

Donating Embryos for Stem Cell Research

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.

Who Can Donate Embryos?

Researchers at the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) would like to use excess frozen embryos left over after In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) treatment to create stem cells for research.

If you have completed your IVF treatment, and have remaining frozen embryos that you do not wish to use to attempt additional pregnancies, you may be able to provide these embryos for stem cell research.

Any embryos that we receive must meet the following criteria:

- Embryos must have been created with the intention of attempting pregnancy
- Embryos must have been created without the use of anonymously donated eggs or sperm
- Embryos must be stored at the clinic at which they were created

It is possible to create human embryonic stem (HES) cell lines from human embryos. Our goal is to create and to distribute these cell lines to scientists throughout the United States and the world.

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If you are eligible and are interested in taking part, you should know that stem cells produced using your embryos will:

- Contain all of your genetic material
- Will be stored for many years
- And will be shared with researchers all over the world

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: _____
Male partner name: _____
E-mail(s): _____
Phone number(s): _____
Best time to call: _____

*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