



The Sunflower Fund

Partnered by DKMS



# HELP US SAVE LIVES!

Every 27 seconds someone in the world is diagnosed with a blood disorder such as leukaemia, aplastic anaemia and sickle cell disease. Often, a blood stem cell transplant from a matching donor is their only hope of cure.

## REGISTER AS A BLOOD STEM CELL DONOR TODAY!



Are you between 18 & 55 years old?



Do you weigh over 50kg with a BMI <40?



Willing to help ANY patient in need?



Do you lead a healthy lifestyle?



Register with the Sunflower stem cell registry

0800 12 10 82 | [www.sunflowerfund.org](http://www.sunflowerfund.org)



# ABOUT US

Our journey began in 1999 inspired by the heroic struggle against leukaemia of two brave young men, Darren Serebro (1997) and Chris Corlett (2000). These young men's fortitude and willingness to share even the darkest moments of their short lives awakened a flood of public support, which resulted in the birth of a movement to recruit donors in South Africa.

A painting named 'Sunflowers of Hope', which 17-year-old Chris Corlett completed while he was being treated for acute lymphoblastic leukaemia was the main inspiration for the name The Sunflower Fund.

Today, The Sunflower Fund partnered by DKMS is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the fight against blood cancer and blood disorders. We register blood stem cell donors to provide patients in need of a stem cell transplant with a second chance at life.

## BECOME A DONOR

Blood stem cell donations enable lifesaving treatments for patients with blood cancer or blood disorders by replacing their unhealthy cells with healthy blood-forming cells.

You can register in person or at one of the many donor recruitment events that The Sunflower Fund organises throughout the country, or go to [sunflowerfund.org](http://sunflowerfund.org) to register online.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

- Register at [sunflowerfund.org](http://sunflowerfund.org)
- We'll send you a swab kit
- Swab your cheeks
- Send your swabs back via our courier
- Swabs will be sent to lab for HLA testing
- You're a lifesaver - In waiting!

### RECRUITMENT EVENT

- Register in person
- Swab your cheeks
- Swabs will be sent to lab for HLA testing
- You're a lifesaver - In waiting!

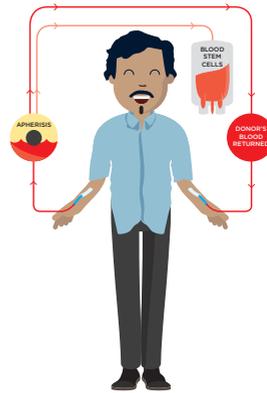
## DONOR AND PATIENT SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY.

Unfortunately we are unable to register you if you answer yes to the following questions:

- Have you ever tested positive for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, or HIV?
- Are you at risk of any sexually transmitted infections?
- Have you ever taken intravenous drugs not prescribed by a doctor?
- Have you suffered from, undergone or been diagnosed with any of the following illnesses:
  - Autoimmune disease or diabetes
  - Brain or spinal surgery
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary or heart disease
  - Cancer
  - Organ transplant and/or a blood transfusion

## THE DONATION PROCESS

If you are identified as a matching donor for a patient, you will be asked to donate your blood stem cells so that the patient can receive a transplant.



A blood stem cell transplant is a procedure to replace damaged or destroyed bone marrow with healthy (bone marrow) blood stem cells.

You will undergo a round of G-CSF injections which will take place 4 days prior to the donation procedure. This will increase the production and release of the stem cells into your blood stream. G-CSF is the naturally occurring growth hormone used to increase the number of circulating stem cells in the peripheral blood.

### Who pays for the test?

The Sunflower Fund covers the cost of registration and welcomes voluntary donations towards these tests. This allows us to allocate our funds to recruit more donors.

### Why is your ethnicity important?

Donor matches depend on tissue types (HLA), not blood types and these inherited genetic characteristics are often more frequent in a particular race. It is therefore important that people of all races register as donors, so that all patients have the opportunity of finding a life-saving donor match.

### Joining for someone specific?

It is important that donors who register on The Sunflower Fund's stem cell registry realise that they have to be available for whoever they match and cannot register specifically for one person. With so many patients requiring this procedure, let's give them all a chance of finding their life-saving match.

## OTHER WAYS TO HELP



Encourage others to register



Talk to us about planned giving



Become a volunteer



SMS "sunflower" to 40555 to donate R30



Get your company involved



Support our fundraising events

**Please note:** Donating blood stem cells is by law, voluntary and unpaid. You will, however be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred should you be a match for a patient.