



Implanted Engineered Micro Pancreas offering hope in Restoring Insulin Production for Diabetes Patients



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Interview conducted by:
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CEOCFO: *Mr. Ben-Arie, what is the focus at Betalin Therapeutics Ltd.?*

Mr. Ben-Arie: We are focusing on developing a complete therapy for diabetes. In order to treat diabetes, we are developing an Engineered Micro Pancreas (EMP) to be transplanted into the patient's body in order to allow the patient to restore insulin production and release from the need to inject themselves a couple of times a day.

CEOCFO: *Has a similar technology been tried previously?*

Mr. Ben-Arie: There are technologies that are under development where insulin producing cells are being produced from different sources. However, what we are developing is not insulin producing cells, it is a complete organ. It is a totally different approach. We are giving the insulin producing cells a natural environment such as it is in our body so they can function and produce insulin, so the patient can have better control over his blood glucose level.

CEOCFO: *What is the science and why do you think it can work?*

Mr. Ben-Arie: We think it will work because of several reasons. First, there have been pre-clinical studies and the results are very promising. The second thing is that we are using the insulin producing cells that originally are from humans. Therefore, we actually use similar protocol in the clinic as the Edmonton Protocol. In this clinical procedure, the patients are given insulin producing cells from donors, however we are jumping into this process and improving it. The process of insulin producing cells transplantation is already existing, and has already been approved in Europe and in Canada. In addition, for FDA approval, there has already been a Phase 3 clinical trial done, so I believe it will be approved in the United States very soon. So, we are jumping into this process and improving it with our technology.

CEOCFO: *How does the Engineered Micro Pancreas (EMP) get into the body? Would you tell us about the procedure?*

Mr. Ben-Arie: The size of the Engineered Micro Pancreas is very small. We are talking about a biological implant at the size of about 300 micrometer widths and the diameter is about 7 millimeters. We are transplanting it simply under the skin. Basically, it can be injected under the skin. Therefore, it is pretty much a simple process. It requires local anesthesia and that is it.

CEOCFO: *Is there a possibility the body could reject the EMP? Are there different types depending on the patient?*

Mr. Ben-Arie: We are going to treat the patient in a regular immunosuppressive protocol like in every other implant procedure. Therefore, we do not see any reason for rejection. A similar thing happened with the current pancreatic islet