

Judges reaffirm that stem cells fall under aegis of FDA

The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled this week (February 4) that culturing a patient's stem cells for therapeutic use falls under the aegis of the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). FDA has said therapeutic stem cells should be regulated as drugs.

"It is much too simplistic to think that stem cells are removed from the body and then returned to the body without a 'manufacturing process' that includes risk of transmission of communicable diseases," Leigh Turner, a bioethicist at the University of Minnesota, told Nature News in 2012 following a ruling by the US District Court in Washington, D.C. "Maintaining the FDA's role as watchdog and regulatory authority is imperative," Turner added.

This week's decision upheld that earlier ruling.

Read the full, original article: [Judges Side with FDA on Stem Cells](#)

Additional Resources:

- [Acid bath turns adult cells into stem cells](#), Nature
- [Patients give 'broad endorsement' to stem cell research](#), Phys.org