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Translated from French via "Google Translate" with minor corrections.

Scleroderma cured by adult stem cells

Testimony of Sharon Porter and Conference at the Vatican

ROME, Tuesday, November 8, 2011 (ZENIT.org) - Sharon Porter, treated with adult stem cells, demonstrated the effectiveness of this therapy against scleroderma, during the presentation at the Vatican on Tuesday 8th November, the conference entitled "Adult Stem Cells: Science and the Future of Man and Culture" (9-11th November 2011) organized by the Pontifical Council of Culture in collaboration, inside the Vatican, the project STOQ with the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Care and the Academy for Life. Other cures were mentioned during the press conference.

This conference was presented by Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi, president of the Pontifical Council organizer, surrounded by the P. Trafny Tomasz, head of science of the same Congregation, Mr. Tommy G. Thompson, former Health Minister of the United States, Ms. Robin L. Smith, managing director of "NeoStem" and President of the Foundation "Stem for Life" ("Stem for Life Foundation").

No ethical objection

Therapy with adult stem cells has in fact already yielded results. Ethically, this therapy is satisfactory, because it does not lead to the destruction of human life, as is the case of therapy embryonic stem cells.

Embryonic stem cells - which involve the destruction of human embryos - are next to the ethical objection, the medical risk of developing cancers, and they have not been used to treat patients, because of their dangerousness, said Ms. Smith.

At the press conference, Sharon Porter indicated that 38 years previously when she was a young mother in good health, she was assigned to "systemic sclerosis", a devastating autoimmune disease that affects the lungs, skin ... Her hands began to contract and to submit ulcers. The disease has gradually affected her mobility and quality of life. Her lungs developed hypertension and fibrosis. Traditional treatments were content to address the symptoms, slowing disease progression, but without addressing its cause.

The healing of Sharon Porter

As the disease progressed, Sharon Porter used Prof. Richard Burt at the Department of immunotherapy Northwestern Hospital in Chicago (Illinois, USA). Therapy was to re-build part of its weak immune system and treat the disease and not just its symptoms. She received a transplant treatment "no myeloablative" stem cells using their own stem cells.

The improvement she showed was sudden: complications were overcome and there was no other damage to her condition. Improved her mobility, her skin became more elastic and blood pressure returned to normal levels. She stopped her immunosuppressive drugs and steroids, and she was able to resume full-time work as a nurse and a family life serene. All that remains now some consequences of the scleroderma. She is convinced that her

remarkable recovery is due to the efficiency of cell therapy from adult stem cells, which do not address only the symptoms but for the first time, the cause of the disease itself, "without delete all nascent human life," said Thompson.

Healing Multiple Sclerosis

Ms. Smith gives this another example of a student, Bethany Pappalardo, affected with multiple sclerosis since the age of 18 years, and who felt under threat of a fatal crisis. One day, she felt that her legs were not the most. She learned to give injections but it has also started losing her hair. She then contacted a team of cell therapy that works on adult stem cells, from Dr. Richard Burt of Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. For cell transplantation, 5 years ago, she has not had an attack and her body is "working normally" adult stem cells have "repaired" the immune system. She has tapped into the forces of her body to heal.

Dr. Richard Burt, who treated these two people will attend the conference at the Vatican to inform the progress of this cell therapy to cure autoimmune diseases.

Ms. Smith also mentioned in her speech, the healing of Stephen Sprague, assigned, at the age of 14 years, chronic myeloid leukemia. He had come to a vital prognosis of 3 to 6 months. The doctors had given up on his case when Dr. Andrew Pecora and Dr. Robert Preti were allowed to submit it to a cell therapy from umbilical cord cells. It also undergoes chemotherapy. His immune system rebuilt. Today, these doctors and Stephen Sprague reflect these advances in cell therapy from adult stem cells.

Restorative therapy

Ms. Smith said the "great progress" of this therapy in the last 10 years and said that soon there will be "able to reconstruct damaged tissue and repair organs like the heart." The technologies are developing and can already treat patients between 6 to 10 days after a heart attack to prevent deterioration of heart function leading to premature death.

Last June, Ms. Smith had mentioned another cure that of Bernie van Zyl - died in November 2009 - and had fully recovered and felt "younger than before." He has written two books ("How Adult Stem Cells Saved My Life", "How do adult stem cells saved my life") and he left a bequest to fund the knowledge of the adult cell therapy.

An important step, as the embryonic cell therapy - which involves the destruction of human embryos - but has not yet led to therapies, said Ms. Smith. She speaks of "miracles", but without the "ethical dilemma" posed by the destruction of human embryos.

This conference on adult stem cells should gather some 350 people. He wants to know the medical advances but also the ethical, philosophical and cultural regenerative medicine, said Cardinal Ravasi.