

HOW YOUR STEM CELLS

CURE CANCER

Stem cells are the building blocks of the

body. **The stem cells from our bone marrow make up our immune system** and can turn into white blood cells. These cells play an important role in our bodies including fighting off infections and disease.

Patients with a blood disorder like cancer do not have a normal functioning immune system. **The idea of a bone marrow/stem cell transplant is to give the patient a new immune system (the donor's immune system) to kill the cancer** since the patient's immune system isn't doing the job and allowing the cancer or disease to exist in the body.

Another person's bone marrow/stem cells need to be matched with the patient. If the cells do not match, the new donor immune system would detect the patient's organs as foreign and attack them which can lead to death. The patient's ethnic background plays an important role when searching for a match because **the chances of finding a match are much higher in someone who shares a similar ethnicity to the patient.**

Doctors search the worldwide registries (an interconnected database of potential donors) for their patient's match. People need to request to voluntarily join such a donor registry.

The blood samples of people who have joined the bone marrow registry are "tissue typed" and tested so each person is given their "unique code." This is made searchable on the world's inter-connected databases and **can result in a match with the patient's "unique code" to cure their cancer.**

The cure for some blood cancers is in your body, but you need to join the bone marrow registry to be searched and found. You really are the "ur" in the "cure"!

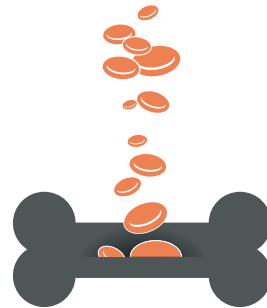
CONTACT US

We love to hear from you! If you have any questions or want to find out more about how you can get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are always looking at collaborating with others who share the same passion for the cause.

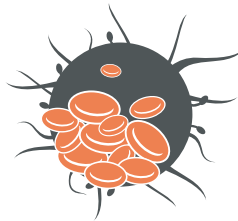
Patients who are struggling to find their match due to their ethnic background may wish to contact UR the Cure to share their story and help encourage others to join. We can also provide you with a free resource kit to help educate your family and friends about the cause.

EXCESS HEALTHY STEM CELLS ARE TAKEN FROM A MATCHING DONOR (GENERALLY TAKEN FROM THE BLOOD STREAM)

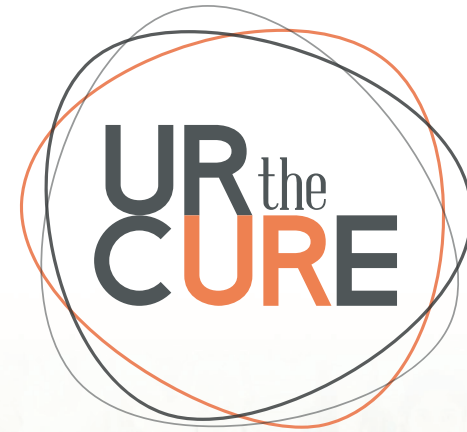
PATIENT IS GIVEN HIGH DOSE CHEMOTHERAPY TO WIPE OUT THEIR IMMUNE SYSTEM IN PREPARATION TO RECEIVE THE HEALTHY STEM CELLS



PATIENT IS GIVEN THE HEALTHY STEM CELLS TO FORM A NEW IMMUNE SYSTEM



THE HEALTHY STEM CELLS WILL TURN INTO A NEW IMMUNE SYSTEM THAT CAN KILL THE CANCER



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Improving ethnic diversity on Australian and worldwide stem cell registries

ABOUT

UR the Cure is a registered charity with the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission) and is run completely by volunteers. It was founded in 2015 by

US

Pamela Bousejean who had Hodgkins Lymphoma (a type of blood cancer) and her personal experience in struggling to find a stem cell match to cure her cancer. UR the Cure is an official partner of the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (ABMDR) who run the "Strength to Give" cheek swab program. UR the Cure helps blood cancer patients find their lifesaving stem cell match by encouraging people to join the blood stem cell donor registry (also known as the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry). Patients with a blood cancer or other type of blood disorder rely on having a stem cell transplant (also known as a bone marrow transplant) as their chance for a cure. This means they need to find a stem cell match. People can voluntarily join the donor registry so doctors can search for lifesaving stem cell matches for their patients. To find the best matches, our work particularly focuses on young males aged 18 to 30 and those with a culturally diverse background to join. UR the Cure saves lives!



VISION

& GOALS

Through education and awareness, our mission is to significantly increase the number of donors on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (ABMDR), with particular focus on increasing the number of culturally diverse people and young males on the registry.

HOW TO JOIN THE BLOOD STEM CELL DONOR REGISTRY

Joining the stem cell registry is simple, easy and free.

➤ **Order your cheek swab kit online** (must be aged 18 to 35) www.urthecure.com.au/swab

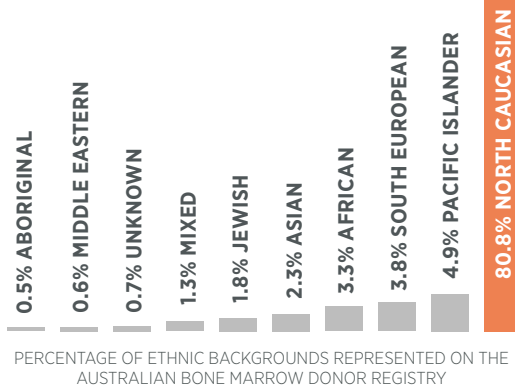
➤➤ Once your kit arrives in the mail, swab your cheek. Fill in the forms and mail back to the registry

➤➤➤ That's it! If you're matched with a patient in need, 90% of the time donating stem cells is like giving blood, it's simple and can save a life!

WHY IS UR THE CURE IMPORTANT?

81% of donors on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry are of North Caucasian background and the remainder are split across tiny percentages of various ethnic backgrounds. Sadly many ethnic groups have less than 1% representation. The lack of presence of minority ethnic groups on the worldwide bone marrow registry affects the lives of many people within Australia who are unable to find a stem cell match as a result of their heritage.

If you come from an ethnic background, your community needs you! Please consider joining the bone marrow registry.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Workplace and Community Education

Host a "Superhero Stem Cell Day" or a "Sporty Stem Cells" program at your workplace or organisation! We give you everything you need to educate your group to make it easy and fun! There are many ways you can run this; a morning/afternoon tea, dress up in superhero theme, during a team meeting, host a "B-B-Cure" BBQ and more!



Host a Ready to Cure Donor Drive

Organise a donor drive event where people can come along to get their blood sample taken to join the ABMDR.

Receive a reminder to join (for underage people)

If you are under 18 years of age, you can register your email address to be reminded that you're eligible to join the ABMDR once you turn 18 (and we'll wish you a Happy Birthday too!)

Financial Contributions

Stem cell donation is great and saves lives, but if you wish to help out in a different way then you can give a monetary donation or partake in fundraising!

QUICK

Only 1 in 1500 Australians will get called to donate their stem cells in any given year.

FACTS

If you are someone's match, **donating your stem cells is not as scary as it sounds!** Majority of the time you can donate your excess stem cells using technology that takes out the stem cells through your blood stream via a needle in your arm, much like in a blood donation (procedure takes approximately 2-4 hours), versus the traditional bone marrow donation method. See website for more details.

70% of patients searching for a match will not find one within their family and rely on finding a match by searching for donors on the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry and other registries worldwide.

All the individual registries in each separate, participating country are inter-connected worldwide so **doctors can search the registries from around the world for their patient's match.**

1 person every 46 minutes is diagnosed with a blood cancer in Australia.

A patient is much **more likely to find their stem cell match with someone who shares a similar ethnic background.**

Your **blood type does not need to match** the patient's blood type.

Expectant mothers can donate the stem cells from their baby's umbilical cord blood which can also be used to save someone's life in a transplant (no harm for mother or baby). It's not available in all hospitals, so speak to your Doctor to check if this is an option for you.

Your stem cells can cure blood cancers as well as other blood disorders and immunodeficiencies too.

