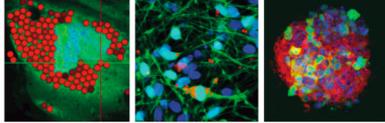


Principles of Stem Cell Biology



A one-day lecture course on what stem cells are, how they behave, how they are regulated, and how they can be used clinically.



"Principles of Stem Cell Biology" is offered by the Norwegian Center for Stem Cell Research (www.stemcellnorway.org) and the Cancer Stem Cell Innovation Center (<http://cscir-research.no/>).

Lectures:

- 0830 – 0930 Basics of stem cell biology (Joel C. Glover)
0930 – 1030 Tumor stem cells (Stefan Krauss)
1030 – 1130 Stem cell epigenetics (Philippe Collas)
1130 – 1200 **Break/Lunch**
1200 – 1300 MicroRNAs and stem cell regulation (Jan Oxholm Gordeladze)
1300 – 1400 Current clinical applications of stem cells in Norway (Jan E. Brinchmann)
1400 – 1415 **Break**

Current stem cell research:

- 1415 – 1515 Presentations
1515 – 1530 **Break**
1530 – 1630 Presentations
1630 Concluding remarks

STEM CELLS - BASIC CONCEPTS

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<http://stemcells.nih.gov/info/basics/>
<http://www.stemcellresearchfoundation.org>
<http://www.stemcell.no>

WHAT IS A STEM CELL?

A cell that can undergo self-renewing (expanding) proliferation and give rise to specialized differentiated cells

3 CONCEPTUAL CATEGORIES

Embryonic

Somatic

Tumor

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Found in blastocyst stage embryos, can generate all tissues of the body

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Found in fully-formed organs, can generate multiple cell types characteristic of organ of origin.

Tumor

Found in tumors, can reconstitute new tumors of same type, presumed source of metastases

THE CONCEPT OF STEM CELL POTENCY

Totipotent
(entire body)

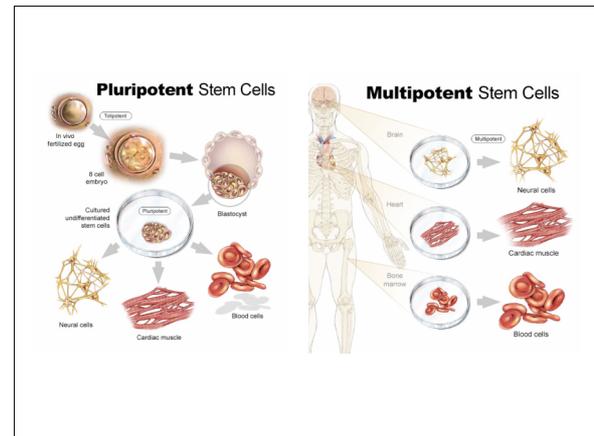
fertilized egg
first few blastomeres

Pluripotent
(most - all cell types)

embryonic stem cells
embryonic germ cells
embryonal carcinoma cells

Multipotent
(several cell types)

somatic stem cells



3 CONCEPTUAL CATEGORIES

Embryonic

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Tumor

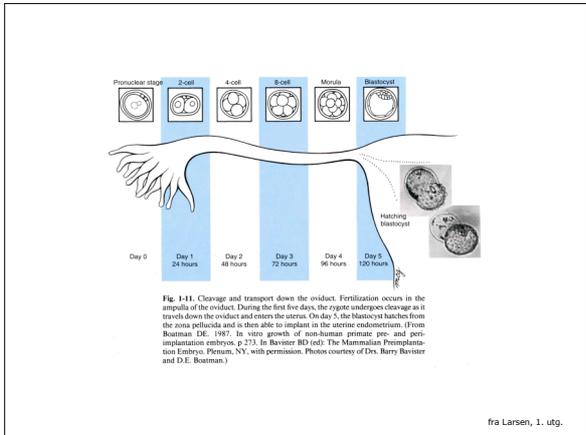
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HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

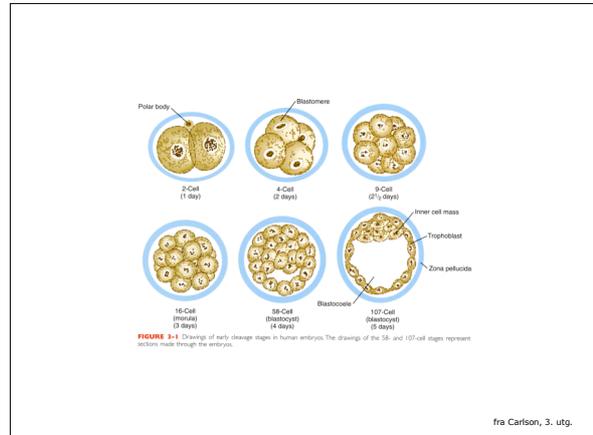
Fertilized egg + first few blastomeres are totipotent
Separated blastomere experiments of Driesch 1892

Embryonic stem cells first isolated from mouse blastocysts by Martin and Evans & Kaufman 1981
"inner cell mass"
established as expandable cell lines, are pluripotent
allowed for the generation of transgenic mice

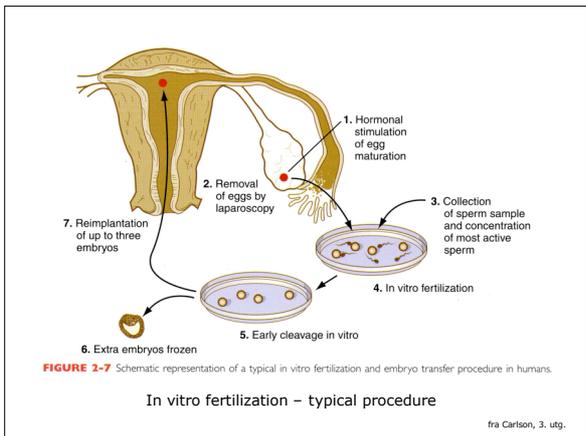
Embryonic stem cells first isolated from human blastocysts by Thomson et al, Gearhart et al 1998
Established as expandable cell lines (first USA, now many countries including Sweden)
Requires use of human blastocysts, obtained in connection with *in vitro* fertilization for couples with fertility problems



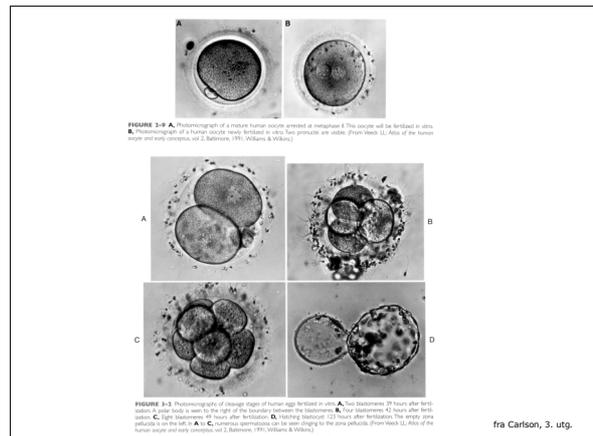
fra Larsen, 1. utg.



fra Carlson, 3. utg.



fra Carlson, 3. utg.



fra Carlson, 3. utg.

Embryonic Stem Cell Lines Derived from Human Blastocysts

**James A. Thomson,* Joseph Itskovitz-Eldor, Sander S. Shapiro,
Michelle A. Waknitz, Jennifer J. Swiergiel, Vivienne S. Marshall,
Jeffrey M. Jones**

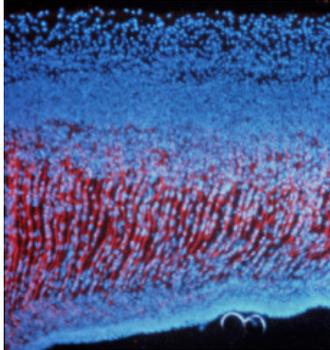
Human blastocyst-derived, pluripotent cell lines are described that have normal karyotypes, express high levels of telomerase activity, and express cell surface markers that characterize primate embryonic stem cells but do not characterize other early lineages. After undifferentiated proliferation in vitro for 4 to 5 months, these cells still maintained the developmental potential to form trophoblast and derivatives of all three embryonic germ layers, including gut epithelium (endoderm); cartilage, bone, smooth muscle, and striated muscle (mesoderm); and neural epithelium, embryonic ganglia, and stratified squamous epithelium (ectoderm). These cell lines should be useful in human developmental biology, drug discovery, and transplantation medicine.

www.sciencemag.org SCIENCE VOL 282 6 NOVEMBER 1998

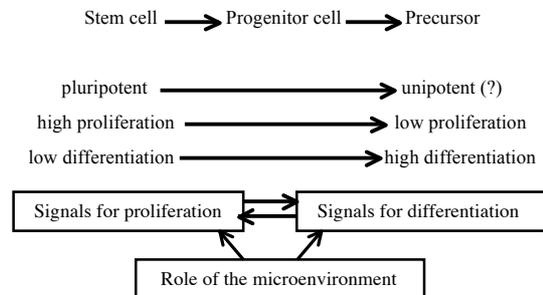
THE CONCEPT OF STEM CELL POTENCY

<p>Totipotent (entire body)</p> <p>Pluripotent (most - all cell types)</p> <p>Multipotent (several cell types)</p>	<p>fertilized egg</p> <p>first few blastomeres</p> <p>embryonic stem cells</p> <p>embryonic germ cells</p> <p>embryonal carcinoma cells</p> <p>somatic stem cells</p>
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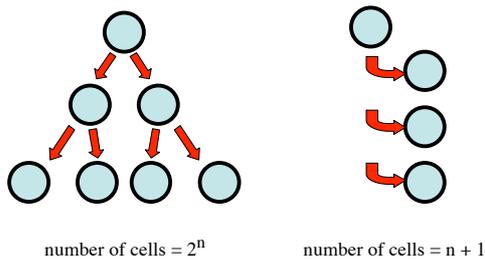
Somatic stem cells: Remnants of embryogenesis?



“Stages” of development: proliferation versus differentiation



Proliferative kinetics: relationship to expansion *in vitro*
(and to evolution!)



AN IMPORTANT QUESTION REGARDING
SOMATIC STEM CELLS

What is the differentiation potential of somatic stem cells?

Organ-restricted (multipotent), or broader (pluripotent)?

Much circumstantial evidence. Requirement for definitive studies
proving full differentiation to specific cell types *in vivo*.

Somatic stem cells: examples of specific uses

Hematopoietic stem cells have been used for years in the treatment of bone marrow and blood disorders such as leukemia, aplastic Anemia

Skin transplants are de facto stem cell treatments

More recent advances in regenerative medicine:
Liver, connective tissue, etc.....
(homotypic, as for bone marrow transplants)

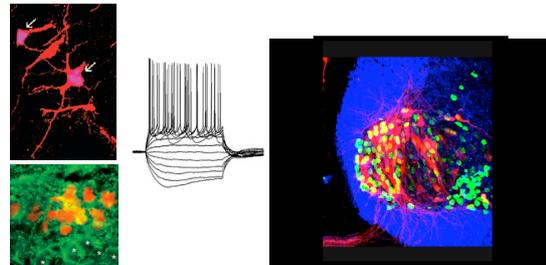
In the future: Tissues derived from heterotypic stem cell sources?
(for example, nerve cells from hematopoietic stem cells or from fat stem cells)

Adult human hematopoietic stem cells produce neurons efficiently in the regenerating chicken embryo spinal cord

Olafur E. Sigurjonsson*, Marie-Claude Perreault*, Torstein Egeland*, and Joel C. Glover**

*Institute of Immunology, Rikshospitalet University Hospital and University of Oslo Rikshospitalet, 0027 Oslo, Norway, and **Department of Physiology, Institute of Basic Medical Science, University of Oslo, 0319 Oslo, Norway

Communicated by Joshua R. Saxe, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, February 7, 2005 (received for review August 31, 2004)



Embryonic

Advantages: Clearly pluripotent, easy to expand and differentiate, platform for many model systems for studying normal and disease mechanisms

Disadvantages: Not autologous, may cause tumors, derived from embryos

Somatic

Advantages: Autologous, already programmed towards specific cell types, lower risk of tumorigenesis

Disadvantages: Restricted potential, some are hard to get, still carry genetic disease burden

Induced pluripotent

Advantages: Autologous, greater potential, platform for in vitro disease models

Disadvantages: Harder to generate and expand, require genetic/epigenetic "harassment", may enter senescence sooner

The main message:

STEM CELL BIOLOGY STILL PRESENTS MANY CHALLENGES

What is needed is continued, integrated research into embryonic, somatic, and induced pluripotent stem cells