



July 2021 Newsletter

2021 JP2MRI “Campaign for Cures” Research Update and Request for Support

Dear Friend:

The John Paul II Medical Research Institute continues to advance our research in its therapeutic priority areas of neurodegenerative diseases, cancer, rare diseases and unmet medical conditions not supported by the pharmaceutical industry. At the heart of our approach is the need to develop ethical human cell lines to displace the use of embryonic stem cells and human cell lines derived from aborted unborn children. A priority frequently conveyed by many religious individuals is the need to create new and ethical human cell lines to develop new medicines such as biologics (protein drugs), cell therapies, gene therapies and vaccines. More recently, these individuals asked us to develop an ethical COVID-19 vaccine that is free of aborted fetal cells. Despite a drop in cases, deaths and hospitalizations, it is apparent that COVID-19 and novel coronaviruses will continue to circulate and that there are serious concerns with the efficacy and safety of current vaccines. In addition to many of the vaccines being morally tainted, they do not elicit respiratory mucosal immunity and lack the ability to elicit redundant immune protection because they use a single protein called the spike protein. Consequently, as new variants arise, the vaccines become less effective and booster injections become increasingly futile in controlling this infection. Scientists have struggled to develop vaccines against coronaviruses, and the current vaccines are using similar approaches that have failed in the past. The most definitive solution is to develop new technologies that are lacking in the pharmaceutical industry. For this reason, JP2MRI is pursuing attenuated vaccines. An attenuated virus vaccine potentially offers several advantages: (1) respiratory mucosal immunity; (2) needle-free administration; (3) rapid immune protection; (4) redundant immune protection that is more resistant to variant evolution; and (5) lack of need for booster injections. More importantly, JP2MRI feels that our vaccine development platform will serve as a better biodefense tool against future intentional or unintentional viral threats that may arise. Our 2021 “Campaign for Cures” initiative seeks to raise \$750,000 to help us with some of the Institute’s vaccine developmental costs. The Institute has currently raised \$250,000 and we are asking for your continued support to help us meet our goal. I also encourage each of you to share this newsletter with others in your network who care about supporting ethical medical research. I would like to thank all of you who have already donated towards our Campaign and ask you to please consider making another donation to help us meet this year’s financial goal. JP2MRI is very diligent about how we use every dollar we receive and no donation is too small to help us sustain our important research.

JP2MRI’s Efforts to Replace and End Embryonic Cell and Aborted Fetal Cell Use

JP2MRI is the leader in developing ethically derived human cell lines required to replace the ubiquitous use of aborted fetal cell lines used in the pharmaceutical industry and medical research. JP2MRI has produced a pipeline of several human cell lines from adult stem cells to replace the morally tainted HEK293 cell line (derived from Human Embryonic Kidneys). This cell line generates billions of dollars worth of revenue for the biopharmaceutical industry which uses it to produce or test vaccines, therapeutics and other drugs. JP2MRI is currently working with a patent law firm to shore up its intellectual property rights before our cell lines can be released. We are encouraged by the fact that there are biotechnology companies which have expressed an interest in developing new drugs using ethical human cell lines. These ethical cell lines represent the foundation of our core therapeutic priority areas which were outlined in our April, 2021 newsletter and that can be found by visiting our website at www.jp2mri.org/archived-newsletters. Your continued financial support will enable us to keep fighting against the ubiquitous use of immoral cell lines such as HEK-293 and Per.C6 (derived from Human Embryonic Retinas) used in the biomanufacturing for such applications as gene therapies, cell therapies, drug production and many other research and clinical purposes. JP2MRI provides regular updates on our research both on our website (www.jp2mri.org/news) and on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/John-Paul-II-Medical-Research-Institute-the-Home-of-Give-Cures-368292251766/>).

2021 COVID-19 Vaccine Development Update

Vaccine development takes much time and financial capital. JP2MRI has developed some of the critical elements necessary for an attenuated live vaccine, which is the gold standard approach in vaccine development. However, we have encountered challenges with some pharmaceutical companies willing to license such vaccines, in part, because of the lack of global manufacturing capabilities necessary to conduct such research under rigid FDA-required safety containment conditions. Pharmaceutical companies would prefer an attenuated vaccine that will not pose a risk of reverting back to the original virus. For these reasons, JP2MRI is making modifications to its vaccine program to help satisfy these requirements. Our current objective is to complete our fundraising campaign and develop viral-like particles (VLP) of COVID-19 using our human cell lines without the viral genome so that viral replication does not occur. Next, we will need to outsource the research once these vaccines are generated in order to conduct validation and animal model studies. If successful, the VLP will serve as the vaccine. We are hoping that this vaccine platform will provide similar benefits as to an attenuated live vaccine with less safety risk and reduced manufacturing and distribution cost, while maintaining our commitment to creating an ethical vaccine. The timeline for how quickly this work progresses will depend on our funding, solving technical challenges and ability to subcontract some of the developmental research that will be required with other biopharmaceutical companies.

White House Eases Restriction on Use of Aborted Fetal Tissue in Research

The Biden Administration announced that it would be reversing restrictions on fetal tissue research that were put into place by the Trump Administration. As of now, this includes: 1) Lifting a ban on NIH funding for intramural research involving newly obtained fetal tissue from abortions; and 2) Removing the requirement that external applicants for NIH funding who want to use fetal tissue go through an Ethics Advisory Board review process to determine the validity and need for such immoral tissue. These reversals will make it much easier for researchers to get access to aborted fetal tissue and embryonic cells, and allow tax-paying dollars to be used in unethical research without any ethical review process. Since our founding in 2006, JP2MRI has been a world leader in developing ethical alternatives to embryonic stem cell and aborted fetal tissue research. The Institute respectfully requests your continued support of our mission. Thank you very much.

Kind regards and God Bless,



Jay M. Kamath, J.D. / CEO
John Paul II Medical Research Institute

2500 Crosspark Rd., Suite W230
Coralville, IA 52241
(office): 319-688-7367
(fax): 319-887-2870
www.jp2mri.org

John Paul II Medical Research Institute Annual Support

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