

Why should I store my baby's cord blood?

The umbilical cord is a rich source of stem cells that has none of the controversy surrounding human embryonic stem cells. Many parents do not realize they are throwing away a precious resource.

Saving your baby's cord blood provides an available pool of genetically related stem cells which may be used for a sibling or family member. Public cord blood banks are an alternate source but availability is subject to finding a suitable match.

Cord blood stem cells have been used to treat more than 80 conditions to-date, mostly blood disorders. The development of regenerative medicine with cord blood therapy is promising as scientists have shown that cord blood stem cells are capable of forming different tissue cells in the body including heart cells, nerve cells, lung cells, bone cells, cartilage and nerve cells.

In the years to come, cord blood therapy may provide your baby, a sibling or a family member the best chance of a cure in a wide range of diseases, from heart diseases, spinal cord injuries, cystic fibrosis to Alzheimer's disease and diabetes.

Whether to store your baby's cord blood, is a personal decision to be made in consultation with your spouse and doctor, considering the benefits, long term financial commitment and family medical history or risk factors.

How do I choose which bank to store my baby's cord blood?

Cord blood banking is a highly specialized medical service that provides a cell therapy product for medical treatment. For the best medical outcomes, you should be assured of product viability and quality.

The bank should perform comprehensive blood testing to ensure a quality product tested for bacteria, fungus and infectious viruses. Stability tests should be done to ensure the viability of stored cords in its cryo-preserved state.

AABB accreditation is an important regulatory standard with stringent controls and requirements. Other factors to investigate are the bank's financial stability and the contract terms which will protect your interest in the future.

Is the cord blood collection procedure harmful to the mother and baby?

No. This procedure is painless and risk-free to both mother and baby. It takes about 3 minutes and does not alter the birthing process in any way. However, the final decision whether the cord blood collection should continue will always reside with your doctor whose priority is the safety of both mother and baby.

Answers by:


Dr Toh Keng Kiat

Physician (Haematology)

If you want to know more about banking your child's cord blood, please write in to **Motherhood**. Address your queries on the back of a postcard or envelope with the following details: Name, address, telephone number, email address and date of delivery.

Address your questions to:

**Cordblood Banking/Motherhood
Eastern Publishing Pte Ltd
1100 Lower Delta Road
#04-01 EPL Building
Singapore 169206**



Because every cell counts

AABB accreditation is an assurance that your baby's cord blood will be collected, processed and stored according to stringent quality standards to deliver safe stem cells for medical treatment.

Cord blood handled by an AABB accredited cord blood bank is preferred by transplant physicians around the world.

CordLife is proud to be the only private cord blood bank in Singapore to be accredited by AABB with proven experience and success in cord blood transplants.

Call 6238 0808
for more information

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自本刊10月/11月期刊登载了有关脐带血储存的文章之后，读者反响热烈。为满足广大读者对脐带血储存方面的询问，更深入细致的了解相关信息和知识。《妈妈宝贝》特开辟了该咨询版块，旨在更好的为读者答疑解惑，提供全面的咨询和专业协助。

问：我为什么应该储存宝宝的脐带血呢？

干细胞大量存在于新生婴儿的脐带血中，关于这一点已为医学界所公认。只不过许多父母都没有意识到，他们浪费了一项宝贵的资源。

储存您宝宝的脐带血，由于基因的相关性，它也将能适用于孩子的兄弟姐妹或其他家庭成员。公共脐带血库，也是寻求干细胞的一个途径，但是，患者却必须等待适合配对的干细胞，这就可能损失宝贵的治疗时间。

目前，脐带血干细胞能被用于多达80多种病症的治疗中，大部分都和血液紊乱疾病有关。随着医学界对干细胞应用的发展，科学研究已证实干细胞具有能再生并构成多种人体组织的能力，包括心脏细胞、神经细胞、肺细胞、骨细胞以及软骨和神经细胞。

不久以后，干细胞的应用将能提供给您宝宝的或其他家庭成员最好的治疗机会，从心脏病，脊椎损伤、囊胞性纤维症、老年性痴呆症到糖尿病，都能有治愈的希望。

当然，是否要储存新生婴儿的脐带血，是依个人情况而定的。我建议您最好和医生和伴侣先仔细商榷，再做决定，您也可能需要考虑到其利益、长期经济状况和家庭医疗史以及风险因素等方面的问题。

问：如果我打算储存孩子的脐带血，怎样才能选到一间合适的血库呢？

脐带血储存是一项专业性极高的医药服务，涉及到将来为医疗提供干细胞治疗的可行性。为了能寻求最好医疗结果，你应该确保这项医疗服务是可靠并且优质的。

血库必须进行详尽的血液测试，以确保血液没有受到细菌、真菌或病毒的感染。血库也应该完成稳定测试，以保证被存储在液氮低温下的干细胞具有存活能力。

我建议您选择被AABB鉴定的私人脐带血库。AABB合格鉴定是一项经严格控制和极高要求的重要的质量管理标准。其它选择的考虑因素还包括血库的营业稳定性，以及合同的条款内容是否能在将来保护顾客的利益。

问：脐带血的采集过程会不会对母婴造成危害？

不会。该采集过程无害、无痛，对母亲和婴儿双方都不存在任何风险。血样的采集过程大约需要3分钟，且不会对分娩过程有任何影响。当然，是否要继续血样采集的最终决定权，还是交由接生的妇科医生来决定的，以确保母子两人的安全。

咨询医生：

苏庆杰医生 内科（血液科）

若您有兴趣或希望了解更多脐带血储存方面的知识或信息，我们欢迎您随时来信询问。信中请注明您的完整信息，包括姓名、地址、联系电话、电邮和

日期。来信请寄：

CORDLIFE/ Motherhood
Eastern Publishing Pte Ltd
1100 Lower Delta Road,
#04-01, Singapore 169206
邮件以中、英文书写均可。感谢您的支持和参与！



因为品质最重要

AABB鉴定能确保您的宝宝的脐带血将按照严格的质量标准被采集、加工和存储，并能被用于将来所需的治疗。无论移植手术在世界任何国家进行，由获得AABB鉴定认证的血库进行处理的脐带血都能获得许可。

CordLife作为在新加坡唯一拥有AABB鉴定认证的私人血库，而倍感自豪。

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