



# University of Connecticut Health Center

**POLICY NUMBER 2006-16**

**August 11, 2006**

**POLICY: HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH AT UCHC**

**PURPOSE:**

To ensure that all human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research conducted at the Institution is approved by a cognizant body charged by the Institution to fulfill this purpose and that authorized hESC research complies with the Special Operating Procedures discussed in this document. This policy is supplemental to, and in no way takes the place of, existing policies for all activities including the conduct of research at the Institution.

**SCOPE:**

This policy applies to all who conduct or are involved with hESC research at the Institution.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESC):** Human embryonic stem cells are pluripotent cells that are self-replicating, derived from human embryos, and are capable of developing into cells and tissues of the three primary germ layers. Although human embryonic stem cells may be derived from embryos, such stem cells are not themselves embryos.

**Eligible hESC:** Those included on the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry.

**In-eligible hESC:** Those excluded from the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry.

**hESC lines:** A population of identical cells that all originated from a single blastocyst. Because cell lines multiply, scientists can grow the cells for their own research and to share with colleagues.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

In August 2001, the Federal government established a prohibition on the use of Federal funds for any research involving in-eligible human embryonic stem cell lines. In 2005, the state of Connecticut established the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Program to promote stem cell research at eligible facilities within the State.

In light of these considerations, the Institution has established the following policy related to human embryonic stem cell research.

All research involving human embryonic stem cells and/or research funded by the Connecticut Stem Cell Research Program must follow the [hESC Special Operating Procedures](#). The Associate Dean for Basic Science Research Planning and Coordination is responsible for the interpretation and overall coordination of the [hESC Special Operating Procedures](#).

The goals of this policy are to ensure that:

1. The Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight (ESCRO) Committee is aware of all human embryonic stem cell research activities conducted by researchers at or affiliated with the Institution;
2. Every person at the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) working on such research is fully aware of the compliance requirements associated with hESC research;
3. The Federal government's current prohibitions against inappropriate direct or indirect use of Federal funds on in-eligible stem cells lines are fully observed;
4. The Institution complies with any special reporting requirements for such research imposed by all sponsors and donors;
5. Existing research policies and procedures are followed; and
6. Provisions exist to continuously monitor compliance with this policy.

#### **Responsibilities of the Institution**

- Oversee hESC research through the creation of an Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight committee that will be charged to provide oversight of all ethical issues related to the derivation and research use of human embryonic stem cell lines at the Institution regardless of funding.
- Provide training to investigators and other employees and key individuals who are or will be involved in hESC research of federal and state laws and regulations and institution policies and procedures.
- Establish procedures specific to the institutional oversight and compliance issues related to hESC research.
- Monitor compliance with relevant institution policies and procedures.

#### **Responsibilities of the Investigator**

- Complete mandatory technical and administrative training in hESC research.
- Conduct research in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations and institution policies and procedures, including the [hESC Special Operating Procedures](#).

Marc Lalande, M.D. (signed)

10/23/06

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**Associate Dean for Research Planning & Coordination**

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**Date**

Bruce M. Koeppen, M.D. (signed)

10/26/06

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**Dean, Academic Affairs**

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**Date**

Peter J. Deckers, M.D. (signed)

10/26/06

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**Executive Vice President for Health Affairs**

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**Date**

**Replaces: NEW POLICY**