



Case study

Oragene® and ORAcollect® facilitate HLA typing in Israel

Ephraim Gazit, MD, Professor (emeritus) of Pediatrics
Tissue Typing Laboratory, Chaim Sheba Medical Center, Israel

Study overview

The Tissue Typing Laboratory at Sheba Medical Center was founded approximately 30 years ago to serve a newly launched cadaver-kidney organ sharing program. The mandate of the Sheba Medical Center has evolved over the years from organ donation to now include HLA typing for bone marrow transplants. The medical center performs approximately 140 pediatric and adult bone marrow transplants per year. Dr. Ephraim Gazit and his team are responsible for HLA typing in the laboratory for a variety of purposes including: HLA disease studies, to identify potential bone marrow donors in families and in the general population, to build a bone marrow registry and for organ transplantation.

Main challenges

Bone marrow transplantations cure malignancies, various types of leukemia, and certain genetic disorders. A key element in successful transplants is to ensure tissue-typing identity between donor and recipient by accurate classification of the histocompatibility genes. The task of HLA typing potential donors within the population and for specific patients lies with the laboratory. A DNA sample is required for the classification of the histocompatibility genes. Traditionally, blood samples have been used to collect the DNA required for HLA typing. However, Dr. Gazit has encountered cases where blood cannot be drawn or the donor may not allow blood to be collected. In other cases, a prospective donor lives outside of Israel and a sample cannot be collected in the laboratory. The method chosen for these cases would have to be appropriate for both adults and young children.



Oragene device
prior to collection

Sample ready for
transport, storage
and processing



Some DNA Genetek products may not be available in all geographic regions, contact your sales representative for details.

