

## NZBS POLICY ON COLLECTION AND CRYOPRESERVATION OF HAEMATOPOIETIC PROGENITOR CELL (HPC), CORD BLOOD (HPC, Cord Blood) FOR DIRECTED HPC TRANSPLANTATION

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REASON FOR ISSUE: New Policy

### 1. POLICY STATEMENT

- NZBS does not provide a routine collection and cord blood cryopreservation service. A limited service is however available in specific clinical settings as detailed below. This aims to provide short-term storage only.
- This service is primarily aimed at families where there is a child with a pre-existing disorder that is amenable to treatment by HPC transplantation.
- In this setting when the mother becomes pregnant NZBS will consider requests for collection and cryopreservation of cord blood.
- All requests for access to this service will be assessed by the Auckland City Hospital Transplant Advisory Committee and only those requests that are approved will be eligible to be accepted onto the programme.
- Acceptance onto the programme is conditional on the family agreeing to NZBS terms and conditions.
- The terms and conditions will be agreed with the Transplant Advisory Committee and will be based on those currently in place for cryopreservation of autologous haematopoietic progenitor cells.

### 2. REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO THE SERVICE

- a. All requests must be made to the NZBS National Medical Director in writing. Requests should be made a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the estimated date of delivery, earlier notification will greatly assist the organisation of the collection.

The request must as a minimum contain:

- Full details of the requesting clinician including contact telephone number.
  - Full name, date of birth, NHI number and contact details of the pregnant woman.
  - The E.D.D. and contact details for the woman's Lead Maternity Carer.
  - Details of the location for the delivery. Normally this should be the Delivery Suite at the main DHB hospital (this will assist greatly with logistical arrangements).
  - The reason for the request including full clinical information on the potential recipient of the HPC, Cord Blood.
  - Written confirmation from the Clinical Director of service that the request is supported.
- b. The NZBS Medical Director will forward the request to the Chair of the Auckland City Hospital Transplant Advisory Committee for assessment.
  - c. The Chair of the Transplant Advisory Committee will inform NZBS of the recommendation of the Committee.

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### **3. AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE**

- NZBS will be responsible for communicating the recommendation of the Transplant Advisory Committee to both the requesting clinician and pregnant woman.
- The NZBS Medical Director, or delegate, will arrange to meet the pregnant woman to outline the process and to gain informed consent for the process.

### **4. LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- NZBS will arrange for a cord blood collection kit to be sent to the agreed Delivery Suite approximately 1 week prior to the EDD. The requesting clinician, LMC and pregnant woman will be informed by the Transfusion Medicine Specialist when this is done.
- The Collection kit will contain instructions for the collection of the cord blood.
- The DHB will be responsible for making arrangements for the collection of the cord blood. This should normally be undertaken by someone other than the LMC in order to safeguard the health of the woman. The requesting clinician will be responsible for this and for informing the LMC that this has been organised.
- The LMC will be responsible for ensuring that the cord blood collection kit is available in the Delivery Suite when labour takes place. NZBS will provide information on who to contact in the event that, for any reason, the collection kit is not available.
- Following collection, the cord blood must be immediately transferred to the NZBS Blood Bank in the hospital. Instructions will be included in the cord blood collection pack.
- The NZBS Blood Bank will arrange for the cord blood to be transferred to the NZBS Manufacturing Centre in a timely manner including, when necessary, systems for short term storage prior to cryopreservation.

### **5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCESSING THE CRYOPRESERVED CORD BLOOD**

- The routine communication arrangements between NZBS and the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit will be adopted in the event that a decision is made to use the cryopreserved cord blood for haematopoietic stem cell transplantation.