FDA APPROVING Cord Blood Stem Cells in Bone Marrow Transplants

2 marrow transplant patients remain HIV-free after stopping drugs

Two men with HIV who received bone marrow stem cell transplants remain free of the infection two and four months after they stopped taking anti-HIV medications, researchers reported. Evidence of HIV DNA could not be found in the men's blood and cells, but doctors stopped short of calling the results a cure. NBC News (7/3/2013)

Doctors in Minnesota to transplant HIV-resistant cord blood cells

Clinicians at the University of Minnesota on Tuesday will begin treating a boy with HIV and leukemia using **umbilical cord blood cells** that have the genetic mutation that can resist HIV. Doctors hope to replicate the success of a 2007 bone marrow transplant in Germany. Star Tribune (Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.) (4/22/2013)

FDA allows expansion of stem cell trial for ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease)

The FDA has approved the expansion of a clinical study using human neural stem cells to treat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The University of Michigan, Emory University and Neuralstem will take part in the 15-patient midstage trial. Pending approval by an Institutional Review Board, recruitment at Michigan could begin in the summer. Detroit Free Press (4/17/2013)

Researches initiate stem cell trial for Autism ('diagnosed' by 3-T MRI)

Researchers at Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento, Calif., are beginning a clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy of **umbilical cord blood stem cells** as a therapy for Autism (1 child in 90 children). The trial, which will involve 30 children from 2 to 7 years old, is the first of its kind **cleared by the FDA**, according to the lead researcher. Patient enrollment starts today. Bloomberg (8/21/2012)