E-news

Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures

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

What Is Omaha Gives?

Omaha Gives! is a one day event led by the Omaha Community Foundation to raise as much money as possible for local nonprofits through online fundraising. It is a community-wide event to show off Omaha's spirit of giving, raise awareness about local nonprofits, and celebrate the collective effort it takes to make this city great.

How Does It Work?

The Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures has set up an online site at Omahagives24.org with searchable profiles of participating nonprofits. Anyone can donate to their favorite nonprofit (such as NCLC) on Wednesday, May 22 from midnight to midnight via Omahagives24.org. The minimum donation is only $10 and there is no maximum. Your donation will help us receive matching funds and help us qualify for additional hourly gifts and prizes.

How Can You Help?

• **Donate to us on May 22nd!**

• **Spread the word!** Tell your friends that you will be giving to Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures during Omaha Gives! on May 22nd and that you need their help.

• **Post about Omaha Gives!** on your social media pages. Let your friends and followers know how they can give and how their donations can help us win matching and prize funds.

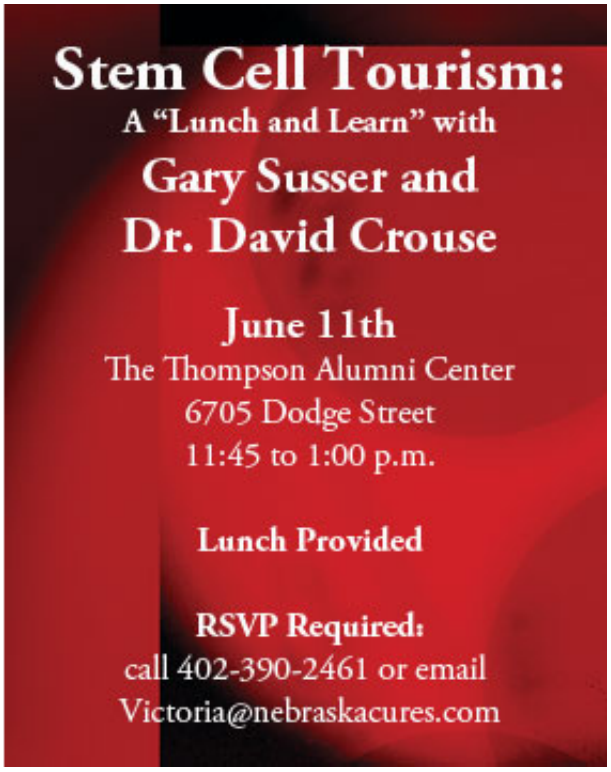
• **Cheer us on!** On May 22nd, watch the leaderboard on Omahagives24.org and update our progress on social media.

• **Save the date**. May 22nd, 2013 will be a great day of generosity in Omaha. Get excited and ready to share your enthusiasm for Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures throughout the day.

Stem Cell Tourism: A Lunch and Learn with Gary Susser and Dr. David Crouse

On June 11, join us for a "Lunch and Learn" with Gary Susser and Dr. David Crouse. Susser is a vocal activist of stem cell research who appeared with his wife, Judith, on "60 Minutes" exposing the dangers of stem cells being sold over the internet by profiteers. Dr. Crouse, President of NCLC and Emeritus Professor at UNMC, has taken a lead role in promoting an understanding of the science and ethics of this field as well as developing programs and teaching courses related to "Responsible Conduct in Research" for graduate students, post-doctorate and junior faculty of UNMC.

Learn more about the speakers



A closer look at Stem Cell treatments

Concerns about Stem Cell tourism

Patients Guide to Stem Cell treatments

Michael Kelly: Jim Fagin Beat the Odds

In July 2009, former TV news reporter Jim Fagin of Omaha endured severe stomach pain that turned out to be pancreatic cancer. This week at the luncheon of the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures, he noted that most patients diagnosed with that disease don't live as long as he has.

Full Story in *Omaha World-Herald* (05-18-2013)

Cloning stem cells: What does it mean?

A human embryo, containing about a couple hundred cells, is smaller than the period at the end of a sentence. Scientists need strong microscopes to see these precursors to life, and to take from them stem cells, which have the potential to become any cell in the body.

Earlier this week a breakthrough in this field was announced. A group of researchers published in the journal Cell proof that they had created embryonic stem cells through cloning. The scientists produced embryos using human skin cells, and then used the embryos to produce stem cell lines.

Full Story on *CNN.com* (05-20-2013)

Beware of stem cell therapy claims

Imagine hearing a crunching sound every time you opened your eye. Then, imagine how you would react if a doctor said that bone fragments had grown around it because of a botched procedure. This isn't just a hypothetical scenario; it actually happened to a California woman.

In Scientific American, Ferris Jabr reports that a woman's adult stem cells were removed during a liposuction procedure and re-injected around her eye. Because of the particular cocktail of chemicals the cosmeticians used, the stem cells turned into bones. Thus, instead of rejuvenation, her face became an example of a medical procedure gone wrong.

Full Story in *USA Today* (05-15-2013)

ACT Confirms Clinical Trial Participant Showed Improvement in Vision from 20/400 to 20/40 Following Treatment

Advanced Cell Technology, Inc. confirmed that the vision of a patient enrolled in a clinical investigation of the company's retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) cells derived from human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) has improved from 20/400 to 20/40 following treatment.

Full Story from *ACT Press Release* (05-16-2013)

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