

HELP US FIND A CURE

Blood cancer can strike any one of us at any time. Approximately every four minutes, a child or adult in the United States is diagnosed with a type of blood cancer. That's 360 people a day, 130,000 people a year. For many, there is hope of a cure through a bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cell transplant. Today, transplantation, of healthy stem cells donated by volunteers, offers hope to many patients suffering from these sometimes deadly diseases. Advances in transplantation have made this procedure a reality for thousands who are alive today because a stranger gave them the Gift of Life!



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DONATING PERIPHERAL BLOOD STEM CELLS

80% of donors give peripheral blood stem cells from their circulating blood. To obtain enough cells for transplant, a donor is given injections of Filgrastim that stimulate large quantities of stem cells to mobilize from the bone marrow into the circulating blood. At a hospital or clinic the donor is connected to an apheresis machine for 4–5 hours and the stem cells are harvested.

DONATING BONE MARROW

20% of people donate bone marrow which is found in the hollow cavities of large bones. It is withdrawn from the pelvic bone in an area called the iliac crest. The bone marrow is collected as an outpatient procedure in a hospital operating room under general anesthesia. Marrow regenerates completely within four to six weeks. Donors usually go home after the donation is complete.

1 in 200 Americans will receive a

marrow or blood stem cell transplant in their lifetime

1 in 3

patients for whom Gift of Life conducts donor searches for are children

1 in 200

donors ages 18 to 30 will be called as a match for a patient in need

1 in 5 donor matches are selected for a transplant Every **4 minutes** a child or adult is diagnosed with blood cancer

70% of patients do not have a related match and must search the registry

Every **\$2K** will facilitate one transplant over time

80% of donors don't even give marrow - they give peripheral blood stem cells from their arm

