Fact Sheet: Adult Stem Cell Research and Transplants

The mission of the Charlotte Lozier Institute is to promote deeper public understanding of the value of human life and to identify policies and practices that will protect life and serve family well-being. While the Institute is opposed to human embryonic stem cell research because it destroys young human life, the sources of information here are federal government agencies and peer-reviewed, published research.

Adult stem cell transplants are already widely used to the benefit of over a million people.

- Well over 1 million patients worldwide have been treated with adult stem cells and experienced improved health, based on data gathered by December 2012.\(^1\)
- Nearly 70,000 adult stem cell transplants were performed worldwide in 2012 alone.\(^2\)
- Nearly 20,000 adult stem cell transplants were performed in the United States in 2014 alone.\(^3\)
- More than 30,000 umbilical cord blood transplants in patients were performed by 2013.\(^4\)
- Patients in 75 countries worldwide had undergone adult stem cell transplants by 2012.\(^5\)

Adult stem cell transplants are being used to treat dozens of conditions in patients.

- There are nearly 3,500 ongoing or completed clinical trials (in patients) using adult stem cells, as listed in the National Institutes of Health/FDA-approved database.\(^6\)
- Already by 2007, there were at least 73 conditions that were being treated by adult stem cell transplants.
- Peer-reviewed, scientific publications have documented therapeutic success using adult stem cells in clinical trials for dozens of conditions, including, for example: heart damage, stroke, sickle cell anemia, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, juvenile diabetes, and retinal/optic nerve disease.\(^7\)
- For many conditions, including multiple myeloma and leukemias, adult stem cell transplants have moved beyond clinical trials to become standard medical practice for these patients.
  - For patients with multiple myeloma: More than 30,000 bone marrow and umbilical cord blood transplants were done from 2010 to 2014 in the United States.\(^8\)
  - “HSCT (also known as blood and bone marrow transplant) is most often used to treat diseases of the blood and several types of cancer such as multiple myeloma or leukemia. For many people with these diseases, the only possibility of a cure is to have a HSCT.”\(^9\)
- In contrast to adult stem cells, there is currently no validated, successful patient treatment due to embryonic stem cells despite funding and research spanning a decade and a half.

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