



The New York Stem Cell Foundation Congratulates Geron

First Embryonic Stem Cell Trial Gets Approval From the FDA

NEW YORK, NY (January 23, 2009) – NYSCF applauded the announcement of the FDA approval of Geron's pioneering human embryonic stem cell clinical trial. Tom Okarma, Geron's president and CEO, and Hans Kierstead, of the University of California, previewed at NYSCF's annual translational conference in October.

NYSCF CEO Susan L. Solomon noted: “The FDA’s announcement that it has given approval for the first human clinical trial involving embryonic stem cells is a watershed moment in the relatively short, yet remarkable history of stem cell science and regenerative medicine. This is a critical step forward that signals a new era of federal support of the promise of embryonic stem cell research.”

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About The New York Stem Cell Foundation

Founded in 2005, the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating stem cell research to cure the major diseases of our time. The Foundation opened the first privately funded human embryonic stem cell (hESC) laboratory in New York in March 2006. The state-of-the-art, collaborative research facility serves as a “safe haven” where scientists from academic medical centers in the New York area and throughout the East Coast can conduct advanced hESC research free of the federal restrictions that limit the scope of government-supported work. Other initiatives include NYSCF’s Post-Doctoral Fellowships Program, a slate of on-going programs and meetings for scientists and the general public, and support for research by leading scientists.