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TITLE: Phase II Clinical Trial of Intraoral Grafting of Human Tissue-Engineered Oral Mucosa

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Stephen E. Feinberg DDS, MS, PhD

CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION: University of Michigan
Ann Arbor MI 4810

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6. AUTHOR(S)

Stephen E. Feinberg DDS, MS, PhD

E-Mail: sefein@med.umich.edu

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University of Michigan
3003 S. State St.
Ann Arbor MI 48109

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14. ABSTRACT

This is a randomized, parallel-group phase II study to assess the safety and efficacy for use of human EVPOME for soft tissue intraoral grafting procedures compared to the “gold standard” palatal oral mucosa (POM) graft. The study will determine differences in the primary efficacy measure of increased keratinized mucosa; secondary measures of graft contracture and Wound Healing Index; and ancillary outcome measures of tissue perfusion measured graft color and laser Doppler flowmetry, and postoperative pain. Sixty subjects, thirty subjects per treatment group, will be randomized to receive either the experimental treatment, EVPOME (Group 1), or standard of care, the palatal oral mucosa (POM) graft (Group 2). The study population will include non-smoking adults (ages 18 and older) in need of additional keratinized oral mucosa for dental rehabilitation with dental implants. This trial has not yet started recruitment.

15. SUBJECT TERMS

EVOPME, Palatal Oral Mucosa (POM), Keratinized mucosa, graft contracture

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Introduction

Reconstructive procedures of the oral cavity secondary to trauma fail to achieve a satisfactory aesthetic and functional outcome. A daunting challenge for reconstructive surgeons is to regenerate oral mucosa. The free mucosal graft neither reliably restores aesthetic and functional competence, nor prevents microbial infection, fluid loss, and foreign material contamination and relapse secondary to wound contracture. Oral mucosa is in limited supply for use in reconstructive procedures in the oral cavity. This is especially prevalent after large avulsed soft tissue wounds involving the mouth and lips seen in high velocity battlefield injuries (BI). The development of an oral mucosa equivalent is necessary to fulfill this clinical need. The environment of the oral cavity, a moist area laden with bacteria and lytic enzymes, is not favorable to most of the collagen-rich dermal components used in similarly designed skin equivalents. To be useful within the intricate confines of the oral cavity an oral mucosa equivalent must possess mechanical and handling characteristics as well as similar anatomy. Engineering an Ex Vivo Produced Oral Mucosa Equivalent (EVPOME) tissue will allow the reconstruction of major oral avulsion defects. These defects are seen as secondary to traumatic injuries or oncologic resection and developmental disturbances. The EVPOME will minimize patient morbidity and improve functional outcome measures. Consequently, the goal of our clinical trial is to determine efficacy of an EVPOME as a more robust therapy than palatal oral mucosa (POM) grafts.

Body

The Statement of Work for this project included the following:

1. Obtain IRB approval for study at University of Michigan-This has been obtained (HUM00069761).

2. Obtain IND approval from the FDA-This has been obtained (IND#: 10118).

3. Obtain approval of IRB from DoD-HRPO approval has been obtained.

4. Calibration of clinical examiners-There will only be one clinical examiner in this study so no calibration with other examiners will be necessary.

5. Calibration of laser Doppler flowmetry-This has been completed.

6. Initiation of subject screening/recruitment-Screening/recruitment has not yet started. We have, though, accomplished the following tasks:

- Purchase the necessary supplies to equip the Human Application Laboratory (HAL)
- Purchase of all necessary supplies and equipment for carrying out the clinical trial
- Training of research technicians (three) in use of the HAL in making EVPOME devices under cGMP standards
- We have successfully carried out our mock trial/run in fabrication of our EVPOME device under cGMP standards in our Human Applications Laboratory.

7. Completion of subject screening/recruitment- This has not yet occurred.

8. Inclusion of first subject into clinical trial-this has not yet occurred.

9. Completion of clinical trial- This has not yet occurred.

10. Data evaluation from clinical trial – This has not yet occurred.

11. Submission of findings to meeting and peer reviewed journals-This has not yet occurred.

Key Research Accomplishments

• We have successfully carried out our mock trial/run in fabrication of our EVPOME device under cGMP standards in our Human Applications Laboratory.

Reportable Outcomes

There are no reportable outcomes at this time, as recruitment has not yet started.

Conclusion

All regulatory requirements have been completed, the database has been built, and subject recruitment is set to start by the end of the calendar year 2013.