Lukas Utiger

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Personal

- Born in 1963 in Switzerland

Education

- Chemical Engineering, ETH Zurich
- PhD Chemical Engineering supervision of Prof. L. Kershenbaum , Imperial College London

Professional background

- 1987 – 92: Process Development, R & D Group at ICI Chemical & Polymers, Runcorn UK
- 1992 – Joined Lonza as Development Engineer within R & D Engineer, Switzerland
- 1998 – Became Group leader in Process R & D in Fine Chemical Div, Switzerland
- 2000 – 2001: R & D Head in Exclusive Synthesis (Chemical Custom Manufacturing), Switzerland
- 2001 – 2006: Business Head – Exclusive Synthesis (Chemical Custom Manufacturing), Switzerland
- 2006 – 2010: COO – Life Science Ingredients business sector, Switzerland
- 2010 till date: COO – Lonza Biosciences in Maryland, USA.

- Since 2001 is a member of Lonza Group Management Committee

Abstract – BioAsia 2011 – Speaker Dr. Lukas Utiger

Topic: Regenerative Medicines - Does the Future bring the cure?

Throughout the 20th century, healthcare has focused on the palliative treatment of underlying health symptoms. In fact, much of the modern pharmaceutical industry was built on small molecule approaches to mitigate symptoms - it is largely an industry addressing sickness, not wellness. More recently prevention and wellness is playing an increasing role in health systems. The ready availability of vitamins, nutritional supplements, and functional foods is becoming a greater part of overall lifestyle world-wide. This trend is naturally extending toward the demand for curative therapies and regenerative medicines. Cellular therapies are emerging as a new treatment paradigm to restorative health. While the promise is great, the complexity of cell therapy introduces a number of challenges.

This presentation explores issues associated with scaled production of therapeutic cells including technologies available for scale up and scale out, raw material management issues, regulatory challenges, packaging, testing and release, as well as other logistical challenges that will be faced later on the path to an approved commercial therapeutic products.