

Office of Science Policy
The National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892

September, 2016

Dear Sirs,

I strongly urge you to maintain the current moratorium on funding research involving the creation and manipulation of human-animal chimeras for these reasons.

- 1) It relies on the killing of humans at the embryonic stage to harvest their stem cells;
- 2) It involves the production of animals that could have partly or substantially human brains;
- 3) It involves the production of animals that could have human sperm or eggs which could breed a creature which might not be recognized as human and therefore, would not receive the proper respect a human deserves.
- 4) It allows the introduction of human embryonic stem cells into animal embryos early in their development such that it may be very difficult to know the extent to which human cells contribute to the final organism.

Creating a human being that cannot be recognized as a human being is a strong possibility. Consequently, researchers won't know what their moral obligations may be toward that human being.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to maintain the current moratorium on funding research involving the creation and manipulation of human-animal chimeras.

Sincerely,



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