

MEDIA RELEASE

Cordlife to advance research on Mesenchymal Stem Cell Secretome-based products for the treatment of Osteoarthritis

- Cordlife Hong Kong and Hong Kong Regen Medtech Limited partner for a two-year study on the application of umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cell-derived secretome for advancement in the field of regenerative medicine.
- Cordlife will be instrumental in providing high quality umbilical cord samples for the culture of mesenchymal stem cells and extraction of secretomes for the treatment of osteoarthritis.
- This project will tap into the growing demand for regenerative medicine that has the potential to provide effective, customised solutions that address unmet medical needs.

SINGAPORE, 25 July 2023 – Cordlife Group Limited (“**Cordlife**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”), a Singapore Exchange mainboard listed company, has entered into a research collaboration with Hong Kong Regen Medtech Limited (“**HKRM**”) through Cordlife Hong Kong (“**CLHK**”) for a two-year project. This partnership explores the application of umbilical cord mesenchymal stem cell (“**MSC**”)–derived secretome product as innovative therapeutic approaches in the treatment of arthritic diseases. It aims to accelerate the development and commercialisation of such innovative regenerative medicine.

This collaboration is facilitated by the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (“**HKSTP**”), which has been instrumental in providing Cordlife and other like-minded companies to foster innovation and discovery of groundbreaking medical technologies. Cordlife’s extensive experience will be critical in providing high-quality samples and conducting donor screening, having been in the stem cell business for more than 20 years and processing close to half a million biological samples. HKRM, backed by a highly experienced team in stem cell therapy, will culture the MSC to extract the valuable secretome and test for a potential treatment for osteoarthritis, the most common arthritic disease with no cure.

The research content will be based on the umbilical cord MSC-derived secretome, which is a group of bioactive molecules and factors that are released by umbilical cord MSCs. Due to their novel properties, such as immunomodulatory and regenerative capacities, umbilical cord MSCs have attracted a lot of attention in the field of regenerative medicine. These cells have the capacity to secrete secretome, which is a collection of different bioactive molecules, cytokines, growth factors, and extracellular vesicles. It is believed that the secretome of MSCs contributes to their therapeutic effects by modulating the surrounding tissue environment, promoting tissue repair, and reducing inflammation. Studies on the potential of MSC-derived secretomes show promise in treating osteoarthritis, demonstrating that secretome can improve joint environment, cartilage repair, and inflammation.



Regenerative medicine is a rapidly evolving market that is projected to reach US\$180.87 billion by 2030, at a compound annual growth rate of 15.7% in the next decade¹. The trend towards regenerative medicine is driven by the increasing demand for more effective and personalised therapies that address unmet medical needs.

“This partnership between HKRM and Cordlife showcases our commitment to advance stem cell therapies across borders in the field of regenerative medicine, translating these scientific breakthroughs into safe and effective real-world medical solutions,” commented Ms Tan Poh Lan, Group CEO and Executive Director of Cordlife Group Limited. “We are excited to embark on a transformational journey with HKRM and I am confident that this project will combine the strengths of both organisations, driving advancements and opening new avenues in this field.”

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ABOUT CORDLIFE GROUP LIMITED

Cordlife Group Limited (“Cordlife”, together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”), founded in 2001, is a leading company dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of mother and child. Listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange since 2012, the Group is a pioneer in private cord blood banking in Asia. Cordlife operates Asia’s largest network of cord blood banks. With full stem cell banking facilities in six key markets, Cordlife is an industry leader in Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and the Philippines, and one of the top three market leaders in India and Malaysia. Through its majority-owned subsidiary in Malaysia, Stemlife Berhad, Cordlife has an indirect stake in Thailand’s largest private cord blood bank, Thai Stemlife. In addition to cord blood, cord lining, cord tissue and lenticule banking, Cordlife offers families a comprehensive suite of diagnostics services, including non-invasive prenatal testing, paediatric vision screening, and newborn metabolic screening.

Two of Cordlife’s primary focus areas are providing reliable quality and being customer-centric. All of the Group’s facilities are accredited by the Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies (“AABB”), an organisation dedicated to its mission of improving lives by making transfusion medicine and biotherapies safe, available, and effective worldwide. Furthermore, Cordlife Singapore and Healthbaby Hong Kong are the only two private cord blood banks in Asia and five worldwide to be accredited by both AABB and the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (“FACT”), another world-class accreditation body for cord blood banks worldwide. In the area of clinical diagnostics, Cordlife India and Healthbaby Hong Kong are both accredited by the College of American Pathologists (“CAP”). This makes Healthbaby Hong Kong the only private cord blood bank in the world to be accredited by three international standard-setting bodies, and Cordlife India one of the only two medical laboratories in West Bengal to be holding accreditations

¹ Bloomberg: [Regenerative Medicine Market to be Worth \\$180.87 Billion by 2030: Grand View Research, Inc.](#)



from the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories ("NABL") and CAP. These quality achievements reinforce the Group's commitment to providing reliable healthcare solutions through innovation and technological advancement. For more information, visit <http://cordlife.listedcompany.com>.

ABOUT HONG KONG REGEN MEDTECH LIMITED

Founded in 2019, Hong Kong Regen Medtech Limited ("HKRM") is a stem cell biotechnology company dedicated to developing stem cell therapies for intractable diseases, targeting degenerative and immunological conditions. HKRM utilises a stem cell manipulation and differentiation platform that mimics native developmental niches to generate high-quality cell therapy products. In response to the Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Ordinance 2020 implemented by the Department of Health in Hong Kong, HKRM aims to become the first private company in Asia with a PICS/GMP ATP cell processing facility. This regulatory framework for Advanced Therapy Products (ATPs) ensures compliance and facilitates the production of high-quality ATPs for patients.

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