

Questionnaire

Medical Program:

Contents	Description	Note
Feature Summary	Taipei Veterans General Hospital is one of the top hematopoietic stem cell transplant centers in Taiwan. Our dedicated team offers both allogeneic and autologous stem cell transplants.	
Overview	A hematopoietic stem cell transplantation is a procedure that infuses stem cells into the body to stimulate blood cell production. By doing so, neoplastic, damaged, or malfunctioning bone marrow is replaced with healthy blood-forming cells. A stem cell transplant is used to treat a variety of blood cancers and blood disorders, including leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndrome, and aplastic anemia. In addition, stem cell transplants can be effective for certain solid tumors, metabolic diseases, and genetic immunodeficiencies.	
Features	Taipei Veterans General Hospital is one of the most experienced stem cell transplant centers in Asia, having performed more than 2500 hematopoietic stem cell transplants since 1984. Our collaborative team of transplant specialists, transplant nurses, radiation oncologists, apheresis specialists, and nutritionists work together to provide the very best care. Our transplant patient's outcomes are comparable to those of world-class transplant centers. Furthermore, our performance on one-year survival for elderly patients receiving autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplants exceeds the survival rates reported by the	

	<p>European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) registry.</p> <p>In addition to our exceptional transplant team, we also have the best facilities. Our new Bone Marrow Transplantation and Cellular Therapy Unit opened on November 23, 2022, equipped with highly efficient HEPA filters, smart glass windows, smart mattress and central physiological monitoring system. These devices optimize patient safety and provide more comfortable care for our patients.</p> <p>We perform both autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplants. For allogeneic transplant recipients, we offer transplantation from related donors, unrelated donors, haploidentical donors (biological parent, child, or sibling). Our experts also perform reduced-intensity transplants and stem cell transplantation for older adults.</p> <p>Outstanding Achievement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first allogeneic bone marrow transplant in Taiwan (1984) 2. The first unrelated bone marrow transplant in Taiwan (1993) 3. The first allogeneic peripheral stem cell transplant in Taiwan (1994) 4. The first unrelated cord blood stem cell transplant in Taiwan (2003) 5. Our transplant experts and researchers are committed to making transplantation safer. We have published dozens of scientific papers in high-ranking international journals in the field. 	
Procedure	There are two main types of hematopoietic stem cell transplants: allogeneic and autologous.	

Allogeneic stem cell transplant

In an allogeneic stem cell transplant, the stem cells come from a suitable donor. Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) typing is used to find the best match. Patients will be fully evaluated to make sure that they are fit enough and eligible to undergo allogeneic stem cell transplants. Before transplantation, patients will receive conditioning therapy, which typically includes high-dose chemotherapy or a combination of chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Then allogeneic stem cells will be infused into a vein, much like a blood transfusion. Patients may spend a few weeks in HEPA-filtered rooms, where our transplant specialists monitor for signs of infections and complications. Blood transfusions are often required before bone marrow recovers. In addition, immunosuppressive treatment is required for at least a few months following allogeneic stem cell transplants, in order to prevent graft-versus-host disease. After patients are discharged from the hospital, our transplant team works closely with them to ensure their recovery. Frequent blood tests and appointments should be expected.

Autologous stem cell transplant

An autologous stem cell transplant uses patients' own stem cells, which are harvested, frozen, and stored in advance. To harvest stem cells, patients have to take medications including G-CSF shots to move the stem cells into their blood, then the stem cells are collected through a process called apheresis. Before autologous transplants, patients will receive high-dose chemotherapy. These intensive treatments eradicate cancer cells, but they also damage normal bone marrow

	<p>cells. Through the infusion of stored autologous stem cells, these healthy stem cells will travel to the bone marrow and produce new blood cells. Autologous stem cell transplants are much safer than allogeneic transplants, but patients would be neutropenic for a few weeks. Moreover, it takes several months for their immune system to fully recover. Therefore, patients have to be monitored after autologous transplants.</p>	
Notification	<p>Potation risks and complications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infections Bleeding and thrombotic complications Graft failure Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome of the liver Capillary leak syndrome Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage Engraftment syndrome Thrombotic microangiopathy Acute and chronic graft-versus-host-disease Hemorrhagic cystitis Noninfectious lung injuries Neurological complications Endocrine disorders and infertility Secondary neoplasia 	
Estimated Cost	<p>The procedure cost is about 3,000,000~3500000NTD, prices are subject to change without prior notice, need to pay in accordance with the actual medical expenses.</p>	

Date: day /month/year

Note: The information collected in this questionnaire will be used as a guide for International Medical Service on IMSC' s Website.

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