

Donate your umbilical cord blood!

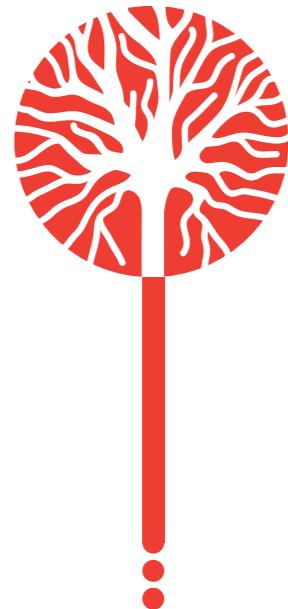
Would you like to donate? Fill out a:

- health declaration
- consent form

The forms are available at your antenatal/maternity care clinic as well as on our website.

Submit it as soon as possible to:

Nationella Navelsträngsblodbanken
Sahlgrenska Universitetssjukhuset/Östra
416 85 Göteborg



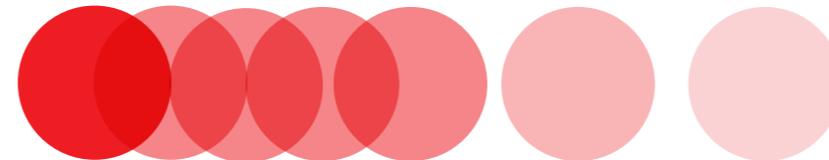
Would you like to know more?

Please contact our midwives:

Call 031-343 63 10 or email to
navelstrangsblodbanken.su@vgregion.se

For more information, please go to our website at
www.sahlgrenska.se/su/navelstrangsblodbanken

This information is also available in the following languages:
Swedish, French, Spanish, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Turkish, Arabic,
Farsi, Sorani, Somali.



To you who will soon be giving birth

Your baby's umbilical cord blood
can save lives.

Help us save lives

Umbilical cord blood has unique properties that can be used to save lives. The Swedish government has therefore decided that there should be a central national donation bank for umbilical cord blood in Sweden.

After the birth of a baby, a certain amount of blood remains in the placenta and umbilical cord. This blood contains blood stem cells which can be used to treat people suffering from life threatening diseases, by transplanting these stem cells. This applies, for example, to children with leukaemia or other blood diseases. These diseases are currently primarily treated by transplanting blood stem cells from bone marrow, but umbilical cord blood could offer a better option.

Donating a baby's umbilical cord blood is entirely voluntary and requires the consent of the legal guardian/guardians.

CECILIA LANGENSKIÖLD

Chief Consultant Paediatrician

Practitioner at the National Cord Blood Bank

Sahlgrenska University Hospital

If you have any queries, you may:



• Contact our midwives:

031-343 63 10

navelstrangsbloodbanken.su@vgregion.se

Nationella navelsträngsbloodbanken,
Sahlgrenska Universitetssjukhuset/Östra
416 85 Göteborg

• Visit our website at: www.sahlgrenska.se/su/navelstrangsbloodbanken

FAQs about donating umbilical cord blood

How is the blood collected?

After the birth, the blood from the placenta is allowed to continue flowing for a minute, in case of a caesarean section 30 seconds, before the umbilical cord is clamped and cut. You or your partner will be offered the opportunity to cut the umbilical cord and placenta. The blood remaining in the placenta is collected and stored.

Paediatricians and obstetricians at Sahlgrenska Hospital give their consent for the umbilical cord blood to be collected and sent to the National Cord Blood Bank.

How are the blood and the information processed?

The blood collected from the umbilical cord/placenta is sent to the National Cord Blood Bank, Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Gothenburg, where it is stored frozen. It is available to whoever needs a cord blood transplant – in Sweden or abroad.

Are any tests needed?

We take a sample of your blood during the delivery and test to eliminate the presence of serious infectious diseases that could endanger the health of the patient receiving the cord blood transplant. No samples are taken from the baby. Information about you and your baby's health is recorded and saved to facilitate finding suitable recipients of the blood.

Should your blood test or the test from your baby's umbilical cord blood reveal anything unusual, we will contact you to discuss what this means.

We also need to know your country of origin and that of the baby's father. This helps us when we have to determine the blood tissue type and when we must later decide if your baby's cord blood matches a particular patient.

The normal confidentiality conditions that apply within the National Healthcare apply to your and your baby's data and they will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to ensure that no unauthorised personnel has access to them. You have the right to know the details of any data stored in our records about you and your baby.

Are there any religious objections?

Leading representatives of the major religious communities in Sweden, i.e. the various Christian churches, the Jewish and Muslim communities, have, in a joint statement, all declared that their religions support the donation of umbilical cord blood.

Is there any profit incentive?

No. The National Cord Blood Bank is a non-profit organisation. The Blood Bank is a public government facility and collection for private use is not allowed.

Can we always store your baby's umbilical cord blood?

At present, we do not have the facilities to process umbilical cord blood 24 hours a day. Sometimes, the volume of blood remaining in the umbilical cord may be too low for transplant purposes. In cases where the volume of blood is too low, the blood donated may be used for research. Such research is always approved by the Regional Ethics Committee and your consent is required.

How do I register my interest in donating?

You confirm your interest by filling out two forms, one health declaration and one consent form. These are available at your antenatal/maternity care clinic as well as on our website for printing. Your confirmation is not binding – we will ask you again at the time of the birth.