

PRESS RELEASE

Release of the 7th edition of the International Standards on Hematopoietic Cell Therapy

- The Standards are among the only sets of professional standards that include both clinical and laboratory practices.
- They are produced by international experts from cellular therapy programs.
- The Standards address every aspect of cell collection, processing and administration that impacts on the quality of products and therapeutic care.
- The Standards are considered the 'gold standard' for bone marrow transplantation.

Barcelona, Friday March 2, 2018 – Today the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) is announcing the release of the *7th edition of the FACT-JACIE International Standards for Hematopoietic Cellular Therapy Product Collection, Processing, and Administration*.

Believing that quality care can only be achieved if both clinical, collection and laboratory issues are effectively addressed, the FACT-JACIE Standards are among the few sets of requirements that include both clinical and laboratory practices. The Standards apply to Hematopoietic Cellular Therapy based on Hematopoietic Progenitor Cells (HPC) obtained from bone marrow, peripheral blood, and umbilical cord blood.

FACT-JACIE Standards are evidence-based requirements set by international teams of world-renowned experts committed to improvement and progress in cellular therapy. Standards are developed by consensus within international committees consisting of knowledgeable clinicians, scientists, technologists, and quality experts that span the entire continuum of cellular therapy.

One significant development for this new edition is that a dedicated Quality Management sub-committee was incorporated into the process which brought to bear the particular experience and knowledge of quality managers.

Bone marrow transplantation is a rapidly moving field and now involves not just bone marrow stem cells but many other forms of cellular, immune and cytotoxic therapies. The FACT-JACIE standards have moved with the times, with revisions every three years. Development of each edition is coordinated by offices in Omaha, USA and Barcelona, Spain based on a transparent process and structured programme of work, as well as a lengthy period of public consultation before each revision.

Prof. John Snowden (Sheffield, United Kingdom), chair of the JACIE Committee, explains: "The international character of JACIE is critical to its success. In contrast to national or regional schemes, JACIE is understood and recognised by transplantation professionals in many different countries. A centre that achieves JACIE accreditation enjoys recognition not just by their national peers but also by their colleagues beyond their borders."

The 7th edition of the FACT-JACIE International Standards for Hematopoietic Cellular Therapy Product Collection, Processing, and Administration has been published and becomes effective on May 30, 2018. Downloadable on www.jacie.org/

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About the European society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT)

The EBMT is a not-for-profit medical and scientific organisation established in 1974. It is dedicated to fighting life-threatening blood cancers and diseases and improving patients' lives. The EBMT Members - more than 4,000 physicians, nurses, scientists and other healthcare professionals - participate in a unique collaborative network of peers involved in haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) and cellular therapy research. The membership encompasses at least 500 centres who are performing or are involved in HSCT in more than 50 countries. The EBMT holds a central role in performing co-operative studies and disseminating state-of-the-art knowledge aimed at increasing survival rates and enhancing the quality of life of patients with life-threatening blood cancers and diseases.

For further information about the EBMT, please visit the website: www.ebmt.org and follow us on Twitter: @TheEBMT

About The Joint Accreditation Committee ISCT-Europe & EBMT (JACIE)

JACIE was established in 1998. It promotes high-quality patient care and laboratory performance in the collection, processing and administration of cellular therapy through a profession-led, voluntary accreditation scheme.

JACIE works continuously with international partner organisations to develop and maintain standards for the provision of quality medical and laboratory practice in HSCT, performs on-site inspections, and accredits those programmes that demonstrate compliance with these standards. JACIE also provides training for inspectors and centres on the accreditation process.

Since 2000, 393 transplant programmes and facilities in 26 countries in Europe and beyond have applied to JACIE and 544 inspections (first-time and reaccreditation) have been performed. Over 300 applicants have achieved accreditation at least once with practically all centres repeating the process after completing the first accreditation cycle. There are over 260 registered inspectors, all volunteers drawn from the cellular therapy field.

Press contacts

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