

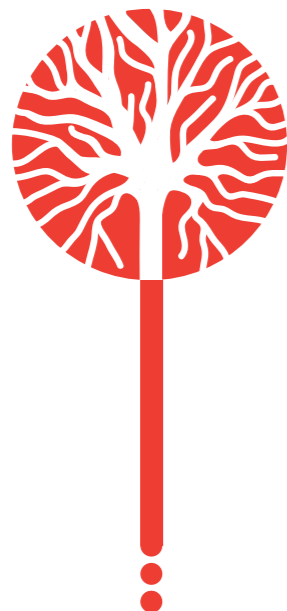
Donate your umbilical cord blood!

Would you like to donate? Fill out a:

- health declaration
- consent form

...that you can download from our website and bring with you to the registration interview.

You can also ask us at the interview and we will provide you with the documents.



Would you like to know more?

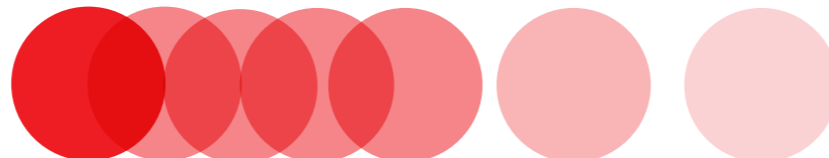
Please contact our midwives:

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

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



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



For 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.

After the birth of a baby, a certain amount of blood remains in the placenta and umbilical cord. This blood contains blood stem cells that can be used to treat people suffering from life threatening diseases, through transplantation. 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 may be an alternative.

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 University Hospital
Diagnosvägen 15
416 85 Göteborg

- Visit our website at:

www.sahlgrenska.se/su/navelstrangsbloodbanken



FAQs about donating umbilical cord blood

How is the blood collected?

The collection takes place at planned Caesarian sections and means that when the baby is born the blood is left to flow freely from the placenta to the baby for one minute before the umbilical cord is clamped (squeezed) and cut. The blood remaining in the placenta is collected and stored.

Paediatricians and obstetricians at Sahlgrenska University Hospital give their consent for umbilical cord blood to be collected.

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 stem cell transplant – in Sweden or abroad.

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.

Are any tests needed?

We take a sample of your blood during the Caesarian section and test it 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 determine the blood tissue type and later decide if the cord blood matches a particular patient.

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 save the 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 you decide whether you consent to the blood being used for this purpose.

How do I register my interest in donating?

You confirm your interest by filling out a health declaration and a consent form. These can be downloaded from our website or be filled out at the registration interview.

The National Cord Blood Bank midwives take part in the registration interview and you will be able to ask questions about the donation.

