

## PRESS RELEASE

# Cordlife Raised Cord Blood Awareness in Singapore Doctors via Leading US Experts

- World's leading cord blood stem cell expert Dr Joanne Kurtzberg presented her pioneering work on the use of umbilical cord blood cells for autism, stroke, cerebral palsy and related brain disorders.
- Cord blood stem cells are already being used to treat over 80 conditions ranging from leukaemia and lymphomas to a variety of blood disorders.
- Cordlife's continuing medical education conference was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at St Regis Singapore for doctors from Singapore and around Asia.

**Singapore, 26 May 2016 – Cordlife Group Limited** (“Cordlife”, and together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”), Asia's leading cord blood and cord lining banking service provider, brought in the world's leading experts in stem cell research and regenerative medicine to Singapore to speak at a continuing medical education conference yesterday. The conference, organised in partnership with Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society Singapore, was designed to bring doctors in Asia up-to-date on the latest advancements in this rapidly expanding field of medicine.

Cord blood stem cells are already being used to treat over 80 conditions ranging from leukaemia and lymphomas to a variety of blood disorders. Scientists believe their true potential has yet to be tapped and can be extended to include neurological disorders such as autism and cerebral palsy. Important clinical trials involving stem cells are underway for many other conditions, and all around the world, researchers continue to explore new avenues for regenerative medicine with stem cells. Blood from the umbilical cord is one of the most easily harvested sources of stem cells, which can be quickly and painlessly collected at birth and frozen for future medical use.

One of the presenters, Dr Joanne Kurtzberg, Chief Scientific Officer and Chief Medical Officer of Duke University's Robertson Cell and Translational Therapy Programme and President of Cord Blood Association, is one of the world's leading experts in the use of umbilical cord blood cells. Her FDA-approved stem cell research programme investigating the potential of cord blood therapies for a variety of neurological disorders including autism, stroke, cerebral palsy and related brain disorders, has already yielded some positive results.

Dr Kurtzberg says, “Cord blood research holds the promise of truly transformational discoveries for medicine. We are working to develop cord blood-based therapies that could potentially restore brain

function in people suffering from neurological disorders such as cerebral palsy and autism. I am pleased to have this opportunity to share our work with the doctors in Singapore and around Asia.”

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.

Dr Cherie Daly, Cordlife’s Medical Affairs Consultant, says, “There is so much stem cell research going on around the world and so many advances being made that without dedicated platforms like this conference, it is almost impossible for doctors to keep up-to-date with the latest developments and know what treatments are available, or may become available in the future. No one knows what conditions we might be able to treat in 20 years’ time with cord blood frozen today.”

Singaporean Consultant Neurosurgeon Dr Keith Goh, who was one of the first in Asia to successfully use cord blood stem cells for cerebral palsy, says, “Continuing medical education conferences of this kind are essential to keep doctors abreast of the latest international developments in the field so that our patients can have more medical options.”

- The End –

#### **ABOUT CORDLIFE GROUP LIMITED (Bloomberg stock code: CLGL SP)**

Incorporated in May 2001, Cordlife Group Limited (“Cordlife”, together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”) is a consumer healthcare company catering to the mother and child segment and a leading cord blood and umbilical cord lining banking service provider. Today, Cordlife has the largest<sup>[1]</sup> market share of private cord blood banks in Singapore, Philippines and Indonesia; and is amongst the top three market leaders in Hong Kong and India. In December 2015, Cordlife increased its shareholding in the largest cord blood bank operator in Malaysia, Stemlife to 89.88%, making it the latest addition to the subsidiaries of the Group in the region. CordLife’s cord blood and cord tissue processing and cryopreservation facility in Singapore is one of the only six cord blood banks in the world to be dually accredited by AABB and Fact-Netcord, two of the world’s gold standards for cord blood banking. Cordlife Group is listed on the mainboard of Singapore Exchange since March 2012. For more information, please visit [www.cordlife.com](http://www.cordlife.com).

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<sup>[1]</sup> Source : Deloitte & Touche Financial Advisory Services Limited report, 10 April 2013