

**ESTABLISHING UGANDA'S
FIRST BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT CENTRE**
"HEALING WITHOUT BORDERS"

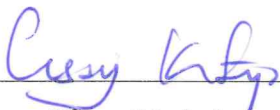


**BONE MARROW
TRANSPLANT
UNIT**

**DONATE TO SAVE LIVES -
YOUR KINDNESS BECOMES
SOMEONE'S SECOND CHANCE**

\$4M

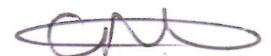
**PROMOTED BY THE ROTARY
CLUB OF KAMPALA SPRINGS**



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**#RotaryEyamba
#ACentreOfExcellence**

\$4M #ToSaveLives

**DONATE TO SAVE LIVES -
YOUR KINDNESS BECOMES SOMEONE'S
SECOND CHANCE**



A JCRC nurse oversees a red blood exchange procedure being performed on a patient living with sickle cell disease.

WHO WE ARE



About JCRC:

Founded in 1991 as a not-for-profit partnership between the Uganda Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defence, and Makerere University College of Health Sciences, JCRC is a leading centre of excellence in medical research, training and medical care. For more than three decades, JCRC has led the fight against emerging healthcare challenges in sub-Saharan Africa.

It pioneered the introduction of antiretroviral therapy for HIV treatment and advanced efforts toward HIV prevention through vaccines. Since 2017, JCRC has also been at the forefront of managing Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) with innovative Red Blood Cell Exchange therapy. Today, with the establishment of its Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Unit, JCRC is scaling up to address the region's urgent need for advanced cell therapies offering transformative solutions for curing SCD, treating cancers, and HIV. This milestone brings new hope to patients and families across Africa.



About Rotary:

Rotary International is a global network with over 1.4 million members across 46,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary's partnership with the Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) aligns with Rotary's focus on disease prevention and treatment, and efforts to support healthcare infrastructure in underserved communities. Rotary - Uganda and Rotary International in general, have a long history of supporting health initiatives, including End Polio Campaign. In Uganda, Rotary has been actively involved Mengo Hospital Blood Bank and Nsambya Hospital Cancer Centre. Rotary's global network can help mobilise resources to support the bone marrow transplant centre

OUR VISION FOR CHANGE



On the left, Jeremy 14 year old begins his journey to India for a bone marrow transplant in March 2021. On the right, September 2021 reveals the remarkable transformation that access to treatment can make a testament that BMT can cure sickle cell disease. This is the hope we aspire to bring home to Uganda.



The Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC), in partnership with Rotary Uganda and with Rotary Kampala Springs as the lead champions, is spearheading a national fundraising drive to establish Uganda's first Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Centre a regional hub for advanced hematology and cell therapy.

THE BMT CENTRE WILL:



Provide curative treatment for sickle cell disease, blood cancers, and other hematologic disorders.



Reduce the financial and emotional burden of seeking treatment abroad.



Position Uganda as a regional leader in advanced hematology care.

GOAL:

To expand access to life-saving cell therapy across Uganda and the wider region

SPECIFIC AIM:

To remodel and upgrade existing infrastructure into a fully equipped, state-of-the-art Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) facility, and operationalize it to deliver advanced, accessible, and patient-centered care.



Dr. Daniel Muyanja the Director Clinical services receiving on behalf of JCRC a national recognition award in December 2024 for its contribution to Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) care in Uganda. The award was presented by the Minister of Health Dr. Ruth Aceng, accompanied by a senior politician Hon. Kasule Lumumba advocating for Uganda's Vision agenda, together with officials from the Palliative Care Association of Uganda.

WHY THIS MATTERS



1. Strengthening Specialized SCD Care

- Since 2017, JCRC has delivered advanced care to 400+ Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) patients with severe disease.
- Through Uganda's only Apheresis Centre, over 430 red blood cell exchange and apheresis procedures have enabled patients to live with fewer symptoms and better quality of life.

2. Building Capacity for Curative Solutions

- JCRC established a dedicated post-transplant care clinic currently supporting 16 patients after curative bone marrow transplants in India.
- In partnership with DKMS (Germany), 147 HLA typings have been completed for patients and siblings to assess donor compatibility and support curative pathways.

3. Identifying Donors & Advancing Transplant Readiness

- Several family donor matches have now been identified through the DKMS collaboration.
- These matched patients are actively exploring bone marrow transplantation as a long-term curative intervention.

4. A National Treatment Gap & High Disease Burden

- Uganda records 25,000 new SCD births annually, with up to 80% mortality before age five.
- Uganda ranks 4th highest in Africa for SCD prevalence, with 13.3% of the population carrying the trait.
- Bone marrow transplantation, the only curative option for SCD and blood cancers, is not available locally, forcing families to seek treatment abroad at UGX 150–250 million (\$42,000–\$60,000)—costs beyond reach for most, leaving thousands without access to cure.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED SO FAR



\$1.35 million invested by JCRC and collaborators to date in remodelling and capacity building



Existing inpatient infrastructure remodelled into specialized clean rooms



Staff training and capacity building initiated and ongoing

WHY PARTNER WITH US

Your support financial, in-kind, or advocacy will:

- Deliver life-saving treatment to thousands of Ugandans
- Enhance your corporate social responsibility profile
- Foster partnerships with key stakeholders in Uganda's health sector
- Contribute to groundbreaking research and capacity building
- Make a lasting impact on Uganda's healthcare landscape

THE IMPACT YOU CAN MAKE

SAVE LIVES

Provide life-saving bone marrow transplants for thousands of patients

REDUCE MORTALITY

Address high death rates from sickle cell disease and blood cancers

ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Keep healthcare resources within the country and reduce catastrophic health expenditures

BUILD CAPACITY

Train local specialists and strengthen Uganda's healthcare system



REMODELLING EXISTING INPATIENT WARD AND LABORATORY FOR BMT OPERATIONS

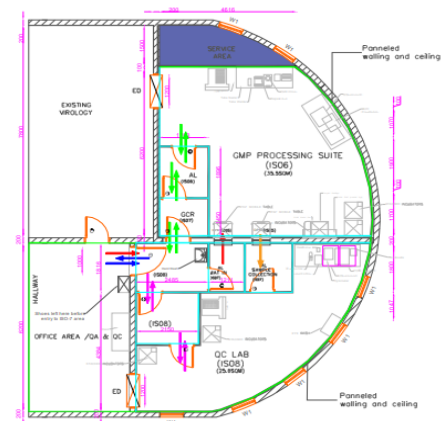


Above is the existing infrastructure that will accommodate the Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) unit.

Progress inside the remodelled infrastructure to date.



Floor layout for cellular clinical space



The JCRC laboratory building that will accommodate the GMP space to support Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) operations and on the right is the flow plan for the planned space.

JOIN US IN MAKING HISTORY

Together, we can make bone marrow transplantation accessible, affordable, and sustainable in Uganda. By uniting partners, experts, and communities, we bring renewed hope to thousands of families, strengthen local capacity, save lives, and transform healthcare systems pioneering advanced treatment, reducing medical travel abroad, and building a healthier, more resilient future for generations to come.



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**EVERY DONATION COUNTS AND WILL MAKE
AN IMPACT - BE PART OF THE JOURNEY!**