

Results of long-term follow-up of donors receiving filgrastim before peripheral blood stem cell donation

WHAT?

Prospective observational study to determine if donors of hematopoietic stem cells are at increased risk for cancer, autoimmune disorders or blood clots because they’ve had exposure to a drug called filgrastim to boost stem cell collection.

This is the largest, most comprehensive, study of the long-term effects of exposure to filgrastim of unrelated blood stem cell donors.

Study compared donors who had unstimulated bone marrow (BM) collected vs. those who had filgrastim-mobilized peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) collected.

WHY?

Donation using filgrastim-mobilized peripheral blood stem cells is the most common method. The long-term impact of the use of filgrastim in this setting was unknown.

WHO?



21,653 donors who had BM or PBSC collection

WHEN?

Donors who had collections

July 1999 – September 2010

RESULTS

Incidence of cancer, autoimmune disorders or blood clots in donors who received filgrastim wasn’t significantly different to the incidence in donors who didn’t receive it.

Donors who receive filgrastim aren’t at higher risk of cancer, autoimmune disorders or blood clots.

IMPACT

Donors having stem cell boost using filgrastim and those considering signing up for stem cell registries can have peace of mind that they’re not at increased risk for cancer, autoimmune disorders or blood clots.

FROM THE EXPERTS

*The long-term risks associated with donation of filgrastim mobilized peripheral blood stem cells (PBSCs) compared to bone marrow donation are not well understood. These data provide reassurance that PBSC and bone marrow donation do not have differing long term risks, helping to better inform prospective donors when presented with a choice for the route of donation.”*



**Stephen Spellman**  
Vice President, Research  
National Marrow Donor Program – Be The Match

