



DATRI CONNECT

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MANAGEMENT DESK

Dear Doctor,

As we reflect on our mission of saving lives, we acknowledge the profound impact you have on those surviving blood cancer.

This newsletter serves as a vital communication platform to recognize your invaluable contributions and keep you informed about DATRI's ongoing efforts. Within its pages, you'll find articles authored by our dedicated team, emphasizing the importance of updated contacts when a donor moves abroad, detailing the necessity of adjusting our fee structure towards donation and highlighting the challenges faced by our donors—illustrated through a game called “Lifeline Ladders” facilitated by our DATRI representatives during “World Marrow Donor Day 2024”(WMDD). We also emphasize the urgent need for effective communication and early scheduling of donation dates. These elements are crucial in driving our mission forward.

We also invite you to share your feedback on the insightful articles included in this newsletter. Your suggestions are greatly appreciated and play a vital role in enhancing our practices and strategies. Your expertise is celebrated throughout this publication.

The Doctors’ Newsletter embodies the collaborative spirit that defines our partnership. Your involvement is essential to DATRI's success, and we look forward to your continued support as we journey together towards a brighter future.

Warm regards,



Claudia Rutt
Chief Financial Officer



Sumati Misra
Associate Director - Medical



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BRIDGING HOPE: DATRI'S EVERLASTING COMMITMENT TO BLOOD CANCER WARRIORS

At DATRI, our primary mission is to provide every patient battling blood cancer with a fighting chance. With a registry of over 500,000 dedicated donors, we offer essential support to individuals worldwide facing this daunting disease. Our unwavering commitment to the well-being of both donors and patients allows us to deliver cost-effective services while upholding the highest standards of care.

For the past 15 years, DATRI has remained steadfast in its efforts to offer affordable stem cell transplants, always prioritizing the urgent needs of patients. We've maintained a stable fee structure for these services, while maintaining the highest standards of care.

We prioritize the quality of stem cell samples while ensuring the safety and comfort of our donors. Throughout the donor matching process, we incur various costs, including infectious disease markers, verification testing, imaging studies, donor travel and accommodation, GCSF injections, necessary medications, and hospital collection fees. We also provide counselling services to all our donors, which sometimes require in-person meetings that involve travel for our team. DATRI covers all these expenses to ensure both donor safety and patient care.

As a non-governmental organization (NGO) that operates without government funding, DATRI relies heavily on individual donations and corporate social responsibility (CSR) contributions to sustain our operations. Despite our best efforts, the rising costs of stem cell donation and transplantation have placed significant strain on our resources. This is where we need your continued support to help us maintain our life-saving mission.



Donor recruitment drive



Counselling - the donor



**Infectious disease markers &
Verification testing.**



GCSF injections for mobilization



Blood Stem Cell Collection



Product Transport

The Impact of Cancellations and Postponements

When a transplant is cancelled, it can have a significant impact on the patient's prognosis, especially when there are limited stem cell matches available. Each cancellation incurs costs that DATRI has already invested in, including medical tests, travel, and accommodations for the donor, as well as other logistical arrangements.

Similarly, when a transplant is postponed, it can delay the life-saving treatment a patient urgently needs. Postponements often involve rescheduling medical tests, donor availability checks, and sometimes even re-coordinating travel for both the donor and the medical team. Additionally, when a transplant is delayed, it risks losing the donor, who may no longer be available for future donation efforts due to changes in personal circumstances. This can cause added stress for both the patient and the donor, and the administrative and financial burden on DATRI grows significantly with each postponement.

Why a Cancellation and Postponement Fee is Necessary?

To help manage these expenses and sustain our mission, DATRI will be introducing a cancellation and postponement fee for stem cell transplants. This decision was not made lightly but is essential to ensure the efficiency and integrity of our operations. The fee will help offset the costs incurred when transplants are delayed or cancelled, ensuring that we can continue our life-saving work without compromising the quality of care provided to our donors and patients.

This adjustment is also necessary to maintain the commitment of our donors, as cancellations and delays can sometimes lead to a loss of available donors or put patients at greater risk by reducing the window of time for potential transplants. The fee will serve as a reminder of the importance of timely action, helping to ensure that both donors and patients stay engaged and committed to the transplant process.

As we implement these changes, we will notify all transplant centers and ensure clear communication with both donors and patients. Our goal is to continue providing hope and healing for patients and to honor the commitment of every donor who selflessly steps forward to make a difference.

Let us all work together to bridge the gap, expand the registry, and ensure that every patient receives the life-saving treatment they need. Together, we can create a future where no one has to fight alone.

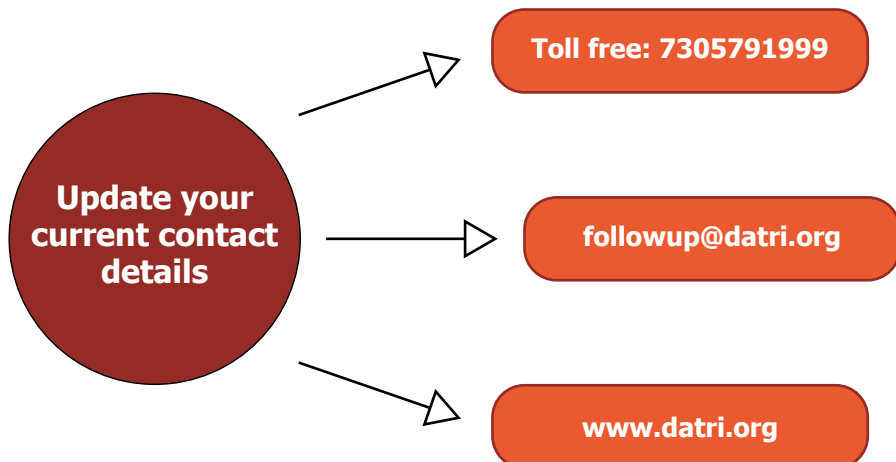
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CONNECTING LIVES: THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATION IN UNRELATED DONOR POOLS

In the realm of unrelated donor pools, discovering a potential match for a patient brings a ray of hope to their family. The journey from finding a match to processing collection and transplantation is unique for each patient. Some face urgent needs due to serious illnesses, while others may have the luxury of time. Effectively managing these diverse timelines is crucial, as not everyone who registers today will find a match immediately. In fact, it can take years, or even decades, for some to be identified as a match. During this critical period, if a potential match cannot be reached, the patient's situation can become dire—their lifeline may simply remain unconnected just when it is needed the most. We want to prevent this from happening, and we believe our donors feel the same way.

Many individuals who register with us as potential donors travel abroad for studies or job opportunities, transforming into global donors in the process. However, this creates challenges in maintaining communication, as their Indian phone numbers often become inactive. When a match is found, DATRI struggles to establish contact with these donors, which is vital, as they represent a chance for someone battling cancer to receive a life-saving treatment.

Having updated contact information can be the difference between a successful match and a missed opportunity for a patient in need. Timely communication is essential; a lack of contact can lead to cases being withdrawn that could have otherwise resulted in a precious gift of life.



Hospitals play a significant role in disseminating this information, as we conduct much of our donor recruitment through them, often engaging with patients and their families. The medical community, being well-educated and supportive of our cause, understands the importance of these registrations. We need your assistance in making this communication possible.

Let's work together to ensure that every donor remains reachable. Reinforcing the importance of keeping their details current in our registry can make a significant impact on saving lives. Your efforts are crucial in this mission, and together, we can strengthen the lifeline for those in need.

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CELEBRATING HOPE: WORLD MARROW DONOR DAY AND THE "LIFELINE LADDERS" INITIATIVE

World Marrow Donor Day (WMDD), observed on the third Saturday of September, celebrates the selfless contributions of stem cell donors while raising awareness about the vital importance of blood stem cell donation. This day honors the donors, emphasizing their crucial role in saving lives and providing hope to patients suffering from blood cancers and other blood disorders, despite the challenges they face along the way.

In observance of this day, DATRI introduced an innovative and engaging activity called "Lifeline Ladders," which mirrors the real-life experiences of donors who gift a second chance at life to those battling blood cancers.



This educational twist on the classic game of Snakes and Ladders guides participants through the challenges and triumphs of becoming a blood stem cell donor. In this game, each ladder represents a positive milestone in a donor's journey, while the snakes symbolize the obstacles that can arise.

Throughout the day, DATRI proudly conducted awareness and educational sessions in over 13 centers across India, successfully recruiting approximately 607 new donors. Participants not only learned about the donation process but also gained a deeper understanding of its significance for those fighting these diseases.

Additionally, we celebrated WMDD at our head office by presenting a theatrical version of the game, enacting the challenges donors face. This initiative aligns with the global mission of the World Marrow Donor Association (WMDA), of which we are a proud member, reinforces our commitment to supporting our field teams and donors.

Hospitals can also join hands with DATRI and help recruit more donors, giving more people a chance at survival by using this fun game. To request for the kit – Please write to us at marcom@datri.org

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STREAMLINING SUCCESS THROUGH TIMELY COMMUNICATION AND EARLY SCHEDULING OF THE DONATION PROCESS

At the donor registry, we place a high priority on effective communication with transplant center physicians to establish clear timelines and schedules for the donation process. This coordination among patients, transplant centers, and donors is crucial for maintaining a smooth workflow, ultimately maximizing our ability to save lives.

To bolster our efforts, we actively encourage transplant centers to schedule transplant dates as early as possible. The earlier we receive this information, the more effectively we can plan and organize all the necessary activities surrounding the donation process. Timely communication regarding transplant dates is essential; without it, we face challenges in reserving the donor calendar. Delays can lead to potential donors being unavailable due to prior commitments, complicating logistics and potentially compromising the quality of collected samples.



It's important to recognize that donation is a voluntary act, and donors often have personal responsibilities that may conflict with scheduling. Our dedicated team at DATRI provides comprehensive support, counselling donor about the donation process and when necessary, travelling to speak with their families. When scheduling does not occur in a timely manner, there's a risk that donors may withdraw, resulting in repeated costs incurred during various stages of the donation process. This not only creates financial burdens for DATRI but also jeopardizes the overall efficiency of the operation.

Thus, collaboration and prompt sharing of transplant dates are vital. By fostering this communication, we can ensure that all parties are prepared and aligned, enhancing the likelihood of a successful transplant.

This proactive approach not only secures donor availability but also offers reassurance to patients and their families during this critical time. Together, we can streamline the donation process and make a profound impact on the lives of those in need, reinforcing our commitment to saving lives through effective teamwork and communication.

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REGISTERING ONLINE WITH HLA TYPING REPORT



ACT NOW. GIFT A LIFE.
www.datri.org

My Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) are
not the perfect match for my relative.

Is it possible to be a life saver for
another patient?

YES!

you could be a matched
blood stem cell donor for someone
who is suffering from blood cancer
and disorders.

Gift a life by sharing
your HLA report with

DATRI



Scan to register



Adhya Ranglani,
Lucknow

DATRI Blood Stem Cell Donors Registry

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Would you like to share any inspirational stories of your patients or
for your feedback, queries and any further assistance – Please write to us at
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