

Patients live long after transplant for severe aplastic anemia

Serious effects possible many years after transplant

Severe aplastic anemia (SAA) is a disease where the bone marrow doesn't make enough blood cells. Blood or marrow transplant (BMT) can cure SAA, but it also can have serious effects on the skin, eyes, digestion, memory, and more.

Doctors wanted to know the best dose of a medicine called cyclophosphamide, so fewer patients experience side effects and at the same time live longer.

Nearly 100 patients with SAA joined a BMT clinical trial during 2006-2013.

About 8 years after BMT, about 3 of every 4 patients were alive. Two doses (either 50 or 100 mg/kg) of cyclophosphamide worked equally well. About half of the patients who died were older than 50 years. Some younger patients also died. Most deaths occurred in the first year after BMT, but some patients died several years later from side effects of BMT.

Keep in mind

Most patients were young, in their teens or 20s. Patients who got treated in their 50s and older did not live as long after treatment. Also, doctors should watch patients closely for serious effects several years after BMT.

What's next

If you or your loved one had BMT, tell your doctor right away if you have new problems with skin, eyes, digestion, memory or tiredness. Also, get regular checkups after BMT, even when you are healthy.

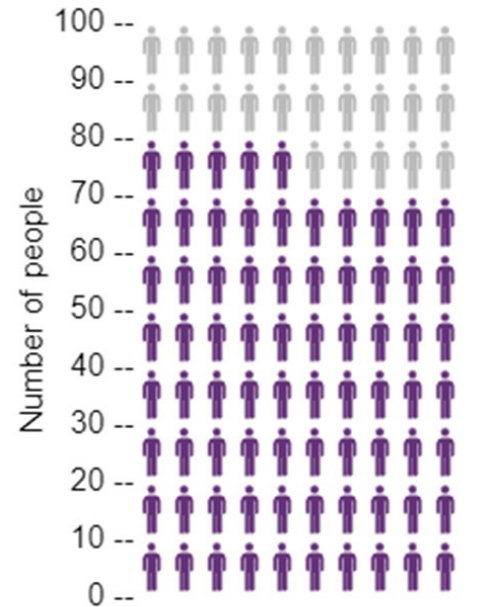
Source



Eapen M, Antin JH, Tolar J, et al. [Long-term survival after unrelated donor marrow transplantation for aplastic anaemia after optimized conditioning regimen: a retrospective multicentre cohort study](#). *EClinicalMedicine*. 2024;76:102819. Epub 20240905. PMC11405822. doi: 10.1016/j.eclinm.2024.102819.

Learn more about

- [Post-transplant guidelines](#) at CIBMTR.org
- [Clinical trials for SAA](#) at CTsearchsupport.org
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This plain-language summary (PLS) was written by Jennifer Motl at Medical College of Wisconsin and reviewed by an author of the full article. © 2025 by CIBMTR, license CC BY-SA 4.0.



-  75 out of 100 people were alive 8 years after BMT
-  25 out of 100 people died by 8 years after BMT

Sponsor

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Clinical Trial IDs

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NCT00326417



BMT CTN Data Coordinating Center

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