



Chimerism testing and ANC Recovery calculation

August Newsletter FAQ answer

It has come to our attention that the *Data Managers Training Newsletter - August 2014*, has a copy and paste error in the first paragraph of the FAQ section on reporting ANC recovery. Below, is the corrected first paragraph that now includes the previously omitted first sentence in italics:

Recovery does not distinguish between allogeneic engraftment (blood and stem cells of donor origin) and autologous engraftment (blood and stem cells of host origin). To demonstrate engraftment for allogeneic recipients, particularly non-myeloablative or reduced intensity approaches, chimerism tests must be done. These measure the quantity of donor cells relative to the quantity of host (recipient) cells. While ANC usually represents donor cells in allogeneic HSCT, it cannot be proven without chimerism studies.

To clarify, chimerism tests are not required to report ANC recovery. ANC recovery and chimerism testing are two different aspects of engraftment. Chimerism testing is used to determine if it is donor cells or autologous cells that have engrafted. ANC testing only confirms that neutrophil engraftment has occurred but does not provide information about the origin of the engrafted cells.

All other information in the FAQ response is correct. For more detailed information about correctly reporting ANC recovery refer to the Data Management Manual:

[Post-Transplant Essential Data Form Instruction Manual](#)

Sincerely,
CIBMTR Data Operations