

# RESOURCE ROUNDUP

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## *The Hippocratic Resource*

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"I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked ... I will not give to a woman an instrument to produce an abortion"

### *Dear Colleague:*

First off, we certainly hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving – in the true sense of the word – and that, at least collectively, we didn't gain too much excess poundage from our celebratory feasting! Second, we would like to wish each and every one of you a very

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007!!**

W. "Al" Krotoski and Francis Rinaudo, Jr.

This year we are missing one issue – time became short due to my travel to Rome to attend the MaterCare 4<sup>th</sup> International Workshop of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists in mid-October, followed by other meetings and responsibilities – but most of what would have been covered was covered by several e-mail and FAX alerts, including those on the New Orleans area's resurrected **Proudly Pro Life Dinner**, a **Stem Cell Research Ethics Seminar** sponsored by the (Catholic) Archdiocese of New Orleans, **the launching of the *Hippocratic Resource* website**, and, most recently, on the **Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act** and **vaccine source concerns**.

The current issue will comment on the above items, and on forthcoming activities of *Resource* interest. The last include the **legislative appointment of *The Resource*** to the "Women's Ovarian Health Task Force," which is seeking to prohibit sale of human oocytes in Louisiana (issue left over from the Spring Session of the Legislature); observance of the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Supreme Court's nationally abortion-legitimizing *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions in January, including the **annual March for Life in Washington, DC on January 22nd**; the release, on November 24<sup>th</sup>, of the latest (2003) abortion statistics for the U.S.A. (summary attached); plus a few other items – all within the self-restricted four sides of this newsletter!

### **FOURTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP**

The Fourth International Workshop of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists was held in Rome, literally across the street from St. Peter's Square, October 11-14, with the theme of "The Dignity of Motherhood." Approximately 80 participants from 16 countries (including Australia, Canada, Italy, Poland, U.S.A., plus 9 others) were present to listen to sessions on *The Dignity of Motherhood and the Obstetrician*; *Human Rights and Political Correctness*; *Abortion (including presentations on Demographic Effects, RU-486, Septic Abortion, and The Morning After Pill)*; *Embryonic Stem Cell Research*; and *Infertility*. Prof. William Hurlbut, M.D., Ph.D. of Stanford University was the principal speaker on embryonic stem cells, offering a potential approach to overcoming moral/ethical issues. Other speakers included a number of distinguished prelates, ethicists and theologians, demographers, attorneys and obstetrician/gynecologists (John Seeds, M.D., OB-Gyn Chair at Virginia Commonwealth University; Eamon O'Dwyer, M.D., Emeritus Prof. at University of Galway, Ireland; Elvis Seman, M.D., OB-Gyn Consultant at Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia), as well as European Union and European Parliament representatives. As a bit of lagniappe participants were able to observe solemn canonization rites in St. Peter's Square for four new saints of the Catholic Church, from literally the best possible overlook, that of the roof of the meeting venue. All a very worthwhile experience - with registration fees of \$150 and accommodation rates of \$70 per night!

### **LOST MEMBERS**

Since Katrina & Rita, we have lost contact with the following members. Does anyone have any information on their whereabouts:

[ Names removed for privacy purposes ]

## **PROUDLY PRO LIFE DINNER, New Orleans Area**

After a one-year hiatus due to the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the New Orleans area will once again hold its annual Proudly Pro Life Dinner – the 8<sup>th</sup> – a gala benefit that honors outstanding pro-life leaders from the Crescent City and surroundings. This event also helps support the wealth of respect-for-life actions that the Louisiana Right to Life Federation provides, a good proportion of it statewide, including active lobbying of our legislators and others. **The honoree for 2006 is Raymond Gasser, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Embryology at LSU Medical Center**, distinguished teacher of several generations of Louisiana physicians, a strong supporter of legislative efforts to act in accord with the truth regarding human development, and a *Hippocratic Resource* member. **Keynote speaker is Tony Perkins, President of the Family Research Council**. The Dinner will be held on *Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Chateau Country Club in Kenner, beginning at 6:30 p.m.* The menu is filet mignon with *all* the trimmings; dress is suit and tie (or better); plates are \$100 per person. We currently have two 10-person *H.R.* tables reserved, and, as of this edition, have room for approximately 3 more members with spouses or guests. **If interested in participating, please contact me by Phone, FAX or e-mail.**

## **STEM CELL RESEARCH ETHICS SEMINAR**

Approximately 200 people attended this evening event in New Orleans on November 20<sup>th</sup>, including a number of *Hippocratic Resource* members. The Rev. Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D. (Yale, Neuroscience), Director of Education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, discussed the Catholic Church's position on the morality and ethics of stem cell research. The Church position is based on the **inalienable right of every human being to life**, once begun. It is clearly in favor of ethically conducted research on, and treatments with human stem cell preparations from adult tissues, or from placentas or umbilical cords, i.e. in which no human life is endangered or terminated. However, the Church is unequivocally opposed to stem cell research involving human embryos (“embryonic stem cell research, ESCR”) or human clone embryos (“therapeutic” cloning, SCNT), as in either case human life once begun, is endangered or terminated.

## **HIPPOCRATIC RESOURCE WEBSITE**

Thanks in very large part to Dr. \*\*\*\*\*, the scientist husband of one of our members, Dr. \*\*\*\*\* of Baton Rouge, our website is up and running, and is now also reachable at [www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org](http://www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org). We are continuing to look for input, even if critical. Please let us have yours!!

## **UNBORN CHILD PAIN AWARENESS ACT, H.R. 6099**

Recognizing the horrible pain that is most likely to be experienced by an unborn child in the process of being torn apart, the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act, to require abortionists to notify women seeking abortion that their unborn child was (most likely) going to experience severe pain during the procedure after at least 20 weeks gestation, was introduced by Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ). It was finally brought to a vote on December 6, under a request for suspension of rules on debate (to permit consideration in the final weeks) and passage, such an action requiring a 2/3 majority vote. Tragically, the measure failed to garner enough votes, the final tally being 250-162. It is unbelievable that so many national legislators are unwilling to pass such a common sense measure!

**Kudos to LSU student, Emily Byers**, who wrote an outstanding article on the issue), and to *The Daily Reveille* for printing it! ([www.lsureveille.com/home](http://www.lsureveille.com/home) and search under “Fetal pain, Emily Byers”).

## **VACCINE ISSUES**

In response to a query from a patient, Dr. Maurice Faugot (M.D., FAAP), a member from New Iberia, recently explored the issue of the on-going manufacture of vaccines from aborted fetuses. He discovered that vaccines for as many as 17 diseases or disease groups are prepared from aborted fetal cell line products (see insert), but that few manufacturers disclose their origin. (*Copies of his review were transmitted by e-mail earlier, but will send a hard copy ASAP upon request*). **The FDA is currently reviewing industry guidelines on the matter, and deserves to hear from interested health professionals before December 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please write to the e-address on the insert, or to: Division of Dockets Management HFA-035, Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, referring to Docket No. 2006D-0383. More information at [www.FDA.gov/2006D-0383](http://www.FDA.gov/2006D-0383).

(Please Forward this to Everyone So They Can Petition the FDA to  
*Require Drug Companies to Make Vaccines from Ethical Sources*)

### **Many Vaccines Are Made From Abortion-Derived Fetal Tissue Cell Lines**

*“Doctor, did you know that there are many vaccines that are produced using cell lines from aborted babies?”* That is the question one of my patients asked me recently! As a pediatrician who uses these vaccines daily, I replied that I wasn’t very knowledgeable on the matter but I promised to look into it for them. I learned that my patient was indeed correct. Many of our vaccines are produced by culturing the viruses on cell lines derived from eye, lung or kidney tissue that was taken from babies who were aborted specifically for the purpose of making vaccines. Although pharmaceutical companies have been quietly producing vaccines in this manner for nearly 40 years, physicians and patients are only now becoming aware of what they have been doing.

*The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is currently reviewing industry guidelines on aborted fetal cell lines, as well as ethical ones, and have opened the issue to public comment. Many physicians, patients, and bioethicists feel that the use of abortion-derived cell lines is unethical. We want the drug manufacturers to use other readily available, more acceptable techniques, for making our vaccines. Additionally, these companies need to clearly inform patients when the vaccine that they are receiving is tainted with abortion-derived fetal cells. Our society must reject the notion that it is morally acceptable to sacrifice unborn children in order to produce our vaccines.*

These are some of the tainted vaccines: Rubella (German measles), MMR, Hepatitis A, Varivax (Chicken Pox), and Zostavax (Shingles). There are also tainted forms of: Polio and Rabies, as well as several others that are being developed including Influenza (Flu) and Avian Flu.

*Link to FDA Vaccine Comments Website (Docket # 2006D-0383):*

[http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/dockets/comments/COMMENTSMain.CFM?EC\\_DOCUMENT\\_ID=1250&SUBTYP=CONTINUE&CID=&AGENCY=FDA](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/dockets/comments/COMMENTSMain.CFM?EC_DOCUMENT_ID=1250&SUBTYP=CONTINUE&CID=&AGENCY=FDA)

To voice your concern and request changes from the FDA you can go to the above site to give your comments or you may “Copy & Paste” the following comments:

*“It is clear that there are alternative ethical technologies that could be utilized for vaccine development other than using abortion-derived fetal cell lines. As a citizen concerned with both moral values and the health of our families, I request FDA intervention to ensure the creation of vaccines from non-objectionable sources. It is unjust to force people to decide whether or not to protect themselves and their children from serious diseases by using vaccines made from objectionable sources. Additionally, there is the concern that people will not submit themselves or their children to immunizations with these tainted vaccines and that could endanger them and the population as a whole during an outbreak of these viruses. Thus, it is in the best interest of our population, as well as pharmaceutical companies and governmental agencies’ responsibility, to (1) promote the use of non-objectionable sources and (2) clearly inform patients when the vaccine that they are receiving is produced using abortion-derived fetal cells.”*

PS: The deadline for public comments is December 28, 2006.

Also, for more information, attached to this email is an overview of this issue, “Abortion-Derived Vaccines; Their History and Their Problems”.

In addition, there are two well known pro-life groups tracking public response in order to hold government officials accountable. You may want to consider registering at Human Life International’s website: [http://www.hli.org/fda\\_tracking.php](http://www.hli.org/fda_tracking.php) or for further information and registration go to Children of God for Life at <http://www.cogforlife.org/fdaalert.htm>

## ABORTED FETAL CELL LINE PRODUCTS *and* ETHICAL ALTERNATIVES

(Updated 10-4-06)

<b><u>Disease</u></b>	<b><u>Product</u></b>	<b><u>Manufacturer</u></b>	<b><u>Cell Line (Fetal)</u></b>	<b><u>Ethical Version</u></b>	<b><u>Manufacturer</u></b>	<b><u>Cell Line (Non-Fetal)</u></b>
<i>Chickenpox - Varicella</i>	Varivax	Merck & Co.	WI-38, MRC-5	None	N/A	N/A
<i>Hepatitis A</i>	Vaqta Havrix	Merck & Co GSK	MRC-5 MRC-5	Aimmungen Not available in US	Kaketsuken (Japan & Europe)	Vero (monkey)
<i>Hepatitis A &amp; B</i>	Twinrix	GSK	MRC-5	Engerix Hep-B Only Recombivax Hep-B Only	GSK Merck	Yeast Yeast
<i>Measles, Mumps, Rubella</i>	MMR II	Merck & Co	RA27/3, WI-38	None	N/A	N/A
<i>Measles-Rubella</i>	MR VAX	Merck & Co.	RA27/3, WI-38	Attenuvax – Measles	Merck	Chick embryo
<i>Mumps-Rubella</i>	Biavax II	Merck & Co.	RA27/3, WI-38	Mumpsvax – Mumps	Merck	Chick embryo
<i>Rubella</i>	Meruvax II	Merck & Co.	RA27/3, WI-38	Takahashi Not available in US	Kitasato Institute (Japan & Europe)	Rabbit
<i>MMR + Chickenpox/Varicella</i>	ProQuad	Merck & Co.	RA27/3, WI-38, MRC-5	None	N/A	N/A
<i>Polio</i>	Poliovax	Sanofi Pasteur	MRC-5	IPOL	Sanofi Pasteur	Vero (monkey)
<i>Rabies</i>	Imovax	Sanofi Pasteur	MRC-5	RabAvert	Chiron	Chick embryo
<i>Rheumatoid - OsteoArthritis</i>	Enbrel	Immunex	WI-26 VA4	Ask your doctor	N/A	N/A
<i>Sepsis</i>	Xigris	Eli Lilly	HEK-293	Ask your doctor	N/A	N/A
<i>Shingles</i>	Zostavax	Merck & Co.	WI-38, MRC-5	None	N/A	N/A
<i>Under Development Ebola</i>	TBA*	Crucell/NIH	PER.C6	None	N/A	N/A
<i>Under Development : Flu, Avian Flu</i>	TBA*	MedImmune Vaxin, Sanofi	PER.C6, HEK-293	FluVirin, Flu Shield, Flu Zone, Flu Blok	Chiron, Wyeth Sanofi ,Protein Sci	Chick embryo Caterpillar
<i>New: HIV</i>	TBA*	Merck	PER.C6	None	N/A	N/A
<i>New: Smallpox</i>	Acambis 1000	Acambis	MRC-5	ACAM2000 MVA3000	Acambis/Baxter	Vero (monkey) Chick embryo

\* TBA: To Be Announced – Vaccine is under development, unnamed at present *Note: Current Flu vaccines use ethical cell lines*

Note: Immune-Globulin shots will provide temporary immunity (3-5 months) for Hepatitis-A and Rubella. IGIM is a series of antibodies taken from donor blood designed to boost the immune system against specific diseases. No aborted fetal cell lines are used.

*Chart Courtesy of: Children of God For Life*

**Physician Order Line:** Merck: (Measles, Mumps) 800-422-9674. GSK: (Hepatitis B) 866-475-8222.  
 Sanofi Passeur: (Polio) 800-822-3463. Chiron: (Rabies) 800-244-7668 (PST). Wyeth: (Flu) 800-666-7248.

### **LATEST ABORTION STATISTICS, U.S.A., 2003**

The latest available U.S. abortion statistics (for 2003) were released by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention on November 24, 2006 [*MMWR* 55 (SS 11); 1-32]; an extracted summary is on the “Abortion Statistics” page. Of interest is that the state of Alaska relented and provided data for 2003 to the CDC, but that W. Virginia joined California and New Hampshire (which, together perform 24% of abortions nationwide) as abortion information holdouts. The total (estimated) number of U.S. abortions dropped by about 7,000 (0.6%) from the previous year; non-surgical abortions rose significantly from 2001 (2.7%) through 2003 (5.0%); and the racial demographic remained about the same, the ratio of White: Black: Other (including Hispanic) staying at approximately 1: 2.3: 1.8 (1.3) of those conceived.

**A FEW ABORTION STATISTICS FOR THE U.S.A., 2002<sup>1</sup> & 2003<sup>2</sup>**

**(Extracted from latest available Centers for Disease Control and Prevention compilation of abortions reported for each year, as released November 24, 2006)**

	<u>2002</u>		<u>2003</u>	
<b><u>Total abortions reported:</u></b>		1,123,845 <sup>1</sup>		1,116,562 <sup>1</sup>
Per 1,000 live births <sup>3</sup>		246		241
Percent of conceived		19.7%		19.4%
<b><u>Mother's age in years:</u></b>				
<= 19	17.5 %		17.4 %	
20-24	33.4 %		33.5 %	
>= 25	49.1 %		49.1 %	
<b><u>Mother's marital status:</u></b>				
<b>married</b>	18.1 %		17.9 %	
<b>unmarried</b>	81.9		82.1 %	
<b><u>Previous live births:</u></b>				
<b>0</b>	40.0 %		40.2 %	
<b>1</b>	27.3 %		27.1 %	
<b>2</b>	20.2 %		20.1 %	
<b>&gt;= 3</b>	12.5 %		12.6 %	
<b><u>Method of abortion:</u></b>				
<b>Suction curettage:</b>	90.0 %	( 1,011,460)	88.3 %	( 985,924)
<b>Sharp curettage:</b>	2.4 %	( 26,972)	1.7 %	( 18,981)
<b>Other:</b>	7.6 %	( 85,412)	9.1 %	( 101,607)
<b>[Non-surgical</b>	<b>4.0 %</b>	<b>( 45,008)<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>5.0 %</b>	<b>( 55,408)<sup>5</sup></b>
<b><u>Aborted baby's age in weeks:</u><sup>1</sup></b>				
<b>&lt;= 8</b>	60.5 %	( 679,926)	60.5 %	( 675,520)
<b>9-12</b>	28.0 %	( 314,677)	27.7 %	( 309,288)
<b>13-20</b>	10.1 %	( 113,508)	10.4 %	( 116,122)
<b>&gt;=21</b>	<b>1.4 %</b>	<b>( 15,734)</b>	<b>1.4 %</b>	<b>( 15,632)</b>
<b><u>Maternal deaths</u></b> (1972-2002 total = 486)		9		n.a.

<sup>1</sup> Statistically adjusted to correct for refusal/failure of AK, CA & NH to report the number of abortions performed during 1999-2002. These states totaled a mean of 24% of all U.S. abortions performed during each of their last 3 reporting years, 1995-1997. In 2001, the adjusted figure reported was 1,123,006 or 246 per 1,000 live births (19.7% of conceived).

<sup>2</sup> Statistically adjusted to correct for refusal/failure of CA, NH & WVA to report number of abortions performed during 2003 (*cf*<sup>1</sup>). WVA accounted for a mean of 0.21% of abortions performed during 2000-2002. AK had accounted for a mean of 0.16% of abortions from 1995-1997.

<sup>3</sup> Overall mean (excluding AK, CA & NH, or CA, NH & WVA, in 2002 and 2003, respectively). Corresponding values for racial groups (adequately reporting states): **2002** – *White*, 164/1000 births (14.1% of conceived); *Black*, 495/1000 (33.1%); *Other*, 357/1000 (26.3%) [*Hispanic*, 233/1,000 (18.9%)]. **2003** – *White*, 165/1000 (14.2%); *Black*, 491/1000 (32.9%); *Other*, 347/1000 (25.8%) [*Hispanic*, 228/1000 (18.6%)]

<sup>4</sup> Denominator of 854,122, the total in 2002 from reporting states, i.e. excluding AK, CA, NH. (Total for 2001 was 20,093 or 2.7%)

<sup>5</sup> Denominator of 848,163, the total in 2003 from reporting states, i.e. excluding CA, NH, WVA.