



WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE GROUP OF PA  
Main Line Perinatal Associates Division

Nancy S. Roberts, M.D. • Andrew G. Gerson, M.D. • Eric J. Carlson, D.O. • Alan E. Donnenfeld, M.D. • Sara S. Nicholas, M.D. • Antonette Dulay, M.D.

## **CORD BLOOD STEM CELL COLLECTION**

The transplantation of cord blood stem cells for patients with a variety of leukemic disorders, hemoglobinopathies, immune deficiencies and inborn errors of metabolism has great potential. More than 6,000 cord blood stem cell transplantations have occurred worldwide. At least 78 different disorders have now been treated with cord blood stem cells. Research in the treatment of neurologic disorders (Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, brain injury, spinal cord accident), cardiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease, and liver damage are being investigated.

Both public and private cord blood storage companies are available. Public banks store samples anonymously. The samples are then available for anyone who is a match.

**Main Line Health partners with the Mason Schaffer Foundation public cord blood program. We encourage you to consider this life-saving donation. If you wish to donate your cord blood, please pre-register with them at [www.masonshafferfoundation.org](http://www.masonshafferfoundation.org).**

Private cord blood stem cell banks charge a fee (approximately \$1500) for the collection and initial processing of the stem cells. Annual storage fees (averaging \$100) are typically charges as long as the cells are stored. Individuals who contract with private banks "own" their stem cells and can reserve their use for their own families.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists does not endorse private cord blood stem cell banking. They caution that parents should have a realistic assessment of their likelihood of return on their investment.

Women's Health Care Group of PA supports patient autonomy. We neither endorse or condemn private banking. We do recommend that you use a respected company, if you pursue this. Options include:

- Cord Blood Registry [www.cordbloodregistry.com](http://www.cordbloodregistry.com)
- Viacord [www.viacord.com](http://www.viacord.com)
- CorCell [www.corcell.com](http://www.corcell.com)