

Exciting News – New England Cord Blood Bank’s New State-of-the-Art Laboratory

We are thrilled to announce that New England Cord Blood Bank will be moving to a brand new state-of-the-art facility located a short distance from Boston in Marlborough, Massachusetts this May! We’ve crafted our custom built laboratory with cutting edge lab surfaces, casework, and equipment. Our move is being facilitated by Tobin Scientific, experts in the field of laboratory relocation. Tobin’s high profile list of clients includes such prestigious organizations as Harvard Medical, MIT, Novartis, and Genzyme to name but a few! Rest assured our lab and your cord blood is in the best of hands. In fact we will be presenting an educational seminar on how to properly move a laboratory at this year’s AABB 2015 annual meeting. That’s right; NECBB will be teaching other labs how to successfully move. What is AABB? I’m glad you asked...



Message from the Staff Cell Biology Scientist:

New England Cord Blood Bank has a long standing reputation as one of the most trusted family cord blood banks. We strive to be the best in all our endeavors, from our customer service to our state of the art processing methods.

Recently NECBB received a letter of praise from AABB, the preeminent organization that oversees how blood and tissue banks operate. While every reputable cord blood bank has their AABB accreditation, it is rare to receive a letter of praise. We were especially noted for our exceptional organization, our technician’s friendliness, and our outstanding functionality in the laboratory. The reason for this praise is simple: we at the NECBB have the philosophy that every cord blood/tissue we process has the potential to save a life. From the moment it arrives at our facility, and each step along its way, the cord blood/tissue is treated as if someone’s life depends on it. It is this philosophy, embodied in our operating protocols and our staff that impressed the AABB assessors to relay this high praise in the letter we received following the 2014 AABB assessment.

Why relay this information to you? We feel it is important for you to know that we value the trust you place in NECBB by choosing us to care for your family’s precious stem cells. It is our hope that you will share your NECBB experience with your friends and family, and feel confident in knowing that our commitment to you and your stem cells is second to none.

In this issue, we will take a look at what AABB means for cord blood banks, for scientific research, and for you!

-Matthew Wilgo, Cell Biology Scientist

AABB – A Standards and Accreditation Agency

AABB (formerly known as the American Association of Blood Banks) is the primary entity that oversees all facilities that process and store blood and tissue for human use. This includes all public and private cord blood banks. In fact their standards for the industry are often higher and more extensive than those in place by the FDA.

According to the AABB, its accreditation program “promotes the highest standards of care for both patients and donors in all aspects of blood banking, transfusion medicine, relationship testing, hematopoietic, cord blood and other cellular therapies.” They themselves are accredited with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) as well as the International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua).

In AABB’s own words, the goal of accreditation “is to verify compliance with applicable AABB Standards and federal regulatory requirements and to assist in improving the quality of services provided. Verification of compliance is accomplished by peer review assessments performed in a competent and reliable manner.”

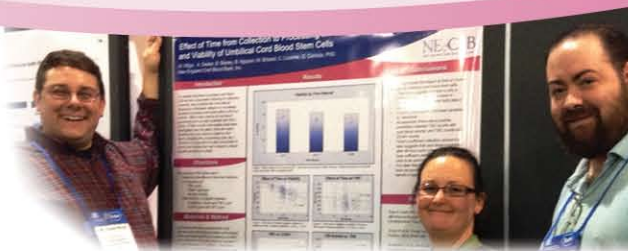
AABB – A Scientific Society

AABB goes beyond just helping set high standards in the blood banking industry, it has a robust community of scientists and administrators who wish to help advance the field. AABB hosts an annual meeting where leaders in the field, like NECBB, attend and present scientific findings and discuss the current state of the art in cellular therapies, transplant and transfusion medicine. Over the course of 5 days, a number of classes are held to improve all aspects of the cord blood and tissue banking.

In addition, AABB publishes a scientific journal called Transfusion. Each month peer reviewed scientific papers appear in this journal helping to expand our knowledge of blood, cord blood stem cells, and umbilical cord stem cells. This research ultimately will make your cord blood and cord tissue more powerful by introducing new and innovative therapies.

NECBB and AABB – A Partnership of Excellence

We at NECBB strive to always be at the forefront of the cord blood industry. That is why NECBB is not only an institutional member but a number of our senior staff are individual members as well. NECBB staff members attend the AABB annual meeting, where they participate in scientific seminars, and present research findings to other leaders in the field.



This year’s AABB meeting was attended by Angela Dexter (Laboratory Manager), Brad Blaney (Quality Manager), and Matthew Wilgo (Cell Biology Scientist). Topics are varied, but always relevant. Several sessions that NECBB staff attended were “Regenerative and Immunomodulatory Capacity of Mesenchymal Stromal/Stem Cells: From the Bench to Clinical Practice”, “Cell Therapy in Cardiology”, and “Translation of a Tissue Engineered Organ: The Science, Regulatory Considerations, and Funding”... just to name a few! NECBB staff also presented a poster displaying scientific findings at the 2014 AABB annual meeting in Philadelphia. Interest in the poster was great, and there were many questions of what NECBB would be presenting in 2015!

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www.cordbloodbank.com
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you’d love to see ad-
dressed in a future news-
letter? Please let us know,
we’d love your feedback.
We are here to serve your
needs.

Dr. Grace Centola, Laboratory Director

Thank you for choosing
NECBB to store your child’s
cord blood and tissue stem
cells. Should you ever
have any questions, please
do not hesitate to contact
us by phone, or email me
directly at:
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