The Quandary of a Healthy (Child) Sibling Stem Cell Donor

Abstract
Feelings of abandonment in a healthy (child) sibling donor (HSD) merit ethical consideration; more so, when he is needed to undergo a minimally risky, yet painful, procedure of stem cell donation (SCD) for the benefit of his ill sibling (child suffering from blood cancer). The varied feelings of the HSD undergoing SCD procedure are being presented in the form of a poem.

Keywords: Clinical ethics, matched sibling donor, pediatric cancer patient, stem cell transplantation patient

At first, I imagined I was “apparently” abandoned by her,
Mom’s love for me seemed, as if it had entirely disappeared…
With “waves of rejection,” I felt restless with a qualm,
Throwing me into a quandary, that wouldn’t let me stay calm…
I thought “sickness” was a blessing and “being healthy” a heinous crime,
Luckily, “motivation to help you” became my healing balm…

My fondness for you, merits bearing a little pain,
Its minuscule, as of now, against so much more to gain…
As your donor sibling, I’d be better off in a joyous family of us three,
Than in a distressed one, if we were to lose you in vain.

Acknowledgment
The author would like to gratefully thank Mr. Samrat Chauhan, Senior Consultant and Facilitator, Pegasus Academy, Dehradun, for his review of the poem and helpful suggestions.

Financial support and sponsorship
Nil.

Conflicts of interest
There are no conflicts of interest.

References

How to cite this article: Raturi M. The quandary of a healthy (child) sibling stem cell donor. Indian J Med Paediatr Oncol 2020;41:562.