

# Revolutionary Technique Uses Stem Cells to Grow Human Blood Vessels in a Petri Dish

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Diabetes has been affecting several irrespective of geography. Despite diabetes being so common very little is known about the pathological changes arising in vascular tissues of these diabetes patients. One of the pathologies of diabetes is the change in the blood vessels resulting in diminished oxygen supply and blood circulation to the tissues. A groundbreaking model was developed by Penninger and his colleagues, to combat the pathological changes arising in vascular tissues of diabetic patients. The researchers of the University of British Columbia, have successfully cultured organoids, structurally and functionally similar to human blood vessels. An organoid is a tiny, three-

dimensional structure derived from stem cells that imitates an organ. It is grown in a petri dish and used to study the functional aspects of the target organ. The discovery of vascular organoids has given scientists assurance to combat and treat numerous vascular diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, cardiovascular diseases, wound healing problems, stroke, cancer and, of course, diabetes.

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