


START **Infoporn**

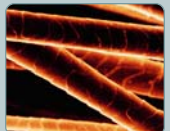
How to Sell Your Body for \$46 Million

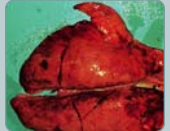
Used to be the human body was worth pocket change – 97 cents would buy all the raw carbon, iron, and calcium a person had to offer. Nowadays, thanks to improved processing, a determined seller could reap closer to \$46 million for donating every reusable part. Of course, there's a catch: The most lucrative substances are the ones you can't go without. So the \$7 million you'd get for your germ-fighting antibodies would be quickly spent on the plastic bubble needed to keep you alive.


If you want to capitalize on your biology, your best bets are fluids and soft tissues: A fertile woman between the ages of 18 and 25 can "donate" one egg every three months – and rake in \$7,000 each time. Over eight years, that's 32 eggs for a total of \$224,000. A virile man would have to sell a lot of sperm at \$75 a pop to match that. Male testosterone, the very essence of guyness, yields less than a penny per body. Add in bone marrow – which goes for \$23 a milligram – and things start to add up. That said, you human stripminers had better hurry: Stem cell researchers are moving in on the market, producing everything from neurons to living sperm. There's a long way to go before they engineer replacement parts, but the future is clear – cash in while you can. – **Patrick Di Justo**


The Numbers: Our chart shows the maximum dollar values for some of the most marketable substances in the human body. It assumes the unlikely – that you could extract every trace of every such substance from living tissue.

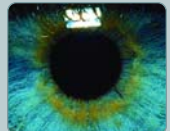
+ FLUIDS AND TISSUE +	
	<p>APOLIPOPROTEIN (lipid found in cell walls) \$2,062,368.00 > 4.158 grams at \$496,000 per gram</p> <p>BONE MARROW \$23,000,000.00 > 1,000 grams at \$23,000 per gram</p> <p>CERULOPLASMIN (protein) \$549,549.84 > 3.066 grams at \$179,240 per gram</p> <p>DNA (found in every cell) \$9,675,000.00 > 7.5 grams at \$1,290,000 per gram</p> <p>FOLIC ACID \$196.56 > 0.63 gram at \$312 per gram</p> <p>HEMOGLOBIN (oxygen-toting blood component) \$1,260.00 > 1,260 grams at \$1 per gram</p> <p>IgG (antibody) \$7,316,400.00 > 109.2 grams at \$67,000 per gram</p> <p>LEUCINE AMINOPEPTIDASE (male enzyme) \$917,280.00 > 1,176,000 grams at \$0.78 per gram</p> <p>PROTHROMBIN (blood protein) \$64,759.80 > 0.907 gram at \$71,400 per gram</p> <p>SPHINGOMYELIN (cholesterol-related) \$4,959.36 > 5.166 grams at \$960 per gram</p> <p>\$43,591,773.56</p>

+ HAIR +	
	<p>STRANDS \$5.00 > 1 ounce at \$5 per ounce</p>

+ LUNG +	
	<p>ORGAN \$116,400.00 > 2 at \$58,200 each</p>


+ HEART +	
	<p>ORGAN \$57,000.00 > 1 at \$57,000</p>

+ BRAIN +	
	<p>ACETYLCHOLINE (neurotransmitter) \$344.54 > 0.000214 gram at \$1,610,000 per gram</p> <p>CEREBROSPINAL FLUID \$6,650.00 > 0.14 gram at \$47,500 per gram</p> <p>FSH (female hormone, stimulates egg production) \$148.68 > 252 units at \$0.59 per unit</p> <p>THYROTROPIN (TSH) (hormone) \$654,444.00 > 11.76 grams at \$55,650 per gram</p> <p>\$661,587.22</p>


+ EYEBALL +	
	<p>CORNEA \$8,000.00 > 2 at \$4,000 each</p>

BACKGROUND: MICHAEL ELINS
INSETS: SEE PAGE 140


SOURCES: AnaSpec; Bachem; BioChain; *Blood and Other Body Fluids*; Cambrex; *Cecil Essentials of Medicine*; Cortex Biochem; Fitzgerald Industries International; *The Human Body Shop*; ICN Biomedicals; Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories; Medline; *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*; Mount Sinai Hospital; National Center for Research Resources; Oxford Biomedical Research; Phoenix Pharmaceuticals, Reagents; Southeast Missouri Hospital; *Standard Values in Blood*; TCI America; United States Biological



+	ADRENAL GLAND	+
HYDROCORTISONE		
> 0.525 gram at \$10.95 per gram		
		\$5.75




+	KIDNEY	+
ORGAN		
> 2 at \$45,700 each		\$91,400.00
ERYTHROPOIETIN (hormone, regulates blood)		
> 210 units at \$5 per unit		\$1,050.00
		\$92,450.00




+	BREAST	+
BREAST MILK		
> \$20 per 4 ounces, daily over two years		\$14,600.00
PROLACTIN (during pregnancy)		
> 0.009 gram at \$4,662,500 per gram		\$41,962.50
		\$56,562.50


+	ALTERNATE PRICING FOR RAW ELEMENTS	+	
It's always cheaper to make something from scratch. Here's the cost of a human in its elemental form:			
MACROMINERALS		MICROMINERALS	
Carbon	\$1.98	Iron	\$0.03
Calcium	\$0.18	Zinc	\$0.03
Phosphorus	\$7.12	Copper	\$0.00
Potassium	\$5.95	Boron	\$0.00
Sulphur	\$1.60	Cobalt	\$0.00
Chlorine	\$0.17	Vanadium	\$0.00
Sodium	\$0.11	Iodine	\$0.01
Magnesium	\$0.00	Manganese	\$0.00
Silicon	\$0.00	Molybdenum	\$0.00
		Chromium	\$0.00
		\$17.18	




+	PANCREAS	+
ORGAN		
> 1 at \$43,900		\$43,900.00
INSULIN (hormone, regulates blood sugar)		
> 0.0000672 gram at \$3,500,000 per gram		\$23.52
LIPASE (enzyme, breaks down fats)		
> 504 units at \$4.28 per unit		\$2,157.12
		\$46,080.64



+	LIVER	+
ORGAN		
> 1 at \$54,100		\$54,100.00
ALBUMIN (protein)		
> 369.6 grams at \$0.12 per gram		\$44.35
TRANSFERRIN (protein)		
> 22,218 grams at \$18,900 per gram		\$419,920.20
		\$474,064.55



+	REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS	+
FEMALE		
PROGESTERONE (during pregnancy)		
> 0.0130 gram at \$507.50 per gram		\$6.60
AMNIOTIC FLUID (ninth month of pregnancy)		
> 0.5 grams at \$10,080 per gram		\$5,040.00
EGG CELLS (18- to 25-year-old)		
> 1 egg at \$7,000, 4 donations per year		\$224,000.00
MALE		
SPERM (18- to 38-year-old)		
> \$75 per donation, 12 donations per month		\$216,000.00
		\$445,046.60



+	SMALL INTESTINE	+
ORGAN		
> 1 at \$69,600		\$69,600.00

+	TOTAL BODY WORTH	+
		\$45,618,575.82