

Success Story



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Rimon Therapeutics Ltd. | Toronto

Rubbing plastic in the wound helps healing

Revolutionary dressing "kick-starts" the healing of chronic wounds

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Michael Sefton
Co-founder & Chief Scientific Officer
Rimon Therapeutics Ltd.

When you get a cut in your skin, the wound starts to repair itself almost immediately. But for chronic wounds the body requires more than a bandage to allow this healing process to begin.

In North America, millions of chronic wounds require constant care amounting to over \$20 billion annually in treatment costs.

Toronto-based Rimon Therapeutics Ltd. has developed a “smart” dressing made from advanced medical polymers (plastics) that supports the body’s natural healing process for those suffering from painful diabetic ulcers, bedsores and venous ulcers.

Rimon’s MI-Sorb,™ is an easy-to-apply chronic wound dressing that contains the company’s revolutionary bioactive materials called Theramers.® “Theramers allow the body to heal without the side effects or costs of conventional drugs,” says Michael May, President of Rimon. The MI-Sorb dressing works by removing the tissue-destroying enzymes in chronic wounds, kick-starting the natural wound healing process.

Rimon was one of two companies awarded “Most Promising Early Stage Biotechnology Company” in 2006 by BIOTECCanada, a biotechnology-funded association.

With vast therapeutic potential, Theramers stand to yield the high profit margins of drugs. But since Theramers are classified by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as medical devices, products based on the technology require far less time and money for clinical testing. Developed from research at the University of

Toronto, Rimon received its initial funding from Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) when co-founder Michael May was named the 1997 recipient of OCE’s Martin Walmsley Fellowship for Technological Entrepreneurship.

“The Fellowship enabled me to take the time to recruit early supporters, create a business plan and find seed financing,” says May. As an integral part of Ontario’s growing biotechnology community, OCE provided more than just initial funding.

“OCE supported early-stage research and development of our founding technology, connected us with world-class researchers, assisted with staff hiring and allowed us to explore new technologies for licensing,” says Michael Sefton, co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer at Rimon.

The first clinical trials of the MI-Sorb dressing have been completed, and Rimon plans to bring its product to market soon through a partnership with an established wound-care company. Future therapeutic applications include treating heart disease, delaying knee replacement, and preventing medical device-related infections.

“Rimon is getting noticed across the industry. Through continued industry collaboration we’re confident we can take Rimon to the next level, and beyond,” says May.

