



Sibling Bone Marrow Donor

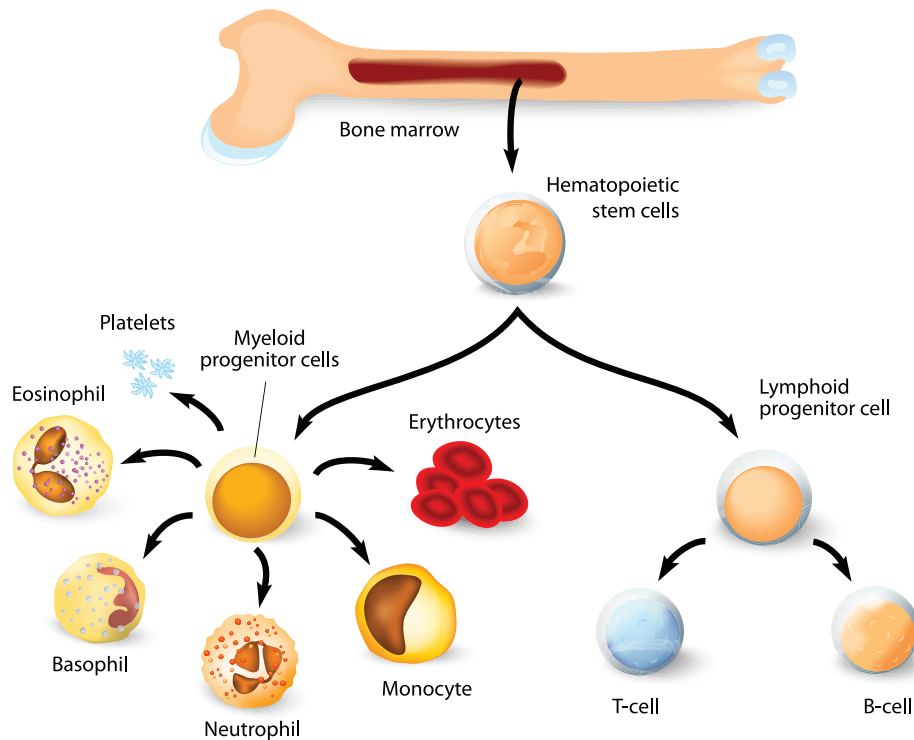
Created by the Child Life Department



Children's Mercy

Bone Marrow

Bone marrow is in the middle of your bones. It is red and spongy. It is like a factory. Its job is to make the cells in your blood.

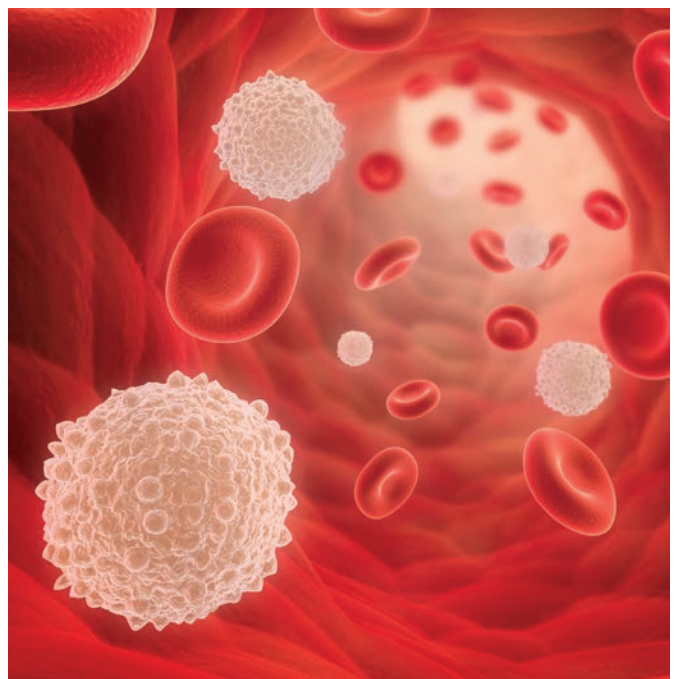
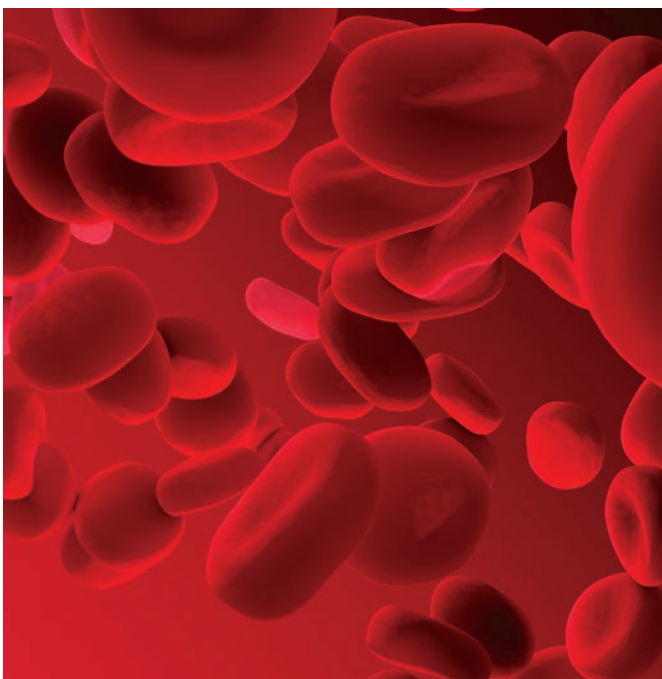


Red Blood Cells

Delivery men deliver air (oxygen) all over your body and give you energy.

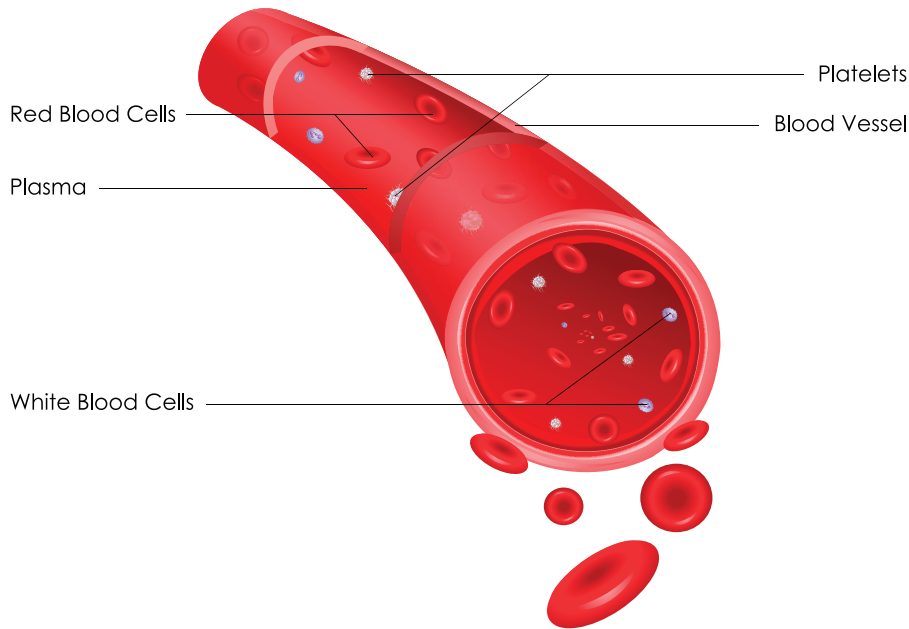
White Blood Cells

Policeman in your body to help protect you from infection (germs).



Platelets

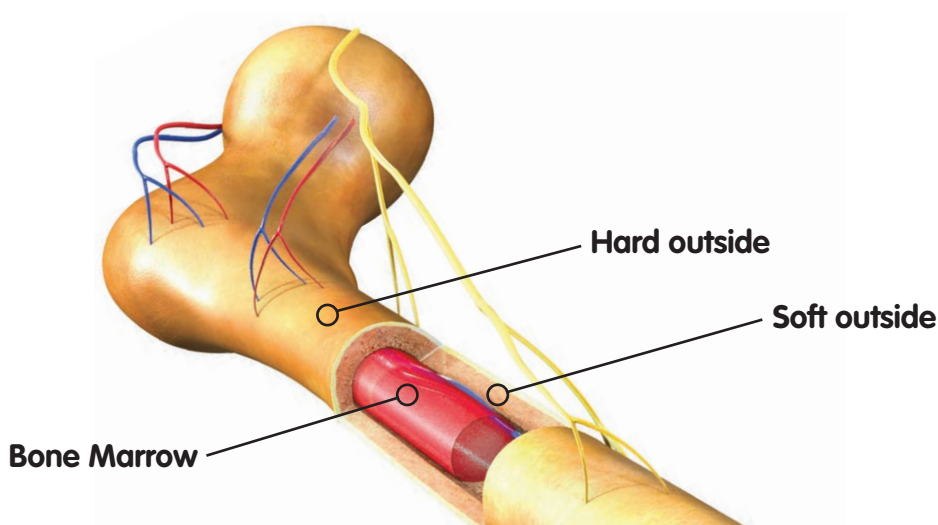
Construction workers in your body to help build a scab to stop bleeding.



What if bone marrow is not working?

When the factory workers do not do their job correctly, healthy cells are not made. Sometimes it helps to get healthy cells from another person. These healthy cells come from a donor through a process called Bone Marrow Transplant.

What does it mean if you are a donor?



If you are chosen to be a donor for your brother or sister, that means your bone marrow is a perfect match with your brother or sister's bone marrow. Your healthy marrow can help their body grow healthy cells.

The Bone Marrow Harvest

Your bone marrow procedure will take place in the surgery area.

You will check in at the front desk so they know you are here.



You will have your blood pressure and temperature taken as well as your height and weight—these are called vital signs.



While you wait, the doctor will come visit you and your parents. This is a great time for you to ask any questions you might have.

You will get to pick out what you want your sleepy air to smell like.



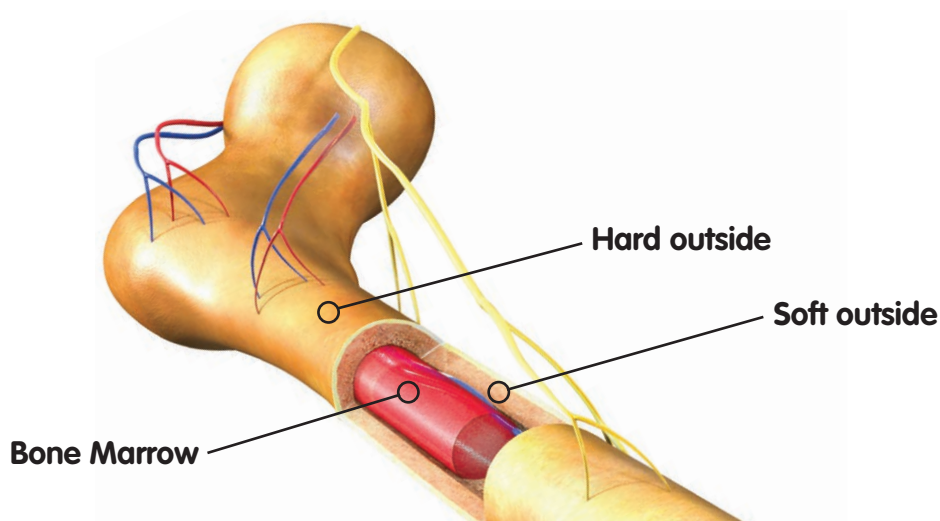
Walking back for your surgery... When it is your turn to go back for your surgery, the nurse will walk you back. At that time you will tell your parents "see ya later!"

The Operating Room

Your bone marrow harvest will take place in an operating room. You will sit on the bed in the middle of the room. When you look up, you will see big lights that help the doctors see really well. This room is used for many different surgeries, so not everything you see in the room will be used for you.



When you are asleep the doctors will take some of the bone marrow from your hipbone. They will only take out the amount they need. You will be lying on your stomach.



When You Wake Up...

You will wake up in the recovery room, it may be a little bit noisy because other children will also be waking up from surgeries. A nurse will be with you.



Transplant

When your brother or sister gets your bone marrow, it will be like getting blood. They may feel pretty sleepy that day.



After the transplant

After your brother or sister gets the new bone marrow, they will still need to stay in the hospital for a few weeks. This gives the new bone marrow time to travel all through their body and start making healthy cells.



BMT Unit

This is where your brother or sister will be while they are in the hospital for their transplant. They will not be able to leave this area. This is to help keep them from catching germs while waiting for their new bone marrow to start working.



BMT Playroom

There is a special playroom in the BMT unit just for transplant patients and families. The playroom is open all the time for you to play and do crafts. You can ask your Child Life Specialist if you have any questions about the playroom.



Wash Your Hands

Every time you come to visit your brother or sister you will need to wash your hands before coming into the BMT unit.

