CLAIMS

1. Use of a composition comprising mesenchymal lineage precursor or stem cells (MLPSCs) in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing opioid use in a subject, in which the subject is using an opioid.

2. Use according to Claim 1, in which the composition comprises hyaluronic acid (HA).

3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the subject is using an opioid for pain.

4. Use according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which of the pain is chronic pain.

5. Use according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which pain is lower back pain, preferably in which the lower back pain is associated with a degenerated disc.

6. Use according to Claim 5, in which the lower back pain is non-radicular in origin and/or is associated with one or more of:

an intervertebral disc herniation up to a 3mm protrusion;

nerve ingrowth into an intervertebral disc; and

inflammation in an intervertebral disc.

7. Use according to Claim 6, in which the nerve ingrowth or inflammation is in the intervertebral disc space, or the nucleus pulposus, or the annulus fibrosis of the intervertebral disc.

8. Use according to any preceding claim, in which opioid use is reduced between 1 and 3 months after administration of the composition.

9. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 7, in which opioid use is reduced for at least 12 months after administration of the composition.

10. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 8, in which opioid use is reduced relative to the subject's average baseline morphine equivalent dose prior to administering the composition.

11. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the subject has been using an opioid for at least 1 to 6 months prior to administering the composition.

12. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the opioid is morphine.

13. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the subject's opioid use is reduced by between 20% and 40% relative to their baseline opioid use prior to administering the composition.

14. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the subject discontinues opioid use between 12 months and 24 months after administering the composition.

15. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the MLPSCs are STRO-1+.

16. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 14, in which the MLPSCs are mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs).

17. Use according to any of Claims 3 to 16, in which the subject's mean EQ-5D score is increased from baseline after administering the composition.

18. Use according to any of Claims 3 to 17, in which the subject achieves a ODI 10 point function response, preferably a 15 point ODI function response after administering the composition.

19. Use of a composition comprising mesenchymal lineage precursor or stem cells (MLPSCs) in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing pain, in which the subject is using an opioid.

20. Use of a composition comprising mesenchymal lineage precursor or stem cells (MLPSCs) in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing pain and/or increasing EQ-5D score, in which the subject is using an opioid.

21. An opioid sparing composition comprising mesenchymal lineage precursor or stem cells (MLPSCs) and 1% hyaluronic acid (HA).