

## Second transplant helps some children with acute leukemia

A second blood or marrow transplant (BMT) is helpful for certain children whose leukemia has come back (relapsed).

Researchers studied 251 children and young adults, aged less than 25 years old, who had acute myeloid leukemia (AML) or acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). All these young people had two BMTs because their leukemia relapsed after their first BMT. Some of them received a BMT after their leukemia had been controlled (in remission) with chemotherapy (chemo) medicines, and others received a BMT even though their leukemia did not respond to chemotherapy (relapse).

Researchers wanted to know who, among these children and young adults, is most likely to benefit from a second BMT. They found that those whose leukemia was controlled (in remission) at the time of their second BMT lived longer than those whose leukemia failed to respond to chemo. This was the most important thing that determined how well one did after a second BMT for leukemia.

Additionally, the best donors for a second transplant were a tissue-matched brother or sister or an unrelated adult donor.

### Ask your doctor

If my child needs a second transplant, what are the best options?

### Learn more about

- [This research](#)
- [Transplant for children and teens](#)

### Source

Lund TC, Ahn KW, Tecca HR, et al. Outcomes after second hematopoietic cell transplant for children and young adults with relapsed acute leukemia. *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation*. 2018 Sep 19. pii: S1083-8791 (18) 30573-1. doi:10.1016/j.bbmt.2018.09.016. Epub 2018 Sep 19.

### About this research summary

This information is provided on behalf of the Consumer Advocacy Committee of the CIBMTR<sup>®</sup> (Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research<sup>®</sup>).