



## **Regulatory Amendments**

In August 2008, CIRM's governing board approved two interim regulations. These regulations do the following:

1. Authorize a procedure for grandfathering human stem cell lines derived before the effective date of the CIRM regulations (see [http://www.cirm.ca.gov/reg/pdf/Initial\\_Statement\\_of\\_Reasons.pdf](http://www.cirm.ca.gov/reg/pdf/Initial_Statement_of_Reasons.pdf).)

## **International Collaborations**

California has developed a series of collaborative agreements with international partners. Nancy Koch will update the membership and provide details on these agreements.

## **Work Force Development Grants**

CIRM approved grants in the Bridges to Stem Cell Research program will provide \$17.5 million to building future stem cell research workforce. These grants fund efforts to engage undergraduate and masters level students in stem cell research. The programs will provide comprehensive lecture and laboratory courses, facilitate internship placement, and advise and mentor students on research progress and career opportunities. The graduates of these programs will have the expertise needed to staff California's expanding stem cell research laboratories in both industry and academic organizations.

[http://www.cirm.ca.gov/pdf/ICOC\\_1-29-2009.pdf](http://www.cirm.ca.gov/pdf/ICOC_1-29-2009.pdf)

## **Move Basic Research Toward the Clinic**

The 15 Early Translational grants approved by the board will go to 13 not-for-profit and two for-profit organizations. These grants are intended to either lead to a drug candidate for an unmet medical need or address a bottleneck in the development of new therapies. The board chose to hold decision on 12 grants that had been recommended for funding only if funds allow. They will consider those grants at the June meeting.

[http://www.cirm.ca.gov/press/pdf/2009/ICOC\\_4\\_28.pdf](http://www.cirm.ca.gov/press/pdf/2009/ICOC_4_28.pdf)

## **Ethics and Clinical Trials Workshop**

This workshop is presented as part of the CIRM Medical and Ethical Standards Working Group Annual Meeting for 2009. The workshop is incorporated into the full meeting agenda, which is posted at <http://www.cirm.ca.gov/workgroups/stds.asp>. The workshop goals and program are identified below.

### **WORKSHOP GOALS:**

- Describe the regulatory policy context for developing human cell therapies;
- Understand the role of clinical trials in the context of developing new therapies;
- Understand how ethical considerations are addressed in the oversight of clinical trials and consider stem-cell specific issues;
- Understand how institutions involved in clinical trials address regulatory policy issues;
- Describe guidance and regulatory activities related to stem cell clinical trials; and
- Consider issues for further consideration by CIRM or the SWG.

The workshop report can be found at:

[http://www.cirm.ca.gov/workgroups/pdf/Summary\\_Report\\_2\\_09\\_SWG.pdf](http://www.cirm.ca.gov/workgroups/pdf/Summary_Report_2_09_SWG.pdf)

### **Cool Photos Available**

Cool stem cell photos are available for public use. See <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cirm>