



# Newsletter

CANCER CONSULTANTS OF AMERICA

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CANCER AND UNDERSTANDING®

## Cancer Answers

### Stem Cell Therapy... Do You Know What You're Getting?

Recently there has been a significant presence on the airwaves of private medical centers advertising the therapeutic benefits of human stem cells and their secreted products to treat many physical ailments including aging, arthritis, body aches, and even cancer. Indeed, the incorporation of human stem cells for therapeutic purposes offers remarkable outcomes for people experiencing health challenges. Two common terms used in the stem cell business are "autologous stem cells" and "allogenic stem cells". Autologous stem cells are referred to as "self" stem cells and come directly from the patient intended to receive the treatment. Allogenic stem cells are considered "non-self" and come from a donor. One benefit of using "self" stem cells is the fact that they will not be destroyed by the recipient's immune system following transplantation because the body recognizes the cells as being "self". However, there are instances when concerns arise because of the quality of the autologous stem cells collected from a patient. For example, the patient may have undergone conventional chemotherapy to treat cancer earlier in life. As a result, these stem cells might have been damaged during this earlier treatment which lowered the quality of the stem cells thereby making them less likely to achieve the desired outcome at the present day. To circumvent the issue of low-quality stem cells, higher quality stem cells can be collected from healthy donors. These donor (allogenic) stem cells are characterized at the molecular level and described in terms that will provide information to ensure a good match with the intended recipient. At the present time, there is a limited number of FDA approved therapeutic applications of stem cells.

Clinical studies are currently being conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of stem cells and their secreted products to treat degenerative tissue conditions and other disorders. As medical science advances, so does the number of therapeutic uses involving stem cells and these applications extend beyond cancer treatments. These benefits are promoted in advertisements paid for by stem cell therapeutic centers. These efforts are meant to recruit potential patients who are experiencing health issues and are likely to pay for medical treatments that are lucrative to the medical center. As a potential consumer of stem cell therapy, it is important to know the details of the stem cells. Most importantly, it is essential to ask the medical provider about the source of the allogenic (non-self) stem cells. Businesses have been developed that only operate to supply medical centers with stem cells. When the medical center is questioned about the source of the stem cells, it is likely the

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provider will reference the stem cell supplier. Unfortunately, this is where the knowledge ends about the source of the stem cells. The potential recipient should request information about the stem cell supplier so they can be contacted to get more information about the stem cells they provide. It is important to know the source of the stem cells including but not limited to gender, nationality, and ethnic background of the stem cell donor. Keep in mind, it is estimated that 8 billion humans exist on this planet. All of these humans have stem cells and most of these people qualify to be potential stem cell donors. Therefore, the source of non-self stem cells can come from anywhere in the world. These stem cells and their products can potentially be used in a recipient located on an entirely different continent. It is recommended that any potential recipient of stem cells obtain as much information as possible regarding the source of the stem cells. This general information is not protected medical information and can be shared with potential recipients. If the information is not shared with a potential recipient, it is best to not work with that stem cell supplier and/or stem cell treatment center. Once the information has been collected, the potential recipient can make an informed decision as to whether they wish to receive medical treatment from that particular stem cell treatment center who receives their stem cells from a trusted source. At the present time, the United States allows for stem cells to come from people living in other countries around the world.

Submit your **Cancer Answers** topics to [info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com](mailto:info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com)

### We Are Available to You

Please contact us today if you would like more information about how our services can benefit you and your family.

#### Services:


- Individual and Family Cancer Education
- Medical Appointment Liaison Services
- Information Seminars and Public Speaking Events


### Fun Facts – June

#### Cancer Awareness Month:

- National Cancer Survivor Month (Lavender) 

June 3 – Love Conquers All Day 

June 6 – National Donut Day 

June 8 – World Oceans Day 

June 20 – National Take Your Dog to Work Day 

June 22 – National Kissing Day 


June 30 – National Meteor Watch Day 


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