



Tests and Treatments for Your New Baby Before Leaving the Hospital

- Your baby will receive a thorough exam before leaving the hospital.
 - This will help to make sure your baby has a healthy start to life.
 - Talk with your doctor before you deliver so you know what to expect.
- Below is a list of tests and shots that your new baby will have:
 - Heel stick to check the blood for:
 - Diseases
 - Blood sugar levels
 - Sickle cell screen
 - Vitamin K shot
 - Ointment in both eyes to protect against any infection picked up during delivery.
 - A hearing test may be done on your baby. It takes between 5 and 10 minutes.
 - The 1st of 3 hepatitis B immunization shots.
 - The hepatitis B virus can cause severe illness and liver damage.
 - Make sure that all of this series of shots are given to your baby.

Cord Blood Banking

- Cord blood is rich in stem cells.
- The only time it can be collected is right after you give birth when the cord is cut.
- This can be a lifesaving resource for you, your baby, or someone else.
- Collecting the blood is:
 - Simple
 - Does not hurt
 - Will not injure you or your baby
 - Takes only a few minutes

- You must decide early and tell your doctor if you want to save this blood.
- If you do not tell the doctor, the blood will be thrown out.
- Ask questions about this procedure before you are ready to deliver.
- Ask the following:
 - Is it likely that my child will use this cord blood?
 - What problems is it used to help?
 - How and where is it stored?
 - Who helps me decide where to store it?
 - What are the costs of keeping the cord blood?

- If you are not interested in saving your baby's cord blood, you may give it away.
- Collecting it is the same as if you were saving it.
- There are no dangers or pain to you or your baby.
- You can do the following:
 - **Donate for research.**
 - **Donate to a public cord blood bank.**
 - **Donate to a person who could use it right away.**
 - This person might have leukemia or sickle cell anemia.

You and your baby could save someone's life. Talk with your doctor about this before you are ready to have your baby.