

09/11/2007 12:38:02 AM
Mother's stem cell campaign
[LEICESTER MERCURY]

Published Date: September 10, 2007

The mother of a girl who had life-saving stem cell treatment is campaigning for a donor bank to be set up to help other children with similar illnesses.

Eva Winston-Hart, three, has been battling leukaemia since last November.

She received stem cell treatment in May and is now back home with her parents, Dave and Amy, and older sister Mia, in Market Harborough.

The cells had been taken from an umbilical cord in America and were found after a worldwide search for matching bone marrow.

Amy is campaigning for Government funding for a facility to store stem cells from umbilical cords in UK hospitals.

Four hospitals in the country currently carry out the procedure but the rest are incinerated as medical waste.

Amy said the stem cells could be used to save other sick children.

The 28-year-old, who has collected hundreds of signatures on a petition calling for the facility, said: "Cord blood is like liquid gold.

"We went through millions of samples of stem cells, and a worldwide appeal for bone marrow.

"But if this cord had been thrown away Eva might not be here now.

"From the number of petitions I've handed out, we must have hundreds of signatures by now.

"Everybody I know is telling everyone else to sign it.

"It's just public education that is holding this country back. We're 20 years behind the rest of the world with this." Amy and her friend, Cassy French, have sent a letter to Prime Minister Gordon Brown as part of their campaign.

To download a petition visit the website: www.helpsaveeva.co.uk

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