The Donor-Patient Journey

Patient

Diagnosis
Someone somewhere in the world is diagnosed with blood cancer

every 27 seconds

Treatment
Treatment depending on disease

e.g. chemo, radiation, additional antibody therapy if needed

If doctors decide on a blood stem cell transplant → Typing

Search for donor within family
Search unit at patient's hospital launches search for donor in national and international registries

1 2 3

One in three patients finds a donor in their own family

Search for unrelated donor
Over 41 million registered donors worldwide

Over 12 million with **DKMS**

29 million registered with **other donor centers**

Last updated: March 5, 2024

International **Donor Registry**

Possible matches

Identification of possible donors matching the patient

Confirmatory typing
Search unit requests confirmatory typing of selected possible matches from DKMS

Not every patient finds a matching donor

DKMS processes more than 50,000 confirmatory typing requests every year

Successful donor search
Hospital lab verifies HLA match

Finally patient's doctor selects donor

Lab

Collection method is decided

Hospital requests donor workup and cell collection

Donor-patient match

Patient is informed of matching donor

Preparation for transplant
Conditioning of patient: preliminary treatment with chemotherapy or radiation

Transplantation
Blood stem cells are transplanted via infusion

Hospital

Patient follow-up
Hospital updates DKMS on patient's progress for 2 years after donation

(possible in most countries)

Donor-patient contact

If permitted in the patient's country, patient and donor can have anonymous contact

First face-to-face meeting

After anonymity period: release of personal data if donor and patient agree

In most countries, donor and patient are allowed to meet after two years

Donor

Communications
DKMS educates public on stem cell donation and encourages them to register

Donors register ...

... online on the DKMS website

or

... at a registration event

Donor registration
Registration includes donor eligibility check and consent, and submission of sample for HLA typing

Buccal swabs

Donor consent

Typing
HLA genotyping

Data administration
Maintenance and management of donor data

Donor data entry

Lab

Donor Center

Confirmatory typing
DKMS CT Coordinator contacts donor to check health status and willingness to donate

- Donor is briefed on donation process
- Health questionnaire
- Family doctor takes blood sample

Workup
DKMS Workup Case Manager immediately notifies donor of match

- Detailed information on donation procedure
- Dates are set for physical examination and donation
- Travel arrangements are made for donor

Collection Center clears donor for donation

Donation

Preliminary examination

Collection Center*

Peripheral blood stem cell donation

or

Bone marrow donation**

*With the donor's consent, surplus stem cells may be collected for cryopreservation****

Transport
Stem cell donation prepared for transport and picked up by specialised courier services

More than 75 % of all donations from DKMS donors are transported to patients abroad

Donor follow-up
- Regular health checks after donation
- Support for donors whose patient has deceased
- Donor feedback

DKMS Life Science Lab
Dresden, Germany

The world's leading HLA typing laboratory according to the latest scientific standards

DKMS Donor Centers
in Chile, Germany, India, Poland, South Africa, UK, USA

DKMS Donor Centers' primary tasks are to educate, register and take care of donors, and manage medical donor requests

DKMS Collection Centers
Dresden and Cologne (Germany), Santiago de Chile (Chile)

Collection Centers ensure the safety and wellbeing of donors and the quality of donations

DKMS Stem Cell Bank
Dresden, Germany

The first facility in the world to provide cryopreserved peripheral blood stem cells to adult patients across the globe

**All DKMS entities collaborate with certified collection centers in addition to their own facilities*

***Not available in India and South Africa*

****Only in Germany*