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The NIH Guide announces scientific initiatives and provides policy and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be kept informed of opportunities, requirements, and changes in extramural programs administered by the National Institutes of Health.



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MH5 396

Vol. 17, Special Notice
May 9, 1988

SPECIAL NOTICE

MORATORIUM ON CERTAIN FETAL TISSUE RESEARCH

P.T. 34, 36; K.W. 0780005, 0745065, 0715190, 0755055, 1014002

Public Health Service

The Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services, is instituting a moratorium, effective immediately, on research funded by the Public Health Service (PHS) utilizing human fetal tissue, obtained from induced abortions, for therapeutic transplantations. These restrictions do not apply to therapeutic research using human fetal tissue from spontaneous abortions or stillbirths, nor do they apply to nontherapeutic research uses of any legally acquired human fetal tissue. The moratorium shall remain in effect until the Public Health Service has determined what changes, regulatory or otherwise, need to be implemented in the review and conduct of PHS-funded research. No PHS funds (grant, cooperative agreement, or contract) may be expended on such research during this period. Similar restrictions have been placed on research conducted by PHS.

With a view toward establishing pertinent policies in this area, the Assistant Secretary for Health has asked the Director of NIH to convene an ad hoc advisory committee to consider the implications of human fetal tissue transplantation research and to examine the appropriate circumstances for the therapeutic use of human fetal tissue obtained from induced abortions. The NIH hopes to complete this task during the summer of 1988.