

Making patients lives more comfortable.

Made possible by **mimit**

Chronic back pain (CBP), a cause of severe disability is currently managed through administration of analgesics, physiotherapy or major spinal surgery – all associated with a poor treatment response. Funding from MIMIT enabled the formation of the University of Manchester spin out Gelexir Healthcare, which has developed a novel non-surgical procedure for the treatment of CBP.

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The unmet need

Augmentation of the diseased intervertebral disc to relieve chronic back pain.

The solution

A novel biomaterial specifically engineered to replicate the behaviour of normal intervertebral disc function. At the request of spine surgeons, we have designed an injectable gel that is liquid outside the body but once injected becomes a hard gel with the strength to support the weight of the body whilst allowing normalised function and relieving pain. This design of biomaterial means patients can be treated as outpatients or day-patients. Thus the product fills a treatment niche and improves the patient experience.

The output

£375k

Investigator funding leveraged (including EPSRC)

3 Patents

Numerous high impact publications

Novel microgel and testing models developed

Spin out company created – Gelexir

Clinical trial to start 2018

£4.75M

commercial funding leveraged

Pathway status:

Idea

Research Team

Discovery

Prototype

Safety/Efficacy

Product

Deploy/Commercial

In use