CLAIMS

1. A method for treating inflammation in a subject having a condition, the method comprising selecting cells that have a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation, assaying the selected cells for the desired potency, and administering the cells having the desired potency to the subject, in a therapeutically effective amount and for a time sufficient to achieve a therapeutic result, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers.

2. A method for treating inflammation in a subject having a condition, the method comprising administering cells having a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation to the subject, in a therapeutically effective amount and for a time sufficient to achieve a therapeutic result, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers, wherein, prior to administration, the cells were validated as having the desired potency.

3. A method for modulating macrophage activation in a subject having a condition, the method comprising selecting cells that have a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation, assaying the cells for the desired potency, and administering the cells having the desired potency to the subject, in a therapeutically effective amount and for a time sufficient to achieve a therapeutic result, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers.

4. A method for modulating macrophage activation in a subject having a condition, the method comprising administering cells having a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation to the subject, in a therapeutically effective amount and for a time sufficient to achieve a therapeutic result, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers, wherein, prior to administration, the cells were validated as having the desired potency.

5. The method of any of claims 1-4, wherein the administered cells are allogeneic.

6. The method of any of claims 1-5, wherein the administered cells increase neuroprotective (M2) and/or decrease neurotoxic (M1) activation.

7. The method of any of claims 1-6 wherein potency is assessed by an assay selected from the group consisting of (1) assay for macrophage activation factor expressed in or secreted by the cells, (2) assay for macrophage activation, (3) assay for antigen presentation of macrophages, and (4) assay for morphological changes of macrophages during activation.

8. A method for determining a therapeutically effective amount of cells administered to a subject having a condition, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1, and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, or mesodermal germ layers, the method comprising assessing, following administration of the cells to the subject, an *in vivo* biomarker of activated macrophage in a subject *in vivo,* wherein the cells express and secrete one or more factors that modulate macrophage activation.

9. The method of any of claims 1-8, wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of acute and chronic conditions in central nervous system injury, e.g., stroke; ischemic stroke, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's Disease, ALS, Parkinson's Disease, hypoxic-ischemia, neonatal hypoxic ischemia, and traumatic brain or spinal cord injury.

10. The method of any of claims 1-9, wherein the subject is human.

11. A method for constructing a cell bank, the method comprising selecting cells that have a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation and expanding and storing said cells for future administration to a subject, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers.

12. A method for constructing a cell bank, the method comprising expanding and storing cells for future administration to a subject, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers, the cells having been validated for having a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation.

13. A method for drug discovery, the method comprising selecting cells that have a desired potency for modulating macrophage activation and exposing said cells to an agent to assess the effect of the agent on the ability of the cells to modulate macrophage activation, the cells being non-embryonic stem, non-germ cells that express one or more of oct4, telomerase, rex-1, or rox-1 and/or can differentiate into cell types of at least two of endodermal, ectodermal, and mesodermal germ layers.

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