



Dedicated to Advancing Stem Cell Research

Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research

The Promise of Embryonic Stem Cells

Embryonic Stem Cells Have Great Potential

- Scientists believe these cells offer the most promise needed to cure some of the world's most deadly diseases.
- Scientists also believe that studying embryonic stem cells is integral to the success of adult stem cell (including cord blood cell) research.
- Science has proven that embryonic stem cells are more effective in curing diseases because they can grow and differentiate into any of the body's cells and tissues.
- CAMR supports research involving both embryonic and adult stem cells.

Where Do Embryonic Stem Cells Come From?

- When couples have completed the reproductive phase of in vitro fertilization, they may choose to donate or discard their unused embryos. Most choose to donate the embryos for scientific research, rather than having them removed from the freezer and washed down a laboratory sink drain.
- Embryonic stem cells are extracted from these donated embryos.

Federal Funding of the Research Protects the Public Interest

- Without federal funding, the nation's top researchers at universities, medical schools and teaching hospitals have their hands tied, and cannot further the progress of embryonic stem cell research.
- Tax dollars keep the "public" in public interest. This research should not be confined to the for-profit, commercial sector, which has limited oversight.
- With federal funding comes federal oversight and increased, enforceable ethical guidelines and standards.

State Legislative Initiatives

- CAMR supports state efforts to create safe havens for critical medical research, but state-based efforts are no substitute for a supportive federal policy.
- In the absence of federal policy and funding, state legislation that is pro-stem cell and pro-research helps attract top scientists/researchers to pursue this field of study and increases research activity across the board.

Public Opinion Strongly Favors Embryonic Stem Cell Research

- Independent opinion surveys over the last three years consistently show strong public support for embryonic stem cell research (e.g., *USA Today*, Gallup, Pew Research Center, ABC News) and a CAMR poll found that nearly three-quarters of Americans support embryonic stem cell research, while nearly two-thirds support federal funding and oversight for such research.

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