

# St. Louis Cord Blood Bank

SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center  
St. Louis University Department of Pediatrics

*The First Gift.*

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## **ST. LOUIS CORD BLOOD BANK CORD BLOOD COLLECTION GUIDELINES**

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR VAGINAL DELIVERIES**

Note: Though the fluid path is sterile, the manufacturer of the collection bag does not guarantee the sterility of the outside of the collection bag. We therefore recommend additional instructions and supplies be utilized for C-sections and are available upon request.

#### **PRIOR TO DELIVERY**

1. Inspect the collection bag containing anticoagulant. The bag should not be used if the fluid appears cloudy.
2. If any portion of the cord blood collection kit needs to be replaced, or if you have any questions about the use of the kit, contact the St. Louis Cord Blood Bank at (314)268-2787 or 888-453-2673.

#### **AT DELIVERY**

1. Deliver infant per standard practice keeping the cord clamped after delivery. Do not change or modify your delivery practice because of the cord blood collection.
2. Cleanse the cord with ChloroPrep solution using a back-and-forth scrub. Allow area to dry. Cleansing the cord decreases the chance of both bacterial and maternal contamination.
3. Insert needle from collection bag into umbilical vein.
4. Collect cord blood by gravity while shaking bag intermittently to mix blood with anticoagulant. Collect as much blood as possible to increase the likelihood of the unit meeting criteria for patient use.
5. When blood flow has ceased or the vein collapses, remove needle from umbilical vein, cut off the needle from collection bag with scissors, and make two knots in tubing as close to the collection bag as possible.
6. Attach mother's label and cord blood label to the bag with confirmation by a second observer and note the time and date of collection on the label.