Repair Stem Cell Institute warns about real cost of embryonic stem cell research

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Don Margolis, founder of the world's first stem cell treatment company and chairman of the Repair Stem Cell Institute, today issued a statement which took strong exception to Washington's emphasis on embryonic stem cells over both Repair (Adult) Stem Cells and induced Pluripotent stem cells (iPS).

Margolis said, "This leads to one key question which no one in America seems to ask: Why is the FDA, which indiscriminately rushes unproven deadly drugs to AIDS patients, forbidding six million dying heart patients access to long-proven SAFE stem cell therapy?" Is it because heart patients don't count in politics while AIDS patients do? Or is there another reason why they allow drugs such as Vioxx and forbid risk-free stem cells?

Margolis added that Repair Stems Cells are right now, every week, improving dozens and dozens of lives all over the world. He emphasized that "Patients stricken with disabling diseases such as congestive heart failure, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, ataxia, autism, COPD, emphysema, Crohn's, and optic nerve disorders, among 100+ other conditions, are receiving successful stem cell treatments today on every continent but North America!"

"When the President lifted the partial ban on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research stem research, he did not mention that Embryonic Stem Cells (ESC) have never worked on humans or animals and never will," Margolis said. "He also didn't mention that Embryonic Stem Cells, when injected into your body, can cause deadly tumors as they have in thousands of lab animals."

Mr. Margolis pointed out that just five days before the ESC announcement, Dr. Bernardine Healy, former director of the National Institutes of Health, published an article in U.S. News & World Report which states, "To date, most of the stem cell triumphs that the public hears about involve the infusion of adult stem cells." Healy concluded that "during the first six weeks of Obama's term, several events reinforced the notion that embryonic stem cells . . . are obsolete."

In support of Dr. Healy's point, Margolis quoted three world-class embryonic research scientists. First was Dr. James Thomson, the research leader at Newcastle U. before departing for more useful Bush era regulations. Thomson's observation is even truer today. The potential of iPS is so big," Margolis said, "that researchers 'may have achieved what no politician could: an end to the embryonic stem cell debate.'"

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Margolis then discussed the recent extraordinary discovery of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS), which can easily replace the need for ESC. "The potential of iPS is so big," Margolis said, "that even Dr. Ian Wilmut, who led the team that cloned the famous Dolly the sheep, abandoned his license to attempt human cloning, stating that researchers 'may have achieved what no politician could: an end to the embryonic stem cell debate.'"

"And end it we must," Margolis added, "before billions more dollars are wasted while millions of patients are forced to sit on Death Row, waiting for 21st century alchemy to magically transform embryonic stem cells into repair stem cells."

In closing, Margolis quoted Dr. Colin McGuckin, a noted UK embryonic research leader at Newcastle U. before departing for more useful RSC research in France: "The best estimates of the embryonic scientists here at Newcastle is that embryonic stem cells may not be able to help people this side of 50 years. That's my lifetime. We can't wait that long."

Mr. Margolis agrees: "The real cost of embryonic research is not the wasted billions, but 50 more years of unnecessary suffering by those who can be helped today."

About The Repair Stem Cell Institute: The Repair Stem Cell Institute's mission is to educate and inform everyone about the rapid advances being made in Repair Stem Cell research, so all can intelligently exercise freedom of choice in medical care. If you, or a loved one, are seeking treatment for your "untreatable" medical condition, visit http://www.repairstemcells.org for our list of the eight most experienced and successful stem cell treatment centers in the world, as well as the standards we apply to them.

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Margolis added, ‘And end it we must,’ before billions more dollars wasted, but 50 more years of unnecessary suffering by those who can be helped today.”

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Mr. Margolis pointed out that just five days before the ESC ban ended, one of the world’s most experienced and successful stem cell treatment centers, Repair Stem Cell Institute’s mission is to educate and inform everyone about the rapid advances being made in Repair Stem Cell research, so all can which states, ‘To date, most of the stem cell triumphs that the Bush era regulations.’

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