Decision Tree for Human Germline Interventions

**FUNDAMENTAL DECISIONS**

Q1: Is the human germline inviolable?
   - Yes → P1a
   - No → P1b

Q2: May/should the goal of germline intervention be pursued?
   - Yes → P2a
   - No → P2b

**BASIC & PRECLINICAL RESEARCH**

Q3: May/should the results of embryo research be utilised even if one rejects such research oneself?
   - Yes → P3a
   - No → P3b

Q4: May/should there be a transition to clinical research?
   - Yes → P4a
   - No → P4b

**CLINICAL TRIALS**

Q5: May/should germline interventions be carried out to prevent hereditary disorders?
   - Yes → P5a
   - No → P5b

Q6: May/should germline interventions be carried out to reduce the risk of disease?
   - Yes → P6a
   - No → P6b

Q7: May/should germline interventions be carried out for enhancement purposes?
   - Yes → P7a
   - No → P7b

**CLINICAL APPLICATION**

Germline interventions permissible to prevent hereditary disorders
Germline interventions permissible to reduce the risk of disease
Germline interventions permissible for enhancement purposes

**Conditions**

- P1a: Renunciation of germline interventions
- P1b: Application moratorium
- P2a: Further development of the technology only without embryo research
- P2b: Return to Q5 when research has progressed
- P3a: Generate embryos
- P3b: Only generate embryos
- P3a.1: Only with ‘surplus’ embryos
- P3a.2: Only as a last resort
- P3a.3: Yes P3a
- P4a: May/should the goal of germline intervention be pursued?
- P4b: No positive answer without meeting the following conditions:
  - Fulfilment of minimum safety and efficacy requirements for the technology
  - Appropriate planning, oversight and societal governance
- P5a: May/should research involving the destruction of human embryos in vitro be carried out?
- P5b: Not for the time being
- P6a: May/should germline interventions be carried out to prevent hereditary disorders?
- P6b: No germline interventions to prevent monogenic hereditary disorders
- P7a: May/should germline interventions be carried out to reduce the risk of disease?
- P7b: No germline interventions to reduce the risk of disease
- P8: May/should germline interventions be carried out for enhancement purposes?
- P8a: Germline interventions permissible for enhancement purposes
- P8b: No germline interventions for enhancement purposes

**Key:**
- Q: Question
- P: Path segment/position
- C: Consequence
- Cd: Conditions

**Ethical concepts to be considered at each step:** human dignity, protection of life and integrity, freedom, non-maleficence and beneficence, naturalness, justice, solidarity and responsibility.