

These notes refer to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 (c.22) which received Royal Assent on 13 November 2008

HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY ACT 2008

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1: Amendments of Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990

Section 11: Activities that may be licensed

Human admixed embryos

66. Paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 2 to the 1990 Act, as inserted by paragraph 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act, continues to allow the mixing of sperm with the egg of a hamster, or other animal specified in directions, for the purposes of research into the normality or fertility of sperm. Any resulting human admixed embryo must be destroyed as soon as the research is complete and no later than the two-cell stage.
67. New paragraph 3(3) enables licences to be issued to create, keep and use human admixed embryos (as defined by new section 4A(5)(a) to (e) inserted by section 4 of the Act) for the purposes of a project of research specified in the licence.
68. New paragraph 3(5) provides that no research licence can be granted unless the proposed use of embryos or human admixed embryos is necessary for the purposes of the research.
69. New paragraphs 3(6), (8) and (9) of Schedule 2 to the 1990 Act deal with time limits and conditions applying to research licences.