

ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY CONTENT

Table SI - The questionnaire

No.	Session/question	Answers
1.0	General knowledge regarding donation process	
1.1	Are you aware of the existence of an Italian registry of bone marrow donors?	☐ Yes ☐ No
1.2	Are you aware that there are donor centres everywhere across Italy where it is possible to register as a stem cell donor?	
1.3	Are you aware that unrelated donations are anonymous, voluntary and unremunerated?	
1.4	Are you aware that donation can occur through bone marrow harvesting or peripheral blood stem cell collection?	
1.5	Are you aware that over 2,000 Italian patients every year need a compatible unrelated donor to access HSCT as a life-saving therapy?	
1.6	Are you aware that all mothers can donate their umbilical cord during childbirth?	
1.7	Are you aware that cord blood units donated for HSCT purpose are stored in public cord blood banks?	
1.8	Would you be more willing to donate hematopoietic stem cells if you could choose the recipient?	
1.9	Do you know that there are voluntary associations (e.g., AIL, ADMO, etc.) aimed to make citizens aware of SC donation?	
2.0	Knowledge of stem cells' role and function	
2.1	Hematopoietic stem cells are capable of duplicating and self-renewing.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know (Right and wrong for statistics)
2.2	Are hematopoietic stem cells specialized?	
2.3	Hematopoietic stem cells, through processes of differentiation and maturation, can give rise to various types of cells.	
2.4	What are the functions of hematopoietic stem cells? a. Produce energy	
2.5	b. Produce serum (the liquid part of the blood)	
2.6	c. Produce red blood cells	
2.7	d. Produce platelets	
2.8	e. Produce proteins	
2.9	f. Produce white blood cells	
2.10	From where can hematopoietic stem cells be harvested in large quantities? a. From sperm/eggs	
2.11	b. Human embryos	
2.12	c. Bone marrow	
2.13	d. Spinal cord	
2.14	e. Blood	
2.15	f. Urine	
2.16	g. Saliva	
2.17	h. Vertebral column	
2.18	i. Umbilical cord	
3.0	Knowledge of stem cell collection methods	
3.1	The collection of hematopoietic stem cells can occur: a. By harvesting bone marrow through repeated punctures of the iliac crests (pelvic bones)	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know (Right and wrong for statistics)
3.2	b. From peripheral blood through an apheresis machine (such as in platelet donation)	
3.3	c. By puncturing the blood vessels (veins) of the umbilical cord after the baby's birth	
3.4	Do you know that a growth factor drug is administered before PBSC collection with the aim to increase SC number and exit from the BM?	
3.5	Do you know that the collection of stem cells from bone marrow requires the administration of anesthesia (spinal or general)?	

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Table SI - The questionnaire (continued from previous page)

No.	Session/question	Answers
4.0	Participants' beliefs concerning stem cell donation	
4.1	<i>UCB collection causes pain for the mother and/or the baby</i>	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know <i>(Right and wrong for statistics)</i>
4.2	<i>UCB collection poses risks to the mother and/or the baby</i>	
4.3	<i>PBSC collection poses risks of developing blood diseases</i>	
4.4	<i>BM explant carries the risk of paralysis</i>	
4.5	<i>BM explant results in visible scars</i>	
5.0	Participants' feelings regarding stem cell donation	
5.1	<i>What do you feel when you think about donating your SC?</i> <i>a. Acceptance</i>	☐ Not at all ☐ A bit ☐ Moderately ☐ A lot
5.2	<i>b. Fear</i>	
5.3	<i>c. Anxiety</i>	
5.4	<i>d. Solidarity</i>	
5.5	<i>e. Indifference</i>	
5.6	<i>f. Enthusiasm</i>	
5.7	<i>g. Gratification</i>	
5.8	<i>h. Grief</i>	
5.9	<i>i. Empathy</i>	
5.10	<i>j. Satisfaction</i>	
5.11	<i>k. Dignity</i>	
5.12	<i>l. Hesitation</i>	
5.13	<i>m. Apprehension</i>	
5.14	<i>n. Terror</i>	
5.15	<i>o. Frailty</i>	
5.16	<i>p. Concern</i>	
5.17	<i>q. Uncertainty</i>	
5.18	<i>r. Vulnerability</i>	
5.19	<i>s. Rejection</i>	
5.20	<i>t. Curiosity</i>	
5.21	<i>u. Exaltation</i>	
5.22	<i>v. Perplexity</i>	
6.0	Opinions and values	
6.1	<i>Are you in favour of the use of hematopoietic stem cells for research or clinical trials?</i>	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Undecided ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
6.2	<i>The transplant of hematopoietic stem cells is a life-saving therapy</i>	
6.3	<i>The donation of hematopoietic stem cells is a choice that everyone should consider</i>	
6.4	<i>Cord blood donation should be done by default</i>	
6.5	<i>Enrolment in the donor registry, except for contraindicated cases, should be mandatory for everyone</i>	
6.6	<i>The population should have access to more information about the donation of hematopoietic stem cells</i>	
6.7	<i>If I were to donate my hematopoietic stem cells, I would like to know who receives them</i>	
6.8	<i>If I were to donate my hematopoietic stem cells, I would like to know the recipient's condition</i>	

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Table SI - The questionnaire (continued from previous page)

No.	Session/question	Answers
7.0	Information and educational needs	
7.1	<i>How well-informed do you consider yourself regarding the donation of hematopoietic stem cells?</i>	☐ Not at all ☐ A bit ☐ Moderately ☐ A lot
7.2	<i>Would you like to receive more information about the donation of hematopoietic stem cells?</i>	☐ Yes ☐ No
7.3	<i>If awareness events on hematopoietic stem cell donation were organized in your area, would you be interested in participating?</i>	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know
7.4	<i>Would you agree with the proposal that institutions should provide information material on SC donation to every newly young adult?</i>	☐ Yes ☐ No

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