

## **Stem Cells Poised to Become Big Business, Says New Analysis**

NEEDHAM, MA, December 18, 2008 - According to a new analysis from Insight Pharma Reports, a leading biotech and pharmaceutical business intelligence provider, several trends are converging toward an explosion in interest in stem cell technology: an aging population, an unprecedented degree of international collaboration, the analysis of human genome information, and the increasing personalization of medicine. By 2020, 9.4% of the people on the planet will be age 65 or older, up from 7.3% for 2006.

Epidemiology is subtly shifting too. "As so-called developing nations acquire the wealth, obesity, and sedentary lifestyles of the so-called developed nations, chronic conditions are replacing infectious diseases as the major causes of morbidity and mortality. It is these chronic disorders that stem cells will address," said Ricki Lewis, PhD, author of Insight Pharma Reports' *Stem Cells Come of Age* (November 2008). Dr. Lewis projected, "In the short term, stem cell science is likely to make its biggest splash in drug discovery and development and in better understanding of disease." The potential markets for stem-cell based therapeutics are huge - stem cell-therapy targets will extend into many fields of medicine. And, support for stem cell R&D is on the rise. "After a slow start, the stem cell age is finally poised to begin," said Dr. Lewis.

### **Huge Potential Markets Will Ignite Stem Cells' Potential**

Companies venturing out with the first clinical trials of stem-cell based therapeutics are but the tip of an enormous iceberg. The hundreds of millions of potential patients helped to fuel Robin R. Young's oft-quoted projection of an \$8.5 billion global stem cell market by 2016. Stem cell-based therapies are in various stages of development for Alzheimer disease (with 26.6 million potential patients worldwide), cancer (20 million new/year), cardiovascular disease (38 million), diabetes mellitus (177 million), Parkinson disease (6 million), and spinal cord injury (2 million).

### **Pharma Comes on Board**

Pharma emerged from the wait-and-see sidelines with the October 2007 debut of "Stem Cells for Safer Medicines," an independent, nonprofit partnership run by GlaxoSmithKline, AstraZeneca, Roche, and a roster of UK government organizations. "Pharma is supporting early stage academic research as well as partnering with nearer-to-market biotechs," notes Dr. Lewis. For example, GlaxoSmithKline has a \$25 million+ collaborative agreement with the Harvard Stem Cell Institute to develop new methods for drug screening. And Pfizer is funding a new biotech company, EyeCyte, to explore autologous stem cell treatments for disorders of the ocular vasculature.

### **About Insight Pharma Reports' *Stem Cells Come of Age* (November 2008)**

Insight Pharma Reports' *Stem Cells Come of Age* (November 2008) explores the scientific and non-scientific issues that are part of the emerging, complex, stem cell picture. The report considers the technological landscape, covering the isolation, derivation, culture, and characterization of stem cells. This publication analyzes a mix of areas that are critical to the translation of stem cell science from bench to bedside. Expert roundtables and exclusive interviews reveal how the people who invented the enabling technologies and have done ground breaking experiments think and share ideas. Selected stem cell companies are identified and profiled.

This report examines the origins of stem cell science and technology, and current and future applications, considering:

- The current state of stem cell science and technology

- Supplies and services
- Major applications of stem cell science
- Sources of funding, regulatory hurdles, and the commercial outlook
- IP challenges, public perception, bioethical concerns, and diversity in policies

Insight Pharma Reports' Stem Cells Come of Age (November 2008, 200 pages), published by Cambridge Healthtech Publishing (CHP), a division of Cambridge Healthtech Institute (CHI), is available in hardcopy (\$2,995 USD) and electronic (\$3,750; includes hardcopy) formats. To order this report, please visit Insight Pharma Reports' website at [www.insightpharmareports.com](http://www.insightpharmareports.com)

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Insight Pharma Reports, a division of Cambridge Healthtech Institute (CHI), focuses on all facets of pharmaceutical R&D - the technologies, companies, markets, and strategic business impacts. The reports regularly feature interviews with key opinion leaders; surveys of the activities, views, and plans of individuals in industry and nonprofit research; and substantive assessments of technologies and markets. Managers at the top 50 pharma companies, the top 100 biopharma companies, and the top 50 vendors of tools and services rely on Insight Pharma Reports as a trusted source of balanced and timely information. Please visit our website at [www.insightpharmareports.com](http://www.insightpharmareports.com)

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