



SABMR NPC, Reg No 2013/152553/08

Physical Address:

J57, Old Outpatients Building,
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Observatory, 7925, Cape Town
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South African Bone Marrow Registry Update: 18 September 2020

The SABMR notes the updated COVID-19 restrictions announced by the South African Government as of 16 September 2020 which currently places us in level 1. South Africa's borders will reopen for inbound and outbound international flights from 01 October 2020.

Only three airports will open to foreign travellers: Johannesburg (OR Tambo International Airport), Cape Town (Cape Town International Airport), Durban (King Shaka International Airport). Travel to and from certain countries may remain restricted and travellers will have to present, on arrival, a negative coronavirus test less than 72 hrs old. If they do not do so they will remain in mandatory quarantine at their own cost. Everyone arriving will be screened, and those who show any symptoms of COVID-19 will also be required to stay in quarantine until they test negative for the virus again. Travellers will be asked to install the South African Government's contact alert app.

Extended Typing (ET) and Verification Typing / Confirmatory Typing (VT / CT) requests

The SABMR will accept all ET and VT/CT requests and these will be processed as usual.

The SABMR remains committed to the safety of our donors and will adhere to the [WMDA guidelines](#)

Medical Examination and Stem Cell Collection of donors

The SABMR will accept all requests for donor work up and stem cell procurement as usual by following WMDA recommendations.

International donors currently in work-up

This will be dealt with on a case by case basis in collaboration with both the foreign Registry and local Transplant Centre.

We expect to have more clarity about flight schedules and the availability of flights after the South African Government announces the official list outlining which countries may be restricted from entry into South Africa. These aspects will determine the SABMR's ability to procure fresh stem cell products from international donors.

International Family Assistance

The SABMR will accept requests but this will be dependent on the restrictions imposed on the patient's country of residence/treatment as well as the donor's country of origin restrictions.



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The SABMR staff have been slowly returning to the office while some still continue to work remotely. We anticipate all staff back full time in the office around November dependent on the course of the COVID 19 pandemic in South Africa. The SABMR will continue to work diligently to provide transplant centres with safe and reliable stem cell products for their patients within the required timeframe. Please don't hesitate to contact the SABMR should you require more information.

SABMR Landline: +27 21 447 8638 (During office hours)

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