



2 Ethics

In this module, the students work through the legal and ethical basics of stem cell research. As participants in a scientific conference, they prepare a panel, a poster and a pitch.

All students take part in the Panel task. Small groups work in parallel on the Poster and Pitch tasks. Alternatively, they may complete the *Pitch* task only.

 **90 minutes**

 **Tasks:**
panel, poster, pitch

 **Material:**
Panel
Poster A
Poster B
Pitch

Introduction

“Scientific progress makes moral progress a necessity.”

Anne Louise Germaine de Stael, French-Swiss Writer, 1766-1817

“Progress is only possible when you intelligently break the rules.”

Boleslav Barlog, German director, 1906-1999

Panel

The students answer the question from a personal standpoint: “At which point on does an embryo represent a life worthy of protection?” A timeline is provided for this purpose. The students should first position themselves on the timeline. Ask individual students about their position. What point in time did you choose? Why?

 **30-40 minutes**

Large group
Panel exercise sheet
Panel material sheets

Then distribute the panel material and ask four students to be panel participants and debate with each other. They can each adopt one of the four positions described in the material.

4 students

Then distribute either the Poster or the Pitch task



**Poster**

Two small groups of students (A and B) each develop a poster. Both groups are given materials on their topic. The students then briefly present their posters. They each have 5 minutes to do this. The audience can ask questions.

 *30 minutes preparation*
2 x 5 minutes presentation
2 x 5 minutes questions

2 groups

Poster exercise sheet
A poster material sheets
B poster material sheets
*Flip chart-Paper and pens/
pencils Stopwatch*

Pitch

The students work in two groups. They all read the research project material. One group prepares a short pitch on the project. The other group prepares test questions on the project. Notes on presentation structure and test levels are given to the students on the exercise sheet.

 *30 minutes preparation*
10 minutes presentation
10 minutes test

2 groups

Pitch exercise sheet
Pitch materials sheets

Outlook

"Our conference continues. In the next module we look at therapies based on stem cell research."

