



GARHENG KONG

POWERING THE MATCH

Garheng Kong, MD, PhD, MBA, founder and managing partner of HealthQuest Capital, a venture growth fund investing in innovative health care companies, is addressing the shortage of registered bone marrow donors through his venture, Powering the Match. Because donor-patient matches are much more likely when donors are the same ethnicity as patients, Powering the Match is working not only to increase the overall population of registered donors, but also to focus on recruiting donors of diverse ethnic backgrounds so that patients, regardless of their race or ethnicity, can be helped by this life-saving treatment. Garheng is partnering with Be the Match, the national bone marrow registry; CVS and Walgreens; and organizations such as LabCorp that see high volumes of individuals—especially those from underrepresented groups—in clinical settings (e.g., genetic testing and diagnostic labs, blood donation centers, and clinical trials) to educate and systematically recruit individuals to donate bone marrow through Be the Match’s national registry. As a secondary goal, Powering the Match aims to educate physicians about advances in the safety and efficacy of bone marrow transplantation so that their patients are aware of this procedure as a possible therapy to treat their diseases.

FOUNDER &
MANAGING PARTNER,
HEALTHQUEST
CAPITAL

HEALTH
INNOVATORS
FELLOW
CLASS 3

Enabling access to life-saving treatments by increasing the number of registered bone marrow donors

IN HIS WORDS

“Bone marrow transplantation has been used to treat over 70 diseases. As we get better at doing the procedure, more and more patients will benefit, but only if the number of potential donors does not limit access to this life-saving treatment.”