

What tests are required?

Canadian Blood Services National Public Cord Blood Bank is required to perform certain tests on your baby's cord blood and your blood to determine eligibility for storage such as:

- genetic markers to match the donor to the patient
- human immunodeficiency virus (HIV, the virus that causes AIDS)
- hepatitis B and C viruses (HBV and HCV)
- human T-lymphotropic virus (HTLV), syphilis and West Nile Virus (WNV)

How is my privacy protected?

Canadian Blood Services is committed to protecting your privacy and personal information. Please read our privacy notice for more information at www.blood.ca/cordblood

What will my baby's cord blood be used for?

The National Public Cord Blood Bank collects, tests and stores cord blood to make it available for any patient in Canada or world-wide in need of an unrelated stem cell transplant. Occasionally, cord blood may be used for other purposes such as quality control or process and product improvement. Depending upon which hospital your baby's cord blood is collected, cord blood that is not eligible for storage may be:

- used and/or distributed for research purposes by the National Public Cord Blood Bank with your consent,
- returned to the hospital, where it may be used and/or distributed for research purposes, with your consent, or
- discarded.



How else can I help?

There are many ways you and your family and friends can help:

- Register to donate stem cells. If you are between 17 and 35, you can join the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network. Find out more at www.blood.ca/stem-cells
- Make a blood donation. If you are 17 years of age or older you can donate whole blood, platelets or plasma. Find out more at www.blood.ca
- Become a volunteer: www.blood.ca/volunteers

**National Public
Cord Blood Bank**
www.blood.ca/cordblood


Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give



Maternal Education and Recruitment program
provided through the generous support of Bayer Inc.



**Information for
Cord Blood Donation**


Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give

Thank you for considering donating to the Canadian Blood Services National Public Cord Blood Bank. Umbilical cord blood is a medically proven source of blood stem cells that can help save a life. Find out more about donating cord blood today at www.blood.ca/cordblood.

What is the National Public Cord Blood Bank?

The Canadian Blood Services National Public Cord Blood Bank:

- recruits healthy, volunteer mothers delivering at a designated collection hospital;
- collects, tests and stores eligible blood stem cells from the umbilical cord and placenta;
- makes eligible cord blood units available for any patient in Canada or world-wide in need of an unrelated stem cell transplant;
- collects donations at no charge to you. The National Public Cord Blood Bank is not affiliated with a private cord blood bank. To reserve donated cord blood for your family's use, please make those arrangements directly with a private cord blood bank.

Where can I donate my baby's cord blood?

OTTAWA: The Ottawa Hospital, Civic Campus or General Campus

BRAMPTON – GTA: William Osler Health System, Brampton Civic Hospital

EDMONTON: Alberta Health Services' Lois Hole Hospital for Women

VANCOUVER: BC Women's Hospital & Health Center



Do I qualify to donate to the National Public Cord Blood Bank?

You can donate if you are:

- healthy (mother and baby) with no medical conditions that could be passed on to a patient
- 18 years of age or older, with your signed consent
- not delivering before 34 weeks in your pregnancy
- not having twins or triplets (or more)
- fluent in English or French
- delivering at one of the five designated collection hospitals

Speak to your health care provider to see if you are a candidate for cord blood donation.

Are there any risks to my baby or myself?

The National Public Cord Blood Bank does not interfere with the natural process of the delivery of your baby. The risks to your health and your baby's health are very low, as blood stem cells are collected from the umbilical cord/placenta after delivery of your baby.

How do I donate my baby's cord blood?

There are just 4 easy steps:

STEP 1 **Talk to your healthcare provider.** They will give you the information needed. Or, download the information kit from our website, www.blood.ca/cordblood.

STEP 2 **Fill out the consent form.** Give it to your healthcare provider or bring it with you on your day of delivery. Tell your nurse or healthcare provider of your intent to donate.

STEP 3 **Cord blood collection.** The cord blood will be collected in a designated hospital by a qualified professional.

STEP 4 **If your baby's cord blood unit qualifies,** a nurse may visit you to collect additional information before you leave the hospital which includes a second consent, blood work and a questionnaire.

What are cord blood stem cells?

Cord blood stem cells are immature cells that give rise to the cells found in the bloodstream: red blood cells to carry oxygen in your body, platelets for blood clotting and white blood cells for fighting infections.