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TITLE: Vision Restoration with a Collagen Crosslinked Boston Keratoprosthesis Unit

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Joseph B. Ciolino, MD

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Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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Vision Restoration with a Collagen Cross-linked Boston Keratoprosthesis Unit

Joseph Ciolino

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243 Charles Street
Boston, MA 02114

U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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The Boston Keratoprosthesis is the most widely used keratoprosthesis worldwide and is implanted in the eyes of patients who are not candidates for a traditional corneal transplant. Unfortunately, the most common cause of keratoprosthesis failure is due to keratolysis (corneal melts), which can result in devastating sight-threatening complications and/or loss of the eye. Within the keratoprosthesis unit, corneal melts typically develop in the corneal graft that serves as a carrier for the optic. We have developed a method to reduce the incidence or potentially eliminate corneal melts by strengthening the keratoprosthesis carrier tissue by collagen-crosslinking the cornea graft ex vivo using vitamin B2 (riboflavin) and ultraviolet light. The overall objective of this study is to prevent sight-threatening keratoprosthesis corneal melts and identify an improved treatment for patients who are not candidates for traditional corneal transplants.

Boston Keratoprosthesis, corneal melts, collagen-crosslinking

Unclassified  Unclassified  Unclassified

Unclassified  Unclassified  Unclassified

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Unclassified  Unclassified  Unclassified
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Introduction:

The goal of this proposal is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a new method for preparing and transplanting an artificial cornea (keratoprosthesis) unit by using a novel procedure, known as corneal cross-linking, to reduce the incidence of corneal melts and improve the outcomes of keratoprosthesis surgery. The Boston Keratoprosthesis is the most widely used keratoprosthesis worldwide and is implanted when patients are not candidates for a traditional corneal transplant. Unfortunately, the most common cause of keratoprosthesis failure is due to corneal melts, which can lead to permanent vision loss. We have developed a method to reduce the incidence or potentially eliminate corneal melts by strengthening the keratoprosthesis carrier cornea using tissue that has been cross-linked using vitamin B2 (riboflavin) and ultraviolet light prior to prosthesis assembly. This study’s population will include patients who are both candidates for a Boston KPro and had either a history of corneal melting (keratolysis) or have high risk for corneal melting.

Key Words:
Keratoprosthesis
Corneal Cross-Linking
Corneal Melting (Keratolysis)

Accomplishments:

What were the major goals of the project?

This project has four major goals that are listed below.

1. IRB, HRPO and FDA Approval of the study protocol
2. Study Start-Up with DSMB, contractors and sub-sites
3. Enrollment and Completion of Study Assessments
4. Data Analysis and Publications

What was accomplished under these goals?

The following tasks (numbered to correspond with Gantt chart in the SOW) have been completed or are in progress.

Major Goal 1: The initial application was submitted to the Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI) IRB and it was determined that the study was eligible for IRB review with WIRB. The study was submitted to WIRB on 10/15/15 and the WIRB Approval has since been obtained. Received report from DoD review of protocol. Preparing response to review comments. Submitted IND to FDA. Received email confirmation that we are clear to proceed.

Major Goal 2: We have held weekly meetings here internally at MEEI regarding study-start-up activities. The principal investigator, Dr. Ciolino, met with the participating investigators and their site staff at the American Academy of
Ophthalmology meeting in November 2015 to discuss the study including the rationale, study design, study endpoints, study collaborations, objectives, preparation of investigational tissue, eligibility criteria, data collection, and the overall study progress to date.

The team at MEEI has continued working with StudyTrax to further eCRF development. StudyTrax is the web-based program that will be used at all sites to collect information on subjects, including clinical assessments, subject medications, adverse events, as well as OCT images and corneal photographs. A meeting has been scheduled with StudyTrax to discuss set-up and the next steps for implementation of the data capture system.

Regulatory documents were drafted by the staff at MEEI during quarter 2. Additionally, My Files, the data sharing website that will be used throughout this study, was developed. My Files will be used for upload of all of regulatory documentation from sites.

A meeting with site sub-investigators at ARVO took place in May 2016 where timelines and goals were discussed.

Currently, a modified version of the informed consent form as been approved and we are currently working with the sub-sites to update their informed consent documents for IRB submission. Additionally, MEEI staff are coordinating with Avedro, the supplier of the Riboflavin solution and UV light source, for delivery of equipment and treatment solution to Tissue Bank International, the tissue bank for this study. Finally, MEEI study staff continue to work with sub-sites to have them list Tissue Bank International as a vendor for tissue.

**Major Goal 3:** The trial is still in start-up phase and no subjects have been enrolled to date. Although we anticipated enrollment to commence in Quarter 4, Avedro Inc has reported greater delays in providing the UV source; The KXL system, as well as Riboflavin solution necessary to complete the corneal cross-linking. We have been working closely with Avedro and expect these components to be provided within the next quarter.

**Major Goal 4:** As patients have yet to be enrolled in the study, data analysis has not yet occurred.

**What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?**

Nothing to Report

**How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?**

Nothing to report

**What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?**

During the next reporting period we will finalize the study-start up process.
Regulatory Management: We continue to work with sub-sites to send the updated informed consent form to their local IRBs for approval. The approved site documents and approval letters, once obtained, will be submitted to the FDA and HRPO.

All regulatory documents continue to be finalized and distributed to the sites electronically. We will work with the sites to collect all required regulatory documentation and submit to the FDA. The eCRF system via Study Trax is near completion and once finalized, will be shared with all sites.

Data Safety Monitoring Committee: A Data Safety Monitoring Committee has been assembled. This group is comprised of researchers and physicians who are not associated with the trial. A date of the introductory meeting has not been determined.

All sub-sites have been invited to attend the scheduled investigators meeting at AAO in Chicago on October 14, 2016 where Dr. Ciolino will review the protocol details as well as provide a forum for discussion.

Impact:

**What was the impact on the development of the principal disciplines(s) of the project?**

As a result of our proposed study and the technique that it describes, some keratoprosthesis surgeons around the world have begun cross linking tissue used as a carrier for the keratoprosthesis. During presentations, the investigators have cited our previous work that was included in our preliminary data for this grant application. At this time, it is not known whether this approach is effective which is what we intend to evaluate with this study. Through personal correspondence with cornea surgeons from around the world, MEEI has been told that they are eager to see the results from our study to help guide their clinical practice.

**What was the impact on other disciplines?**

Nothing to Report

**What was the impact on technology transfer?**

Nothing to Report

**What was the impact on society beyond science and technology?**

Nothing to Report
Changes/Problems:

Changes in approach and reasons for change:
Nothing to report

Actual or anticipated problems or delays and action or plans to resolve them:
Although we anticipated enrollment to begin during Quarter 4, Avedro Inc has reported greater delays in providing the UV source, The KXL system, as well as Riboflavin solution necessary to complete the corneal cross-linking. We have been working closely with Avedro and expect these components to be provided within the next quarter.

The original statistician hired during year 1 has left the organization. The statistician funding that was budgeted for year 1 of the study will be carried forward to year 2 and used for the same purpose.

Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures:
Nothing to Report

Significant Changes in use of care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents:
Nothing to Report

Significant changes in use of care of human subjects:
Nothing to Report

Significant changes in use of care of vertebrate animals:
Nothing to Report

Significant Changes in use of care of biohazards:
Nothing to Report
Products:

Publications, conference papers, and presentations:
Nothing to Report

Website(s) or other Internet site(s):
Nothing to Report

Technologies or Techniques:
Nothing to Report

Other Products:
Nothing to Report

Participants & Other Collaborating Organizations:

What individuals have worked on the project?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Joseph Ciolino, MD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Role</td>
<td>Principal Investigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest person month worked:</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution to Project:</td>
<td>Dr. Joseph Ciolino is the Principal Investigator of this study and assumes all the roles associated with a principal investigator.</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Marie Le</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Project Role</td>
<td>Clinical Study Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest person month worked:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution to Project:</td>
<td>Ms. Le Was responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project including enrollment, site coordination, data collection activities, regulatory compliance, IRB/FDA submissions, and working with key collaborators (TBI and Avedro)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name: Arden Tesmer  
Project Role: Project Manager  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID): N/A  
Nearest person month worked: 1  
Contribution to Project: Ms. Tesmer was responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project including enrollment, site coordination, data collection activities, regulatory compliance, IRB/FDA submissions, and working with key collaborators (TBI and Avedro).

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Name: AnnMarie Fatal  
Project Role: Project Manager  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID): N/A  
Nearest person month worked: 1  
Contribution to Project: Ms. Fatal was responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project including enrollment, site coordination, data collection activities, regulatory compliance, IRB/FDA submissions, and working with key collaborators (TBI and Avedro).

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Name: Ellen Fitzgerald  
Project Role: Clinical Study Supervisor  
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID): N/A  
Nearest person month worked: 1  
Contribution to Project: Ms. Fitzgerald is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project including enrollment, site coordination, data collection activities, regulatory compliance, IRB/FDA submissions, and working with key collaborators (TBI and Avedro). Ms. Fitzgerald assumed these functions upon AnnMarie leaving MEEI.
What other organizations were involved as partners?

List of Partnering Institutions:

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Partner Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Avedro Incorporated</td>
<td>201 Jones Rd, Suite 5</td>
<td>In-Kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Waltham, MA 02451</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tissue Bank International</td>
<td>815 Park Ave</td>
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<td>Baltimore, MD 21201</td>
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Special Reporting Requirements:

Collaborative Awards:
Nothing to Report

Quad Charts:

Vision restoration with a collagen crosslinked keratoprosthesis unit
MR141163
W01XWH-15-2-0044

PI: Joseph B. Ciolino  Org: Massachusetts Eye and Ear  Award Amount: $2,773,704

Study/ Product Aims
• To determine the safety (Aim 1) and efficacy (Aim 2) of using a collagen cross-linked cornea as a carrier for the Boston Keratoprosthesis in patients who are at high risk for corneal melts and are not candidates for a standard corneal transplant.

Approach
• This is a phase III prospective, randomized, multicenter, double-masked, vehicle-controlled study.
• Treat ⅔ of eyes with corneal cross-linked cornea and ⅔ with untreated corneal graft as a keratoprosthesis carrier. Recruit 84 subjects who are high risk for Keratoprosthesis corneal melts across 10 sites.
• Primary endpoint is time to keratoprosthesis loss through 12 months.
• Secondary endpoints include keratoprosthesis retention at 12 months, OCT corneal thickness metrics, etc.

Timeline and Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
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<th>CY 18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FDA IND amendment, Site IRB</td>
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<td>Approvals, &amp; HRPO</td>
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<td>Subject Enrollment</td>
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<td>Subjects Complete Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis and Reporting</td>
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<td>$570</td>
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Updated: (09/28/2016)

Corneal Cross-linked Keratoprosthesis Unit

FDA approved IND for protocol.

Goals/Milestones
CY15 Goal – To amend the PI’s FDA IND to include all sites for a multicenter trial and a change in the supplier of the riboflavin/ UV light.
To secure institutional review board approval at all participating sites.
FDA IND approval for multicenter trial
Submit to IRB for review

CY15-17 Goals – To complete recruitment and enrollment of 84 subjects.
Secured enrollment of 84 subjects by second quarter of 2017.

CY18 Goal – To analyze data and report findings.
Complete data analysis
Submit findings to FDA and report results in manuscript submission

Budget Expenditure to Date
Projected Expenditure: $569,981.56
Actual Expenditure: $246,481.56
Appendices: