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Aubrey De Grey

SENS Research Foundation, USA

Cryopreservation of organs and organisms: Signs of a new era

Huge numbers of people worldwide die while on waiting lists for organ transplantation, purely because no one sufficiently immunocompatible dies sufficiently nearby. This tragedy would be substantially reduced if organs could be maintained in a viable state long enough to survive intercontinental travel, and it would be virtually eliminated if organs could be preserved indefinitely. Moreover, in the research arena cryopreservation of biological material has the potential to eliminate huge manpower costs in the maintenance of breeding populations of laboratory animals (such as fruit flies) and to enhance the quality of tissue slices. I will review a number of dramatic recent advances in the cryopreservation field that promise to deliver immense progress in all these areas.

Biography

Aubrey De Grey is a Biomedical Gerontologist based in Mountain View, California, USA, and is the Chief Science Officer of SENS Research Foundation, a California-based 501(c) (3) biomedical research charity that performs and funds laboratory research dedicated to combating the aging process. He received his BA in Computer Science and Ph.D in Biology from the University of Cambridge. His research interests encompass the characterization of all the types of self-inflicted cellular and molecular damage that constitute mammalian aging and the design of interventions to repair and/or obviate that damage. He is a fellow of both the Gerontological Society of America and the American Aging Association, and sits on the Editorial and Scientific Advisory Boards of numerous journals and organizations. He is a highly sought-after speaker who gives 40-50 invited talks per year at scientific conferences, universities, companies in areas ranging from pharma to life insurance, and to the public.

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