

WHERE DO WE STAND?

What do we know?

Blood stem cells are able to form all cell types of our blood. Depending on the treatment, they can be obtained in different ways: from bone marrow or directly from the bloodstream. But using stem cells in the treatment of blood cancers such as leukemia or lymphoma is also associated with risks. Rejection reactions and the necessary immunosuppression can be dangerous for patients.

What are we investigating?

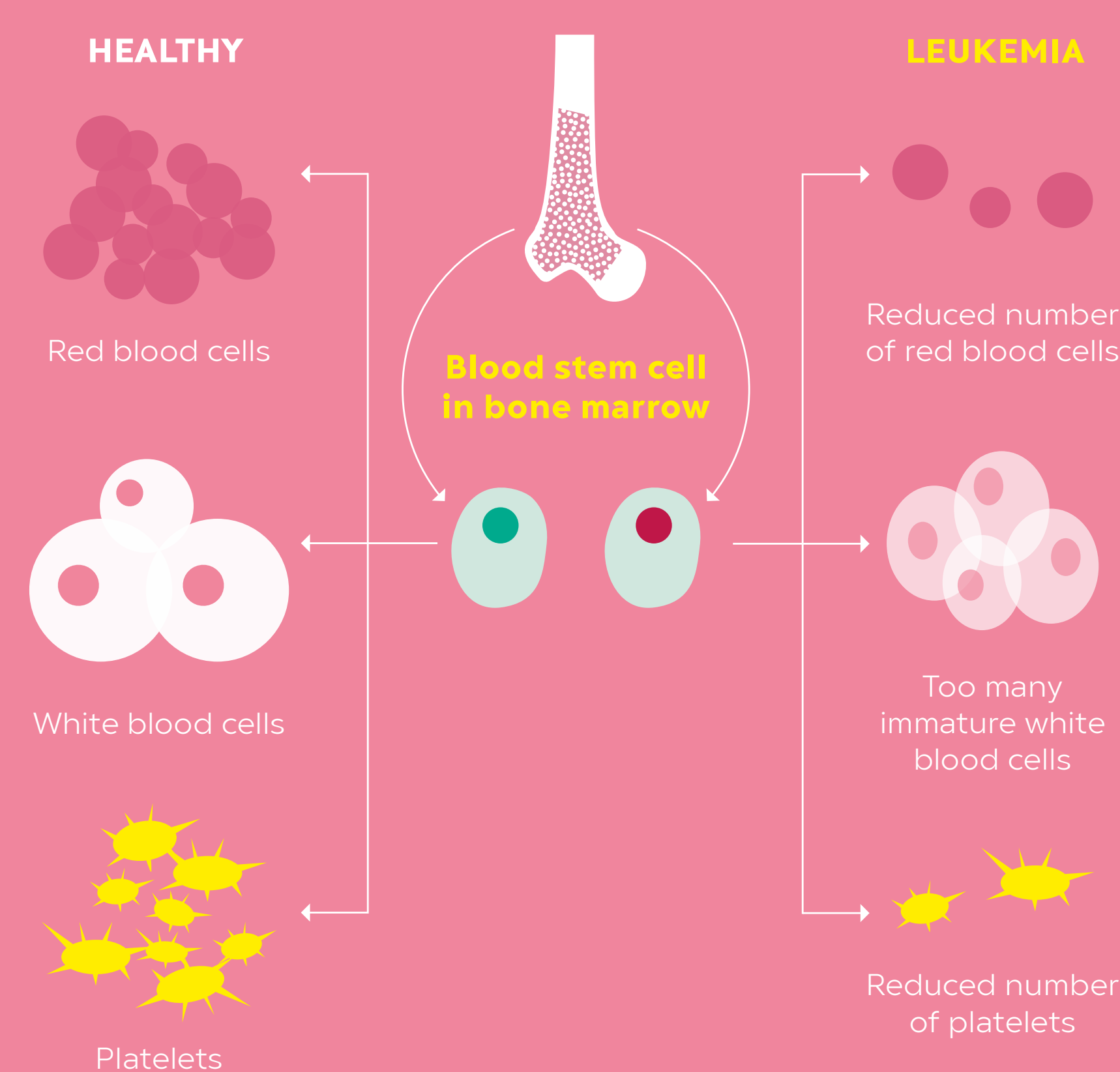
At present, scientists are studying how obtaining blood stem cells, which is primarily dependent on donors, can work in treatment-related standards in the laboratory. In the future, we want to be able to replace defective genes with healthy DNA using gene therapy. Research on the causes of leukemia and comparable diseases promises additional insights that can be harnessed for developing new treatment methods.

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What happens in patients with leukemia



Blood and leukemia

HOW STEM CELLS HAVE SAVED LIVES FOR DECADES

Modern stem cell research was launched with the discovery of blood stem cells in the 1960s. Starting with this milestone, many new areas branched out in this discipline. Today, thousands of patients with leukemia, of all ages, undergo stem cell treatment.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

Producing blood stem cells in the laboratory takes a great deal of time and effort. However, they would not only reduce the risks for patients, but could also be used to manufacture blood for transfusions.

1

Investigating malfunctions of blood stem cells

2

Minimizing risks to patients

3

Making blood stem cells from the laboratory more usable

4

Developing more gentle treatment methods



GermanStemCellNetwork