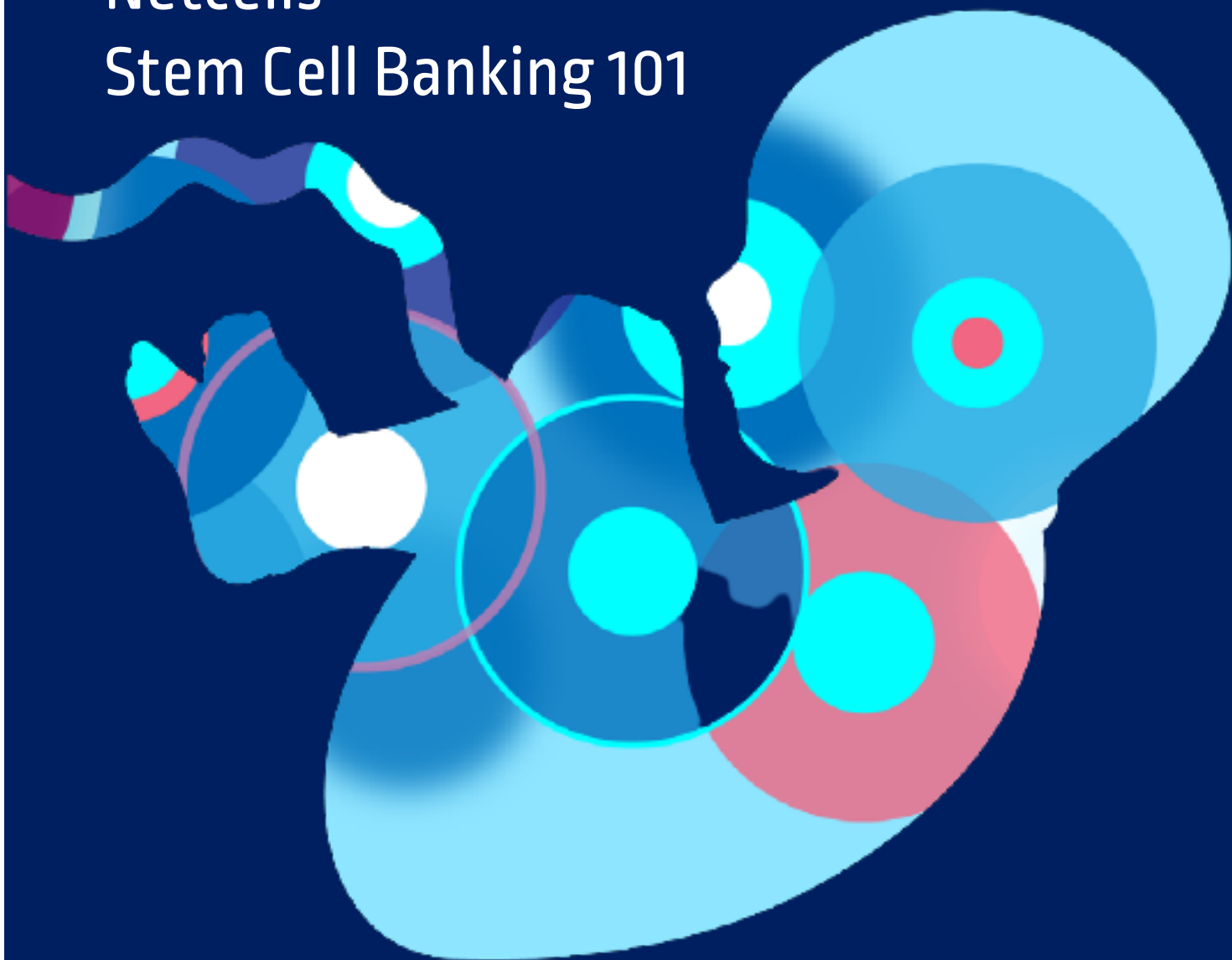


NEX+

BIO SCIENCES

Netcells

Stem Cell Banking 101



SWIPE LEFT TO LEARN MORE





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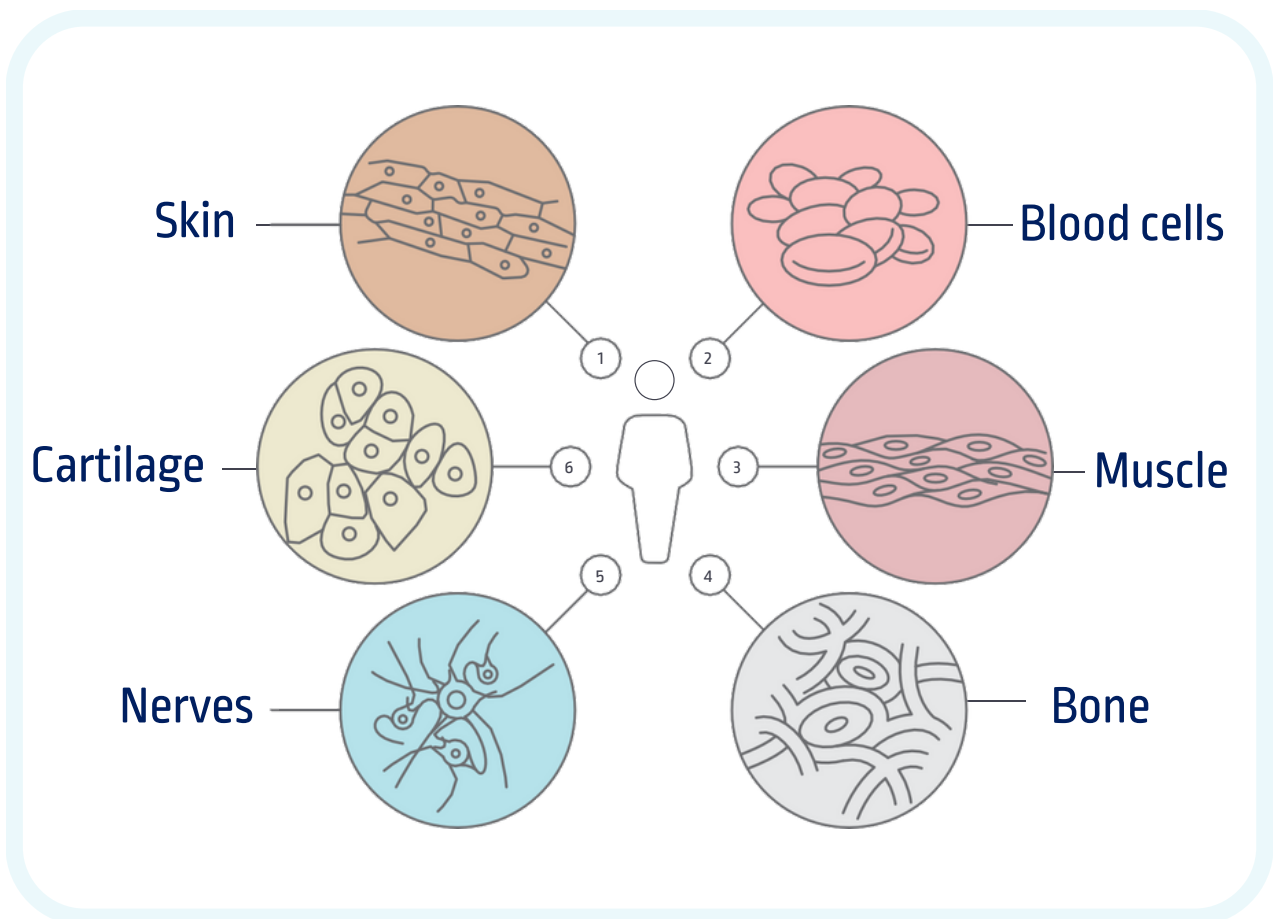
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WHAT ARE STEM CELLS?

We like to think of stem cells as the original building blocks of life. They are the cells that make up the embryo and develop into different cell types in your body.



WHAT ARE STEM CELLS?



Umbilical cord blood and tissue is an excellent source of stem cells, because:

- Saving them at birth is easy, painless and a lot less invasive than harvesting stem cells later in life.
- These stem cells are usually discarded as medical waste, which means that collecting them does not come with any moral, ethical or religious concerns.
- Scientists believe that treatment results are better when you use stem cells collected at birth because they are at the very beginning of their life span and do not show any age-related changes.

CORD BLOOD AND CORD TISSUE STEM CELLS

What is cord blood?

Your baby's umbilical cord blood is high in blood-forming stem cells, which can be used to help treat over 80 blood-related diseases.

These stem cells are used in the regeneration of bone marrow as they can replace diseased or damaged cells with healthy new cells. They make it possible to rebuild a person's blood and immune system.



Click on the video to learn more



What is cord tissue?

Your baby's umbilical cord tissue contains the type of stem cells which form the connective tissues in our bodies, such as skin, bone, muscle, cartilage, nerve and fat.

These stem cells hold considerable potential in treating a wide variety of medical and aesthetic conditions, such as treating burns or wounds that are battling to heal. They are currently being used in a number of clinical trials.



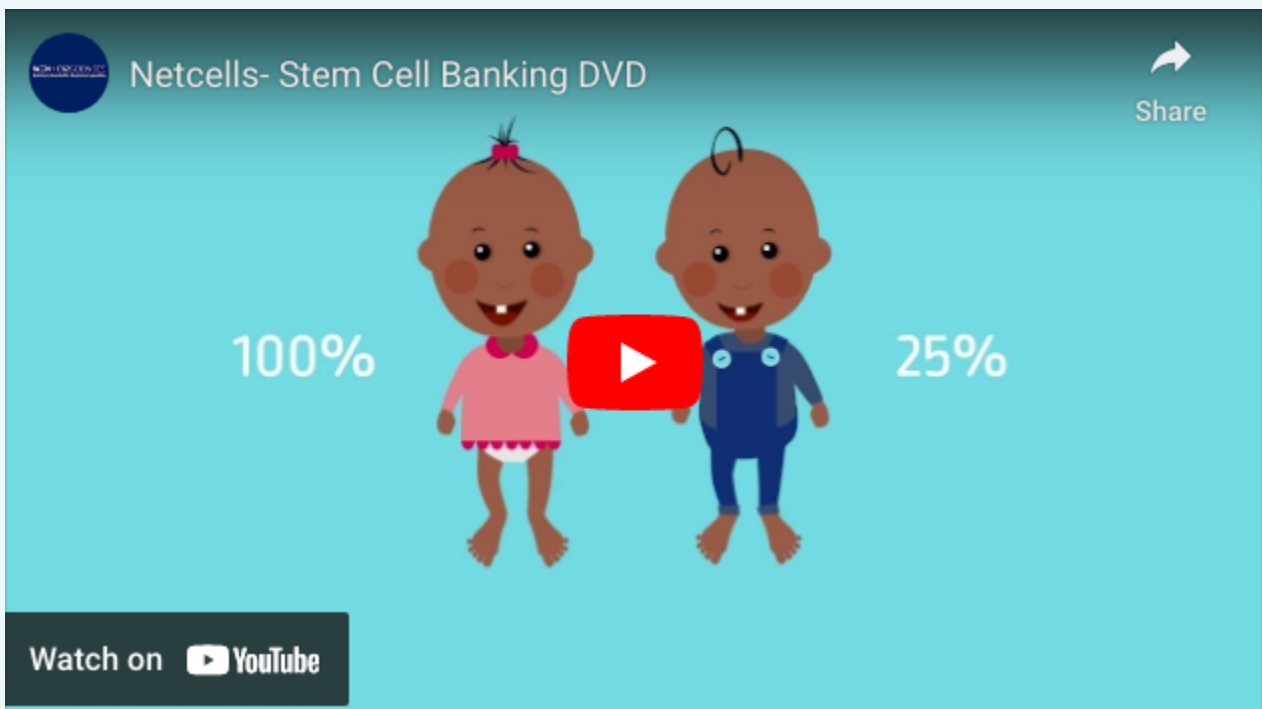
Click on the video to learn more



CORD BLOOD AND CORD TISSUE STEM CELLS EXPLAINER VIDEO



Watch our short video for more on what cord blood and cord tissue is:



WHAT ARE STEM CELLS USED FOR?

Diseases treated with cord blood and/or cord tissue can be split into two categories:

01

Standard
therapies

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



02

Therapies in
clinical trials

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



THERE ARE ALSO TWO TYPES OF TRANSPLANTS:

Allogeneic transplants

A patient receives stem cells from a matching donor. This can be a sibling or an unrelated donor. To successfully receive tissue from another person, the tissue type has to be the same otherwise the recipient's system will see it as foreign and it will reject the donated tissue.



Autologous transplants

A patient receives their own stem cells. This type of transplant can't be used to treat genetic disorders as the stem cells will be affected too.



BANKING OPTIONS WITH NETCELLS

Netcells Private Stem Cell Banking

Umbilical cord stem cells collected at birth and preserved exclusively for your child or family for potential life-saving treatments to help safeguard their future health.

Netcells Community Stem Cell Banking



Umbilical cord stem cell banking that gives parents personal access to their samples, whilst also listing them on the South African Bone Marrow registry, making their samples available to others in need of lifesaving transplants.



Click [HERE](#) to watch a video



WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER BANKING MY BABY'S STEM CELLS?

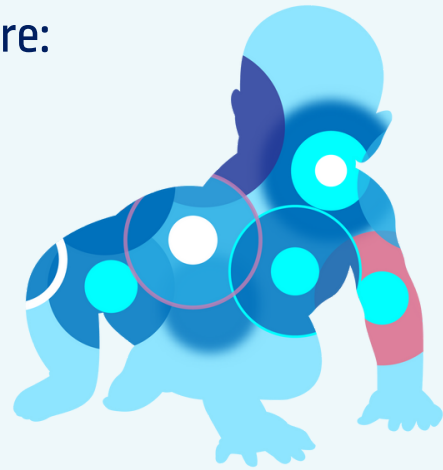
If you have to rely on a bone marrow stem cell donor:

- Your chances of finding a match are:

1 in 100 000

- Sadly, these odds plummet to:

1 in 400 000



for mixed race and ethnic minorities, who are poorly represented on stem cell registries.

- The cost of finding a matching donor can be crippling when you face a minimum sum of R250 000.

WHY BANK YOUR BABY'S STEM CELLS WITH NETCELLS ?

Discovery Health's exclusive preferred partner of choice

Discovery Health medical scheme members, that choose to bank with the Netcells Private Stem Cell Bank, receive a discount on the Stem Cell Processing Fee.



Personal client service



Netcells has a dedicated client service team as well as trained consultants countrywide to take you through the process and answer any questions, if required. Exceptional client service is very important to us.

International accreditation



Netcells is accredited with the AABB and was the first cord blood bank in Southern Africa to receive this accreditation.

As part of the accreditation standards we adhere to, we perform comprehensive testing on the processed products including viability, contamination and validation tests.

Flexible storage options and payment plans



Netcells offers flexible storage options and interest-free payment plans with no hidden costs, allowing you to tailor-make a plan to suit your needs with an easy to use pricing calculator and on-line registration.

[Customise your plan HERE](#)

Sustainability and security



Established in 2005, Netcells has been under the same leadership and shareholders since. In the unlikely event it is required, Netcells and Smart Cells International (Netcells's sister company) are each other's appointed offshore, back-up processing and storage facility.

State-of-the-art laboratory



Netcells internationally accredited laboratory is electronically monitored by a specialised facility monitoring system, there is an advanced fire detection and suppression system, uninterrupted power supply (UPS) and a back-up generator to ensure on-going safety of the banked stem cells.

These are all good reasons for anyone to invest in this type of medical insurance. It makes even more sense to do this for your family if:

- You have a family history of certain diseases treatable by stem cells;
- Your child has a sibling with a disease treatable using stem cells;
- You are a family of African descent or a mixed-race couple, meaning you're poorly represented in donor bank registries worldwide;
- You have an only child, adopted baby or pregnancy using a surrogate or donor egg/sperm. This means there are no full biological siblings or parents who could be available for possible matches.



WHAT ARE THE STEPS IF I WOULD LIKE TO BANK MY BABY'S STEM CELLS?

1



Register online via the easy to use online registration platform and make payment for the registration fee.

[Click HERE to learn more](#)



2



We will deliver a collection kit to you and one of our client services team will take you through the process to ensure you are properly informed.

3



You take the collection kit with you to the hospital for your gynae/midwife to do the collection.

4



Before the birth of your baby, ensure the maternal bloods have been drawn, by a nurse (no more than seven days before the birth).

WHAT ARE THE STEPS IF I WOULD LIKE TO BANK MY BABY'S STEM CELLS?

5



At the birth your gynae/midwife will do the collection (there are collection protocols in the collection kit).

6



Ensure everything has been packaged correctly and documents have been completed.

7



Whatsapp/call the Netcells Client Services Team on [084 664 4646](tel:0846644646), as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours after the birth to arrange for the collection kit to be collected and brought to the lab for processing.

8



The stem cells are processed, tested, cryogenically frozen, and stored in the vapour phase of liquid nitrogen in state-of-the-art storage tanks.

9



You will receive an email with your results certificate, and a storage certificate once full payment has been received.

10



Netcells sends out regular newsletters keeping clients updated on developments at Netcells as well as the fast evolving science and research surrounding the world of stem cells.

ABOUT NEXT BIOSCIENCES



Next Biosciences is a leading South African biotech company which combines medicine, science and technology to invest in innovative health technologies with the core focus being to enable people to positively impact their health with science. Next Biosciences is ISO accredited and licenced by the Department of Health in South Africa. The company believes in a collaborative business approach to ensure that it accesses the best scientific minds and other key players in the industry to deliver our core purpose.



Lab Open Days

Netcells hosts Lab Open Days giving expectant parents the opportunity to visit the facility and be taken on a tour of the laboratory as well as engage with professional staff members with any questions they may have. Visit the website for the Lab Open Day dates and RSVP to attend.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more





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References:

Most of the information in this booklet is based on information provided by the
Parents Guide to Cord Blood Foundation:

www.parentsguidecordblood.org/en The Parents Guide to cord blood foundation
provides a balanced overview of Stem Cell Storage.