

Update from the Director...

Several exciting projects are 'in the works' at the Concordia Center for Bioethics (CBI)! We are planning to co-host a conference with Columbia St. Mary's Hospital System that will address ethical issues in medicine during all st4(oET EMC /P }o

Not only do these 'new' heart stem cells hold tremendous possibilities for treatment, but some medical researchers say a better source might be the stem cells found in our bone marrow - those that normally produce and replace blood cells. At Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, stem cells taken from the bone marrow of pigs helped other pigs recover from heart attacks.

A study from the Medical College of Wisconsin has shown that stem cells from umbilical cord blood (derived from tissue leftover after a child is born) is almost as good as bone marrow transplants in treating cancers such as leukemia. This finding is expected to fuel cries for a national cord blood bank which could store cord blood so that it could be type matched and used to save thousands of lives every year. Three-year survival rates using matched bone marrow is 35%. A study from the University of Minnesota (my alma mater) showed a remarkable 60% survival rate using cord blood.

What this latest research reinforces is that the call by celebrities for human embryonic stem cell research is misleading. Tremendous breakthroughs are occurring on almost a daily basis regarding adult stem cells. On the other hand, embryonic stem cell research has yet to yield any beneficial results. Research on the exiting possibilities from stem cells can go forward without having to destroy human embryos!

Update on the Concordia Center for Bioethics (Abbreviated CBI)...

I have now been at the Institute for over a year now, stepping into the position vacated by Dr. Richard Eyer's retirement. I am very happy here at Concordia University Wisconsin. My office is located in the Health Serms3vnt4(y)20(J5.sv6.21 4oBT3/MCID 24(is)JTJETBT1 0H t)-3(heID 0h(r)-6(ms3vnt4

