



Nebraska Coalition
for Lifesaving Cures

The Newsletter of the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures
December, 2013

The Passing of a Dear Friend

UNMC lost one of its biggest supporters the first week of December with the death of Jim Fagin. Last May, Fagin was the keynote speaker at the Annual Tribute Luncheon held by the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures, where he received a standing ovation. Tom O'Connor of UNMC public relations penned this tribute to Fagin in UNMC News.



[Full Story \(12-06-2013\)](#)



[A closer look at Stem Cell treatments](#)

[Concerns about Stem Cell tourism](#)

[Patients Guide to Stem Cell treatments](#)

Pesticide exposure may increase Parkinson's risk for those with genetic mutation

People with a genetic mutation linked to Parkinson's disease may have an increased risk of contracting the neurodegenerative disorder if they have been exposed to certain pesticides, according to a new study published in the journal *Cell*.

Conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., the research involved using human stem cells, derived from a patient with Parkinson's disease, to analyze the relationship between Parkinson's and pesticides.

[Full Story on FoxNews.com \(11-27-2013\)](#)

UCLA stem cell researchers track early development of human

articular cartilage

Stem cell researchers from UCLA's Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research have published the first study to identify the origin cells and track the early development of human articular cartilage, providing what could be a new cell source and biological roadmap for therapies to repair cartilage defects and osteoarthritis. These revolutionary therapies could reach clinical trials within three years.

[Full Story on News-Medical.net \(12-13-2013\)](#)

Parkinson's stem cell project aims for 2014 approval

For eight local Parkinson's patients seeking treatment with stem cell technology, 2014 could bring the milestone they've been anticipating.

If all goes well, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration will approve an attempt to replace the brain cells destroyed in Parkinson's. The new cells, grown from each patient's own skin cells, are expected to restore normal movement in the patients.

[Full Story in San Diego Union-Tribune \(12-13-2013\)](#)



HIV Returns in Two Men Thought Cured After Stem Cell Transplant

Two HIV-infected men who were thought to be clear of the virus after having stem cell transplants have had the AIDS-causing pathogen return, their doctors said, scuppering hopes their cases might lead to a cure. The two Boston men, who were also suffering from lymphoma, had no trace of the virus eight months after the transplants, researchers led by Timothy Henrich at Brigham and Women's Hospital said in July, though they said it was too early to say the men had been cured. The virus reappeared in one of the men in August and in the other in November.

[Full Story on Bloomberg.com \(12-7-2013\)](#)

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