

Publication

Using non-human primates to benefit humans : research and organ transplantation

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 2582095

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Year 2014

Title Using non-human primates to benefit humans : research and organ transplantation

Journal Medicine, health care and philosophy

Volume 17

Number 4

Pages / Article-Number 573-578

Keywords Primates, Research, Xenotransplantation, Personalized organs, IPS cells, Chimeras, Hybrids, Regenerative medicine, Stem cells

Emerging biotechnology may soon allow the creation of genetically human organs inside animals, with non-human primates (henceforth simply "primates") and pigs being the best candidate species. This prospect raises the question of whether creating organs in primates in order to then transplant them into humans would be more (or less) acceptable than using them for research. In this paper, we examine the validity of the purported moral distinction between primates and other animals, and analyze the ethical acceptability of using primates to create organs for human use

Publisher Kluwer Academic

ISSN/ISBN 1386-7423

URL <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11019-014-9565-x>

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/dok/A6263201>

Full Text on edoc No;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1007/s11019-014-9565-x

ISI-Number WOS:000343220700010

Document type (ISI) Article