Roslin Cell Therapies

ISSUE 1 30/11/16

Welcome

Welcome To The First Edition of Roslin Cell Therapies Newsletter

Following the creation of Roslin Cell Therapies as a spin out from Roslin Cells we are delighted to introduce our Newsletter which will highlight new developments at Roslin Cell Therapies and within the wider Regenerative Medicine Sector. We hope that you will enjoy staying connected with us while we share our news.

Spun out in December 2015, Roslin Cell Therapies was set up to build on the wealth of expertise and industry recognition developed by Roslin Cells to deliver a focused and integrated process development and GMP manufacturing services for companies developing cell and gene therapies. Looking into the future, we will be expanding our capacity and market presence while maintaining and cultivating our internal values of quality and personalised customer support. We aim to be a truly global player and your partner of choice for cell and gene therapy development and manufacturing.

JANET DOWNIE, CEO

Roslin Cell Therapies Company Growth

Following the creation of Roslin Cell Therapies from Roslin Cells, the company has been experiencing dynamic growth and expansion in line with projected development plans.

During the last few months we have introduced new service offerings and expanded our customer base in North America while continuing to provide manufacturing services to support our current clients. We have welcomed new additions to our team and are currently looking to expand our senior team to further support our corporate development plans.

We have also recently launched our social media campaign by introducing new Twitter, Linked-In and YouTube accounts to stay connected with our customers and the wider regenerative medicine community. We have joined new regenerative medicine community networks, such as the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine (ARM) and presented our views on the importance of successful technology transfers for subsequent success of GMP manufacturing campaigns at both UK based and international conferences.

Roslin Cell Therapies Joins the Ministerial ATMP Manufacturing Taskforce

Roslin Cell Therapies is a member of a group of key opinion leaders selected across industry, funding bodies and government to form new Advanced Therapies Manufacturing Taskforce (ATMT) Initiative.

The ATMT Initiative was launched by the Medicines Manufacturing Industry Partnership (MMIP) in March 2016 to support and grow the capabilities in manufacturing of advanced therapies in the UK. Co-chaired by George Freeman - minister for life sciences, Jo Johnson – minister for universities, science, research and innovation and Ian McCubbin, SVP North America, Japan & Global Pharma Supply, GlaxoSmithKline, the new taskforce will perform a comprehensive analysis of advanced therapy manufacturing and its associated supply chain in the UK to identify opportunities and gaps in the manufacturing landscape that need to be tackled. The taskforce will complement the work of the Regenerative Medicine Expert Group (RMEG) that is developing an NHS regenerative medicine strategy so that the health service is prepared to deliver these treatments.

MMIP represents the voice of medicines manufacturers in the UK and was established jointly with government and the biomedical industry in 2014 to ensure the UK's recognition by the global medicines industry as a world-class, advanced center for medical manufacturing.

ATMP Manufacturing Action Plan: Retaining and attracting advanced therapies manufacture in the UK was published on the 23rd Nov 2016 and can be downloaded at http://www.bioindustry.org/document-library/advanced-therapies-manufacturing-action-plan

Roslin Cell Therapies to Initiate a Series of Seminars Designed to Discuss Practical Aspects of GMP

Roslin Cell Therapies has decided to launch a new initiative entitled 'Practical aspects of GMP'

The initiative will start with a series of seminars directed at translational academic centres currently working towards development of cell therapy products and aim to promote the understanding of key aspects of GMP. It will also be designed to raise the awareness of the importance and need for early stage consideration of adherence to GMP principles, and ensuring process scalability and cost effectiveness when developing cell therapies. It is essential to have the end goal in mind when developing cellular therapeutics and we believe that highlighting these key points at early stages of therapy development will benefit and help to produce reproducible, manufacturable and commercialisable therapies in the UK.

Meet the Team

17-20th of January 2017
Miami (US)

Cell and Gene Therapy World
(Phacilitate)

Roslin Cell Therapies in the Media

As a member of ARM, Roslin Cell Therapies CEO Janet Downie has joined the Cell Therapy Manufacturing Expert Panel discussions at the ARM's Advanced Therapies Investor Day. Janet has also recently featured in an interview by BBC.

Janet Downie was asked to join the Cell Therapy Manufacturing Expert Panel to discuss the challenges of product development and GMP manufacturing, with the focus on technology transfers and potency assay development. Janet has also recently featured in an interview by BBC Reporting Scotland where she shared her views on the impact of Brexit on the Scottish Life Sciences Sector.

ARM is a prominent global advocate for regenerative and advanced therapies. It fosters research, development, investment and commercialisation of transformational treatments and cures for patients worldwide.

Videos are available to view on our YouTube Channel

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Roslin Cell Therapies Supports the Development of Young Talent within the Scottish Regenerative Medicine Sector

Roslin Cell Therapies is committed to providing continuous support for the Scottish Regenerative Medicine Sector.

As a key commercial organisation within the sector we are actively involved in a number of activities. A recent initiative is our summer internship programme and this summer the GMP Production and Quality Control Departments have welcomed three interns who worked alongside our staff to experience different aspects of cell therapy product manufacturing. In this issue we initiate an Early Career Spotlight Series which features an interview with Lucas Collins – recent industrial placement Masters student who has now joined us as a trainee GMP Production Scientist.

Join Our Team

Cell Therapy Development Scientist

GMP Manufacturing Scientist

QC Analyst

For more information and to apply visit http://roslincells.com/roslincelltherapies

Tell us a bit about yourself and your background

I am originally from a small town in Devon that is known for the production of Buckfast Tonic Wine (yes, there's an actual monastery where this is made). I made the move to Edinburgh for dual purposes: to pursue a Masters in Regenerative Medicine at Edinburgh University with hopes to start my career in cell therapy industry, and to move in with my girlfriend who has already started her studies in Edinburgh.

When did you become interested in regenerative medicine and what inspired you to pursue your academic training in this direction?

I became interested in regenerative medicine during my undergraduate degree at York University. Here, I was involved in looking at the regenerative capabilities of bone marrow stem cells in the treatment of osteoporosis and the modelling of sarcoma. This first experience proved very impactful, spurred my interest in Cellular Therapies and led me to pursue this direction by choosing to join the Masters in Regenerative Medicine programme at Edinburgh University. I chose Edinburgh University to obtain my qualifications due to its prestige and an opportunity to embark upon 3 months industry placement within the vibrant regenerative medicine focused commercial sector in Edinburgh.

To me, regenerative medicine is at the forefront of the medical research and healthcare provision. In the future, when you visit your doctor for a specific illness, the question won't be which drug, but which cell based product can be used as a treatment. Further to this, my particular interest in the sector lies in using cellular therapeutics in treatment of deafness. One in six of us in the world suffer from deafness and this is set to increase with our ever expanding ageing population. Researchers are getting closer to developing stereocilia hair cells that could, in the future, be used as a cure. This is of particular personal interest to me as someone who suffers from hearing loss.

How did you come across Roslin Cell Therapies and why did you choose to apply for your internship placement with us?

I become accustomed with your work within the sector whilst studying for my Master degree. I remember researching cellular therapies for treatment of stroke and coming across Roslin Cell Therapies involvement with ReNeuron. The most interesting aspect of Roslin Cell Therapies work is the cell therapy process development and specifically the translation of protocols into GMP compliant processes, to ensure that innovative, life changing ideas become reproducible, manufacturable and commercialisable cellular therapies – I find this very intriguing and a key reason for choosing Roslin Cell Therapies for my placement.

What are your plans for the future?

Following the completion of my placement, I was lucky enough to be offered a position within Roslin Cell Therapies as a Trainee GMP Production Scientist. This is a very exciting opportunity for me and longer term I am very much looking forward to developing within the company and learning what it takes to deliver excellent quality cell therapies to the clinic. For now, I'm just excited that I'll be able to turn what I've learnt academically into a career in this exciting sector!

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