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### KrioBlast™-3 - a three module system for efficient cryopreservation of unfreezable cells

As we have stated before, there are 5 basic ways of achieving long-term storage, which ALL essentially lead to vitrification of cells, namely: slow freezing (SF), equilibrium vitrification (E-VF), kinetic vitrification (K-VF), freeze-drying (lyophilization), and *in vacuo* San Diego vacuum/air flow drying at temperatures above 0°C (xeropreservation). Previously, we presented KrioBlast-2, a pilot version of the KrioBlast™ platform for cryopreservation by kinetic (very fast) vitrification. One of the major advantages of K-VF over the existing approach for vitrification (E-VF) is that K-VF does not need the high concentrations of potentially toxic and intracellular vitrificants (also called: cryoprotectants, which is not exactly correct in this case) such as DMSO, ethylene glycol, dimethyl sulfoxide. The pilot experiments on human pluripotent stem cells and spermatozoa, which showed an equally excellent (80-90% of the untreated control), were presented. The other key advantage of K-VF is its universality so the system is equally suitable for any kind of cells and tissues as soon as the characteristic thermal time of the system, which basically depends on the geometry of the cryo container with the sample, is sufficiently short. In this presentation, we will present the future development, the industrial three module system KrioBlast-3 that comprises 1) the cooling chamber for hyperfast cooling, 2) the intermediate module for shipment or long term storage in liquid nitrogen, and 3) the rewarming module. The second module has two port sites for the cooling and the rewarming modules so the system resembles a space station. All operations of cooling, storage/shipment, and warming are done without any contact of the sample with the ambient environment. The specific cryo containers for K-VF, namely VitriPlate™, VitriComb™, and VitriScan™ for vitrification of cells in suspension, packed in straws, and attached to surface in multiwell systems respectively are also discussed.

### Recent Publications

1. Merino O, Sanchez R, Risopatron J, Isachenko E, Katkov II, et al. (2011) Cryoprotectant-free vitrification of fish (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) spermatozoa: first report. *Andrologia* DOI: 10.1111/j.1439-0272.2011.01196.x.
2. Katkov II, Bolyukh A F, Chernetsov O A, Dudin P I et al. (2012) Kinetic Vitrification of Spermatozoa of Vertebrates: What Can We Learn from Nature? In: *Current Frontiers in Cryobiology*, Eds: I I Katkov. DOI: 10.5772/34784.
3. Katkov II (2014) Stopping biological clocks: The science and art of biopreservation. *BioProcess International* 12(4):42-52.

### Biography

Igor I Katkov is a trained biophysicist with 30+ years of experience in cryobiology and cryogenic engineering. His last years of research have been focused on the fundamental aspects of kinetic vitrification (K-VF) as well on designing the practical system for K-VF KrioBlast™ (in cooperation with V F Bolyukh). Currently, the Head of the Laboratory of the Amorphous state at the Belgorod National Research University BelSU, Russia. He has recently accepted a Professor level position as the Head of the Laboratory of Cryobiology at the V I Kulakov Research Center of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Perinatology (RCGOP), Moscow, Russia and Chief Scientific Officer of Celltronix, San Diego, CA, USA.

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