

Fact Sheet

- DKMS UK has registered more than 1 million potential stem cell donors.
- There are approximately 33.11 million people between the ages of 18-55 in the United Kingdom (Circa 2022 Census Data)
- DKMS UK has facilitated over 2,500 stem cell donations to date.
- DKMS Donors Account for more than 47% of all unrelated stem cell transplants in the UK
- Every 14 minutes, someone in the UK is diagnosed with a blood cancer.
- Over 41,000 people are diagnosed with blood cancer in the UK each year.
- There are about 250,000 people living with blood cancer in the UK. (Blood Cancer UK)
- Blood cancers are the third most common cause of cancer death in the UK. Every year nearly 15,000 people die from blood cancer in the UK.
- Blood cancer is the most common type of childhood cancer. Every year, over 2000 children are diagnosed with blood cancer in the UK.
- DKMS is a globally recognised leader in stem cell research, partnering with hundreds of international research institutions and transplant centres and managing one of the world's most diverse stem cell donor databases.
- Over 2,000 people each year in the UK need a blood stem cell transplant.
- When someone is diagnosed and told they need a stem cell transplant they initially test their immediate and extended family, however there is only around a 30% chance of being a match within your own family so the search then extends out to the national registry.
- For most people there is no single cure, a stem cell transplant from a genetically similar person can offer the best treatment and could help give someone in need of a transplant a second chance at life.
- Just 7% of the UK's eligible population are registered as potential donors, and only a tiny proportion of these are from minority ethnic communities.
- Just 16% of those registered are from UK minority ethnic backgrounds which disproportionately affects patients from those backgrounds.
- Despite being established for only 11 years, DKMS UK accounts for 42% of the market share of the entire UK aligned registry.
- 90% Of donors donate via PBSC (Peripheral blood stem cell collection)
- 10% Of donors donate via Bone Marrow
- Globally DKMS has helped offer second chances to nearly 18,000 children

DKMS

DKMS is an international non-profit organisation dedicated to the fight against blood cancer. Founded in Germany in 1991 by Dr. Peter Harf, DKMS and the organisation's over 1,200 employees have since relentlessly pursued the aim of giving as many patients as possible a second chance at life. With over 12.5 million registered donors, DKMS has succeeded in doing this more than 125,000 times to date by providing blood stem cell donations to those in need. This accomplishment has led to DKMS becoming the global leader in the facilitation of unrelated blood stem cell transplants. The organisation has offices in Germany, the US, Poland, the UK, Chile, and South Africa. In India, DKMS has founded the joint venture DKMS-BMST together with the Bangalore Medical Services Trust. International expansion and collaboration is key to helping patients worldwide because like the organization itself, blood cancer knows no borders.

DKMS is also heavily involved in the fields of medicine and science, with its own research unit focused on continually improving the survival and recovery rate of patients. In its high-performance laboratory, the DKMS Life Science Lab, the organization sets worldwide standards in the typing of potential blood stem cell donors.

How to Help: If you are aged between 17 and 55 and in general good health take the first step to register as a stem cell donor by registering for your home swab kit at www.dkms.org.uk