

IASCR October 7, 2009 Meeting
State Update for Ohio
Debra Grega, Executive Director, CSCRM and NCRM

The state of Ohio support for stem cell research has been concentrated on the [Center for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine \(CSCRM\)](#) through investment by the [State of Ohio's Third Frontier Commission \(TFC\)](#) (Ohio Department of Development) as part of the new technology economic development program. In this way progress has been coupled to clinical and commercial development metrics. TFC recently awarded CSCRM another three year term of funding for \$5M (FY09-FY11), bringing the total state funding from 2003 to \$32.4M

Research at the partner institutions is expanding with federally approved ES lines, iPS cell lines and the formation of new iPS lines. A Pluripotent Stem Cell core facility is being established and a joint SCRO is being put in place among the partner institutions (primarily CWRU, CCF and UHCMC).

The TFC is indicated that it would be supportive of projects including ES, however they must pass the commercialization criteria of TFC funding. State legislation has remained in line with federal guidelines for use of ES cells. Although more conservative members of the state legislature continue to oppose (without suffice legislative majority) any form of human tissue cloning, there is general state support for expanded work with non-adult stem cells.

Private sector funding, including commercial and foundation support of research with individual researchers currently is approximately \$1M. New positions created with additional funding have totaled 127 since 2003 with 50% in the for-profit sector.

The stem cell and regenerative medicine programs in CSCRM (Center for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine) and in the [Clinical Tissue Engineering Center \(CTEC\)](#) are coordinated through the [National Center for Regenerative Medicine \(NCRM\)](#) which builds upon leading research and clinical programs at its founding institutions—[Case Western Reserve University \(CWRU\)](#), [Cleveland Clinic \(CC\)](#), and [University Hospitals Case Medical Center \(UHCMC\)](#)—in heart disease, cancer, genetic disorders, immunological, musculoskeletal, neurodegenerative diseases and wound healing, coupled with a 26-year history of research on adult and pluripotent stem cells at these institutions.

Research and clinical/commercial development have focused on adult derived stem cells (presently ten types). There are currently 18 open clinical trials in acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, critical limb ischemia, cancer, hematopoietic and blood disorders, immune disease, and neurologic disorders (stroke and multiple sclerosis).