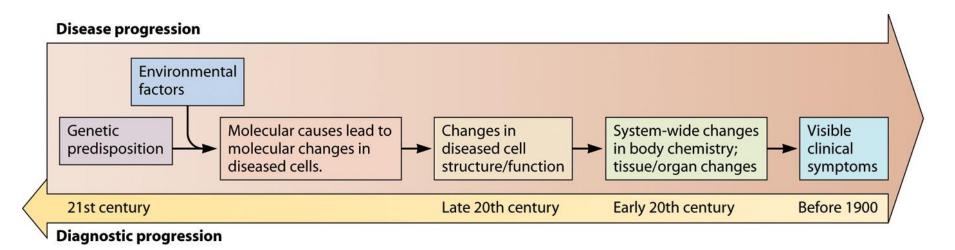
Chapter 19

# **Health Care Applications**



## **Better Medical Technology**

- More significant information for improving health
- Early and cheap diagnosis
- Identification of the cause, not a symptom
- Cure rather than management, disease prevention rather than treatment
- Fewer adverse side effects
- More efficacious and more affordable

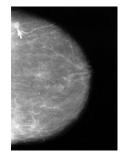


# **Molecular Diagnostics**

#### Diagnosis

- Based on symptoms
  - Different disease with same symptoms
  - Maybe too late to cure
- Visualization
  - X-ray
- Chemical imbalance and blood disorders
- Molecular diagnostics
  - Detection of a specific molecular event related to disease
  - Less invasive: use urine, blood, or saliva







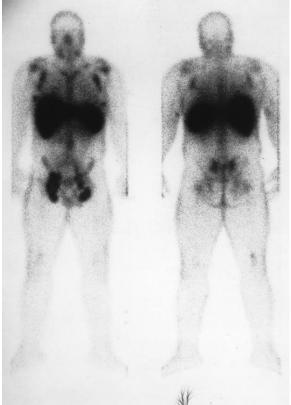
Disease diagnosis



#### Lung cancer Breast cancer

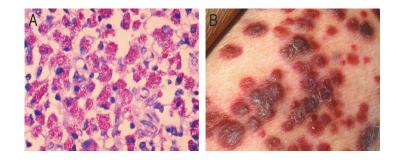
# Monoclonal antibodies in cancer detection

A radioactive isotope attached to monoclonal antibodies



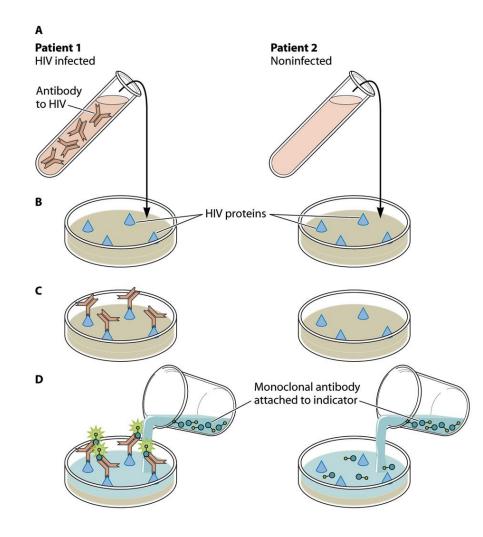
# Early Diagnosis of Contagious Disease

- Monoclonal antibody-based diagnosis
  - Detection of pathogenic bacteria without culture
  - Diagnosis of HIV
    - AIDS-defining illnesses
      - Rare infectious diseases and uncommon cancers
      - Do not appear until 9 to
        10 years after infection



- Detection of HIV using antibody
  - HIV infection was identified as a cause of AIDS (1983)
  - Detection of HIV antibody generated in the patient
     6 to 12 months after infection
  - Detection of HIV DNA by PCR

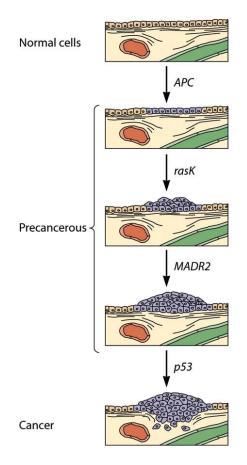
#### **Detection of HIV**



#### **Other Diseases and Disorders**

#### Biomarkers

- Molecular changes specific to the stages of disease progress
- Provide targets for disease treatment
- For example, a number of mutations to become cancerous
- Identifying biomarkers and using them
  - Disease treatment
    - $\rightarrow$  Disease prevention



## **Genetic Information for Familial Diseases**

- Simple and complex genetic diseases
  - Simple genetic diseases
    - Caused by a single gene mutation
  - Multigenic disorder
    - Many genes contribute to the disorder
  - Multifactorial disorder
    - Genes and environmental factors interact and lead to the disorder
- Majority of mortal diseases are both multigenic and multifactorial.

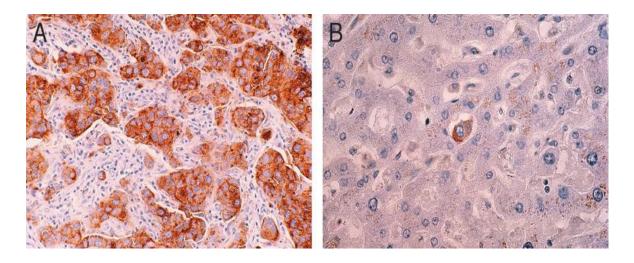
## **Biotechnology Therapeutics**

#### Features of biotechnology-based therapeutics

- Specificity
  - Specific inhibition of targets rather than general inhibition
    - Cancer-specific targeting
- Biological therapeutics
  - Use natural products synthesized by plants, microbes, insects, and other animals
  - Search diverse ecosystems like sea
- New production methods
  - Large-scale, economically feasible production
  - Recombinant DNA technology, cell culture, biomanufacturing technologies

# Targeted Therapy with Monoclonal Antibodies

 Monoclonal antibodies can deliver chemotherapeutic toxins specifically to cancer cells.



- A. Cytoplasm of tumor cells in breast tissue is stained brown with a monoclonal antibody
- B. The same monoclonal antibody is able to locate a single breast cancer cell that has metastasized to the patient's liver.

## **Biotechnology Therapeutics**

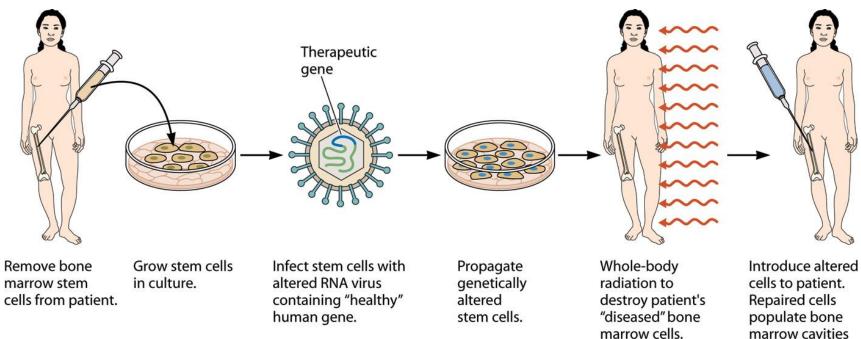
#### Use immune systems for treatments

- Cytokines boosting immune response
  - Interleukin-2: cancer, AIDS
  - Interleukin-12: some infectious disease
- Cancer vaccines
- Replacement of missing proteins with recombinant proteins
  - Insulin for diabetes
  - Glucocerebrosidase for Gaucher's disease
  - Hemophiliacs: missing components in the formation of a blood clot
    - Treatment of recombinant factor VIII (for hemophilia A) or factor IX (for hemophilia B)

## **Gene Therapy**

- Administration of correct gene
- Applicable to some hereditary monogenic diseases
  - Hemophilia
  - Severe combined immunodeficiency disease (SCID); bubble boy disease
- Trial to transient gene therapy for non-hereditary disorders like cancer, infectious disease
- Still many technical barriers to overcome
  - e.g. gene delivery

#### **Gene Therapy**



and give rise to normal RBCs.

## **Cell or Organ Transplantation**

- Not enough supply of organ donations
  - In U.S. 60,000 people are on organ recipient list
  - 12 death/day while waiting
- Xenotransplantation
  - Organs from other animals like pig
  - Problems
    - Self protection mechanism of body
    - Risk of infectious viruses or retroviruses
  - Solutions
    - · Genetic modification of the donor animals
      - Deletion of pig genes triggering the rejection
      - Adds genes of human membrane proteins
- Cell transplant therapy

# **Cell Transplant Therapy**

#### Bone marrow transfer

- In some cases, the patient's own bone marrow cells are removed, grown in culture, and reimplanted after chemotherapy.
- In the case of leukemia or other blood cell cancer, the transplanted bone marrow must come from a healthy donor who is genetically similar to the patient.
- Implantation of insulin-producing cells for diabetes
- Prevention of immune response
  - Monoclonal antibodies to various receptors on T cells, that recognize and reject foreign cells.
  - Cell encapsulation: prevent recognition by the immune system

## **Regenerative Medicine**

- Use the body's natural healing processes to cure diseases
- Endogenous proteins promoting cell division and differentiation
  - Epidermal growth factor: wound healing
  - Fibroblast growth factor: healing ulcers, broken bones, growing new blood vessels
  - Transforming growth factor β : promote cell differentiation
  - Nerve growth factor: repair damage resulting from head and spinal cord injuries, degenerative neural diseases

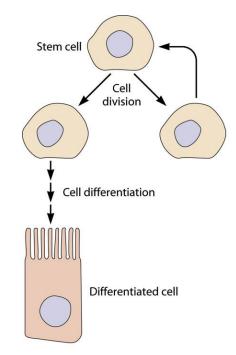
# **Stem Cells for Regenerative Medicine**

#### Adult stem cells

- Partially differentiated progenitor cells
- Types of AS cells
  - Bone marrow AS cells → cells in blood and bone
  - Liver AS cells → liver cells: bilesecreting cells, glycogen storage cells

## ES cells

- Pluripotent
- Isolation of human ES cells (1998)
  - From blastocysts or progenitor germ cells from aborted fetuses

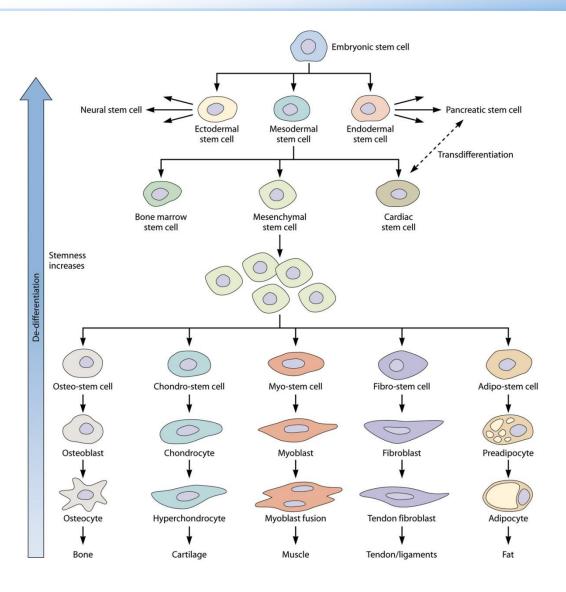


One stem cell and one differentiated cell after cell division to maintain a constant supply

## **Therapeutic Potential of Stem Cells**

- Replacement of damaged cells with AS or ES cells
- Research on differentiation
  - Identification of proper growth factors, nutrients, and environmental factors for specific differentiation
  - Transdifferentiation
    - From one AS cell to another type of AS cell
- Research on dedifferentiation
  - Factors that reverse differentiation
  - Dolly: cloning from the fully differentiated somatic cell
  - Dedifferentiation can provide ES cells without using embryo, BUT... it is hard to study dedifferentiation without using ES cells

#### **AS Cell De-differentiation**

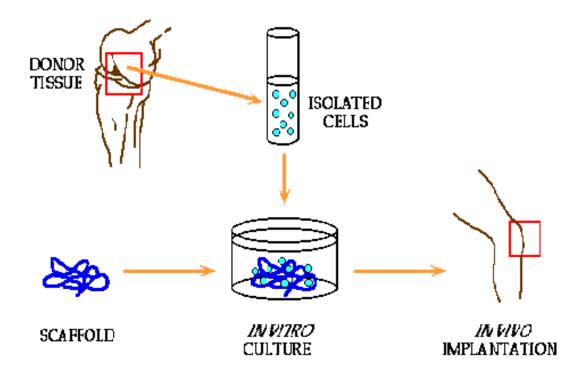


## **Tissue Engineering**

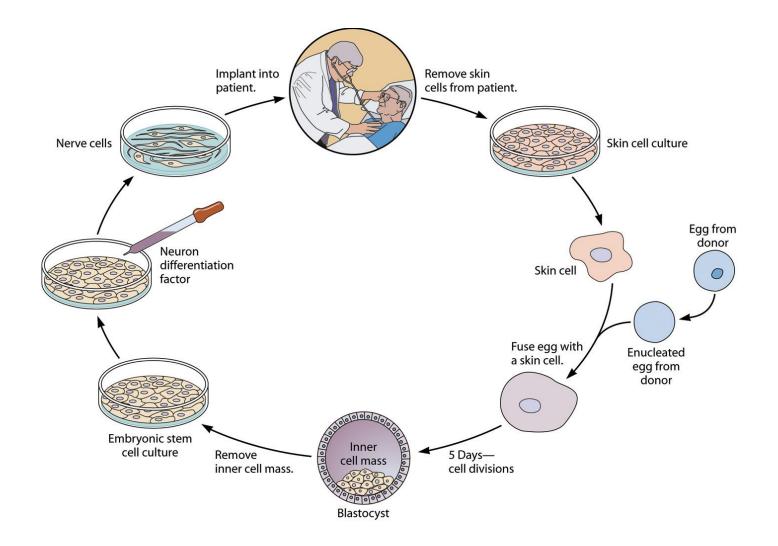
Generation of semisynthetic tissues and organs

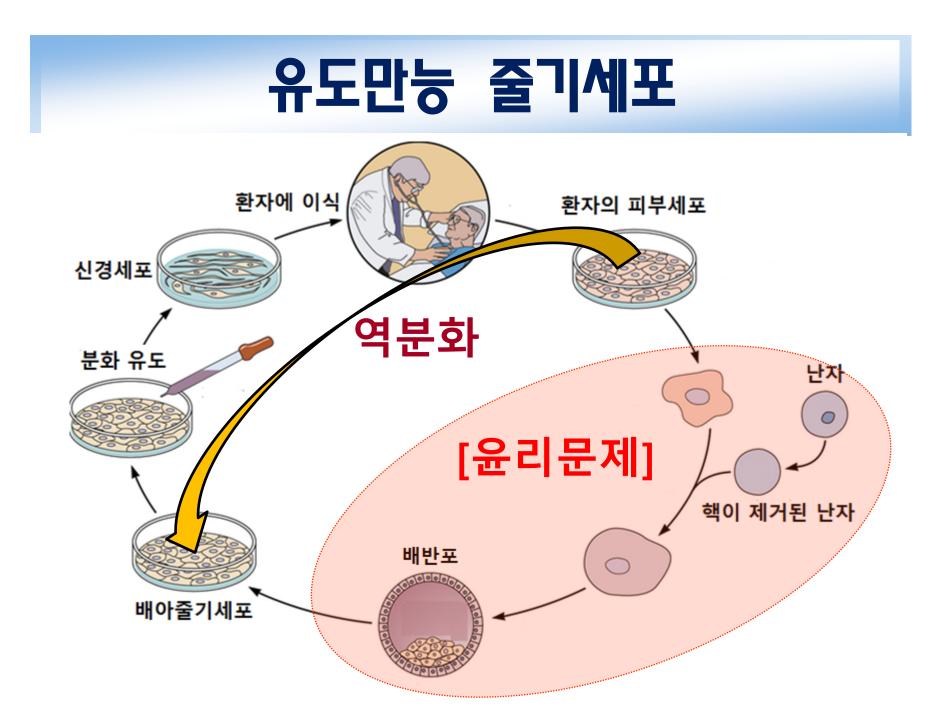
- Biocompatible scaffolding materials
  - Synthetic polymer or natural material (e.g. collagen)
- Living cells grown in culture
  - Fully differentiated cells
- From simple tissues and organs (skin, cartilage, urinary bladders) to whole organs using stem cells

#### **Tissue Engineering**



#### **Immune-Compatible Stem Cells**





# Vaccines

- Vaccines
  - harmless agents that elicit an immune response, thereby providing protective immunity against a potential pathogen

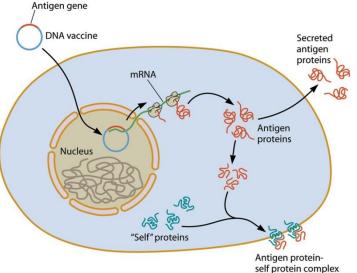
#### Types of vaccines

- Killed vaccines, attenuated vaccine
  - Potential problems
    - Side effects: allergic reactions, cause disease
    - Difficulty in mass production outside of the human body
    - Potential risk during human testing
- Subunit vaccines
  - Surface proteins of pathogen inducing immune response
  - Production using recombinant DNA technology
  - Vaccines for infectious virus (Hepatitis B), diabetes, cancer, chronic inflammatory disease etc.

# **DNA or Edible Vaccines**

#### DNA vaccines

#### Delivery of vector containing antigen gene



#### Edible vaccines

- Genetically modified animals or plants producing vaccines
  - Vaccines in milk
  - Vaccines in bananas or potatoes