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(54) Title: POTENCY ASSAY

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for determining the biological activity or therapeutic efficacy of cultured mesenchymal lineage precursor cells or stem cells the based on their released TGF-9 levels in culture. The present invention also relates to isolated populations of mesenchymal lineage precursor cells or stem cells selected based on the level of TGF-9 levels released by such cells in culture. The present invention further relates to treatment of a subject suffering from a degenerative disc disease by administering such selected cell populations.



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