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(54) Title: HUMAN PANCREATIC EPITHELIAL PROGENITOR CELLS AND METHODS OF ISOLATION AND USE THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The invention discloses a substantially pure population of human pancreatic progenitor cells and methods of isolating and culturing the pancreatic progenitor cells. By carefully manipulating the microenvironment of the pancreatic progenitor cells, multiple passages are attainable wherein the pancreatic progenitor cells do not senesce and furthermore, are capable of becoming functional exocrine or endocrine cells. In addition, several methods of use of human pancreatic progenitor cells are disclosed herein.