

# Donation Process

All donors are contacted in stages but may not go through each stage. Timelines aren't concrete since they're dependent on the patient's needs.

## Confirming Commitment

The patient's care team explores the patient's treatment options. If you're a potential match, we'll check to see if you're in good health and still committed to donating. Within two months, we'll let you know if you'll be needed for additional testing or if you've been released from this search.



## Additional Testing

A more in-depth health assessment and a new swab or blood sample are required. Then, the transplant center runs additional tests to determine if you and your patient are the best match. We'll let you know within two months whether you're being requested to donate or being released from the patient's search.



## Preparing for Donation

If you're selected as your patient's best match, you'll begin donation preparation, which should take approximately 20–30 hours over four to six weeks. This includes a physical exam and possible additional blood draws, as well as information sessions and reviewing consent forms with your coordinator.

## Donation

There are two ways to donate. The patient's doctor will determine which method is best for your patient.

	Peripheral Blood Stem Cells (PBSC)	Marrow
Procedure Type	Nonsurgical (apheresis)	Surgical (general anesthesia)
Average donation time	4–8 hours	45–90 minutes
Preparation	5 days of filgrastim injections or an FDA-approved similar	May request blood donation prior to surgical procedure
Setting	Blood donation center or hospital affiliated with NMDP <sup>SM</sup>	Hospital affiliated with NMDP
Side effects	May include sore muscles, headaches and/or bone pain from filgrastim	May include soreness or stiffness in lower back
Recovery	Typically back to regular routine in 1–2 days	Typically back to regular routine in 2–7 days

