

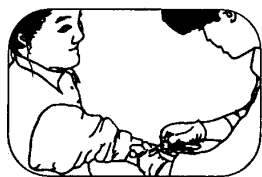


How to Become a Donor

Stem cells from your marrow or blood could help save a life



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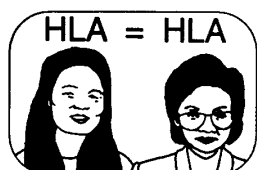
Join the NMDP Registry. Complete a brief health questionnaire, sign a consent form, and provide a small blood sample for tissue typing. The registry is searched for patients worldwide.

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A representative will contact you if you are a potential match. Blood samples will be needed to see if you are an exact match for a patient.



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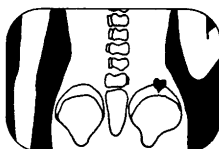


If you are a suitable match, you will attend an information session and receive a physical exam. Then you make the decision whether or not to become a donor.

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The collection method—**Marrow Donation** or **PBSC Donation** (Peripheral Blood Stem Cell)—is based upon the patient's need. Health requirements are the same for both types of donation.

Marrow Donation



A small amount of your marrow is collected from the back of your pelvic bone ♥ using a special needle and syringe. Anesthesia is used during this simple hospital procedure.

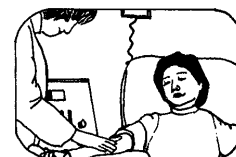


After the donation, normal activity may be resumed. Donors may feel soreness for a few days to a few weeks. Your marrow replenishes itself within a few weeks.

PBSC Donation



You receive injections of Filgrastim ♥ for 4-5 consecutive days to increase the number of stem cells released from your marrow into your blood stream. The medication may cause “flu-like” symptoms, such as aching bones. These symptoms diminish about 1-2 days after the last dose is given.



Your blood is passed from your vein through a sterile needle in a closed system machine that separates out the stem cells. The remaining blood, minus the stem cells, is returned to you through a needle in your other arm.

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