EFFECTIVENESS OF STEM CELLS FROM UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD IN THE TREATMENT FOR POST MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

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ABSTRACT

Myocardial infarction causes irreversible damage to the myocardium which results in congestive cardiac failure as a result of complication. Umbilical cord blood is a source rich in immature and progenitor cells and has the ability to self-renew, to differentiate into specialized cells or to remain in the undifferentiated state. Since they carry the properties as mentioned, they have the ability to repair and regenerate and hence help in remodelling of the myocardium in cases of post myocardial infarction. The objective of this study is to assess the effectiveness of the stem cells from the umbilical cord blood in the treatment of post myocardial infarction. A literature review conducted between May to June 2013 using Pubmed and Google Scholar. The employed keywords were Stem Cells, Umbilical cord blood and treatment post myocardial infarction. Results from the present study has shown that stem cells from the umbilical cord blood might help in cardiac remodelling and repair in post myocardial infarction and prevent left ventricle dilatation and eventually improve the ventricular ejection fraction.