

# Asian & Pacific Islander Donors...



...Can Save Lives

LOOK AT ME CLOSELY.  
I'M YOUR CHILD.  
YOUR COUSIN.  
YOUR FRIEND.



*Marrow recipient (back row) with his wife and two young sons*

I had a life-threatening disease and was told that a marrow transplant was my only chance for curing the disease.

My siblings did not match my marrow type and I needed a donor, probably another Asian or Pacific Islander for a match.

Then a miracle occurred. My marrow donor was found. I am here today with my wife and sons because my donor gave me a second chance at life.

Become a marrow donor by joining the National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP) Registry today. Asian and Pacific Islander donors *can* save lives!

View in: [Chinese](#) | [Korean](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

## WHY ARE ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS NEEDED?

Marrow transplants require matching certain tissue traits of the donor and the patient. Because these traits are inherited in the same way as hair or eye color, a patient's most likely match is another family member. Unfortunately, 70 percent cannot find a match within their own families. They need an unrelated individual, like you, willing to donate healthy marrow.



*Marrow Recipient*

Some characteristics of marrow type are unique to people of specific ancestry. Although it's possible for an Asian or Pacific Islander patient to match a donor from any racial or ethnic group, the most likely match is an Asian or Pacific Islander donor.

More Asian and Pacific Islander volunteer donors are needed, so others can have a chance for a future.

For information, contact:  
**National Marrow Donor Program®**



**1-800-MARROW-2**  
[www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)



**National Marrow Donor Program®**  
3001 Broadway St. NE, Suite 500  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

For more information, contact:  
**1-800-MARROW-2**  
[www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org)

**YES! I WANT TO HELP!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Day Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to talk with someone who speaks: (Specify language) \_\_\_\_\_ (Someone will return your call as soon as possible)
- I want more information on how I can become a volunteer marrow donor. Please send it to me in the following language(s):  
 Chinese     English     Japanese     Korean     Vietnamese
- Please contact me. I'd like to help by:  
 Organizing a marrow donor testing drive  
 Requesting a speaker  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## National Marrow Donor Program®

3001 Broadway St. NE, Suite 500  
Minneapolis, MN 55413



*Marrow Donor*

### What is marrow?

Marrow makes blood cells and even looks like blood, but is just a little thicker. It is produced inside the larger bones and can be removed with a needle and syringe and donated to patients with life-threatening blood diseases.

### Who needs marrow transplants?

Each year, more than 30,000 new patients are diagnosed with leukemia, aplastic anemia or other life-threatening blood diseases. For many, their only chance for survival is a marrow transplant.

### Does it hurt when I donate marrow?

You won't feel any pain when the marrow is removed because anesthesia is used. But you may feel some soreness for about a week after you donate.



*"I am glad that I could give hope to another family in a time of darkness. I feel blessed to be the light that gave them hope."*

*- Marrow Donor*

### How much of my marrow is taken?

The amount of marrow taken depends on the weight of the recipient; does not affect the white cell or platelet count; and is completely replenished in a few weeks.

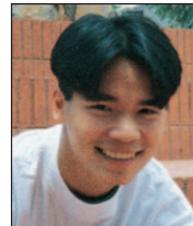
### What is my commitment?

Joining the NMDP Registry of volunteer marrow donors is a serious commitment. Unless you notify the NMDP, you will remain on the Registry until age 61. The NMDP is aware that there are circumstances which cause donors to be unavailable when called upon. If there is a change in your address or significant change affecting your long-term health, please continue your commitment towards saving lives by notifying your donor center or calling 1-800-MARROW-2.



*Marrow Donor*

### How can I make a difference?



*"It is a joy knowing that I helped someone regain a life that he once had, giving him a chance to continue his life."*

*- Marrow Donor*

A simple blood test determines tissue type. As soon as your tissue type is added to the NMDP Registry, you've already made a difference to the 3,000 patients and their families searching the list every day. You give them renewed hope for a matched donor.

### Who pays for the costs?

All donor expenses are paid by the patient. The cost of the initial blood test for minorities is paid with funding from the Department of the Navy and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

## HOW CAN I HELP?

You must be between 18 and 60 years old and in good health.

- ◆ The first step is to take a quick blood test. A lab will determine your tissue type. It will be entered under a code number in the NMDP Registry.
- ◆ If you are identified as a potential match, further blood samples will be necessary to verify the match.
- ◆ If the match is compatible, you attend an information session with a medical staff person so you can make an informed decision about donating your marrow.
- ◆ You receive a complete physical examination and may need to donate units of your own blood to receive back after the marrow collection.
- ◆ The collection is scheduled at a hospital. The marrow is removed from the pelvis using a special needle and syringe while you are under regional or general anesthesia.
- ◆ The donated marrow is immediately sent to the transplant center and transfused into the waiting patient.
- ◆ Most donors (approximately 90 percent) return home the day of the procedure.
- ◆ You'll probably feel some soreness in your lower back area for about a week. Donors generally return to their normal activities within several days of the procedure.



*Marrow Donor*

Within weeks, your body fully replenishes the donated marrow.