

Patients, family and donors invited to special bone marrow transplant event in Frankfurt

Barcelona, 15 March 2019 – The 45th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) will be held from 24-27 March in the host city of Frankfurt. On the Sunday of the Meeting – 24th of March - the 13th Patient, Family and Donor Day will be taking place and will form an integral part of the scientific programme. Also for the first time in Frankfurt, the programme includes a second parallel session dedicated to patient advocates.

The introduction of new drugs and graft manipulation techniques, combined with changes in the clinical pattern of transplantation, particularly in the outpatient setting, has led to remarkable developments in the field over the last few years. The programme is aimed at exploring both scientific trends, aftercare and the special relationship which is often created between donors and receivers as well as between clinical BMT personnel and patients and their families.

Peter Bader, EBMT 2019 Congress Co-President and Head Division Stem Cell Transplantation & Immunology, Children & Adolescents University Hospital Frankfurt Goethe University, explains: “An international panel of specialists will talk about new possibilities in stem cell transplants, new treatments possibilities in GvHD, fertility and sexuality, psycho-oncological support and social aspects” Professor Bader adds: “The programme offers a broad range of topics and we hope that the participants will find this event useful.”

The day will be concluded with personal experiences from a former CAR T patient and a teenager donor from Germany who donated her stem cells twice to a patient to help him overcome severe aplastic anaemia, a rare blood disease.

Bregje Verhoeven, Chair of the EBMT Patient, Family and Donor Committee, says: “We are very much looking forward to the upcoming Patient, Family and Donor Day. Our objective is to inform and empower BMT patients, their family members and patient advocates so that they can work hand in hand with transplant teams to achieve the best possible result.”

The event will be held at the Messe Frankfurt. Registration to this unique and memorable day is free and interested participants are invited to [register online](#). Onsite registration will be also possible but participants are strongly recommended to register online to secure their lunch spots.

In addition, the sessions will be live-streamed, enabling anyone who cannot attend the meeting to follow the sessions. The live streamed sessions will be available via this [link](#).

For more information, please visit the [Patient, Family and Donor Day webpage](#)

EBMT gratefully acknowledges the supporters of Patient, Family and Donor Day: Anthony Nolan; DKMS and Josep Carreras Leukaemia Foundation.

Note to editors

Germany, with more than 40 transplant centers and more than 3,000 allogeneic stem cell procedures, is one of the most active countries for Stem Cell Transplantation in Europe. Germany is also known for its Donor Registries, with over 7.5 million volunteer donors providing hematopoietic stem cells all over the world.

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

The European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (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 hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) and cellular therapy research.

The EBMT patient Registry was established in the early 1970's. It is the only data source of its kind in Europe. The data are submitted continuously by more than 600 centres, including from outside Europe. The Registry holds data on more than 600,000 HSCT procedures including details on disease, transplant type, donor type and stem cell source. It contains data on patients that have undergone HSCT and also on patients receiving immunosuppressive therapies or other cell therapies. The Registry also offers the possibility to enter donors' follow-up data, which is crucial to ensure maximum donor safety. The Registry underpins extensive European research that translates into changes in clinical practice and improvements in patient outcome and care.

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

Press contact

Mélanie Chaboissier, EBMT Communication Coordinator
Phone: +34 93 453 8570
E-mail: melanie.chaboissier@ebmt.org