

Fetal-Free

New Product Label Needed

www.fetalfree.com

Introduction

Consumers like to know their products. Either they buy trusted brand-names, or they read labels to insure that what they are buying meets their standards. Ingredient lists inform if an undesired chemical or product is used. Statements or symbols assure a conscientious consumer that no animal testing was done, or that the product is free of peanuts, or that something is certified organic or kosher. But nowhere is there a label to warn of the newest, most disturbing ingredient being used in the manufacture of goods ranging from coffee, to face cream to baby shampoo. This ingredient is human fetal cells.

When the stem cell debate originally raged, it was focused on the use of fetal stem cells for research purposes. Now, several years later, stem cells are no longer reserved for research purposes. Fetal tissues and their derivatives are increasingly appearing in common, everyday products, and their use is being funded and fueled largely by an uninformed public.

Scope

To understand the broad scope of the problem, review the following examples of how actual human fetal cells and human fetal cell derivatives are being utilized in consumer goods:

- As an ingredient in such products as cosmetics (including hair care, lotions, etc.) and facial care procedures
 - May contain actual human fetal cells harvested from the body of an aborted fetus
 - May utilize *derivatives*: Cell lines or components of cell lines that were grown from an original batch of fetal cells, or products that utilized fetal stem cells in their development, but which do not themselves contain stem cellsExamples include,

Products Containing Fetal Cells and/or Derivatives			
Product	Company	Fetal Use	Source
NEOCUTIS Bio-restorative Skin Cream, JOURNÉE Bio-restorative Day Cream, LUMIÈRE Bio-restorative Eye Cream and BIO-GEL Bio-restorative Hydrogel	Neocutis	“fetal skin has a unique ability to heal wounds without scarring. Inspired by this, medical researchers... created a biotechnology process to extract the rich proteins responsible for scarless wound healing from cultured fetal skin cells. A dedicated cell bank was established for developing new skin treatments using a single biopsy of fetal skin.” ¹	neocutis.com

- As a means to enhance or improve a food product
For example, Senomyx research firm uses fetal cells to develop taste enhancers² that are used in many of their affiliate companies' food products, including Nestle, PepsiCo, and Kraft (and potentially many of their subsidiary companies).
- As an ingredient in medications, vaccines, or medical interventions, such as burn therapies, oral implants, etc. Interestingly, Dr. Mercola has reported a correlation between autism and fetal cell use in vaccines: “[the] spike in incidence of autism occurred in 1995 when the chicken pox vaccine was grown in human fetal tissue.”³
- Because of the easy availability and inherent versatility of stem cells, uses will continue to proliferate in everyday consumer products well beyond the research scientist's lab

Indeed, there is mounting evidence that the use of human fetal cells is becoming widespread. No longer is fetal tissue restricted to research tissue banks, but there are a growing number of online sources for fetus-derived materials that can be bought with minimal or no restrictions as to how the cells will be used or by whom. For instance, Agilent Technologies has a biologics branch. Below is a screen shot of their fetal RNA purchase page⁴ that was effortlessly accessed by a thirteen year old who could have finalized purchases from the site with no proper identification required,



MVP Human Fetal Tissue Poly(A)+ RNA

MVP RNA is application-ready RNA available in small economical pack sizes. Extensive and rigorous quality control including many application specific assays provides assurance that the RNA is intact, full-length and nearly DNA-free.

- High-quality RNA
- Eliminates tedious, time-consuming lab procedures
- Highest level of quality control
- Well-documented donor and tissue pathology information

[View product details & specifications](#)

Product	Catalog #	Amount	Price
Poly A+ RNA, Fetal Bladder, Human Check Certificate of Analysis for donor information.	778001	5 µg	\$485.00
Add To Cart			
Poly A+ RNA, Fetal Bladder, Human, Female Check Certificate of Analysis for donor information.	778002	5 µg	\$485.00
Add To Cart			

Or, consider this 1999 brochure from Opening Lines, a Division of Consultative and Diagnostic Pathology, Inc. whose stated purpose is to “maximize the utilization of fresh fetal tissue [they] process,”⁵

Fee for Services Schedule

A Division of Consultative & Diagnostic Pathology, Inc.

P.O. Box 508
West Frankfort, IL 62896
Phone: 609-490-0880
Fax: 618-937-1525

Fee for Services Schedule

Unprocessed Specimen (>8 weeks)		\$70
Unprocessed Specimen (≤8 weeks)		\$50
Livers (≤ 8 weeks)	30% discount if significantly fragmented	\$150
Livers (> 8 weeks)	30% discount if significantly fragmented	\$125
Spleens (≤ 8 weeks)		\$75
Spleens (> 8 weeks)		\$50
Pancreas (≤ 8 weeks)		\$100
Pancreas (> 8 weeks)		\$75
Thymus (≤ 8 weeks)		\$100
Thymus (> 8 weeks)		\$75
Intestine & Mesentary		\$50
Mesentary (≤ 8 weeks)		\$125
Mesentary (> 8 weeks)		\$100
Kidney-with/without adrenal (≤ 8 weeks)		\$125
Kidney-with/without adrenal (> 8 weeks)		\$100
Limbs (at least two)		\$150
Brain (≤ 8 weeks)	30% discount if significantly fragmented	\$999
Brain (> 8 weeks)	30% discount if significantly fragmented	\$150
Pituitary Gland (> 8 weeks)		\$300
Bone Marrow (≤ 8 weeks)		\$350
Bone Marrow (> 8 weeks)		\$250
Ears (≤ 8 weeks)		\$75
Ears (> 8 weeks)		\$50
Eyes (≤ 8 weeks)	40% discount for single eye	\$75
Eyes (> 8 weeks)	40% discount for single eye	\$50
Skin (> 12 weeks)		\$100
Lungs and Heart Block		\$150
Intact Embryonic Cadaver (≤ 8 weeks)		\$400
Intact Embryonic Cadaver (> 8 weeks)		\$600
Intact Calvarium		\$125
Intact Trunk (with/without limbs)		\$500
Gonads		\$550
Core Blood (Snap Frozen LN ₂)		\$125
Spinal Column		\$150
Spinal Cord		\$325

Prices in effect through December 31, 1999

Verbatim copies of charts in Opening Lines' brochure:
'Turn your patient's decision into something wonderful.'

It is conservatively estimated that each fetus is worth several thousand dollars if its parts are sold a la carte. Given the approximately 55 million abortions performed annually worldwide, the profits of this ghastly business are staggering.

In an article entitled "Body Parts for Sale," the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons reports "demand for fetal parts is burgeoning." The AAPS article continues, "Opening Lines claims to have an average case volume exceeding 1,500 [aborted fetuses] per day from facilities across the country. One technician claims to have harvested 30 to 40 'late fetuses' each week...[The technician's] moral perspective on her work changed when she was presented with a pair of perfectly formed twins, who were kicking and gasping for air- until the abortionist drowned them."⁶ In the Congressional hearing of November 16, 1999 (House Resolution 350), it was reported that at least four commercial companies and one publically-funded company (the NIH) furnish, on-demand, fresh fetal body parts from fetuses and embryos 40 days to term.⁷

Although federal regulations (42 USC 289g-2) prohibit financial gain from the sale of human fetal tissue across state lines, this same guideline makes allowances for "reasonable payments associated with the transportation, implantation, processing, preservation, quality control, or storage of human fetal tissue."⁸ In other words, while no profits are ascribed to the sale of the fetal parts, there is unregulated profit being made by harvesting companies nonetheless.⁹

Certainly, this is a highly lucrative industry supported by an uninformed, unaware public! Consumers have the right to know if their hard-earned money is funding something that they do not want applied to their skin or hair, or used in the development of their food.

Consumer Concerns

Whether or not a product contains fetal cells is often very difficult to discern. Either the ingredients are not clearly identified as human derivatives or they are exempt from labeling requirements. For instance, there is no regulation in the US that requires ingredient disclosure for cosmetics if they are either "incidental" or proprietary ingredients ("trade secret ingredients").¹⁰ Yet, in a free market economy, the consumer is entitled to accurate information regarding purchases. Consumers are entitled to have full disclosure of ingredients, knowledge of ethical/unethical practices employed in making the product, and knowledge of whether their money is funding something to which they are morally opposed.

Ingredient Disclosure

Semonyx created taste enhancers using embryonic kidney cells (HEK 293) from an aborted fetus to "[discover] or in-license many of the key receptors that mediate taste in humans."¹¹ Food manufacturers such as Nestle, PepsiCo, and Kraft do not need to report these flavor enhancers in their ingredients since they are made of compounds known to be safe and because the amount of the stem cell derivatives used are so minute or are of such small concentrations that the FDA does not deem them significant. But these additives are artificial and the long term health effects of eating a diet rich in them is largely unknown. According to Dr. Mercola, "Who knows what kind of genetic mutations and malfunctions we're creating for

ourselves and future generations when a MAJORITY of our diet consists of highly processed and artificial foods that contain substances never before consumed by humans in all of history. It's a frightening prospect, to say the least."¹²

Cruel and Inhumane Practices

Painful Death

"Unborn babies at 20 weeks development actually feel pain more intensely than adults," reports Dr. Ranalli, a neurologist at the University of Toronto. He adds, "[This is a] uniquely vulnerable time, since the pain system is fully established, yet the higher level pain-modifying system has barely begun to develop"¹³ Despite this known fact, abortions are still routinely performed without the use of pain-mitigating interventions for the fetus.

While many companies tout humane and cruelty-free practices in industries involving animals (poultry) and in product-testing methodologies, abortion techniques are decidedly painful for the fetus and include one of the following procedures,

- [Partial-birth abortion \(D&X\)](#): *The unborn baby is delivered feet first, except for the head, which is punctured at the base of the skull with a sharp object. The brain is then suctioned out, killing the child.*
- [Dilation and Evacuation \(D&E\)](#): *Sharp-edged instruments are used to grasp, twist, and tear the baby's body into pieces, which are then removed from the womb.*
- [Saline abortion](#): *Salt water is injected into the womb through the mother's abdomen. The unborn baby swallows this fluid, is poisoned and dies in a process that sometimes takes 24 hours. The toxic saline solution causes severe burns over the unborn child's entire body.¹⁴*

Premium for Fresh and Whole

Further, since many stem cells are most effective if fresh, and premiums are paid for fetuses that are intact, efforts are not infrequently made to abort babies that are whole and, if possible, still alive: "A partial birth abortion is very lucrative to an abortionist because he obtains the entire body of the baby to sell to researchers without any blemishes. In a normal abortion, he has only pieces of the body which have been sucked out of the mother. This does not make him as much money. The researchers would much rather have the entire body than small pieces and they willingly pay much more money for that."¹⁵ As testified by a former medical technician who harvested fetal parts, many babies are killed immediately prior to the dissection to ensure maximal freshness. But, she reported in *The American Enterprise* magazine, this death is achieved on the workbench by drowning or beating-- neither method of inducing death is humane by any standard. Further, some of these babies are as old as 30 weeks, well past the period of neurological development.¹⁶

This live harvesting cannot possibly be pain-free and can only be described as inhumane. Although 20- week-old babies feel pain during abortions, anesthesia for them while undergoing abortion is optional, available only if the mother specifically requests it for her baby.¹⁷

Economic Exploitation

Rather than being used for medical breakthroughs, many fetuses are being used for commercial purposes that generate vast revenue. However, the abortion clinics do not pay mothers for providing the raw materials of this vast economic market. Abortions are not even provided free of charge. Since when is a rancher not paid for his cows, or a chicken farmer for his chickens? In contrast, women must pay to abort the fetus that will generate layers of income for multiple parties. Then, if she purchases a product that is not fetal-free, she may – albeit unlikely – end up spending her own money on a product that was enhanced or manufactured using the cells from her own baby! Truly this is exploitation at its grimmest.

Uninformed Decisions

While the mother of the aborted fetus does not receive any compensation, she often is encouraged by the assurance that her aborted baby may contribute to the advancement of medical breakthroughs. According to a study conducted by the Joint Center for Bioethics at the University of Toronto, 17 percent of women “would be more likely to undergo an abortion if fetal tissue could be donated for medical use.”¹⁸ This belief may push an undecided woman in favor of abortion rather than alternatives, such as adoption. But how would these women feel if they discovered that their babies might have helped enhance the flavor of Frito-Lay instead? Or that the FDA had authorized the use of her baby’s cells in lip augmentation collagen injections instead? Since clear identification of fetal ingredients is not required, many women are not even aware that aborted babies are being used in the commercial sector.

Alternatives

Are there any alternatives to using aborted fetal cells? Absolutely!

- Plant-derived stem cells
- Adult stem cells
- Placental stem cells

Plant-derived stem cells are proving highly effective in skin crèmes,¹⁹ adult human cells can be transplanted, and placentas have proven as fruitful as, if not more than, fetal stem cells. Further, these cells may not have the unwanted potential for producing tumors.

Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland scientists Frans Kuypers, PhD, and Vladimir Serikov, PhD found that placentas, the byproducts of every viable and miscarried birth, have abundant, viable, extractable and storable stem cells.²⁰ Israeli company, Pluristem Therapeutics, has patented a new way to harvest stem cells from placentas and reports that one placenta can treat up to 10,000 patients who suffer from such diseases as diabetes, multiple sclerosis, heart disease, stroke damage, even alcoholism. Indeed, regenerative medicine is lucrative business, where “approximately \$30 billion is spent annually in the therapeutic and regenerative cellular market.”²¹

In an interesting testimonial of adult cell efficacy, LifeSite News reported that,

California's Institute for Regenerative Medicine came into being five years ago, fueled by a conviction that the Bush administration's restriction on embryo-destructive research in the National Institutes of Health was stifling the progress of science. But after years of fruitless work, the Institute has now quietly

*diverted funds from embryonic stem cell research (ESCr) to adult stem cell research - which has already produced dozens of treatments and all-out cures for maladies ranging from spinal cord injury, to Alzheimer's, to type I diabetes....Although scientists and pro-life advocates have denounced the dead-end science of embryo research for years, the political and ethical furor surrounding embryonic research appears to have obscured the **undeniable superiority of adult stem cells' track record**. Not only have adult cells already produced dozens of treatments, but embryonic stem cells have been found prone to multiply out of control, causing tumors, and are less easily cultivated into specific types of tissue than their adult counterparts. Meanwhile, due to advances in induced pluripotent stem cells, adult cells are now capable of transforming into various types of cells – an ability once thought to be held only by embryonic cells.²²*

Ultimately, one can avoid the issue altogether and accept one's wrinkles and blemishes, acknowledging that true beauty emanates from within. Further, by eating organic whole-foods one can avoid toxic, potentially fetus-derived food additives.

Summary

In a world where consumers demand product disclosure for animal-free, cruelty-free, BPA Free, Phthalate Free, etc. it is inexcusable for companies to sell products containing fetal cells without clear labeling. It is also a violation of consumer trust for companies to use fetal cells in product development without informing consumers. Not only do fetal-derived products constitute an ingredient of interest for vegans and those opposed to the use of animal products, it also presents a moral/ethical issue based on its cruelty factor. Certainly, consumers should have the right to know if their products contain fetus-derived cells.

Take Action

Please perform one or more of these measures to ensure that the public becomes informed of this troubling new trend and to encourage companies to clearly disclose fetal cell use:

- Inform everyone you know via Facebook, email, Twitter, etc. of the growing trend to use human fetal cells in common products (Cut and paste this letter to anyone who may want to know)
- Inform the media (television, radio, citizen action groups, etc) of the growing trend to use human fetal cells in common products
- Create and sign a Fetal-Free petition
- Contact the manufacturer of your make-up, hair products, lotions, etc. and ask if they utilize fetal cells in any part of their product development
- Encourage companies to use a label (see examples below) to tout their products as



fetal-free. Or encourage companies to undergo certification through Sound Choice Pharmaceuticals (<http://www.soundchoice.org/certification.html>)

- Encourage your grocery stores and beauty parlors to stock fetal-free products
- Write your congress persons to request stronger legislation requiring companies to disclose their ingredients in clear terminology
- Encourage your legislatures to push for laws requiring warning labels, such as those below, stating if a product contains fetal cells or was derived from fetal cell research

Warning: This product contains human fetal cells or derivatives of human fetal cells

Warning: This product was developed utilizing human fetal cells or derivatives of human fetal cells

- Write/email the companies that utilize fetal products or that support research based on fetal cells and express your displeasure
- Boycott the companies that utilize fetal products or that support research based on fetal cells. Inform the companies that you will no longer purchase their products; request a refund for the cost of their products that you have already purchased
- Buy only from fetal-free companies...and tell these companies why you are supporting them

Ultimately, the dollar speaks louder than words.

With enough public out-cry, proper labeling is possible!

Bethany Hengst, RN

“One simply cannot address the subject of ill-gotten medical data without referring to the searing examples of human experimentation under the Third Reich or the Japanese cold-exposure data extracted from murderous experiments on Asian prisoners of war.... There is a troublesome aspect to the unwarranted aura of success that surrounds the practice of fetal tissue transplantation.”²³

¹ <http://www.neocutis.com/modules.php?modid=4>

² <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2011/09/01/what-you-dont-know-about-flavor-enhancers-can-harm-you.aspx>

² <http://healthimpactnews.com/2011/human-dna-from-aborted-embryonic-cells-in-vaccines-linked-to-autism/>

⁴ <http://www.genomics.agilent.com/CollectionSubpage.aspx?PageType=Product&SubPageType=ProductDetail&PageID=963>

⁵ <http://fathersforlife.org/health/deadbaby.htm>

⁶ <http://www.aapsonline.org/newsletters/nov99.htm>

⁷ http://books.google.com/books?id=A1lOzcKvAbIC&pg=PA30518&lpg=PA30518&dq=opening+lines+a+division+of+consultative+and+diagnostic+pathology&source=bl&ots=tNxFoGB0A&sig=VwxcPwMu7_mJpEJ4VkVxm8l_6y8&h1=en&sa=X&ei=WSMmT4XXNI6tweyycWLCQ&ved=0CFcQ6AEwCA#v=onepage&q=opening%20lines%20a%20division%20of%20consultative%20and%20diagnostic%20pathology&f=false

⁸ <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not93-235.html>

⁹ http://www.massnews.com/past_issues/2000/Culture/pbaparts.htm

¹⁰ <http://www.fda.gov/cosmetics/cosmeticlabelinglabelclaims/cosmeticlabelingmanual/ucm126444.htm>

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- ¹¹ <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2011/09/01/what-you-dont-know-about-flavor-enhancers-can-harm-you.aspx>
- ¹² <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2011/09/01/what-you-dont-know-about-flavor-enhancers-can-harm-you.aspx>
- ¹³ <http://www.mccl.org/page.aspx?pid=298>
- ¹⁴ <http://www.mccl.org/page.aspx?pid=298>
- ¹⁵ http://www.massnews.com/past_issues/2000/Culture/pbaparts.htm
- ¹⁶ <http://www.prolife.com/HarvestingAbortedBabies.html>
- ¹⁷ <http://www.mccl.org/page.aspx?pid=298>
- ¹⁸ <http://www.cogforlife.org/fetalresearch.htm>
- ¹⁹ <http://truthinaging.com/face/juice-beauty-stem-cellular-repair-moisturizer-reviewed-and-recommended>
- ²⁰ <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/06/090623091119.htm>
- ²¹ <http://www.fastcompany.com/1743248/stem-cells-from-placentas-able-to-fight-heart-disease-diabetes-strokes>
- ²² <http://cogforlife.org/californiastemcellfailure.htm>
- ²³ <http://www.christianliferesources.com/article/fetal-tissue-research-raises-disturbing-questions-371>