



COLLEGE OF
NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Notice: Stromal Vascular Fraction (SVF) Therapy

On October 12, 2016, the College was advised by Health Canada that the cells extracted using the Harvest Adi-Prep kit are considered stem cells. Health Canada advised that **nobody in Canada is currently permitted to use the stem cells extracted using the Harvest Adi-Prep kit to treat a patient or person unless they are running a clinical trial approved by Health Canada.** In order to be authorized for use in Canada, stem cells extracted using the Harvest Adi-Prep kit would have to be approved for a clinical trial under Division 5 of the *Food and Drug Regulations* (the “*Regulation*”) or approved as a new drug under Division 8 of the *Regulation* before being used for treatment in Canada.

Health Canada advised that, although the Harvest Adi-Prep kit is licensed as a Class 2 medical device, and may be used to extract adipose tissue for the purpose of harvesting stem cells, the stem cells themselves have **not** been reviewed for safety or quality, or authorized for use. Health Canada explained that the Harvest Adi-Prep device itself was approved for safety, but that Health Canada’s review of it (and for all Class 2 devices) did not include consideration of the safety and efficacy of the product it is designed to produce. The stem cells are considered by Health Canada to be drugs that have not yet been approved for use.

Given Health Canada’s position, the Board has determined that stromal vascular fraction therapy is excluded from the scope of practice of naturopathic physicians in British Columbia.

Updated October 2016

P (604) 688-8236

TF (877) 611-8236

F (604) 688-8476

Suite 840-605 Robson Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3

www.cnpbc.bc.ca