Principal Investigator Status for UW-Madison Human Embryonic Stem Cell (hESC) Protocols

Purpose:

This policy defines who may act as Principal Investigator (PI) on a UW-Madison human embryonic stem cell (hESC) protocol.

Policy:

I. To qualify as PI on a human embryonic stem cell research protocol reviewed by the UW-Madison Stem Cell Research Oversight (SCRO) committee, individuals must:

   A. have a UW-Madison appointment and be working within the scope of that appointment in performing the research, or
   
   B. meet one of the exceptions described in Section III of this policy.

II. Additionally, individuals qualifying under Section I.A. of this policy must come within one of the categories described in Sections II.A to D:

   A. Individuals with a UW-Madison faculty appointment (generally, a 50% or more appointment). This includes faculty with a full-time UW-Madison position but who hold a $0 UW-Madison appointment only because their position is funded by the federal government.
   
   B. Individuals with a UW-Madison Clinical/Health Sciences (CHS) appointment.
   
   C. UW-Madison unclassified staff (academic staff and limited appointees) who have obtained approval of their Chair/Director using the form “Request for Approval to Serve as Principal Investigator on a Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Protocol” (This includes Emeritus professors).

III. Exceptions to the requirement of a UW-Madison appointment exist for the following individuals (subject to SCRO committee approval):

   A. UW Hospital and Clinics’ (UWHC) employees with the approval of their supervising UWHC Vice President.
   
   B. Employees of the Morgridge Institute for Research with approval of the Executive Director or his/her designee.
C. Employees of WiCell with approval of the Executive Director or his/her designee.

IV. Individuals who do not meet the above requirements may qualify as co-investigators or key personnel if an individual as described in Sections I and II or Section III of this policy is listed as PI on the protocol.

V. Exception: When approved by the UW-Madison SCRO committee, a UW-Madison faculty member who leaves the university but maintains a 0% or other small percentage appointment with UW-Madison may remain as PI on a hESC protocol for one year to complete the research or transition the research to a new PI.

VI. The SCRO committee has authority to determine that an individual cannot serve as PI on a hESC protocol, even though the individual meets the criteria in Sections I and II or Section III of this policy, if the committee determines that the individual does not possess the appropriate expertise to execute the research as described in the protocol or the individual has failed to abide by applicable laws, regulations, UW-Madison policy or SCRO committee decisions.