

**PHYSICIAN INSTRUCTIONS**

**Collecting maternal blood samples:**

- 1) Draw venous samples from the mother by filling one (1) 7 ml red top tube and three (3) 7 ml purple top tubes. **Please write mother's name and social security number directly onto the tube. Please do not draw blood from the arm with the I.V., as the blood will not be usable for testing.**
- 2) Place in small plastic bag provided. Close bag and place back in padded box.

**Procedures for Cord Blood Collection - Non Cesarean Delivery – (For C-Section See Reverse)**

Cord blood collection can begin at the start of the third stage of labor, immediately after delivery of the infant. (Please note that the outside of the cord blood collection bag is not sterile and should not be placed on a sterile operative field. For C-Section instructions see reverse side of page.) The cord blood will be collected into a 150 ml blood collection bag containing CPD anticoagulant.

- 1) After the infant is born, cut the cord as close to the infant as normal procedure permits.
- 2) Choose a site 4-6 inches from the cut end of the umbilical cord for drawing the cord blood.
- 3) Wipe the site with gauze to remove blood. Use iodine swab to clean the entire width of the cord within 4 inches of the chosen puncture site.

After cleaning the site, do not allow secretions, non-sterile items, or maternal blood, to contaminate the puncture site.

- 4) Using sterile technique, remove the needle cap from the cord blood collection bag.
- 5) Insert the needle of the collection bag into the cleaned puncture site of the umbilical vein.
- 6) As the blood begins to flow, hold the needle in place and lower the collection bag to allow blood to flow into the bag by gravity.
- 7) While filling, gently rotate the bag to mix blood with anticoagulant.

- 8) **Continue the collection until the bag is at least 2/3rds full. Please try to fill the bag completely, if possible. If blood flow stops before the bag is half-full, select another site, closer to the placenta, scrub the cord again, and reinsert the needle. THE QUALITY OF THE COLLECTION IS DIRECTLY DEPENDENT UPON VOLUME, SO PLEASE COLLECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.** When the cord is empty, it will be transparent.

- 9) When blood flow stops, remove the needle from the vein and allow the blood in the tubing to drain into the bag. Clamp the tubing 3-6 inches below the needle (clamp enclosed). Remove the needle and discard in a sharps container. Tie two knots in the tubing below the clamp.
- 10) **Write mother's name and social security number on label provided in kit.** Affix provided label on collection bag.
- 11) Wrap cord blood bag in absorbent pad and place in large plastic bag (both provided). Return sealed bag to compartment in padded shipping box. Re-seal box with stickers provided and return to parents for shipping.

**Procedure for Cesarean Delivery, Sterile Field Cord Blood Collection:**

- 1) Place the sterile tubing, onto the sterile field using sterile technique.
- 2) Drop the port side of the tubing off the sterile field and put the needle of the cord blood collection bag into it.  
(The needle side of the tubing must stay in the sterile field.)
- 3) Continue with the instruction on the opposite side of page.