

Study uses stem cells to boost red blood cell production

Using human stem cells, scientists have developed methods to boost the production of red blood cells, according to a new study. Their discovery could significantly increase the blood supply needed for blood transfusions, the researchers said, and their methods can be used to produce any blood type. “Being able to produce red blood cells from stem cells has the potential to overcome many difficulties of the current system, including sporadic shortages,” Dr. Anthony Atala, editor of the journal Stem Cells Translational Medicine, in which the study appeared, said in a journal news release.

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