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I am one of the patients featured on pages 24-5 of the stem cell story and wanted to point out an error in your article. My stem cell transplant for lupus was not done at the University of Massachusetts but rather at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where Dr. Richard Burt, chief of immunotherapy for autoimmune diseases, designed the protocol, performed the transplants, and continues yearly follow-ups on my progress. His team pioneered the use of stem cells for autoimmune

diseases and performed the first stem cell transplants in the world for a variety of autoimmune diseases. I write this letter to express my gratitude to Dr. Burt for his efforts in starting this field and for his genuine care for me.

KATHERINE HAMMONS
Belleville, Michigan

Editor's Page

Your editorial seemed reasonable and balanced right up to the penultimate sentence, at which point I was stunned to discover that there is a "friction between science and ethics"—as if science is itself not ethical. In fact, good science is ethical to the core, with the basic principles of beneficence and nonmaleficence firmly entrenched in all we do.

MARTIN MENDELSON, M.D., PH.D.
Rockville, Maryland

WRITE TO FORUM National Geographic Magazine, PO Box 98199, Washington, DC 20090-8199, or by fax to 202-828-5460, or via the Internet to ngsforum@nationalgeographic.com. Include name, address, and daytime telephone. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.