Stem Cell Ethics and Policy

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Overview

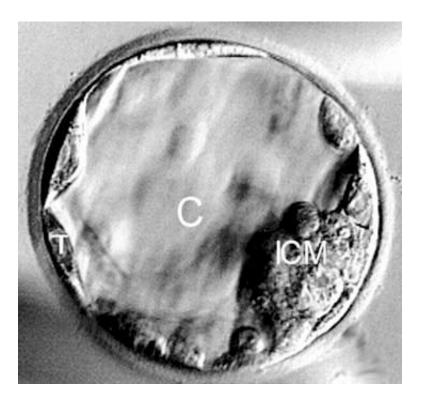
- Embryonic Stem Cells
- Adult Stem Cells
- Federal Law
- Why Need More Lines
- Compromises

Arguments Against Embryonic Stem Cells and SCNT

- Embryo destruction
- Increase abortion
- Consent
- Cloning
- Destruction of
 Family

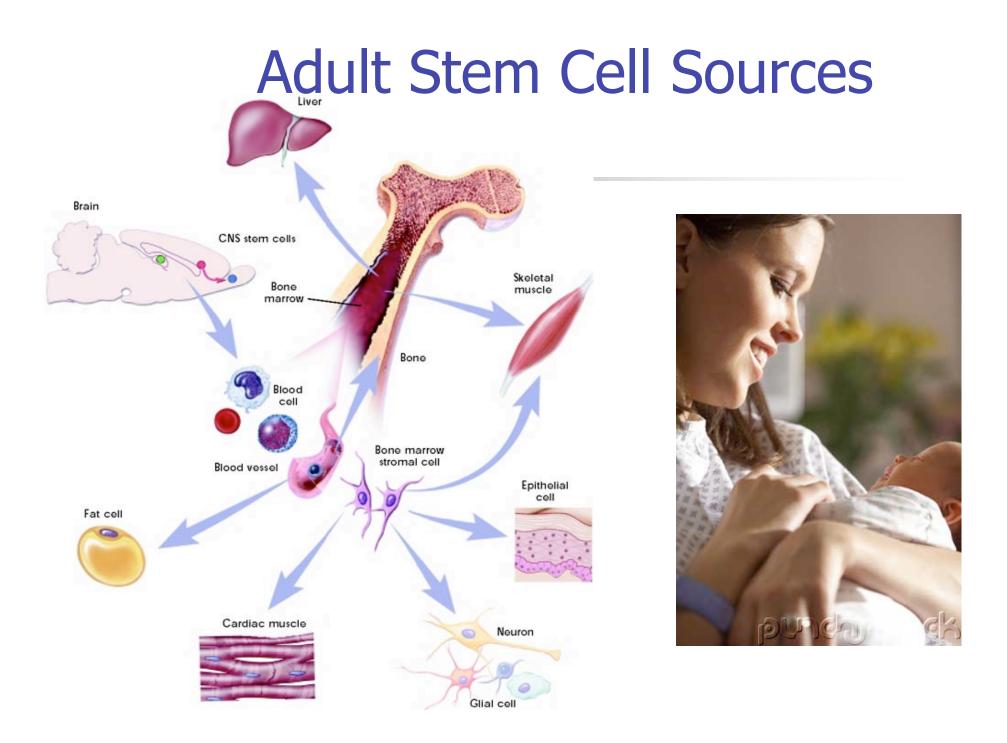
Why Embryonic Stem Cells?

- Pluripotency
- Drug Testing
- Unlimited Growth
- Cancer Research



Why Adult Stem Cells?

- No destruction of life
- MHC match
- No tumors
- Signs of plasticity
- Cord Blood

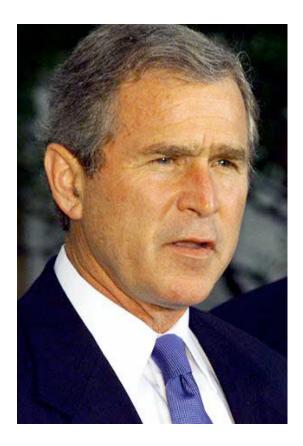


Problems with Adult Stem Cells

- Rare
- Difficult to purify
- Limited regeneration
- Existing DNA
- Plasticity questioned
 - Mutation
 - DNA uptake
 - Purification
 - Fusion

Current Law

- Before August 2001
- Informed Consent
- From surplus IVF
- 60 lines match specification



New Embryonic Stem Cells Needed

- 15 lines available
- Low Diversity
- Mouse Contamination
- Mutation
- Genetic Origins
- New Methods
- Avoid Privatization
- Avoid Driving Researchers Overseas

Possible Compromises

- IVF embryos
- Informed Consent
- When to Approach Parents
- No Compensation
- Sales Ban
- Generation Limits
- Peer Review
- SCNT Debate