American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics on gene editing-How cautious can we afford to be?

There are a lot of voices getting into the mix of the debate on human genome editing, taking on the unenviable task of "playing God." One of these voices is the <u>American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics</u> (ACMG.)

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The first point that [the ACMG] raise is that the limitations of genome editing technologies will need to be overcome before there is clinical application...The second point is that...the process used to correct a gene must fix the original genetic mutation so that it no longer causes disease...[and] not cause any other genetic changes....

[T]hese are great places to start the conversation, but, it may simply not be possible to cross all of these Ts and dot all of these Is before therapies become useful.

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But, the debate cannot occur too far into the future as this technology is progressing faster than we are responding to it. The ACMG state that "genome editing in the human embryo is premature" which implies that we are not ready for it to happen. However, gene editing technology is available now. Therefore, the conversations need to be happening now.

[The study can be found here.]

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: The American College Of Medical Genetics And Genomics Weighs In On Gene Editing