CLINICAL TRIALS PROGRAM
JASON CARTER

LEARN: BETHEMATCH.COM/ONE-ON-ONE
EMAIL: patientinfo@perc.org
CALL: 1 (888) 999-6743

GET SUPPORT:
During and after a blood or marrow transplant, we offer free one-on-one support information.
The Be The Match Patient Support Center is here to help.

FAQ EVERY STEP

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LEARN: JCTPORTA
EMAIL: clinicaltrials@jctporta.org
CALL: 1 (888) 814-8610

Find CAR T Clinical Trials:
- Access to clinical trial data for eligible patients
- CAR T cell clinical trials
- Resources to help you learn about and find trials in the U.S. that are recruiting patients
- A simple search tool to find CAR T cell clinical trials
- One-on-one support for you and your family

We offer:
- Clinical Trial Support
- CAR T Cell Support
We can help.
- Find clinical trials
- Help with the right CAR T Cell Trial

QUESTIONS TO ASK

What does it cost?
CAR T cell therapy can be expensive.
- You may have to pay:
  - Insurance
  - Other costs
- If you're part of a CAR T cell clinical trial, you may not have to pay.

How can I get CAR T cell therapy?
- First, talk to your doctor.
- Ask if they know of any clinical trials.
- You may need to travel to a clinical trial site.

Some clinical trials are only available at large academic hospitals.

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WHAT IS CAR T CELL THERAPY?

CAR T cells are a new way to treat some cancers using gene therapy. This treatment helps your own immune system find and destroy cancer cells.

CAR T cells are unique because they:

- Can be programmed to target and attack specific cancer cells.
- Help overcome the resistance that cancer cells may develop to other standard treatments.
- May stay in your body up to several years and keep fighting cancer cells.

HOW ARE CAR T CELLS MADE?

T cells are a type of immune cell in your blood. Your T cells are collected from your bloodstream through a process called apheresis. This process is similar to donating blood and takes a few hours in the clinic.

Then, your T cells are sent to a lab to be treated with gene therapy. Your T cells’ genes are reprogrammed so that they make special proteins called CARs. CAR stands for Chimeric Antigen Receptor. The CAR T cells are grown in a lab for 2–6 weeks until there are millions of them. During this time you’ll be at home or getting other treatments.

The CARs on the surface of your T cells help them find the cancer cells. Normal T cells may not be able to see cancer cells, but, once in your body, the CAR T cells will multiply, find and destroy cancer cells.

WHAT IS THE TREATMENT LIKE?

About 1–2 weeks before the CAR T cells are given to you, you’ll go to the clinic or hospital to get standard chemotherapy infusions. These drugs are given to remove your regular T cells to make room for the CAR T cells.

You’ll be in the hospital or clinic on the day of your CAR T cell infusion. The infusion takes about an hour. You’ll be closely monitored for several hours afterwards. You’ll go home if the doctors think you’re doing well enough.

Treatment isn’t over after the infusion. Most people need bone marrow biopsies over the next few weeks to monitor how the treatment is working. You may even get more infusions of CAR T cells. Doctors will continue to monitor your health for up to 15 years.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

There are serious potential side effects from CAR T cells. In rare cases, people have died from it.

- Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)

The CAR T cells attack cancer cells, and in response your body releases chemical signals called cytokines. Cytokines cause a strong immune reaction, similar to a severe allergy or serious infection.

CRS can happen anytime during the first few weeks after treatment. Most people have some CRS and it ranges from mild to life-threatening. Some signs of CRS include fevers, chills, sore throat, headaches, rash and worsening fatigue.

- Neurotoxicity

CAR T cell therapy can affect your brain. Some people have had seizures, confusion or forgetfulness after CAR T cell infusions.

Call your doctor right away if you have any signs of CRS or mental changes. You may need to go back to the hospital so the doctors can watch you closely, even if your symptoms are mild.

COULD CAR T CELL THERAPY HELP ME?

CAR T cells are primarily for people who have had other standard treatments, like chemo or transplant, but the disease has come back or didn’t get better.

Right now, CAR T cells are not an option for someone newly diagnosed with a blood cancer.