Dear CIBMTR Data Managers/Clinical Research Professionals and Primary Contacts:

It is safe to say that the whole transplant community is working hard to adapt to the new challenges presented by new data collection forms and timelines, new electronic systems, and new requirements of the SCTOD. As you might imagine, CIBMTR is struggling with these same challenges. Every person who is responsible for communication with centers is aware of the difficulties inherent in these changes. We want to assure you that staff are working as hard as they can to answer each email or phone call from centers regarding data issues, while still trying to perform their other responsibilities. We apologize that we have, at times, been unable to keep up with the demand despite our best efforts. The ability of this community to raise important issues that are difficult to anticipate should not be underestimated.

Our goal is to address each question individually, whenever possible. In doing so, we achieve another goal of the organization – education. In that light, we have taken some of the most frequently asked questions posed since January 2008, and posted them to our website. They can be found at: http://www.cibmtr.org/DATA/FAQ/1st_Draft_FAQ_Final_.pdf. These FAQs represent a first version, which we hope to update on a regular basis over the next few months. CIBMTR continues to receive a high volume of questions, and as new questions are addressed, they will be added to the FAQ website. This document will include questions posed at the 2008 Tandem meeting. Eventually, these concepts will also be added to the data manual. We hope you will turn to this new FAQ resource as a first step to addressing questions that arise at your center. This will allow our staff to devote personal attention to other important questions, or further explanations.

Thank you for your participation and dedication to CIBMTR.

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