

PRESS RELEASE

Cord Blood Bank in Hong Kong Receives FACT Accreditation, Reflects High Quality Standards for Cord Blood Banking and Unit Administration

OMAHA, NE, April 2, 2013 - The [Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy](#) (FACT), based at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, has accredited its first cord blood bank in Hong Kong. FACT accreditation demonstrates commitment to promote quality medical practices, laboratory processes, and banking to achieve consistent production of high quality placental and umbilical cord blood units for administration.

The Hong Kong Red Cross Catherine Chow Cord Blood Bank, directed by Dr. Che Kit Lin, received accreditation on March 5, 2013, and is accredited for unrelated donations.

FACT accredited programs include life-saving therapies that use adult stem cells, such as bone marrow transplants and peripheral blood transplants, as well as umbilical cord blood cells for patients with many blood cancers and diseases.

Accreditation by FACT is required by some donor registries that physicians use to identify and select matched donors or cord blood units.

While some patients can use their own cells, others rely on volunteer donors. Accreditation is important outside the United States since best-matched donors can be in a different part of the world. Availability of high-quality matched cells depends on international consensus and collaboration.

To date, FACT has accredited transplant programs in six different countries on four continents. FACT-accredited cord blood banks represent 17 countries on five continents.

About FACT:

FACT is committed to high quality patient care and laboratory practice in cellular therapies and regenerative medicine. The non-profit organization promotes improvement and progress by establishing minimum standards, providing education, and inspecting and accrediting programs worldwide. Expert inspectors and the comprehensive accreditation program verify programs provide high quality cellular products and help to achieve desirable outcomes for patients.

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