

## Embryo Donation after Pre-Implantation Genetic Diagnosis PGD

You have been given this pamphlet because you are considering Pre-Implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) with In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) to attempt to conceive a child who will not be affected with a particular disease. If you decide to proceed with IVF and PGD, you may also have the option of donating any disease affected embryos to stem cell research. This pamphlet will provide you with more information regarding this option.

Couples undergoing IVF with PGD using their own sperm and eggs are eligible.

### How to donate

If you are interested in more information about our research and how to donate, please contact the Research Administration Staff at The New York Stem Cell Foundation with the following information:

Female Partner Name:

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Male Partner Name:

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E-mail(s):

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Phone number(s):

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Best time to call:

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*Can we leave a detailed message on your voicemail  
if we do not reach you in person?*

Yes\_\_\_\_\_

No\_\_\_\_\_

Please contact us at (212) 927-1801  
or send an e-mail to [HSR@nyscf.org](mailto:HSR@nyscf.org)

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### Human Embryonic Stem Cells

As you may know human embryonic stem cells are believed to have enormous potential for both research and therapy. A stem cell line is a perpetual source of stem cells derived from an early embryo. Embryonic stem cells have the unique ability to become any kind of body cell. It may eventually be possible to replace or repair damaged or diseased cells. This would be particularly useful in diseases that affect organs that cannot re-grow themselves such as the nervous system

(in Huntington's Disease or Spinal Muscular Atrophy). It may also be possible to study how these diseases develop and what drugs might slow or stop the development of the disease using these cells in a laboratory environment. New research techniques now allow stem cells that are taken from embryos to be reproduced and kept in a laboratory indefinitely. This creates the possibility of continuous sources of these cells for research and treatment.

### Disease Specific Human Embryonic Stem Cells

Our research at The New York Stem Cell Foundation is designed to establish and study disease specific human embryonic stem cell lines. Because your embryos will have been tested with

PGD, we will know already that they carry the genes for your particular disease. This will make any resulting stem cell lines particularly useful for studying that disease.

*In the future, you may have excess frozen embryos remaining after you have completed your family. You may also choose to donate these embryos to our research. Being able to do research on both affected and excess frozen embryos from the same family would be incredibly useful to our research.*