

Special Report on Stem cell in LSW LifeScienceWorld Magazine

DELHI, DELHI, INDIA, August 3, 2013 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Dear Friends,

LSW LifeScienceWorld brings out a special feature on Stem Cell-the hot subject in the medical research the world over.

It is almost accepted, that stem cell is the future of medical technology, therapy and treatment for health hazards.

Stem cells are found in - umbilical cord, bone marrow, embryo etc which can renew itself to produce more stem cells and can repair the body.

Research so far has proved that stem cells therapeutically have the capacity to treat human diseases. The medical researchers forecast that stem cell technology can be used to treat a variety of diseases like cancer, spinal cord injuries, Parkinson's disease, liver cirrhosis, diabetic etc

These researches are still in their early stages and trials are being conducted. Some of the trials have proved effective in certain areas but these results cannot be considered conclusive.

The US government is fully backing the research in stem cell with substantial funding, and some of the top pharmaceutical companies too are into this area investing in a big way. India is into stem cell research with the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, allocating special fund for development of research and trials.

Some of the leading institutes in India conducting research are National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) , AIIMS, L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Center for Stem Cell Research at CMC Vellore and National Centre for Cell Sciences (NCCS) at Pune University.

But the biggest worry is lack of proper regulatory framework and ethical norms. What is available now are just the guidelines. This has led to mushrooming of many clinics and some nursing homes too, claiming successful treatment by stem cell therapy thereby leading to unethical, unregulated practices in the field. And this has subsequently lead to misconceptions about stem cell as a subject, its ongoing research and trials.

With lack of awareness on stem cells, patients are lured by these quacks who in the absence of prevailing non-existence of regulatory framework and rules are conducting unethical business practices which might be harmful.

At the same time, there are trials carried out on experimental basis by some of the institutions, hospitals and some doctors in their personal capacities with proper legal formalities fulfilled by appointing Ethics Committee, and going through the set guidelines given by ICMR

Even though what is conducted as treatment is just a trial, the patients are charged, as there are no sponsors as in the case of trials conducted in Drug development by pharmaceutical companies.

Unfortunately, some of the people involved in the ethics committee and even in the governing agencies are not qualified enough in the area of stem cell and have least knowledge of the subject.

It is high time, the institutions, scientists, researchers come together to form a forum or a lobby group to take up the issue with regulatory authorities and other government agencies.

LSW LifeScienceWorld features views on the current scenario by some of the experts in the stem cell field and their valuable suggestions to stop the unethical practices that are going on in the name of stem cell treatment.

Then, there are articles contributed by eminent scientists and researchers on their work front highlighting latest findings and reports.(See Biotech section) _ give link

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Feature Link: http://www.lifescienceworld.in/stem_cell_and_cord_blood_banking.html

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