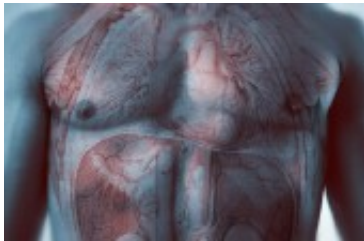


SCAI: Ixmyelocel-T studied for dilated cardiomyopathy

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(HealthDay) -- For patients with dilated cardiomyopathy, treatment with an autologous bone marrow-derived, expanded multi-cell product, ixmyelocel-T, is well tolerated and associated with improved symptoms at one year, according to a study presented at the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions 2012 Scientific Sessions, held from May 9 to 12 in Las Vegas.

Timothy Henry, M.D., from the Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation at Abbot Northwestern Hospital in Minnesota, and colleagues conducted a phase 2a trial to assess the safety and preliminary efficacy of intramyocardial delivery of ixmyelocel-T in 22 patients with ischemic and non-ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy. Participants with New York Heart Association (NYHA) [Heart Failure](#) Class III/IV, a [left ventricular ejection fraction](#) of 30 percent, and limited treatment options were randomly allocated in a 2:1 ratio to ixmyelocel-T or control. [Bone marrow cells](#) were cultured to expand the number of activated macrophages and [mesenchymal cells](#) and then injected into the [heart muscle](#) after cardiac mapping. Safety and efficacy were assessed at baseline and at three, six, and 12 months.

The researchers found that there were no procedural complications and no between-group differences in adverse events. Improved clinical outcomes were seen in patients with ischemic

dilated cardiomyopathy, with a mean number of 0.22 major adverse cardiovascular events, versus 1.67 in control patients. Compared with controls or patients with non-ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy, more patients with ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy had improvements in NYHA Class, six-minute walk distance, and ejection fraction.

"Treatment with ixmyelocel-T was well tolerated and patients who received the cell therapy showed improved symptoms after one year," Henry said in a statement. "The results provide a strong basis for a larger clinical trial of this treatment in patients with dilated cardiomyopathy."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to biotechnology companies, including Aastrom Biosciences, which funded the study.

More information: [Press Release](#)
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