



St. Jude India ChildCare Centres

SOP for BMT Patients & Caregivers

JANUARY 2026

Purpose

To ensure safe accommodation, infection prevention, and essential support for Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) patients and caregivers during isolation or critical phases, in strict adherence to treating doctors' directives, NGO compliance standards, and audit requirements.

Applicability

Applicable to all Autologous, Allogeneic, Thalassemia and other blood disorder BMT patients, their caregivers, centre staff, housekeeping (HK), transport staff, and service partners involved in in-house or outside accommodation.

Medical Protocol

- During the 120–180 days isolation period or any critical stage (infection/fever), BMT patients must not be exposed to non-BMT families, as instructed by treating doctors.
- All BMT patients will be accommodated within St. Jude Centres or approved outside accommodation, strictly as per medical advice.
- All BMT patients of foreign nationality will have to adhere to the admission process for foreign nationals documented in the Occupancy Manual.

In-House BMT Centres – Key Provisions

Accommodation & Services

- Separate toilets facilities will be provided for each family
- It is mandatory for every unit to have a door (where possible) to ensure complete isolation.
- There should be no soft boards in the units. This is done to avoid the deposition of dust particles in the units.
- Separate transport will be provided for BMT children. Regular patients strictly should not use the transport along with BMT patients.
- Ensure that St Jude in-house counselling facility is provided to the families regularly
- All St Jude rules and regulations will apply to BMT patients as well.
- A common fridge will be provided to the BMT centre. Families can store their food items which are allowed for consumption by the treating doctors.

Kitchen & Food Safety

- Water testing from water filters to be done to ensure that the water is fit for consumption for the BMT child,
- Child should be given freshly boiled-cooled water, as per the advice of the treating doctor. Water should be boiled for at least 20 mins. This will be done by the parents.
- Only freshly cooked food is to be given to the child.
- Only the child should be allowed eat inside the unit.
- Strictly no outside food is allowed.
- Children can use slippers inside the centre and toilet (toilet slippers should be separate)

Cleanliness & Hygiene

- Hydrogen Peroxide: 11% w/v; Diluted Silver Nitrate Solution: 0.01% w/v should be used for cleaning. Dilution of Hydrogen Peroxide: 11% w/v; Diluted Silver Nitrate Solution: 0.01% w/v in 4 liters water (for floor and surface cleaning). This solution is potent for 6-8 hours and should be used within that time-frame. Some brands available are- Echo shield, Microquel shield
- Surfaces to be cleaned- kitchen platforms, unit rack, beds, walls, cupboards, curtains, mattresses.
- Toilets will be cleaned with Domex solution. (2 caps domex in 4 litres of water)
- One designated HK person will be appointed for the BMT centre.
- HK will prepare both solutions (Hydrogen Peroxide+ Silver Nitrate and Domex), and keep in the designated space.
- The solution will be prepared by the HK once in the morning to be used by the families available in the centre and once in the evening to be used by families who may have gone for hospital visit during the day and come back in the evening.
- HK must wear the goggles, gloves and masks to avoid any contact with the chemicals in the solutions.
- Cleaning should be done by the HK 4 times a day or as and when required.
- Parents will take the solution for their own unit cleaning from the designated area and use.
- Every toilet and unit should have separate cleaning materials, and they should not be interchanged
- Parents are responsible for cleaning their own units. The HK will clean the unit only if the unit is vacant.

- Parents should also wear masks and gloves while cleaning.
- Before entering the centre, everyone needs to sanitize their hands and feet and decontaminate their belongings with domex solution.
- The domex solution should be made available to the parents outside the centre.

Cleaning of Families' Belongings

- Parents should clean the fruits and vegetables with salt water before consumption.
- Toys, books, phones, and tablets, etc. should be cleaned before and after use with liquid soap, damp dusting
- Hospital bags should be cleaned with diluted domex solution.

Transport cleaning

- The vehicle should be cleaned either by HK or the driver before and after use by the BMT patients
- 2 caps Domex in 4 litres water should be used as the cleaning solution.
- Damp dusting of the vehicle to be done for cleaning purposes. No wet cleaning.

Communicable Disease Management

- If there is a case of suspected or confirmed case of a communicable disease in the BMT centre: -
- Deep cleaning + fogging must be done as per St. Jude protocols.
- Fogging Solution Composition- Hydrogen peroxide 11% w/v with diluted 0.01% silver nitrate solution. Brand name-Microquel shield
- During fogging, the parents and children should be kept away for 4-6 hours till the fumes dissipate.
- BMT children will need to be accommodated in hotels/guest houses which fulfil the criteria of BMT care standards.
- Wherever Fogging is not possible, deep cleaning should be done 3 times on the same day.
- Doctor's guidance must be taken for all cases.

Laundry, Transport & Staffing

- Laundry handled separately; no mixing with regular families
- Transport cleaned before and after use (Domex; damp dusting only)
- Minimal staffing; one daily monitoring visit
- Symptomatic staff must not visit the centre

Activities & Restrictions

- No group or physical activities; online individual activities permitted
- No visitors; no unauthorized staff entry
- Avoid plants, flowers, construction activity, public outings, carton boxes, air coolers (AC allowed)
- Online activities should be conducted with individual tablets, depending upon the health status of the children.
- TV and cable can be provided in the community area.
- Wi-fi connection can be given for the centre
- Strictly no visitors should be allowed in the BMT centres.
- No staff from any other function/Operations allowed without the permission of the Centre Lead/Program Lead.
- No soft toys should be given to the children as they could collect dust, which can be harmful for the children

Outside Accommodation (If Applicable)

- Independent premises near hospitals or suitable guest houses are preferred (RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS SHOULD BE AVOIDED)
- It must be ensured that the premises are in a clean, hygienic and safe environment.
- Every room should have a separate bathroom & toilet.
- Separate transport should be provided for BMT children. Regular patients should not use this transport.

For rented rooms

- Ration, milk, eggs, cleaning materials, and laundry will be provided only to the child & parents.
- Same facilities will be provided to outside BMT patients as in-house BMT patients.

- Complete unit & kitchen inventory will be provided to the family
- Staff and HK will visit as per the directions of the Centre Lead/Program Lead depending upon the need and availability.
- Deep cleaning will be done at least once a week by the HK
- Staff will visit to check the child's & parents' health, cleaning, and to extend emotional support of the family.
- Any issues must be immediately reported to the Centre Lead/Program Lead and addressed.
- Reimbursement for travel from the stay facility to the hospital and vice versa will be provided to the families as discussed and approved by the Centre Lead/Program Lead.
- Families should inform the centre staff about any challenges or changes required.
- Families should immediately inform the doctors/nurses about any change in the child's condition. If families are unable to do so themselves, the staff should consult the treating doctor on their behalf and update.

DON'Ts for families

- Avoid flowers or plants in the child's surroundings
- Avoid furry toys, carpets, or thick curtains.
- Avoid Air cooler (Air conditioning can be allowed)
- Avoid construction work in and around the BMT premises.
- Strictly No visits to parks or any other public places.
- Avoid outside/hotel food and leftover food. (NOTE- Children should be given food as per the advice of the dietician)
- Don't use carton boxes- parents should be informed about this. No medicines, ration, personal belongings, etc. should be stored in carton boxes.

Donor Sibling Support (HLA Typing & Mobilization)

- Accommodation to donor sibling is allowed in the BMT centre, if not feasible, we can arrange a rented room or guesthouse outside at our cost for the period required.
- The donor will be accommodated for the HLA typing, counselling & admission and finally the transplant as well. The exceptions are when the donor is called in case the transplant needs to be carried out again.

- Food can be prepared by the parents of the BMT patient and sent for the sibling and the caretaker.
- Extra ration can be provided to the family during the visit by donor sibling & caretaker. (Subject to approval by Centre Lead/Program Lead)
- Travel allowance for a 2-tier train ticket will be provided to the donor sibling and one caretaker.

Records & Compliance

All actions must be documented for medical safety, audit, and donor reporting.

Non-adherence may result in corrective action.

Approved By: _____ Date: _____

