue #25200072, Gibco) and was incubated at 5% CO₂ and 37°C incubator for 3 minutes. The complete medium was added to stop the trypsin and the cells were centrifugated at 1600 rpm for 5 minutes. The obtained pellet was added with 1 mL complete medium. The cells were counted by a hemocytometer (Catalogue #17849, Neubauer, Lauda-Königshofen, Germany) using 1:1 Trypan Blue (Catalogue #T8154, Sigma Aldrich) as the stain. PD was counted at every passage with formula: PD = LOG (Harvest/Seeded)/ LOG_2 .²² Meanwhile, the PD time (PDT) was determined by this formula: PDT = t (time)/PD (in days).¹⁸

Statistical Analysis

Statistical was analyzed with Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) statistics version 20.0 software (IBM Corporation, New York, USA). Value was provided as mean±standard deviation. Significant diversity between the groups were determined using the analysis of variance (One Way ANOVA) followed by Tukey's HSD Post-hoc test.

Results

SM-MSCs Characteristic

Figure 1 showed the culture SM-MSCs at P4 as the result of cells isolation from OA patients. SM-MSCs exhibited adherent of culture, resulted, and elongated in spindleshaped cells. SM-MSCs exhibited adherent type of culture, elongated and resulted in spindle-shaped cells. In Figure 2 and Table 1, SM-MSCs that was isolated from OA patients at P4 and P8 showed negative expression for CD34, CD11b, CD45, CD19 and HLA-DR, yet showed high expression for CD44, CD90, CD73 and CD105. The two different passages, P4 (early) and P8 (intermediate) of the cells showed no difference CD markers expression. Both P4 and P8 were detected to have the same level expression of certain positive and negative surface markers.

Differentiation of MSCs

The result of SM-MSCs differentiation into 3 different types of cells. They were chondrocyte, adipocyte, and osteocyte as shown in Figure 3. There was no difference result of differentiation between P4 and P8 from the qualitative staining result. Osteogenic showed positive result by the red color and confirmed by the accumulation of calcium deposit which detected by Alizarin Red S. Glycosaminoglycan as well as the marker of chondrogenesis could be identified with Alcian Blue staining as specific polyvalent dye that was used to identify acidic polysaccharides. As can be seen in the Figure 3, the cells were associated in the process of chondrogenic differentiation and stained as blackish blue. Oil Red O was used as a dye in adipogenic differentiation which was characterized by the formation of oil droplets. Oil Red O was a diazo dye that was used to stain the lipid formation and triglycerides.^{10,19, 20,22}

PDT of SM-MSCs

PDT and cumulative population doubling (CPD) data were shown in Table 2. SM-MSCs isolated from the synovial



Figure 1. P4 of SM-MSCs culture with adherent characteristic. White bar: 200 µm.



Figure 2. The dot blot expression marker of SM-MSCs analyzed by flow cytometer. SM-MSCs was confirmed as MSCs with high expression for positive marker, CD90: 92.59%; CD73: 95.67%, and CD105: 98.33%. MSCs also low expression of negative lineage. SM-MSCs exhibited positive also expression for CD44 as the additional CD markers to define MSCs.

Passage	CD90	CD44	CD105	CD73	Negative Lineage
P4	92.52±0.15	87.02±0.58	98.34±0.02	95.15±0.59	0.42±0.18
P8	92.59±0.11	87.88±0.49	98.33±0.02	95.67±0.42	0.72±0.18

 Table 1. The different eggect of passages toward surface markers of SM-MSCs.

Data are presented as mean±standard deviation of surface markers of SM-MSCs. Negative lineage marker containing CD45, CD34, CD11b, CD19 and HLA-DR.

shows that PDT and CPD increase along with the increase of passage and was significantly different among the passages except the 5th and the 6th passage were defined as not significantly different at p<0.05. The PDT and CPD can be seen in Table 2 and were used to measure the MSCs proliferation capacity and define as a specific time for cells to undergo the cell division. PDT from P3-P8 was ranged 1.69 to 3.64 days.

Discussion

SM-MSCs from the knee of OA patient with grade IV are used because they are waste that is not used anymore. OA patient with grade IV has low quality of stemness, MSCs quantity and quality decrease with aging, limiting the potential efficacy of MSCs for therapy the elderly population.²¹ We try to develop method by utilizing waste materials and low quality. There are 3 basic criteria of the cells to be characterized as MSCs based on the International Society for Cellular Therapy, such as: 1) have differentiation capability into osteocyte, adipocyte, and chondrocyte; 2)

Table 2. PDT and CPD of SM-MSCs.

Passage	PDT (d)	CPD
Р3	1.69±0.04 ^a	1.69
P4	1.79±0.02 ^b	3.46
Р5	2.36±0.03 ^c	5.82
P6	2.33±0.03 ^c	8.15
P7	3.15 ± 0.01^{d}	11.3
P8	3.64±0.03 ^e	14.94

Data were presented as mean \pm standard deviation. Different small letters (a,b,c,d,e) in the same column are significant at *p*<0.05 (Tukey HSD post hoc test).

have the adherent type of culture; 3) have positive expression for several CD markers such as CD44, CD73, CD90, and CD105 and showed negative expression for CD45, CD14, CD34, and HLA-DR.²¹⁻²⁴ Markers characterization of the cells results in same finding with the previous study showed that the MSCs isolated different sources was also showed high expression of CD73, CD44, CD90, CD105 and low expression of CD19, CD45, CD34, CD14 and HLA-II both early (P4) and intermediate passage (P8).^{13,22,25} It also appropriate with previous study that MSCs from various sources, such as AT-MSCs had positive markers for CD90, CD73, and CD105. AT-MSCs had negative markers of CD14 or CD11b, CD34, CD19, CD45, and HLA-DR in their cellsurface immunophenotyped. Several studies also proved that MSCs have positive surface marker of CD44..^{22,26,,27} The cells isolated from SM of OA patients also conformed with previous study which SM-MSCs had positive CD44.26

According to the results, the cells isolated from the SM was considered as MSCs be able to differentiate into 3 types of cells (osteocyte, chondrocyte, adipocyte). Thus, the method has succesfully used to produce SM-MSCs and considered as the first step of application mediated therapy for OA patiens.

The PDT and CPD difference in the 5th and the 6th passage might caused by the proliferation capacity of cells were decreased at the higher passage. As indicated by MSCs derived from other sources such as BM-MSCs and AT-MSCs have relative shorter culture time, the cell growth was slower at P10-P11, at P14-P16 in umbilical cord blood MSCs (UCB-MSCs).²⁸ The PDT result are supported by previous research which explained that WJ-MSCs induced by normoxia and hypoxia 2,5% and 5% have increase in proliferation time from early passage to older passage.²² The validation SM-MSCs for OA therapy in animal is needed to confirm the isolation and characterization method. The validation of SM-MSCs for OA therapy in animal is needed to continue models should eventually follow for further study.

A. Differentiation of SM-MSCs



B. Negative Control



Figure 3. Morphology analysis of osteogenic, chondrogenic, adipogenic differentiation of SM-MSCs at P4 and P8. A1: Differentiation adipocytes P4; A2: Differentiation adipocytes P8; B1: Differentiation chondrocytes P4; B2: Differentiation osteocytes P8; C1: Differentiation osteocytes P4; C2: Differentiation osteocytes P8; D1: Control adipocytes P4; D2: Control adipocytes P8; E1: Control chondrocytes P4; E2: Control chondrocytes P8; F1: Control osteocytes P4; F2: Control osteocytes P8.

Conclusion

The results of this experiment indicated that SM-MSCs isolated from OA patients has been successfully characterized. SM-MSCs have high expression of CD90,

CD44, CD105, CD73 and low expression of CD34, CD45, CD14, CD19, HLA-II, be able to differentiate into osteocyte, chondrocyte, adipocyte and have the adherent type of culture.

Acknowledgements

The research was funded by Ministry of Reseach, Tecnology, and Higher Education of the Republic Indonesia (Research Grant Hibat Kompetensi). This research was supported also by Grant Professor from Andalas University and research facilities, methodology supported by Aretha Medika Utama Biomolecular and Biomedical Research Center (AMU-BBRC), Bandung, Indonesia. The authors also would like to thank to Dwi Surya Artie, Dewani Tediana Yusepany, Anisa Siwianti from AMU-BBRC for their valuable assistance.

References

- Loeser RF, Goldring SR, Scanzello CR, Goldring MB. Osteoarthritis: a disease of the joint as an organ. Arthritis Rheum. 2012; 64(6): 1697-707.
- Teitel AD, Zieve D. Medline Plus Medical Encycolpedia: Osteoarthritis. Bethesda: National Institutes of Health; 2011.
- World Health Organization [Internet]. Chronic diseases and health promotion: chronic rheumatic conditions [updated 2012; cited 2019 Mar 30]. Available from: https://www.who.int/chp/topics/ rheumatic/en/.
- Ahmed U, Anwar A, Savage RS, Costa ML, Mackay N, Filer A, *et al.* Biomarkers of early stage osteoarthritis, rheumatoid Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health. Sci Rep. 2015; 5: 9259. doi: 10.1038/srep09259.
- Brandt, KD. Non-surgical treatment of osteoarthritis: a half century of "dvances". Ann Rheum Dis. 2004; 63(2): 117-22.
- Khairani Y, Eryasni H, Nindya A. Hubungan Umur, Jenis Kelamin, IMT, dan Aktivitas Fisik Dengan Kejadian Osteoathritis Lutut. Jambi: Fakultas Kedokteran dan Ilmu Kesehatan Universitas Jambi; 2013.
- Gabriel SE. The epidemiology of rheumatoid arthritis. Rheum Dis Clin North Am. 2001; 27(2): 269-81.
- Kremers HM, Nicola P, Crowson CS, O'Fallon WM, Gabriel SE. Therapeutic strategies in rheumatoid arthritis over a 40-year period. J Rheumatol. 2004; 31(12): 2366-73.
- Leong DJ, Choudhury M, Hanstein R, Hirsh DM, Kim SJ, Majeska RJ, *et al.* Green tea polyphenol treatment is chondroprotective, antiinflammatory and palliative in a mouse post-traumatic osteoarthritis model. Arthritis Res Ther. 2014; 16(6): 508-514.
- Andriolo L, Merli G, Filardo G, Marcacci M, Kon E. Failure of autologous chondrocyte implantation. Sports Med Arthrosc Rev. 2017; 25(1): 10-8.
- Vanlauwe J, Saris DB, Victor J, Almqvist KF, Bellemans J, Luyten FP, et al. Five-year outcome of characterized chondrocyte implantation versus microfracture for symptomatic cartilage defects of the knee: early treatment matters. Am J Sports Med. 2011; 39(12): 2566– 2574.
- Fuchs E, Segre JA. Stem cells: a new lease on life. Cell. 2000; 100(1): 143-55.
- Widowati W, Wijaya L, Murti H, Widyastuti H, Agustina D, Laksmitawati DR, *et al.* Conditioned medium from normoxia (WJMSCs-norCM) and hypoxia-treated WJMSCs (WJMSCshypoCM) in inhibiting cancer cell proliferation. Biomarkers Genomic Med. 2015; 7(1): 8-17.

- Widowati W, Jasaputra DK, Sumitro SB, Widodo MA, Yaprianto K, Bachtiar I. Potential of unengineered and engineered wharton's jelly mesenchymal stem cells as cancer inhibitor agent. Immun Endoc Metab Agents in Med Chem. 2015; 15: 128-37.
- Ruiz M, Cosenza S, Maumus M, Jorgensen C, Noël D. Therapeutic application of mesenchymal stem cells in osteoarthritis. Expert Opin Biol Ther. 2016; 16(1): 33-42.
- Ayatollahi M, Talaei-Khozani T, Razmkhah M. Growth suppression effect of human mesenchymal stem cells from bone marrow, adipose tissue, and wharton's jelly of umbilical cord on PBMCs. Iran J Basic Med Sci. 2016; 19(2): 145-53.
- Sato M, Uchida K, Nakajima H, Miyazaki T, Guerrero AR, Watanabe S, *et al.* Direct transplantation of mesenchymal stem cells into the knee joints of hartley strain guinea pigs with spontaneous osteoarthritis. Arthritis Res Ther. 2012; 14(1): R31. doi: 10.1186/ ar3735.
- Frisbie DD, Kisiday JD, Kawcak CE, Werpy NM, McIlwraith CW. Evaluation of adipose-derived stromal vascular fraction or bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells for treatment of osteoarthritis. J Orthop Res. 2009; 27(12): 1675-80.
- Sousa EB, Casado PL, Neto VM, Duarte MEL, Aguiar DP. Synovial fluid and synovial membrane mesenchymal stem cells: latest discoveries and therapeutic perspectives. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2012; 5(5): 112. doi: 10.1186/scrt501.
- 20. Sugita N, Moriguchi, Y, Sakaue M, Hart DA, Yasui Y, Koizumi K, *et al.* Optimization of human mesenchymal stem cell isolation from synovial membrane: Implications for subsequent tissue engineering effectiveness. Regen Ther. 2016; 5: 79-85.
- Block TJ, Marinkovic M, Tran ON, Gonzalez AO, Marshall A, Dean DD, *et al.* Restoring the quantity and quality of elderly human mesenchymal stem cells for autologous cell-based therapies. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2017; 8(1): 239. doi: 10.1186/s13287-017-0688-x.
- 22. Widowati W, Wijaya L, Bachtiar I, Gunanegara R, Sugeng SU, Irawan YA, *et al.* Effect of oxygen tension on proliferation and characteristics of wharton's jelly-derived mesenchymal stem cells. Biomarkers Genomic Med. 2014; 6: 43-8.
- Ha JW, Kim JA, Ha CW. Do the fibroblasts contained in early passage MSC population adversely affect the characteristics of stem cell population obtained from human placenta? Int J Stem Cells. 2012; 5(2): 89-95.
- Fickert S, Fiedler J, Brenner RE. Identification, quantification and isolation of mesenchymal progenitor cells from osteoarthritic synovium by fluorescence automated cell sorting. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2003; 11(11): 790-800.
- 25. Widowati W, Murti H, Jasaputra DK, Sumitro SB, Widodo MA, Fauziah N, *et al.* Selective cytotoxic potential of IFN- γ and TNF- α on breast cancer cell lines (T47D and MCF7). Asian J Cell Biol. 2016; 11(1): 1-12.
- Dominici M, Le Blanc K, Mueller I, Slaper-Cortenbach I, Marini F, Krause D, *et al.* Minimal criteria for defining multipotent mesenchymal stromal cells. The International Society for Cellular Therapy position statement. Cytotherapy. 2006; 8 (4): 315-7.
- Trujillo NA, Popat KC. Increased adipogenic and decreased chondrogenic differentiation of adipose derived stem cells on nanowire surfaces. Materials (Basel). 2014; 7(4): 2605-30.
- Jin HJ, Bae YK, Kim M, Kwon SK, Jeon HB, Choi SJ, *et al.* Comparative analysis of human mesenchymal stem cells from bone marrow, adipose tissue, and umbilical cord blood as sources of cell therapy. Int J Mol Sci. 2013; 14(9): 17986-8001.

Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation and Differentiation of Synovial Membrane-derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells (SM-MSCs) from Osteoarthritis Patients

by Wahyu Widowati

Submission date: 28-Oct-2021 04:19AM (UTC+0700) Submission ID: 1685938897 File name: Isolation_Characterization_Proliferation_and_Diffe.pdf (2.71M) Word count: 3725 Character count: 20408



Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation, and Differentiation of SM-MSC

RESEARCH ARTICLE



Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation and Differentiation of Synovial Membrane-derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells (SM-MSCs) from Osteoarthritis Patients

Marlina¹, Rizki Rahmadian¹, Armenia¹, Wahyu Widowati², Rizal³, Hanna Sari Widya Kusuma³, Satrio Haryo Benowo Wibowo³, Wahyu Setia Widodo³, Ika Adhani Sholihah³

¹Faculty 12 harmacy, Andalas University, Padang, Indonesia
²Medical Research Center, Faculty of Medicine, Maranatha Christian University, Bandung, Indonesia
³Biomolecular and Biomedical Research Centre, Aretha Medika Utama, Bandung, Indonesia

Background: Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) are the cells which have high renewal capacity and and are capable for differentiating into some types of cells. MSCs can be obtained from several tissues including bone marrow, synovial membrane, blood, adipose tiggue and periosteum. The proliferation and self-repair ability of MSCs are the advantages to use as stem cells-based therapy of various diseases. The aim of this study was to determine the differentiation, characterization and proliferation of synovial membrane-derived MSCs (SM-MSCs).

Materials and Methods: The cells proliferation capacity was determined by cell counting using trypan blue, characterization of MSCs (cluster of differentiation (CD)90, CD11b, CD73, CD34, CD19, CD45, CD105 and human leukocyte antigen-DR isotype (HLA-DR)) using flow cytometry analysis, and differentiation capability into three lineage cells was determined with red alcian blue, oil red O and alizarin staining.

Results: The type culture of SM-MSCs was adherent and showed positive CD44, CD105, CD73, CD90 and negative of CD19, HLA-DR, CD11b, CD45, CD34 surface marker. Based on the result, SM-MSCs P3 showed differentiation potency into adipogenic, chondrogenic, and osteogenic lineage cells. The population doubling time of SM-MSCs has increased from P3 to P8. The population doubling time of SM-MSCs P3 was 1.69 days and SM-MSCs P8 was **111** days.

Conclusion: The results indicated that SM-MCSCs from osteoarthritis patients are able to differentiate into osteocytes, chondrocytes, adipocytes and highly express of CD105, CD73, CD90, CD44 and negative for CD34, CD45, CD14, CD19.

Keywords: synovial membrane, mesenchymal stromal cells, adipocyte, chondrocyte, osteocyte

Introduction

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common disease in the joints associated with disability and pain.¹ The prevalence of OA

Date of submission: July 16, 2019 Last Revised: August 21, 2019 Accepted for publication: August 23, 2019

Corresponding Author: Wahyu Widowati Medical Research Center, Faculty of Medicine Maranatha Christian University Jl. Surya Sumantri, Bandung, Indonesia e-mail: wahyu_w60@yahoo.com increases d₆ to aging and an increase in related factors such as obesity. Radiographic evidence of knee OA is present in about 30% of men and women over the age of 65 years. Estimates around the world are that 9.6% of men and 18.0%



Molecular and Cellular Biomedical Sciences, Vol.4 No.2, July 2020, p.76-82

of women over the age of 60 have symptomatic OA. About 80% of those with OA will have limitations in movement, and 25% cannot carry out their daily activities.2,3 OA is one of degenerative diseases in old age population. The disease damage joints and bones around it, and leading to chronic disability.4 The main target of OA is cartilage tissue, and the starting point for OA is cartilage damage or loss.5 The rate of chondrocytes regeneration as the component of cartilage tissue was decreased in older people⁶, as a result, therapy is needed to cure OA. Unfortunately, the existing OA therapy has been used drugs administration and surgery for total joint replacement.7 This therapy is not effective because long-term drug administration causes negative effects on the other organs such as cardiovascular, kidneys, and digestive system.^{8,9} Consequently, an alternative therapy is necessary to regenerate damaged articular cartilage.

Chondrocyter are the main cellular component of cartilage, which is widely used for OA treatment.Autologous chondrocytes implantation (ACI) is a biomedical treatment cell-based for OA patients, the procedure takes place in three stages including cartilage isolation, cell grown *in vitro* and cell implantation to patient.¹⁰ But this therapy still has various disadvantages, for example surgery that causes cartilage damage, dedifferentiation in chondrocytes and has lower regeneration potency.¹¹ Therefore, another approach is required for regeneration of cartilage in OA patients.

Stem cells can be used in tissue regeneration, for stem cells have the ability to differentiate and self-renew at the time of embryonic stage, in which cells can proliferate into tissue or certain 10 gans during the developmental process.¹² Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) can differentiate into adipocytes, chondrocytes and osteocytes.^{13,14} MSCs can be isolated from various sources such as bone marrow (BM-MSCs), adipose tissues (AT-MSCs), umbilical cords (UC-MSCs), Wharton's jelly (WJ-MSCs), synovial tissues (ST-MSCs), and other tissues.^{15,16}

MSCs isolated from synovial membrane (SM) have ability to differentiate into chondrocytes that very suitable for cartilage regeneration therapy. MSCs are able to fuse with cartilage defects, proliferate, regenerate articular cartilage, reduce the concentration of synovial fluid from prostaglandin¹⁷ and reduce the progressiveness of OA.¹⁸ Future research should be directed at addressing the gap in diagnostics and therapy for OA. Hence, research on the potential of SM from OA patien gin its use as autologous therapy necessary to be done. The objective of this study was to determine the character, differentiation and proliferation of synovial cells of membranes P4 and P8 isolated from patients with OA.

Materials and methods

MSCs Isolation from SM

s were obtained from three knee in patients with OA from T. M. Djamil Hospital, Padang, Indonesia. The patients have signed the informed consent using the guidelines approved by Research Ethics Committee, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Andalas, Padang, Indonesia (No. 226/ KEP/FK/2019). SMs then washed using phosphate buffer saline (PBS) (Catalogue #14200075, Gibco, Massachusetts, USA), 1% antibiotic and antimycotic (ABAM) (Catalogue #15240062, Gibco) and 1% Amphotericin B (Catalogue #15290026, Gibco). SMs were cut into small pieces and washed, cleased from skin and fat. The synovial membranes were put into centrifuge tube (Catalogue #50015, SPL, Pocheon, South Korea) containing Collagenase enzyme type I (Catalogue #17100017, Gibco), Hyaluronidase (Catalogue #H-3506, Sigma Aldrich, Massachusetts, USA) and Trypsin-EDTA 0.1% (Catalogue #25200072, Gibco). The tube stored in CO, resistant shaker (Catalogue #SHKE2000CO,, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Massachusetts, USA) at 300 rpm for 16 hours in the incubator (Catalogue #8000DH, Thermo Fisher Scientific) of 5% CO, and 37°C.16 The remaining SM was removed, and the supernatant was centrifuged (MPW-260R, Warsaw, Poland) at 1600 rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatant was removed, and the pellet was mixed with complete medium: Mem-a (Catalogue #32561037, Gibco) which supplemented by 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS) (Catalogue #10270106, Gibco), and 1% ABAM, 1% Amphotericin B addition. SM-MSCs was cultured at density of 2x10⁶ cells in T-flask 25cm² (Catalogue #90026, TPP, Trasadingen, Switzerland). The cells were incubated on T-flask 25cm3 at 5% CO2 and 37°C incubator.19

SM-MSCs Surface Markers Characterization

The SM-MSCs reached 80% confluence were harvested for analyzing the positive and negative cluster differentiation (CD) markers (Fowcytometry analyzer 10, Macsquant, California, USA). The cells were stained with hMSCs analysis kit (Caltalogue#562245, BD ste 5 flowTM Kit, New Jersey, USA) and the procedure was according to the manufacture protocol. The experiments and measurement were performed in triplicate.^{18,20}



Differentiation Capability of SM-MSCs

The osteogenic differentiation, SM-MSCs (P4 and P8) were seeded at density 5x10² 24 well plate (Catalogue #142475, Nunc, Massachusetts, USA) using StemPro Osteogenesis Differentiation Kit (Catalogue #A10072-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. Osteocytes were visualized using Alizarin Red S (Catalogue #A5533, Sigma Aldrich).

The chondrogenic differentiation, SM-MSCs (P4, P8) were seeded 5x10³ cells 24 well plate using StemPro Chondrogenesis Differentiation Kit (Catalogue# A10071-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. Chondrocytes were confirmed using Alcian blue (Catalogue#A5268, Sigma Aldrich).

Adipogenic differentiation of SM-MSCs was executed by StemPro Adipogenic Differentiation Kit (Catalogue #A10070-01, Gibco) for 3 weeks. To confrim lipid droplets the culture as the marker of adiponic differentiation using Oil Red O staining (Catalogue #00625, Sigma Aldrich).^{13,21}

Population Doubling (PD) Time of SM-MSCs

P4-P8 of SM-MSCs in T75 flask were detached by 3 mL of trypsin-EDTA 0.25% (Catalogue #25200072, Gibco) and was inclubated at 5% CO, and 37°C incubator for 3 minutes. The complete medium was added to stop the trypsin and the cells were centrifugated at 1600 rpm for 5 minutes. The obtained pellet was added with 1 mL complete medium. The cells were counted by a hemocytometer (Catalogue #17849, Neubauer, Lauda-Königshofen, Germany) using 1:1 Tr5 an Blue (Catalogue #T8154, Sigma Aldrich) as the stain. PD was counted at every passage with formula: PD = LOG (Harvest/Seeded)/ LOG2.22 Meanwhile, the PD time (PDT) was determined by this formula: PDT = t (time)/PD(in days).18

Statistical Analysis

Statistical was analyzed with Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) statistics version 20.0 software (IBM Corporation, New York, USA). Value was provided as mean±standard deviation. Significant diversity between the groups were determined using the analysis of variance (One Way ANOVA) followed by Tukey's HSD Post-hoc test.

Results

SM-MSCs Characteristic

Figure 1 showed the culture SM-MSCs at P4 as the result of cells isolation from OA patients. SM-MSCs exhibited adherent of culture, resulted, and elongated in spindleshaped cells. SM-MSCs exhibited adherent type of culture, elongated and resulted in spindle-shaped cells. In Figure 2 and Table 1, SM-MSCs that was isolated from OA patients at P4 and P8 showed negative expression for CD34, CD11b, CD45, CD19 and HLA-DR, yet showed high expression for CD44, CD90, CD73 and CD105. The two different passages, P4 (early) and P8 (intermediate) of the cells showed no difference CD markers expression. Both P4 and P8 were detected to have the same level expression of certain positive and negative surface markers.

Differentiation of MSCs

The result of SM-MSCs differentiation into 3 different types of cells. They were chondrocyte, adipocyte, and osteocyte as shown in Figure 3. There was no difference result of differentiation between P4 and P8 from the qualitative staining result. Osteogenic showed positive result by the red color and confirmed by the accumulation of calcium deposit which detected by Alizarin Red S. Glycosaminoglycan as well as the marker of chondrogenesis could be identified with Alcian Blue staining as specific polyvalent dye that was used to identify acidic polysaccharides. As can be seen in the Figure 3, the cells were associated in the process of chondrogenic differentiation and stained as blackish blue. Oil Red O was used as a dye in adipogenic differentiation which was characterized by the formation of oil droplets. Oil Red O was a diazo dye that was used to stain the lipid formation and triglycerides.10,19, 20,22

PDT of SM-MSCs

PDT and cumulative population doubling (CPD) data were shown in Table 2. SM-MSCs isolated from the synovial



Figure 1. P4 of SM-MSCs culture with adherent characteristic . White bar: 200 µm.

Print ISSN: 2527-4384, Online ISSN: 2527-3442 DOI: 10.21705/mcbs.v4i2.100

Molecular and Cellular Biomedical Sciences, Vol.4 No.2, July 2020, p.76-82



Figure 2. The dot blot expression marker of SM-MSCs analyzed by flow cytometer. SM-MSCs was confirmed as MSCs with high expression for positive marker, CD90: 92.59%; CD73: 95.67%, and CD105: 98.33%. MSCs also low expression of negative lineage. SM-MSCs also exhibited positive expression for CD44 as the additional CD markers to define MSCs.

79



Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation, and Differentiation of SM-MSC

Table 1. The different eggect of passages toward surface markers of SM-MSCs.					s.
Passage	CD90	CD44	CD105	CD73	Negative Lineage
P4	92.52±0.15	87.02±0.58	98.34±0.02	95.15±0.59	0.42±0.18
P8	92.59±0.11	87.88±0.49	98.33±0.02	95.67±0.42	0.72±0.18

Data are presented as mean±standard deviation of surface markers of SM-MSCs. Negative lineage marker containing CD45, CD34, CD11b, CD19 and HLA-DR.

shows that PDT and CPD increase along with the increase of passage and was significantly different among the passages except the 5th and the 6th passage were defined as not significantly different at p<0.05. The PDT and CPD can be seen in Table 2 and were used to measure the MSCs proliferation capacity and define as a specific time for cells to undergo the cell division. PDT from P3-P8 was ranged 1.69 to 3.64 days.

Discussion

SM-MSCs from the knee of OA patient with grade IV are used because they are waste that is not used anymore. OA patient with grade IV has low quality of stemness, MSCs quantity and quality decrease with aging, limiting the potential efficacy of MSCs for therapy the elderly population.²¹ We try to develop method by utilizing waste materials and low quality. There are 3 basic criteria of the cells to be characterized as MSCs based on the International Society for Cellular Therapy, such as: 1) have differentiation capability into osteocyte, adipocyte, and chondrocyte; 2)

Table 2. PDT and CPD of SM-MSCs.

Passage	PDT (d)	CPD
P3	1.69±0.04 ^a	1.69
P4	$1.79{\pm}0.02^{b}$	3.46
P5	2.36±0.03 ^c	5.82
P6	2.33±0.03 ^c	8.15
P7	$3.15{\pm}0.01^d$	11.3
P8	3.64±0.03 ^e	14.94

Data were presented as mean±standard deviation. Different small letters (a,b,c,d,e) in the same column are significant at p < 0.05(Tukey HSD post hoc test).

have the adherent type of culture; 3) have positive expression for several CD markers such as CD44, CD73, CD90, and CD105 and showed negative expression for CD45, CD14, CD34, and HLA-DR.²¹⁻²⁴ Markers characterization of the cells results in same finding with the previous study showed that the MSCs isolated different sources was also should high expression of CD73, CD44, CD90, CD105 and low expression of CD19, CD45, CD34, CD14 and HLA-II both early (P4) and intermediate ssage (P8).13,22,25 It also appropriate with previous study that MSCs from various sources, such as AT-MSCs had positive markers for CD90, CD73, and CD105. AT-MSCs had negative markers of CD14 or CD11b, CD34, CD19, CD45, and HLA-DR in their cellsurface immunophenotyped. Several studies also proved that MSCs have positive surface marker of CD44..22,26,27 The cells isolated from SM of OA patients also conformed with previous study which SM-MSCs had positive CD44.26

According to the results, the cells isolated from the SM was considered as MSCs be able to differentiate into 3 types of cells (osteocyte, chondrocyte, adipocyte). Thus, the method has succesfully used to produce SM-MSCs and considered as the first step of application mediated therapy for OA patiens.

The PDT and CPD difference in the 5th and the 6th passage might caused by the proliferation capacity of cells were decreased at the higher passage. As indicated by MSCs derived from other sources such as BM-MSCs and AT-MSCs have relative shorter culture time, the cell growth was slower at P10-P11, at P14-P16 in umbilical cord blood MSCs (UCB-MSCs).28 The PDT result are supported by previous research which explained that WJ-MSCs induced by normoxia and hypoxia 2,5% and 5% have increase in proliferation time from early passage to older passage.22 The validation SM-MSCs from various grade OA patients is needed to confirm the isolation and characterization method. The validation of SM-MSCs for OA therapy in animal is needed to continue models should eventually follow for further study.

Molecular and Cellular Biomedical Sciences. Vol.4 No.2. Iulv 2020. p.76-82

A. Differentiation of SM-MSCs







Figure 3. Morphology analysis of osteogenic, chondrogenic, adipogenic differentiation of SM-MSCs at P4 and P8. A1: Differentiation adipocytes P4; A2: Differentiation adipocytes P8; B1: Differentiation chondrocytes P4; B2: Differentiation osteocytes P8; C1: Differentiation osteocytes P4; C2: Differentiation osteocytes P8; D1: Control adipocytes P4; D2: Control adipocytes P8; E1: Control chondrocytes P4; E2: Control chondrocytes P8; F1: Control osteocytes P4; F2: Control osteocytes P8.

Conclusion

The results of this experiment indicated that SM-MSCs isolated from OA patient has been successfully characterized. SM-MSCs have high expression of CD90,

CD44, CD105, CD73 and low expression of CD34, CD45, CD14, CD19, HLA-II, be able to differentiate into osteocyte, chondrocyte, adipocyte and have the adherent type of culture.



Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation, and Differentiation of SM-MSC

Acknowledgements

research was funded by Ministry of Reseach, Tecnology, and Higher Education of the Republic Indonesia (Research Grant Hibat Kompetensi). This research was supported also by Grant Professor fro 2 Andalas University and research facilities, methodology supported by Aretha Medika Utama Biomolecular and Biomedical Research Center (AMU-BBRC), Bandung, Indonesia. The authors also would like to thank to Dwi Surya Artie, Dewani Tediana Yusepany, Anisa Siwianti from AMU-BBRC for their valuable assistance.

References

- Loeser RF, Goldring SR, Scanzello CR, Goldring MB. Osteoarthritis: a disease of the joint as an organ. Arthritis Rheum. 2012; 64(6): 1697-707.
- Teitel AD, Zieve D. Medline Plus Medical Encycolpedia: Osteoarthritis. Bethesda: National Institutes of Health; 2011.
- World Health Organization [Internet]. Chronic diseases and health promotion: chronic rheumatic conditions [updated 2012; cited 2019 Mar 30]. Available from: https://www.who.int/chp/topics/ rheumatic/en/.
- Ahmed U, Anwar A, Savage RS, Costa ML, Mackay N, Filer A, et al. Biomarkers of early stage osteoarthritis, rheumatoid Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health. Sci Rep. 2015; 5: 9259. doi: 10.1038/ srep09259.
- Brandt, KD. Non-surgical treatment of osteoarthritis: a half century of "dvances". Ann Rheum Dis. 2004; 63(2): 117-22.
- Khairani Y, Eryasni H, Nindya A. Hubungan Umur, Jenis Kelamin, IMT, dan Aktivitas Fisik Dengan Kejadian Osteoathritis Lutut. Jambi: Fakultas Kedokteran dan Ilmu Kesehatan Universitas Jambi; 2013.
- Gabriel SE. The epidemiology of rheumatoid arthritis. Rheum Dis Clin North Am. 2001; 27(2): 269-81.
- Kremers HM, Nicola P, Crowson CS, O'Fallon WM, Gabriel SE. Therapeutic strategies in rheumatoid arthritis over a 40-year period. J Rheumatol. 2004; 31(12): 2366-73.
- Leong DJ, Choudhury M, Hanstein R, Hirsh DM, Kim SJ, Majeska RJ, et al. Green tea polyphenol treatment is chondroprotective, antiinflammatory and palliative in a mouse post-traumatic osteoarthritis model. Arthritis Res Ther. 2014; 16(6): 508-514.
- Andriolo L, Merli G, Filardo G, Marcacci M, Kon E. Failure of autologous chondrocyte implantation. Sports Med Arthrosc Rev. 2017; 25(1): 10-8.
- Vanlauwe J, Saris DB, Victor J, Almqvist KF, Bellemans J, Luyten FP, et al. Five-year outcome of characterized chondrocyte implantation versus microfracture for symptomatic cartilage defects of the knee: early treatment matters. Am J Sports Med. 2011; 39(12): 2566– 2574.
- Fuchs E, Segre JA. Stem cells: a new lease on life. Cell. 2000; 100(1): 143-55.
- Widowati W, Wijaya L, Murti H, Widyastuti H, Agustina D, Laksmitawati DR, *et al.* Conditioned medium from normoxia (WJMSCs-norCM) and hypoxia-treated WJMSCs (WJMSCshypoCM) in inhibiting cancer cell proliferation. Biomarkers Genomic Med. 2015; 7(1): 8-17.

- Widowati W, Jasaputra DK, Sumitro SB, Widodo MA, Yaprianto K, Bachtiar I. Potential of unengineered and engineered wharton's jelly mesenchymal stem cells as cancer inhibitor agent. Immun Endoc Metab Agents in Med Chem. 2015; 15: 128-37.
- Ruiz M, Cosenza S, Maumus M, Jorgensen C, Noël D. Therapeutic application of mesenchymal stem cells in osteoarthritis. Expert Opin Biol Ther. 2016; 16(1): 33-42.
- Ayatollahi M, Talaei-Khozani T, Razmkhah M. Growth suppression effect of human mesenchymal stem cells from bone marrow, adipose tissue, and wharton's jelly of umbilical cord on PBMCs. Iran J Basic Med Sci. 2016; 19(2): 145-53.
- Sato M, Uchida K, Nakajima H, Miyazaki T, Guerrero AR, Watanabe S, et al. Direct transplantation of mesenchymal stem cells into the knee joints of hartley strain guinea pigs with spontaneous osteoarthritis. Arthritis Res Ther. 2012; 14(1): R31. doi: 10.1186/ ar3735.
- Frisbie DD, Kisiday JD, Kawcak CE, Werpy NM, McIlwraith CW. Evaluation of adipose-derived stromal vascular fraction or bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells for treatment of osteoarthritis. J Orthop Res. 2009; 27(12): 1675-80.
- Sousa EB, Casado PL, Neto VM, Duarte MEL, Aguiar DP. Synovial fluid and synovial membrane mesenchymal stem cells: latest discoveries and therapeutic perspectives. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2012; 5(5): 112. doi: 10.1186/scrt501.
- Sugita N, Moriguchi, Y, Sakaue M, Hart DA, Yasui Y, Koizumi K, et al. Optimization of human mesenchymal stem cell isolation from synovial membrane: Implications for subsequent tissue engineering effectiveness. Regen Ther. 2016; 5: 79-85.
- Block TJ, Marinkovic M, Tran ON, Gonzalez AO, Marshall A, Dean DD, et al. Restoring the quantity and quality of elderly human mesenchymal stem cells for autologous cell-based therapies. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2017; 8(1): 239. doi: 10.1186/s13287-017-0688-x.
- Widowati W, Wijaya L, Bachtiar I, Gunanegara R, Sugeng SU, Irawan YA, *et al.* Effect of oxygen tension on proliferation and characteristics of wharton's jelly-derived mesenchymal stem cells. Biomarkers Genomic Med. 2014; 6: 43-8.
- Ha JW, Kim JA, Ha CW. Do the fibroblasts contained in early passage MSC population adversely affect the characteristics of stem cell population obtained from human placenta? Int J Stem Cells. 2012; 5(2): 89-95.
- Fickert S, Fiedler J, Brenner RE. Identification, quantification and isolation of mesenchymal progenitor cells from osteoarthritic synovium by fluorescence automated cell sorting. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2003; 11(11): 790-800.
- Widowati W, Murti H, Jasaputra DK, Sumitro SB, Widodo MA, Fauziah N, et al. Selective cytotoxic potential of IFN-γ and TNF-α on breast cancer cell lines (T47D and MCF7). Asian J Cell Biol. 2016; 11(1): 1-12.
- Dominici M, Le Blanc K, Mueller I, Slaper-Cortenbach I, Marini F, Krause D, *et al.* Minimal criteria for defining multipotent mesenchymal stromal cells. The International Society for Cellular Therapy position statement. Cytotherapy. 2006; 8 (4): 315-7.
- Trujillo NA, Popat KC. Increased adipogenic and decreased chondrogenic differentiation of adipose derived stem cells on nanowire surfaces. Materials (Basel). 2014; 7(4): 2605-30.
- Jin HJ, Bae YK, Kim M, Kwon SK, Jeon HB, Choi SJ, et al. Comparative analysis of human mesenchymal stem cells from bone marrow, adipose tissue, and umbilical cord blood as sources of cell therapy. Int J Mol Sci. 2013; 14(9): 17986-8001.

Isolation, Characterization, Proliferation and Differentiation of Synovial Membrane-derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells (SM-MSCs) from Osteoarthritis Patients

ORIGIN	ALITY REPORT				
SIMIL	9% ARITY INDEX	17% INTERNET SOURCES	16% PUBLICATIONS	8% STUDENT PA	PERS
PRIMAF	RY SOURCES				
1	reposito	ry.maranatha.e	du		3%
2	portland	lpress.com			3%
3	ijmcmec Internet Sourc	l.org			3%
4	W Widov Widodo, M Marlin "Compa Mesencl Using Ex Journal o Publication	wati, R F Gunane A Amalia, S H E na, I N E Lister, I rative Analysis o hymal Stem Cell of Physics: Conf	egara, R Rizal, 3 Wibowo, K Ha L Chiuman. of Wharton's Je I (WJ-MSCs) Iso matic Methods erence Series,	W S andono, elly plated s", 2019	1 %
5	Ahmad Hendrik Hendrik Intratum Human Differen	Faried, Wahyu V us M. B. Bolly et noral Heterogen Primary High-Gi tiation 133 and	Vidowati, Rizal t al. "Assessme neity in Isolated rade Glioma: C Cluster of	Rizal, ent of d Cluster of	1 %

Differentiation 15 Double Staining of Glioblastoma Subpopulations", Open Access Macedonian Journal of Medical Sciences, 2021

Publication

6	Submitted to University of the Western Cape Student Paper	1%
7	msjonline.org Internet Source	1%
8	journals.sagepub.com Internet Source	1%
9	Minglu Yan, Xin Liu, Qiujie Dang, He Huang, Fan Yang, Yang Li. "Intra-Articular Injection of Human Synovial Membrane-Derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells in Murine Collagen- Induced Arthritis: Assessment of Immunomodulatory Capacity In Vivo", Stem Cells International, 2017 Publication	1 %
10	Submitted to Nottingham Trent University Student Paper	1%
11	Wahyu Widowati, Laura Wijaya, Harry Murti, Halida Widyastuti et al. "Conditioned medium from normoxia (WJMSCs-norCM) and hypoxia- treated WJMSCs (WJMSCs-hypoCM) in inhibiting cancer cell proliferation", Biomarkers and Genomic Medicine, 2015 Publication	1 %



Exclude quotes	On	Exclude matches	< 1%
Exclude bibliography	On		

BEALL'S LIST

OF POTENTIAL PREDATORY JOURNALS AND PUBLISHERS

PUBLISHERS

STANDALONE JOURNALS

OURNALS VANITY PRESS

CONTACT OTHER

 $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ cell and biopharmaceutical institute

Potential predatory scholarly open-access publishers

Instructions: first, find the journal's publisher – it is usually written at the bottom of the journal's webpage or in the "About" section. Then simply enter the publisher's name or its URL in the search box above. If the journal does not have a publisher use the Standalone Journals list.

All journals published by a predatory publisher are potentially predatory unless stated otherwise.

Original list

This is an archived version of the Beall's list – a list of potential predatory publishers created by a librarian Jeffrey Beall. We will only update links and add notes to this list.

Last updated December 31, 2016

Update

Here we include publishers that were not originally on the Beall's list, but may be predatory.

Last updated March 7, 2021

Excluded – decide after reading

Useful pages

List of journals falsely claiming to be indexed by DOAJ

DOAJ: Journals added and removed

Nonrecommended medical periodicals

Retraction Watch

GO TO UPDATE

Flaky Academic Journals Blog

List of scholarly publishing stings

Conferences

Questionable conferences [archive]

How to avoid predatory conferences

Flaky Academic Conferences Blog

BEALL'S LIST

OF POTENTIAL PREDATORY JOURNALS AND PUBLISHERS

PUBLISHERS

STANDALONE JOURNALS

VANITY PRESS

CONTACT OTHER

Q molecular and cellular biomedical sciences

Potential predatory scholarly open-access journals

Instructions: simply enter the journal's name or its URL in the search box above. If the journal has a publisher that was assessed to be predatory, then it is included on the **Publishers** list.

Original list

GO TO UPDATE

This is an archived version of the Beall's list – a list of potential predatory journals created by a librarian Jeffrey Beall. We will only update links and add notes to this list.

Last updated January 9, 2017

Update

Here we include journals that were not originally on the Beall's list, but may be predatory.

Last updated February 5, 2021

Original description

This is a list of questionable, scholarly open-access standalone journals. For journals published by a publisher, please look for the publisher on the list of publishers, here. This list is only for single, standalone journals. We recommend that scholars read the available reviews, assessments and descriptions provided here, and then decide for themselves whether they want to submit articles, serve as editors or on editorial boards. In a few cases, non-open access journals whose practices match those of predatory journals have been added to the list. The criteria for determining predatory journals are here.

We hope that tenure and promotion committees can also decide for themselves how importantly or not to rate articles published in these journals in the context of their own institutional standards and/or geo-cultural locus. We emphasize that journals change in their business and editorial practices over time. This list is kept up-to-date to the best extent possible but may not reflect sudden, unreported, or unknown enhancements.