CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Use of a trace element for the manufacture of a medicament for inducing tissue repair in a brain tissue of an individual having a brain tissue injury, wherein the trace element is copper or zinc, and wherein the trace element is formulated for delivery to the site of injury.

2. Use of a trace element for the manufacture of a medicament for inducing blood vessel growth towards the site of a brain injury in an individual, wherein the trace element is copper or zinc, and wherein the trace element is formulated for delivery to the site of injury.

3. The use of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the medicament is to be used in combination with an effective amount of mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs).

4. The use of any one of claims 1-3, wherein trace element is formulated for direct delivery to the site of injury.

5. The use of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the trace element is comprised by a microbubble.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein the microbubble is formulated for intravenous administration, and wherein the trace element is released through site-directed bursting of the microbubble at the site of the injury.

7. The use of claim 6, wherein the site-directed bursting of the microbubble is by ultrasound.

8. The use of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the trace element is formulated for injection *via* a catheter and stays concentrated at the injection site upon injection.

9. The use of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the trace element is comprised by an implant.

10. The use of claim 9, wherein the implant is coated with the trace element.

11. The use of claim 9 or claim 10, wherein the implant is selected from the group consisting of a stent, a plate and a membrane.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the individual has a compromised tissue repair system.

13. The use of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the individual has a chronic tissue injury.

14. The use of any one of claim 1-13, wherein the individual is deficient in stem cells.

15. The use of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the individual is at least 60 years old.

16. The use of any one of claims 1-15, wherein the trace element is copper.

17. The use of any one of claims 1-16, wherein blood vessel growth is to be measured at the site of injury.