

Will there be any costs for me to have my baby's cord blood collected for the purpose of private cord blood banking?

Yes, the private cord blood bank will charge you a collection fee and /or annual storage fee.

You will be responsible for these costs. SA Health will not be responsible for any of the costs incurred in collecting, transporting or storing cord blood for a private cord blood bank.

What do I need to do to ensure my baby's cord blood is collected for storage with a private cord blood bank?

You can only have the cord blood of your baby collected for the purposes of private cord blood banking if:

- > you have provided a copy of your informed consent to the health service where you plan on giving birth during your antenatal period
- > you have notified the private cord blood collector when you commence labour
- > the private cord blood collector is qualified to undertake this procedure in the health service where you plan on giving birth and is in attendance at the birth of your baby
- > you and your baby's clinical condition at the time allows the procedure to be undertaken.

Important note:

A copy of your informed consent must be provided, during your antenatal period, to the health unit where you plan to give birth. The responsibility of obtaining informed consent for cord blood collection for the purposes of private cord blood banking, and the responsibility of arranging the collection, storage and transfer of the cord blood, lies with you and your private cord blood collector. The South Australian public health unit will not be responsible for any stage of the cord blood collection and banking process.

Disclaimer:

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For more information

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Copies of this publication are available from
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/perinatal

Non-English speaking: for information in languages other than English, call the Interpreting and Translating Centre and ask them to call The Department of Health. This service is available at no cost to you, contact (08) 8226 1990.



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Collection of Cord Blood in South Australian Public Health Services



for the Purposes
of Private Cord
Blood Banking
2018
Clinical Directive
Patient Information
Brochure



SA Health

Background

Umbilical cord blood is the blood left behind in the placenta and umbilical cord after birth. It is rich in blood-forming stem cells. Over the past decade, donated cord blood (from unrelated individuals) has been used as a source of stem cells for transplantation in the treatment of malignant and non-malignant conditions affecting children and adults. A patient's own cord blood, may not necessarily be suitable for use in the treatments for which donated cord blood is currently being used.

Some mothers may wish to have their baby's cord blood collected after birth and stored for his or her own future personal use on the basis that therapies will be developed that use a patient's own cord blood stem cells. There is no reliable estimate of a child's likelihood of actually using their cord blood later in life. The potential for cord blood stem cells to be used in a range of therapies is being researched but not part of any currently approved therapy.

Collection of cord blood for an individual's own future personal use is a service currently provided by private cord blood banks.

Where can I get more information?

Further information regarding cord blood collection for the purposes of private cord blood banking can be obtained from your perinatal health care provider.

Upon request a health care provider will provide you with a copy of the *Collection of Cord Blood in South Australian Public Health Services for the Purposes of Private Cord Blood Collection 2018 Clinical Directive*.

SA Health does not advocate the collection of cord blood for the purpose of private cord blood banking, but may be able to support the procedure if you and your baby's clinical condition remain stable.

Can I have my baby's cord blood collected for the purpose of private cord blood banking?

Yes, if you are able to make arrangements for the collection, storage and transfer of your baby's cord blood with a private cord blood bank collector.

The private cord blood collector must be qualified to undertake this procedure in the health service where you plan on giving birth. This person will need to be in attendance at the birth of your baby.

No South Australian public health service employee, whilst on duty can, under any circumstance, engage in the process of securing informed consent, nor in the collection, labeling or storage of cord blood for the purposes of private cord blood banking.

Do I need to notify anyone that I plan to have my baby's cord blood collected?

Yes, you should secure a consent form from the private cord blood bank, and provide a signed copy of this to the health care unit where you plan to birth, during your antenatal period.

You should also be aware that it is your responsibility to notify the private cord blood collector when you commence labour.

Are there any reasons I cannot have my baby's cord blood collected for the purpose of private cord blood banking?

Safety for you and your baby is the main concern when having your baby's cord blood collected.

At the time of the procedure, if you and your baby's clinical condition are likely to be compromised by the procedure, staff will not allow it to be undertaken.

The private cord blood bank collector must be available at a convenient location, in close proximity to the birth unit /operating rooms to collect the cord blood. SA Health staff are not permitted, whilst on duty, to engage in the process of securing informed consent, nor in the collection, labeling or storage of cord blood for the purposes of private cord blood banking.

