

## Information Sheet "Genetic Tests in Blood Stem Cell Donation"

After a blood stem cell transplant, special genetic tests are carried out on the recipient to monitor the growth of the new cells or to diagnose a possible recurrence of the disease early on.

What are genetic tests?	These are medical tests in which parts of the human genome are analysed to identify changes.
What significance might the results of the genetic tests have for me?	In very rare cases, a genetic mutation (change) can be found in the recipient that originates from the donor. As there are many different genetic mutations with different medical relevance, their significance for the donor can vary. For example, some mutations are insignificant and are of no consequence to the donor. Other mutations are associated with a certain degree of risk of developing a specific disease later on. However, it is also possible that the significance of the mutation is not yet known. Some mutations only affect the donor themselves, while others can also be relevant for their relatives.
What options do I have on the consent form?	<p>The consent form for blood stem cell donation asks you how you would like to be informed in such a case. You have the choice between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform me in all events</li> <li>• Inform me if the results are important to my or my relative's health, in accordance with the current state of medical knowledge</li> <li>• Do not inform me under any circumstances</li> </ul> <p>If you tick the second option, you will be informed about genetic mutations that are associated with an increased risk of a disease or if the mutation is also relevant for your relatives, e.g. if a risk can be passed on to your offspring.</p>
What is the next step if I am informed that I have a genetic mutation?	<p>If you are informed that you may have a genetic mutation, you will be referred to a genetic counselling centre.</p> <p>The results and any possible consequences will be discussed with you in detail.</p>
Who pays for further tests and genetic counselling?	All your costs for genetic testing and counselling are covered by the SBSC.
What other consequences can the results have for me?	If a genetic mutation is detected, this may also have an impact if you want to take out new supplementary health insurance policies or other insurance policies, e.g. life insurance.
What happens with genetic mutations whose significance is not yet known?	In the event of new findings, the donors concerned will be informed if they have ticked the appropriate option.

Finally, we would like to emphasize once again that such cases are very rare and are not the rule. If you have any other questions, you can contact the collection centre concerned at any time.