

UKSCB e-newsletter January 2015

*This quarter the **UKSCB** announces a number of new and exciting developments of interest regarding collaborative projects and publications.*

### ➤ MRC Industry Collaboration Agreement (MICA) grant

In January the UK Stem Cell Bank, was awarded funding under a MICA grant application to the MRC for a proposal entitled "Development of Metrics and Quality Standards for Scale-up of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells". The project academic lead is the University of Manchester and is in collaboration with the University of Nottingham, Cambridge University and commercial partner Tokyo-Electron Europe (Stevenage, UK). The project will start in May 2015 and the UKSCB role will be to help develop novel approaches to culture imaging metrics.

### ➤ New publications

- ✓ Points to Consider in the Development of Seed Stocks of hPSCs for Clinical Application. This represents collaboration between stem cell banks, scientists and regulators from more than 20 countries. DOI: 10.2217/RME.14.93 ([www.regmednet.com](http://www.regmednet.com))
- ✓ A new [Atlas of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells in Culture](#) has been published by Springer.



The Atlas:

- Includes more than 280 illustrations and associated captions reflecting the best practices for culturing pluripotent stem cells
- Examines what "good quality" cells look like and how they behave in various environments
- Fills a void in the market for a stem cell atlas that can be used across most advanced student levels and in the lab

### ➤ Update on accession of clinical grade cell lines

Since the last newsletter, a further five lines have been approved for deposit as EUTCD (clinical grade) by the UK Steering Committee, including two lines from Sheffield re-derived from the pre-existing cell lines Shf 3 and Shf 6. With the exception of these recently approved lines, all UK depositors have now signed the UKSCB deposit agreement and fourteen cell lines have completed the due diligence process. A further nine lines are under active review. Six lines have been accessioned with a further eight lines due for accessioning in early 2015. Banking of EUTCD grade cell lines is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2015.

### ➤ New Faces at the UKSCB

The turn of the year saw a number of changes at the Bank. Lesley Young has moved on to pursue another academic qualification and has been replaced by a new production manager Dr Louisa Mathias. Louisa has a background in clinical cord blood banking and is ably suited to take over the production of the new clinical grade cell lines. She will be supported by Dr Hannah Taylor whose background in embryonic stem cell culture will be an asset in the banking of these lines. They are re-joined by Dr Shaline Khadun, a member of the banking team for a number of years, who has returned from maternity leave. Finally, Charlotte Chapman has joined the UKSCB to assist Dr Orla O'Shea on the EBISC project ([www.ebisc.eu/](http://www.ebisc.eu/)).

This newsletter is sent to you from the UK Stem Cell Bank, Blanche Lane, South Mimms, Hertfordshire, EN6 3QG, UK. If you prefer not to receive any further newsletters from the UKSCB, please email us on [enquires@ukstemcellbank.org](mailto:enquires@ukstemcellbank.org) with the subject 'Unsubscribe'

- The UKSCB website has transitioned. Please be patient with us as we complete this essential piece of work. However you can still continue to keep in touch through our [enquiries](#) email and visit the [website](#) for more information on:
- ✓ Placing an order for [human stem cell lines](#) and qualified mouse feeder cells ([QMEFs](#));
  - ✓ EUTCD [qualification](#) of cell lines intended for clinical applications;
  - ✓ Obtaining information on [current Research & Development](#) at the UKSCB;
  - ✓ Exploring collaborative research and development towards [quality, safety and standardisation](#);
  - ✓ Arrange a meeting with the [UKSCB team](#).