

STEM CELL DONATION

WHAT IS STEM CELL DONATION?

Stem cells are the immature cells that produce all blood cells in the human body. They are located in the red bone marrow. Stem cells are needed in the treatment of several diseases including blood cancers and abnormalities in blood cell production that require bone marrow transplantation.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO DONATE STEM CELLS?

There are some diseases such as blood cancers and thalassaemia for which, the ideal treatment is stem cell/bone marrow transplantation.

Even though there are several medical treatments available, they often do not provide a permanent cure.

WHO IS A SUITABLE DONOR?

Healthy individuals between 18 and 45 years of age who fulfil the medical requirements, have the opportunity to donate stem cells.

HOW CAN YOU REGISTER AS A STEM CELL DONOR?

Collect the pledge form from our staff members or download it from our website. Handover the completed pledge form to the Blood Bank medical officer.

WHAT TESTS ARE DONE BEFORE STEM CELL DONATION?

A HLA (Human Leucocyte Antigen) test will be performed. You need to give a blood/buccal swab sample for this.

Your HLA test results will be entered into a database. If your results match with a patient that requires transplantation, we will contact you for stem cell donation.

WHERE DOES STEM CELL DONATION TAKE PLACE?

This is done in a specialized hospital.

HOW CAN STEM CELLS BE HARVESTED?

This can be done in two ways.

- ◆ Stem cells are most often harvested in a method similar to platelet collection by connecting to a specialized machine after a course of injections.
- ◆ Very rarely, stem cells are harvested from the red bone marrow of the hip bone, under anaesthesia.



Basic Requirements To Be A Stem Cell Donor

- Should be between 18 to 45 years of age
- Should be healthy and fulfil the relevant medical requirements
- Body weight should be 50 kg or above
- Haemoglobin level should be 12.5 g/dL or above
- Should not have high-risk sexual behaviours.

If you are interested in becoming a Stem Cell Donor, inquire from Blood Bank staff.

or

contact us at:

Telephone:

+94 11 2 36 99 68

Web site:

nfts.health.gov.lk

Email:

slscdregistry@gmail.com

Or join our SLSCDR Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/scdrsrilanka>



HELP SAVE A LIFE

JOIN US

Register As A Stem Cell Donor



National Blood Transfusion Service - Sri Lanka