

New tool shows which people with myelodysplastic syndromes will be most helped by transplant



The only cure for myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) is a blood or marrow transplant (BMT). But because BMT can have serious side effects, not everyone gets BMT.

Now, a new online tool can predict which people are more likely to be helped by BMT.

To create the tool, researchers checked medical records from 1,500 people who had MDS. The people got BMT during 2004-2015. On average, people had about 4 years of medical records.

Researchers analyzed the medical records. They found that 16 things changed a person's chances of doing well after BMT, such as:

- age
- genes,
- preparative regimen (treatments),
- blood tests,
- the person's overall health,
- and more.

Researchers created an online tool with this information. Doctors can enter information about a person's health into the online tool. The tool calculates how likely it is for the person to be alive and cancer-free for up to 2 years after transplant.

Keep in mind

The tool cannot predict survival more than 2 years after transplant. Like a weather forecast, the tool can predict the **chance** that a person will be alive. But it can't guarantee it.

If you have MDS, ask your doctor whether medicines or BMT are better for you.

The CIBMTR will post the tool online in the future. In the meantime, your doctor can read the [journal article](#) about it.

What's next

More research is needed on another group of people with MDS to confirm if the calculator is accurate for everyone.

Learn more about

- [MDS at BeTheMatch.org](#)
- [Trials for MDS at CTsearchsupport.org](#)
- [More study summaries at CIBMTR.org](#)

Source

Nazha A, Hu ZH, Wang T, et al. [A Personalized Prediction Model for Outcomes after Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndromes](#). *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplant*. Epub ahead of print. 2020 Aug 8:S1083-8791(20)30471-7. doi: 10.1016/j.bbmt.2020.08.003.

About this research summary

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