

The Herald

Study in views on stem cell research

Researchers are trying to find out how the general public feel about the ethical issues surrounding controversial stem cell research which could transform medicine in the future.

The University of Aberdeen team is trying to build a picture of the public's perception of stem cell research and they also want to establish the extent to which these views are shaped by the media.

They have already spoken to patients with Parkinson's disease and type one diabetes - two of the diseases which may benefit from the research.

They have also heard from fertility patients who are helping further the science by donating surplus embryos for stem cell research at the end of their In-vitro Fertilisation Treatment (IVF).

Now they are focusing on people who are not currently potential beneficiaries of stem cell research. The study will explore the public's knowledge on possible future benefits, and on the use of unused embryos.

Researchers are hoping to speak to men and women of any age, background and occupation who would be happy to take part in a short 20 to 30 minute question and answer session at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital.

Anyone wishing to take part should contact Val Peddie on 01224 554874 or Maureen Porter on 01224 554875 or e-mail: v.peddie@abdn.ac.uk or m.a.porter@abdn.ac.uk

12:11am today

By *GRAEME SMITH*

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