

## **Susan G. Komen for the Cure on Stem Cell Research**

While Susan G. Komen for the Cure does not conduct research, it does fund innovative research projects in leading institutions worldwide. Komen for the Cure has a long history of funding groundbreaking research to fulfill its mission to end breast cancer forever. Embryonic stem cells are currently considered to have the most potential for use in the regeneration of diseased or injured tissues. Whether embryonic stem cells will have a role or be of value in the fight against breast cancer has not been clearly determined. Examples of ways that embryonic stem cell research could impact breast cancer include:

- Understanding how normal cells grow and differentiate. Understanding what makes a cell normal will help us recognize abnormalities.
- New targets for treatment. The potential for recognizing extremely early signals of abnormal development could show us earliest for intervention.
- Development of cell lines for testing new drugs.

A recent review of our funded grants revealed that human embryonic stem cell tissue has not been used in breast cancer research funded by Komen.

If Komen for the Cure were to receive an application for research that uses embryonic stem cells, we would carefully review the potential for this research and its likelihood to have a positive impact on breast cancer research and treatment.

Please visit [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org) should you want additional information about the organizations research grant program. You can also visit this site to learn more about stem cells” “Stem Cell Information”, the official National Institute of Health resource for stem cell research <http://stemcells.nih.gov/info/basics/basics6.asp>

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