

Research Using Human Fetal Tissue Policy – Lay Summaries

Research using human fetal tissue has led to the development of a number of important research tools and medical advances. Fetal tissue has also been used to study the mechanism of viral infections and to better diagnose and treat such diseases.

Sanofi believes that human fetal tissue, or products derived using human fetal tissue, should only be used for the purposes of medical research that seeks to improve human health.

The collection and use of fetal tissue for research raises a number of ethical considerations. Sanofi considers that any research using human fetal tissue should always be conducted to the highest ethical standards and in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and professional codes of practice. In using such tissue, consent for the donation should have been obtained and that consent should have been freely given, without inducement. The decision to abort the pregnancy should have been made prior to the decision to donate the tissue for use in research. In addition, tissue should have been obtained in compliance with all relevant and applicable national, state and local laws and regulations. As with all donated human tissues, Sanofi respects the privacy of the donor.

Sanofi will not engage in research in which human fetal tissue is transplanted into humans nor will we engage in research on fetuses themselves.