

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE IEEE



THE NEWSLETTER OF
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<http://www.ieee.org/SOUTH AUSTRALIA SECTION>
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Dear Colleagues,

IEEE South Australia Section invites you for Talk (6:00pm) and AGM (7:00pm) on 7 December 2011

Mesenchymal Stem Cells: Identification and Therapeutic Use

By Professor Andrew C. W. Zannettino,
Head, Myeloma Research Laboratory

Abstract

Mesenchymal Progenitor Cells (MPC) are rare stem cells present within post-natal tissues which possess promising therapeutic properties. In the late 90's, collaborative studies in association with Prof Stan Gronthos led to the patenting of technologies covering the identification and isolation of these rare cells from bone marrow. The family of 7 patents surrounding this technology were assigned to Angioblast Systems Inc., New York, USA in November, 2004 facilitating the formation of Mesoblast Ltd, an Australian Stock Exchange listed company (<http://www.mesoblast.com>). In 2010, Mesoblast acquired Angioblast forming the Mesoblast Group, which has a combined capitalisation of \$2.8 billion. Mesoblast is using this technology to develop therapies for spinal fusion, osteoarthritis, congestive heart failure, heart attacks, eye diseases, diabetes, and bone marrow repair. This presentation will describe this "bench to bedside" journey.

Biographical Sketch:

Prof Zannettino is a Chief Medical Scientist in the Division of Haematology, SA Pathology; a member of the Centre for Cancer Biology, SA Pathology; and member of the Centre for Stem cell Research and Centre for Personalised Cancer Medicine, University of Adelaide. He graduated with his PhD in 1997 and has co-authored upwards of 130 publications, book chapters, review articles and patents. In recent years, Prof Zannettino's interests have focused on the haematological malignancy, multiple myeloma, which mediates a profound destruction of skeletal tissues. Studies emanating from his laboratory have added to a growing appreciation of the mechanisms that lead to bone disease. In addition, Prof Zannettino has developed numerous patents describing the isolation and composition of matter of mesenchymal precursor cells (MPC). The family of patents surrounding this technology were assigned to Angioblast Systems Inc., New York, USA in November, 2004 and formed the basis for the establishment of Mesoblast Ltd, Melbourne, AUS, an Australian Stock exchange listed company with a Market Capitalisation value of \$AU 2.8 billion dollars. In his capacity as scientific consultant to Mesoblast Ltd, Melbourne Vic./Angioblast Systems Inc. New York, NY, Prof. Zannettino is now examining the therapeutic potential of MPC for cardiac, orthopaedic, metabolic and neurological applications. Prof Zannettino is a member of the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand, American Society of Hematology and a founding member of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Group (MSAG) of the Myeloma Foundation of Australia Inc. Since 2005, Prof. Zannettino has been invited to present his laboratories findings at more than 30 National and International meetings. Prof Zannettino regularly reviews articles for more than 15 journals and project grant applications for numerous organisations, including the NH&MRC, Cancer Council of South Australia and the UK Leukemia Research Foundation.

Followed by

Section Committee Annual General Meeting 2011

Date: Wednesday 7 December 2011
Start: Presentation starts at 6:00pm
AGM 7:00pm
Location: **Flinders University Building**
182 Victoria Square (the old Reserve Bank Building) Room 2
Enter from Flinders Street or Victoria Square
RSVP **For catering purposes**
South.Australia@IEEE.ORG

- 1. Chair's Report**
- 2. Treasurer's Report**
- 3. Election of Office Bearers**

- 4. AP/MTT Chapter Annual General Meeting**
- 5. C&SP Chapter Annual General Meeting**
- 6. CAES Chapter Annual General Meeting**
- 7. Computer Chapter Annual General Meeting**
- 8. GOLD Affinity Group Annual General Meeting**
- 9. WIE Affinity Group Annual General Meeting**
- 10. Signal Processing & Communications Annual General Meeting**