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Who was Henrietta Lacks?

Henrietta Lacks was an African-American woman, born on a tobacco farm. Also, she had 5 children and married her cousin. Her cells had continued to live on, even 60 years after she had died.

What is special about her cells?

Her cancer cells are the source of the HeLa cell line, the first immortalized cell line and one of the most important cell lines in medical research. Her cells are still alive to this day and the cells did not die yet.

How are her cells used?

Her cells are used extensively in medical research, develop vaccines, and furthered the understanding of cancer cells, AIDS/HIV cells, and more.

What is your opinion about how her cells were collected and used without her knowledge?

My opinion was that, it was a good thing since we got to know more about cancer and its sources, and also how some cells are immortal, not die after a couple of days. But also, it was a bad thing since Henrietta Lacks’s family is getting no profit from her cell research.