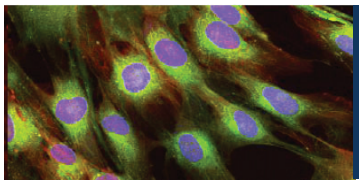
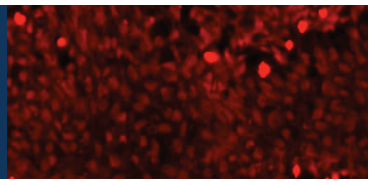


JOHN PAUL II
MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



November 2023 Newsletter

Letter from the Founder and Request for Support

Dear Friends:

As the Founder of John Paul II Medical Research Institute (JP2MRI), this letter reflects my thoughts and future hopes for the Institute. I would like to begin by thanking our donors for their many years of financial support. Without your support, JP2MRI would never have accomplished our important milestones. 2023 has been the most difficult time in my life for two reasons. First, the Iowa Medical Board launched an investigation against my medical license because of my public opposition against the COVID-19 vaccines. Fortunately, that investigation ended in my favor. Second, I was diagnosed with a serious medical illness. While my health condition has been kept at bay for now, I had to close my medical practice and redirect my professional efforts to my biotechnology organizations. In the following discussion, I will highlight my professional journey and my aspirations for the future of JP2MRI.

After leaving a successful tenured academic position in 2005, I started a medical specialty practice in pulmonary medicine at a local Catholic hospital and co-founded Cellular Engineering Technologies (CET) Inc., a biotechnology company that manufactures adult stem cells and products. My initial ambitions for CET were modest and centered on providing researchers with an ethical alternative to the then pervasively used embryonic stem cells (ESC). Our local Catholic hospital initially provided different types of post-natal tissue for CET to manufacture various types of adult stem cells. Within two years, CET grew to create one of the largest repositories of adult stem cells in the world. Next, in 2006, I founded JP2MRI to advocate and educate Catholics about adult stem cell research and medical bioethics.

At the time, I was unaware of how important a role JP2MRI would eventually play as a pro-life research organization. However, shortly after being established, individuals from around the globe started sending unsolicited financial support to JP2MRI to advance medical research for various conditions solely on our promise and mission to never use morally-illicit cells. Donations were sent by pro-life individuals when they learned that the majority of secular medical research foundations either supported or used ESC and human cells derived from abortions. In 2005, the Vatican Pontifical Academy of Life had issued a statement urging the biopharmaceutical industry to develop drugs without using morally-illicit cells. This position was further elaborated in 2008 by a document from the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith called Dignitas Personae, which directed Catholic researchers and doctors to avoid the use of morally-illicit cells in their profession.

For half a century prior to the 2005 Vatican position, no established Catholic organizations conducted any research to develop ethical, alternative human cell lines to counter the use of morally-illicit cells in biomanufacturing. As a result of that decision, over 100 billion dollars are now generated annually from products that use aborted fetal cell lines, and that market is expected to double in 5 years. To put this in perspective, Planned Parenthood generates 1. 5 billion dollars a year from abortion services. JP2MRI is the only organization to date that has developed alternative ethical biotechnology. JP2MRI's pioneering leadership in this field is illustrated by the fact that over 85 percent of our donations come from outside the state of Iowa and 15 percent come from outside the United States.

After two decades of trying to advocate and solicit help from the Catholic Church, large Catholic foundations and the Catholic healthcare system (stakeholders one would expect to be the most committed to ethical medicines), I was surprised and disappointed to discover that developing medicines free of morally-licit cells was not a priority among these established Catholic institutions. This notion is further supported by the fact that Catholic universities, hospitals, dioceses and even the Vatican enforced COVID-19 vaccine mandates and ignored previous Vatican positions on morally-illicit vaccines. Moreover, it was clear that the biopharmaceutical industry was never going to make investments towards developing biomanufacturing processes that were free of aborted fetal cells. Given the insurmountable challenge of addressing this problem, JP2MRI needed to develop a resourceful and innovative business model that would support its mission in perpetuity and without the risk for my continued leadership.

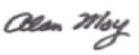
In addition to soliciting financial support from the private sector, JP2MRI implemented a non-profit biotechnology business model. Notwithstanding that there is an unmet market need to deliver ethically-derived medicines, there are two other unrelated and lesser-known problems that JP2MRI is also addressing. First, private and public-sponsored academic medical research rarely translates into medical treatments. Academic research is primarily devoted towards education and scientific publication. In contrast, JP2MRI's primary objective is to develop therapies. Second, the cost of industry-directed drug research has become increasingly inefficient and expensive, to the extent that drug companies avoid risk and direct their capital to short-term and modest incremental drug discovery. The latter is best illustrated by the fact that large drug companies direct little capital towards stem cell research, which could reverse and protect organs from diseases such as neurodegenerative disorders, cancer, rare diseases and other unmet

conditions. When there is a major drug approval, the cost of that drug is typically too expensive for the healthcare system. In order to reduce the cost of new drugs for society, research and development has to be more efficient and cost-effective.

Over the past two decades, JP2MRI has been on the cutting-edge in regenerative medicine research. JP2MRI has helped to create the largest repository of adult stem cells. It has helped to create a first and best-in-class induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technology that not only represents an ethical alternative to ESC, but is cheaper to manufacture and safer than other purported pluripotent stem cells. JP2MRI has created genetically-engineered and ethically-derived human cells to circumvent the need for aborted fetal cells to produce gene therapy, vaccines and biologics. Lastly, JP2MRI has also found innovative ways to reduce the standard cost of medical research by over 75 percent. These new technologies offer scientific advantages over current aborted fetal cells, and our entrepreneurial model should provide time and cost-effective solutions to the aforementioned problems. JP2MRI has already transferred these technologies into commercial operations with the hope that they will ultimately displace the long-term need for aborted fetal cells in biomanufacturing.

JP2MRI is at an exciting inflection point in its history. It has created a critical amount of intellectual property to develop cutting-edge treatments in regenerative medicine to treat its therapeutic priorities in neurodegenerative diseases, cancer, rare diseases and other unmet conditions. The Institute has established a cost-effective research model to create a pipeline of therapies; and it has initiated an entrepreneurial business model to finance its mission in perpetuity. While I cannot predict the timeline of when these efforts will lead to clinical trials, I firmly believe that JP2MRI will maintain its leadership in ethical medical research and meet the medical needs of society in general. Donors have recently received a newsletter from our CEO who has given an exciting research update on our stem cell research for neurodegenerative diseases. JP2MRI is also accelerating exciting stem cell research in the field of cancer. Since most of our donors live outside of Iowa, it is my most sincere desire and expectation that JP2MRI will create clinical trial partnerships in those regions that have been supportive of the Institute. Please continue to support JP2MRI both financially and by recruiting family members and friends as donors. Thank you for your support.

With Blessings,



Alan Moy, MD / Founder
John Paul II Medical Research Institute

2500 Crosspark Rd., Suite W230
Coralville, IA 52241
(office): 319-665-3001
(fax): 319-887-2870
www.jp2mri.org

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