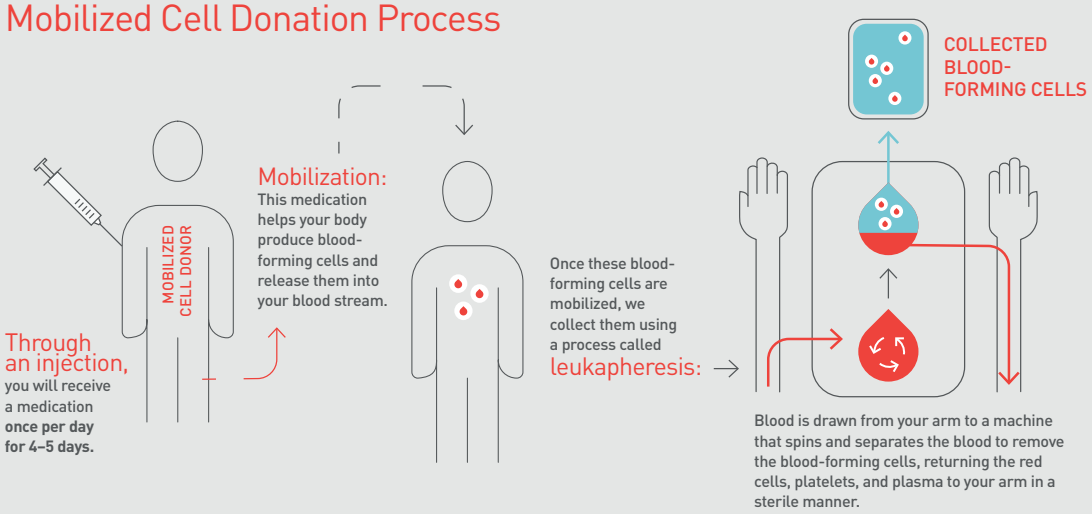
bloodworksnw.org
921 Terry Ave.
Seattle, WA 98104
800-398-7888

Mobilized Collection FAQs

What are blood-forming cells?

All of our blood cells are made in our bone marrow by blood-forming cells. These cells can be used for research studies involving cancer, metabolic diseases, and autoimmune diseases.

Mobilized Cell Donation Process



What is a mobilized donation?

When you donate mobilized blood-forming cells, you will receive a medication as an injection under your skin once per day for 1–5 days. This medication helps your body produce blood-forming cells and release them into your blood stream, a process we call mobilization. You may also receive a second medication that helps with mobilization for 1–2 days.

Once these blood-forming cells are mobilized, we collect them using a process called leukapheresis. Blood is drawn from your arm to a machine that spins and separates the blood to remove the blood-forming cells, returning the red cells, platelets, and plasma to your arm in a sterile manner.

What is the time commitment for a mobilized donation?

A mobilized donation of blood-forming cells occurs over a 4–6 week time period, and involves consecutive in-person appointments the week of mobilization. These appointments include:

- Informed consent, health screening, and blood draw **(60 minute visit with nursing staff)**
- Medication consent phone call **(30 minutes with physician)**
- 1–4 consecutive days of symptom assessment and medication administration **(30–45 minutes per visit, nursing and medical staff)**
- 1–2 consecutive days of blood-forming cell collection through leukapheresis **(4–6 hours)**
- 2 post donation follow up calls **(15 minutes per call with nursing staff)**
  - *Medical staff will follow up by phone for up to five weeks.*
  - *You must wait 56 days after your collection date to be eligible to donate to the community blood supply.*

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Bloodworks Northwest

Do I need to qualify as a community blood supply donor to donate mobilized cells?

Not necessarily. Clients need donors for both research and clinical trials. So if you are interested but are not sure if you qualify due to deferral in other Bloodworks donation programs, please inquire.

What medications will I receive?

Our protocol may use one of two medications, either separately or in combination. These medications are G-CSF and Plerixafor.

Are the medications I'm receiving or any part of the procedure experimental?

Our method of mobilizing and collecting blood-forming cells using G-CSF and Plerixafor has been given to many healthy donors like you. Both medications are lawfully marketed in the United States. The apheresis collection procedure is performed by Bloodworks' highly trained medical and nursing staff, who will be focused on your safety and comfort throughout the procedure.

Why do mobilized blood-forming cell donations take longer than a platelet or plasma donation?

The average mobilized blood forming cell donation time is about 4–5 hours. This type of donation take longer because your blood is circulated through the apheresis machine 2–4 times, more times than it would during a platelet or plasma donation. However, the total volume we collect is about 400mL; less than a pint of blood. It will be a mixture of the blood forming cells and plasma.

What are the possible side effects of the medications I will receive?

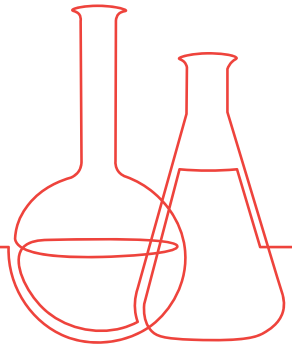
The most common side effect of the medication G-CSF are bone aches and pains due to the increased production of blood forming cells in the marrow. Side effects typically start 1–2 days into starting the medication and typically subside within a week of stopping the medication.

You may also receive Plerixafor injections. The most common side effects of the medication Plerixafor are diarrhea and abdominal bloating. Like side effects from G-CSF, these typically subside within a few days of stopping the medication.

All risks and side effects of the medication will be addressed during a phone call with our Medical Director after your initial screening.

DONATING MOBILIZED BLOOD-FORMING CELLS IS MOST SUITABLE FOR DONORS WHO CAN COMMIT TO MULTIPLE CONSECUTIVE IN-PERSON VISITS.

All appointments take place at Bloodworks First Hill location:
921 Terry Ave. Seattle, WA 98104



How will my donation be used for research?

Researchers will use your donation to learn more about chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. These ongoing investigations are designed to discover better ways to prevent, diagnose, or treat these and other conditions.

How long will it be before my donation?

Your donation date will be scheduled based on your availability and the current need for donations. After your screening, we will reach out to you as soon as we have potential collection dates. Your screening appointment is required to take place within 30 days of your donation. In the event that your donation is scheduled more than 30 days after your initial screening, you many need to come back for a quick repeat of your labs and/or paperwork.

Can I go to my closest donation center for any of the appointments?

No, all mobilized blood-forming cell appointments, injections, and collections will take place at Bloodworks Northwest's Seattle Central location (921 Terry Ave, Seattle WA 98104).

Is it safe to donate during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Bloodworks is committed to ensuring our donors feel comfortable and safe throughout this pandemic. All donations are now by appointment only with appropriate social distancing measures in place. 3-ply face masks are required for donors and staff at all times on-site (we will provide one for you when you arrive). In addition, staff also wear face shields or goggles. All visitors and children under 16 are currently not permitted on-site.

Research donor screenings are conducted in private screening rooms. Donations take place in the Washington Center for Apheresis Therapy area of the blood center, where we ensure appropriate social distancing and access is limited to staff and donors. Rooms and all supplies are wiped down and sanitized before and after each use.

Why is there such a large range of reimbursement for "Completed Medication Administration"?

Reimbursement is based on number of visits, injections, and collections. How many injections and which injections (G-CSF and Plerixafor, G-CSF alone, or Plerixafor alone) you receive is determined based off of a variety of factors, including the current need, your comfort level after reading through the consent documents, your lab results, and your availability.

When does the study end?

We currently have multiple ongoing studies, and we expect studies to continue year round.

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