

1 IN 500 AFRICAN-AMERICANS ARE BORN WITH SICKLE CELL ANEMIA



A BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT IS CURRENTLY THE ONLY KNOWN CURE

EACH YEAR, NEARLY
2,000 AFRICAN AMERICANS
FIND THEMSELVES IN NEED OF A BONE MARROW DONOR



PATIENTS ARE MOST LIKELY TO MATCH DONORS WHO SHARE THEIR ANCESTRY



30%

OF PATIENTS WILL FIND A MATCH IN THEIR FAMILY



70%

OF PATIENTS MUST RELY ON A MATCH FROM THE NATIONAL BONE MARROW REGISTRY



BUT AFRICAN-AMERICANS MAKE UP

ONLY 7%
OF THE REGISTRY

WHICH MEANS WE NEED YOUR HELP





IF YOU ARE A MATCH, THERE ARE 2 WAYS TO MAKE A CELL DONATION

The method used for donation depends on the individual patient's needs, which are determined by their doctor.

1. PERIPHERAL BLOOD STEM CELL DONATION

A Peripheral Blood Stem Cell (PBSC) donation is the most common donation and is conducted 75% of the time. The stem cell donation is an outpatient procedure that takes about 4-8 hours over 1-2 consecutive days. Some donors experience flu-like symptoms such as headaches, bone and muscle stiffness, and fatigue. However, most side effects subside within 48 hours after donating.

2. BONE MARROW DONATION

Bone marrow donation is a 1-2 hour, outpatient, surgical procedure where bone marrow cells are collected from the backside of the pelvic bone, not the spine, which is often the misconception. Donors receive general anesthesia, so no pain is experienced during the bone marrow extraction. Some donors may experience pain, bruising and stiffness. However, within a week of donating, nearly all donors are able to return to work, school and most activities. Additionally, the donor's bone marrow is completely replenished within a few weeks.

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SAVING LIVES TOGETHER