### **CORD BLOOD & CORD TISSUE**

#### **COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS**



### STEP 1

# MATERNAL BLOOD COLLECTION: DRAW AFTER BIRTH

- 1a. Draw venous samples from the mother by filling one (1) 10 ml red top tube and two (2) 10 ml purple top tubes. Please write date and time of collection on the labels provided and affix them to the tubes. Please do not draw blood from the arm with the I.V., as the blood will not be usable for testing.
- **1b.** Place in the small plastic bag provided. Close bag and place back in padded box.

#### STEP 2

## CORD BLOOD COLLECTION: VAGINAL AND CESAREAN

Cord blood collection can begin at the start of the third stage of labor, immediately after delivery of the infant. The cord blood will be collected into a 250 ml blood collection bag containing CPD anticoagulant.

- **2a.** After the infant is born, cut the cord as close to the infant as normal procedure permits.
- **2b.** Choose a site 4-6 inches from the cut end of the umbilical cord for drawing the cord blood.
- **2c.** Wipe the site with gauze to remove blood. Use an 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.
- 2d. Ensure that the clamp and air vent on the collection bag are closed.
- **2e.** Using sterile technique, remove the needle cap from the cord blood collection bag. The bag and needle are sterile and can be placed in the sterile field.
- **2f.** Insert the needle of the collection bag into the cleaned puncture site of the umbilical vein. Open the clamp to allow the blood to flow into the bag.
- **2g.** 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.
- 2h. While filling, gently rotate the bag to mix blood with anticoagulant.

# Continue the collection until the bag is at least 2/3 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.

- **2i.** At the completion of the collection, close the clamp and remove the needle from the vein. Slide the needle guard midway over the needle hub and smoothly pull the tubing through, pulling the needle into the guard until it locks into place.
- **2j.** Open the air vent and allow all the blood in the tubing to drain into the bag. Seal the tubing below as close to the Y junction as possible. (Clamps or two knots may be used). Cut the tubing

- above the seal, and discard needle, clamp, air vent and tubing according to standard procedures.
- 2k. Write time and date of collection on label
- Wrap cord blood bag in absorbent pad and place in large plastic bag (both provided). Return sealed bag to compartment in padded shipping box.
- 2m. Note, the ports on the collection page MUST remain intact.

### STEP 3

### CORD TISSUE COLLECTION: VAGINAL AND CESAREAN

Cord Tissue collection can begin once the cord blood collection has been completed. Be sure to "milk" the cord completely of any blood remaining. The blood is considered a contaminant and may affect the quality of the tissue. The cord tissue will be collected in a plastic collection cup.

- **3a.** Once the cord blood has been completely drained from the cord, the cord will be transparent.
- **3b.** Cut the cord to provide the maximum length of cord tissue. (We will need a minimum length of 5 inches but please try to provide the maximum length possible).
- **3c.** Place the cord into the empty collection cup provided. It should fit if wound around, but it is also acceptable to cut it into pieces in order to get the maximum amount in the cup.
- **3d.** Empty the contents of the sterile flush over the cord tissue. It may not cover the tissue entirely. Discard the syringe once it is empty. (It is acceptable to use a 0.9% Sodium Chloride solution as an alternative).
- **3e.** Close the lid of the collection cup tightly, ensuring that the cord tissue is fully enclosed in the cup.
- **3f.** Write time and date of collection on label provided and affix to collection cup.
- **3g.** Place the collection cup into the plastic bag provided. Return sealed bag into the compartment in the padded shipping box.
- 3h. Confirm that the cord blood bag is in the box.

#### STEP 4

#### LABELING AND PREPARING FOR SHIPMENT

- 4a. Complete the enclosed Delivery Information Form.
- **4b.** Close the collection kit, ensuring all contents- cord blood, cord tissue, maternal blood tubes and Delivery Information Form are there, and return the collection kit to the parents to arrange pickup.
- **4c.** Remind patient or family member (father, partner) to call 866-907-1300 immediately after collection to arrange for a pickup

If you have any questions about preparing the specimens for shipping, or any other general questions, please contact Maze Cord Blood at: 914-992-0000.

