



Information for Cord Blood Donors

INFECTIOUS DISEASE TESTING

Your blood sample will be tested for various infectious agents, including HIV and hepatitis. Puget Sound Blood Center may use part of your sample for quality control or investigational purposes. If we become aware of any results that are of importance to your health or that affect your eligibility to donate, we will notify you. To better interpret and understand the results of such studies or tests, it may be necessary to contact you for follow-up testing. All donor records are strictly confidential.

NEW RESEARCH TEST FOR WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile Virus (WNV) is spread from birds to humans by mosquitoes. WNV was first reported in the U.S. in 1999. In 2002, an epidemic of WNV infection occurred. Recent studies have shown that the virus may be transmitted through transplantation. The majority of healthy people infected with WNV do not experience symptoms. However, some experience mild flu-like symptoms including fever, headache and low energy levels. Less than one percent of those infected develop more severe complications including encephalitis, which can be fatal.

- ◆ We are participating in a national research project using a new technology to detect WNV.
- ◆ The purpose of this research is to identify donors who are infected with the WNV at the time of donation.
- ◆ The new technology is called Nucleic Acid Testing or NAT.
- ◆ We will test your blood for WNV.
- ◆ Donors who test positive for WNV using the Nucleic Acid Test (NAT) will be informed.