

Umbilical Cord Blood Transplantation

Normally a baby's umbilical cord is discarded soon after birth. However, for many young children suffering from leukaemia and other blood disorders, blood contained in stored cords has provided them with a second chance at life. One such child is Ethan.

At four months of age Ethan, pictured on the front cover, appeared to be suffering from a cold, but his parents were devastated to be told that he had chronic myeloid leukaemia. With his health worsening he was treated at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. After three rounds of chemotherapy, a splenectomy and conditioning drugs, Ethan was given an unrelated cord blood transplant. Surprisingly, he recovered in just 17 days and was sent home.

Today Ethan is a happy healthy young boy.

How Can Umbilical Cord Blood Save Lives?

Many children and young adults with serious blood diseases, such as leukaemia, need a bone marrow transplant to give them a chance of life. Unfortunately a marrow donor cannot always be found. Now, through the Bone Marrow Donor Institute, which stores cord blood samples derived from umbilical cords, the cord blood, which is rich in stem cells can be used instead of bone marrow for transplantation.

This valuable cord blood can now be collected, frozen and stored in a 'Cord Blood Bank' until it is needed for a life saving transplant.

In partnership with the Royal Children's Hospital, these valuable cord blood units are collected at select hospitals thanks to the preparedness of Australian mothers to donate their baby's cord and placenta.

After collecting and stringent testing these cords are frozen and held at a temperature of -150°C in cryogenic freezing tanks filled with liquid nitrogen and can be made available to suitable needy recipients.

The Benefits

The supply of Cord Blood is virtually unlimited.

The immediate availability in the Cord Blood Bank will dramatically shorten the 'search' time.

The stem cells in cord blood are of high quality and very potent in producing blood cells.

Cord blood transplants appear to cause less serious immunological side effects.

The 'matching' between donor and recipient is less critical. This means that the chance of finding suitable cord blood for transplantation is much greater than for bone marrow.

The Costs

Everything comes at a cost, and approximately \$2000+ is needed for each cord blood to be tested, frozen and stored.

Cord blood banking is an expensive procedure and your financial support is **DESPERATELY** needed.

YOUR DONATION WILL HELP SAVE YOUNG LIVES

You can help to make the BMDI National Cord Blood Bank a success by making a donation.

So please fill in the form below to make a donation and help save a life.

\$20 \$50 \$100 or \$

I would like to sponsor a unit of cord blood. \$2000

Each Unit sponsor will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

I enclose a cheque payable to the:
Lions Cord Blood Foundation Inc.

Name:

Address:

.....

Phone: (Bus) (Home)

I would like information on making a bequest.

Donations are fully tax deductible.
A receipt will be sent to you promptly.

Please mail your donation to:
Lions Cord Blood Foundation Inc.
PO Box 4036
East Burwood Victoria 3151

A0034981U
Trust Fund Number DGR.900495462
ABN 91 048 667 604



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FOUNDATION INC.



Lions Cord Blood Foundation Incorporated

This Foundation has provided support and funding to the Bone Marrow Donor Institute since it started a Cord Blood Bank 10 years ago in partnership with the Royal Children's Hospital, as an alternative to bone marrow transplantation for treatment of blood disorders.

Since its inception the Foundation has received great support from the 1500 Lions Service Clubs around Australia, raising \$819,806.00 to end of June 2009. Popular projects for raising these funds include the sale of red roses on St Valentine's Day, sale of pens, stickers, keyrings, our Great Australian Grocery Grab raffle and the sale of the "Dining with Lions" Recipe Books.

The main objective of the Foundation is to supply cryogenic freezing chambers, cryoshippers for the transfer of stem cells anywhere in the world; and a recent purchase of a replacement centrifuge which separates out the stem cells from the plasma and red blood cells. The Foundation has also made significant contributions to other related projects one such has been fitting out the Cord Blood Co-ordinator/Donor Interview Room at the William Angliss Hospital in Ferntree Gully, Melbourne.

Furthering research is another objective of the Foundation and we are currently funding a Research Assistant with further funding available for another Research Assistant in 2010.

It is surprising how many basic questions on cord blood collection do not currently have answers. It is only through research that information will become available.

Australian National Network of Cord Blood Banks

For further information on the Australian national network of umbilical cord blood banks and hospitals that participate as cord blood collection centres, please contact:

New South Wales & Northern Territory

Sydney Cord Blood Bank
Sydney Children's Hospital
High Street
Randwick NSW 2031
Ph: 02 9382 0371
Website: www.sch.edu.au/departments/acbb

Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania & Western Australia

BMDI Cord Blood Bank
Royal Children's Hospital
Flemington Road
Parkville Vic 3052
Ph: 03 9345 5834
Email: cord@cryptic.rch.unimelb.edu.au

Queensland

Queensland Cord Blood Bank
Mater Misericordiae Hospital
South Brisbane QLD 4100
Ph: 07 3840 1614



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BONE MARROW DONOR INSTITUTE



IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL -
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