



Procedure for Donor Search Request from Overseas

1. Requesting parties are either recipient's physician, a transplant centre or an authorized registry. Search request submitted directly by recipient or recipient's family cannot be accepted.
2. Each patient for whom a search is requested must be recommended by a physician for a stem cell transplant and must satisfy HKBMDR requirements.

Transplant Indication (Diagnosis): HKBMDR maintains a strict policy on provision of stem cell products to patients for HSCT with a clear indication. When considering the diagnosis of a patient, HKBMDR shall follow the updated recommendations from the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT). If the indication does not fit into the recommendations, HKBMDR may request justification from the requesting party.

Age: The TC/Registry physicians may exercise their discretion about whether a patient is of a suitable age for a transplant, if such physicians follow the relevant international standards.

3. Procedure for requesting a Donor Search

A requesting party shall send a request to HKBMDR, specifying a search for unrelated stem cell donor, cord blood unit or both. The requesting party shall submit an encrypted formal search request to HKBMDR by fax (852-2781-8498) or email (search.hkbmdr@ha.org.hk). The requesting party is recommended to use the WMDA forms "PRELIMINARY SEARCH REQUEST", but HKBMDR also accepts other forms as long as they provide information needed to perform the requested task.

The minimal patient information for donor search requests includes the following: Patient's name; Patient ID; Sex; Date of birth; Body weight; Ethnicity; Diagnosis; Diagnosis date; Diagnosis status; Blood Group & Rhesus; CMV status; the test results of HLA-A, -B, -C, -DRB1 typing of the patient with high resolution at minimum; Name of Transplant center/ Requesting registry and Name of referring physician and coordinator.

4. Other supporting documents or actions required are: (i) submit a formal histocompatibility testing report of patient, (ii) obtain a patient consent for unrelated HSCT search request and (iii) indicate minimal HLA matching requirements between patient and donor if required.

(i) Formal histocompatibility testing report of patient

The test results of HLA-A, -B, -C, -DRB1 typing of the patient with high resolution at minimum.

(ii) Patient consent

Transplant centre shall be responsible to inform the patient (e.g., assurance that the patient is aware of the right of the donor to withdraw, the policy about subsequent donations, etc.) and obtain the patient consent before initiating the search request.

(iii) Limit of mismatch level

A matching list includes the HLA-A, -B, -C, -DRB1 will be generated. If required, HKBMDR will extend searches to look for donors with a single mismatch at any loci.

5. Cancellation of Search

To cancel a search, the TC/Registry shall email HKBMDR with details of, and the reason for, the cancellation.