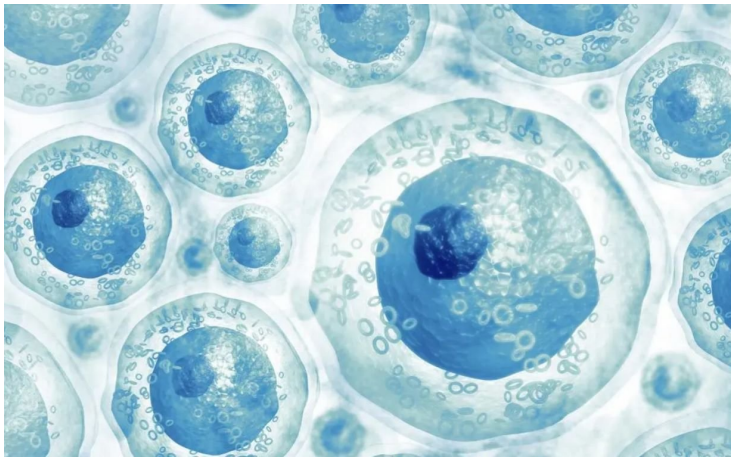
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Japan's Celaid, AGC partner on stem cell technology expansion and evaluation research

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Celaid's human HSC expansion technology will be applied to AGC's iPSC-HSPCs



Japan-based startup Celaid Therapeutics Inc. has executed a collaborative research agreement with AGC Inc. to advance Induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-derived hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells (iPSC-HSPCs).

The collaboration aims to combine Celaid's proprietary platform of hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) expansion technology with AGC's iPSC technology to accelerate robust and scalable expansion of iPSC-HSPCs.

In this project, Celaid's human HSC expansion technology will be applied to AGC's iPSC-HSPCs. The functionality of the expanded cells will be evaluated through *in vitro* experiments and *in vivo* animal transplantation. Through this collaboration, the two companies aim to demonstrate a method for large-scale expansion of high-quality iPSC-HSPCs - addressing key manufacturing challenges in the development of iPSC-derived blood and immune cell therapies.

"We are excited to partner with AGC to leverage and combine cutting-edge stem cell technologies to drive future breakthroughs," stated Nobuyuki Arakawa, President and CEO of Celaid. "This collaboration represents a significant step toward resolving the key challenges in the clinical manufacturing of iPSC-derived hematopoietic and immune cell therapy products."