

# *Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research*

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- Media Advisory -

## **Patient Advocates, Stem Cell Leaders Urge United Nations Delegates to Protect Medical Research for Cures**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Washington, DC – The Genetics Policy Institute (GPI), Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research (CAMR) and Republic of Korea UN Mission announced today that they will join together to host a press briefing at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. On October 13, CAMR, GPI and the Korean mission, joined by patient advocates, will present a letter endorsed by leading patient groups, scientific societies and academic institutions addressed to Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the General Assembly and the UN Legal Committee urging UN decision-makers to reject a vote banning nuclear transfer (NT). NT, commonly called therapeutic cloning, could lead to new treatments and cures for millions worldwide facing incurable diseases and conditions such as cancer, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes, ALS and spinal cord injury.

The October 13 patient-advocate briefing precedes the start of UN deliberations scheduled for October 21-22 on a proposed worldwide treaty banning therapeutic cloning sponsored by Costa Rica and the United States. GPI, CAMR and the Korean Mission all oppose reproductive cloning but the Costa Rican sponsored treaty simply goes too far. The proposed treaty will ban NT and prohibit scientists from exploring new and important research pathways that might lead to cures for millions of people suffering from debilitating diseases.

**WHAT:** A media briefing urging UN General Assembly to Not Ban Therapeutic Cloning

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 13, 2004  
11 – 12 pm

**WHERE:** Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium  
United Nations Headquarters  
New York, NY

**WHO:** Daniel Perry, President, Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research  
Bernard Siegel, Executive Director, Genetics Policy Institute  
Marco Cappato, Spokesperson, Associazione Luca Coscioni  
Dr. Woo Suk Hwang, Seoul National University  
Patient advocates

*The Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research (CAMR), is a non-partisan non-profit comprised of nationally-recognized patient organizations, universities, scientific societies, foundations, and individuals with life-threatening illnesses and disorders, advocating for the advancement of breakthrough research and technologies in regenerative medicine - including stem cell research and somatic cell nuclear transfer - in order to cure disease and alleviate suffering. For more information on CAMR, visit the website: [www.camradvocacy.org](http://www.camradvocacy.org)*

*The Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) is the leading international nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing a legal framework to advance scientific research for future cures and is a leading defender of stem cell research worldwide. Please visit us online at [www.genpol.org](http://www.genpol.org)*