CLAIMS

1. A ~~method~~ composition comprising of a cell population enriched for STRO-1^{bright} multipotential cells or progeny thereof for treating ~~and/~~or preventing a disease in a subject arising from degradation and/or inflammation of connective tissue~~, the method comprising administering to the subject MPCs and/or progeny cells thereof and/or soluble factors derived therefrom~~.

2. The ~~method~~ composition of claim 1, wherein the connective tissue is rich in proteoglycans.

3. The ~~method~~ composition of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the connective tissue is cartilage.

4. The ~~method~~ composition of claim 3, wherein the disease results in one or more defects in the cartilage.

5. The ~~method~~ composition of claim 4, wherein the ~~MPCs and/or progeny cells and/or soluble factors are~~composition is not directly administered into a cartilage defect.

6. The ~~method~~ composition of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the ~~MPCs and/or progeny cells and/or soluble factors are~~composition is in a form suitable for ~~administered~~ administration to a joint space.

7. The ~~method~~ composition of claim 6, wherein the joint space is in a knee joint, hip joint, ankle joint, shoulder joint, elbow joint, wrist joint, hand or finger joint or a joint of the foot, or an intervertebral disc joint.

8. The ~~method~~composition of claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the MPCs and/or progeny cells and/or soluble factors are administered by intra-articular injection.

9. The ~~method~~composition of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the administration of ~~MPCs and/or progeny cells and/or soluble factors~~composition results in preservation or generation of cartilage that is rich in ~~proteoglygasn~~proteoglycans.

10. The ~~method~~composition of claim 9, wherein the cartilage that is rich in proteoglycan is hyaline cartilage.

11. The ~~method~~composition of any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein the disease is tendonitis, back pain, rotary cuff tendon degradation, Carpal tunnel syndrome, DeQuervain's syndrome, degenerative cervical and/or lumbar discs, intersection syndrome, reflex sympathetic dystrophy syndrome (RSDS), stenosing tenosynovitis, epicondylitis, tenosynovitis, thoracic outlet syndrome, ulnar nerve entrapment, radial tunnel syndrome, repetitive strain injury (RSI), osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, seronegative arthritis, arthritis associated with inflammatory bowel disease or ankylosing spondylitis and degenerate ~~invertebral~~ intervertebral disc disorders.

12. The ~~method~~composition of any one of claims 1 to 11 which further comprises administering a chondroprotective agent~~hyaluronic acid (HA)~~.

~~13. A composition comprising;~~

~~i) supernatant, or one or more soluble factors, derived from mesenchymal precursor cells (MPCs) and/or progeny cells thereof, and~~

~~ii) hyaluronic acid.~~

~~14~~13. A composition comprising;

i) ~~mesenchymal precursor cells (MPCs)~~ a cell population enriched for STRO-1^{bright} multipotential cells or progeny thereof and/or progeny cells thereof, and

ii) ~~hyaluronic acid~~a chondroprotective agent.

~~15. Use of supernatant, or one or more soluble factors, derived from mesenchymal precursor cells (MPCs) and/or progeny cells thereof for generating, repairing and/or maintaining connective tissue in a subject.~~

14. The composition of any one of claims 1-12 or 13, wherein the cell population is an allogenic cell population.

15. The composition of any one of claims 1-12 or 14, wherein the chondroprotective agent is hyaluronic acid.