

Courier – Regulatory issues

The World Marrow Donor Association (WMDA) Guidelines for couriers and the transportation of haemopoietic progenitor cells (HPC: BM, PBSC and DLI) are the basis for *Swiss Blood Stem Cells' (SBSC)* Policies regarding Swiss recipients and Swiss donors and corresponding WorkUps.

Hereafter some specifications are listed. Deviations from these conditions must be approved by *SBSC* before the WorkUp takes place.

1. Responsibilities

- For long haul flights (from North / South America, Asia, Africa, Australia) the courier has to arrive at the city where the collection centre is located on the day before collection of bone marrow, PBSC or DLI. For all other flights the courier may arrive at the city where the collection centre is located on the day of collection of bone marrow, PBSC or DLI
- The courier has to pick up the product just before departure
- The courier has sole responsibility for the transport of the blood stem cells or donor lymphocytes from the collection centre to the transplant centre. The product must be transported as fast as possible and within a 72h time frame (starting point beginning of collection) while considering the safest route possible.
- It is the responsibility of the registry in the country providing the courier service to make sure that the courier or the courier enterprise complies with the WMDA standards

2. Transport

The following modes of transport are permitted:

- Flight
- Train
- Boat
- Car (must be accompanied by 2 couriers)

3. Transport temperature

It is mandatory to record the temperature during the transport according to the WMDA Guidelines. The authorized range of transport temperature of bone marrow, PBSC and DLI is 2°C to 8°C, if nothing else is requested by the transplant center. Precautions need to be taken to assure the correct temperature is maintained throughout the entire transport.