

Bone marrow aspiration In the operating room

Brochure for patients and their families



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Printed by

Imprimerie du CHU Sainte-Justine

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CHU Sainte-Justine Client Brochures Committee
F-2886-A GRM 30013091 (Rev. 12-2022)

Your child will be undergoing a bone marrow aspiration in the operating room.

Here is how the procedure will go once the doctor has determined it is safe for the cell donor.

Before the procedure

Your child will be admitted the day before the procedure and will have a blood test. They will have to fast from midnight onwards. The time of the procedure will be confirmed at the end of the day.

During the procedure

You will bring your child to the waiting room of the Operating Block.

The anesthesiologist in charge of sedation will see your child here. Your child will then leave the room with the surgical staff. We ask that you stay in the waiting room for at least 10 minutes.

A face mask will be used to induce anesthesia. An IV will be placed once your child is asleep. The procedure will take about two hours. Bone marrow will be taken from each of the posterior iliac crests using specially designed trocars.

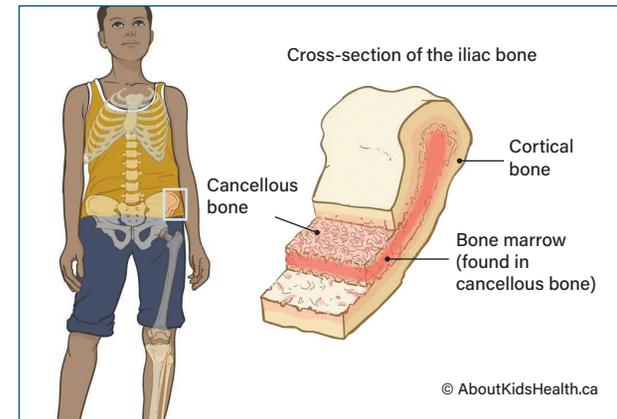
Once the procedure is done, your child will go to the recovery room until they wake up to make sure they feel fine and are not in pain.

Risks and side effects

Bone marrow aspiration is safe up to 20 mL/kg. Secondary anemia (decrease in red blood cells) is to be expected. This anemia is temporary and can be fixed with an oral iron supplement taken over four weeks. Although patients very rarely require a blood transfusion during or after a bone marrow donation, a bag of packed red blood cells will be reserved at the blood bank.

Fatigue

Your child will feel tired after the procedure. They will likely feel sluggish for a few days because of the anemia and the general anesthesia. Let them recover at their pace. We will keep your child in the hospital until the day after the procedure to make sure they are recovering well. You will also be given a prescription for pain medication at discharge to ensure that your child is pain-free.



Blood tests will be taken throughout the stay and at the end of the iron treatment about four weeks later.

Constipation

The anesthesia, lack of iron and reduced physical activity may cause your child to become constipated. Black stools are normal, but if bowel movements become difficult, don't hesitate to contact us.

If you have any questions about the procedure, you can reach the Cellular Therapy Program nurse coordinator at 514 345-4931, ext. 2450.