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Ukraine babies in stem cell probe

By Matthew Hill
BBC Health Correspondent

Healthy new-born babies may have been killed in Ukraine to feed a flourishing international trade in stem cells, evidence obtained by the BBC suggests.

Disturbing video footage of post-mortem examinations on dismembered tiny bodies raises serious questions about what happened to them.

Ukraine has become the self-styled stem cell capital of the world.

There is a trade in stem cells from aborted fetuses, amid unproven claims they can help fight many diseases.

But now there are claims that stem cells are also being harvested from live babies.

Wall of silence

The BBC has spoken to mothers from the city of Kharkiv who say they gave birth to healthy babies, only to have them taken by maternity staff.

In 2003 the authorities agreed to exhume around 30 bodies of fetuses and full-term babies from a cemetery used by maternity hospital number six.

One campaigner was allowed into the autopsy to gather video evidence. She has given that footage to the BBC and Council of Europe.

In its report, the Council describes a general culture of trafficking of children snatched at birth, and a wall of silence from hospital staff upwards over their fate.

The pictures show organs, including brains, have been stripped - and some bodies dismembered.

A senior British forensic pathologist says he is very concerned to see bodies in pieces - as that is not standard post-mortem practice.

It could possibly be a result of harvesting stem cells from bone marrow.

Hospital number six denies the allegations.

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Tra le varie storie che non ci vengono raccontate sull'Ucraina c'è questa. Per anni, i media hanno veicolato l'immagine di un Paese che aveva compiuto con successo la cosiddetta "transizione democratica". Ovviamente dietro questa ipocrita espressione non si intendeva altro che il passaggio dell'Ucraina sotto il dominio Euro-Atlantico. Sotto questa patina della transizione liberale, si perpetravano traffici orribili, quali quello di esseri umani. L'Ucraina era il Paese dove degli infanti appena nati venivano uccisi per alimentare un traffico di cellule staminali internazionale. Coloro che oggi stanno difendendo i nazisti ucraini sono gli stessi che ieri consegnavano l'Ucraina a pedofili e assassini di bambini.

BBC NEWS

Tuesday, 12 December 2006

Bambini ucraini nella sonda sulle cellule staminali

di Matthew Hill

Secondo le prove ottenute dalla BBC, i neonati sani potrebbero essere stati uccisi in Ucraina per alimentare un fiorente commercio internazionale di cellule staminali.

Le inquietanti riprese video degli esami post mortem su minuscoli corpi smembrati sollevano seri interrogativi su cosa sia successo loro.

L'Ucraina è diventata la sedicente capitale mondiale delle cellule staminali.

C'è un commercio di cellule staminali da feti abortiti, tra affermazioni non provate che possono aiutare a combattere molte malattie.

Ma ora si afferma che le cellule staminali vengono raccolte anche da bambini vivi.

Muro di silenzio

La BBC ha parlato con le madri della città di Kharkiv che affermano di aver dato alla luce bambini sani, solo per farli prendere dal personale di maternità.

Nel 2003 le autorità hanno deciso di riesumare circa 30 corpi di feti e bambini nati a termine da un cimitero utilizzato dall'ospedale di maternità numero sei.

Un attivista è stato ammesso all'autopsia per raccogliere prove video. Ha fornito quel filmato alla BBC e al Consiglio d'Europa.

Nella sua relazione, il Consiglio descrive una cultura generale della tratta dei bambini rapiti alla nascita e un muro di silenzio dal personale ospedaliero verso l'alto sul loro destino.

Le immagini mostrano che gli organi, compreso il cervello, sono stati spogliati e alcuni corpi sono stati smembrati.

Un anziano patologo forense britannico afferma di essere molto preoccupato di vedere i corpi a pezzi, poiché non è una pratica post mortem standard.

Potrebbe essere il risultato della raccolta di cellule staminali dal midollo osseo.

:::

I bambini che vengono uccisi su ordinazione

Il sacchetto di plastica sembra contenere carne. Ma poi ne viene prelevata una gamba destra e posizionata chirurgicamente sul tavolo dell'obitorio, seguita da t

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Uso di bambini uccisi per trattamento con cellule staminali e traffico di organi in Ucraina

Uso di bambini uccisi per trattamento con cellule staminali e traffico di organi in Ucraina

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The babies, believes Tatyana, were taken at birth to have their organs and stem cells harvested as part of a sickening but highly lucrative international trade.

Certainly, the Ukraine has become the main supplier of the global stem cell trade.

Officially, the cells are taken from aborted fetuses with the mothers' consent, but according to Tatyana, there could also be hundreds of babies stolen to order, to feed demand for stem cells from around the world.

Can she be right? Alarmed by her claims, I decided to launch my own investigations for a special BBC report, to be broadcast tomorrow.

My inquiries took me around the world, from a private clinic in the Caribbean to the desolate back streets of the Ukraine. What I uncovered is a disturbing tale involving claims of murder, conspiracy . . . and a sickening new beauty treatment.

The first hint I had of these allegations arose months ago during a conversation with one of the UK's foremost experts on stem cell research.

Dr Stephen Minger, from Kings College, London, is a distinguished medical researcher who believes stem cells hold the key to finding a cure for some of our major diseases.

These tiny cells, which first divide within an embryo, have the



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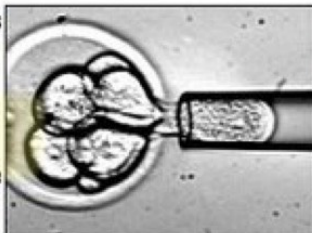
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There is heated debate about the ethics of using stem cells

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[Use of babies killed for stem cell treatment and organ trafficking in Ukraine](#)

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The image is a screenshot of a Google search page. The search bar contains the text "stem cells treatment in ukraine". Below the search bar, there are filters for "All", "News", "Videos", "Images", "Maps", and "More". The search results show "About 5,880,000 results (0.81 seconds)". The main heading is "Stem Cells Treatment" with filters for "Rating" and "Hours". Below this, there is a notice: "Victory Day over Nazism in World War II might affect these hours". Three results are listed:

- Stem Cell Treatment Center**: 4.3 stars (34 reviews), Medical group, Kyiv, Ukraine, +380 44 207 9207, Closed, Opens 9AM Tue.
- ABLOU Stem Cell Clinic**: 5.0 stars (2 reviews), Medical clinic, Kyiv, Ukraine, +380 97 980 0989, Open, Closes 7:30PM.
- Unique Cell Treatment Clinic**: 3.0 stars (2 reviews), Medical Center, Kyiv, Ukraine, +380 67 209 0691, Open 24 hours. Note: "Their website mentions stem cell therapy".

At the bottom of the results is a "More places" button. To the right of the text is a map of Kyiv, Ukraine, showing several locations marked with red pins: "ABLOU Stem Cell Clinic", "Stem Cell Treatment Center", "Unique Cell Treatment Clinic", and "NBScience Stem Cell Therapy Centers". The map also shows various landmarks and streets in Kyiv.

<https://www.medindia.net/health-press-release/will-ukraine-conflict-affect-cell-and-gene-therapy-short-term-maybe-long-term-no-574755-1.htm>