Modular Cell and Drug Delivery Cannula System

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BACKGROUND

The use of cell transplantation in the brain shows great promise for the treatment of human neurological diseases, such as Parkinson's disease or stroke. Indeed, pre-clinical studies in animal models have shown significantly improved neurological function following cell grafting. However, in human trials the results have been considerably more variable. This has, in part, been attributed to concerns with poor cell distribution within the target area. A further issue that has arisen with the challenge of scaling up from animal models to humans is the increase in the number of transcortical penetrations required to deliver therapeutic agents. For surgical cell transplantation approaches, cell sedimentation and impaired graft viability are also concerns that need to be addressed to optimize the use of this therapeutic avenue.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

Researchers at UCSF have designed a catheter-based stem cell and drug/gene delivery system for the therapeutic treatment of neurological disorders. The novel design significantly improves the distribution of cells from the delivery area, as well as the cell viability of stem cell-based therapeutics, with both dilute and highly concentrated cell populations being well tolerated. For example, in vitro and in vivo testing of the prototype using subcortical injections produced a radial pattern of infusate delivery up to 2 cm from the initial penetration tract. Furthermore, these early studies showed that, by varying the implantation depth, the rotation and radial distance of the assembly components, the new design was capable of delivering cells and therapeutic agents throughout the entire putamen, at a volume of over 4 cm^3.

Another significant advantage of the new device is that the dead volume typically associated with syringe delivery systems is radically reduced yet still allows for controlled microinjection delivery volumes, a feature essential for the delivery of expensive therapeutic agents. Issues related to uncontrolled infusate reflux are also dramatically attenuated. Indeed, an in vivo study comparing the prototype with the current catheter design on the market showed that infusate reflux was significantly reduced from approximately 75% of the material to almost nothing. The new device can be incorporated into current catheter guide tube systems for insertion into a body cavity or region, existing clinical stereotactic platforms, and stereotactic planning software. The investigators have also generated a prototype of the device from MRI-compatible materials,

CONTACT

Lindsay N. Sanford

Lindsay.Sanford@ucsf.edu

tel: .

OTHER INFORMATION

KEYWORDS

cannula, catheter, stem cell, cell delivery, MRI, drug delivery

CATEGORIZED AS

- Medical
  - Delivery Systems
  - Devices
  - Disease: Cancer
  - Disease: Central Nervous System
  - Gene Therapy
  - Imaging

RELATED CASES

2012-063-0

allowing for easy visualization of the device using intraoperative MRI systems and direct targeting of the infusate to specified locations.

APPLICATIONS

- Cell transplantation
- Stereotactic surgery
- Drug delivery
- Gene targeting

ADVANTAGES

- Delivery of controlled microinjection volumes
- Improved viability of delivered cell populations
- Significantly reduced catheter dead volume
- Attenuated uncontrolled infusate reflux
- Fewer injections required for therapeutic agent delivery
- Decreased risk of intracranial hemorrhage
- Compatibility with intraoperative MRI systems
- Compatibility with existing stereotactic surgical systems

RELATED MATERIALS

- Silvestrini MT, Yin D, Coppes VG, Mann P, Martin AJ, Larson PS, Starr PA, Gupta N, Panter SS, Desai TA, Lim DA. Radially Branched Deployment for More Efficient Cell Transplantation at the Scale of the Human Brain. Stereotact Funct Neurosurg. 2013 Jan 22;91(2):92-103.

PATENT STATUS

Country	Type	Number	Dated	Case
Canada	Issued Patent	2,878,510	06/08/2021	2012-063
United States Of America	Issued Patent	10,888,688	01/12/2021	2012-063
China	Issued Patent	ZL201380038788.9	06/18/2019	2012-063
United States Of America	Issued Patent	10,099,034	10/16/2018	2012-063
United States Of America	Published Application	20210085915	03/25/2021	2012-063

ADDRESS

UCSF

Innovation Ventures

600 16th St, Genentech Hall, S-272,

San Francisco,CA 94158

CONTACT

Tel:

innovation@ucsf.edu

https://innovation.ucsf.edu

Fax:

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