SAMPLE ABSTRACTS

Sample 1

Phenotypic differences in wound healing responses are reflected by differences in ECM reorganisation and MMP-2 activation

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Introduction
Fibroblasts play a pivotal role in wound healing by synthesising the extracellular matrix (ECM), mediating remodelling and facilitating re-epithelialisation.

Method
Fibroblasts were derived from normal oral mucosa (OF), from venous leg ulcers with impaired healing (UF) and matched, normal skin (NF) and utilised in all experiments at low passage (P4-7) and low population doubling level.

Results
In these in vitro systems there were no differences between any of the cell strains studied with respect to cellular senescence, proliferation or attachment to the type I collagen substrate ($p>0.1$). Ability to reorganise the FPCL correlated with the wound healing responses observed in vivo (OF>NF, $p<0.01$; NF>UF, $p<0.05$).

Sample 2

IL-1 Induced shape changes mediated by RAS

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IL-1, an inflammatory cytokine, is known to mediate a wide range of biological activities in a number of cell lines. IL-1 receptor binding causes modulation at focal adhesions and reorganisation of the actin cytoskeleton[1,2]. Further, IL-1 induced signal transduction is regulated by integrin binding and fibronectin attachment is permissive in IL-1 mediated gene regulation. Members of the p21ras superfamily of GTP-binding proteins have been shown to play a central role in mediating co-regulation of structural and growth factor/cytokine mediated responses.

References
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2. Flenniken A.M. and B.R.G. Williams. (1990) Second article here. Genes Dev. 4: 1094-1106.