

Academic collaboration receives CTI Medtech Award nomination

A novel automated solution, developed through a collaboration between Tecan and researchers at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Wädenswil, has been nominated for an award by the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) from the Swiss Confederation. The new system performs and controls all the steps required for cell isolation from biopsies, from primary cell culture, to expansion and maintenance, and forms the basis for research into ground-breaking regenerative medicine.

The CTI Medtech initiative funds projects to promote closer co-operation between science and industry, and the award recognizes the project that best demonstrates an innovative product, combining strong market potential and medical relevance. "We are delighted that we continue to be closely involved at the forefront of cutting-edge scientific research, and are very pleased to be nominated for this much sought after award," commented Roland Durner, Director Market & Application Management for BioPharma at Tecan.

"We have worked closely with Tecan throughout this project, and I believe we have made a significant breakthrough," added Prof Ursula Graf-Hausner, group leader of the Cell Biology and Tissue Engineering Division at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences. "For us, it is an



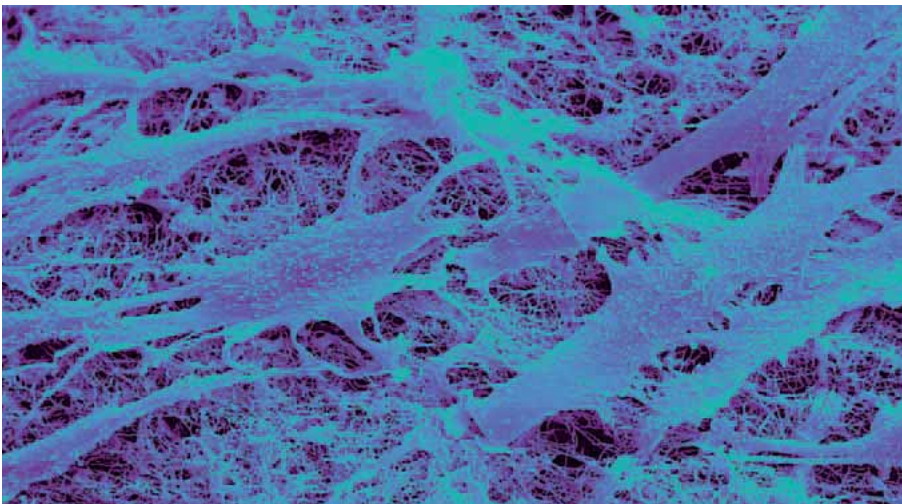
Prof Ursula Graf-Hausner and her team at Zurich University of Applied Sciences

enormous achievement to be nominated alongside Switzerland's other prestigious universities and federal institutes."

Prof Norbert Boos, Head of Spinal Surgery at the Orthopedic University Hospital Balgrist and the Spine Research Group at the Centre of Applied Biotechnology and Molecular Medicine, University of Zurich, commented: "Automated cell culture systems are a prerequisite to bringing tissue engineering from the bench to the bedside. We have achieved a major leap forward in making regenerative medicine a clinical reality."

To find out more on Tecan's automated cell culture solutions, visit www.tecan.com/cellbiology

To find out more on Prof Graf-Hausner's tissue engineering group, visit www.icbc.zhaw.ch



Cultured human spinal disk cells