

DELETE BLOOD CANCER | DKMS AT A GLANCE

ABOUT US

Delete Blood Cancer DKMS was born from one individual's incredible efforts to find a suitable bone marrow donor to save his spouse's life. Today, Delete Blood Cancer is comprised of nearly 100 passionate employees and thousands of volunteers who work tirelessly toward a common goal of facilitating successful donations.

Delete Blood Cancer and the DKMS network are part of the world's largest network of bone marrow donor centers, having registered more than 4.9 million people. Currently, more than 46,000 of those have gone on to donate to a patient in need.

HEADQUARTERS

Delete Blood Cancer
100 Broadway, Floor 6
New York, NY 10005



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Carina Ortel

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2004 Katharina Harf opens the New York Office and canvasses city neighborhoods to recruit donors.
- 2007 Our first donor saves the life of a little girl.
- 2009 We register 70,000 donors & become the fastest growing bone marrow donor center in the U.S.
- 2010 We achieve our 300th transplant.
- 2012 We register more than 105,000 donors in just one year.
- 2013 We celebrate our 1,000th transplant with our first ever public swab party.
- 2014 We raise awareness by featuring our patients' stories across national media.
- 2015 We register our 5 millionth potential donor.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications and Press Department

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WE ARE SAVING LIVES.

At Delete Blood Cancer, our mission is to build the number of suitable bone marrow and blood stem cell donors so that blood cancer deaths are deleted from our world – one swab at a time.

OUR STORY

DKMS was founded in Germany in 1991 by Peter Harf, as a result of his efforts to find a donor for his wife, Mechtild. While sadly, Mechtild Harf lost her battle with blood cancer, her passing was not in vain. For over two decades, DKMS continued to grow and accomplish incredible feats, saving thousands of blood cancer patients' lives in their native Germany and around the globe.

In 2004, Peter's daughter Katharina co-founded DKMS Americas – since renamed Delete Blood Cancer DKMS – in the U.S., as a way to bolster DKMS' potential to save lives. While our DKMS origins remain at the very heart of who we are, we call ourselves Delete Blood Cancer, as it better signals our intent. It speaks to the scope of our ambition and clearly broadcasts the idea that people everywhere can play an active role in saving the lives of people with blood cancers – diseases affecting about 150,000 Americans each year. Most importantly our new, more evocative name helps to assure those waiting for a potentially life-saving donor match that their odds of a cure become more favorable with every passing day.

Today, Delete Blood Cancer DKMS is part of the world's largest network of donor centers, having registered more than **4.9 million** potential donors and provided more than **46,000** patients with a second chance at life. The organization is comprised of nearly 80 passionate individuals and thousands volunteers who work tirelessly toward a common goal of facilitating successful donations. Many of our employees have personally seen the urgent need for a vast and diverse donor registry, giving the organization an unmatched level of energy, creativity and dedication. Since our inception, we have registered nearly **600,000** donors in the U.S. and more than **1,800** of our donors have helped save lives by donating their bone marrow.

DEFEAT BLOOD CANCER

What began as a mission to save one woman has become a global movement to delete blood cancer from people's lives – one swab at a time.

TIMELINE

- 1990 Peter Harf leads the fight to save his wife Mechtild, from blood cancer, by rallying family, friends and volunteers to register over 68,000 bone marrow donors in one year.
- 1991 Peter Harf and Prof. Dr. Gerhard Ehninger, Mechtild's physician, establish DKMS Germany. Their goal is to build a bone marrow donor center that will help blood cancer patients, worldwide, find life-saving donor matches.
- 1992 DKMS facilitates 7 bone marrow transplants.
- 1998 DKMS facilitates over 1,000 bone marrow transplants.
- 2004 Peter Harf and his daughter, Katharina Harf, bring the fight against blood cancer to the U.S. and launch DKMS Americas in New York City.
- 2006 DKMS Americas hosts its first annual gala raising over \$1 million to help fund its registration efforts.
- 2009 DKMS Americas registers more than 70,000 donors, becoming the fastest growing bone marrow donor center in the U.S.
- 2010 DKMS Americas celebrates its 300th transplant.
- 2011 In one year alone, DKMS Americas facilitates 273 more transplants.
- 2012 To reflect its success leading the fight against blood cancer, DKMS Americas rebrands itself as Delete Blood Cancer DKMS.
- Today Delete Blood Cancer DKMS has registered nearly 600,000 donors and facilitated more than 1,800 transplants and is currently expanding its donor recruitment efforts across the U.S. to continue its drive to save more lives.



BLOOD CANCER IS A KILLER

Blood cancer is **the third leading cause of cancer deaths** in the U.S.

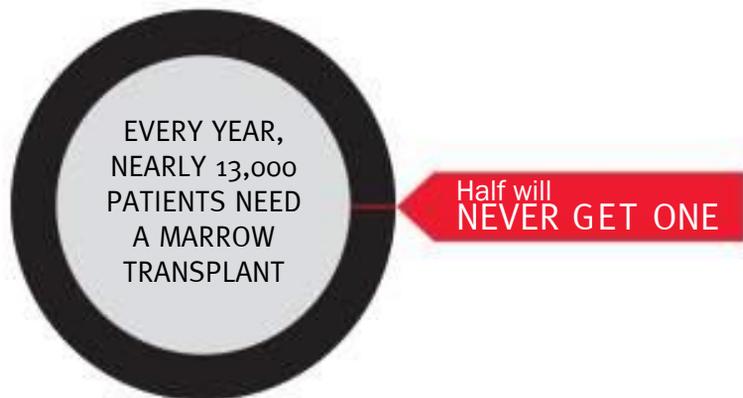
Blood cancer **kills more children** in the U.S. than any other disease.

Approximately **150,000 Americans are expected to be diagnosed** with a blood cancer this year.

Many patients fighting blood cancer and other blood diseases like sickle cell anemia can be **saved with a bone marrow or stem cell transplant**.

30% of all patients in need of a transplant can find a compatible donor within their family, but **70%** must turn to the national registry to find a match.

Every year, nearly **13,000 patients need transplants** using cells donated from a perfect stranger. Only half will get them.



WE CAN BEAT THE ODDS

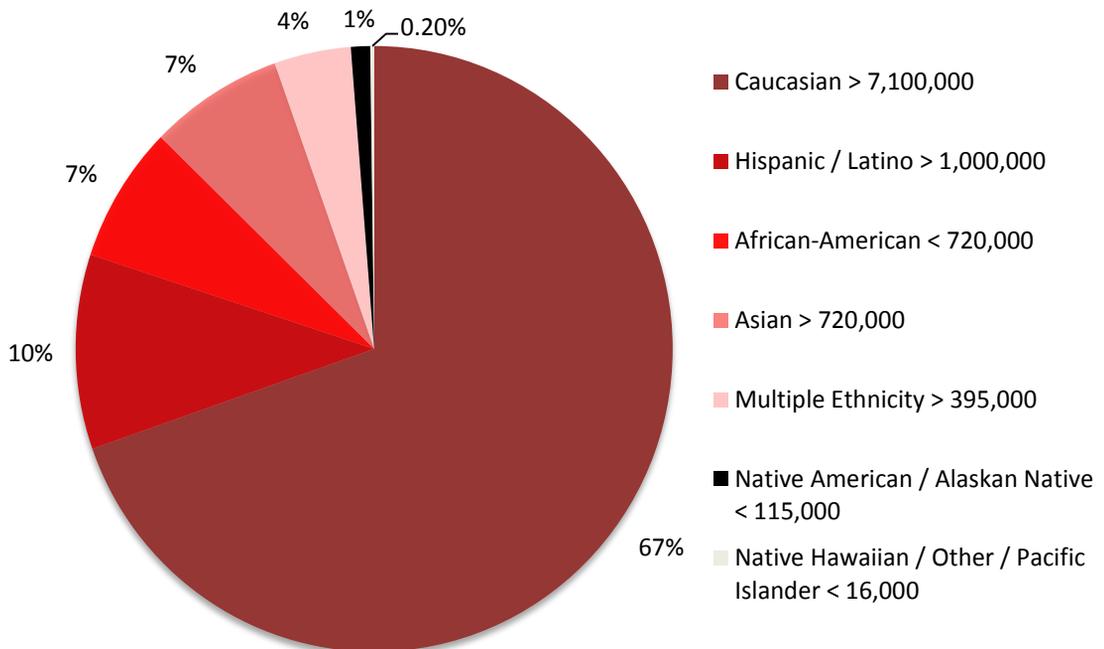
Having more donors and more ethnic diversity on the registry increases the chance of finding matches for all patients.

There are more than 7,000 known HLA (tissue type) characteristics that can occur in millions of combinations. The donor and patient must have at least 8 HLA characteristics in common to be considered a match but ideally should have 10.

Patients are most likely to match donors who share their ancestry. Patients with more diverse backgrounds (including African-Americans, Latinos, and Asians) tend to have more diverse HLA types, making it even more difficult to find a match.

Together, we can increase the chance that every patient will find the lifesaving match they need.

COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL REGISTRY BY ETHNICITY



Number and % of potential adult donors

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% as of Jan. 2013.

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST BLOOD CANCER

In principle, any generally healthy person between the ages of 18 and 55, who weighs at least 110 pounds and does not exceed a maximum body mass index (BMI) of 40, and who would consider donating to any patient s/he matches, can register as a donor.

The registration process involves filling out a form and swabbing the inside of your cheeks to collect cells for tissue typing. Your HLA tissue type will remain anonymously on the national registry until your 61st birthday unless you ask to have it removed.

As a registered donor you can be matched to any patient in need and must be willing to donate using either of the two donation methods.

1 PERIPHERAL BLOOD STEM CELL (PBSC) DONATION

Cells are collected via the bloodstream. To increase the number of stem cells in the bloodstream, donors receive daily injections of a synthetic protein called filgrastim for 4 days before and on the day of collection.

On the day of collection the donor's blood is removed with a sterile needle from one arm and passed through a machine that separates out the blood stem cells. The remaining blood is returned to the donor through the other arm. The cell collection is an outpatient procedure that takes about 4-8 hours on 1-2 consecutive days.

While taking the filgrastim, many donors experience flu-like symptoms such as headaches, bone and muscle achiness and fatigue. Most side effects subside within 48 hours of donating.

BONE MARROW DONATION

2 Marrow cells are collected from the backside of the pelvic bone (not the spine) using a special syringe. Donors receive general anesthesia so no pain is experienced during the extraction. This is a 1-2 hour, outpatient surgical procedure.

Many donors experience some pain, bruising and stiffness for up to two weeks after their donation. Within a week of donating, most donors are able to return to work, school and most regular activities. The donor's marrow is completely replenished within a few weeks.

