



Cleveland Cord Blood  
C E N T E R

*Save a Cord. Save a Life.*

## **Fact Sheet**

### **About the Cleveland Cord Blood Center (CCBC)**

The Cleveland Cord Blood Center is an independent, public cord blood bank. Since its founding in 2008, the not-for-profit 501(c)(3) collects, processes, stores and distributes stem-cell rich umbilical cord blood for transplantation in patients with life threatening disorders such as leukemia, lymphoma and immune system disorders. In addition, CCBC researchers are exploring the use of cord blood-derived cells as regenerative cell therapies to address unmet medical needs. The Cleveland Cord Blood Center was founded by Mary J. Laughlin, M.D., who performed one of the world's first successful umbilical cord blood stem cell transplants on an adult leukemia patient in 1995.

### **Locations**

Headquarters: 25001 Emery Road, Suite 150, Cleveland, Ohio 44128

Research and development laboratory: The Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center located in Cleveland

Hospital collection sites:

In Cleveland – Hillcrest Hospital and Fairview Hospital

In Atlanta – Emory Midtown Hospital and Piedmont Atlanta Hospital

In San Francisco – Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical Center

**Website:** [clevelandcordblood.org](http://clevelandcordblood.org)

### **What are cord blood stem cells?**

Cord blood-derived stem cells are collected after delivery from umbilical cords and placentas of full-term babies. These cells are a source of blood cell-forming (hematopoietic) stem cells with the potential to treat patients with life threatening blood disorders.

### **FDA approval for CLEVECORD™**

On September 1, 2016, the CCBC received a biologics license from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for CLEVECORD, a stem cell product derived from umbilical cord blood for use in stem cell transplants. The FDA approval of CLEVECORD reflects the organization's ability to meet the highest quality standards in the industry for distribution of cord blood products to transplant centers throughout the U.S. and around the world.

## **CCBC research and development**

Located at the Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center in Cleveland (GCIC), CCBC scientists are conducting innovative research in the development of stem cell treatments to address unmet medical needs in patients suffering from Parkinson's disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and those with wound healing issues.

## **Cord blood donations**

Up to 50 percent of parents giving birth in CCBC's partner hospitals donate their baby's umbilical cord blood, a rate well above the national average. Cord blood is an ideal source of stem cells. Donating a newborn's cord blood is safe, easy and at no cost to parents. In addition, the collection procedure does not interfere with the normal birthing process. No longer discarded as medical waste, these valuable cells are collected at childbirth and then meticulously tested, processed, frozen, and stored. Once approved for clinical use, cord blood units that fulfill certain stringent criteria are listed on an international registry accessible by doctors worldwide. To date, more than 35,000 cord blood units have been transplanted worldwide in patients with blood related cancers or disorders.

## **Serving a diverse population's unmet need**

The broad diversity in the genetic and ethnic backgrounds of families in Atlanta, Cleveland and San Francisco donating cord blood to the Cleveland Cord Blood Center supports creation of an inventory of suitable cord blood units for patients of African American, Latino and Asian descent, for whom well-matched stem cell grafts are not generally available in the adult donor registry.

## **Cord blood registries**

Cord blood stem cell units that meet specific requirements to match a patient in need can be located by transplant doctors through registries. The National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)/Be The Match and Bone Marrow Donors Worldwide (BMDW) are international registries that coordinate identification and transport of cord blood units between local, national and international cord blood banks and transplant centers.

## **Media inquiries**

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