

## **CORD BLOOD BANKING**

Cord blood banking is the preservation of the blood from the baby's umbilical cord at birth. This blood contains the building blocks of all cells called stem cells. These stem cells divide to create numerous other cells in the body. Collection of cord blood is time restricted and can only be retrieved immediately after birth, so it is important to have preparations ready for its collection prior to delivery.

There are many cord blood banks from which to choose. The web addresses for some of the larger companies are provided below. If you are considering banking your infant's cord blood, please take the time to review your choices and notify your physician as soon as possible.

[www.cordblood.com](http://www.cordblood.com)

[www.viacord.com](http://www.viacord.com)