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PRESS RELEASE

## Stemlife Berhad Opens Stem Cell Banking Resource Centre in JPMC

• Stemlife Berhad officially opens a Stem Cell Banking Resource Centre in JPMC to provide expectant families in Brunei an in-depth understanding of stem cell banking.

**Kuala Lumpur, 06 March, 2020** – Stemlife Berhad ("Stemlife" or the "Company"), the pioneer and largest cord blood bank in Malaysia has opened a Stem Cell Banking Resource Centre in Jerudong Park Medical Centre ("JPMC") to help expectant families in Brunei acquire a deeper understanding of stem cell banking as well as how their family members can benefit from stem cell treatment and therapies.

The Stemlife Stem Cell Banking Resource Centre is situated in the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinic located at Level 3 of JPMC. The room provides a convenient access for expectant families to gather information about the lifesaving clinical applications of stem cells from cord blood and the umbilical cord, right before or after the consultation with their obstetrician. This setting allows expectant families to make an informed decision before the arrival of their baby.

Cord blood and the umbilical cord are two of the best sources of stem cells but they must be collected at birth. The collection process is quick and painless. Upon collection, the cord blood and the umbilical cord will be sent immediately to Stemlife's AABB accredited facility in Malaysia for processing and long-term cryopreservation. Once harvested and frozen, cord blood remains viable for use for decades, so parents storing their babies' cells today will be able to benefit from not just current advancements in research and therapies, but also the potential discoveries to be made in years to come.

Cord blood stem cells have already been proven useful in the treatment of more than 80 conditions, such as leukaemia, lymphoma and neuroblastoma. As evidenced by the phenomenal growth in the number of clinical trials conducted worldwide, scientists believe the true potential of stem cells has yet to be tapped and can be extended to include neurological disorders such as



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autism and cerebral palsy. More than 1,500 clinical trials involving stem cells that can be found in the umbilical cord are also underway for incurable conditions such as stroke and heart attack.

"JPMC and Stemlife have enjoyed robust working relations since our foundational partnership in year 2016. The newly opened Stemlife Stem Cell Banking Resource Centre within JPMC facility will further strengthen our operational efficiency to meet the rising demand for stem cell banking among expectant parents in Brunei. Furthermore, Bruneians can also enjoy the confidence knowing that they are receiving the world-class standard services jointly provided by Stemlife and JPMC," said Dr Meera Sahib Kabeer, Medical Director of JPMC.

"This collaboration exemplifies Stemlife's longstanding commitment to expand our geographical footprints in Asia and to offer internationally-accredited cord blood banking services to expectant families in the region. AABB is the de facto international quality yardstick in the industry and most transplant physicians around the world trust that cord blood handed by AABB accredited banks were properly collected, tested, processed and stored in a way that is consistent with enhancing the chances of a successful transplant. Essentially, this accreditation strengthens the confidence of Bruneian clients and prospects, reassuring them that their babies' cord blood will be properly handled and carefully cryopreserved for future medical use," said Mr Zahrein Redza, Chief Operating Officer of Stemlife Berhad.

## End ##



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## **ABOUT STEMLIFE BERHAD**

Stemlife is a stem cell bank licensed by the Ministry of Health Malaysia under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services (PHFS) Act 1998. Established in 2001 and a majority-owned subsidiary of Singapore mainboard listed Cordlife Group Limited, Stemlife offers end-to-end stem cell services of the highest standard and quality through cutting-edge technology and lab processing in accordance with international standards. In April 2018, Stemlife attained international accreditation from AABB, which is the strongest endorsement of Stemlfie's robust medical and technical capabilities. Collectively, more than 60,000 families have entrusted their baby's cord blood stem cells with Stemlife facility. To-date, Stemlife has successfully released 17 cord blood units for transplantation and assisted in over 500 stem cell applications. For more information, please visit www.stemlife.com.

## About Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC)

The Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC) is a private hospital in Brunei Darussalam. It is situated in the scenic Jerudong Park area, located along the shores of the South China Sea. JPMC offers a spectrum of services catering to your family and organizational needs, which includes general, specialized and surgical healthcare services. These services are provided by our highly qualified and committed multi-disciplinary medical team utilizing state-of-the-art technology.

JPMC is surrounded by the tranquility of nature, offering an ideal ambience for healing and wellness to the whole family. With patient rooms overlooking the expanse of the glamorous shores, you will enjoy a sense of serenity and privacy and the soothing cadence of the waves. At JPMC, we take pride in looking after your health and your well-being. We believe in providing quality healthcare services to all our patients.

The Jerudong Park Medical Centre is widely renowned for being the only private specialist hospital and first hospital to be accredited by the Joint Commission International (JCI) in the Sultanate since 2014. JPMC was awarded with their second accreditation by the Joint Commission International in 2017, the 1st for any health institution in the country.