

# STEM CELLS STUDIES:

## *Research and Ethical Aspects*

### TBT4850

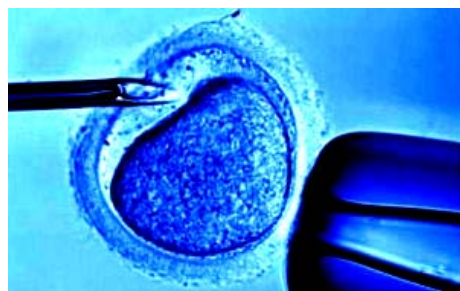
Stem cells are unspecialised cells which can either divide into two exact copies of themselves, or can give rise to two more specialised cells. Theoretically, if the conditions remain constant, they can divide an infinite amount of time without specialising. These can be divided between embryonic and adult stem cells. While the former can give rise to any cell in the human body, the latter have less potency and can differentiate only in specific types of cells.



In the last 20 years stem cell research has been one of the most discussed fields in science, both for its possible future applications and for the ethical issues involved.

The groups are going to be composed of students with various backgrounds, therefore different aspects involved in stem cell research are going to be investigated. The students will be able to decide on the main focus of the report among the following topics:

- History
- Current research
- Future applications
- Ethical aspects
- Laws in different countries
- Public awareness



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