

Questions to ask when considering stem cell treatment options	Regenexx Surgery Alternative	Amniotic Stem Cells	Fat Stem Cells (stromal vascular fraction)	Used With Surgery
Are these my stem cells?	YES Bone marrow aspiration (BMA), utilizing the Regenexx High Dose BMC process	NO Derived as a by-product of baby delivery (amniotic fluid, placenta, birth sac)	YES Liposuction is more invasive than BMA	MAYBE It could be amniotic, fat or bone marrow; typically, whatever is easiest for the surgeon
Are the stem cells viable?	YES Evaluated and recorded with each procedure. Bone marrow is a rich source of viable stem cells when harvested correctly	NO There are no viable stem cells in amniotic products on the market used for musculoskeletal procedures	MAYBE Fat is difficult to accurately assess and most providers don't have the equipment or training to evaluate viability	MAYBE Most surgeons don't have the equipment or training to evaluate viability
How are stem cells counted?	A trained stem cell processor utilizes an automated cell counter as part of a sophisticated in-clinic laboratory	No viable stem cells to count	Stem cells rarely accurately counted as >95% of providers do not have the proper equipment or training	Stem cells rarely accurately counted as >95% of surgeons do not have the proper equipment or training
Are the stem cells processed by a trained stem cell processor, in a biosafety cabinet?	YES The patient's own stem cells are isolated, using a patented separation technique that is part of the Regenexx High Dose BMC process	NO Amniotic tissues from pregnant mothers are collected, gamma irradiated, dehydrated, or freeze-dried, bottled and sold commercially	NO The patient's own stem cells are harvested, and typically separated in a one size fits all, automated bedside centrifuge, and reinjected or administered IV the same day	NO The patient's own stem cells may be harvested, separated in a one size fits all automated bedside, and used with surgery; or frozen amniotic fluid may be used
Do the providers have specialized training?	YES Regenexx providers are all musculoskeletal subspecialists with interventional orthopedics training with the goal to AVOID surgery	NO No training required, most are midlevel providers such as physician assistants and nurse practitioners, blindly injecting	NO Weekend course available to any provider, in any specialty	NO Typically, not trained in this medical specialty and will bill for both surgery and stem cell procedure
Does an orthopedic stem cell expert perform the procedure?	YES Worldwide network of highly trained physicians who specialize in interventional orthopedic	NO Any provider who wants to purchase the commercially available vials of amniotic growth factors	NO Weekend course available to any provider, in any specialty	NO A surgeon, who is unlikely a stem cell expert and will bill for both surgery and stem cell procedure
Are the procedures done under image guidance?	YES Precise image-guided placement into the joint or soft tissue using ultrasound and fluoroscopy	NO Typically, injected blindly or IV	MAYBE Blindly or image guided, depending on provider training, skill level, and specialty or IV	MAYBE Typically, used during the open surgical procedure
Is there a candidacy process to make sure this is the right procedure for my condition?	YES A detailed process of candidacy grading is used to determine if the patient is a good candidate	NO Most people are candidates as long as they are over the age of 18	NO Most people are candidates as long as they are over the age of 18	NO It's the doctor's decision based on his medical opinion
Is the treatment research based?	YES Regenexx has published over 50% of the world's orthopedic regenerative medicine stem cell literature, including largest stem cell safety paper in the world	NO There is no research showing any benefit for orthopedic conditions	TYPICALLY, NOT Little research showing it helps most of the conditions it is used for, considered more than minimally manipulated by FDA	TYPICALLY, NOT
Can I easily find patient outcomes?	YES All patients are tracked in the world's largest stem cell registry with outcomes, including any adverse events, transparently reported on our website	TYPICALLY, NOT No registry based tracking and no outcomes reported	TYPICALLY, NOT No registry based tracking, limited outcomes reported	TYPICALLY, NOT No registry based tracking, limited outcomes reported