

COVID-19 Update from Ezer Mizion Bone Marrow

Date: Jan 27th, 2021

GENERAL

Israel is currently at lock-down however Ezer Mizion Registry is fully operational. Our staff is working in shifts from home and therefore there might be some difficulties to reach our offices. We advise to use e-mail as much as possible. Our emergency numbers are available as usual 24/7.

DONORS AVAILABILITY

The number of COVID-19 cases is still very high and we are experiencing barriers regarding our donors' availability at all stages.

CRYOPRESERVATION OF PRODUCTS

As a result of the above mentioned development as well as the continuous situation of border closing, low availability of flights and travel bans and for the safety of the patients we will process only those WU requests that are cryopreserved by the TC until further notice. Exceptions would be granted on a case-by-case basis following discussion between your medical team and the Ezer Mizion medical staff.

HEALTH SCREENING

To clarify the risk of infection on donors, we implemented a designated questionnaire in order to survey the donors for COVID-19 symptoms for both CT and WU. If the donors have related symptoms, history of contact with COVID-19 cases or have been exposed to a risk area, the donation process on the donors will be deferred for four (4) weeks. We also carefully monitor for COVID-19 symptoms before initiation of Neupogen injections and stem cells collection. The transplant center will be notified immediately once an ineligibility or deferral is determined. We do not perform routine SARS-CoV-2 screening test.

The donors are surveyed 14 days after the collections to determine if they are at risk of COVID-19 infection and will notify the transplant center as needed.

BONE MARROW COLLECTION

BM harvests are very difficult to arrange, and there may be last minute changes in graft source. We recommend opting for PBSC whenever medically possible.

COURIER SERVICES

As of Jan 25th 2021 the Israeli government has decided to tighten the lock-down by cancelling both incoming as well as outgoing flights. There are still several flights operating. Our partners at Royale International are closely monitoring changes and their couriers receive an exit clearance from our competent authorities to export our products. In case a flight is not available we will be using the pilot service on cargo flights.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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