

FACT:

Adult Blood and Bone Marrow Transplant Accreditation Ensures Highest Standards

St Joseph Hospital is proud to be the first adult blood and marrow transplant program in Orange County to have the prestigious accreditation of the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT).

St. Joseph Hospital's Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Transplant (HPCT) program, formerly known as the Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) program, met rigorous standards to receive accreditation. An on-site inspection of the facility, staff, policies and procedures was required to validate that the program meets FACT standards and has an intense quality component integrated throughout the entire program.

FACT is an international accreditation committee of experts in the field of cellular therapy and blood and marrow transplantation. It is the only accrediting agency that addresses all quality aspects of cellular therapy treatments: clinical care, donor management, cell collection, cell processing, cell storage, cell transportation and administration.

"The transplant team at St. Joseph Hospital has diligently and efficiently been working for the past few years to achieve this accreditation," states Dr. Winston Ho, Medical Director for the program. "This means that the St. Joseph Hospital program is on par with the leading transplant centers and ensures that the patients will receive excellent, high quality care in the local area. To achieve this recognition is an honor and simply confirms what we at St. Joseph already know: we have a quality program that meets the highest of standards in autologous transplant care."

The HPCT program at St. Joseph Hospital is the largest community hospital Collection Center and Apheresis Center for the National Marrow Donor Program and has collected more than 470 products for transplant both in the U.S. and internationally.

St. Joseph Hospital was the first hospital in Orange County to perform a bone marrow transplant, in 1988, and to date has performed more than 300 transplants.

More information on FACT is available at <http://www.factwebsite.org/default.aspx>. For more information about the HPCT at St. Joseph Hospital please call (714) 771-8956.