

イギリス: 現在認可されている胚作成を伴う研究②

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HUMAN FERTILISATION & EMBRYOLOGY AUTHORITY



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Derivation of Human Embryonic Stem Cell Lines from Embryos created from Clinically Unused Oocytes or Abnormally Fertilised Embryos

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Lay summary:

Human embryo stem (hES) cells can be made to develop into a variety of specific cell types and as such have many potential medical uses, including the treatment of degenerative diseases by the replacement of defective cells, the safety testing of new medicines and treatments, and the study of disease. These cells can be isolated from the inner cells of early embryos produced during in vitro fertilisation treatment before they are transferred to establish a pregnancy. A variety of hES cell lines are required to understand both their biological properties and limitations. Large numbers of hES cell lines will be required for research and for their use in medical treatments, in order to provide the correct tissue match, similar to existing organ transplantation programmes.

To date hES lines have only been derived from embryos left over from IVF treatment programmes. These so-called "spare" embryos are in great demand for the couples' own treatment, for donation to other couples that do not have healthy eggs, and for research into infertility and improving IVF treatment. As a result, embryos donated for hES cell derivation are very