

Cryo-Cell International (CCEL.OB): Based in Florida, Cryo-Cell is one of the largest private family cord blood banks with over 150,000 clients worldwide. Cryo-Cell offers an umbilical cord blood storage service to the public called U-Cord, in which cord blood stem cells are processed and cryogenically preserved. Expectant parents receive a U-Cord Collection Kit when they are ready to give birth. Immediately after the baby is born and the umbilical cord is clamped and cut, the health professional uses a blood collection bag to draw blood from the umbilical cord.

The blood is tested for infectious diseases and microbiological contamination to ensure it is safe for future use. The cells are then prepared for long-term storage through a technique called controlled-rate freezing.