62 Wasaussee Lane
Stamford Connecticut 06902

0601 '99 JUL 19 P3:01

July 16, 1999

Re: Docket number 99D-0557

To Whom It May Concern:

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidelines issued April 6, 1999 instituted a de facto ban on non human primate xenografts because they would expose patients and the public to "significant infectious disease risk." But these guidelines failed to address dangers with other species. Transgenic pigs are the source animals of choice for xenotransplants despite the existence of over 25 diseases in pigs that can affect humans. Pigs are not safer than nonhuman primates: witness swine influenza, the Porcine Endogenous Retroviruses, paramyxovirus and the new "Nipah" virus in Malaysia that infected over 250 humans, killed 100, and led to the slaughter of some one million pigs.

There are safer, more cost-effective, and humane alternatives to xenotransplantation that are not being explored by regulatory authorities. These include all kinds of and increasing the pool of human organs. I respectfully demand that the Department of Health and Human Services ban xenotransplantation from all nonhuman species immediately.

Sincerely,

June Yamrick

99D-0557

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
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