

Orthocell Co-Founder Professor Minghao Zheng Appointed Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

MEDIA RELEASE

26 January 2026

Perth, Australia | 26 January 2026 | The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, has announced appointments to the Order of Australia as part of the 2026 King's Birthday Honours List today, including Professor Minghao Zheng AM, MD, PhD, FAHMS, FRSM, FRCPath, FIOR (Professor Zheng AM).

Professor Zheng AM is an internationally recognised researcher whose career has focused on translating regenerative medicine research into clinically applied solutions for nerve, bone, cartilage and tendon repair.

"I am truly honoured to be appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia General Division today. This recognition is a testament to the dedication, passion and collective spirit of the teams I have worked with," said Professor Zheng AM.

A significant element of Professor Zheng's career, alongside extensive academic and industry contributions (see biography below), is his role as Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Perth-based regenerative medicine Company [Orthocell Ltd](#) (Orthocell, ASX:OCC).

Orthocell's Australian-made regenerative medicine products have now attracted 17 international regulatory approvals. The base technology was conceptualised more than 20 years ago, when Professor Zheng AM collaborated with The University of Western Australia and Orthocell Co-Founder and Managing Director Paul Anderson to design biological solutions to repair the human body.

This work focused on developing collagen scaffolds and cell therapies using a patient's own stem cells, as alternatives to traditional materials like metal and plastic.

Looking back to the early days, Professor Zheng AM fondly recalls drawing inspiration from a sea sponge on a West Australian beach.

"I was mesmerised by the natural and loosely occurring bundles in the sea sponge which mimicked the structure of bone and soft tissue. Nature is so clever," he said.

“With so many people experiencing bone, nerve and tendon injuries, I wanted to find a way to translate this structure into a targeted and scalable medical device platform – and encouragingly, our early work is foundational to Orthocell’s global medical device portfolio today.”

One example of this translational research is Orthocell’s Remplir™ nerve repair device, which has received regulatory clearance in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, Canada, Hong Kong, and with additional jurisdictions now under review.

The true human impact of this device is measured and celebrated, including its use in transformative cases of recovery in quadriplegic patients.

The media is invited to view two short films capturing the treatment and recovery journey of quadriplegic patients who have been treated with Orthocell’s FDA-approved Remplir™. Click here to meet [Liam](#) and [Jas](#).

Orthocell Co-Founder and Managing Director, Paul Anderson, said Professor Zheng AM is to be congratulated for his contribution to Australian regenerative medicine research and global clinical practice.

“Congratulations on this incredible achievement, Professor Zheng AM. On behalf of the Orthocell community – our Board, team, collaborating surgeons, patients, investors – and fellow biotechnology leaders, I applaud this celebration of Australian medical innovation,” said Paul.

For more information visit orthocell.com

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PROFESSOR MINGHAO ZHENG – AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA COMMENT

Professor Minghao Zheng AM, MD, PhD, FRSM, FRCPath, FIOR is Professor of Orthopaedic Science at The University of Western Australia. He is a global expert in translation of biomedical science to clinical practice. He was formerly Pro Vice Chancellor International and Associate Dean of The University of Western Australia. He pioneered the development of nature derived biomaterials and cell therapy to treat nerve, cartilage, tendon and bone trauma. Professor Zheng developed several FDA approved stem cell therapy products and biological devices for orthopaedic applications. He is founder of two Australian biotechnology companies Orthocell (OCC:ASX) and Marine Biomedical. He has published over 300 papers and has over ten patents secured. He has been elected as Fellow of Australia Academy of Health and Medical Science in 2025. In January 2026, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

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MEDIA RESOURCES

[Click here to access images of Professor Minghao Zheng.](#)