



## **Instructions for the collection of Umbilical Cord Tissue Samples**

## Materials supplied:

- A 50ml cord shipping tube, containing 25ml of cord shipping solution
- A preservation tablet.



## Please collect the Umbilical Cord Tissue Sample as follows:

- 1 When the baby has been born, complete the label on the cord shipping tube.
- 2 Dissolve the preservation tablet in the cord shipping solution as follows:
  - Remove the lid from the cord shipping tube. Be careful to place the tube where it will not be knocked over;

- Remove the lid from the preservation tablet container;
- Tip the tablet into the cord shipping tube and replace the lid.



- 3** The tablet will initially float. Allow the tablet to dissolve - this will take a few minutes.



- 4** As the tablet dissolves, you will see that it sinks to the bottom of the tube.



- 5** Shake the tube well to ensure that the tablet has been evenly distributed through the cord shipping solution.



- 6** The cord tissue can now be added to the cord shipping tube.



- 7** The cord tissue sample should be taken as soon as the cord blood sample has been collected.

- 8** Select a section of cord which is:
- Away from the puncture sites;
  - As straight as possible;
  - As free as possible of blood, both internally and externally.



- 9** Cut out a section of cord approximately 15cm long. The collection tube is 12cm long - please send a piece of cord slightly longer than this. Some cords are very thick - 10-12cm is sufficient in these cases.



- 10** Clean the cord section using the alcohol wipe provided.

Squeeze the cord section gently to remove as much blood as possible. It is important that the cord section is cleaned as thoroughly as possible.



- 11** Place the cord section in the cord shipping tube. Please ensure that the cord is immersed in the liquid.
- 12** Close the lid tightly, ensuring that it is not cross-threaded.



- 13** Place the tube in the Zip-lock bag with the absorbent pad.
- 14** Seal the bag and place in the shipping container with the cord blood sample.

## Important things to note

- If you do realise that you've forgotten to add the tablet to the collection tube, you can add it after the cord has been placed in the tube. In this case, extra care must be taken to ensure that it is thoroughly mixed
  - **Do not** put the tablet into a container other than the cord shipping tube
  - **Do not** dispose of any of the cord shipping solution. We need a maximum of 15cm of cord tissue, please do not discard any medium in order to be able to fit more cord in the tube
- **Do not** open the cord shipping tube before the birth
  - **Do not** add the preservation tablet to the cord shipping tube before the birth.

**Future Health BIOBANK**

10 Faraday Building, Nottingham Science & Technology Park,  
University Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2QP, United Kingdom

Tel: +44 115 967 7707 Fax: +44 115 967 7836

[info@fhbb.com](mailto:info@fhbb.com)

[www.fhbb.com](http://www.fhbb.com)

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April 2012 Cord Tissue Instructions (UK) V3.0

For full collection instructions see inside

