



## The Facts About Stem Cell Research

Massachusetts Family Institute supports and encourages the continued use of *adult* stem cells in scientific research. MFI opposes all *embryonic* stem cell research that requires the destruction of life.

**Adult stem cells** are derived from umbilical cords, placentas, bone marrow, and numerous other tissues and organ systems.

**Embryonic stem cells** are obtained by harvesting of living embryos, 5-7 days old, and from aborted fetuses.

- **Adult stem cells** have been used successfully in treating more than 100 diseases and conditions including leukemia, lymphoma, sickle cell anemia and Parkinson's Disease.
- **Adult stem cells** have been credited with repairing spinal cord injuries, restoring vision to the blind and reversing damage from heart attacks.
- **Embryonic stem cell** research has resulted in **NO** successful treatments or therapies.
- **Embryonic stem cells** may be rejected, may carry defects of the donor may promote tumor formation.
- **Embryonic stem cells**, contrary to previously held belief, begin to deteriorate just like adult stem cells.
- **Adult stem cells** derived from umbilical cord blood and bone marrow appear to be as flexible and safe as embryonic stem cells.

### The Ethics of Stem Cell Research

- Adult stem cells, assuming informed consent, are collected without moral objection.
- Harvesting of embryonic stem cells requires the destruction of a human embryo. This research is tantamount to the creation of life for the purpose of destruction and runs counter to the American tradition of respect for the unique quality and value of each human life.

### The Economics of Stem Cell Research

- Some researchers are seeking public money for embryonic stem cell research because private funding is unavailable. Adult stem cell research is a far more attractive investment because of its sparkling record of success.
- It is unwise, as well as immoral, for government to invest taxpayer money in questionable research when adult stem cell treatment has been so successful.