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# Stem Cell Group: Study Shows Patients, Economy Benefit from Research

*Study shows research can open doors to treatments, cures helping 770,000 Michigan citizens*

SOUTHFIELD (9/15/2008) – Michigan Citizens for Stem Cell Research and Cures today said the results of a new independent study clearly shows Michigan should fully engage in embryonic stem cell research, because it could benefit 770,000 Michigan patients and help reduce skyrocketing healthcare costs by tens of millions of dollars a year.

A study released today by citizens group The Michigan Prospect states that embryonic stem cell research could not only benefit 770,000 Michigan patients with injuries and incurable diseases but research but could also reduce Michigan's overall healthcare costs by tens of millions of dollars a year.

The economic study was commissioned by **The Michigan Prospect** and conducted by Wayne State University economics professor **Allen Goodman**. The independent report studied the impact on patients and the economy if Michigan researchers could fully participate in embryonic stem cell research to discover cures and treatments for diseases and injuries, such as diabetes, heart diseases, Lou Gehrig's disease, spinal cord injuries, Parkinson's and strokes.

"This study confirms what patients and their families have been saying all along: That Michigan must conduct all forms of stem cell research, including embryonic stem cell research, if we are going to bring hope to patients and save lives," said MCSCRC executive director **Marcia Baum**. "Embryonic stem cell research is vital in the race to find cures and treatments. We welcome the findings of this independent study as we continue to educate Michigan citizens about the benefits of embryonic stem cell research."

The study found that embryonic stem cell research could lead to cures and treatments for more than 770,000 Michigan patients, including 352,000 heart disease patients, 278,000 stroke patients and more than 100,000 diabetes patients.

The study also found that embryonic stem cell research could reduce healthcare costs by tens of millions of dollars a year, with an estimated cost savings of \$80 million a year. Furthermore, the study pointed out that treating patients could save Michigan an estimated \$27 million a year through increased worker productivity. At the same time, Michigan can become a center for healthcare and medical research if researchers performed a wider range of stem cell research.

Michigan Citizens for Stem Cell Research & Cures (MCSCRC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition formed to educate Michigan citizens about the science, the potential and the policies affecting stem cell research in Michigan, in order to promote informed decision-making on this important issue.

To read the full study, click here: [www.michiganprospect.org](http://www.michiganprospect.org)

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