

## JULY IS CORD BLOOD AWARENESS MONTH

### Cord Blood Stem Cells Treat and Cure More Than 80 Life-Threatening Illnesses

#### There Have Been Over 30,000 Cord Blood Transplants Worldwide

Cord blood is the blood remaining in the umbilical cord and placenta following the birth of a child. It has quickly become the favored source of stem cells used in transplant therapy. Cord blood is easy to collect, store and access, and thus has many distinct advantages.

This guide has been prepared to help you understand more about the benefits of cord blood.

#### 01 | How Cord Blood is Collected

Collecting cord blood is a painless procedure performed after the birth of a child. Once the cord is clamped and cut, a syringe is used to draw blood from the cord. Cord blood may only be collected during the first 15 minutes following birth and should be processed within 48 hours of collection. There are no health risks associated with cord blood collection, as the blood is retrieved after the cord has been cut, thus preventing any pain, discomfort or harm to mother or baby. The process is completely safe.

#### 02 | Cord Blood Banking

The cord blood can be saved in a private bank where it may be used for sibling transplants or returned to the child for the treatment of certain conditions. Alternatively, the cord blood can be donated to a public bank to help patients seeking a transplant.

#### 03 | Conditions Treated by Cord Blood Stem Cells

As mentioned, cord blood stem cells can be used in the treatment of more than 80 diseases, some of which include:

- Leukemia
- Lymphoma
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Sickle Cell Anemia

Stem cell therapy can also help the body recover from cancer treatments like chemotherapy or radiation and is being researched for the treatment of conditions such as cerebral palsy, Parkinson's Disease and Autism.

For a list of cord blood banks or to learn more about cord blood awareness, please visit:  
<http://www.savethecordfoundation.org/banking-choices/>

***Did You Know?  
Cord Blood is a preferred  
source of stem cells***

#### References

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