

A Photosynthetic System for Treatment of Ischemic Tissue

Stanford researchers have patented a photosynthetic system using a cyanobacterium solution that can be delivered to ischemic tissues, where blood flow is insufficient. This addresses a major clinical problem for patients with heart and vascular diseases. The solution provides glucose and oxygen while removing carbon dioxide, enabling light to sustain the tissue. This low-cost, simple solution can treat myocardial ischemia and infarction, protect the heart during cardiopulmonary bypass surgery, and preserve organs during transportation.

Figure

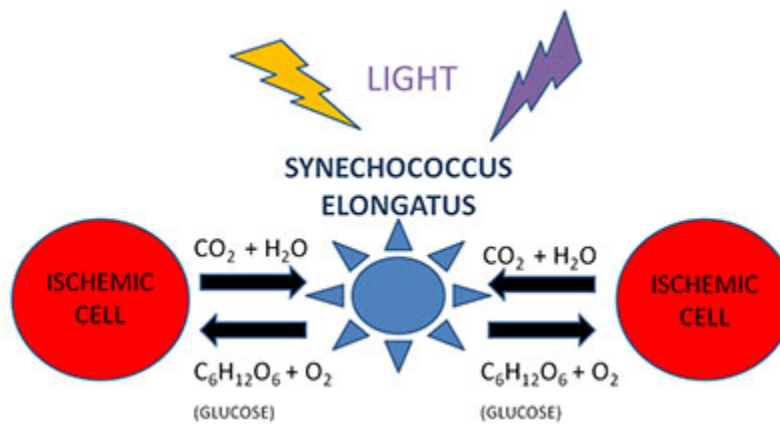


Figure description: Photosynthetic system

Stage of Research:

- Conducted large animal translational model of myocardial protection utilizing this photosynthetic strategy at Stanford
- Results showed that targeted intramyocardial delivery of a photosynthetic agent to ischemic territory enables localized oxygen production, enhanced metabolic activity, and augmented ventricular function in a rat model of acute

myocardial ischemia.

On-going Research:

- Improving delivery device for enhanced clinical translatability

Applications

- Treatment of myocardial ischemia
- Myocardial protection during cardiopulmonary bypass
- Organ preservation for transplantation
- Treatment of acute and chronic peripheral vascular disease

Advantages

- **Low cost** relative to stent placement and/or open surgery
- **Direct oxygen delivery** to muscle at risk without necessarily addressing restoration of blood flow
- **Can supply tissue with energy** even in patients that otherwise cannot be revascularized either surgically or with stent placement
- Can extend the time that an organ could be transported prior to transplantation, thereby increasing the available patient pool and enhancing outcomes following transplantation
- Could provide a superior treatment for peripheral vascular disease. Specifically, distal revascularization (below the knee) demonstrates modest results at best, whereas this treatment offers a completely novel and potentially superior approach.

Publications

- Cohen, Jeffrey E., Andrew B. Goldstone, Michael J. Paulsen, Yasuhiro Shudo, Amanda N. Steele, Bryan B. Edwards, Jay B. Patel et al. ["An innovative biologic system for photon-powered myocardium in the ischemic heart."](#) Science advances 3, no. 6 (2017): e1603078.
- AATS 2015 Annual Meeting Seattle, WA. USA ["Creation of a Novel Endosymbiotic System for Photon Powered Myocardium in the Ischemic Heart"](#)

- Goldstone, Andrew B., Jeffrey E. Cohen, Yasuhiro Shudo, Amanda N. Steele, Michael S. Hopkins, Jay B. Patel, Bryan B. Edwards et al. "[A Light-powered Symbiosis With a Primordial Chloroplast Attenuates Myocardial Injury in the Absence of Blood Perfusion.](#)" Circulation 132, no. Suppl 3 (2015): A16907-A16907.

Patents

- Published Application: [20160310547](#)
- Issued: [10,137,158 \(USA\)](#)

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