



American Academy of Stem Cell Physicians

## **AASCP Zoom Lecture March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm (EST)**

### **Jack Jacobs, Ph.D., "The Human Regenerative Growth Factor, FGF-1, and Its Potential to Reverse Neurodegenerative Diseases"**

Dr. Jacobs received his Ph.D. in molecular biology from the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri and his B.S. in chemistry from Davidson College in North Carolina. He was recruited as an Assistant Professor to the University of Texas, San Antonio, where he established his own laboratory and received numerous awards for his research on peptide hormones, including a prestigious Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Jacobs was recruited away from academia to Merck, where he established a Department of Biological Chemistry composed of approximately 30 researchers who focused on the discovery of new agents to inhibit blood clotting. He left Merck to become Director of Basic Research at the Hitachi Chemical Research Center in Irvine, California, a position he held for 10 years, and where his work focused on new agents to combat prostate cancer .

Dr. Jacobs then took a position as Chief Operating Officer of CardioVascular BioTherapeutics, a biotechnology company focused on the development of the FGF-1 protein in a number of clinical indications. Under Dr. Jacobs' supervision the FGF-1 protein was advanced into Phase II clinical trials in a coronary artery disease indication and through Phase I studies as a wound

healing agent. Dr. Jacobs also oversaw all of the cGMP manufacturing activities associated with the production of clinical lots of FGF-1.

In his current position as President and Chief Science Officer of Zhittya Regenerative Medicine, Dr. Jacobs is overseeing clinical development programs in advancing FGF-1 for a number of diseases characterized by a lack of blood perfusion to a specific tissue or organ. Of particular note, he has initiated new programs at Zhittya to explore whether these drugs may be useful to treat vascular diseases of the brain, including Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Jacobs is the author of more than sixty peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals.

