

Use of Jellyfish Collagen in the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis

Contact

Brian Wright
Auburn University
Office of Technology Transfer
334-844-4977
brian.wright@auburn.edu
<http://ott.auburn.edu/>
Reference: Jellyfish Collagen

Inventor

Dr. Peggy Hsieh
Department of Nutrition and
Food Science

Overview

Auburn University is seeking a licensee or development partner for the use of jellyfish collagen (type II) in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. This technology has potential applications in the following economic sectors:

- Health food / nutraceuticals
- Pharmaceuticals

Advantages

- Less expensive to extract and more homogeneous than bovine and chicken type II collagen
- Source is almost unlimited
- Use of natural marine seafood protein minimizes risk of adverse side effects



Description

For thousands of years, cured jellyfish have been a delicacy in banquet halls throughout Asia. In addition, Asians believe that jellyfish have medicinal value. Since ancient times, Chinese healers have prescribed jellyfish to cure gout, arthritis, and bronchitis, to lower blood pressure and soften the skin. South Koreans have promoted jellyfish as an aid to weight loss and beautiful skin.

The inventor was the first to identify the collagen in cannonball jellyfish (see photograph) as type II-like collagen and demonstrated that oral administration of low doses of jellyfish collagen delayed the onset and suppressed collagen-induced arthritis in animal models. Type II collagen is the specific type which confers a suppressing effect on rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Of the total tissue protein makeup of cannonball jellyfish, an estimated 80% is collagen and which is found to be type II or type II-like collagen. Because jellyfish collagen is more homogeneous than bovine or chicken type II collagen, it showed a superior effect in suppressing the onset of arthritis in rats. Jellyfish collagen should provide a cost-effective and safe protein supplement that will likely have a suppressing effect on RA, as well as other potential benefits pertaining to collagen.

Status

- US Patent No. [6,894,029](#), issued 5/17/05
- Cannonball jellyfish collagen has been shown to delay the onset and reduce the severity of arthritis in laboratory rats

Licensing Opportunities

- This technology is available for exclusive or non-exclusive licensing
- Joint development opportunities include funded research or a joint venture
- Seeking a partner to conduct additional efficacy and product safety assurance testing

[Click here for a listing of Auburn's available life science technologies](#)

