



Dr. Abhijit Guha, a well known Toronto physician stricken with cancer, is hoping someone in the South Asian community will be his stem cell match.



"...physicians search to see if there's a match,"....."One of the problems within the South Asian community is that the number of potential donors is relatively low. If we can increase awareness in the community....."

You could be the one match that saves a life.

Hundreds of patients are searching for a matching stem cell donor. For patients like Dr. Guha, a stem cell transplant may be the best or only hope for recovery from a serious illness.

Why a lifesaving stem cell match is so hard to find.

Only about 30% of patients are lucky enough to find a match from within their own family. For more than 70%, an unrelated donor is their only hope. The ethnicity of a patient is also very important. The markers used to match donors to patients vary within different ethnic groups. For this reason, a person's best chance of finding a matching donor is within their own ethnic group. Many more donors from all ethnic communities, including South Asian, are needed to develop a registry that reflects the needs of all patients.

*Out of approximately Canadian 230,000 registrants, 83 per cent were Caucasian, according to statistics gathered last month
Four per cent were East Asian and three per cent were South Asian*

How can I help?

Register today and be willing to donate to any patient if needed. You may match a patient anywhere in the world.

For complete information and to register, visit www.onematch.ca

Once registered, a simple and painless swab kit will be mailed to you. Swab the inside of your cheek to collect DNA cells for typing and return in the stamped envelope.

Join OneMatch and increase the chances of finding a match for Dr. Guha and every individual who needs a stem cell transplant.

".....the pool will get larger, and more people suffering from cancer will benefit." Guha, Sept08