



You could be the one match that saves a life.

At any given time, hundreds of Canadians are depending on us to find them a matching stem cell donor. For these patients, a stem cell transplant may be the last and best hope for recovery from a serious illness, such as leukemia and diseases such as aplastic anemia, immune dysfunctions and genetic disorders.

Why a lifesaving stem cell match is so hard to find.

It's common sense to think that patients would be able to find a match from a parent, sibling or relative. The truth is, the requirements for finding a stem cell match are so precise, only about 30% are lucky enough to find a match from within their own family. For more than 70% of those in need, an unrelated donor is their only hope. It's a devastating situation when families and friends lose a loved one just because they couldn't find a suitable donor.

Why is the ethnicity of a donor important?

The markers used to match donors to patients occur with different frequencies in different ethnic groups. For this reason, a person's best chance of finding a matching donor is within his or her own ethnic group. Therefore, donors from as many ethnic communities as possible are needed to develop a database with a broad ethnic representation that reflects the needs of all patients.

About OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network

Canadian Blood Services' OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network works together with Canadian transplant centres and other registries around the world towards a single goal – helping patients get the stem cells they need.

Who can join OneMatch?

Anyone interested in joining must:

- be between 17 and 50 years of age
- be in good general health
- be willing to donate to any patient in need

Joining is Easy...

You can help. Registering for OneMatch is easy. All it takes is a little bit of your time, a simple test swabbing the inside of your cheek to collect DNA cells for typing and a willingness to donate to any patient in need.

Sign up to save a life at www.onematch.ca

When you join OneMatch, you increase the chances of finding a match for every individual who needs a stem cell transplant.

Sincerely,
The OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network Team
Canadian Blood Services
www.onematch.ca

P.S. Remember, registering is simple – just visit www.onematch.ca to receive your test kit.