The Mock Stem Cell Drive: Development and Evaluation of a Practical Workshop to Train Stem Cell Donor Recruiters

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Introduction

- Unrelated stem cell donors are recruited at stem cell drives, where recruiters guide registrants to provide informed consent and a tissue sample (buccal-swab) for HLA-typing.
- Studies have shown that registrant experience, including impression of recruiter knowledge, impacts donor attrition rates, highlighting the need for well-trained, competent recruiters1,3
- Stem Cell Club is a federal nonprofit that runs stem cell drives to recruit Canadians as stem cell donors2,3
- Previously, we reported the development of an online training program for stem cell donor recruiters4,5
- We also developed a series of videos, designed to supplement this training program (presented separately)
- A needs assessment survey identified the need for a mock stem cell drive workshop to supplement our recruiter training program (Figure 1)5
- Here, we report the development and evaluation of this training workshop

**Table 1: Type of workshop reports**

| Workshop Evaluation | Percentage of Recruiters (%)
|---------------------|--------------------------
| **Before event** | - What steps do you need to take to plan a stem cell drive?
- How do you arrange to promote the drive?
- Explain how training works in stem cell clubs for volunteers and club leaders
- What will you do if a new volunteer shows up at a drive without any prior training?
- When and how do you notify OneMatch of your plans to run a drive?
- Outline the supplies needed at each station
- Demonstrate setup of a drive

| **Prescreking** | - What do you say to potential registrants to explain the drive
- List OneMatch eligibility criteria
- List characteristics of most needed donors (and why they are relevant). Who are we targeting?
- Train a volunteer to recruit the most needed donors and ensure eligibility
- Scenario: there is an over-enthusiastic volunteer pressuring people to register as donors. What do you do?
- Scenario: A registrant asks you: “I have been told I cannot donate blood, so I cannot register for OneMatch, right?” What do you say?
- Scenario: A registrant approaches your drive and says “I am a gay male and have been told by CBS I cannot donate blood, so I cannot register for OneMatch, right?” What do you tell him?

| **Redirecting donors to help in other ways** | - A young registrant approaches the drive and says: “I am sixteen years old and will be turning 17 in two weeks, my mother is here, and can she sign for me. Can I still register?” What do you say?
- A 34 year old Caucasian woman approaches your drive. What do you say?
- A 25 year old male approaches your drive. “I saw someone on TV who desperately needs a transplant and I was told to come here today to register for her. I only want to be tested and donate to her if I am identified as a match.” What do you tell him?
- A healthy 36-year-old male approaches your drive and wants to register. What do you do?
- An international student approaches your drive. “I only have healthcare coverage through my university” What do you do?
- Train a volunteer to redirect donors who are ineligible

| **Informed consent** | - Demonstrate properly informing a registrant
- Train a volunteer to secure informed consent

| **Registration** | - Outline your approach to error-checking the registration forms–Discuss confidentiality and privacy of the data collected
- Scenario: A registrant asks you, “Whats about this data being shared with the RCMP. What does this mean?” What do you tell him?
- Train a volunteer to run this station
- Scenario: A registrant is filling out his paperwork, and his friends are watching over his shoulder and reading his answers out loud. What do you do?
- Scenario: At the registration station, a registrant exclaims: “Wow, this form looks completely different from the last time I registered.” What do you do?

| **Swabbing** | - Educate a registrant on how to swab
- Scenario: You are performing an informed consent checkpoint and you ask if they the risks involved. The registrant becomes upset, “what, what are risks???” What do you do?
- Demonstrate correctly labelling the swab kit components
- Train a volunteer to run this station

| **Reconciliation** | - Demonstrate what needs to be done at this station
- Demonstrate competence in completing the three reconciliation forms
- Train a volunteer to run this station
- Scenario: A kit makes it to reconciliation with one barcode label on the envelope but a different barcode label on the consent form. What do you do?

| **Shipping and post event** | - Outline what happens after a drive
- How and when do you complete a post-event report?
- Outline shipping procedures
- Demonstrate competence in completing the shipping forms

Conclusions

In summary, we describe the successful development, launch, and evaluation of a recruiter training workshop to address an identified training gap. This workshop is relevant to any organization who trains stem cell donor recruiters.

Acknowledgements

This workshop was supported by a Canadian Blood Services Blood4Net Grant.

References