

*ISTH SSC Vascular Biology Project*

**Comparison of the sensitivity and the specificity of assays to measure ECFCs in whole blood samples**

Paris, the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2019

**Object: The Scientific Subcommittee on Vascular Biology initiates a new collaborative project in order to compare current available culture methods to measure endothelial colony forming cells (ECFCs) in human whole blood samples.**

Dear Colleagues,

The clinical and scientific interest in endothelial progenitor and in particular endothelial colony forming cells (ECFCs) is growing again since we have now a clear definition of the different endothelial progenitor cell types involved in vasculogenic processes in human adults. During the Annual SSC Meeting of the ISTH (Berlin, Germany) two years ago, a round table bringing together international specialists from 6 different groups addressed the questions of ECFC methodologies. A position paper has been written after these remarks and some questions are still open.

Different steps during culture methods of ECFCs have been recently detailed in the first position paper of vascular biology SSC on ECFCs but a lot of work is still necessary to identify parameters that can trigger modulation in ECFCs obtained in culture quantitatively but also qualitatively.

A proposal emerged to organize a new collaborative project to compare the current available culture methods as a first step towards standardization but also pre-analytical parameters available in different labs.

A google form survey document has been created for participating labs. The final outcome will be reported to the SSC on Vascular Biology of the 2020 ISTH meeting in Milan, and results will be submitted for publication to the Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis.

If you wish to participate, kindly complete the online registration form following the link:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1x2QwdPQc7Zloioo5T1Y\\_Q7Bx9lYIVTATe1j6cid4mLw](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1x2QwdPQc7Zloioo5T1Y_Q7Bx9lYIVTATe1j6cid4mLw)

If you need more information or if you encounter difficulties to register, please contact David Smadja at [david.smadja@aphp.fr](mailto:david.smadja@aphp.fr) or Juan Melero-Martin at [Juan.MeleroMartin@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:Juan.MeleroMartin@childrens.harvard.edu).

Thank you in advance for your input.

With best regards,

David Smadja

Juan Melero Martin

Co-Chairs (endothelial progenitors) of the vascular biology ISTH SSC

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Chairman of the vascular biology ISTH SSC