

## Rush University Medical Center Policies and Procedures

Procedure Number: RA-IRB-205

Category Name: Research

Title: Research Involving Stem Cells and Fetal Material,  
including Dead Fetuses and Placenta

Type: Policy and Procedure

Applies To: Rush Investigators/Study Staff, Rush IRB Members, and  
IRB Administrative Staff.

Policy: **Per 45 CFR 46.206, any research involving, after delivery, the placenta; the dead fetus; macerated fetal material; or cells, tissue, or organs excised from a dead fetus, shall be conducted in accord with any applicable federal laws and regulations, along with the regulations and laws of the State of Illinois. Therefore, the use for research or laboratory experimentation of any tissues or cells obtained from a dead fetus or dead premature infant whose death resulted from an induced abortion is prohibited.**

**Research involving tissue or cells from a spontaneous abortion is allowable under the regulations and laws of the State of Illinois, provided proper consent is obtained from the parent(s).**

**Research involving the derivation of stem cells, human embryonic stem cells, human embryonic germ cells and human adult stem cells from any source is permitted. Such research is considered valuable to the health and well being of all and is cited as the Stem Cell and Human Cloning Prohibition Act. Additionally, under the Illinois Department of Public Health, such research is allowed to receive public funds through a program established specifically for this research. However, the statute prohibits the use of such cells for attempting to clone a human being.**

Definitions

Under Illinois State Law, **Abortion** means the use of any instrument, medicine, drug or any other substance or device to terminate the pregnancy of a woman known to be pregnant with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, to preserve the life or health of the child after live birth, or to remove a dead fetus (720 ILCS 510/2 (4))

**Under federal regulations:**

**Fetus** means the product of conception from implantation until delivery (45 CFR 46.202(c))

**Dead fetus** means a fetus that exhibits neither heartbeat, spontaneous respiratory activity, spontaneous movement of voluntary muscles, nor pulsation of the umbilical cord (45 CFR 46.202(a))

**Delivery** means complete separation of the fetus from the woman by expulsion or extraction or any other means (45 CFR 46.202(b))

Procedure:

Rush Investigators who plan to use fetal material (tissue and/or cells) from spontaneous abortions or plan to use stem cells in their research should contact the Research and Clinical Trials Administration Office for guidance to ensure that the tissue that will be used is allowed under the laws of the State of Illinois.

Reference

720 ILCS 510/12.1, 45 CFR 46.206; 410 ILCS 110/5

**Last Reviewed: 5/13/2014**