**Inclusion criteria**

- Patients >18 years of age undergoing allogeneic liver transplantation from a cadaveric donor
- Absence of any familial, sociological or geographical condition potentially hampering compliance with the study protocol and follow-up schedule
- Written informed consent prior to any study procedures

**Exclusion criteria**

- Known allergies to bovine or porcine products
- Patients older than 65 years of age
- Patients listed in a high-urgency status that would not allow proper preparation of the study interventions
- Patients receiving a secondary liver graft (retransplantation)
- Double organ transplant recipients
- Pre-existing renal failure that requires or has required hemodialysis within the last year
- Pulmonary function: FEV1, FVC, DLCO ≤50% predicted
- Cardiac function: left ventricular ejection fraction ≤50%
- HIV seropositive, HTLV seropositive, varicella virus active infection, or syphilis active infection.
- History of any malignancy (including lymphoproliferative disease and hepatocellular carcinoma) except for squamous or basal cell carcinoma of the skin that has been treated with no evidence of recurrence
- Unstable myocardium (evolving myocardial infarction), cardiogenic shock
- Females capable of childbearing (hormonal status and gynecological consultation required)
- Males not agreeing to use contraception for the duration of the study
- Patient is pregnant, has a positive serum \( \beta \)-hCG, or is lactating
- Known current substance abuse (drug or alcohol)
- Prisoner
- Use of an investigational agent within 30 days prior enrolment
- Concurrent enrolment in any other clinical trial
- Any psychiatric, addictive or other disorder that compromises ability to give informed consent