

SPINE REVIEW

60 Spine Surgeons on the Forefront of Biologics & Stem Cells

By Laura Dyrda

Here are 60 spine surgeons who are participating in clinical trials or have a research focus on biologics and/or stem cells for spine surgery.

Richard G. Fessler, MD (Rush University Medical Center, Chicago). Dr. Fessler was the first physician in the United States to perform a human embryonic spinal cord transplant in 1997. He has been a medical specialist and flight surgeon for NASA and participated in the first FDA trial to test the use of embryonic stem cells in patients with thoracic spine injuries.

Mark Flood, DO (Laser Spine Institute, Tampa, Fla.). Dr. Flood is the chief of surgical innovation and an orthopedic spine surgeon at the Laser Spine Institute in Tampa, Fla. He is an in-

novator with the RegenaD-ISC system, which uses stem cell therapy and low-level laser spinal decompression to repair discs.



Gary Ghiselli, MD (Denver Spine Surgeons). Dr. Ghiselli was the principal investigator in

the FDA-cleared adult stem cell study testing the novel treatment for chronic low back pain, which began in early 2012. The study used mesenchymal precursor cells to be injected directly into the lumbar disc.

Sanjitpal Singh Gill, MD (Medical Group of the Carolinas, Spartanburg, S.C.). Dr. Gill is an assistant professor in the department of engineering at Clemson University where he is researching biologic disc re-

placement. He has a special interest in treating athletes and was head team physician for the United States Adaptive Ski Team and provided medical coverage for the United States Pro Cycling championships.

Steven Glassman, MD (Norton Leatherman Spine Center, Louisville, Ky.). Dr. Glassman is a member of the board of directors for the Scoliosis Research Society and has been a program chair for the North American Spine Society. He focuses on patient-based outcomes and cost-effectiveness for spinal surgery, as well as the role of biologics in spinal fusion.

Christopher Good, MD (Virginia Spine Institute, Reston). As the director of research at Virginia Spine Institute, Dr. Good serves as the principal investigator