

Press release

Warsaw, 26th February 2019

Progress in research on the creation of bionic pancreas. At the beginning of March, scientists of the Foundation of Research and Science Development will be the first in the world to carry out a test of bioprinting of a fully vascularized organ in 3D technology. The prototype of the bionic pancreas will be placed in a bioreactor built by them and subjected to further tests.

Foundation of Research and Science Development, as a leader of the Bionic Consortium, implements the project of bionic pancreas scaffolding bioprinting in 3D technology, co-financed from Polish National Centre for Research and Development under the STRATEGMED III programme. The aim of the project is to create a “tailor-made” pancreas from the patient's stem cells, which will eliminate the risk of rejection. The innovation of the bionic pancreas is based on the application of a unique composition of bioink, containing living cells and pancreatic islets. Intensive implementation and patent works are in progress in the laboratory as well as the latest research necessary to carry out a bio-printing test of a bionic organ.

3D printing is the future of modern medicine, which can change the lives of many patients. Therefore, scientists working on the bionic pancreas decided to significantly extend the scope of their research. The Foundation plans to start further projects of bioprinting of tissue and whole organs. In this way the idea of organizing a charity auction was born, from which the funds will be used in full for the expansion of the Labory for Tissue Bioprinting. The Foundation plans to create a modern research base enabling the implementation of new projects related to bioprint.

The originators and founders of Cellink, the world's forerunner in the field of 3D printing, became interested in the research of the Polish scientific centre. Erik Gatenholm and Hector Martinez will visit the Foundation's laboratory and take part in a charity auction. The event will take place on March 14th in Warsaw. The auction of artistic photographs from the microscope will be conducted by Anita Wolszczak-Karasiewicz, the owner of the 'Art in House' Auction House. The Foundation's team has created an unconventional and innovative combination of science and art, through which it promotes the achievements of Polish scientists and opportunities for the development of modern medicine.

<https://fundacjabirn.pl/aukcja/>

„Fundacja Badań i Rozwoju Nauki”
ul. Rydygiera 8, 01-793 Warszawa
NIP 532-19-86-390
e-mail: sekretariat@fundacjabirn.pl
Tel. 22 897 66 97



Foundation of Research and Science Development was established in 2009. The organization deals mainly with educational and research activities in the field of medical and biochemical sciences. Over the 10 years of its operation, the Foundation has carried out many impressive projects. Starting from pioneering research on endoscopic transplantation of pancreatic islets under gastric mucosa, participation in the theoretical development of medical protection for the manned mission to Mars, conducting a nationwide educational campaign "Ogarnij cukier - Wean off sugar" and pilot research on gene expression in diabetes, to taking up the challenge of bioprinting of bionic pancreas in 3D technology. The Foundation was and still is inspired by the scientific activity of Michał Wszola MD, PhD, a transplantologist surgeon, the author of a new method of mini-invasive treatment of complicated diabetes - endoscopic transplantation of pancreatic islets under gastric mucosa and the co-founder of international multimedia platforms for the exchange of medical knowledge: medtube.net and medizzy.com.

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For more info please contact:

Joanna Krueger

International Media Specialist

joanna.krueger@fundacjabirn.pl

„Fundacja Badań i Rozwoju Nauki”
ul. Rydygiera 8, 01-793 Warszawa
NIP 532-19-86-390
e-mail: sekretariat@fundacjabirn.pl
Tel. 22 897 66 97