



sport  
homepage



sport  
schedule

### Sports Medicine: Stem cell tech for quick recovery

A Melbourne conference has been told stem cell technology could soon be used to help injured athletes and sports stars recover more quickly.



The Sports Medicine conference is looking at how the field has developed over the past 20 years and what's emerging for treatments in the future.

Spokesman Doctor Andrew Jowett said trials at Melbourne's St Vincent's Hospital have found stem cells to be faster and more effective at repairing fractures.

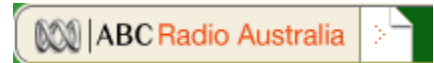
"But I think that's the only the first stage," Dr Jowett said.

"I think the cells can be applied to any tissue in the body so the golden fleece is really being able to generate cartilage in joints and perhaps we can see an opportunity to prevent or repair osteoarthritis and prevent long-term damage to joints, so I think that's a very exciting field."

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