

THE
DAN BERGER
CORD BLOOD
PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

Will collecting cord blood hurt my baby or me?

No. There is no risk to the mother or baby because cord blood is collected outside the mother's body after the baby is born and after the cord is cut. There will be no change in the way mother and baby are cared for during labor and delivery or afterward.

What is the difference between donating cord blood and storing it for my family?

Public donations don't have a fee and you will not have control over it. The cord blood tissue is recorded and stored in a public bank until requested for a transplant. If you store your baby's cord blood privately, there is an ongoing fee for storage, and only your family can use it. You can also donate it to research, which also doesn't have a fee.

What are the basic requirements to donate?

If you are in general good health, at least 18 years old, and if you are delivering one baby (rather than two or more), you meet the basic requirements to donate. You must be at least 34 weeks gestation to donate.

Are cord blood stem cells part of the stem cell debates that I hear about in the news?

No. Umbilical cord blood stem cells are free of political and ethical debate and are not embryonic stem cells. Many states have introduced legislation to educate families about the options for their baby's cord blood, PA being one of those states. To read about the United States government's support and legislation, visit <http://bloodcell.transplant.hrsa.gov>

Can cord blood be collected after delayed clamping?

Yes. If your decision is made for delayed clamping, the cord itself will be evaluated after delivery for a donation collection. There may not be enough cord blood to collect for a successful transplant unit, so the donation will not be collected. For a private storage option, the cord blood will be collected after delayed clamping since you are paying for that service.


What do I need to do to donate or store my baby's cord blood?

To Donate: Donation forms may be mailed to you; you can print them from the website or complete them on-line at (www.givecord.org). All donation kits are kept at the hospitals.

To Store: Choose which private organization you want to store with and contact them to receive your kit and set-up your payment plan. In an emergency, private kits are kept at the hospital also.

Website


www.danbergercordblood.org



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