

# BE THE MATCH® RELATED DONOR SERVICES

## SUPPORT FOR FAMILY MEMBERS WHO MAY BE DONORS

If your loved one needs a blood or marrow transplant (BMT), you may be their best donor. To find out, the transplant doctor may ask you to have testing done and even travel to the hospital where your loved one is getting care. This may not be easy for you to do, especially if you live far away.

Be The Match® Related Donor Services can help. We offer resources to help hospitals connect you and your loved one, whether you live in the United States or another country. Your loved one can ask their transplant team if they are using the program.

### WHEN BE THE MATCH RELATED DONOR SERVICES COORDINATES YOUR DONATION:

- All your appointments, including donation, can be scheduled closer to home.
- We coordinate and pay for your travel and lodging.
- You are reimbursed for donation-related expenses, such as ride services, meals, and other incidental costs.
- You may qualify for reimbursement of lost wages due to missed work when you donate if your employer is unable to provide paid leave or your state does not have laws requiring paid leave for donation.
- You receive health insurance to cover medical expenses related to your donation.
- We provide educational resources and support just for you.
- Your loved one can access our support and resources for financial grants at [BeTheMatch.org/Financial-Grants](https://www.bethematch.org/Financial-Grants).

### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

#### 1. Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) typing

The transplant doctor uses HLA typing to see if you are the best match for your loved one. First, we'll connect with you to make sure we have the right contact information. Then, we'll either:

- Send you a swab kit in the mail, or
- Schedule a blood draw at a clinic near you. (U.S. only)

The swab kit or blood sample is sent to a lab for testing. The transplant doctor will get the results.

**Key point:** You are not added to the Be The Match Registry® after you do HLA typing. If you would like to join the registry, you'll get that option later. If you're selected as a donor, you will get a donor identification number that is used only for your donation to your family member.

#### 2. Donation

A Be The Match workup specialist will coordinate your donation. First, your workup specialist will call you and educate you about the process, answering any questions you may have. Next, they'll help set up checkups and blood tests for you. This helps the transplant doctor make sure the donation is safe for you and your loved one. Then, your workup specialist schedules your donation. Finally, we will safely deliver your cells to your family member after your donation.

If you live outside the U.S., we may be able to work with the registry in your country to coordinate your appointments and donation.

### LEARN MORE

Visit [BeTheMatch.org/Related](https://www.bethematch.org/Related) for more information. Or, contact our Donor Advocacy Team to learn more about Related Donor Services and how we support you and your loved one.

**Call:** 1 (800) 526-7809, ext. 8710

**Email:** [advocate@nmdp.org](mailto:advocate@nmdp.org)