Details:
Patients who receive kidney transplants must take life-long immunosuppressive drugs to prevent their immune system from rejecting the transplant. Over time, these drugs are toxic and can increase a patient’s risk of infection, heart disease, cancer and diabetes. Medeor Therapeutics has developed a stem cell-based treatment they hope will eliminate the need for immunosuppressive drugs in kidney transplant patients. Blood-forming stem cells and immune cells from the organ donor are infused into the patient receiving the donor’s kidney. By introducing the donor’s immune cells into the patient, the patient’s immune system is able to tolerate the donor’s kidney, potentially eliminating the need for immunosuppressive drugs that are normally necessary to prevent transplant rejection. Medeor is currently testing this treatment in a Phase 3 clinical trial.

Goal:
If the trial meets its objective in allowing patients to eliminate immunosuppressive drug use without rejection, Medeor may apply to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for permission to market their therapy to patients in the United States.

News about this clinical trial:
California’s Stem Cell Agency Invests in Phase 3 Clinical Trial to Help Kidney Transplant Patients
Medeor Therapeutics Awarded $18.8 Million From the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine