

Urgent Appeal on Behalf of 8-year Old Child of God Marie

8-year-old Marie needs your prayers and your help. She has been undergoing chemotherapy and viral drug treatments, yielding limited results. Her doctors are looking for a bone marrow transplant, however, there is no match in the National Bone Marrow Registry. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Though there are millions of people already in the registry, Marie was not found to match anyone in the national or international databases. As many more people as possible need to be, at least several thousand, and give the results to Marie's doctors.

- Please consider being tested to see if you are a match for Marie.
- Please ask others to consider being tested.
- Consider placing yourself on the National Bone Marrow Registry.
- Please also pass this request on to your family, friends, co-workers, and to their prayer and Bible study groups and religious communities.
- Print this flyer up and pass it out.

Special note for those in the Indianapolis, Indiana area. You can be tested on Monday, June 12, between 3-8 p.m. at St. Matthew School Gymnasium at 56th and Binford Blvd.

Please join in praying for this effort, trusting that many will respond with an outpouring of Christ-like love on behalf of Marie, one of these little ones. May the Lord have mercy on us all.

Please read the information below, taken from this web page:

http://www.stgindy.org/Event_Flyers/BoneMarrowMG.htm

You may also remain updated regarding Marie and the bone marrow testing at this website:

<http://www.stgindy.org/>

Testing for the National Marrow Donor Program

Why are we setting up special testing to find a match for Marie?

Though there are millions of people already in the registry, Marie was not found to match

anyone in the national or international databases. We'd like to test as many more people as possible, at least several thousand, and give the results to Marie's doctors. If they can't find an exact match, they can use a donation from someone who's a close match.

Unfortunately, the national database only returns exact matches—of which there are none—that's why we have to get the results directly to Marie's doctors. No one from Marie's immediate family was found to be a suitable match, and the doctors tell us that the match may likely come from someone totally unrelated, even from a different ethnic or racial background, so we need to test many people.

Note also that if you don't match Marie, you may be able to help someone else in Marie's name, just like the millions of people who could have been potential donors for her from the registry.

Who can be tested?

You must be between 18 and 60 years old and in general good health. You cannot have had cancer (except for small skin or breast cancers that have been treated successfully), heart disease (except controlled hypertension) or autoimmune diseases (other than seasonal allergies). See http://www.marrows.org/HELP/med_guidelines_join.html for more information.

What is involved in the test?

You only need to give a couple of small vials of blood for typing, *not* a pint like when you donate blood (but you may choose to donate blood at the same time, at your option). It's painless to give a sample.

What if I can't make it June 12 or if I live outside Indianapolis?

If you would like to be tested but cannot make this date, please call Melissa at the Indiana Blood Center, 317-916-5110, for a test kit that can be mailed to your home. You swab your mouth, and mail the swab back to the Blood Center. You can also contact local blood banks in other cities for an individual test or to set up a large group for testing like we're doing in Indianapolis, *but please be sure to designate that the results be sent to the doctors attending Marie George at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.*

What does it cost?

There is a \$50 tax-deductible donation to the Indiana Blood Center for their cost to do the

typing (\$62 if you use the mail-in kit), *but please do NOT let the cost deter you from being tested. Private donors will cover the costs, if necessary.*

What is involved if I am found to be a match?

If you are found to be a suitable match for Marie (or for anyone else in need, via the registry), the procedure involves withdrawing some bone marrow from a hip bone with a needle, under anesthesia. No incisions are necessary. You will leave the hospital that day and should be totally fine by evening. You can donate the bone marrow in a local hospital (at either IU Medical Center or St. Francis Hospital for those who live in the Indianapolis area), and there is no cost to the donor.