



## Instructions for Cord Blood Collection

Please read all instructions carefully before collection. Contact Cryobanks International if there are any questions or problems. A technician is on call 24 hours a day for assistance.

### For a Vaginal Delivery:

1. Cord blood is collected following delivery of the infant, after the umbilical cord is cut, and while awaiting (and during) delivery of the placenta.
2. Remove the collection bag from its foil pouch and overwrap.
3. Swab a site on the cord with the povidone-iodine pad provided in the kit, followed by the alcohol pad.
4. Insert the collection needle attached to the cord blood collection bag into the cleansed area of the umbilical vein and lower the umbilical cord below the perineum. The collection bag must be placed lower than the placenta to allow the blood to drain by gravity into the bag. Minimize manipulation of the umbilical cord as this will adversely affect the volume of blood obtained.
5. **Sufficient volume of cord blood is a crucial factor for its use as a transplant!** Allow as much blood as possible to be collected. A minimum collection volume of 60 cc or more is strongly suggested for the cord blood to be considered usable. It is not unusual for the collected volume to be above 100 cc.
6. Including the weight of the collection bag and clamp, a 60 cc collection would weigh at least 135 grams. If less than 60 cc of cord blood is collected, please attempt to collect more by reinserting the needle into another cleansed site of the umbilical vein.
7. Following the collection (which usually takes no longer than five minutes) clamp the tubing a few inches from the bag and cut it distal to the clamp, leaving the sharp (needle) in your tray. **Dispose of the needle as required by your facility. If you choose to use the needle guard provided, please use the instructions supplied with the guard.**
8. Immediately after collection, write the mother's first and last name, the name of the physician/collector, the name of the collection facility, and the date and time drawn on the yellow cord blood identification label provided. Confirm the patient's identification by verifying that the mother's name on her wristband is the same as the name written on the cord blood label.
9. **Affix the yellow identification label directly to the collection bag.** A Hospital ID label may also be used. Cord blood units that are unlabeled cannot be processed.
10. Weigh the collection bag containing the cord blood. Write the weight in grams on the yellow cord blood label and have this information available when you notify Cryobanks of the delivery and cord blood collection. (See "Notification Instructions" below).
11. The cord blood must remain at room temperature to ensure viability of the stem cells. **DO NOT REFRIGERATE.** Refrigeration at 4° C adversely affects the viability of the stem cells.
12. Fill out the blue Delivery Information Sheet, Form C.2-3, provided in the kit. **This form is required.**

## FOR A CESAREAN (C-SECTION) DELIVERY:

### **Option 1:**

1. The collection may be performed before the placenta is removed from the uterus using the sterile C-Section collection extension set. *Assemble the extension kit as specified on the instructions in the c-section adapter kit.*
2. Swab a site on the umbilical cord with the povidone-iodine pad, followed by the alcohol pad.
3. Insert the needle from the c-section extension kit into the cleansed site of the umbilical cord. The collection bag can remain outside the sterile field at a lower level to allow gravity to fill it. When collection is complete and the needle is removed from the cord, allow the blood remaining in the tubing to enter the collection bag to maximize recovery. Secure the needle by holding it away from yourself and pushing down the orange safety shield on to a table surface (see provided C-Section kit).

### **Option 2:**

1. Alternatively, the collection may be performed after the placenta is removed from the uterus. Using this method, collection of the umbilical cord blood can be performed up to 20 minutes after delivery of the placenta.
2. Place the placenta and umbilical cord in a tray.
3. Swab a site on the umbilical cord with the povidone-iodine pad, followed by the alcohol pad.
4. Insert the collection needle attached to the cord blood collection bag into the cleansed area of the umbilical vein. Elevate the placenta and lower the collection bag to enable gravity to drain the blood into the collection bag (see C-Section kit for needle disposal). This method of collection may not yield as high a volume, but an acceptable amount can be collected.

### **Maternal Blood Draw**

Three tubes have been supplied with the kit to draw the maternal blood for required infectious disease testing. The blood can be drawn during labor or shortly after birth; anytime within 48 hours of the cord blood collection. Place a hospital addressograph label on each tube of the maternal blood (If hospital labels are not available, write the mother's full first and last name on the tubes). Fill out the green label with the phlebotomist's initials, date and time of collection, and place on the absorbent tube-holder sleeve.

## IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**During Normal Working Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM (EST):

- Contact Cryobanks International *within two hours* after the cord blood collection at 800-869-8608 or 407-834-8333 for further instructions.

**After Normal Working Hours:**

- There is a message system in place. Please follow the instructions for leaving a message. A Cryobanks Representative will return your call the following morning including Saturday, Sunday and Holidays.
- If you feel this is an emergency and you need to speak to a technician immediately, press extension #16 to have him/her paged. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.