

## MISSION

We are advancing umbilical cord blood cell therapy treatments: saving lives, enhancing health, and expanding knowledge one birth at a time.

## REALIZING NEXT GEN OPPORTUNITIES

The Cleveland Cord Blood Center (CCBC) is in the midst of one of the most exciting times in our history! We can truly say that we're pursuing new opportunities reflective of our mission at a pace that we could never have predicted.

- Our newest collection site at Kaiser Permanente San Leandro Medical Center in the East Bay area of California is expanding our ability to collect a broader diversity of cord blood units to help meet growing national and worldwide demand.
- The Cleveland Cell Therapy Incubator (CCTI) recently entered into an agreement with European-based Glycostem Therapeutics. As an FDA-licensed U.S. cord blood bank for sourcing material, CCTI is engaging with new partners on future development programs.
- Wouter Van't Hof, Director, Cord Blood Bank and CEO, Cleveland Cell Therapy Incubator, has been invited to attend the FDA's Cell Therapy Liaison Meeting for a discussion of the alignment of global requirements for development and approval of cell therapies in the U.S. and internationally.
- Helping to cultivate new leaders in the Next Gen cellular therapy arena, we shared insights with the Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) National Center for Regenerative Medicine's Entrepreneurial Biotechnology graduate students.
- Executive Director Marcie Finney was honored to present at the Cord Blood Connect International Congress in September at which she shared CCBC's perspective on U.S. Public Bank Sustainability Strategies.

We invite you to read on about how Next Gen growth opportunities are unfolding for the Cleveland Cord Blood Center in our contributions to advance umbilical cord blood cell therapy treatments, one birth at a time.

### Join the Cleveland Cord Blood Center on our exciting cord blood journey

- Visit the Cleveland Cord Blood Center (CCBC) website at [clevelandcordblood.org](http://clevelandcordblood.org)
- Keep up with the latest CCBC updates – follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

## NEW COLLECTION SITE LAUNCHES WITH SUCCESS



Cleveland Cord Blood Center's newest collection site at the Kaiser Permanente San Leandro Medical Center was selected to enhance the diversity of the CCBC cord blood inventory. From its launch in June 2021 through the end of September 2021, 68 umbilical cord blood units have been collected and stored as a result of the generous and thoughtful parents who chose to donate their baby's umbilical cord blood.

The launch of the program was celebrated in the community with press coverage from local newspapers and radio. Confirming the projection that the new site would contribute to the overall diversity of CCBC's bank, 22 of the collected units have been Asian, 16 have been Hispanic, and 12 were multiracial.

"We are very happy with our progress so far," said JoAnn Chase, CCBC's Hospital Liaison to Kaiser Permanente San Leandro Medical Center. "The overall enthusiasm at this collection site is inspiring."

### Dr. Gebhardt leads newest CCBC hospital collection site



*Michelle Gebhardt, M.D.  
OBGYN Practitioner*

"We had collected cord blood units for private banks but never on a large scale prior to our relationship with the Cleveland Cord Blood Center. What a great partnership," said Michelle Gebhardt, M.D., OBGYN Practitioner at the Kaiser Permanente San Leandro Medical Center.

The medical center, located in the East Bay section of California, an area with a very diverse population, has a high number of annual deliveries. Its members and patients also speak a variety of different languages.

"When we discuss the opportunity for parents to donate their baby's cord blood, they are enthusiastic about supporting another family with the potentially lifesaving donation of their baby's cord blood," Gebhardt said. "I believe some parents will choose to deliver at our location to take advantage of this opportunity.

"I feel very lucky to be able to provide this service for my patients. The reward is knowing that one day there may be a recipient on the other side whose life we may be able to save," Gebhardt concluded.

## SINHA TO CONDUCT PARKINSON'S DISEASE RESEARCH



*Satyabrata Sinha,  
Ph.D.*

This October, Satyabrata Sinha, Ph.D., joined Cleveland Cord Blood Center's research staff to lead CCBC's continued exploration of cord-blood derived stem cell therapy for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

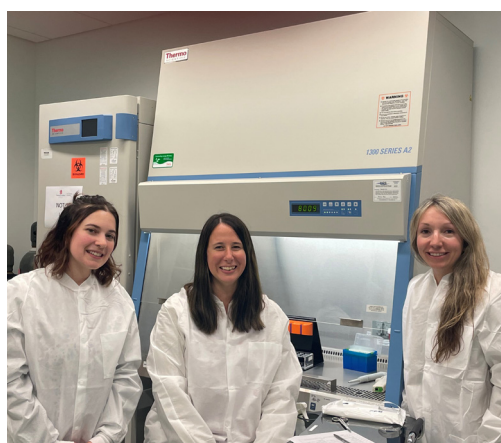
Sinha has a strong research background with a Ph.D. focused on cancer biology. His postdoctoral work in the field of ophthalmology is related to age-related macular degeneration and other retinal degenerative diseases.

Most recently, Sinha has been a Visiting Research Specialist at the University of Illinois Chicago. Prior to this, he conducted research as a postdoctoral fellow at the Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, West Virginia University Eye Institute and Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute in San Diego.

We're pleased to welcome Satyabrata Sinha to our research team.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH GLYCOSTEM THERAPEUTICS ANNOUNCED

Glycostem Therapeutics B.V., a leading clinical-stage company focused on the development of therapeutic allogeneic off-the-shelf Natural Killer (NK) cells, has entered into an agreement with Cleveland Cord Blood Center's state-of-the-art Cleveland Cell Therapy Incubator (CCTI). CCTI is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Cleveland Cord Blood Center. The contractual relationship with CCTI and Glycostem Therapeutics was finalized in the third quarter of 2021.



*L-R: Mariah Branem, Molly Walker and Sara Shields in the Cleveland Cell Therapy Incubator where work on the Glycostem Therapeutics project takes place*

CCTI will supply Glycostem Therapeutics with clinical-grade liquid cord blood units to be used in the development of cellular immunotherapy cancer treatments. In the past, CCBC has used or distributed liquid cord blood ("fresh") units for nonclinical research and development only. For this new supply chain, CCTI is now including additional testing and required intensive reviews to ensure the liquid cord blood units may be released for use as input material for clinical-grade manufacturing.

"Glycostem Therapeutics is a European entity interested in entering the U.S. market. They preferred to work with an FDA-licensed U.S. cord blood bank for sourcing of this material, which we are," said Wouter Van't Hof, Director, Cord Blood Bank and CEO, Cleveland Cell Therapy Incubator. "The Glycostem contract is an example of how we are beginning to engage with new partners on future development programs to take CCTI to a new level."

"We are very pleased that we have been able to initiate cooperation with CCBC," said Troels Jordansen, CEO of Glycostem Therapeutics. "We experienced a very motivated, experienced and effective organization in all of our dealings and are looking forward to see our two organizations grow in years to come."

### CCTI attends FDA's Cell Therapy Liaison Meeting

Finalizing this new type of supply agreement with Glycostem Therapeutics required aligning both U.S. and non-U.S. regulatory expectations for release of acceptable cord blood. This is a very timely and relevant discussion, as exemplified by the upcoming Cell Therapy Liaison Meeting (CTLTM) scheduled for November 2021, involving discussion between the FDA and various international stakeholders in the cell therapy industry. Wouter Van't Hof has been invited to attend for discussion of the alignment of global requirements for development and approval of cell therapies within the U.S. and abroad.

"Although this meeting is non-binding and more of an informational exchange, it is important that our Cell Therapy Incubator is a part of these discussions at the CTLTM," noted Van't Hof. "We're excited to be invited to the CTLTM table to monitor and hopefully shape critical developments in our industry."

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Finney a participant at Cord Blood Connect

Executive Director Marcie Finney participated in two panels at the Cord Blood Connect International Congress organized by the Cord Blood Association. On September 23, she presented *U.S. Public Bank Sustainability Strategies: Cleveland Perspective* as part of a Strategies for the Future panel. Finney also served as Panel Moderator on September 30 for *Perinatal Tissue as Source Material for Novel Therapies*.

### Van't Hof, Finney share expertise with CWRU students

Students pursuing directives in the regenerative field at the Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Master's Program in Regenerative Medicine and Entrepreneurship (RGME) heard from guest lecturers Marcie Finney and Wouter Van't Hof in October.

For their "Foundations in Regenerative Medicine" course, Finney's lecture, *The Development and Application of Cord Blood*, addressed the use of umbilical cord blood in transplant and as source material for novel therapies.

The following week, Van't Hof's lecture, *Target Product Profile (TPP): Risk Evaluation and Management of Cell Therapy / Regenerative Medicine Product Development*, enlightened students regarding the activities required by successful cell therapy development such as the need to provide structure, alignment and communication in the field of cell therapeutics.

Both lectures were followed by question-and-answer sessions. "We lectured at this program last year but it was a virtual presentation," said Finney. "This year, the in-person lectures were extremely gratifying. As indicated by the volume and quantity of their questions, the students were knowledgeable about the topics and very engaged."

### DEI initiative explores staff insights

This fall, as an element of the Cleveland Cord Blood Center's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiative, staff members were surveyed to obtain their feedback on the organization's culture.

"We want to know if team members feel we are on track in encouraging diversity in areas such as recruitment, hiring and professional development," said Carol Taddeo, Manager, Business Development. "This will serve as a check to make sure our commitment to these principles is being adhered to."

Results of the survey will be analyzed to determine next steps towards continued improvement, including a presentation at a future staff meeting.

### Celebrating World Cord Blood Day

On November 15, Save the Cord Foundation held activities around the world in celebration of World Cord Blood Day to advance cord blood education and applaud the more than 40,000 cord blood transplants that have taken place since the first cord blood transplant in 1988. The Cleveland Cord Blood Center produced a video spotlighting one of our hospital liaison team members, an OB-GYN professional from one of our partner hospitals, and our very first donor from Piedmont Atlanta Hospital. You can hear from these advocates by visiting our website at [clevelandcordblood.org](http://clevelandcordblood.org).

### We need your help




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**SAVE A CORD. SAVE A LIFE.**

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