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The Bone Marrow Transplantation Center of the National Cancer Institute

Its Resources to Assist Patients with Bone Marrow Failure

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Introduction

The National Cancer Institute - INCA is the agency of the Ministry of Health responsible for the control of cancer in Brazil. Through a combination of preventive, therapeutic, palliative and rehabilitative measures, as well as educational and public information, the Institution does not restrain from any effort in the war against the disease.

In 1991, by establishing the Ary Frauzino Foundation, INCA took a very important step in becoming the national reference in the area of cancer and being recognized as such by its peers. The Foundation is a philanthropic organization that gives support to all the services at INCA, guaranteeing the quality of the services provided by our Institution.

Nevertheless, the idea of supporting a bone marrow transplantation facility for patients with neoplastic disorders and bone marrow failure dates back to 1980. At that time it was clear to the Government that this very expensive technology would have to be accessible to the population in a very special Institution, with many subspecialties and with a multidisciplinary approach to the management of complex disorders. Our expertise in radiation biology and our knowledge in the management of advanced cancer significantly contributed to the settlement in Rio de Janeiro of the National Bone Marrow Transplantation Center (CEMO), in 1982. It is important to mention that the first allogeneic bone marrow transplant was performed in Curitiba, by a team headed by Professor Ricardo Pasquini, at the Federal University of Parana, in 1979. Due to many political difficulties, we only started our activities in 1984.