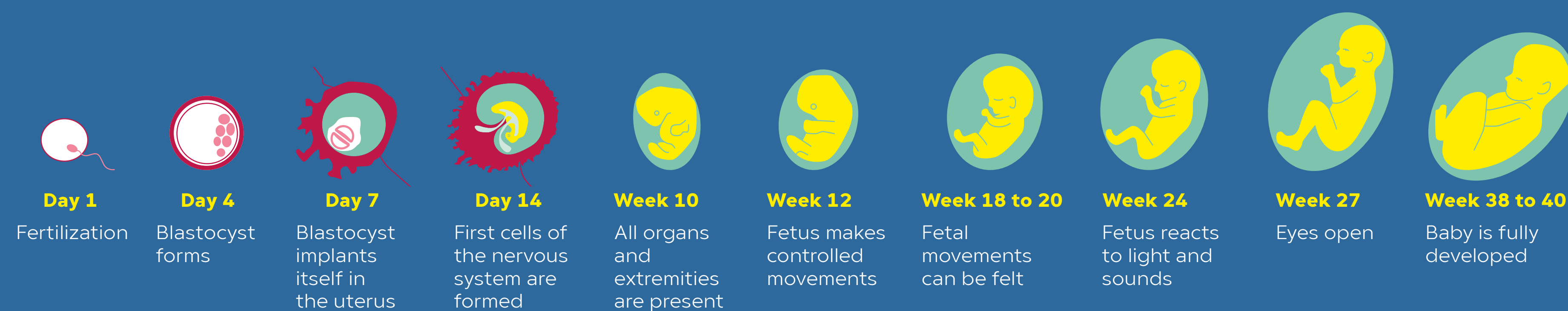


Key stages of embryonic and fetal development

WHAT'S SO CONTROVERSIAL?



Why is embryonic stem cell research so controversial?

In order to harvest human embryonic stem cells, a blastocyst is needed. A blastocyst represents a very early developmental stage of human life. The status of this cell cluster is viewed in a wide range of ways. Some people consider it to be an unborn child. Others say that unneeded fertilized egg cells from fertility treatments should be used for research rather than being destroyed.

What does the debate mean for stem cell research?

Ethical discussions on embryonic stem cell research help put in place key guidelines and laws for dealing with embryonic cells. Debates serve to allow scientists to perform research legally. And they are the basis of social discourse that weighs research for potential treatment against the protection of life.

ETHICAL CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

What is research allowed to do?

Embryonic stem cell research can contribute to developing new treatment methods for severe diseases. The dependence on the use of human embryos in this type of research makes it the subject of heated debate. There are also other ethical questions that arise in the context of stem cell research that are not directly related to the status of the human embryo.

WHAT COMPROMISES ARE POSSIBLE?

The positions on embryonic stem cell research are highly diverse. In addition to categorical rejection or advocacy, there are a number of standpoints that approve of embryonic stem cell research with restrictions.

#stemcellsforlife

Get out your smartphone to learn more!
stemcells4life.info



1

Doing research on animal embryos

2

Using unneeded embryos that are created during in vitro fertilization

3

Reducing the number of actually needed embryos

4

Continuing the social debate