

# CORD BLOOD BANKING

Cord blood banking involves collecting blood left in your newborn's umbilical cord and placenta and storing it for future medical use. This blood contains powerful stem cells that have been used to regenerate healthy blood and immune systems in more than 30,000 transplants worldwide. Doctors are using cord blood to save lives today and researching cord blood as potential treatment for diseases that currently have no cure.

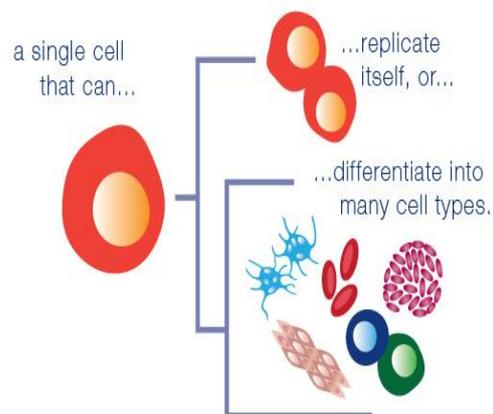
The Umbilical Cord is a long "rope" like structure that connects baby with mother. It consists of connective tissue, inside which there is an umbilical vein and two arteries. This structure carries out the function of exchanging nutrients between mother & a child.

*"Once thought to be a biological waste, has now been proven to have the potential to save millions of lives from different life threatening diseases"*

## What makes cord blood cells different?

Cord blood stem cells are biologically younger and are more flexible compared to adult stem cells from other sources like bone marrow. When saved, they have unique qualities and advantages:

- Less risk of complications when used in transplants
- Ability to use one's own stem cells for conditions that currently lack medical treatment options, also known as "autologous transplantation"
- Immediately available and can minimize disease progression in early treatment
- Preserving them "stops the clock" and protects the cells from aging and being exposed to environmental factors and common viruses that can decrease their function



## Steps in Cord Blood Banking

The collection of umbilical cord stem cells can be done only at the time of birth and causes no harm to the baby or mother.

- After birth the umbilical cord is clamped and cut
- Cord blood is collected from umbilical cord vein by experts
- Collected cord blood is safely packed in proprietary transfer kits and within 24 hours reach the labs
- The sample quality is evaluated and all the required tests are conducted for maximum safety
- Cord blood is processed by patented technologies to yield maximum number of stem cells
- The end product is stored at -196 deg.C for 21 years

### **Reasons to Save Your Child's Cord Blood**

- Cord Blood Stem Cells Hold the Power to Treat Diseases
- Baby's Cord Blood Stem Cells are a Potential Match for Other Family Members Too
- It's a Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity to Protect Your Child's Long-Term Health
- Diseases Currently Treated with Cord Blood Stem Cells Leukaemia, Lymphoma, Sickle Cell Anemia, Immune Deficiency Diseases, and Thalassemia.
- Diseases Potentially Treatable (research ongoing) by Stem Cells in the Future  
Diabetes, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, Cerebral Palsy, Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), Muscular Dystrophy