

Media	Today	Date	29 September 2004
Section			

CordLife expands operations

TISSUE bank CordLife expanded operations at the Camden Medical Centre yesterday, with a new \$1.7-million tissue processing and storage laboratory. The company is a subsidiary of CyGenics Ltd, which is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

The 1,300-sqft facility is custom-designed to meet current Good Manufacturing Practices and the American Association of Blood Bank (AABB) requirements. The company is working toward full AABB accreditation which has been given to only seven cord blood banks outside the United States.

“As we expand in this region, this new facility will be the benchmark by which all future facilities will be measured,” said CyGenics chairman Chris Fullerton.

Just 3 to 4 per cent of Singapore babies born alive have their cord blood banked, compared to 11 to 12 per cent in the US. Since its set up here in 2001, the company has seen cord blood volume doubling in its bank here.

The company is also going into stem-cell research and expects its first commercialisation of such processes by early 2006. — *Tan Hui Leng*