



Cleveland Cord Blood
CENTER

Save a Cord. Save a Life.

CCBC Connection



Summer 2017

The Cleveland Cord Blood Center expands cord blood collection to the West Coast

The Cleveland Cord Blood Center (CCBC) has expanded umbilical cord blood collection to the West Coast with the addition of Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical Center as a center for donation and collection. The hospital became the first in the city of San Francisco to provide expectant parents with the opportunity to donate their babies' umbilical cord blood to a public cord blood bank.

Supported by a grant from the California Umbilical Cord Blood Collection Program, a CCBC-trained team collects and prepares the cord blood for shipment to the Northeast Ohio center. Units approved for clinical use will be processed, stored and ultimately listed on an international registry which is accessible by doctors worldwide.

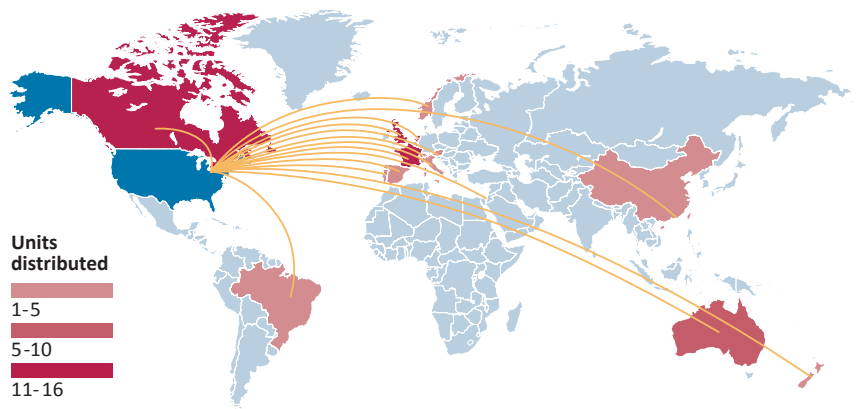
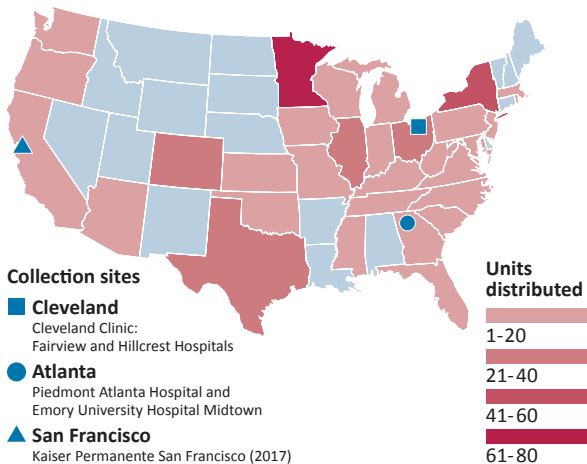
"Kaiser Permanente San Francisco will help further expand our diverse donor pool, and enhance our ability to help meet the growing global demand for umbilical cord blood matches. We are grateful for the opportunity to accept public cord blood donations from the genetically diverse population in the Bay Area," said Marcie Finney, CCBC Executive Director.



Kaiser Permanente San Francisco partners with CCBC to launch a public cord blood collection opportunity for expectant parents.

"We are excited to participate in California's Umbilical Cord Blood Collection Program with the Cleveland Cord Blood Center," said Maria Ansari, Physician-in-Chief, Kaiser Permanente San Francisco. "Cord blood units collected here have the potential to save a life anywhere in the country. Participation in a public cord blood program allows our patients to donate their babies cord blood to benefit the health of the community."

CCBC blood distributions across the United States and the globe (2008 to 2016)



Wound healing research explores new cord blood applications



CCBC researchers explore how CordHeal™ may support wound healing.

Cleveland Cord Blood Center researchers, under the direction of Jennifer Greene-Roos, Ph.D., are investigating how umbilical cord blood can help heal wounds and resolve wound infections.

Conducted in collaboration with Case Western Reserve University, the researchers are investigating how platelet-rich plasma and monocytes from cord blood support wound healing.

“Infants have an advantage in wound healing over adults,” Greene-Roos noted, “including their ability to heal without scarring. We’re investigating the utility of CordHeal™, a proprietary product of

the Cleveland Cord Blood Center that is derived from umbilical cord blood (UCB) monocytes. The hope is that CordHeal can prove helpful in treating those with diseases such as diabetes and atherosclerosis who are among those most likely to suffer from chronically infected wounds. These individuals are also among those at greatest risk for limb amputation.”

The researchers are exploring how CordHeal can be applied topically in the form of a gel that contains UCB monocytes and platelet rich plasma. That topical application would enhance wound debridement, infection resolution, and new blood vessel formation, all processes required for healthy wound healing.

“With infection found to be the cause of around 50 percent of limb amputations, and almost half of those individuals eventually requiring another limb amputation, the life-enhancing and cost savings potential is significant. Considering these patients face a five year mortality rate of 27 percent, which is a fourfold increase compared to their peers in the general population, this therapy may also save lives.”

Investigators are currently studying a diabetic wound healing model in mice for proof of concept and safety. The team is ultimately looking to conduct clinical trials in humans.

Through research, the Cleveland Cord Blood Center’s public banking program may extend the lifesaving work of umbilical cord blood beyond use in the current clinical applications in allogeneic transplantation for life threatening hematologic disorders.

Survivor makes the journey of hope, recovery

In September of 1995, at the age of 24, Chris DeVine was diagnosed with lymphoma. Having just moved to Colorado the previous year to start a career in banking, he returned to his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio for treatment at the University Hospitals Ireland Cancer Center.

In 1998, he suddenly became ill and discovered that his illness had relapsed and now faced a diagnosis of leukemia. He was told that he would need a bone marrow transplant, but when no suitable bone marrow match was found, he learned that a cord blood transplant was his only treatment option.

Returning to Cleveland and the University Hospitals Ireland Cancer Center, he met with Mary J. Laughlin, M.D., a

pioneer in the cord blood transplantation field and founder of the Cleveland Cord Blood Center. Within 10 days of the transplant, Dr. Laughlin was encouraged by DeVine’s first signs of cell recovery.

He now works for a local hospital where he has the opportunity to share his experiences with others facing cancer. “I try to be as real as I can, answering questions, and advising them ‘to do what they feel is right for them.’”

Now in his 40s, DeVine is an avid rock climber, snowboarder and guitarist who performs at local spots in the Vail, Colorado area.