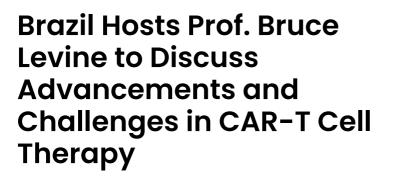
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On September 4th, our institution in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, had the privilege of hosting Professor Bruce Levine, Barbara and Edward Netter Professor in Cancer Gene Therapy, Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania for an insightful discussion on the challenges and advancements in CAR-T cell therapy.

During Prof. Levine, delivered his visit, a presentation titled "Translating T Cell Therapies From Boutique to Global" to an audience of over 100 attendees at the Blood Center of Ribeirao (https://www.hemocentro.fmrp.usp.br/). Preto the lecture, engaged Following he with researchers from Blood Center, and provided valuable insights into the operations of the Nucleo de Terapia Avançada (Nutera) Ribeirão Preto-a specialized center equipped for largescale CAR-T cell production.

This visit sparked essential conversations regarding the adaptation of CAR-T cell therapy to the unique challenges faced by developing countries. To make CAR-T cell therapy accessible in these regions, several critical factors were



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discussed, including: i) cost reduction. Exploring ways to reduce -t re r rdr, and a ur, he -t ost associated with CLR - which could be abling more affordable treatments of a notice of Million ITY streamlined regulations. Simplifying and expediting regulatory approval processes to make these therapies more accessible and costeffective, iii) local manufacturing. Establishing local CAR-T cell manufacturing facilities in developing countries, reducing the reliance on costly imports and fostering economic growth and iv) training, providing specialized training for healthcare professionals to ensure the successful implementation of CAR-T cell therapy.

This visit was especially significant because Hemocentro de RP invested in cutting-edge infrastructure and resources to produce CAR-T cells, marking a fundamental step in the development of CAR-T therapies in Brazil. The facility is expected to play a crucial role in conducting the first fully developed clinical study in Brazil. The CARTHEDRALL-01 phase I/II clinical study is

(https://www.hemocentro.fmrp.usp.br/terapia/) approved by ANVISA and will be conducted by the Hemocentro de Ribeirao Preto in partnership with the Butantan Institute (https://butantan.gov.br/).

Events like these serve as an inspiration to developing countries, encouraging the exchange of ideas and the collective effort to overcome challenges, ultimately paving the way for the implementation of innovative cell therapies in South America.

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