

STEM CELL TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

The Pediatric Transplant Center at Children's Hospital Boston gathers together physicians, nurses and support specialists into a collaborative, interdisciplinary team. Programs for heart, lung, kidney, liver, intestine & multivisceral and stem cell transplant actively share knowledge and best practices to optimize outcomes for patients and their families. The Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant Program is managed in collaboration with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through a program named Dana-Farber/Children's Hospital Cancer Care.

Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant Program

Established in the 1970's, the program is one of the oldest and largest of its kind in the United States and is internationally recognized as one of the most accomplished transplant programs in the world. Since its inception, our team of pediatric stem cell transplantation experts has performed more than 1,200 transplants for children and adolescents with the most complex cancers, non-malignant blood disorders and primary immunodeficiencies.

Pre- and post-transplantation care takes place at Children's and the Jimmy Fund Clinic at Dana-Farber. The transplant itself takes place on a special unit at Children's that uses advanced air filtering systems to maximize patient safety. For patients needing a volunteer unrelated donor, assistance with the search and stem cell collection processes is provided by the National Marrow Donor Program's office at Dana-Farber.

Patients and families also have access to supportive care programs throughout the transplantation process, including housing assistance, the Back to School Program and a specialized childhood cancer survivorship clinic, among many others.

A Team Approach to Care

Stem cell transplant patients receive expert care from a team of multidisciplinary specialists, which includes transplant-specialized senior attending physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, physician assistants, registered nurses and pediatric hematology-oncology fellows and residents. This team, overseen by Leslie Lehmann, MD, who has more than 10 years of experience in pediatric stem cell transplantation, meets twice weekly to coordinate care. Medical sub-specialists, such as gastroenterologists, endocrinologists and support specialists, including nutritionists and physical therapists, join the multidisciplinary team as needed. Patients benefit from a knowledgeable nursing staff, many with 10 to 20 years of experience and advanced nursing degrees.

Throughout the process, patients are followed longitudinally to closely monitor growth, hormonal status, school performance and other issues. After treatment is complete, childhood cancer survivors of all ages are encouraged to visit the David B. Perini, Jr. Quality of Life Clinic for ongoing care regarding long-term effects of their cancer therapy such as heart problems, infertility, learning disabilities, impaired growth and depression.

Research and Accreditations

Physicians offer access to internally-initiated and cooperative studies designed to decrease transplant-related complications and improve outcomes. On average, the team introduces eight clinical trials each year. Current areas of investigation include induction of tolerance and autologous transplant for neuroblastoma and brain tumors.

Our program is a member of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network (BMT CTN) and the Children's Oncology Group (COG). It is also fully accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) and the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP).

Referrals and Consultations

To make a referral or schedule a consultation with the Pediatric Stem Cell Transplantation Team, contact our New Patient Coordinators at 617-632-3961 (toll free 1-888-Pedi-Onc) or via email at pedi_sct@dfci.harvard.edu.

Stem Cell Transplantation Program Highlights*

Toll Free Pediatric Referral Line: 1-888-PEDI-ONC

New Patient Coordinators: Carol Cormier and Sean O'Donnell - 617-632-3961
Clinical Trials Inquiries: David Peritz - 617-632-3483
Housing Inquiries: Joseph Chabot - 617-632-3365
Financial Inquiries: Tony Rodgers - 617-632-5113

Total Transplants (inception to date) - 1233

NMDP Certified - 1989
FACT Accredited - 2007
Re-transplants - Yes
HEPA Filtered Unit - Yes
Patient/Family Housing - Yes

Number of stem cell transplant beds: 13
Number of stem cell transplant discharges: 156

Average Length of Stay

Allogeneic transplants: 49.2 days
Case mix index: 22.19
Autologous transplants: 31.3 days
Case mix index: 16.26

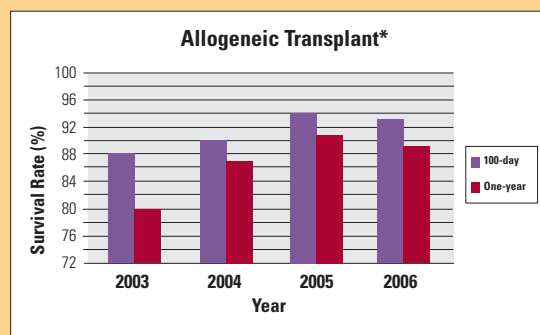
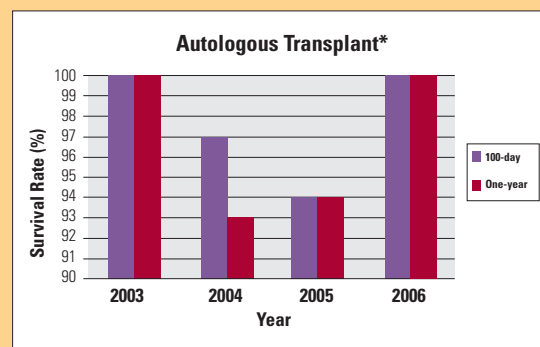
Number of Transplant Attending Staff

Faculty	13
Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners	3
Clinical and Research Staff	5

Conditions Treated

Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, acute myelogenous leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia, myelodysplastic syndrome, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma & Hodgkin's disease, solid tumors (neuroblastoma, Wilms' tumors, and select testicular and ovarian malignancies), brain tumors, aplastic anemia, immunodeficiency/errors of metabolism, sickle cell anemia, thalassemia, osteopetrosis

* Statistics for Fiscal Year 2007, which ended September 30, 2007.



* Data depicts non-relapse mortality.