Stem Cell Research

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Vocabulary

Differentiated: make or become different in the process of growth or development.

Replicate: make an exact copy of; reproduce.

Tissues: any of the distinct types of material of which human, animals or plants are made, consisting of specialized cells and their products.

Defects: a shortcoming, imperfection, or lack.

Consent: permission for something to happen or agreement to do something.

Ethical: relating to moral principles or the branch of knowledge dealing with these.

Pluripotent: capable of giving rise to several different cell types.

Embryo: an unborn offspring in the process of development.

Breakthrough: a sudden, dramatic, and important discovery or development.

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Introduction

Stem cells are undifferentiated, or "blank," cells. This means they're capable of developing into cells that serve numerous functions in different parts of the body. Most cells in the body are **differentiated** cells. These cells can only serve a specific purpose in a particular organ. For example, red blood cells are specifically designed to carry oxygen through the blood.

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