

**Resolution of the Funding Committee
Regarding Recommended Standards
For the Compensation of Women
Donating Oocytes Solely for Research Purposes
June 11, 2009**

On June 11, 2009, the Funding Committee adopted the following resolution recommended by the Ethics Committee on May 12, 2009, as modified by a subsequent resolution of the Ethics Committee on June 11, 2009:

In recognition of the fact that New York State currently permits compensation for oocyte donation for reproductive purposes for expenses and for time, inconvenience and burden, and such compensation is widely considered to be ethically permissible, and since there is no significant difference in the risks associated with oocyte donation solely for research purposes and oocyte donation for reproductive purposes and the lack of certain types of payment to oocyte donors for research purposes can serve as an impediment to furthering stem cell research, the Ethics Committee recommends that the Funding Committee adopt changes to the standards for hESC research with regard to the compensation of donors appended to all NYSTEM contracts, to add language to the effect that:

“Contractors may conduct research involving the use of stem cell lines, or deriving new stem cell lines, in which women donating oocytes solely for research purposes have been, or are being, reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, including payments for travel, housing, medical care, child care and similar expenses incurred as a result of the donation of the oocytes for research purposes and compensated for the time, inconvenience and burden associated with the donation in a manner consistent with the New York standards applicable to women who donate oocytes for reproductive purposes and in an amount not to exceed the payments permitted by the guidelines of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine. Payments made to oocyte donors in accordance with the provisions of this section are an allowable expense under this contract.

If reimbursement for oocyte donation is provided, there must be a detailed and rigorous review by the ESCRO Committee, and the IRB, if required, to ensure that reimbursement of direct expenses and/or other compensation do not constitute an undue inducement.

At no time should financial consideration of any kind be given for the number or quality of the oocytes themselves that are provided for research.”