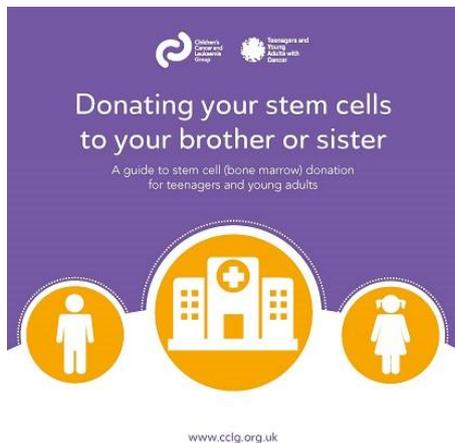


**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

BOOK REVIEWS

Read what people affected by cancer think about...



Donating your stem cells to your brother or sister. A guide to stem cell (bone marrow) donation for teenagers and young adults (May 2019)

Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group.

Leicester: CCLG, May 2019.

24pp.

Free.

Macmillan Cancer Support
89 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7UQ

These reviews were written by people affected by cancer and are not the views of Macmillan Cancer Support. These reviews, and the publications reviewed, should not be relied upon as a substitute for specialist professional advice tailored to your situation. So far as is permitted by law, Macmillan does not accept liability in relation to the use of any information contained in this review or publication or third-party information or websites included or referred to in it.

These reviews are of an earlier edition (2010)



This book is great. The information (for older children and teenagers) is clear, concise and well explained. It is also suitable for adults who may need to know about the process and is best read beforehand. There is a glossary to explain new and medical terminology. The language otherwise, is clear and at the right level for the target age group. As an adult, I found this extremely informative.

I like the addresses and glossary at the back and the contents page at the front, which make it seem more like a book for older children. However, the format looks as though it is meant for children a lot younger, which is a shame as teenagers may not want to read it because of this. This aside, I cannot fault the book. A useful tool that could be read by anyone at any time.

Living with cancer (myelodysplastic syndrome) and former teacher of 3-16-year-olds with SEN (46-55) (January 2018)



The text of this book is very useful for a teenager who is about to embark on donating stem cells to a brother or sister. It would also be useful for a parent, friend or relation and a school to have on their shelf to explain what goes on.

The text is clear and concise and explains the process in a very good and easy to understand way. It is easy to understand for teenagers and words are explained well. However, the book is let down by the cover and illustrations throughout. Although the book is bright and cheery, the cover clearly states that the book is "A teenager's guide", yet the illustrations are babyish and often pointless. You must remember that teenagers will have studied science at school. It would have been better to add more diagrams and the illustrations should be relevant and suitable for that age group.

Breast cancer patient with seven grandchildren (46-55) (January 2018)

This book is primarily aimed at the donor and ideally would be read before harvesting of the stem cells. It is full of information which is given clearly and logically. There is a lot of information, making the book more suitable for children at the upper end of KS2, i.e. 10 and up. However, a parent could use it for a younger child by reading first and then putting the "story" of each page into his/her own words.

Technical and medical terminology is well explained but I would add again, it is very detailed and younger children could really do better with a less detailed approach. It is colourful and nicely presented and the images are positive. However, I think it is missing pictures of the family; the child donor appears by herself on a lot of pages.

This book has excellent detail on the whole process, including emotions likely to be experienced by the donor. I would definitely recommend it but I would like to see more illustrations of the "support system", i.e. in the form of a family and more illustrations of a smiley medical team.

Kidney cancer patient and retired primary head teacher (66-75) (February 2016)

Further information

Why does Macmillan Cancer Support review books?

We use reviews to help us compile a list of suggested cancer books, the [Macmillan Core Book List](#). Cancer information centres and public libraries can use this list to select appropriate and relevant books for people affected by cancer.

We add reviews to the [Directory of information materials for people affected by cancer](#) so that people affected by cancer can see what others in a similar situation think about a book. You can also see details of all the books reviewed in the [Book reviews listing](#), which also has links to all the reviews.

We recruit most of our reviewers through the [Volunteering Village](#) and the [Cancer Voices Network](#), people affected by cancer who have signed up to help Macmillan Cancer Support in a number of ways. Volunteers are a vital part of our book review process; since 2007, over 1,500 Macmillan volunteers have written more than 6,000 reviews of over 500 different books.

If you are a health professional who would like to review books for us, please [email Sue Hawkins](#), Information Materials Researcher, Macmillan Cancer Support.

Information and support for people affected by cancer

If you are looking for support to help you live life with cancer, you may wish to contact one of [Macmillan's cancer information and support services](#). Or you can call the Macmillan Support Line free on **0808 808 00 00** (Mon-Fri 9am–8pm). We have an interpreting service in over 200 languages. Just state, in English, the language you wish to use. If you are deaf or hard of hearing you can use textphone no 0808 808 0121 or Text Relay.

You can also email us using the [website enquiry form](#). Alternatively, [visit our website](#).

Feedback

If you have any comments, please [email Sue Hawkins](#), Information Materials Researcher, Macmillan Cancer Support.

We're here to help everyone with cancer live life as fully as they can, providing physical, financial and emotional support. So whatever cancer throws your way, we're right there with you.

For information, support or just someone to talk to, call 0808 808 00 00 or visit macmillan.org.uk

© Macmillan Cancer Support, March 2020

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SCO39907) and the Isle of Man (604).