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## NEWS

# Life Biosciences Announces FDA Clearance of IND Application for ER-100 in Optic Neuropathies

*IND clearance marks the first ever cellular rejuvenation therapy using partial epigenetic reprogramming to reach human clinical trials*

BOSTON, January 28, 2026 – Life Biosciences, Inc., (“Life Bio”) a biotechnology company pioneering cellular rejuvenation therapies to reverse and prevent multiple diseases of aging, today announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared its Investigational New Drug (IND) application for ER-100.

The IND clearance allows Life Bio to initiate a clinical program evaluating ER-100’s safety and potential to improve vision in patients with optic neuropathies. The Phase 1 first-in-human study ([NCT07290244](#)) will enroll individuals with open-angle glaucoma (OAG) and non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION) to assess safety, tolerability, immune responses and impact on multiple visual assessments.

ER-100 originated from Life Bio’s Partial Epigenetic Reprogramming (PER) platform, which

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demonstrated safety and efficacy in multiple preclinical animal models by local injection into the eye. ER-100 is the first ever cellular rejuvenation therapy using epigenetic reprogramming to receive FDA clearance for human clinical trials.



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“This important milestone in reaching the clinic is the result of years of research, optimization, and comprehensive nonhuman primate studies demonstrating controlled OSK expression, restoration of methylation patterns, and improved visual function, all of which has culminated in this IND clearance,” said Sharon Rosenzweig-Lipson, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, Life Biosciences. “These results have paved the way for first-in-human evaluation of our cellular rejuvenation approach with the goal of improving the lives of people facing debilitating age-related disease, starting with optic neuropathies.”

**About Optic Neuropathies**

Optic neuropathies are a group of disorders characterized by the irreversible death of retinal ganglion cells (RGCs), the primary neurons connecting the eye to the brain. Because RGCs cannot naturally regenerate, their loss results in permanent vision impairment. Open-angle glaucoma (OAG) is a chronic neurodegenerative disease and a leading cause of blindness. While often associated with elevated intraocular pressure, RGC damage frequently continues despite treatment, and some patients suffer from OAG despite normal intraocular pressure. Non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION), often termed “stroke of the eye,” is the most common acute optic neuropathy in adults over fifty. It involves sudden, painless vision loss due to insufficient blood flow, for which there are currently no approved treatments. Prevalence and incidence of both of these diseases rise with age, creating a growing global burden. Yet current standards of care fail to address the underlying neuronal degeneration, leaving a significant unmet medical need for disease-modifying therapies that can directly protect or regenerate RGCs to restore or preserve sight.

**About Life Biosciences**

Life Bio is a clinical-stage biotechnology company pioneering cellular rejuvenation therapies to reverse and prevent multiple diseases of aging. The company’s proprietary Partial Epigenetic Reprogramming (PER) platform utilizes three transcription factors—OCT4, SOX2, and KLF4—to restore older and damaged cells to a younger and healthier state. This

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strategically broadening its therapeutic pipeline to address additional age-related diseases, underscoring the platform's versatility and transformative potential. For more information, visit [www.lifebiosciences.com](http://www.lifebiosciences.com) or follow LifeBio on [Twitter](#), [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



### Media Contact

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## Contacts and Locations

This section provides contact details for people who can answer questions about joining this study, and information on where this study is taking place.

To learn more, please see the [Contacts and Locations section in How to Read a Study Record](#) (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/study-basics/how-to-read-study-record#contacts-and-locations>).

### Study Contact 1

**Name:** Life Biosciences

**Phone Number:** (857) 400-9245

**Email:** [ER100trial@lifebiosciences.com](mailto:ER100trial@lifebiosciences.com)

This study has 4 locations

## United States

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### California Locations

- 📍 **Glendale, California, United States, 91204**  
**Recruiting**  
Global Research Management, Inc.  
Contact : Logi El-Harazi  
818-246-2560 [logi@grmclinical.com](mailto:logi@grmclinical.com)  
Contact : Sevada Minassians  
818-246-2560  
[Sevada@grmclinical.com](mailto:Sevada@grmclinical.com)

### Massachusetts Locations

- 📍 **Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 02114**  
**Not yet recruiting**  
Mass Eye and Ear  
Contact : Joseph Rizzo, MD  
617-573-6060  
[centerforclinicalresearchoperations@meei.harvard.edu](mailto:centerforclinicalresearchoperations@meei.harvard.edu)  
Principal Investigator : Joseph Rizzo, MD

### New York Locations

- 📍 **New York, New York, United States, 10032**

**Not yet recruiting**

Columbia University Irving Medical  
Center/Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute  
Contact : Ioannis Michalopoulos  
212-305-0011  
[im2482@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:im2482@cumc.columbia.edu)

Principal Investigator : Aakriti Shukla, MD, MSc

**South Carolina Locations**

 **Charleston, South Carolina, United States,  
29414**

**Recruiting**

Charleston Neuroscience Institute  
Contact : Alise Chatelain  
843-998-7659  
[a.chatelain@retinasouthcarolina.com](mailto:a.chatelain@retinasouthcarolina.com)  
[m](#)  
Contact : Terry Blewer  
843-998-7659  
[t.blewer@retinasouthcarolina.com](mailto:t.blewer@retinasouthcarolina.com)

**Participation Criteria**

Researchers look for people who fit a certain description, called [eligibility criteria](#). Some examples of these criteria are a person's general health condition or prior treatments.

For general information about clinical research, read [Learn About Studies](#) (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/study-basics/learn-about-studies>).