

Smart Cells

FamiCord Group



For life

Why store stem cells?

An umbilical cord stem cell transplant can be used to replace diseased cells with healthy new cells. You have one chance to store this rich source of potent stem cells at birth. Your baby's stem cells have the ability to repair, replace, and generate cells of almost any kind. These cells can also potentially match and treat siblings or parents..

1988

First cord blood transplant

4,800,000+

Cord blood units stored globally

55,000+

Cord blood transplants undertaken globally

You or a loved one may someday be affected by a disease or illness stem cells can treat. You can choose to store umbilical cord blood or tissue - or ideally, both, as each contain different stem cells that can be used to treat different conditions.

Cord Blood Stem Cells

A cord blood stem cell transplant can replace diseased cells with healthy new cells and rebuild an individual's blood and immune system. Recently, these cells have also been shown to form other cell types such as nerve, bone and organ. Storing stem cells from your baby's umbilical cord blood opens up a range of treatment options for more than 80 conditions, with clinical trials underway for many more including COVID:

Cancers such as leukaemia

Certain tumours such as Neuroblastoma

Blood disorders such as sickle cell disease

Neurological disorders including brain injury or cerebral palsy

Immune disorders

Metabolic disorders such as Hunter Syndrome

Cord Tissue Stem Cells

Umbilical cord tissue has been shown to be particularly rich in mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) which can differentiate into different cell types such as bone, cartilage, nerve, muscle, and skin. Research is underway into how cord tissue stem cells can be used to treat:

Multiple sclerosis

Stroke recovery

Diabetes

Parkinson's Disease

Autism

Traumatic brain injury

Spinal cord injury

Cardiovascular disease

Osteoarthritis






Skin injuries e.g. burn treatments, wound treatments and skin grafts

Treatment of chronic autoimmune and inflammatory conditions, such as Rheumatoid Arthritis and Crohn's Disease

Why save cord blood?

Cord blood contains hematopoietic (blood making) stem cells, and has been successfully used for over 30 years in the treatment of 80+ conditions including blood and bone marrow disorders such as the leukaemia and anaemias, immune deficiencies and certain genetic disorders. Cord blood from a child itself, or from a

sibling, has the amazing potential to restore the bone marrow, blood and immune cell systems following chemotherapy. In recent years, cord blood has also shown potential in the field of regenerative medicine and is undergoing clinical trials in the treatment of different conditions such as autism, cerebral palsy, diabetes and stroke recovery.

 <p>Metabolic disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Krabbe Disease ✓ Hurler Syndrome ✓ Metachromatic Leukodystrophy ✓ Sanfilippo Syndrome ✓ Hunter Syndrome 	 <p>Neurological disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Traumatic Brain Injury ✓ Cerebral Palsy ✓ Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE) ✓ HSV Encephalitis & NMDA Receptor ✓ Antibody Encephalitis 	 <p>Cancer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Acute Leukaemia ✓ Chronic Leukaemia ✓ High-Risk Solid Tumors ✓ Hodgkin & Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma ✓ Myelodysplastic Syndromes
 <p>Blood disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aplastic Anaemia ✓ Beta Thalassemia ✓ Diamond-Blackfan Anaemia ✓ Fanconi's Anaemia ✓ Sickle Cell Disease 	 <p>Immune disorders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chronic Granulomatous Disease ✓ Histiocytic Disorders ✓ Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency ✓ Severe Combined Immunodeficiency ✓ Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome 	

Why save cord tissue?

The tissue of the umbilical cord is an additional source of valuable stem cells called Mesenchymal Stem Cells (MSCs). MSCs can rapidly divide, regenerate, and differentiate into many cell types including neural cells, bone cells, and cartilage. They also have the ability to respond to inflammation and aid in tissue repair. Cord tissue banking allows families to secure an additional source of stem cells that work in a different way than cord blood stem cells do, providing considerably more potential

treatment options for your family in the future than storing cord blood alone. MSCs prepared in FamiCord's laboratories have been used as advanced therapy medicinal products as part of a medical treatment experiment procedure in patients for whom standard treatment had failed. We are the only family bank in Europe where cord tissue stem cells are used extensively in therapies, which means procedures used in our laboratories are Therapy Approved.

Neurology

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis	267
Cerebral Palsy	254
Autism	148
Muscular Dystrophy	20
Multiple Sclerosis	37
Encephalopathy	15
Epilepsy	21
Spinal Muscular Atrophy	13

Ophthalmology

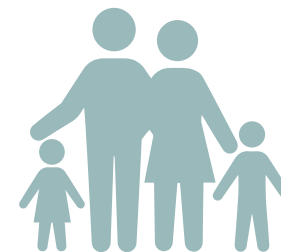
Retinitis Pigmentosa	85
Optic Atrophy	88

Orthopaedic

Spinal Cord Injury	57
Gonathrosis	45

Hematology

Graft versus Host Disease	88
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Over 1700 patients have benefited from Cord Tissue Stem Cells prepared by FamiCord Group.

Who are Smart Cells?

As the first private stem cell storage company in the UK, we have been preserving and storing umbilical cord stem cells for more than twenty years. Not only have we released more stem cell samples worldwide for treatment of life-threatening illnesses than any other private company in the UK, we are also proud that all of these samples have been successfully used in treatments.

Now part of FamiCord Group, Europe's largest stem cell bank, we bring expertise from more than 20 countries to ensure we continue to provide the very best service for you and your family.



Trusted by 500,000 families

With over 20 Years of experience

Nº 1 in Europe

Part of the FamiCord group, Nº 3 in the world and present in 35 countries

1700+ Cord tissue therapies

Only family bank in Europe, of which the cord tissue and stem cells are used extensively in therapies

140+ Cord blood transplants

Stem cells delivered to 45+ countries worldwide

100%

UK sample success rate

Our transplant stories

Smart Cells has now released more samples for clinical use than any other private storage company in the UK with a 100 percent success rate. These have been used by patients all around the world to treat a range of conditions including Cerebral Palsy, Thalassaemia, Leukaemia, and HSV Encephalitis.

This significant milestone for the industry highlights the advances being made in stem cell research, a service many parents-to-be are not yet aware of. Smart Cells is working to change that – and help more parents protect their children's wellbeing and future.



Asia was diagnosed with mild spastic tetraparesis due to a lack of oxygen at birth. We released cord blood that was used in a successful cord blood transfusion to help with her recovery.

"We are grateful to Smart Cells for having given us the opportunity to change our daughter's future."

Smart Cells clients tell us how storing their baby's stem cells changed their lives



Kyle and Carla's daughter Paige was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. We released and shipped their cord blood unit to Dukes University in North Carolina, USA for use in a successful transplant.

"Smart Cells arranged the shipment, etc for us and all we had to do was get there. They were truly amazing and nothing was ever a problem. The support that we received in a situation like this made us realise that we made the best decision to store our daughter's stem cells and cord blood with them."

Our Lab

Our laboratory is situated close to Heathrow airport to ensure samples can be received and dispatched with minimal transit time, and uses state-of-the-art equipment designed to process and store cord blood as quickly and optimally as possible.

All processing procedures are undertaken in a sterile, controlled environment by specially trained technical staff, using the industry standard methods for cord blood processing.

Quality Assurance: samples are regularly tested and validated for sterility and to ensure required stem cell counts and viable cell recovery

The facility is alarmed and has an uninterruptible power supply in case of a mains electricity failure. The environment is continually monitored by an Advanced Facilities Management System.

Most cord blood banks, including Smart Cells, remove the majority of red blood cells from the sample because they may cause severe complications if the sample is used in a transplant. Every Smart Cells collection goes through a process of cell separation - known as red blood cell depletion which is recommended by the UK HTA and US FDA. Red blood cells are not part of the healing stem cell population in your baby's cord blood, so removing them has little effect on the cells you want to save. Smart Cells' processing method separates the red blood cells from the lifesaving stem cells, which is preferred by stem cell transplant physicians.

Accreditations and Quality Assurance

Smart Cells has an HTA licence which covers procurement, testing, processing, storage, import, release, and export of cord blood cells and tissue. Smart Cells has ISO9001:2015 certification and participates in the UK National External Quality Assessment Service (NEQAS) quality assurance scheme for full blood and CD34 cell counting. Smart Cells takes ongoing Quality Assurance very seriously, with a rigorous programme of validating and auditing all critical practices and procedures. Fully trained and experienced staff operate according to validated procedures. The Smart Cells laboratory technical team are educated to degree and post graduate level in relevant biomedical sciences

and use globally recognised techniques and technologies in the state-of-the-art processing facility.

The Smart Cells approach to ongoing Quality Assurance, regulatory compliance, integrity, and transparency is supported and overseen by the Scientific Director, Head of Laboratory Operations, and Quality Officer. With 29 years of experience in stem cell transplantation in the NHS, and considerable academic and research experience, Smart Cells' Scientific Director Dr. Ann Smith ensures Smart Cells meets best practice in the field. Her expertise is available to parents, partners, and healthcare professionals directly or via the customer services team.



Our Group

When you join the Smart Cells family, you not only get our 20+ years of expertise, you also get the FamiCord Group experience. FamiCord Group is the largest cord blood bank in Europe. We own two laboratories that meet the GMP standards required by European Medicine Agency, which means FamiCord Group not only collects stem cells, but can provide the ATMP – Advanced Therapy Medicinal Product – when needed. We are the only bank in Europe which meet the requirements of ATMP manufacturing. The PBKM group is also involved in a project on the development of novel cancer immunotherapies – CAR-T.

The FamiCord Experience

We are the leading cell bank in Europe with more than 860,000 stem cell samples.

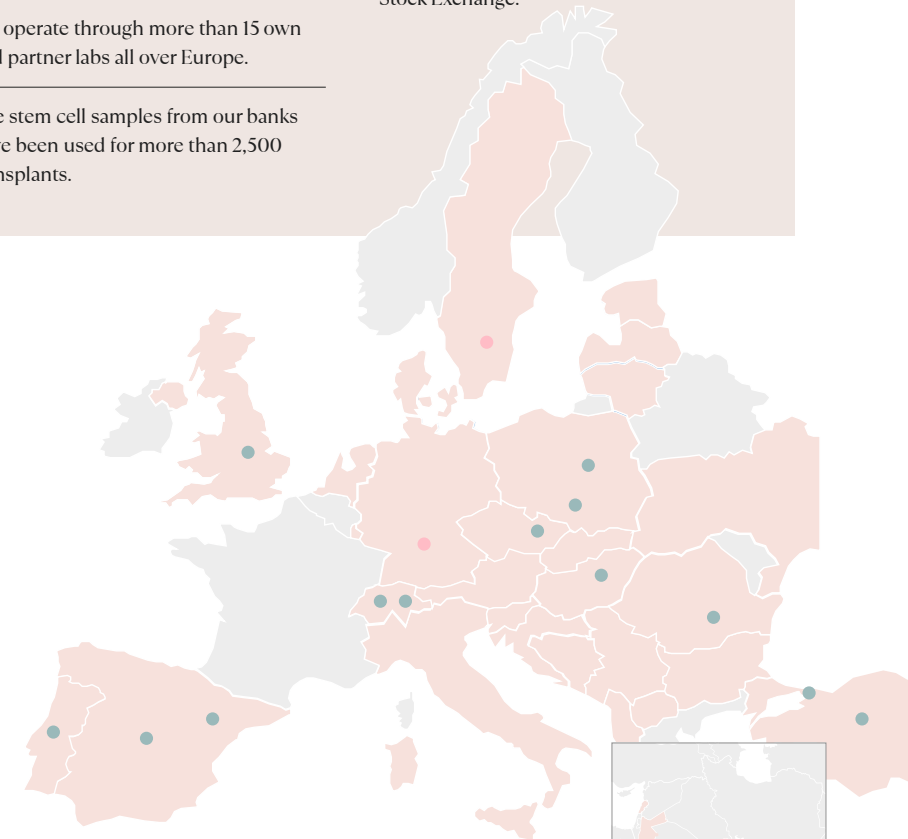
We have manufactured ATMP which have been applied to more than 2,000 patients in clinical trials and experimental therapies.

We store samples from 50 countries.

Our company is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

We operate through more than 15 own and partner labs all over Europe.

The stem cell samples from our banks have been used for more than 2,500 transplants.



■ Markets where we operate
● Own laboratory ● Partner laboratory

Middle East



The Smart Cells Collection Process

The process is simple, non-invasive, and delayed cord clamping compatible.

A healthy future can be planned – it only takes **five easy steps**

STEP 1

Order your stem cell collection kit

Order online or by calling
01895 42 44 30

STEP 2

Arrange for your sample to be taken

In the UK, your consultant or a trained and licensed phlebotomist from a dedicated service will perform the collection. Please liaise with your doctor if outside the UK.

STEP 3

Your kit is collected

Once your baby's sample has been collected, call Smart Cells. We will send a courier to transport the sample to our laboratory near Heathrow Airport.

STEP 4

Samples are processed

Your baby's sample is tested, processed, and cryogenically frozen at our laboratory.

STEP 5

Samples are stored

Your baby's sample will be stored safely for 25 years and released if necessary for treatment when required.

Testimonials

Hear more from those who have chosen Smart Cells to help secure their family's future.



"We have used Smart Cells twice and have found the process to be very clear and straightforward. Would recommend."

Georgina Oliver

"Many thanks for a great service from start to finish. We will be happy to recommend to others who would be interested in such service."

Ivy Wong & Peter Ngo

"Absolutely incredible. Both of us were blown away by the science, how much is still being discovered and the possibilities in the future. We loved learning about the process of how it works and what they can be used for. We felt very looked after and informed throughout the whole thing."

Stuart Armfield & Francis Haugen

"Would recommend and use again. Thank you for your informative and friendly service."

Natalie Lee-Sang

"All interactions with smart cells directly were excellent. I would recommend this service as the staff were communicative and helpful throughout."

Kylie Taylor

"To be honest they are a lot in the industry, the approach of Smart Cells resembled me the most, their professionalism, their honesty; after the research that I did it was important for me to find a company that was financially stable that had a very good reputation, a good history with successful transplants; this is what mattered the most and this is why Smart Cells was an easy decision for me."

Jessica Wazen



"The experience with Smart Cells has been so smooth both times. We felt really confident throughout the whole experience from the initial questions, through to the phlebotomist arriving and doing their job. Everything was explained, we could ask as many questions as we wanted and there were no hidden extras. Very professional and great customer service."

Rosie Stockley



FAQs



1. What happens if Smart Cells go out of business?

Establishments licensed by the HTA are legally required to ensure that in the event of activities ceasing, any tissues/cells and records are transferred to another suitably-licensed establishment. Smart Cells is compliant with this requirement.

2. Is stem cell collection compatible with Delayed Cord Clamping?

Yes, you can still delay the clamping of the cord. A prolonged delay will affect the volume of blood available for the collection. If clamping is delayed, it should be between 1-3 minutes, as advised by the World Health Organisation. A timed delay will mean that your baby will benefit from the delayed clamping as well as having their cord blood stem cells stored for future use. This is a matter for you to decide in dialogue with your healthcare professionals.

3. Are there any fees if the sample is required for treatment?

No additional costs will be incurred for the transportation of the sample at any time for therapeutic use. Smart Cells cover the costs of both release and shipment of the samples should they be required.

If an HLA test is required, the cost of a low-resolution test is covered. If clinical teams require high-resolution testing, there may be an extra cost.

4. How far in advance of the birth should we advise you we wish to collect our baby's stem cells?

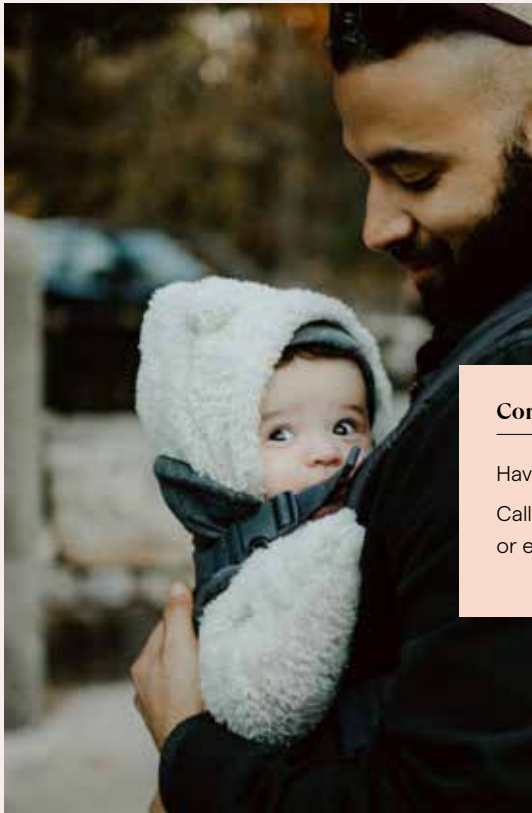
In order to ensure all the paperwork is in order and everything is organised, it is preferable that you advise us 4-6 weeks before the scheduled due date, just in case your baby decides to come early. However, we have had last minute situations in the past and have always managed to have a kit delivered in time. Many women do go into labour early and in such cases we will still nevertheless try to assist you. In some hospitals spare collection kits are available. In other instances we may be able to get a kit to you in time. Of course, to avoid stressful situations we highly recommend that you make your decision in this regard as soon as possible.

5. Is our stored sample limited to a single use?

No! If units are supplied to suitably experienced transplant centres it is possible for a bag of cord blood to be thawed, washed, cell numbers counted and a portion used with the rest being aliquoted and re-frozen. At Duke University Medical Center, USA, this process has been undertaken with some Smart Cells' units and patients have been able to have several sequential treatment episodes.

Our Prices

Smart Cells pricing is as simple as possible while also offering flexible payment plans and exceptional value. All costs and guarantees are fully transparent from the start, including phlebotomy services (UK only), maternal blood testing, and shipping fees.



Smart Cells' service is tailored to your birth and includes an on-call phlebotomist for those in the UK, access to global couriers, a dedicated pre-birth client manager, and processing and storage in a state-of-the-art laboratory near Heathrow Airport.

Contact

Have more questions?

Call us on 01895 4244 30
or email us at uk@smartcells.com

Ready to place your order?

You can call us or [order online here](#) (UK only) to receive your stem cell collection kit.



25 Year Storage Plan

Cord Blood and/or Cord Tissue

- ✓ No additional costs
- ✓ Includes collection & blood testing
- ✓ Specialised temperature controlled collection kit
- ✓ Dedicated courier to our laboratory
- ✓ Compatible with advised delayed cord clamping
- ✓ Storage in our pioneering lab located near Heathrow, London
- ✓ Free release and shipping to a transplant centre

Book now: **£325**



Discover our latest prices

Smart Cells

FamiCord Group

FamiCord Group

Albania
Bosnia &
Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Egypt

Estonia
Germany
Hong-Kong
Hungary
Italy
Kosovo
Latvia
Lithuania

Luxembourg
Macedonia
Montenegro
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Serbia
Slovakia

Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom
UAE

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