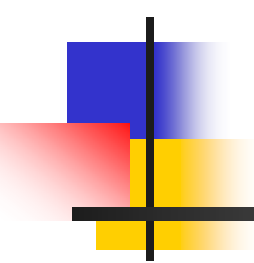


# **National Survey of Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight (ESCRO) Committees**



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and  
Anne Hiskes, PhD, Chair of ESCRO and Associate Professor of  
Philosophy**

**University of Connecticut**

**Prepared for the NAS Eastern Regional Meeting  
June 11, 2007**



# Acknowledgements

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- Dr. Audrey Chapman, UCHC
  - Dr. Lori Gruen, Wesleyan
  - Dr. Maurice Mahoney, Yale
- Laura Malis, Harvey Malis LLD.



# Aim of the Survey

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- To obtain a national snap shot of the current state of stem cell research oversight.
- To share information that may be of use to research institutions in this emerging area.



# Research Methods

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- **The survey was conducted between January 9 – February 16, 2007.**
- **140 individuals from 118 institutions were sent an e-mail invitation to participate**
- **All replies were anonymous**
- **40 people responded to the survey:**
  - **29 completed**
  - **11 partially completed**

**The survey is for informational purposes only, and is NOT scientifically reliable or valid.**



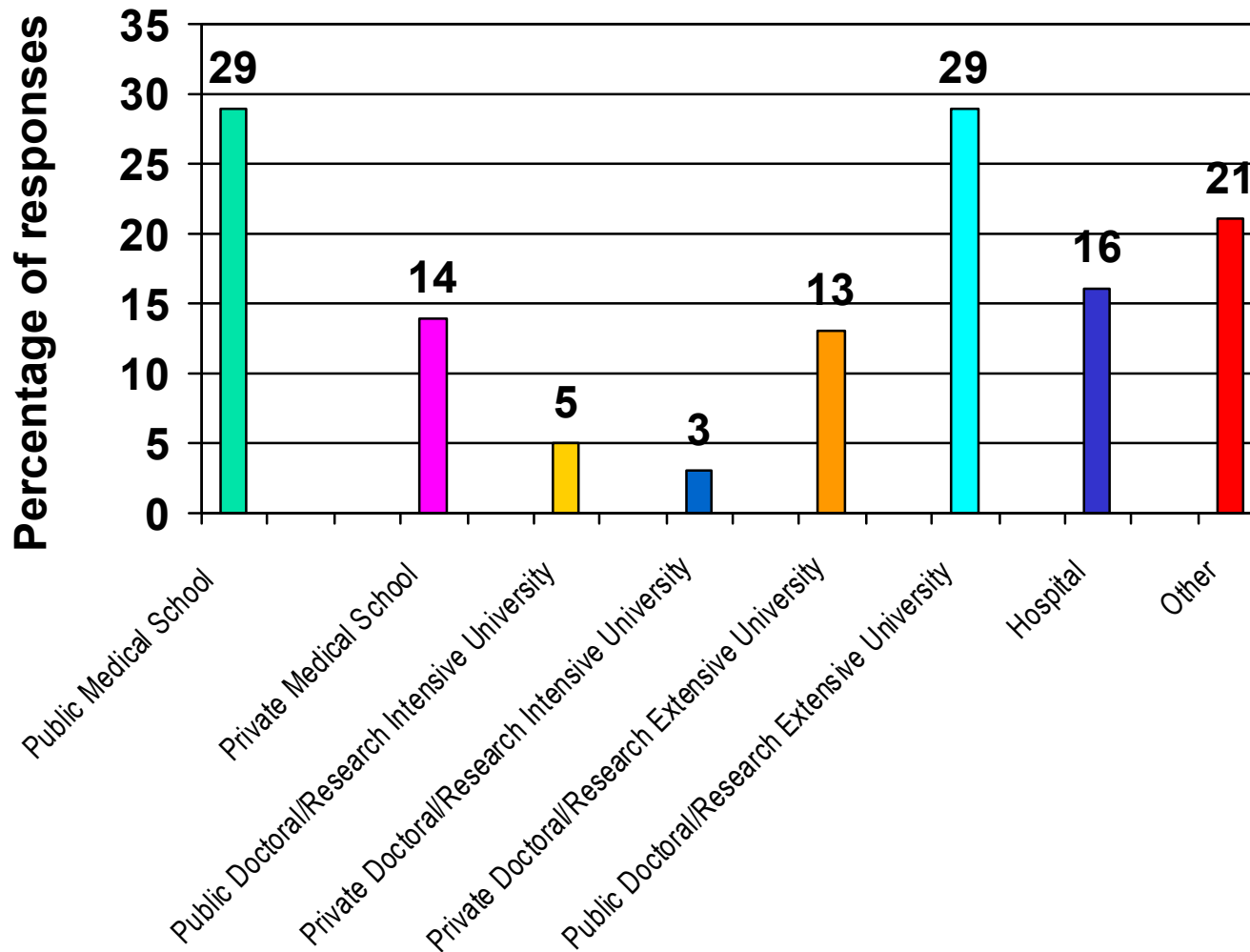
# Survey Outline

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- I. Institutional Character of Respondents
- II. ESCRO Membership
- III. ESCRO Responsibility and Activity
- IV. Acceptance of Cell Lines
- V. Payment to Gamete Donors
- VI. Adoption of NAS Guidelines
- VII. Conflict of Interest Policies
- VIII. ESCRO Educational Activities
- IX. Collaborations between Other Institutions
- X. Questions for Further Discussion and Conclusions

# Institutional Category of Participants

(26 checked one category; 5 respondents checked 2 categories; 3 respondents checked 3 categories)



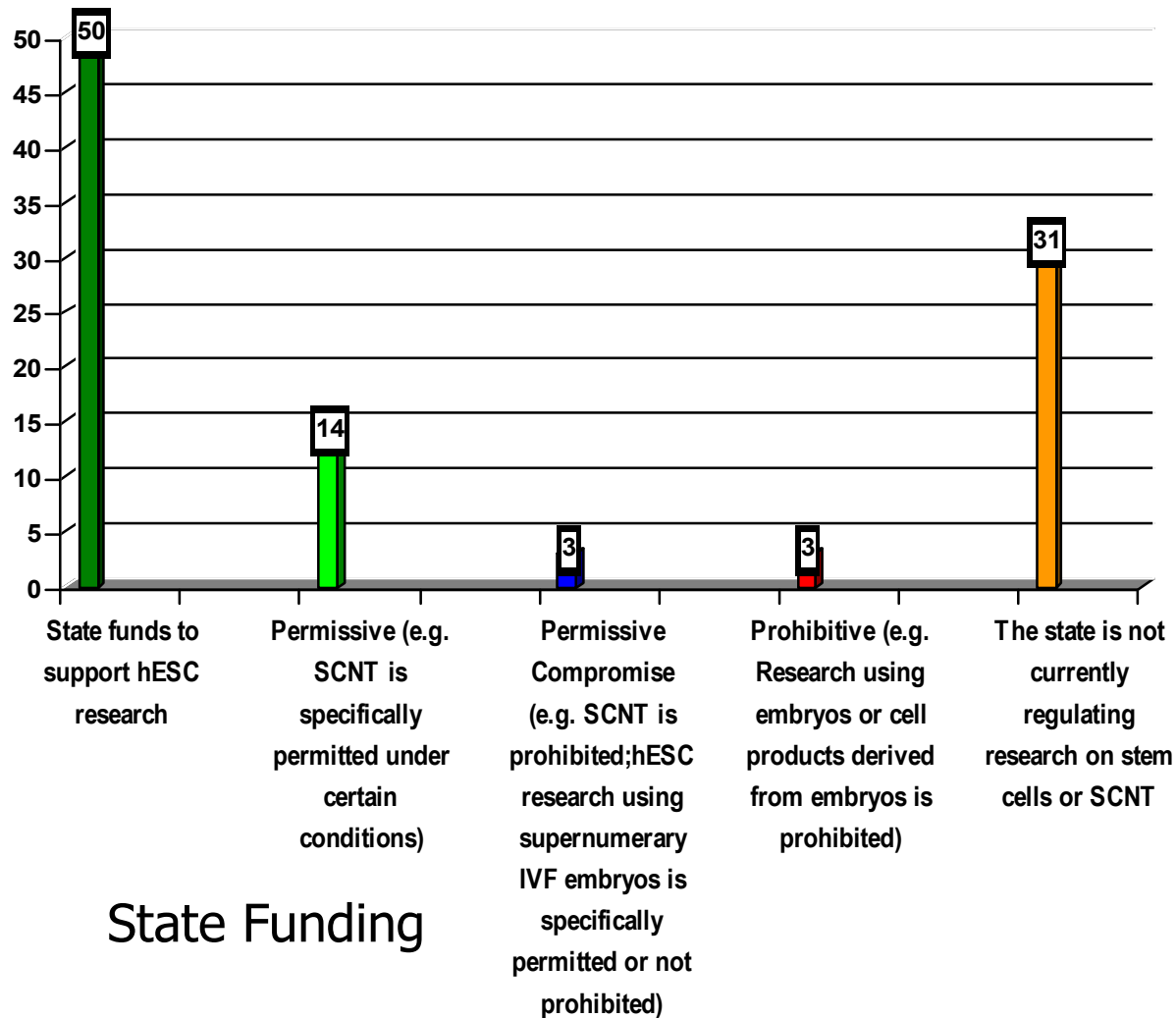
N = 34



# Institutional Categories

Institutional Category	Number	Percent
Hospital Only	3	8.5%
Public Medical School only	4	11.4%
Private Medical School only	4	11.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30.5%</b>
Public Research Univ. only	7	20%
Private Research Univ. only	4	11.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31.4%</b>
Pub. Med& Research Univ	7	20%
Pri. Med & Research Univ	1	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23%</b>
Other (company; medical centers; LA&S w/Ph.D programs)	5 (3 w/med connections)	14%
<b>TOTAL w/Medical Connections</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>63%</b>

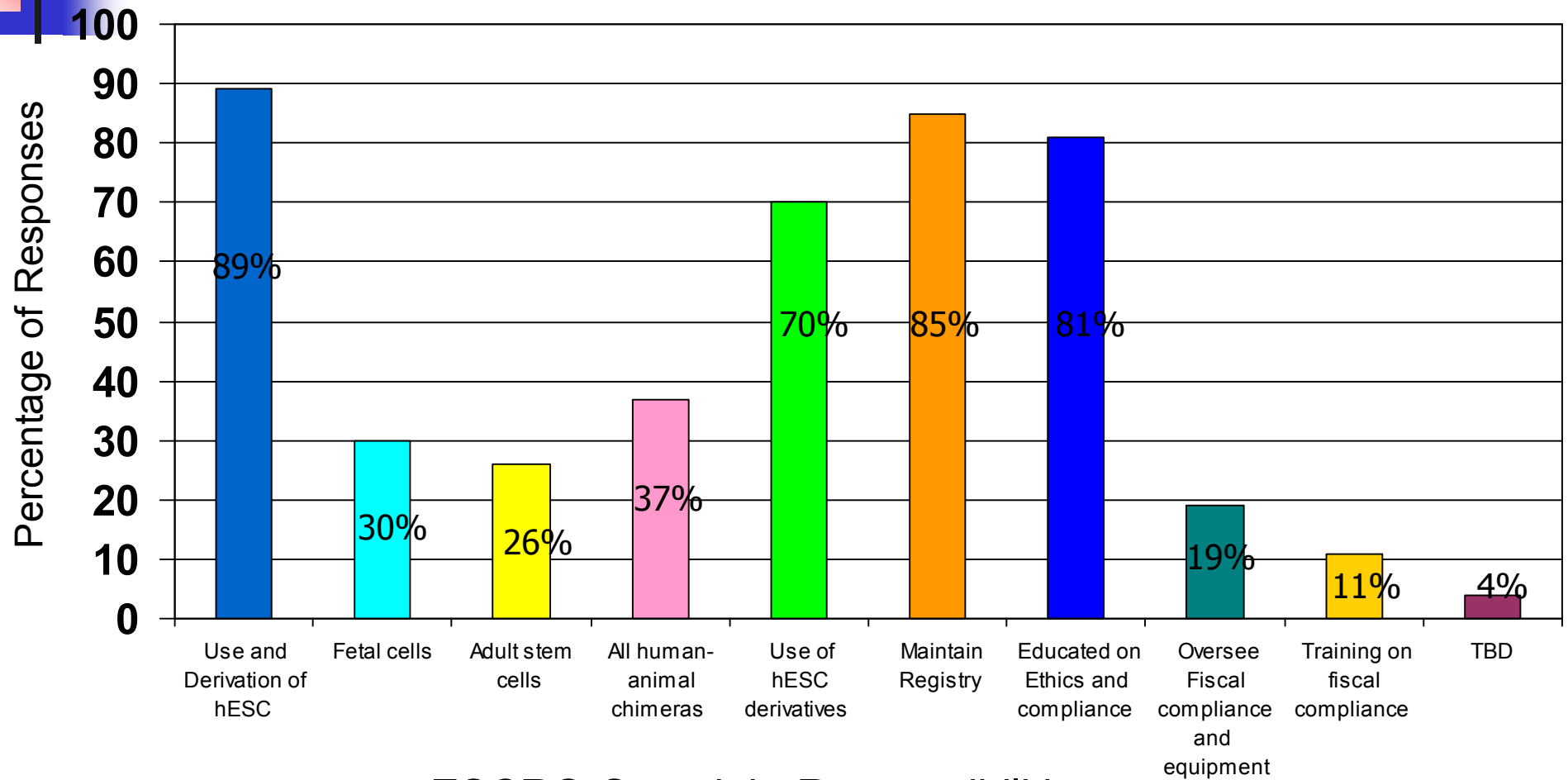
# State Funding and Regulatory Environment of the Respondents



N= 36

# ESCRO Oversight Responsibilities

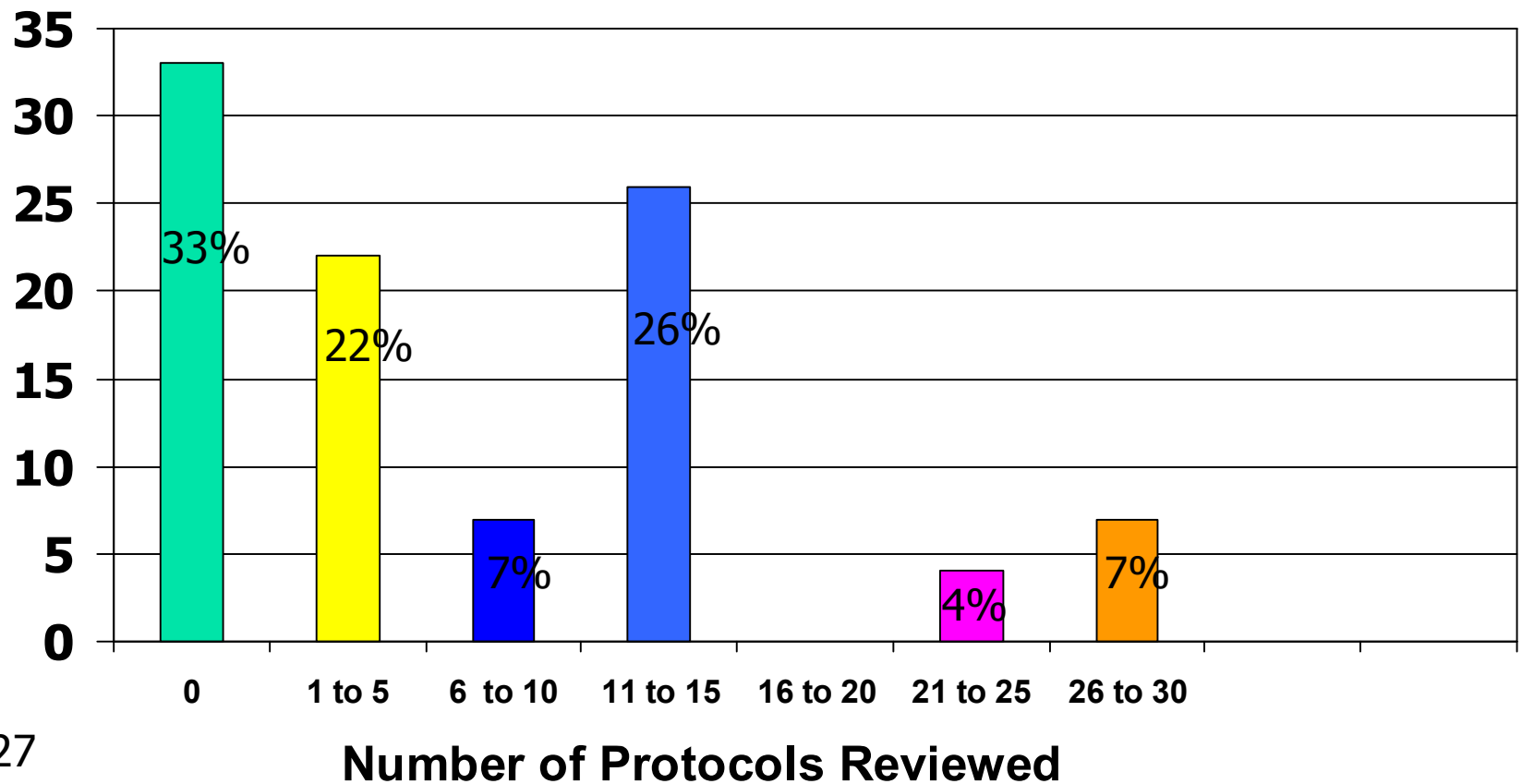
(Check all that apply)



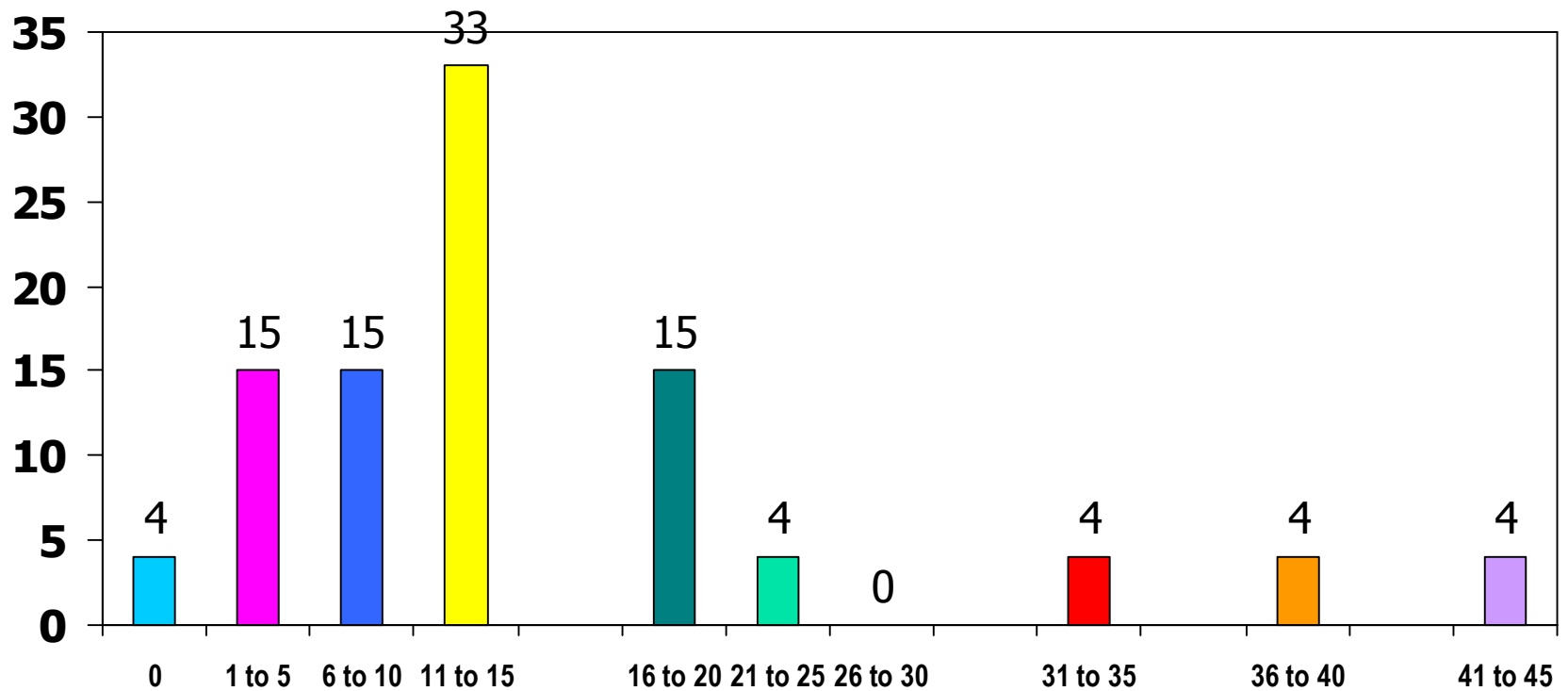
N = 25

ESCRO Oversight Responsibilities

# Number of Protocols Reviewed by ESCRO September 2005 – January 2007



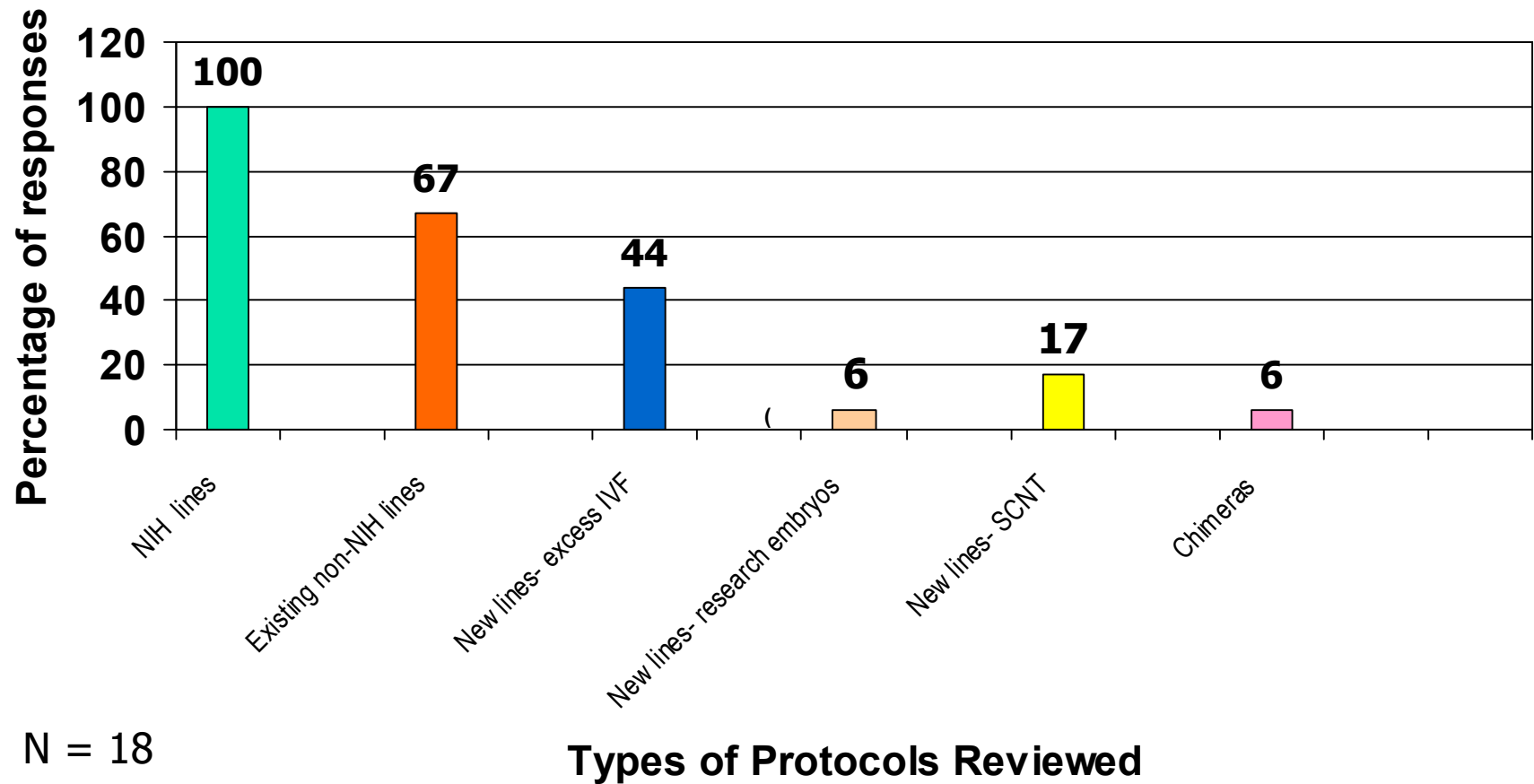
# Estimated Number of Protocols to be Reviewed during 2007



N = 26

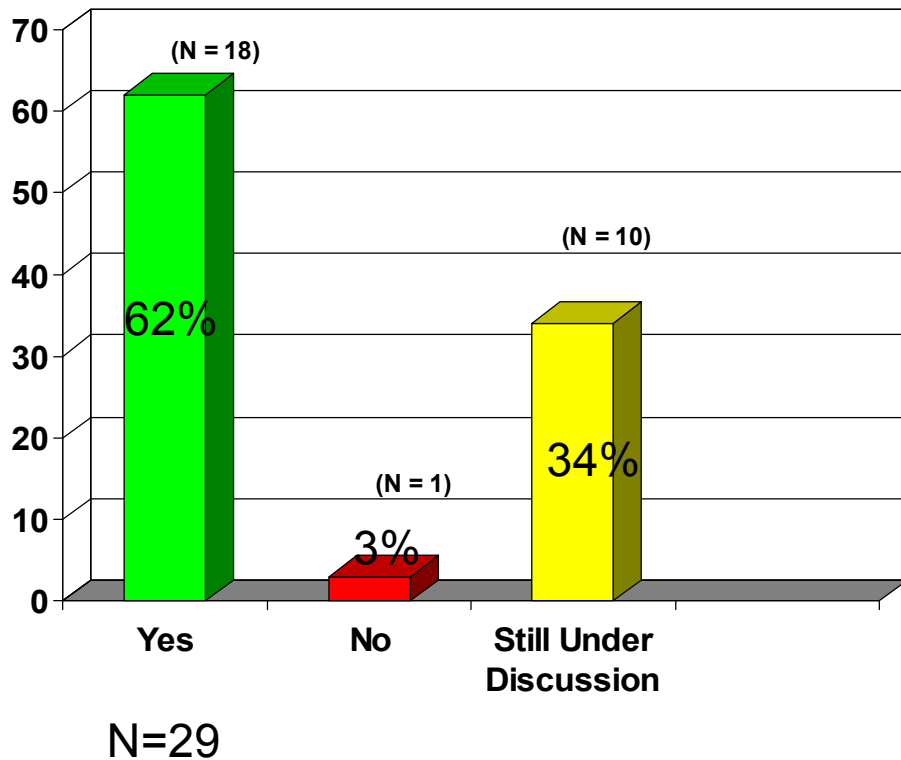
**Estimated Number of Protocols to be Reviewed**

# Types of Protocols Already Reviewed by ESCRO

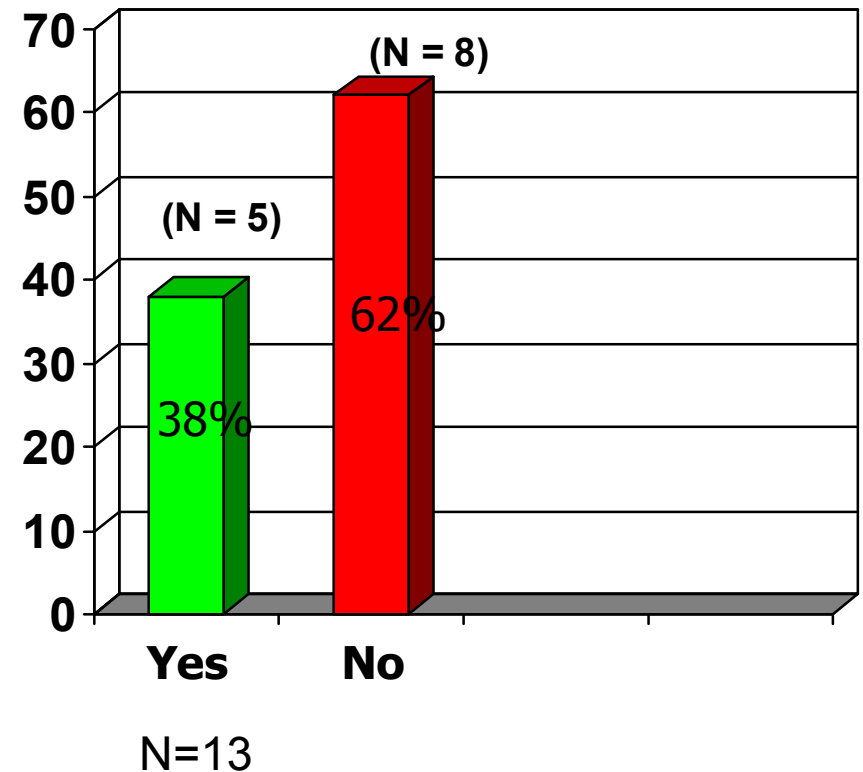


# Has Your ESCRO Accepted Some NIH-Registered Lines?

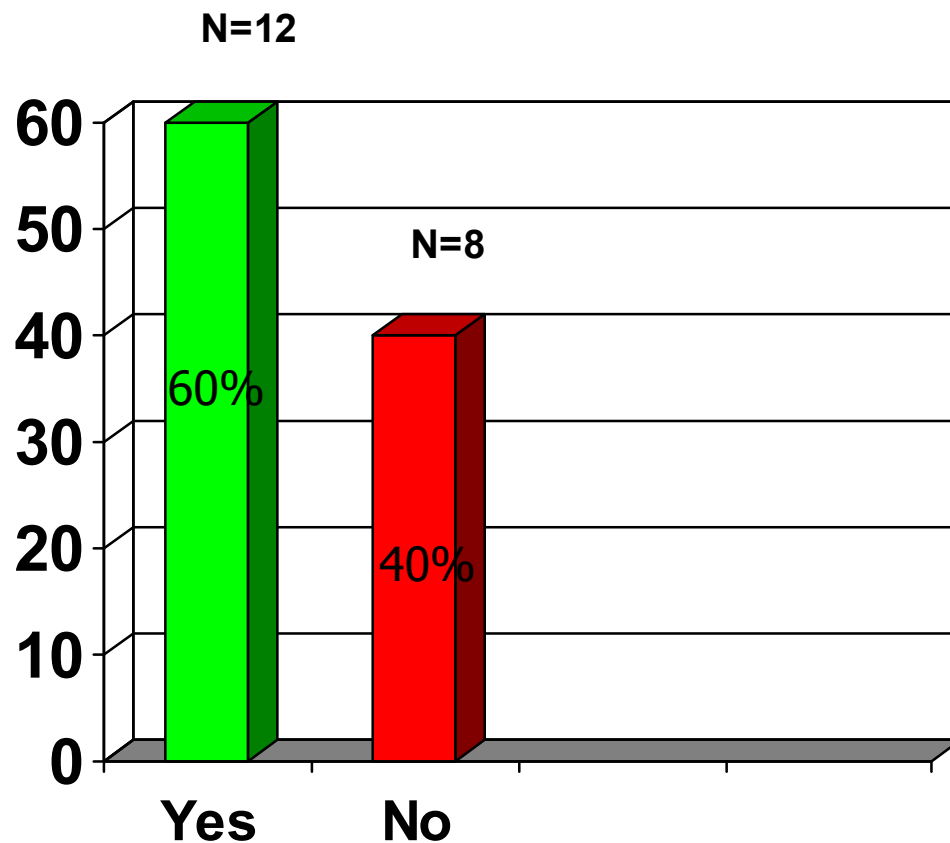
ESCRO Acceptance of Some NIH-Registered Lines



If accepted, did ESCRO investigate provenance of the lines?



# Has Your ESCRO Accepted All NIH-Registered Lines?

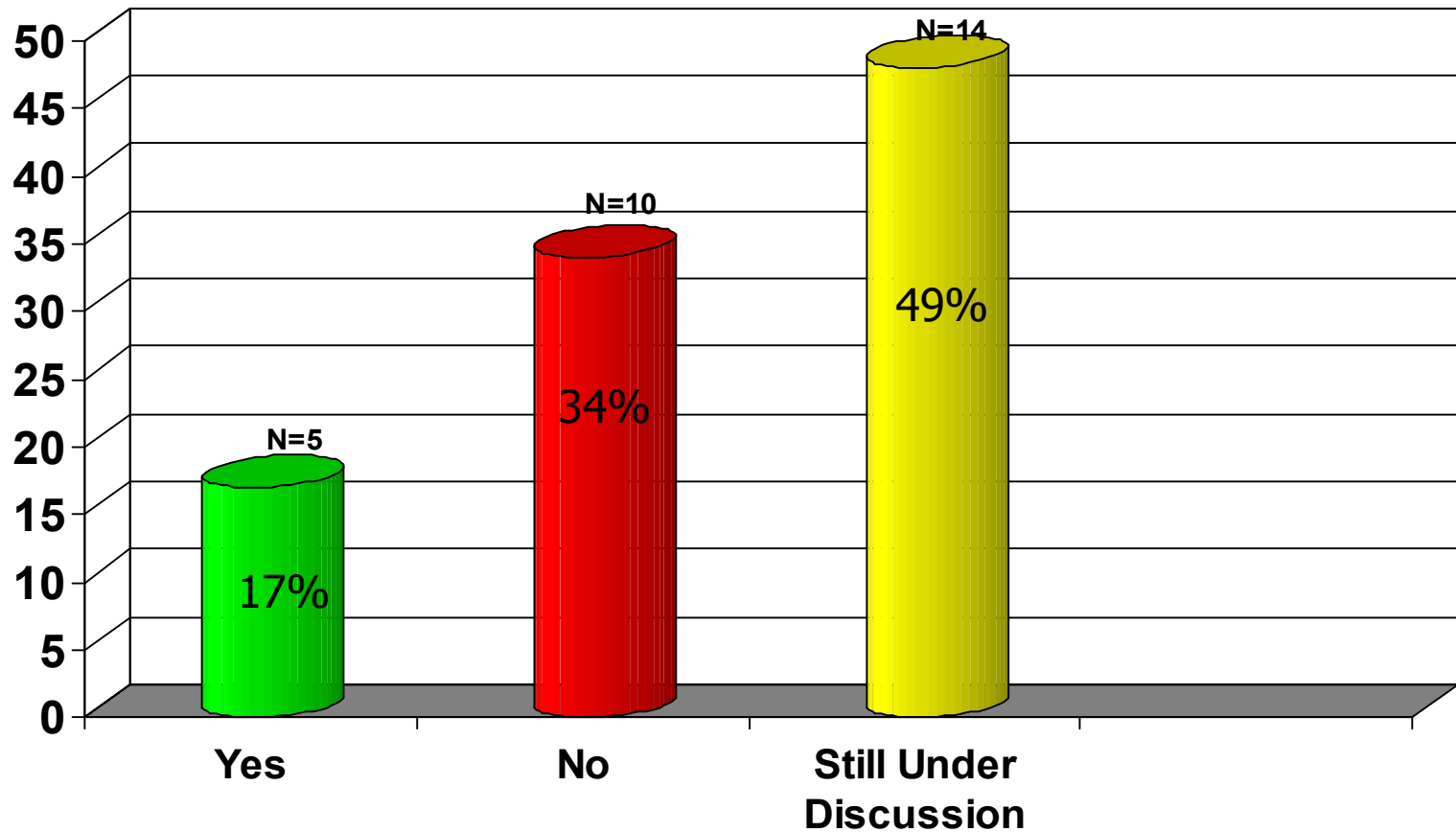


N = 20

## If No, reasons for not accepting all NIH-Registered Lines:

- Still under discussion.
- ESCRO will review each protocol individually.
- We have only received requests for 4 lines thus far.
- Only reviewing those in use at our institution.

# Does Your ESCRO Have Different Criteria for Informed Consent of hESC Lines Derived Prior to and After the NAS 2005 Guidelines?

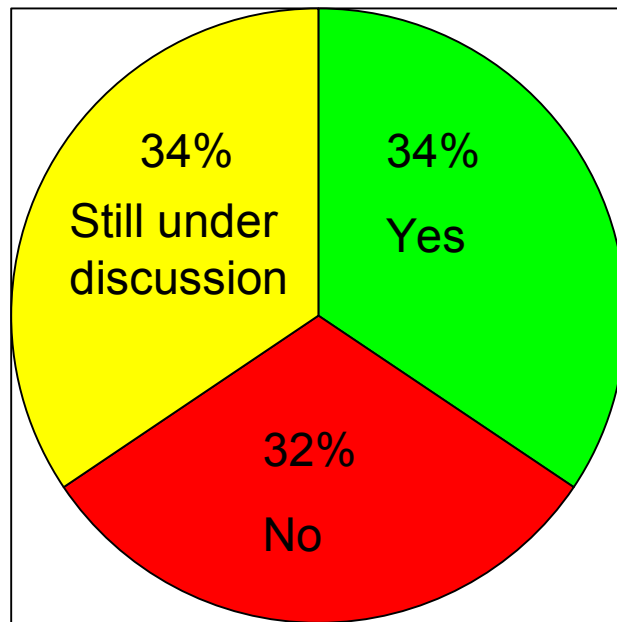


N=29

Difference in criteria for IC's of hESC derived before and after NAS 2005 guidelines.

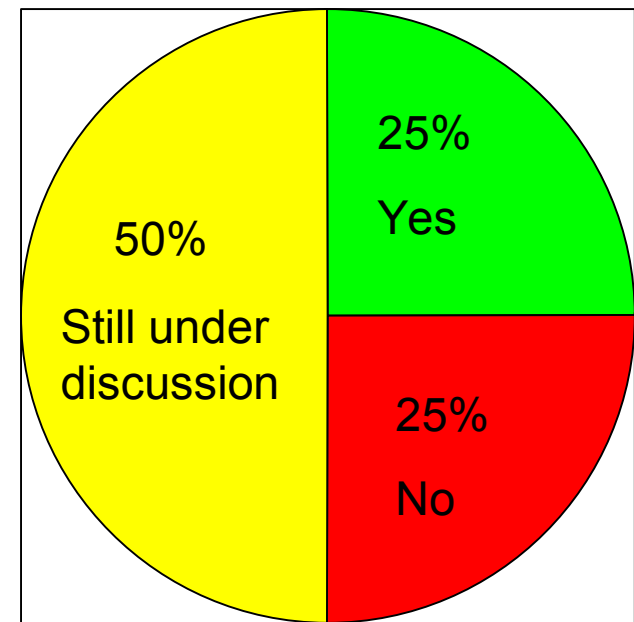
# Contrast of State or Institutional Policies of Reimbursement for Oocyte and Sperm Donors

Reimbursement of Expenses to Oocyte Donors



N = 29

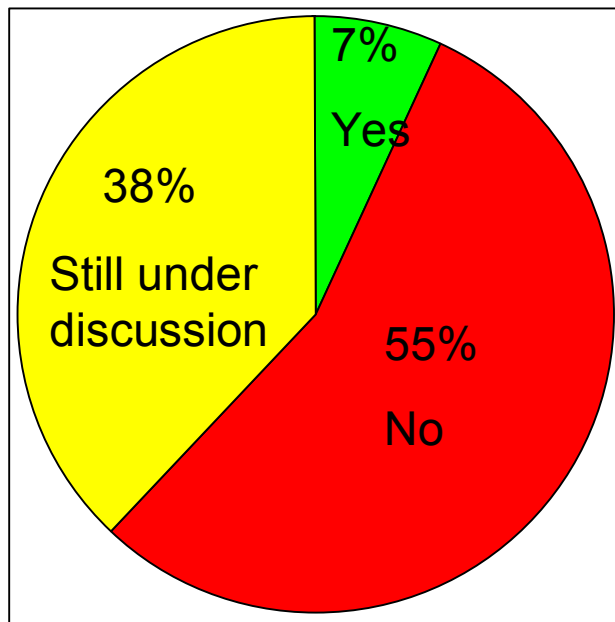
Reimbursement of Expenses to Sperm Donors



N = 28

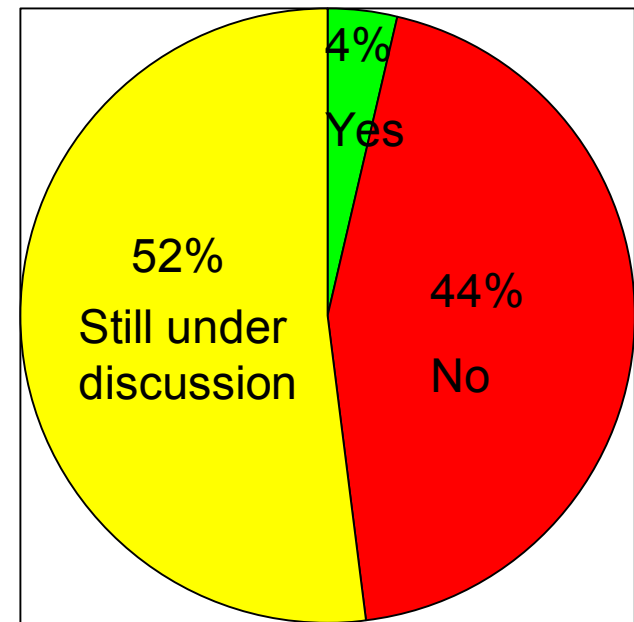
# Contrast of State or Institutional Policies of Compensation for Oocyte and Sperm Donors

Compensation of Expenses to Oocyte Donors



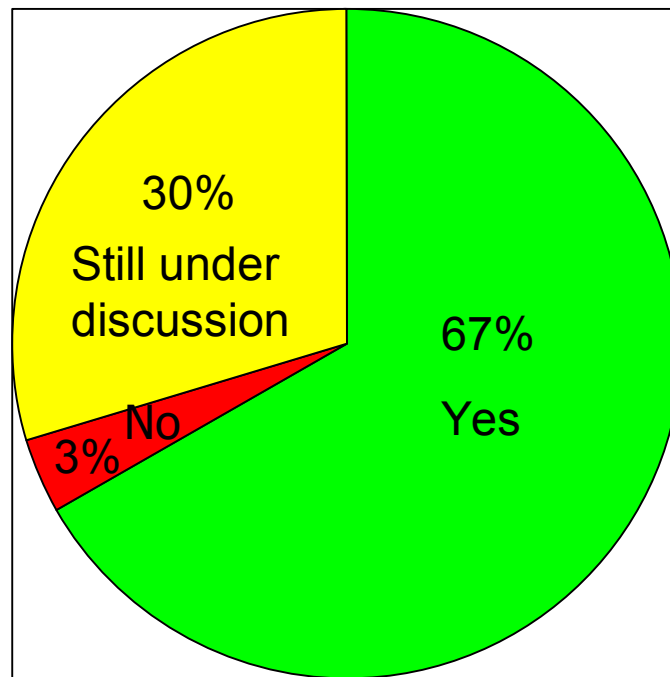
N = 29

Compensation of Expenses to Sperm Donors



N = 27

# Has Your ESCRO Implemented the 2005 NAS Guidelines?



N=27

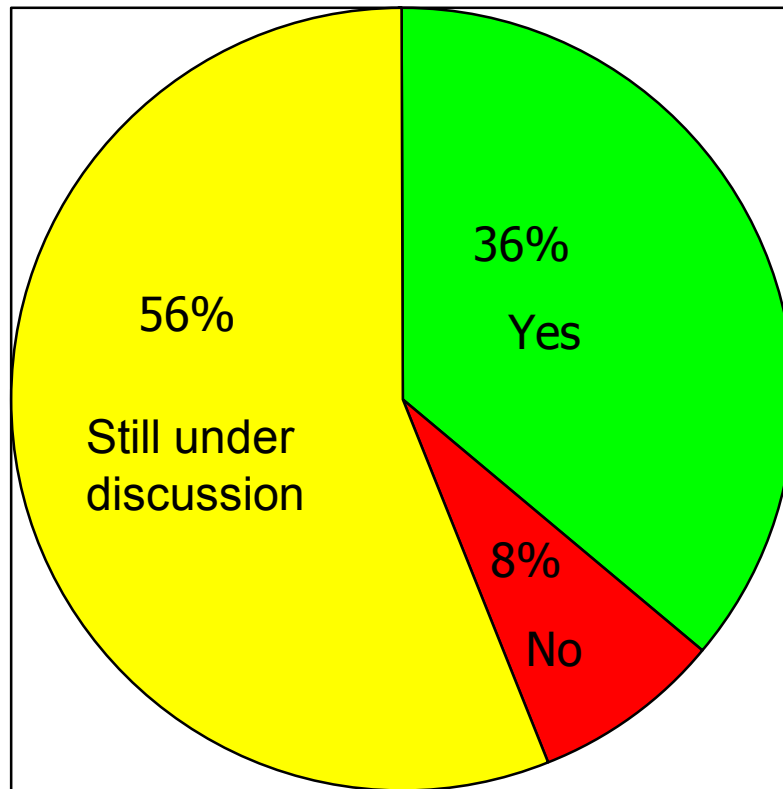
# Has Your ESCRO Developed Supplementary Criteria to For:

	<b>Excess IVF Embryos</b>	<b>Research Embryos</b>	<b>Chimeras</b>
N =	21	19	19
Yes	1	0	1
No	3	5	7
Under Discussion	9	9	11
CIRM Regs	5	2	0
N/A	3	3	0

# Has Your ESCRO Developed a Program for Educating Investigators About Ethical Issues and Guidelines for hESC Research?

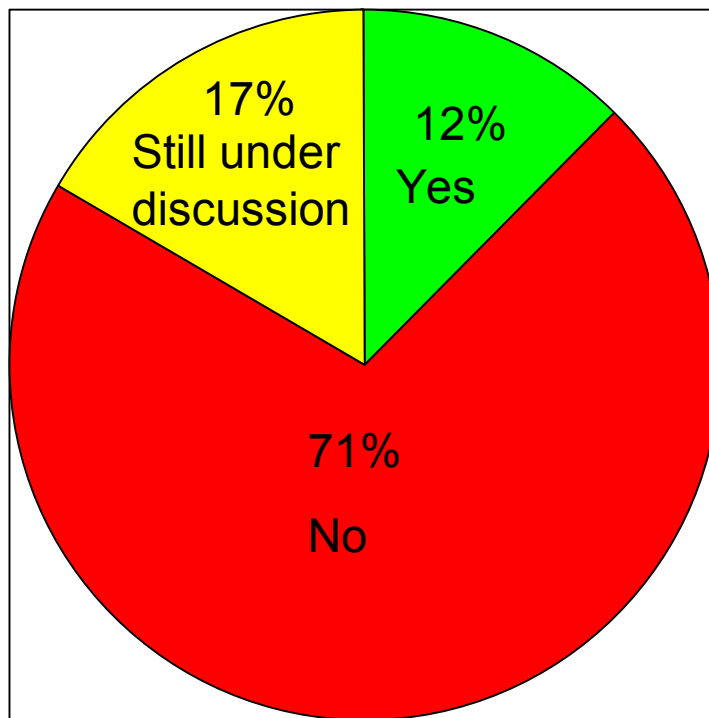
## If Yes, Describe Program:

- Campus wide workshops and discussions on ethical issues with use of hESCs.
- Annual lecture.
- Website, newsletter, talks to various faculty groups.
- Web-based training is planned.
- Online course for researchers is currently being developed.



N = 25

# Has Your ESCRO Engaged the Public in a Discussion on hESC Research Issues and Policies?



N = 24

## If Yes, Describe Venue or Process:

- ESCRO members have participated in five public programs about hESC research.
- A public conference was held in Spring 2006.
- Various campus sponsored public forums with ESCRO members.

# Have There Been Collaborations Between Your ESCRO and Other ESCROs in Developing Guidelines and Policies?

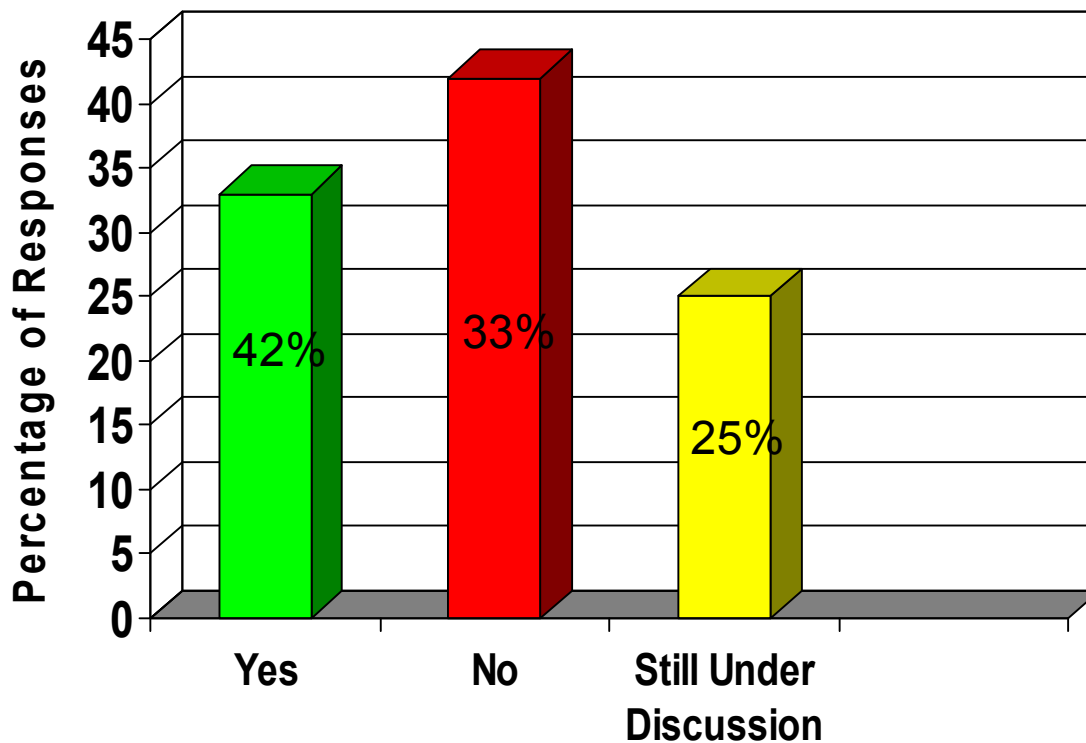


N=24

## If Yes, Nature of Collaborations:

- State wide meetings and sharing of documents and provenance information.
- Chairs of ESCROs in the state correspond by e-mail and meet to develop policies.
- Joint presentations at a major conference and ongoing discussions about documents and policies.

# Are There Formalized Collaborations Between Your Institutions and Others for Sharing Stem Cell Lines and Embryos?



Collaborations Between Institutions to Share Stem Cell Lines or Embryos

N = 24

## If Yes, Nature of Collaborations:

- Partnered with another institution in a stem cell bank and core.
- hESC lines are both shared with and obtained from other institutions.
- MTA process.
- Transplantation of ES-derived differentiated cell populations.



# Suggested Topics for Further Discussion

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- **Placement of provenance of established lines on an internet site**
- **Inclusion of community members on the ESCRO to democratize the process and provide a voice for the lay community**
- **What is the proper scope of ESCRO oversight? All pluripotent cells? Adult stem cells? When are hESC derivatives no longer under ESCRO oversight?**
- **Under what conditions should a research proposal be rejected?**
- **Are there any existing hESC that have been obtained under questionable circumstances?**
- **How can/should an institution prepare for creating and maintaining clinical quality cells?**
- **Many schools will not create a committee until there are bonafide regulations.**