

An educational message on private cord blood banking brought to you by



Incidence rate of stem cell treatable diseases

- 6 people are diagnosed with blood related diseases in Singapore every day¹.
- 2 of the top 10 cancers afflicting Singaporeans are Lymphoma and Leukaemia².
- 1 in 500 babies are diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy³.
- 2 children are diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in Singapore every month⁴.
 - Clinical trials successfully treating children with Cerebral Palsy⁵ and Type 1 Diabetes⁶ - currently treatable only with the child's own cord blood stem cells - have shown promising results.
- 80 diseases are now treatable using cord blood stem cells⁷ and possibly more in the future.

Chances of using stem cells

- 1 in 217 chance that a person may need cord blood stem cells for treatment in their lifetime⁸.
- 8 cord blood units were released for transplants and therapeutic applications by CordLife.

Higher chance of finding a match within the patient's family

- 70% of cord blood transplants by Cord Blood Registry were from siblings. 30% were for self-use⁹.
- 75% chance of a sibling match¹⁰.
- 25% chance of a 100% match between siblings. A perfect match is required for bone marrow transplants, but not in cord blood transplants¹¹.
- \$26,000 is the minimum cost of buying back a donated cord blood unit, if it is still in storage¹².

Availability of stem cells

- 50% of all donations to a public cord blood bank are normally discarded for various reasons¹³.
- 100% - your accessibility to your privately stored cord blood stem cells.

These are just some of the reasons why we believe in private cord blood banking.

"Scientists in Florida have reported significant benefits of cord blood in the treatment of type 1 diabetes....this is just the beginning of the exciting future for cord blood stem cells collected at birth."

– Associate Professor Mark Kirkland, Medical Director, Biocell (whom was awarded "Researcher of the Year" in Barwon, Australia for his pioneering work in redirecting the differentiation of stem cells into heart cells).

"Our son Dallas was diagnosed at 8 months with cerebral palsy, a type of brain injury from birth that has no known cure. (He) was among the first in the [U.S.] to be infused with his own cord blood stem cells. Today, ... he runs, he laughs and he's beginning to talk."

– Derak and Cynthia Hextell, founders of the Dallas Hextell Foundation (www.dallashextellfoundation.org)¹⁴.

Call **6238 0808** now to learn more about how you can protect your family's health.

Sources:

- ¹ Tan, Judith. (2009, February 18). 21 cord blood transplants. *The Straits Times*.
- ² National Cancer Centre Singapore. *Cancer information: Cancer statistics*. Website. www.nccs.com.sg. Accessed 20 February 2009.
- ³ Thames Valley Children's Centre - Cerebral Palsy - Causes and Prevalence. www.tvcc.on.ca/gateway.php?id=167&cid=2. Retrieved on 2007-06-11.
- ⁴ Diabetes Society of Singapore, *Diabetes Singapore 2007*
- ⁵ ViaCord website. www.viacord.com. Cord Blood Registry website. www.cordblood.com. Accessed February 19, 2009.
- ⁶ Full list of diseases can be obtained from CordLife's educational booklet.
- ⁷ Nietfeld JJ, Pasquini MC, Logan BR, Verter F, Horowitz MM. Lifetime

probabilities of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in the U.S. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant*. 2008;14:316-322.

⁹ Cord Blood Registry website. www.cordblood.com. Accessed February 19, 2009.

¹⁰ Merkatz, I. R. (2008, October). *An OB's guide to cord blood banking*.

¹¹ National Marrow Donor Program website. www.marrows.org. Accessed February 20, 2009.

¹² National Library Board Singapore website. http://infopedia.nl.sg/articles/SIP_1399_2008-12-04.html. Accessed February 19, 2009.

¹³ Channel News Asia. (2009, February 18). *Public cord blood bank doubles number of transplants*

¹⁴ The Dallas Hextell Foundation website. www.dallashextellfoundation.org. Accessed February 20, 2009.

Singapore's only AABB accredited private cord blood bank with a successful cord blood transplant record.

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