

General Applications of Mammalian Cell Cultures

by

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- Important applications of mammalian cell cultures include:

1- Virology and Vaccines Production.

2- Drug Discovery and Screening.

3- Toxicology Testing.

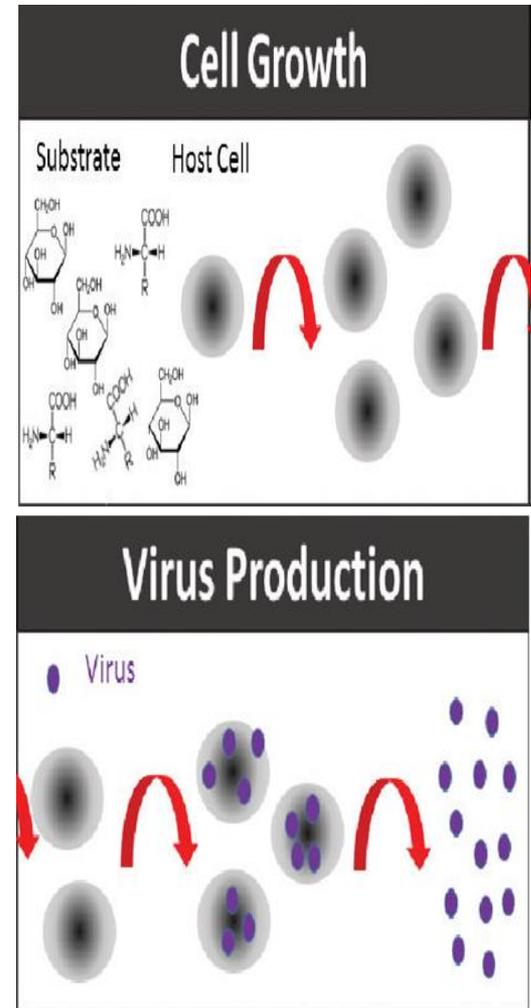
4- Cancer Research.

5- Biotechnology and Tissue Engineering.

6- Genetically Engineered Proteins.

1- Virology and Vaccines Production

- Cell cultures has become a very useful and convenient method for isolating viruses since 1949 when Enders successfully cultured polio viruses on neuronal cell culture.
- Since that time, cell culture still remains the “gold standard” for isolating many viruses.



- This because:

- A single cell culture can cultivate a broad spectrum of viruses.

- Cultures facilitate production of high tittered viruses used in Abs testing, viral characterization and molecular analysis.

- Regarding vaccine production, cell cultures have been used to produce virus-based vaccines since early 1950s.

- Vaccine production is the first industrial application of animal cell culture technology.

- Vaccine that have been produced by cell cultures:

Polio

Measles

Rubella

Mumps

Chickenpox

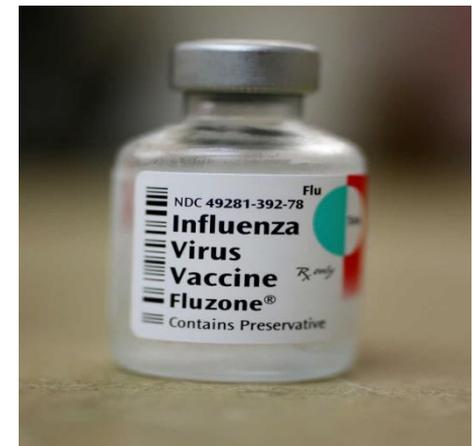
Smallpox

Rabies

Hepatitis

Influenza

Rotavirus



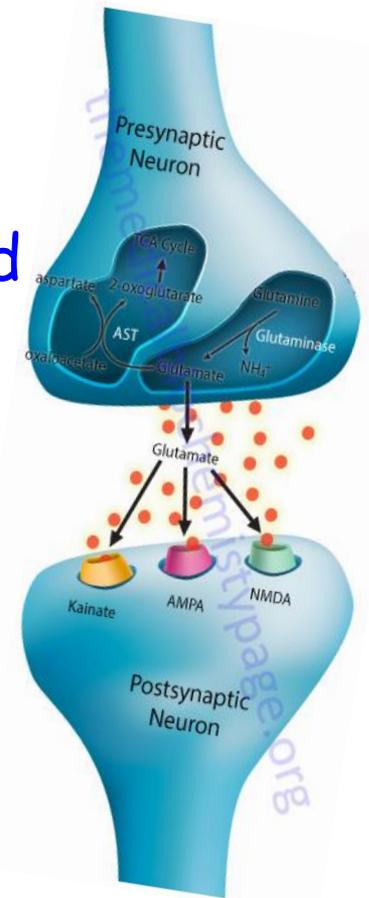
2- Drug Discovery and Screening

- Cell cultures play an initial and crucial role in drug development and screening.
- They are superior to *in vivo* models as they:
 - 1- More efficient.
 - 2- Costless (low compounds requirement and short duration).
 - 3- Escape ethical issues.

• Testing the potential neuroprotective effect of rotigotine against Glu toxicity in primary mesencephalic cell culture (a PD *in vitro* model):

▪ Concept:

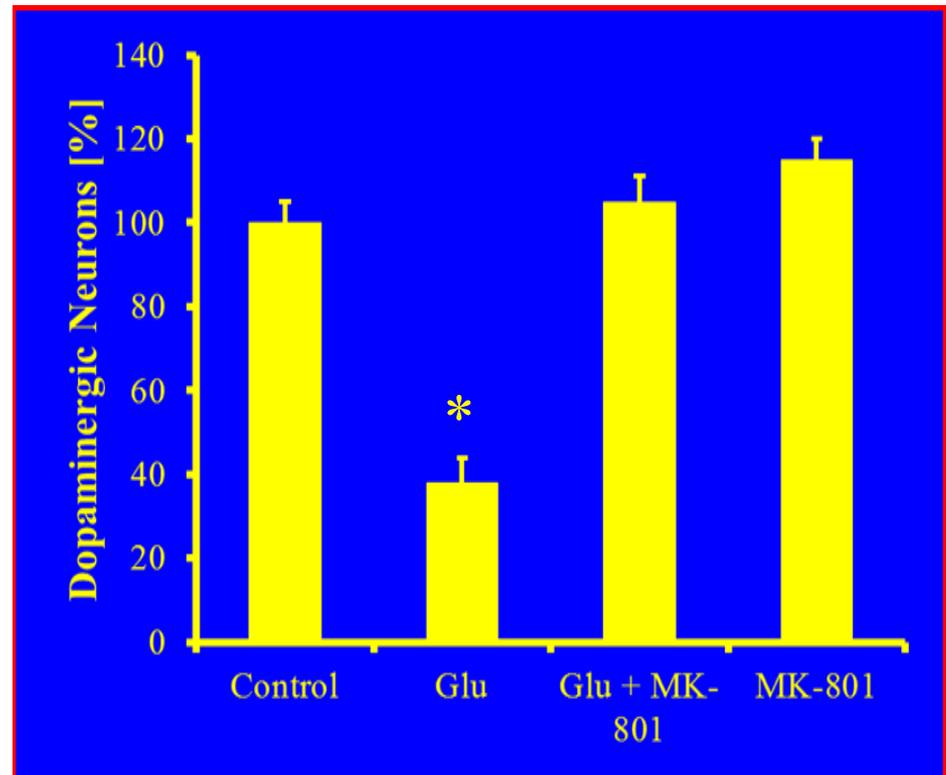
- Glu is an **excitatory** neurotransmitter released by **glutamatergic** neurons in the brain.
- Upon **elevation**, Glu can result in degeneration of **DAergic** neurons by stimulation of **NMDA** receptors which in turn increases IC Ca^{2+} burden and **mitochondrial damage**.

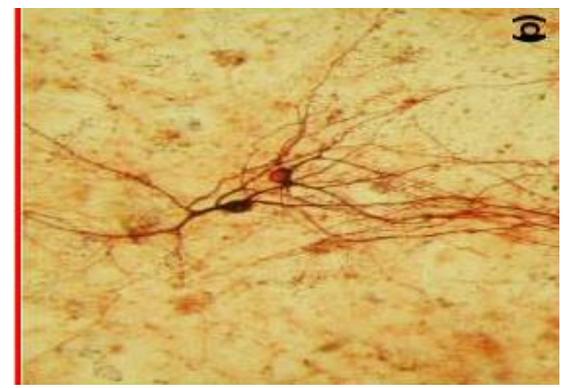
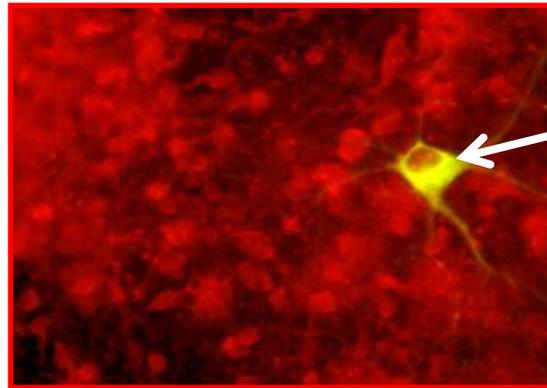
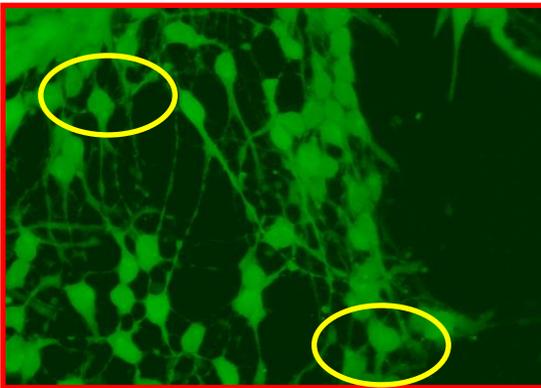
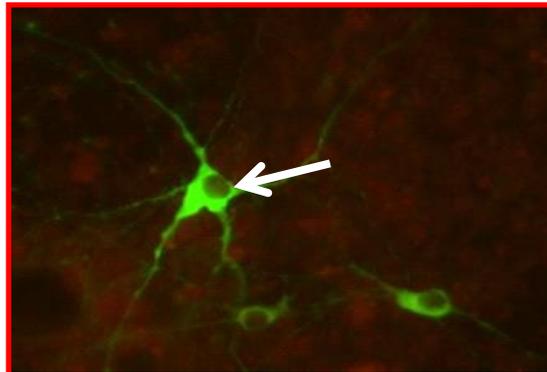
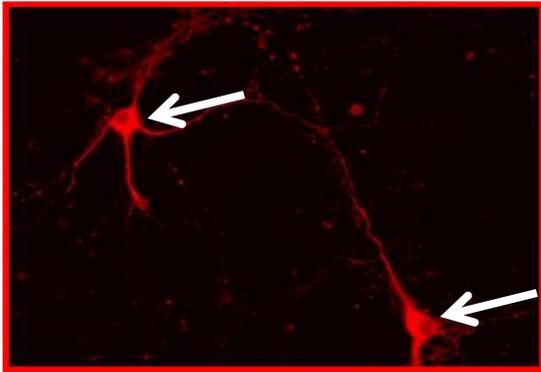


- Steps:

- 0.5 mM Glu to the cultures on the 10th DIV for 9 min followed by a 2-day recovery period resulted in:

(1) Stimulation of
NMDA receptors





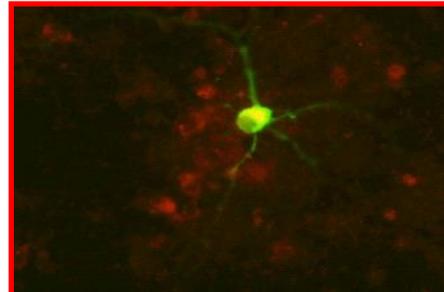
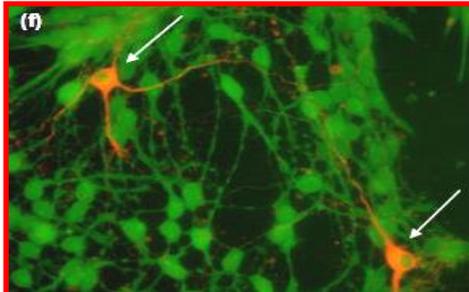
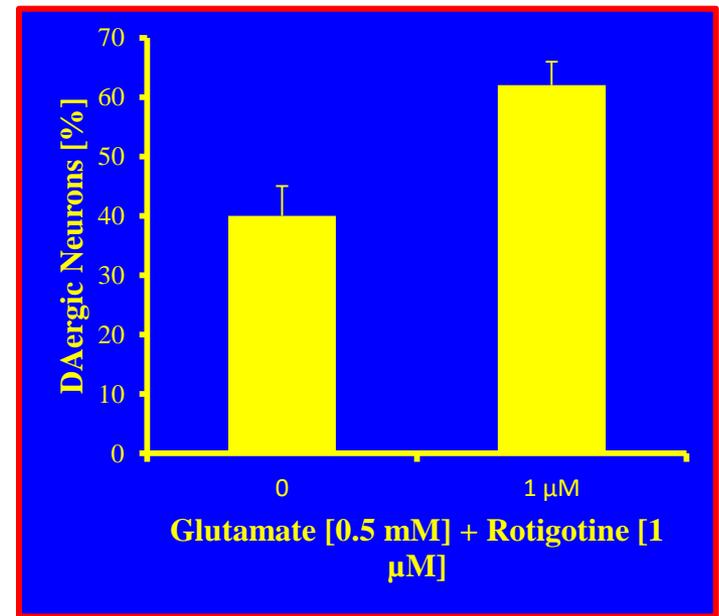
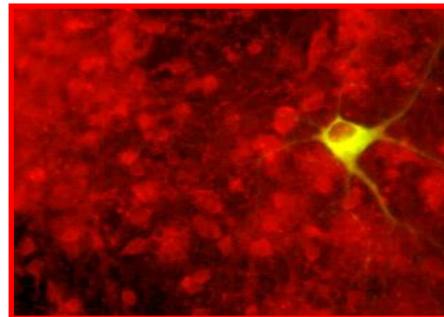
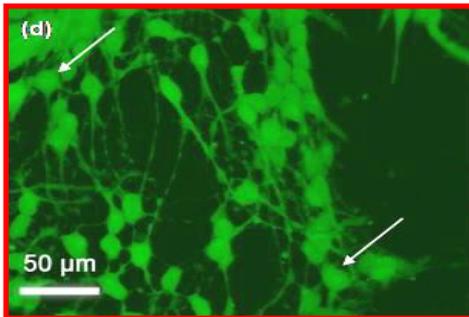
↑ Ca^{2+} influx into
DAergic neurons as
measured by Fluo-4
dye

↑ O_2^- as measured
by MitoSOX dye

↓ DAergic neurons
compared to
untreated controls

Disease modeling

- 1 μM rotigotine on the 9th DIV and 0.5 Glu on the 10th DIV for 9 min. After two days recovery, rotigotine caused:



↓ Ca^{2+} influx into DAergic neurons

↓ $\text{O}_2^{\cdot-}$ production

Protection of DAergic neurons against Glu toxicity

Target Identification & Drug Discovery

3- Toxicology Testing

• Cell cultures are considered **more superior** to animal models to test compounds for their potential toxicity as:

- Efficient, **fast** and costless tool.
- Can investigate **precise** mechanisms.
- Escape **ethical** issues.



VS



• Two types of toxicology tests can be done on cell

cultures:

1- General toxicity tests:

- Carried out on many cell types (e.g. fibroblast, HeLa and hepatoma cells).

- Measuring viability, cytosolic enzyme release, cell growth etc.

2- Organ-specific cytotoxicity tests:

Done on specialized cells and measure specific cell functions (e.g. glycogen storage in primary hepatocyte cultures, phagocytosis in macrophages).

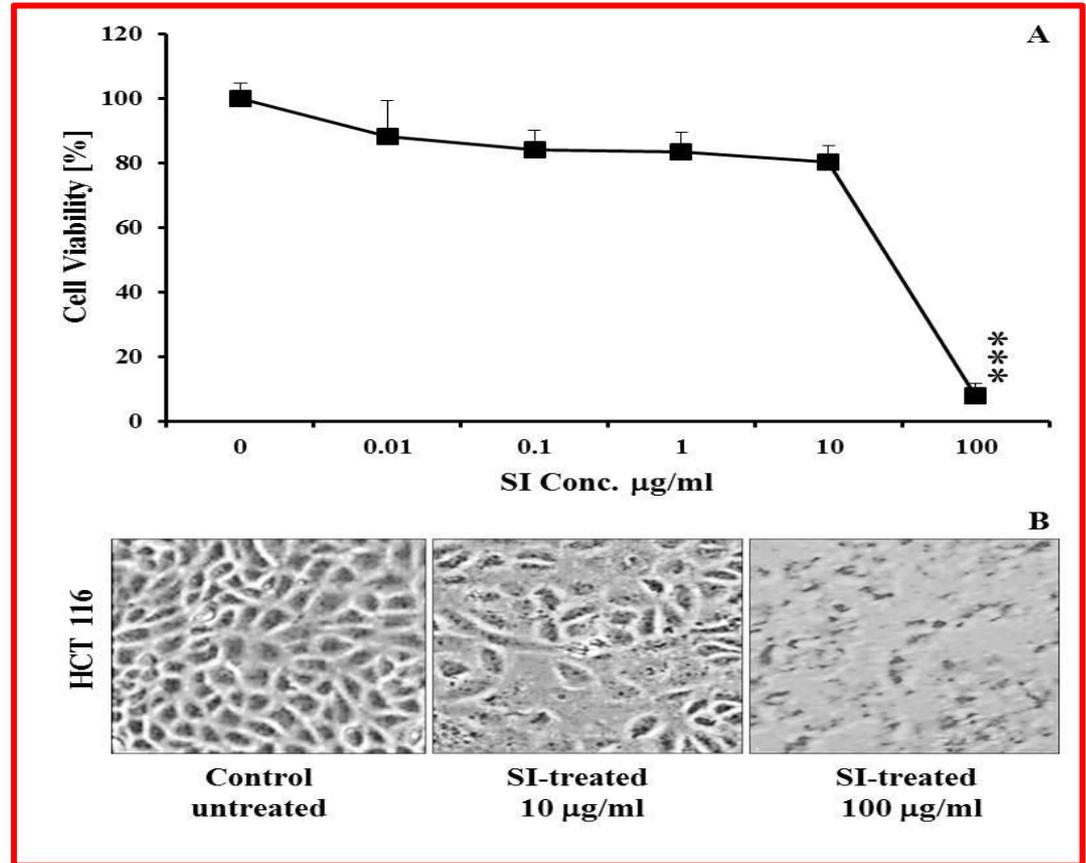
4- Cancer Research

- “Almost all malignant tumor cells have been established as immortal cell lines, and many of them are available commercially”This help in:
 - Studying the behavior of different tumors.
 - Evaluating carcinogenic potentials of different agents.
 - Studying the protective roles of various natural and synthetic substances against cancer.

- Anti-cancer activities of *Solanum incanum* aqueous

- extract on colon HCT 116 cell line:

- *S. incanum* aqueous extract significantly reduced cell viability of cultured cells.



- *S. incanum* aqueous

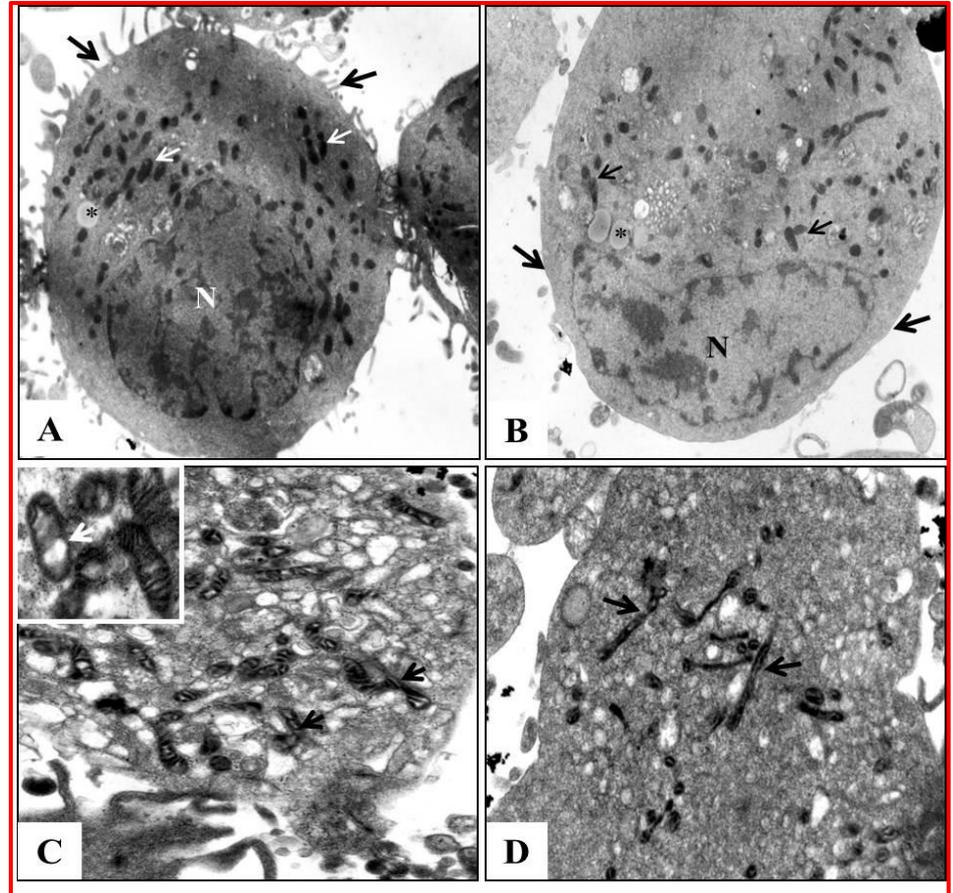
extract caused:

□ Loss of the surface

microvilli.

□ Mitochondrial damage.

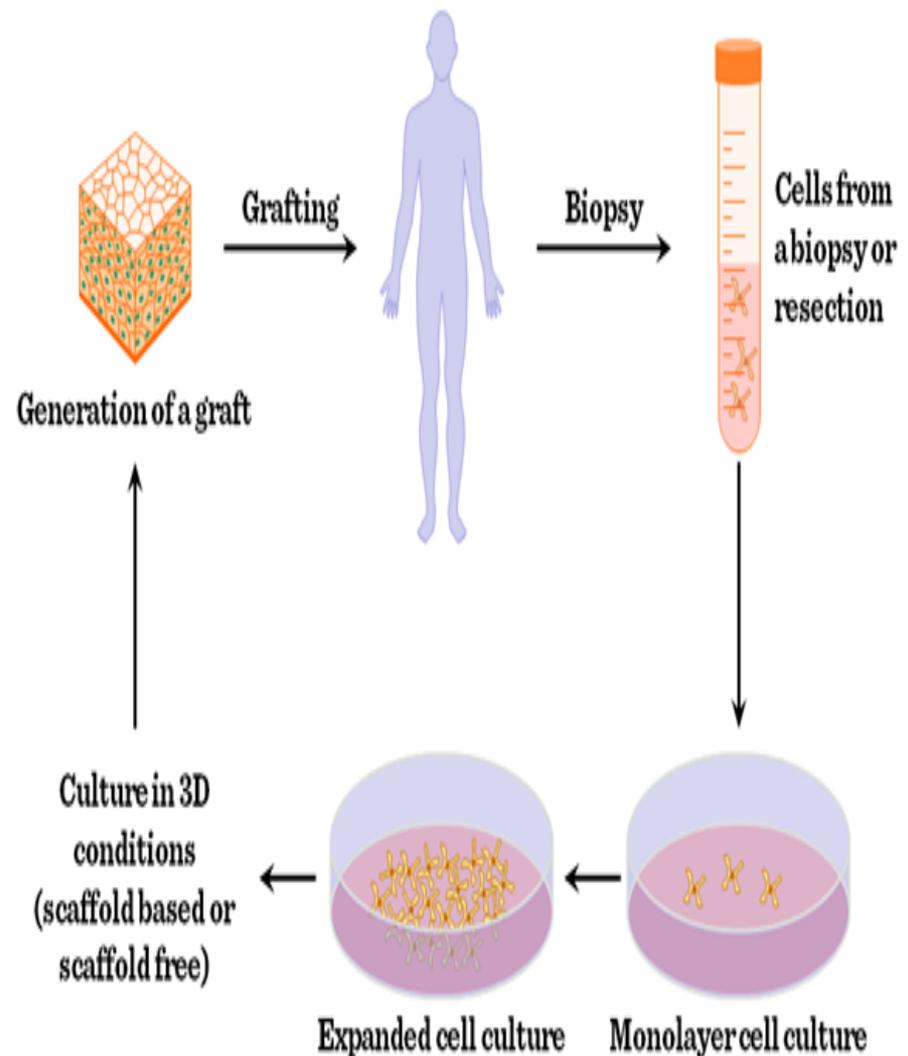
□ Cytoplasmic vacuolation.



A) Untreated control . B) Loss of surface villi. C) Mitochondrial vacuolation. D) Mitochondrial elongation.

5- Biotechnology and Tissue engineering

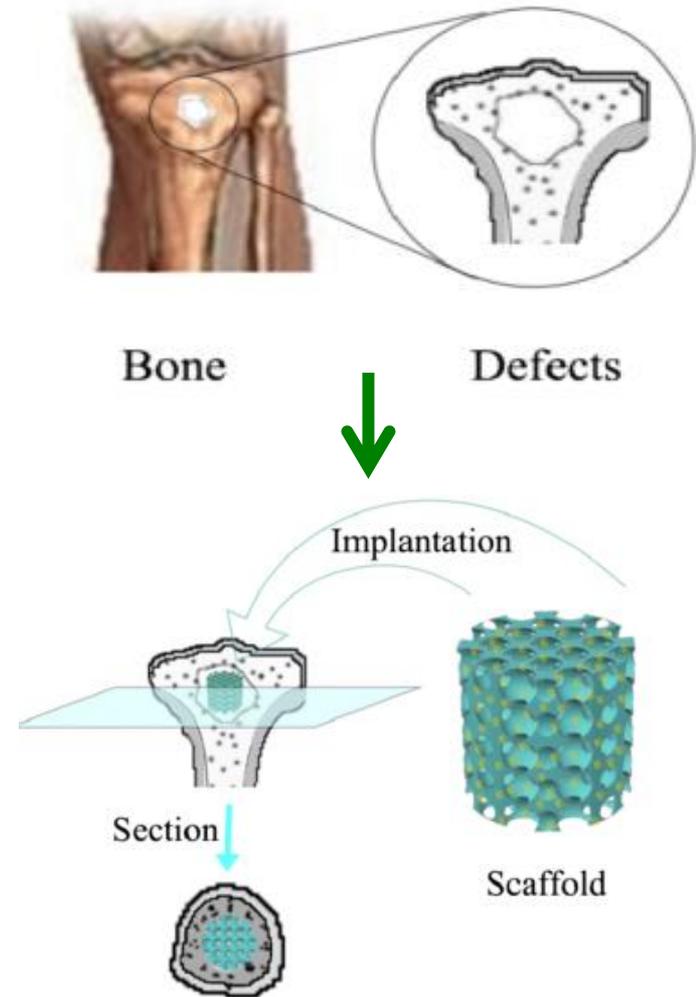
- Simply, tissue engineering means “the re-constitution of human tissues from the combination of cell types grown in culture”.
- It is an important prospect for future therapeutic treatment with organ failure.



- Two main approaches are utilized to produce engineered tissues:

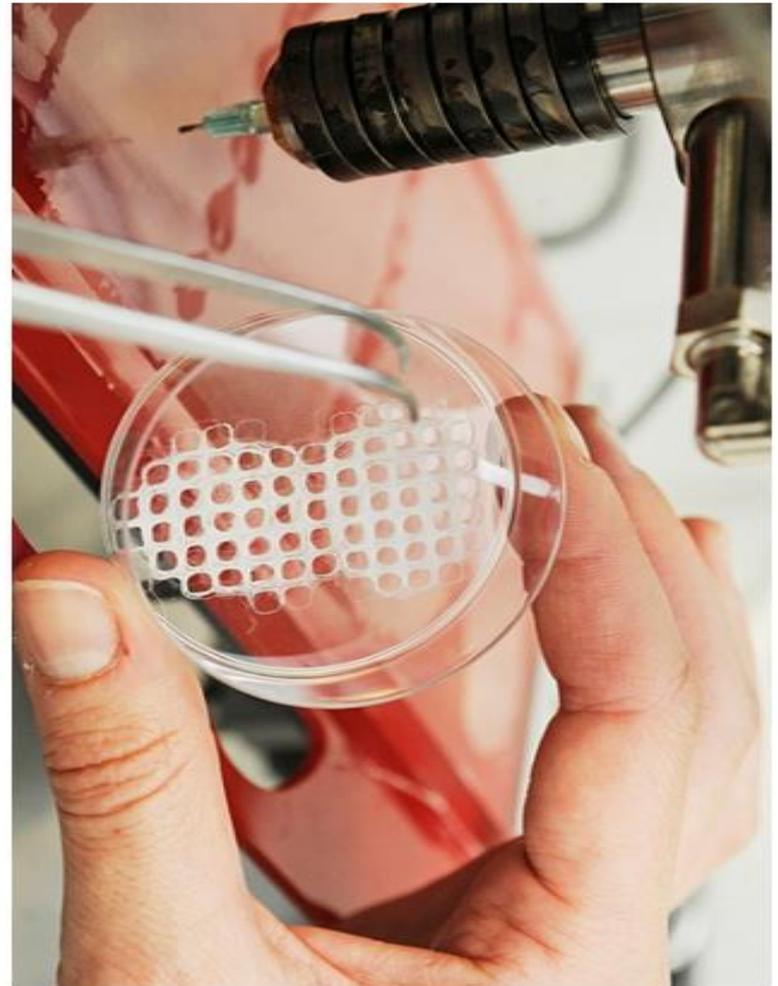
(1)

- Generating scaffolds as a cell support device, upon which cells are seeded *in vitro*.
- Then, cells are encouraged to lay down matrix to produce the foundation of a tissue for transplantation.



(2)

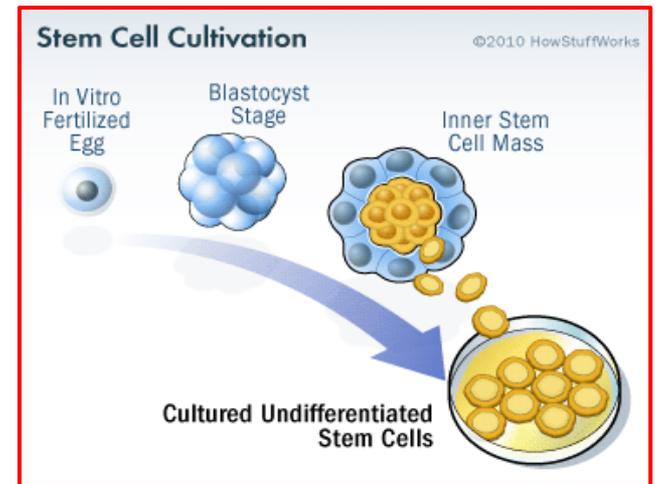
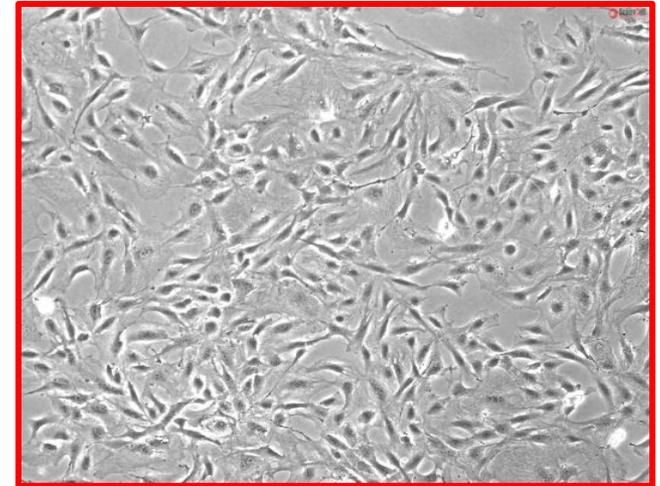
- Using the scaffolds as a growth factor/drug delivery device.
- In which, the scaffolds being combined with growth factors.
- Upon implantation, body cells recruited to the scaffold site and form a tissue.



- Sources of cells for tissue engineering :

- Primary cells taken from the patients in conjunction with scaffolds to produce tissue for re-implantation

- Stem cells including embryonic stem cells, mesenchymal stem cells etc.

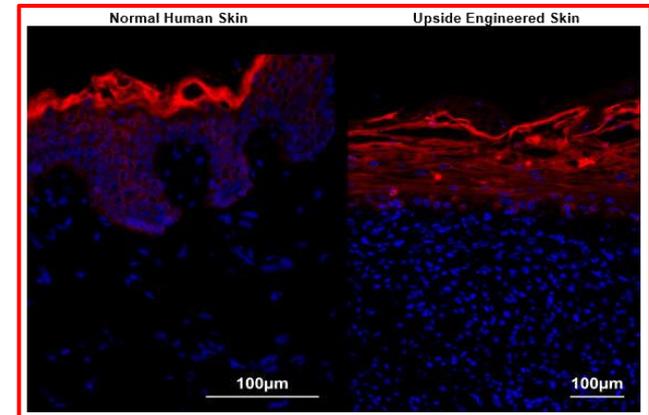


- The more current successful approaches:

- Using primary chondrocytes for the replacement of damaged cartilage.

- Skin cell sheets for damaged skin.

- Reconstruction of some larger and complex tissues, more notably, the bladder.



6- Genetically Engineered Proteins

Cell cultures can be used to produce proteins that have medicinal or commercial values such as mAbs, insulin, hormones, cytokines etc.

1- Production of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs):

- mAbs are produced in large amount by using hybrid cells.
- Hybrid cells prepared by fusion of Ab-producing cells from immunized mouse with a tumor cells called myeloma cells.

i- Production of recombinant proteins:

- Based on **transfection** of cultured cells with an **isolated gene**.
- **Amplification** of this gene results in **expression** of high level of the corresponding **protein**.
- **e.g.**, interferone, tissue plasminogen activator and clotting factors.

