CORD BLOOD OPTIONS

Umbilical cord blood – the blood remaining in a newborn's umbilical cord at birth - has many uses in medical treatment today and its potential to help cure disease continues to be explored by scientists.

Cord blood contains potentially life saving cells which can be used in the treatment of certain cancers, and other blood or genetic diseases. Patients in need of a bone marrow transplant can use umbilical cord blood for treatment, especially when a bone marrow donor can not be found. The vast majority of people in need of a transplant never receive it because of an inability to find a donor or the limited number of willing donors. A cord blood unit can be used successfully for many patients and is quickly available to those in need. Current research for diseases such as cerebral palsy and diabetes is also showing great promise using cord blood. As the use of cord blood and marrow transplants advances, so does the need to increase the availability of potentially matched stem cell products.

The collection of cord blood is performed after delivery of the baby and is of no harm to either mother or baby.

YOU HAVE THREE OPTIONS REGARDING CORD BLOOD (please check one)

_____ PUBLIC DONATION (No Cost to You)

The cord blood unit is collected and stored in a public bank. It may be listed on a cord blood registry. Through the registry, cord units are accessible worldwide for anyone in need. Units that are not appropriate for donation may be used for research.

_____ PRIVATE STORAGE (Fees Apply)

Your cord blood will be stored for use by you or your family should the need arise. You must make your own arrangements with a company for this service.

_____ DISCARD: The cord blood will be discarded as medical waste.

You and your family should consider the options available to you.

Name:		Phone:
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip code:
Mother's Date of Birth:	Baby's Due Date:	
Physician's Name:	Hospital/Clinic:	
Mother's Signature *(required):*		
Your signature on this form does not obligate you in any way.		

Mail completed form to:

The Cord Blood Bank of Arkansas
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 W. Markham St. #503-1, Little Rock, AR 72205