



## Better transplant strategies needed for babies

### Transplant may cure disease but has side effects

Most studies of blood and marrow transplant (BMT) do not include babies younger than age 1.

To learn how to best help babies, researchers checked the records of about 2,500 babies who got BMT between 2000 and 2014. All the babies got BMT with cells donated by other people.

Although BMT helps babies live longer overall, survival rates have not gotten much better over time. This is true for babies of all races in the US. In this study, about one-third (1 of 3) babies lived outside the US.

Compared to adults, babies have a higher risk of these side effects:

- a lung problem called idiopathic pneumonia syndrome
- a liver problem called sinusoidal obstruction syndrome

Researchers said that more studies are needed to find out:

- how to choose the best BMT donors for babies
- which medicines and treatments have fewer side effects for babies
- and which treatments are most helpful for babies

### Keep in mind

Babies are more likely than adults to need BMT for a rare problem that is inherited, such as severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). Adults are more likely than babies to need BMT for cancer.

### Ask your doctor

What is the best approach for my baby?



### Learn more about

- [This research](#)
- [Info on BMT for children](#)
- [Clinical trials of BMT and gene therapy for babies](#)

### 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>).

### Source

Parikh SH, Satwani P, Ahn KW, et al. Survival Trends in Infants Undergoing Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant. *JAMA Pediatrics*. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2019.0081. Epub 2019 Mar 18. [Epub ahead of print]

