# Regenerative Medicine in MD course: Current Scenario, Challenges & Future

Raghvendra V Tey MBBS, MD, FSCT

Clinical Biochemistry, Regenerative Medicine Physician

(Associate Professor, Pathophysiology, Saint Georges University, Grenada, W.I)

### Abstract (300 word limit)

**Current Scenario:** As an insider, a simple approach like cell therapy involving, administering a few millions of highly flexible cells which can transform the functional and structural behaviour of that site, turned out to be a revolutionary idea. Though the idea looks quite simple and feasible, it has met lot of resistance. The age old approach where a synthetic or refined form of a natural chemical can cure or manage the disease is been quiet steadily replaced by Cell therapy, in effect to the realization of the side effects, cost & effectiveness of the prior approach.

**Challenges:** The idea that cells can be used as therapies and can be procured and processed in an ordinary clinic is very empowering to the medical fraternity and poses an existential challenge to the big pharmaceuticals with huge investments. It’s very disruptive to the manner in which medicine is practiced today. It breaks all the inter-disciplinary barriers and that is the reason, its intimidating to many established disciplines and acceptance is slow but steady.

**Future:** The Idea of Integrated curriculum approach being adopted in many medical universities (Mayo Clinic, USA) across the globe. In here, doctors in every year of their training are helped in understanding the problem in every organ system using their basic science knowledge. How a disturbance at a cellular/molecular level manifests as a disease with clinical presentation can all be explained in detail. The story of Stem cells changing the course of a disease process fits naturally & nearly perfectly into this background understanding with integrated curriculum approach.

**Conclusion:** The future looks bright for cell based therapies in medical curriculum & practice as they are in line with today’s medical curriculum. This can bridge the shortage of physicians globally. Looking beyond profits, cell therapy would reinstate people’s belief in their own hidden powers, unknown to mankind until recently.

**Recent Publications (minimum 5)**

1. [Paul S Knoepfler](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Knoepfler%20PS%5BAuthor%5D&cauthor=true&cauthor_uid=23477401) (2013) Call for fellowship programs in stem cell-based regenerative and cellular medicine: new stem cell training is essential for physicians. [Regen Med; 8(2): 223–225.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/eutils/elink.fcgi?dbfrom=pubmed&retmode=ref&cmd=prlinks&id=23477401)
2. [John W Petersen](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Petersen%20JW%5BAuthor%5D&cauthor=true&cauthor_uid=25431915) et al (2014) A training program in cardiovascular cell-based therapy: from the NHLBI Cardiovascular Cell Therapy Research Network. [Regen Med; 9(6): 793–797.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/eutils/elink.fcgi?dbfrom=pubmed&retmode=ref&cmd=prlinks&id=25431915)
3. Primack BA, Colditz JB, Cohen E, et al. (2014) Measurement of social capital among clinical research trainees. Clin. Transl. Sci.;7:33–37.
4. Brand RA, Hannafin JA. (2006) The environment of the successful clinician‐scientist. Clin Orthop; 449: 67–71.
5. Mascia D, Cicchetti A.(2011) Physician social capital and the reported adoption of evidence‐based medicine: exploring the role of structural holes. Soc Sci Med.; 72(5): 798–805.
6. Perzynski AT.(2010) Multidisciplinary approaches to biomedical research. JAMA; 304(20): 2243–2244.

  Biography (150 word limit)

Dr Tey has been persuing his goal of promoting integrative approach in Medical education and Medical practice since his Medical graduation days. He strongly believes that molecular level changes are responsible for disease manifestations. A few years back there were many gaps in our knowledge, which are rapidly filling with evolution and strong emphasis on evidence based medicine. We are now more than ever, ready to explain many diseases starting from the molecular changes. He therefore strongly vouches for taking the clinician back to the basics and start treating at the molecular or cellular level using cell therapy. This realization came after a personal struggle & success in doing so by clubbing his MD postgraduate training in Clinical Biochemistry with Internal Medicine and few other specialties, after battling for a curriculum change. He believes that this approach would decentralize medicine, multidisciplinary cooperation would increase and bring in many noble innovations in future. Email: raghvendravikramtey@gmail.com ; rtey@sgu.edu

 Contact number: +14735333271

**Notes/Comments:**