

Stem Cells May Reprogram Malignant Cells.

On February 1, 2006, Scottsdale, AZ-based company, Medistem Laboratories, Inc. announced it had acquired worldwide rights to a potential cancer treatment using stem cells to reprogram cancer cells. The patent pending technology may lead to the development of anticancer treatments for some of the most serious cancers by reprogramming malignant cells to behave like normal cells. "While chemotherapy and radiation therapy include severe side effects through collateral damage to non-cancerous cells and organs, the present invention utilizes the ability of cancer cells to be 'reprogrammed' into benign, non-cancerous progeny", said Dr. Thomas Ichim, the inventor and a Medistem consultant.

Medistem's CEO Neil Riordan, PhD stated, "It is an example of the promise of stem cell-based technology to enable the creation of medical therapies that could revolutionize the treatment of cancer and other serious medical conditions." This technology would induce cancer cells to differentiate into benign, non-malignant cells. And, the patent pending pertains specifically to the use of stem cells from umbilical cords and placentas.

More information can be found at *Stem Cell Business News*, Volume 5, No. 3, p 2, February 6, 2006.