

Artificial pancreas therapy performs well in pilot study

November 20 2015

Researchers are reporting a breakthrough toward developing an artificial pancreas as a treatment for diabetes and other conditions by combining mechanical artificial pancreas technology with transplantation of islet cells, which produce insulin.

In a study of 14 patients with pancreatitis who underwent standard surgery and auto-islet transplantation treatments, a closed-loop insulin pump, which relies on a continuous cycle of feedback information related to blood measurements, was better than multiple daily insulin injections for maintaining normal blood glucose levels.

"Use of the mechanical [artificial pancreas](#) in patients after islet transplantation may help the [transplanted cells](#) to survive longer and produce more insulin for longer," said Dr. Gregory Forlenza, lead author of the *American Journal of Transplantation* study. "It is our hope that combining these technologies will aid a wide spectrum of patients, including patients with diabetes, in the future."

More information: *American Journal of Transplantation*, dx.doi.org/10.1111/ajt.13539

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Artificial pancreas therapy performs well in pilot study (2015, November 20) retrieved

25 July 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-11-artificial-pancreas-therapy.html>

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