



Topping and tailing:

A not-very-progressive professional life in neurological research

Neil Scolding

Emeritus Professor of Clinical Neuroscience, Consultant Neurologist



University of
BRISTOL

North Bristol **NHS**
NHS Trust

Bristol Institute of Clinical Neurosciences

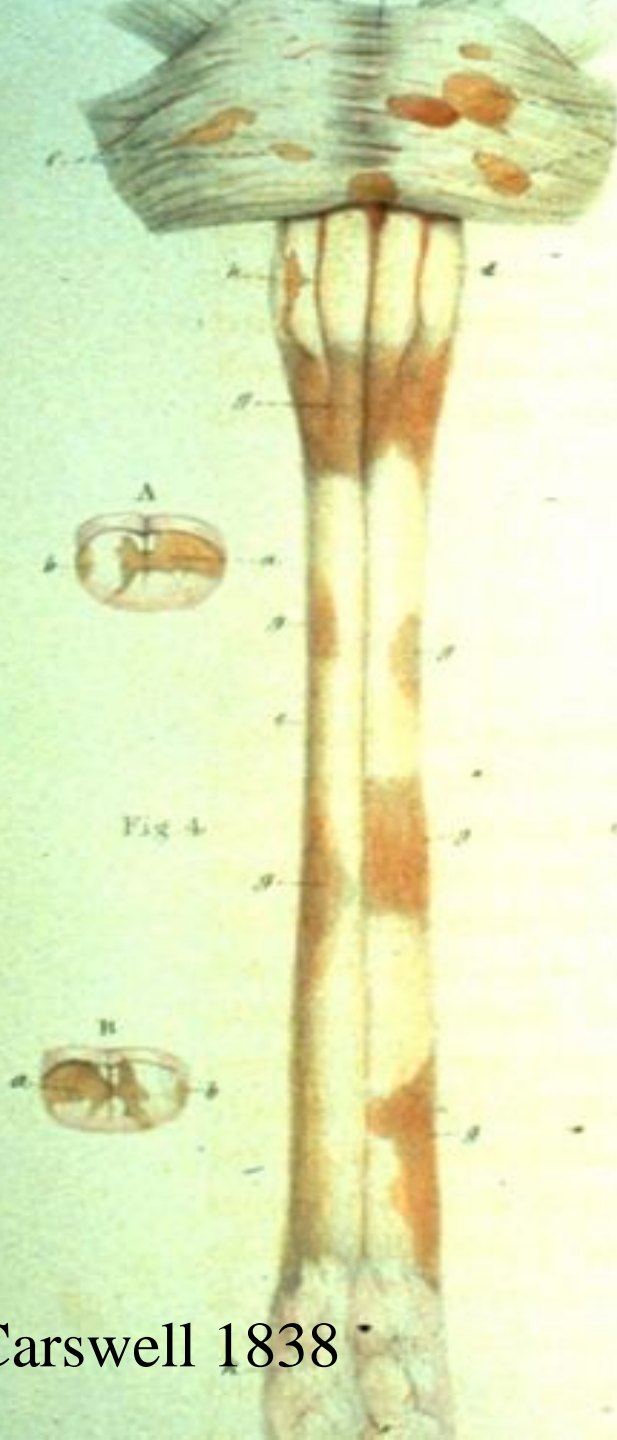
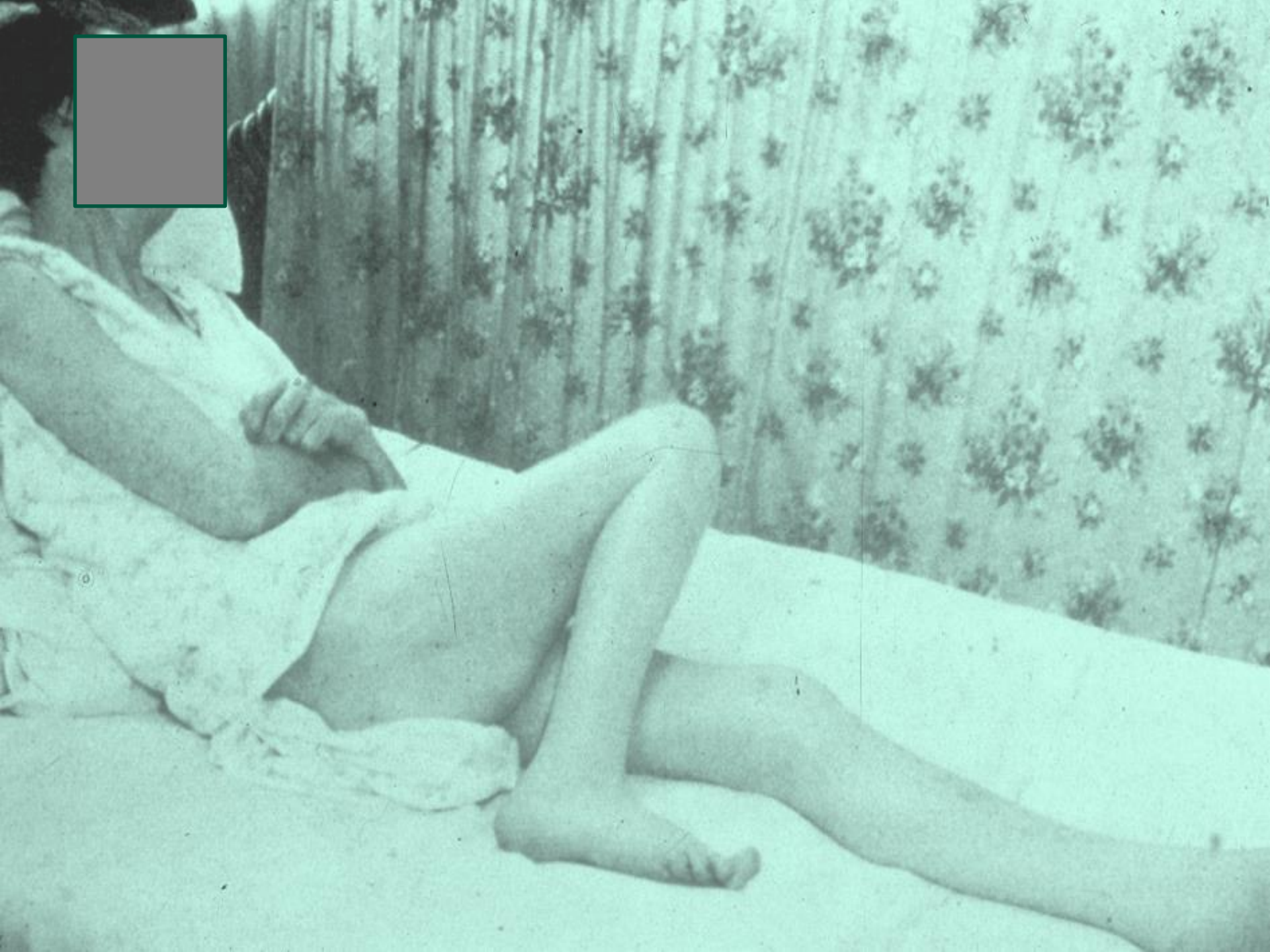


Fig 4



Carswell 1838





THE TIMES

Thursday August 23, 2012

My Las Vegas pool party

By Abigail Radaor News, page 5

Bonkbuster sex v Mummy Porn

By Jilly Cooper Times 2

“Tony Nicklinson defied the judges, *the doctors*, and the pro-life opponents *who prolonged his suffering*, and died despite them all.”

Fugitive tycoon guilty of £29m theft

Fiona Hamilton Crime Correspondent

Asil Nadir, one of Britain's most notorious fugitives, is facing a lengthy jail term for plundering his Polly Pick empire of almost £29 million.

The two decades that Nadir spent evading justice came to an abrupt end at the Old Bailey yesterday when he was convicted of ten charges of theft.

The 71-year-old former tycoon, who fled to his native northern Cyprus in 1993 when he was first due to face trial, was remanded in custody and will be sentenced today for stealing the equivalent of more than £50 million in today's terms, to fund a lavish lifestyle and prop up illegally the value of shares in Polly Pick International.

His conviction led to a political row last night when the Conservative Party rejected calls to repay his donations of twenty years ago. The cost of pursuing

How The Times brokered Asil Nadir's return

News, pages 11, 9

Nadir, including the seven-month trial, a long-running investigation by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), and legal aid for the defendant, was estimated at £23 million. Prosecutors are likely to request an investigation of his assets before seeking orders to compensate his victims, including PPI shareholders.

Nadir had always denied plundering his company and said that he had returned voluntarily to face trial because of a “human sense of justice”. It can be reported, however, that he had tried to have the case thrown out on a number of occasions since arriving back in Britain in August 2010. Mr Justice Holroyde twice rejected abuse-of-process applications, which centred on concerns about the propriety of the original SFO investigation.

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Continued on page 9, 11



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Right to die campaigner finds a victory in death

Lucy Bannerman, who saw the indignity of Tony Nicklinson's daily struggle at first hand, describes his last days



case that the death of a man who has been begging to die for years should still come as a shock.

Confirmation came yesterday that Mr Nicklinson had finally lost — or should that be won? — his battle against locked-in syndrome, dying peacefully at his home in Wiltshire, at 71, surrounded by his wife, Jane, their two daughters, Lauren and Beth, and his sister, Gerry.

His death immediately prompted the question: how?

At a hastily convened press conference in Central London, Mr Nicklinson's lawyer said that he had contracted pneumonia. He had also been refusing food — or rather, the mushy pulp that, for the past seven

years, his wife had been feeding him like a baby — since losing his appeal at the High Court last Thursday.

Too severely disabled to consent to suicide, the judges' refusal to allow a third party to end his life on his behalf meant that starvation was one of the few legal options left to him. He had begged to be spared this last resort. It would take too long, he had pointed out. As an exit route, he felt it was too cruel, too arduous.

In the end, “natural causes” intervened where the High Court would not. Within days of the verdict, he began having difficulty breathing. Over the weekend, his condition grew worse, prompting doctors to suspect an infection or a collapsed lung. By

Monday evening, two GPs had visited the family home in Midsaltery. In the small, cramped bedroom that had become his world, Mr Nicklinson lay debilitated, refusing everything but the water he took by his lips.

His family began to gather by his bedside. By midday yesterday, the grieving process that began a long time ago took on a new toll, as Mr Nicklinson's body was wheeled out under a maroon sheet, and taken away in an undertaker's van. With the Police are not treating his death as suspicious.

“Tony went rapidly downhill over last weekend, having contracted pneumonia,” said his lawyer, Susan Chahal. Court heard on page 14, 11

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COULD BE WORTH 4-2 at home in the Premier League. The visitors had

Inside today

Michael McIntyre

A set to win over the sceptics



Why not?

PRINCIPLES

- *Autonomy*
- *Prevent indignity*
- *Prevent suffering*

PRACTICE [REASONS TO BE CAUTIOUS]

- *Slippery slope*
- *Unintended consequences*
- *Who else supports?*

Arguments for euthanasia/assisted dying

Autonomy

“right to die” [?]

= a **right to suicide**

- (Dignity in Dying do NOT support a general right to suicide)
- Rather, a right restricted disabled/sick/frail/elderly



Autonomy/personal freedom/choice

but choice is not an absolute

- buying/taking cocaine
- selling cocaine
- committing incest with a consenting adult
- wearing a seatbelt
- killing another individual even if consenting



Autonomy/personal freedom/choice

1994 UK Select Committee

"the interests of the individual cannot be
separated from the interests of society...

...dying is not only a personal or individual
affair"

Why not?

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Prevent indignity?

all human beings have a basic worth or
fundamental dignity

any other approach – 'quality of life' - *must*
be **arbitrary**

Dignity is best protected by NOT
putting the terminally ill, disabled, etc in

Why not?

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Prevent suffering?

- is killing the individual an appropriate response to suffering?
- *palliative care works*

(Belgium, 2002-7 : palliative care physician was consulted in only 12% of all cases of euthanasia)

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The quality of death Grim reapings

An attempt to rank end-of-life care in different countries

Jul 15th 2010 | from the print edition

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CUSTOMER-SATISFACTION surveys are commonly used to improve the service in hotels and shops. Alas, they are unsuitable for rating the quality of death. So the Lien Foundation, a charity, commissioned the Economist Intelligence Unit, our sister company, to devise a ranking of end-of-life care. The report, published on July 14th, rates 40 mostly rich countries by how well they care for the dying.

Britain tops the table. For all the health-care by the numbers, British doctors tend to be honest about prognoses. The mortally ill get plentiful pain killers. A well-established hospice movement cares for

The good death guide

Quality of Death Index

Selected countries, overall scores*, 10 = maximum



*Points are awarded for long life expectancy, hospice availability

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Too severely disabled to consent to suicide, the judges' refusal to allow a third party to end his life on his behalf meant that starvation was one of the few legal options left to him. He had begged to be spared this last resort. It would take too long, he had pointed out. As an outburst, he felt it was too cruel, too inhuman.

In the end, "natural causes" intervened where the High Court would not. Within days of the verdict, he began having difficulty breathing. Over the weekend, his condition grew worse, prompting doctors to suspect an infection or a collapsed lung. By

Monday evening, two GPs had visited the family home in Wiltshire. In the small, cramped bedroom that had become his world, Mr Nicklinson lay debilitated, refusing everything but the water he took by his lips.

His family began to gather by his bedside. By midday yesterday, the grieving process that began a long time ago took on a new toll, as Mr Nicklinson's body was wheeled out under a maroon sheet, and taken away in an undertaker's van. Wiltshire Police are not treating his death as suspicious.

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palliative care - works
- does not involve 'prolongation of

suffering'



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case that the death of a man who has been begging to die for years should end come as a shock.

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£29m then

From Hamilton Green Correspondent

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From 1, pages 6, 9



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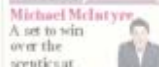
Home loan misery

Up to half a million home-owners who have lost their homes are likely

Headlines



Michael McIntyre



A set to win over the sceptics

Prevent suffering

Sanctity/Inviolability of life

'KEEP ALIVE AT ALL COSTS'

- Not good medicine
- No origin in medical ethics or law

The right not to be intentionally,
purposefully killed

Ethical and legal framework

Sanctity/Inviolability of life

While respecting the inviolability of life, it is perfectly licit to give painkillers to the terminally ill, or withhold life-prolonging treatment **if** :-

- the treatment is futile : cannot restore health
- the treatment is excessively burdensome

Why not?

PRINCIPLES

- *Autonomy*
- *Prevent indignity*
- *Prevent suffering*

PRACTICE [REASONS TO BE CAUTIOUS]

- *Slippery slope*
- *Unintended consequences*
- *Who else supports?*

Slippery slope

Not just likely; not merely that it has occurred in EVERY legislature where assisted suicide has been permitted – but absolutely inevitable

Why?

Principle is that an individual is 'better off dead'

- is it reasonable to deprive people of this 'benefit' simply because they are incapable of being asked to be killed?*
- is it reasonable (or possible?) to confine this benefit to*

Slippery slope

2005 survey of deaths in Netherlands

9,965 deaths

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

SPECIAL ARTICLE

End-of-Life Practices in the Netherlands under the Euthanasia Act

Agnes van der Heide, M.D., Ph.D., Bregje D. Onwuteaka-Philipsen, Ph.D.,
Mette L. Rurup, Ph.D., Hilde M. Buiting, M.Sc., Johannes J.M. van Delden, M.D., Ph.D.,
Johanna E. Hanssen-de Wolf, M.Sc., Anke G.J.M. Janssen, M.A.,
H. Roeline W. Pasman, Ph.D., Judith A.C. Rietjens, Ph.D., Cornelis J.M. Prins, M.Sc.,
Ingeborg M. Deerenberg, M.Sc., Joseph K.M. Gevers, Ph.D.,
Paul J. van der Maas, M.D., Ph.D., and Gerrit van der Wal, M.D., Ph.D.

N Engl J Med 2007;356:1957-65.
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- 400 deaths [*p.a.*] “the result of the ending of life without an explicit request by the patient”
- 1.8% of all deaths were the result of euthanasia or PAS
 - in **every jurisdiction numbers have increased over time** and continue to do so; there has also been a shift from permitting assisted suicide for cancer victims to include other diseases.
- “80.2% of all cases of euthanasia or PAS were reported”

Slippery slope

2007 survey of deaths in Belgium

208 euthanasia/PAS deaths, 6 month period

CMAJ

RESEARCH

Physician-assisted deaths under the euthanasia law in Belgium: a population-based survey

Kenneth Chambaere PhD, Johan Bilsen RN PhD, Joachim Cohen PhD, Bregje D. Onwuteaka-Philipsen PhD, Freddy Mortier PhD, Luc Deliens PhD

Previously published at www.cmaj.ca

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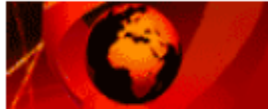
- 32% *“without explicit request by the patient”*
 - 78% of these *“the decision was not discussed with the patient”*

Slippery slope

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Last Updated: Sunday, 23 January, 2005, 01:03 GMT

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Dutch told of child euthanasia

Dutch doctors have reported 22 mercy killings of terminally ill babies since 1997, according to a new study.

None of the doctors involved were charged, although euthanasia for children is illegal in the Netherlands.

The report, in the Dutch Journal of Medicine, is the first detailed examination of child euthanasia.



The report authors want to encourage reporting of child euthanasia cases

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Slippery slope



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

PERSPECTIVE

The Groningen Protocol — Euthanasia in Severely Ill Newborns

Eduard Verhagen, M.D., J.D., and Pieter J.J. Sauer, M.D., Ph.D.

“After the decision has been made and the child has died, an outside legal body should determine whether the decision was justified”

NEJM 352:959-962

N ENGL J MED 352;10 WWW.NEJM.ORG MARCH 10, 2005

Why not?

PRINCIPLES

- *Autonomy*
- *Prevent indignity*
- *Prevent suffering*

PRACTICE [REASONS TO BE CAUTIOUS]

- *Slippery slope*
- *Unintended consequences*
- *Who else supports?*



Unintended consequences

- pressure on elderly/vulnerable/disabled

Unintended consequences

Who favours euthanasia?

34% of 'frail elderly'
60% of their relatives

- opposed
by a clear majority of : -
 - the elderly
 - physically and mentally ill
 - those experiencing pain
- most likely to support
white, male, wealthy, educated, in good health.

EXCEL Omnibus Study # 912, ICR Survey Research Group; Washington Post, 1996
Koenig HG, Wildman-Hanlon D, Schmader K. Attitudes of elderly patients and their families toward physician-assisted suicide. Arch Intern Med. 1996 Oct 28;156(19):2240-8.

Unintended consequences

Practice of medicine

Undermines palliative care

Undermines doctors – medicine

Unintended consequences

“A change in the law to allow physician-assisted dying would have profound implications for the role and responsibilities of doctors and their relationships with patients.

Acting with the primary intention to hasten a patient's death would be difficult to reconcile with the medical ethical principles of beneficence and non-maleficence.”

General Medical Council

Aug. 17, 2015

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China's
Economic Stress Test



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OPINION | COMMENTARY

A Doctor-Assisted Disaster for Medicine

As a physician in Oregon, I have seen the dire effect of assisted-suicide laws on patients and my profession.



“Since the voters of Oregon narrowly legalized physician-assisted suicide 20 years ago, there has been a profound shift in attitude toward medical care—new fear and secrecy, and a fixation on death. Proponents claim the system is working well with no problems. This is not true.”

Dr William L. Toffler

*Professor of
Family Medicine
at Oregon Health
and Science
University in
Portland and a
licensed GP for
35 years*



Prof Theo Boer

*Professor of Ethics at
the Protestant
Theological University
at Groningen*

2007 - advocate of
euthanasia law in Holland,
then euthanasia regulator;

2014 - opponent

Don't make our mistake: As assisted suicide bill goes to Lords, Dutch watchdog who once backed euthanasia warns UK of 'slippery slope' to mass deaths

- Theo Boer, a European assisted suicide watchdog, said 'don't do it'
- In Netherlands euthanasia has been legal since 2002
- However, in six years the numbers of deaths have doubled
- Peers are preparing to debate the Assisted Dying Bill
- Bill has been promoted by Lord Falconer, a Labour former Lord Chancellor

*the very existence of a
euthanasia law turns
assisted suicide from a
last resort into a normal
procedure.*

Unintended consequences

Medicine cannot be well-practiced unless patients trust doctors.

Doctors cannot inspire that trust unless patients believe that doctors : -

- are for no reason disposed to kill them
- have no inclination, *or legal requirement*, to ask if the patient is the kind of human being who is worth caring for or treating.

Why not?

PRINCIPLES

- *Autonomy*
- *Prevent indignity*
- *Prevent suffering*

PRACTICE [REASONS TO BE CAUTIOUS]

- *Slippery slope*
- *Unintended consequences*
- *Who else supports?*

Polly Toynbee

“Another bad argument is that the frail will be intimidated into hastening the end of their lives so as not to be a burden on their children. Well, why not?”

Polly Toynbee

Oregon: Year 1 10% of patients listed concerns about being a “burden on the family” as a motivation for seeking assisted suicide.

2022 - over 50% of cases.



Baroness Warnock

“If you’re demented, you’re wasting people’s lives – your family’s lives – and you’re wasting the resources of the National Health Service.”

Who favours euthanasia?

Who favours euthanasia?

Economics



'As soon as he gets beyond 60-65 years of age, man lives beyond his capacity to produce, and he costs society a lot of money... *euthanasia will be one of the essential instruments of our future societies.*'

Jacques Attali

ex-President, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Who favours euthanasia?

Economics

"the cost-saving from a nation-wide push towards living wills is likely to be enormous".

[*Official Report*, Commons, 14/12/04; Col. 1558.]

The proper practice of medicine, *without resorting to euthanasia*, **can and should** include the following:

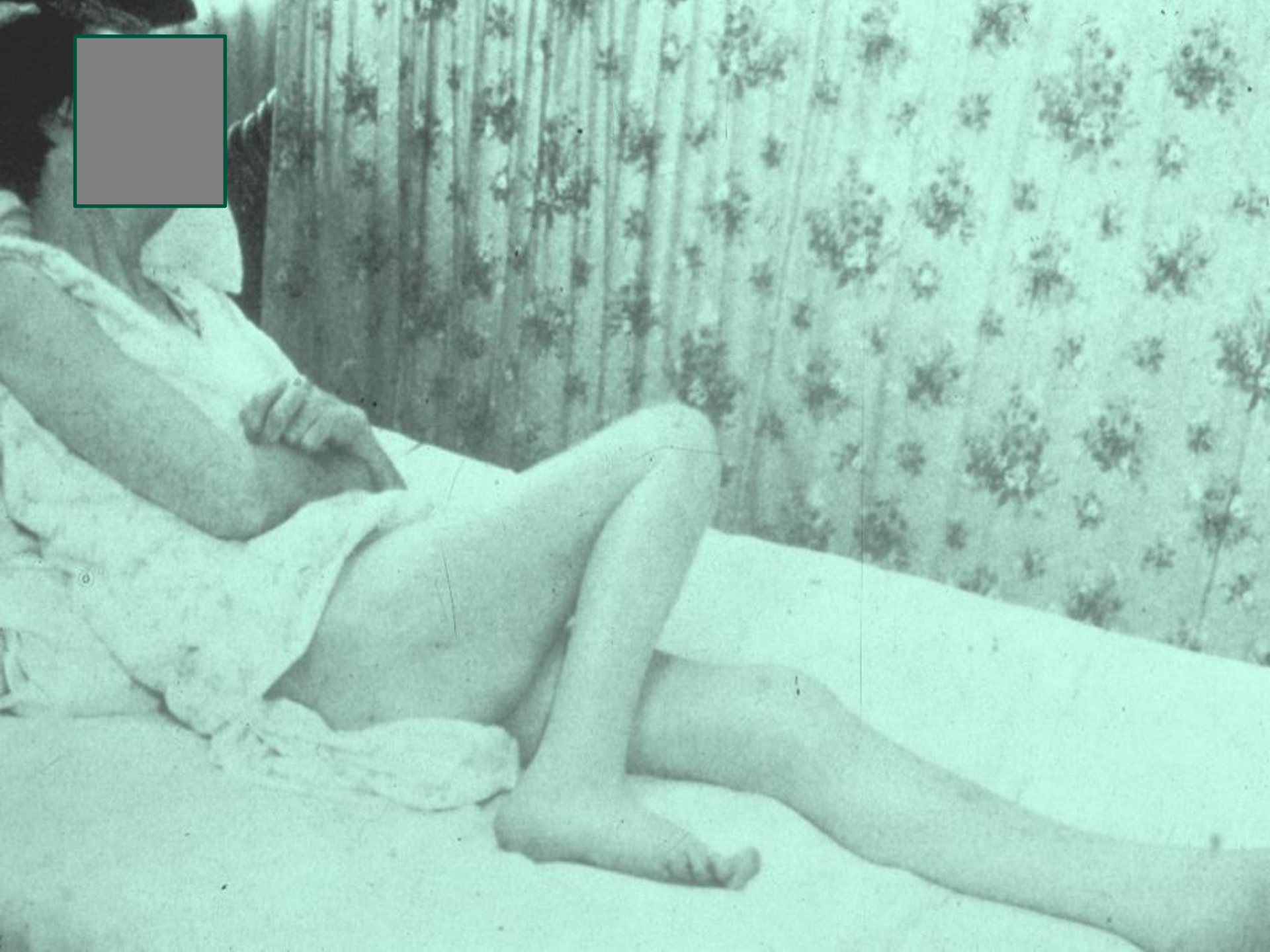
1. Terminating or not initiating a medically useless treatment.
2. Proportionate pain and symptom treatment where the intention is not to kill but to relieve suffering (*principle of 'double effect'*).

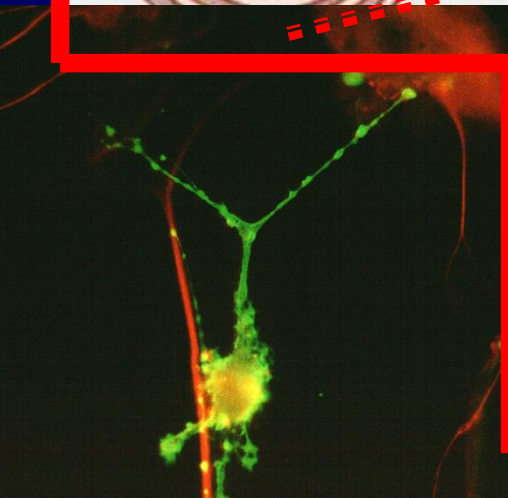
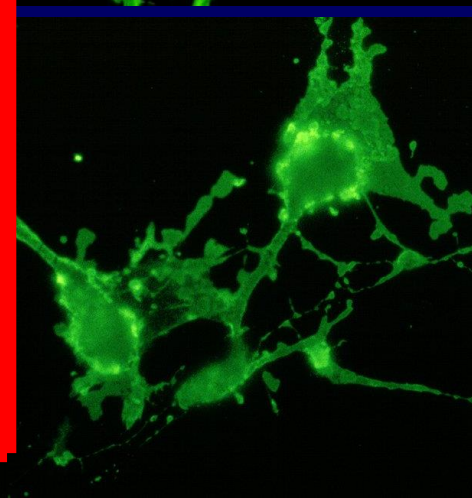
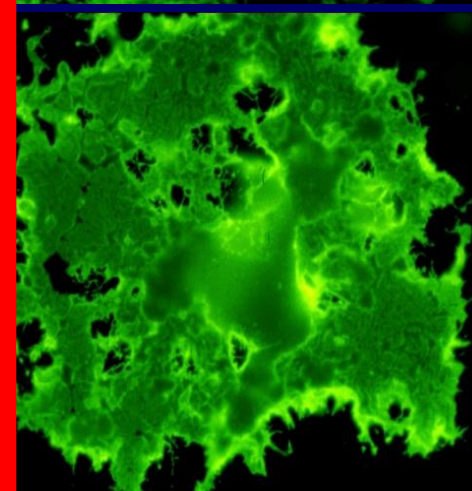
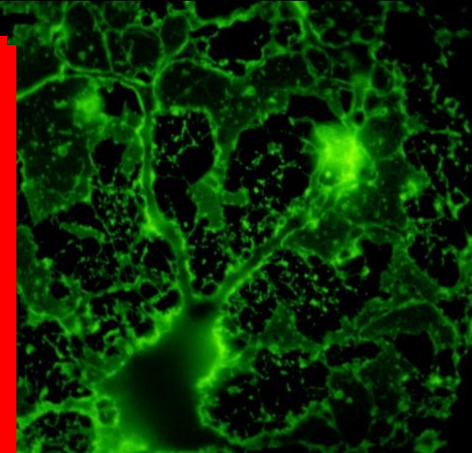
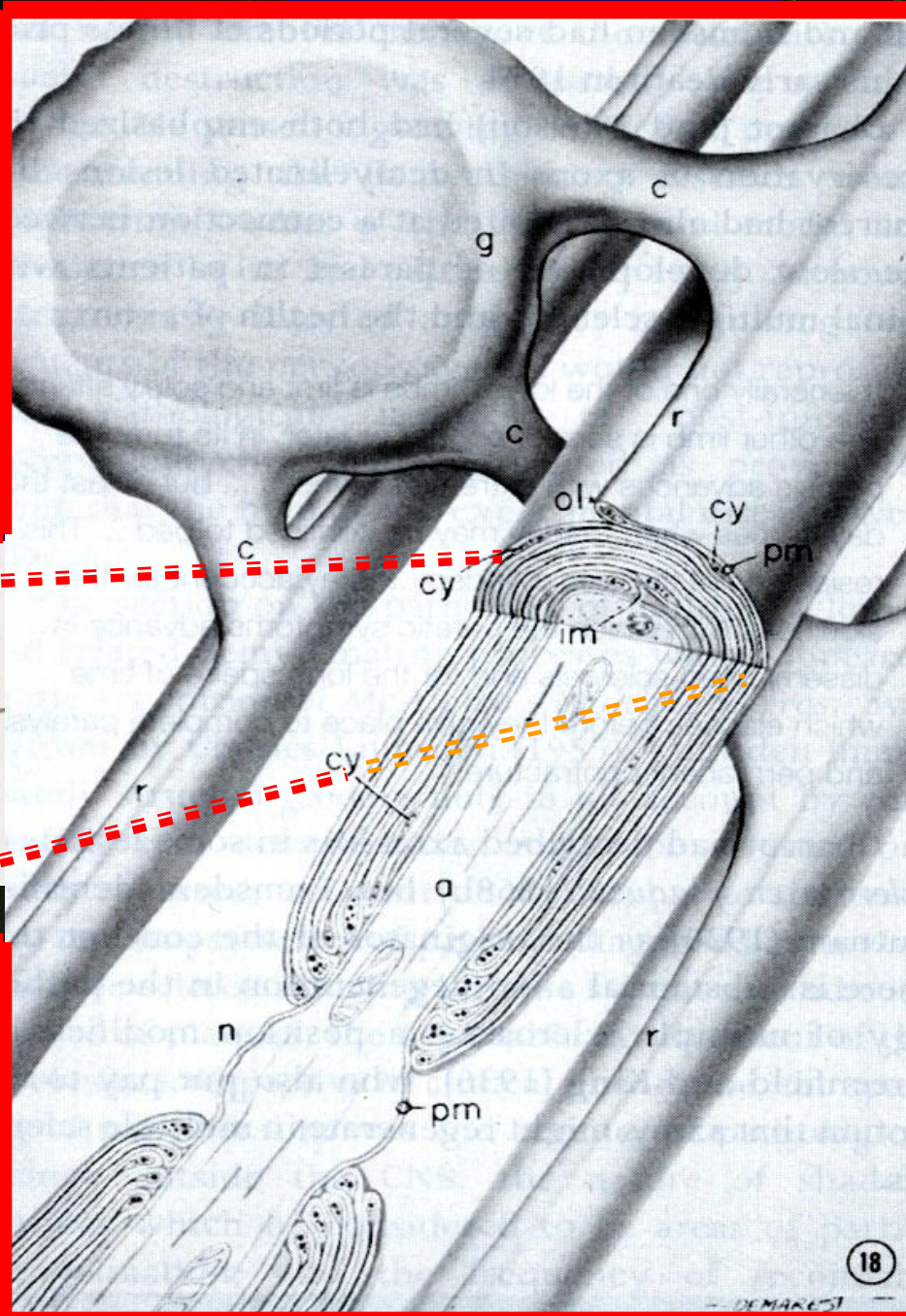
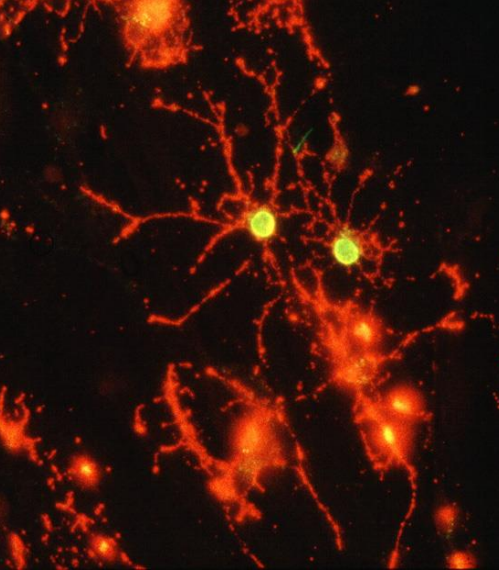
Deliberately / intentionally ending the life of a patient

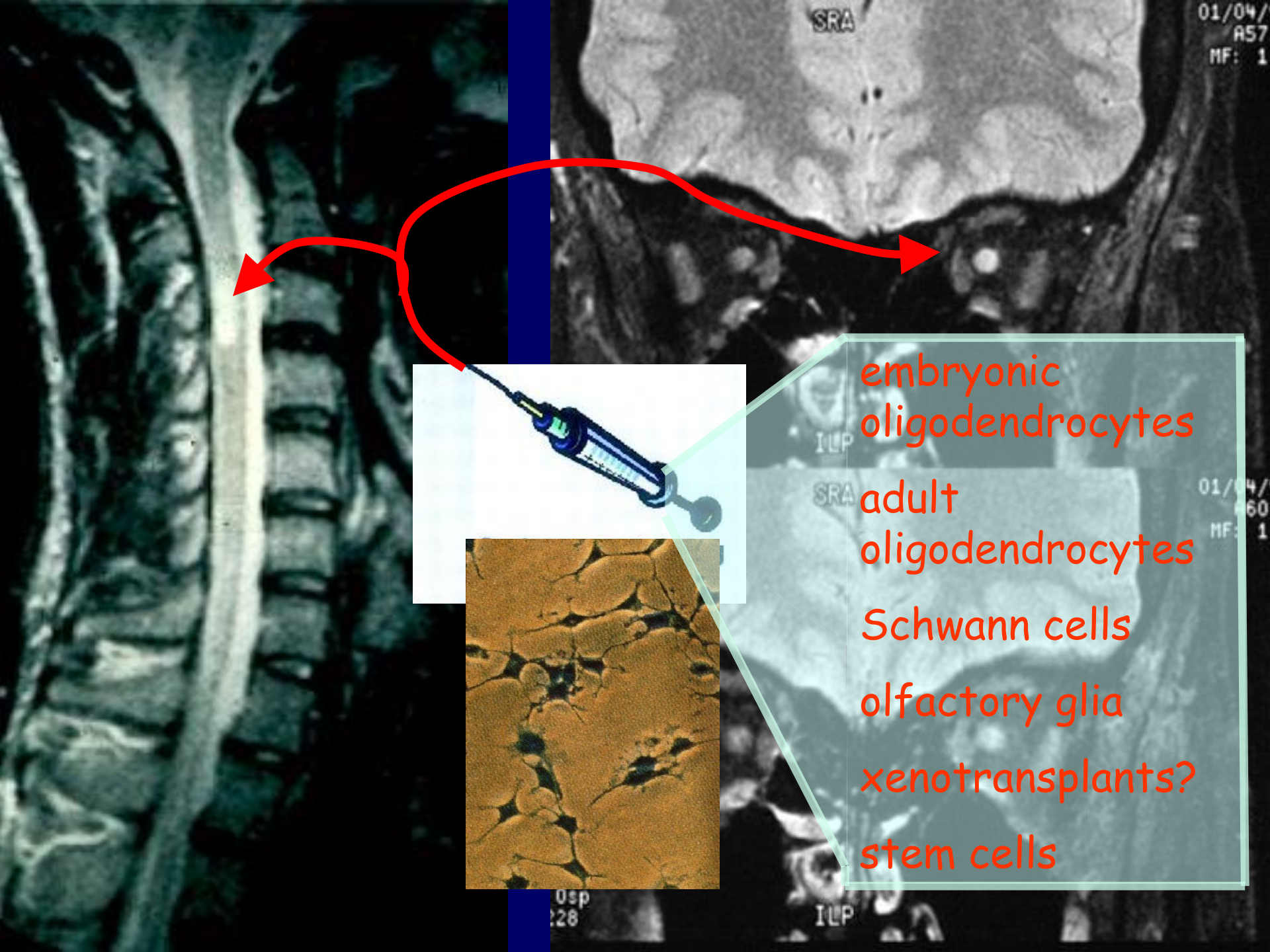
carries TOO MANY RISKS

“one of the great mistakes is to judge policies and programs by their intentions rather than their results”

Milton Friedman







embryonic
oligodendrocytes

adult
oligodendrocytes

Schwann cells

olfactory glia

xenotransplants?

stem cells

stem
cells



skin

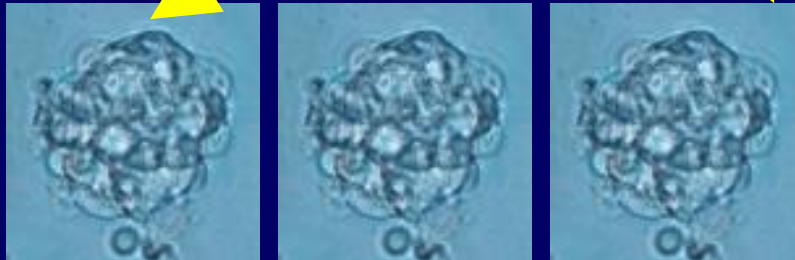
brain

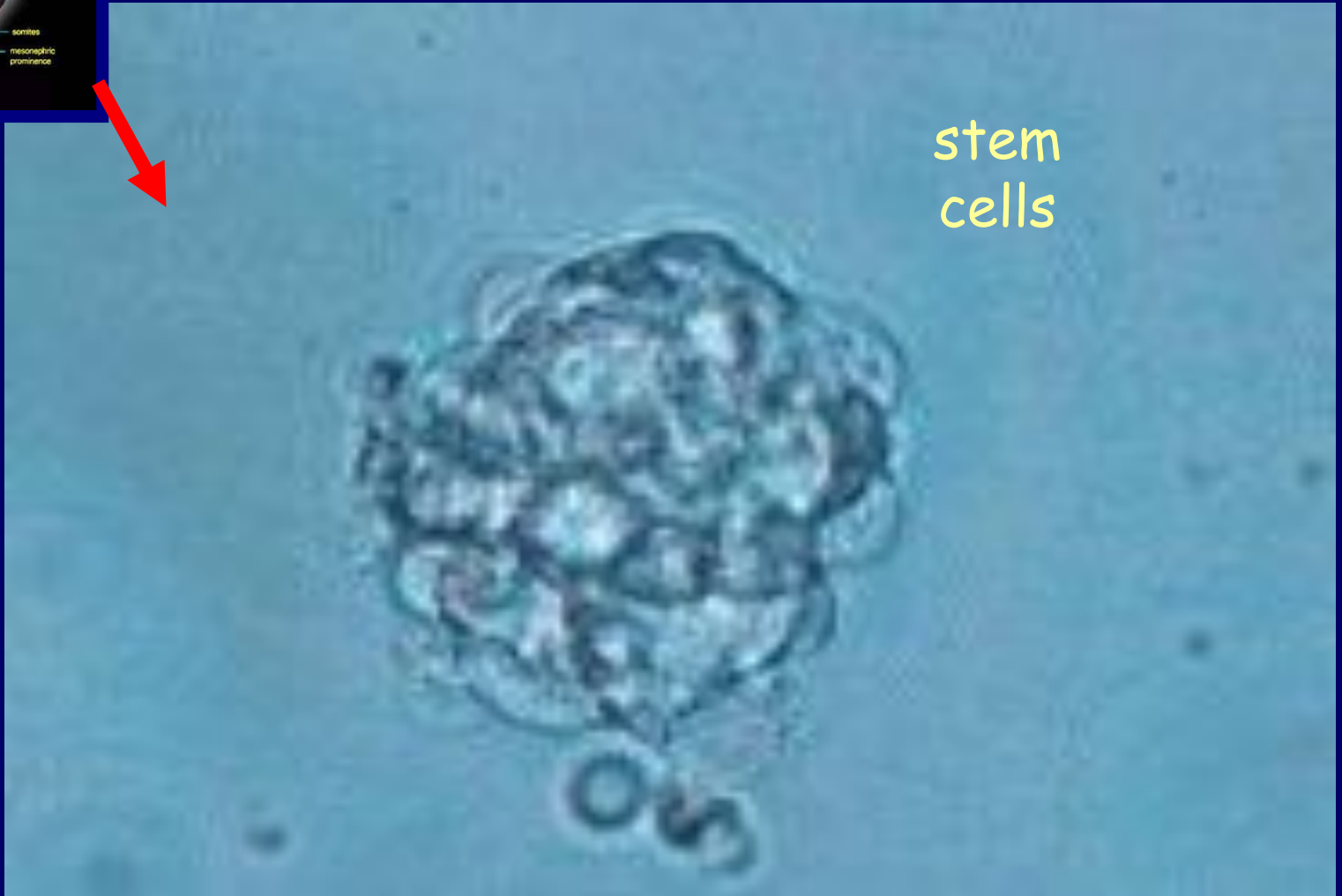
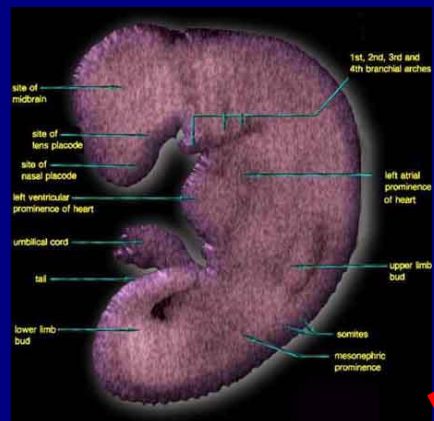
heart

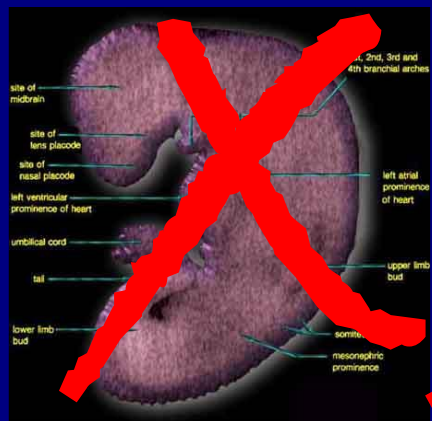
stem
cells

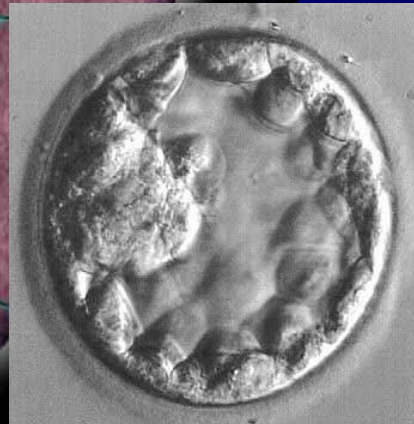
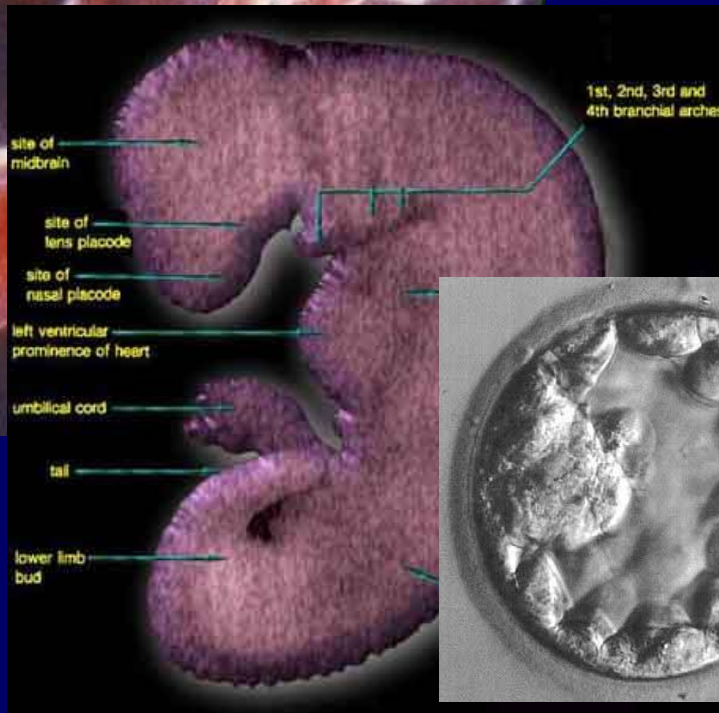
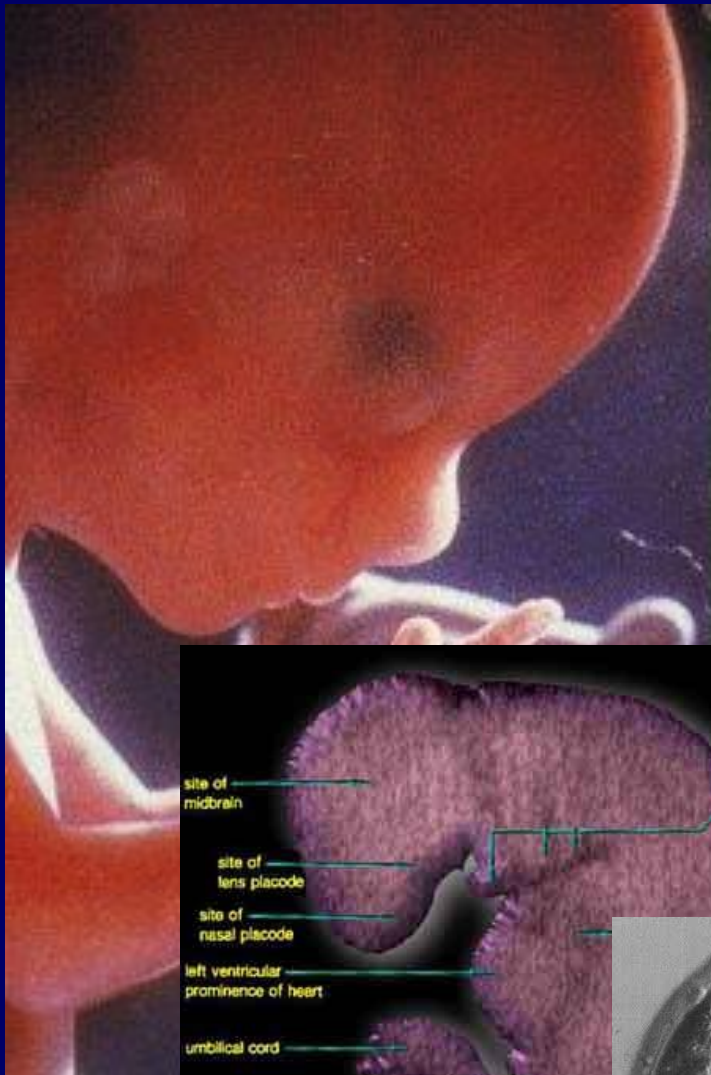
2

1







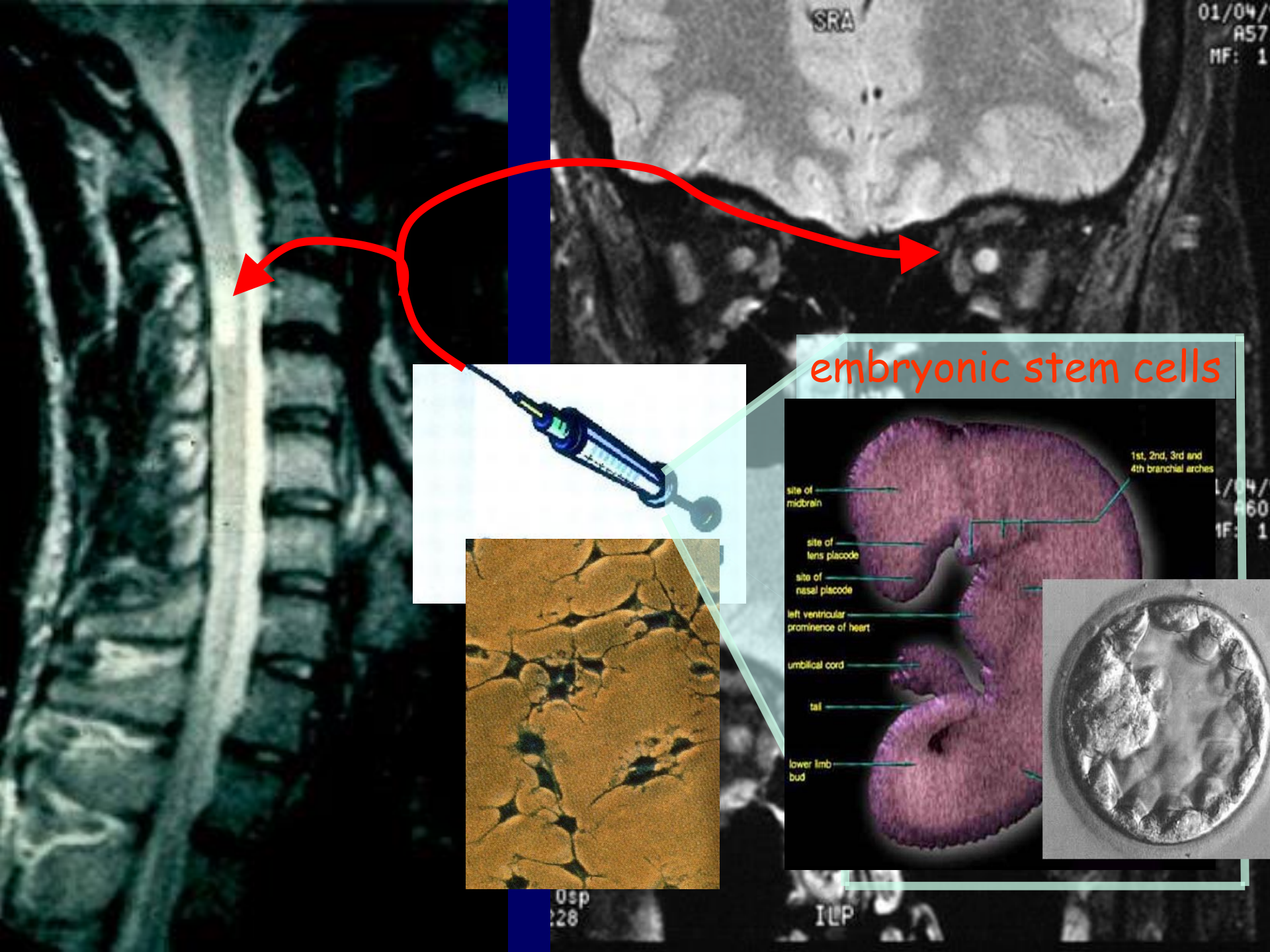


Alive

Human

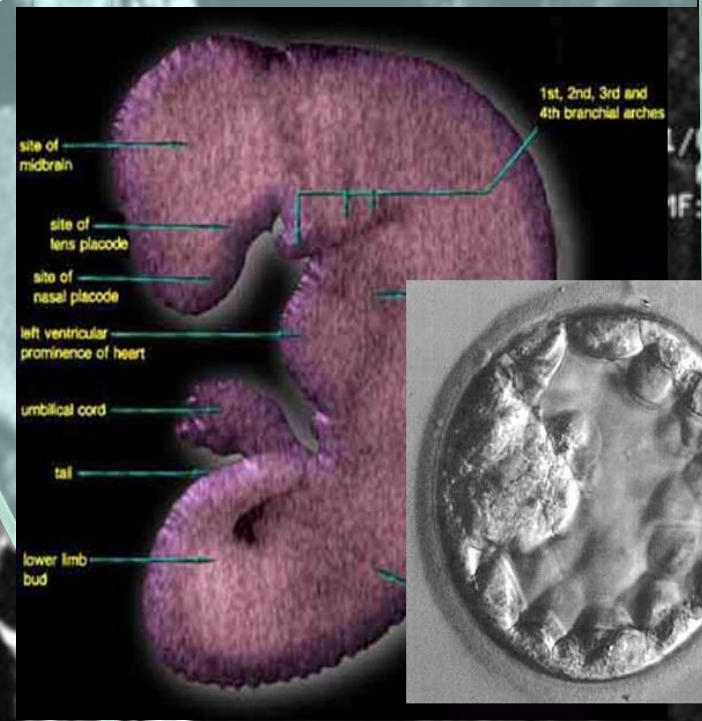
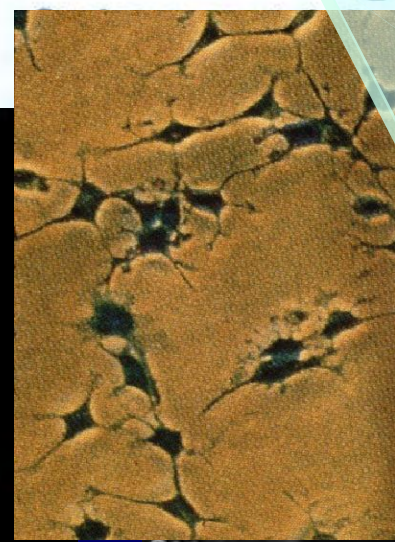
Individual.....

.....a human being



01/04/
R57
MF: 1

embryonic stem cells



0sp
28

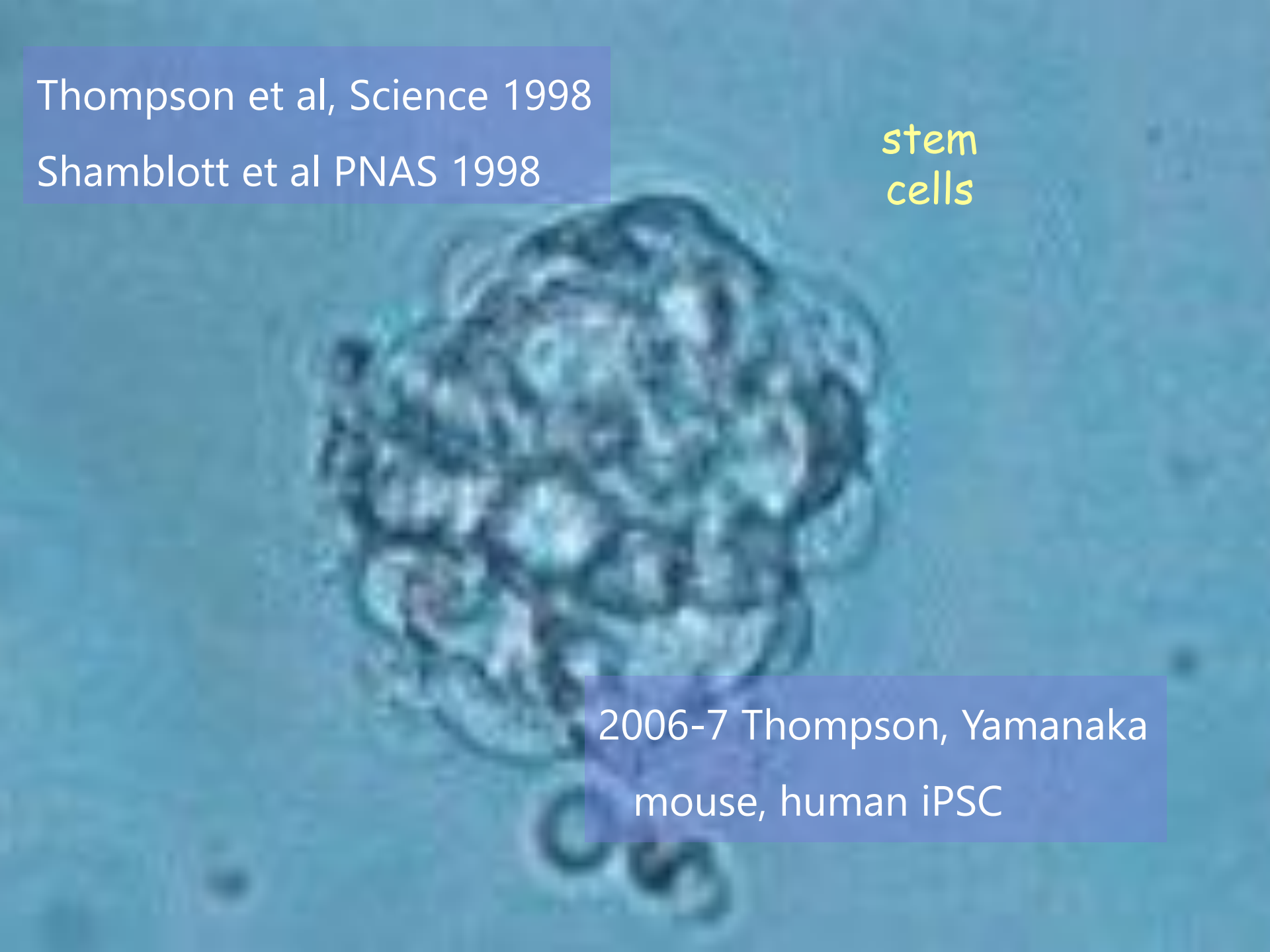
ILP

Thompson et al, Science 1998

Shamblott et al PNAS 1998

stem
cells

2006-7 Thompson, Yamanaka
mouse, human iPSC



Science

19 December 2008 | \$10

Breakthrough of the Year
Reprogramming Cells

AAAS

19 DECEMBER 2008

AUGUST 2008

Human iPS cells are made from patients with multiple diseases^{9,10}.

SEPT-OCT 2008

Two groups reprogram mouse cells without detectable DNA integration^{21,22}.

DECEMBER 2008

iPS cells from patients with neurodegenerative disease suggest that it is possible to model disease in a dish¹¹.

Breakthrough of the Year Reprogramming Cells

By inserting genes that turn back a cell's developmental clock, researchers are gaining insights into disease and the biology of how a cell decides its fate

genetic integration¹.

Professor Shinya Yamanaka

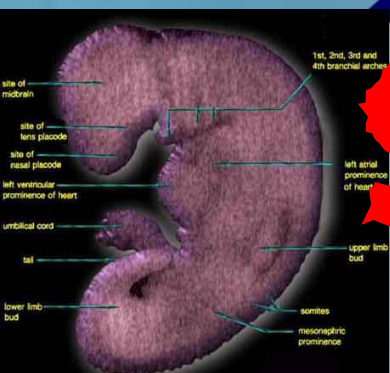


*“When I saw the embryo, I suddenly realized”—
there was such a small
difference between it and
my daughters*

*... I thought, we can’t keep
destroying embryos for our
research. There must be
another way”.*

Adult
tissue

*IPSCs from ANY
adult cell*



STANDPOINT.

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February 2009

COUNTERPOINTS

COLUMNS

DISPATCHES

DIALOGUE

FEATURES

CIVILISATION

REPUTATIONS

ONLINE ONLY

Cosmos

The Stem Cell Wars are Over

NEIL SCOLDING

February 2009

It is now a decade since human embryonic stem cells were discovered and since the UK legislated to facilitate cloning human embryos for research. Since then, barely a week has passed without new stem cell stories appearing. Last November, it was widely reported that the



Series



Stem Cells 1

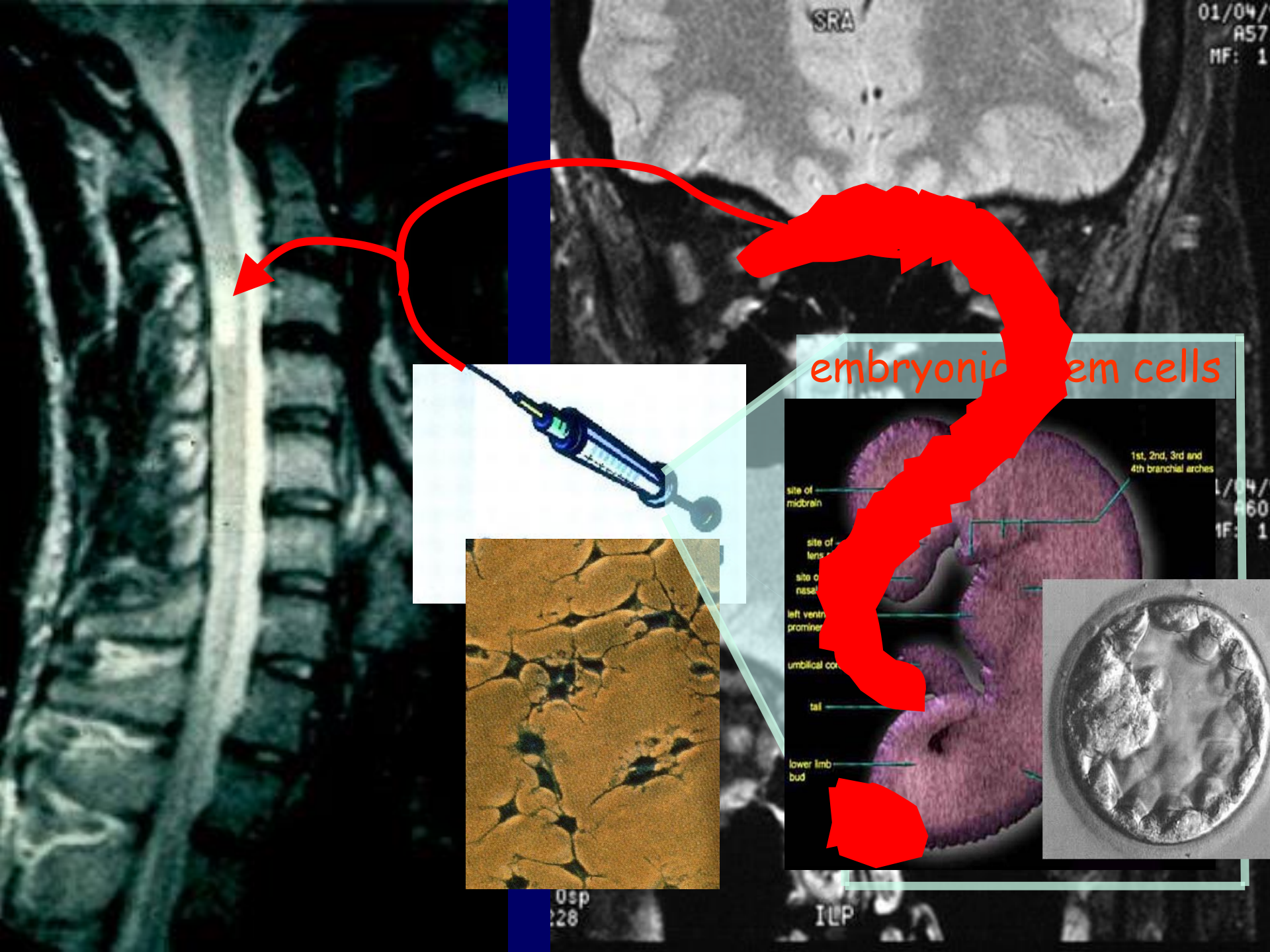
Cell therapy for multiple sclerosis: an evolving concept with implications for other neurodegenerative diseases

Claire M Rice, Kevin Kemp, Alastair Wilkins, Neil J Scolding

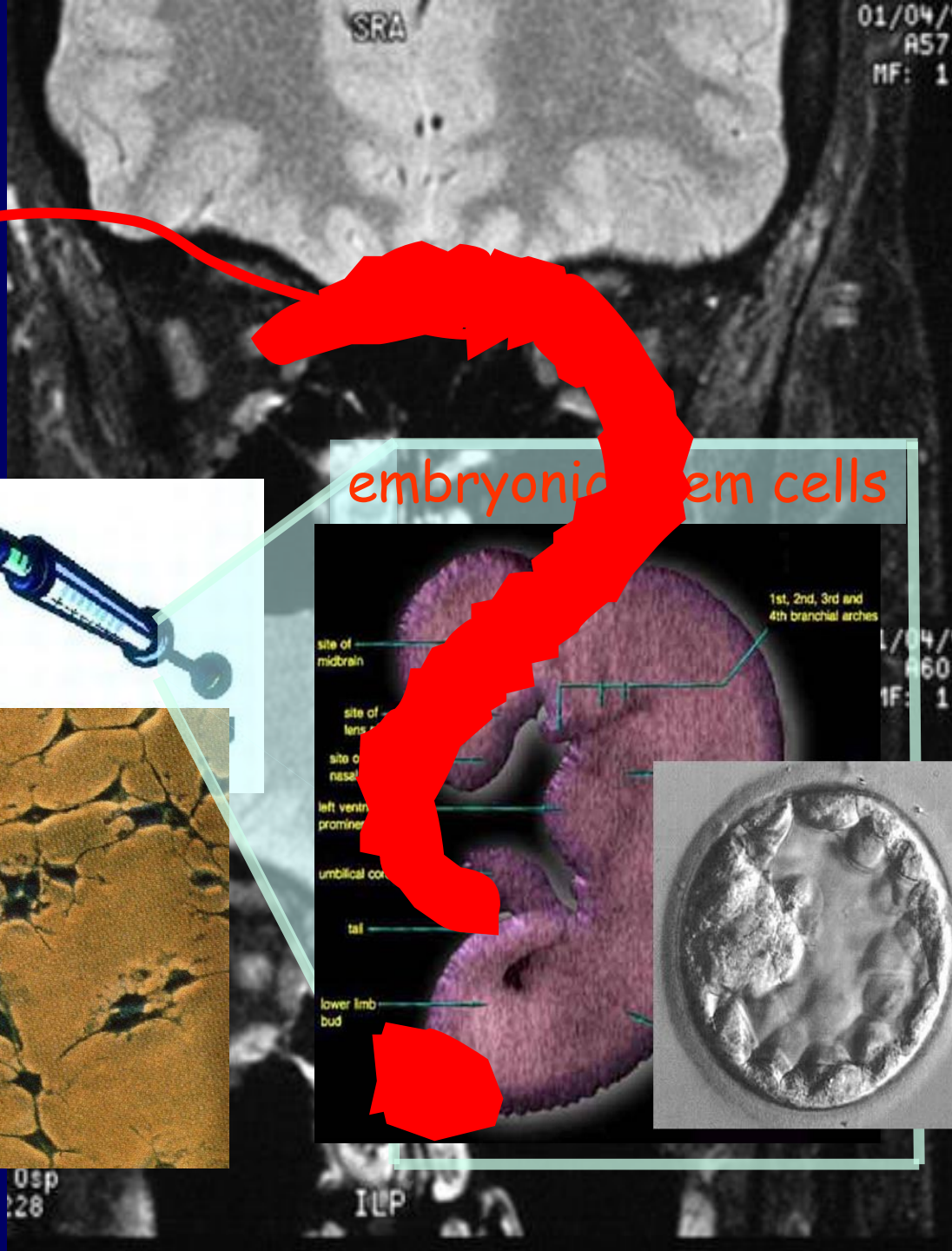
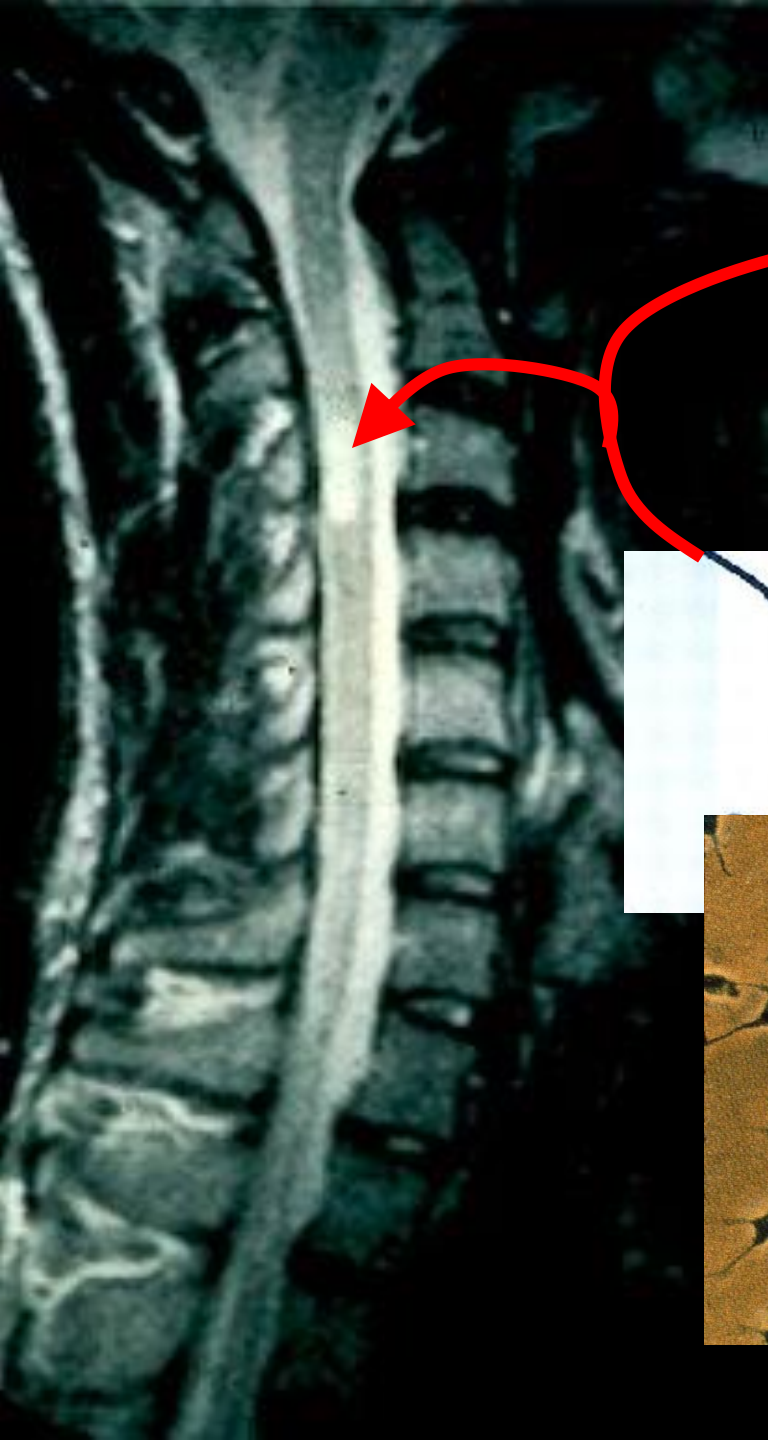
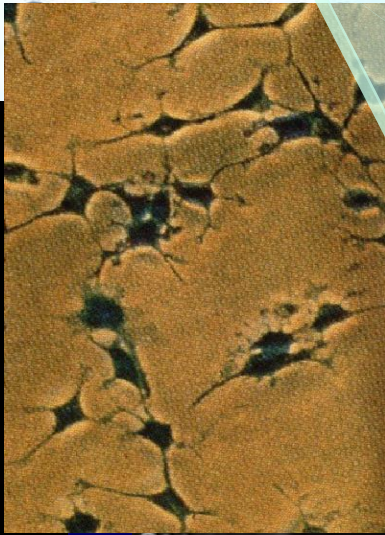
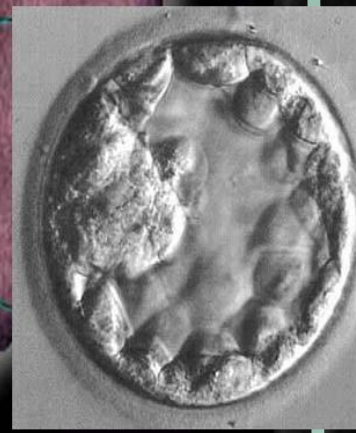
Lancet 2013; 382: 1204-13
This is the first in a Series of articles about stem cells of Bristol Institute for Cell Neurosciences, the MS Stem Cell Centre and the Bristol Institute for Cell Neurosciences, Bristol, UK. A Wilkins FRCP, N J Scolding FRCP

Multiple sclerosis is a major cause of neurological disability, and particularly occurs in young adults. It is characterised by conspicuous patches of damage throughout the brain and spinal cord, with loss of myelin and myelinating cells (oligodendrocytes), and damage to neurons and axons. Multiple sclerosis is incurable, but stem-cell therapy might offer valuable therapeutic potential. Efforts to develop stem-cell therapies for multiple sclerosis have been conventionally built on the principle of direct implantation of cells to replace oligodendrocytes, and therefore to regenerate myelin. Recent progress in understanding of disease processes in multiple sclerosis include observations that spontaneous myelin repair is far more widespread and successful than was previously believed, that loss of axons and neurons is more closely associated with progressive disability than is myelin loss, and that damage occurs diffusely throughout the CNS in grey and white matter, not just in discrete, isolated patches or lesions. These findings have introduced new and serious challenges that stem-cell therapy needs to overcome; the practical challenges to

Lancet 2013; 382: 1204-13



embryonic stem cells



0sp
28

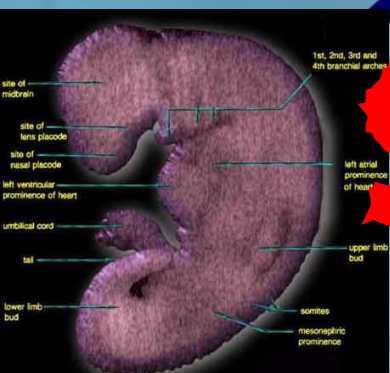
ILP



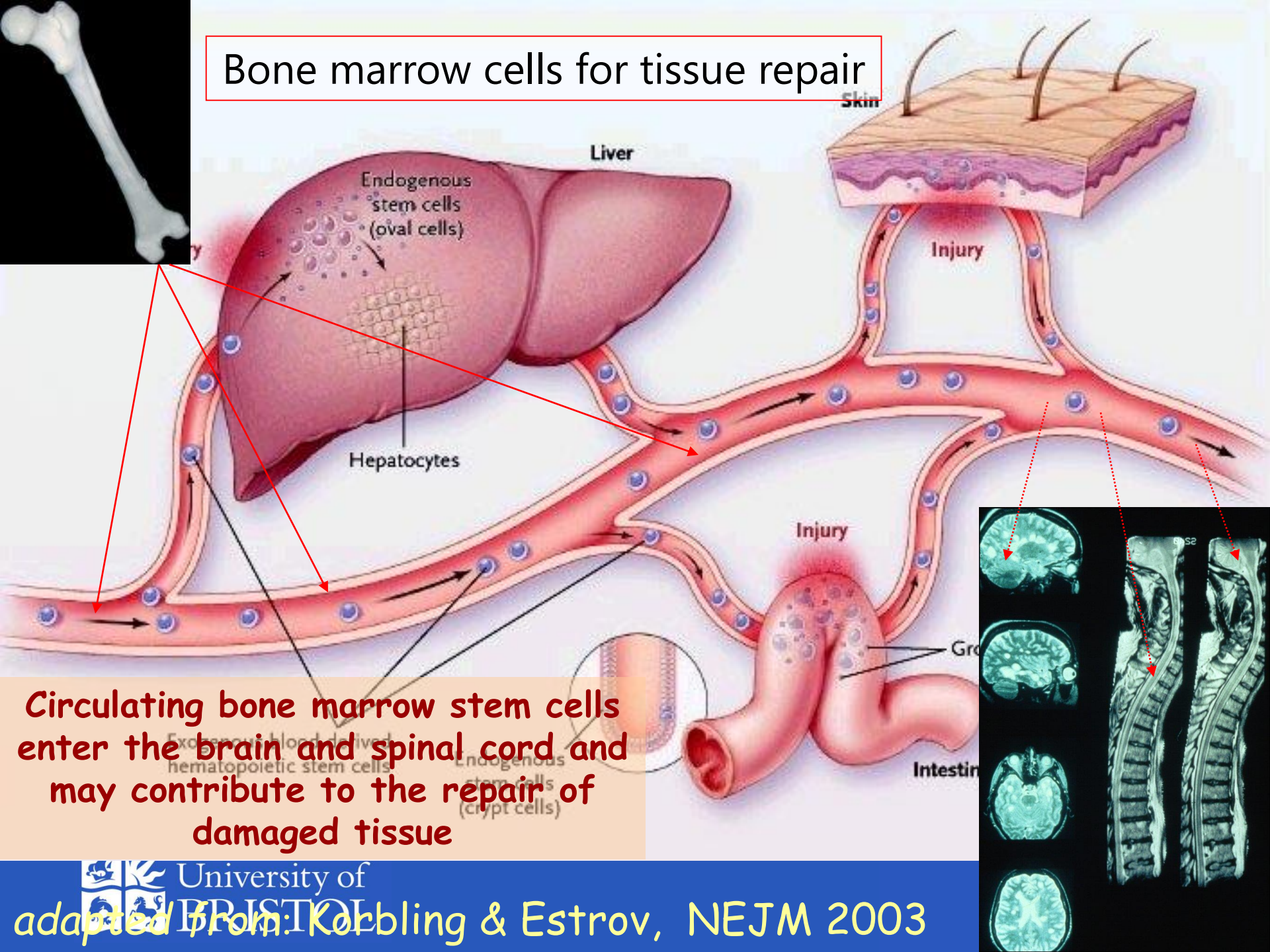
Adult
tissue



*IPSCs from ANY
adult cell*



Bone marrow cells for tissue repair



Circulating bone marrow stem cells enter the brain and spinal cord and may contribute to the repair of damaged tissue



University of
BRISTOL

adapted from: Korbliing & Estrov, NEJM 2003

Bone marrow stem cells *stimulate or re-programme repair* both directly and through a range of 'non-canonical' mechanisms :-

- fusion
- immune modulation
- neuroprotection
- growth factor production
- reduced scar formation
- new vessel formation
- **REGULATE LOCAL TISSUE STEM CELLS**
- *[transdifferentiation]*

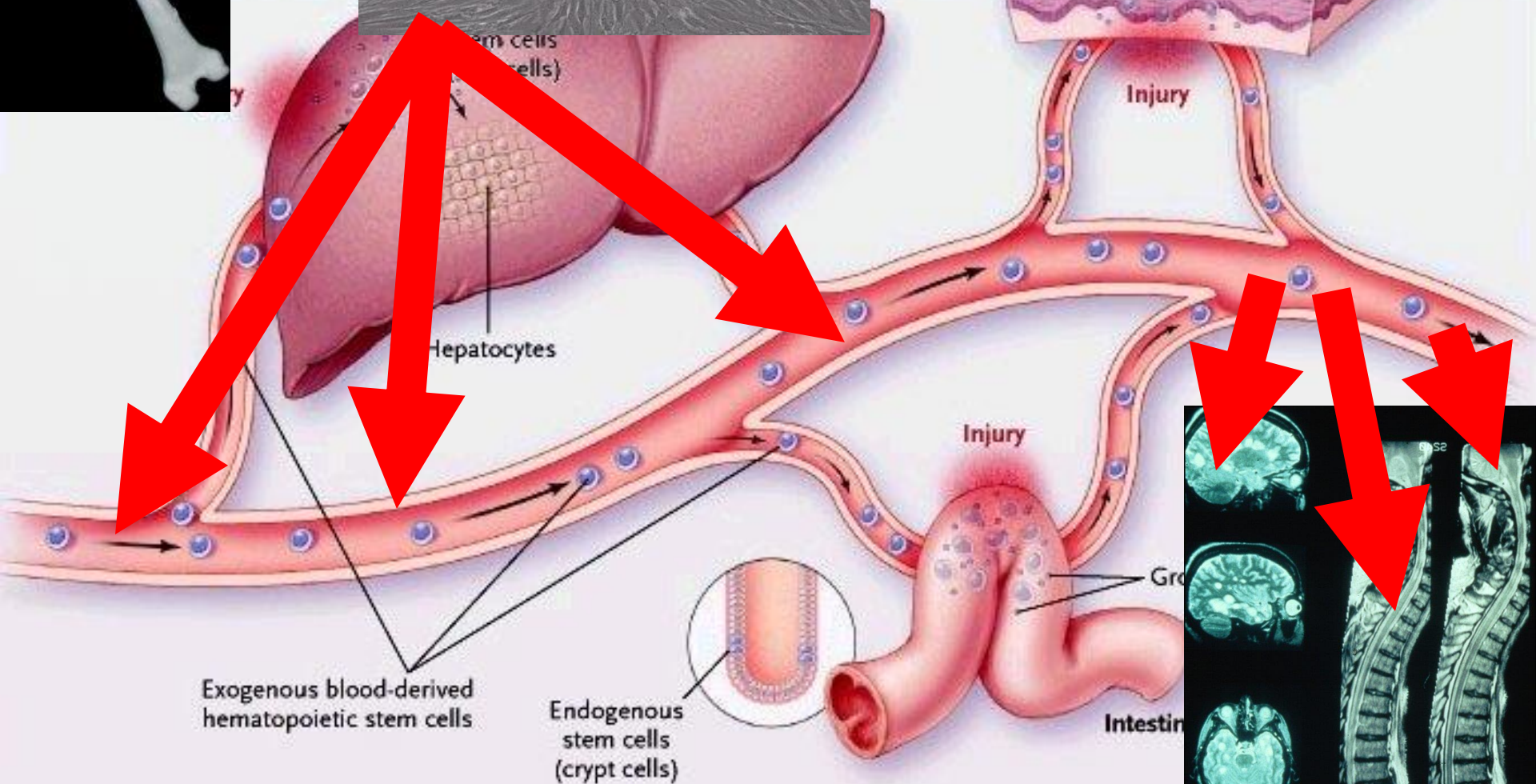
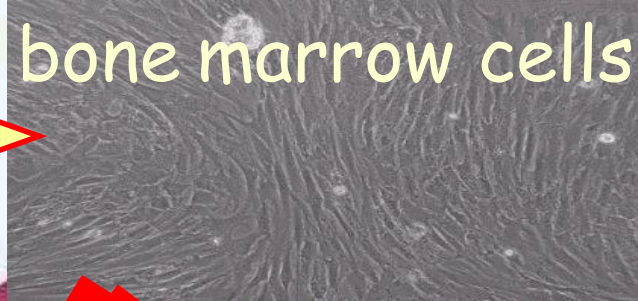
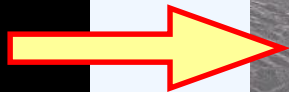


Blau, H. M. Cell fusion: A twist of fate. Nature 419, 437 (2002).

Rice CM, Scolding NJ. Adult stem cells--reprogramming neurological repair? Lancet. 2004; 364:193-199



bone marrow cells



University of
BRISTOL

adapted from: Korbliing & Estrov, NEJM 2003

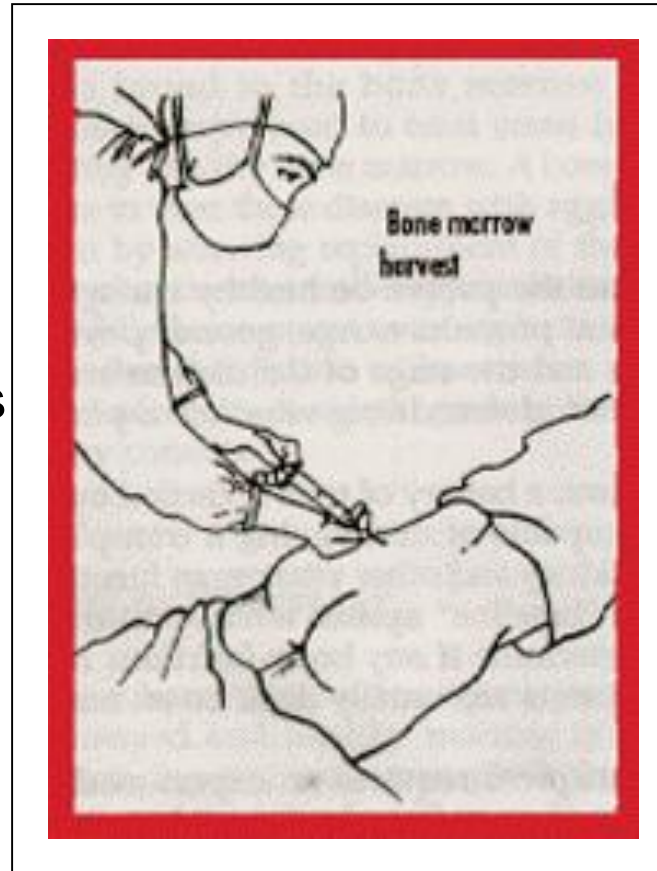
🔥 Study of Intravenous Autologous Marrow in Multiple Sclerosis (SIAMMS)

6 participants

Mean age 48 yrs

Disease duration 16 yrs

Median EDSS 6



Intervention:

Daycase procedure

Bone marrow harvest
(250-750ml) under
general anaesthesia

Bone marrow is filtered

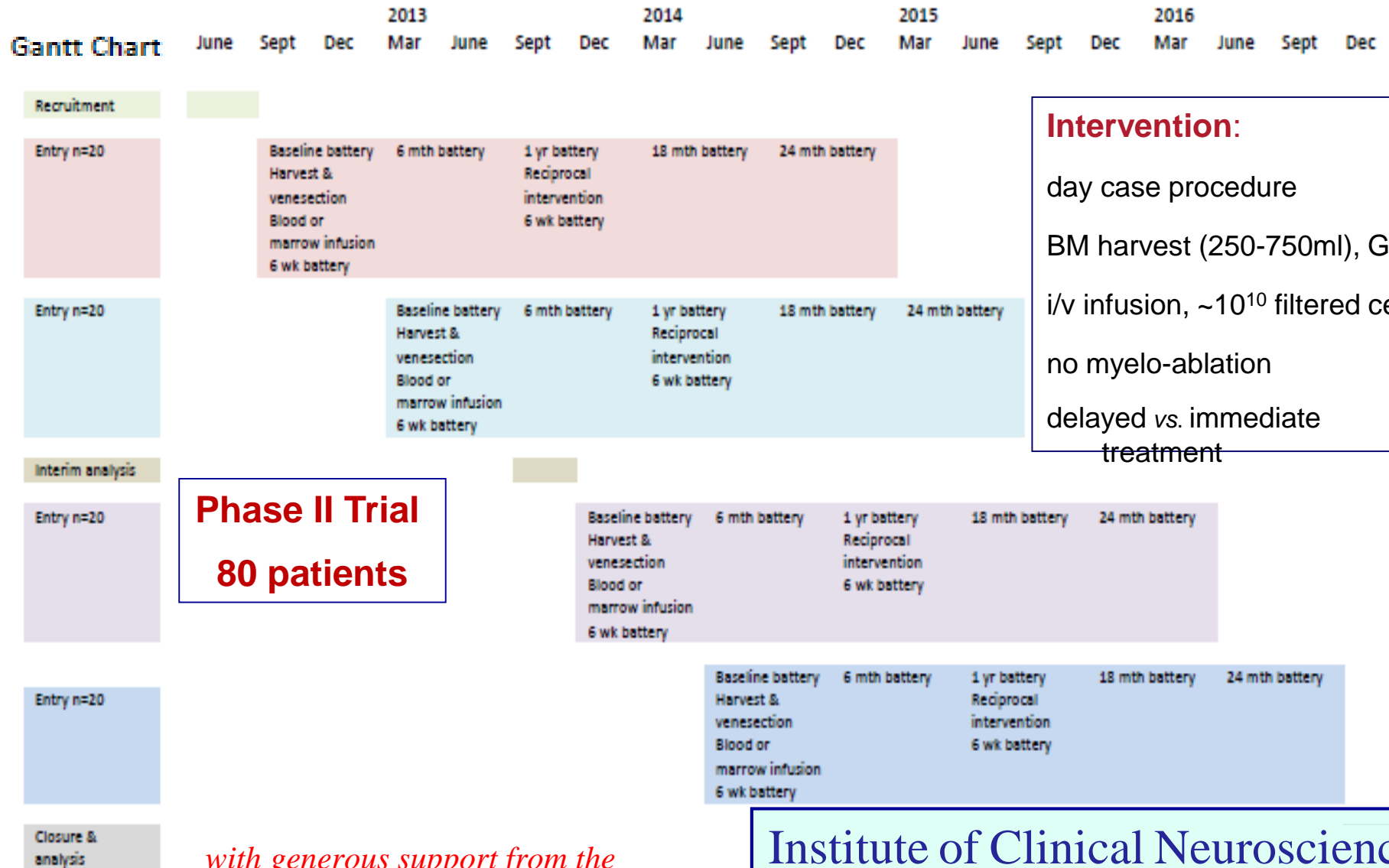
Intravenous infusion of
autologous marrow
cells

No myelo- or
lymphoablation

Cell dose 9×10^9 TNC

Assessment of Bone Marrow Cell Therapy in Multiple Sclerosis

ACTiMuS



Intervention:

day case procedure

BM harvest (250-750ml), GA

i/v infusion, $\sim 10^{10}$ filtered cells

no myelo-ablation

delayed vs. immediate
treatment

Phase II Trial
80 patients

*with generous support from the
Silverman Family Foundation*

Institute of Clinical Neurosciences
BRISTOL

¹Institute of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Bristol, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, UK; ²Burden Neurological Institute, Bristol, UK; ³Adult BMT Unit, Bristol Children's Hospital, Bristol, UK; ⁴Adult BMT Unit, Bristol Children's Hospital, Bristol, UK

Received 14 December 2009; accepted 17 February 2010; advance online publication 5 March 2010

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY & THERAPEUTICS

Safety and Feasibility of Mesenchymal Stem Cell Transplantation in Patients With Multiple Sclerosis and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

CM R
DI M
In this
without

Iran J Immunol. 2007 Mar;4(1):50-7.

Does mesenchymal stem cell transplantation improve the clinical course of multiple sclerosis? A pilot study

Mohyeddin Bonab M, Yazdanbakhsh M

Hematology-Oncology & BMT Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran

Abstract

BACKGROUND: Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) have been shown to have immunomodulatory effects and are being used as tools in cell and gene therapy.

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the safety and feasibility of MSC transplantation in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

METHODS: Ten patients with MS and 10 patients with ALS were enrolled in the study.

RESULTS: The patients with MS showed improvement in disease activity from 3 months to 12 months after transplantation.

CONCLUSION: MSC transplantation is a safe and feasible procedure in patients with MS and ALS.

KEYWORDS: Mesenchymal stem cells, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, transplantation.

INTRODUCTION: Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic inflammatory disease of the central nervous system (CNS) characterized by demyelination and axonal loss.

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the safety and feasibility of MSC transplantation in patients with MS and ALS.

METHODS: Ten patients with MS and 10 patients with ALS were enrolled in the study.

RESULTS: The patients with MS showed improvement in disease activity from 3 months to 12 months after transplantation.

CONCLUSION: MSC transplantation is a safe and feasible procedure in patients with MS and ALS.

Lancet Neurol 2012; 11: 150-56

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4422(11)70305-2

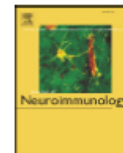
Journal of Neuroimmunology 227 (2010) 185–189



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Neuroimmunology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jneuroim



Bone marrow mesenchymal stem cell transplantation in patients with multiple sclerosis: A pilot study[☆]

Bassem Yamout ^{a,*}, Roula Hourani ^b, Haytham Salti ^c, Wissam Barada ^{a,1}, Taghrid El-Hajj ^{a,2}, Aghiad Al-Kutoubi ^b, Aline Herlopian ^a, Elizabeth Kfoury Baz ^d, Rami Mahfouz ^d, Rima Khalil-Hamdan ^d, Nabeela M.A. Kreidieh ^d, Marwan El-Sabban ^e, Ali Bazarbachi ^a

^a Departments of Internal Medicine, American University of Beirut Medical Center, Beirut, Lebanon

^b Departments of Radiology, American University of Beirut Medical Center, Beirut, Lebanon

Safety and Immunological Effects of Mesenchymal Stem Cell Transplantation in Patients With Multiple Sclerosis and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Dimitrios Karakas, MD, PhD; Clementine Karakozoglou, MD; Adi Vakula Deshmukh, MD, PhD



Autologous mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of secondary progressive multiple sclerosis: an open-label phase 2a proof-of-concept study

Peter Connick, * Madhan Kolappan, * Charles Crawley, Daniel J Webber, Rickie Patani, Andrew W Michell, Ming-Qing Du, Shi-Lu Luan, Daniel R Altmann, Alan J Thompson, Alastair Compston, Michael A Scott, David H Miller, Siddharthan Chandran

Summary

Background More than half of patients with multiple sclerosis have progressive disease characterised by accumulating disability. The absence of treatments for progressive multiple sclerosis represents a major unmet clinical need. On the basis of evidence that mesenchymal stem cells have a beneficial effect in acute and chronic animal models of multiple sclerosis, we aimed to assess the safety and efficacy of these cells as a potential neuroprotective treatment for

Intervention: After culture, a mean (SD) of 63.2×10^6 (2.5×10^6) MSCs was injected intrathecally (n=34) and intravenously (n=14). In 9 cases, MSCs were magnetically isolated from peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs),

sponges of lymphocytes, and the expression of CD40⁺, CD83⁺, CD86⁺, and HLA-DR on myeloid dendritic cells at 24 hours after MSC transplantation.

sponses of lymphocytes, and the expression of CD40⁺, CD83⁺, CD86⁺, and HLA-DR on myeloid dendritic cells at 24 hours after MSC transplantation.

The Church has a great esteem for
scientific and technological
research.....it is a service to truth,
goodness and beauty

Pope John Paul II May 2000