## Virginia Cord Blood Bank Initiative Update

August 27, 2007

### The "Initiative" Moves Forward

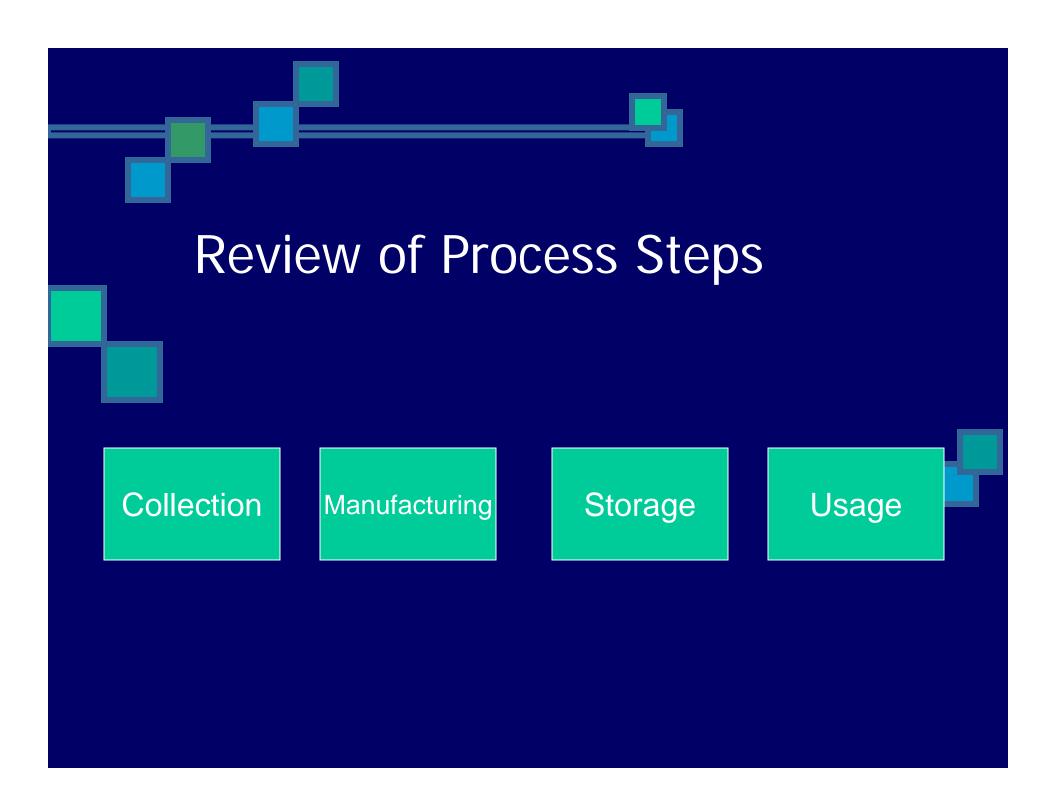
- Commissioner sent invitation letters to interested parties asking for participation in Consortium.
- Current members provide both scientific and business viewpoints.
- Consortium directed large educational initiative.
- Consortium agrees to formalize as a nonprofit corporation.

### **Educational Initiative Goals**

- Set common understanding of the four discreet steps of cord blood banking.
- Set common understanding of federal regulations and relevant accreditations.
- Explore Virginia's current capacity for cord blood banking.
- Explore other cord blood bank's business models and potentials to collaborate.

#### **Educational Goals Accomplishments**

- Reviewed the CME series on Umbilical Cord Stem Cells.
- Reviewed the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005.
- Held Consortium meetings at UVA Medical Center and LifeNet of Virginia.
- Heard presentations from:
  - New Jersey Public Cord Blood Bank
  - Inova Fairfax Woman's Hospital
  - LifeNet of Virginia



#### Lessens Learned - Collection

- Due to the number of women who do not consent and to the percentage of viable collections anticipated, a collection site has to have over 3,000 births annually to be considered.
- A 2005 study of births showed Portsmouth Naval Hospital as the second largest birthing facility in the Commonwealth. (Inova Fairfax #1)

### Lessons Learned - Manufacturing

- Most costly part of the process lead Coriell Institute out of the N.J. Project
- Time sensitive transportation key
- New Federal regulations eminent
- GOOD NEWS Consortium members are in exploration of other medical uses of the placenta

# Lessons Learned - Storage

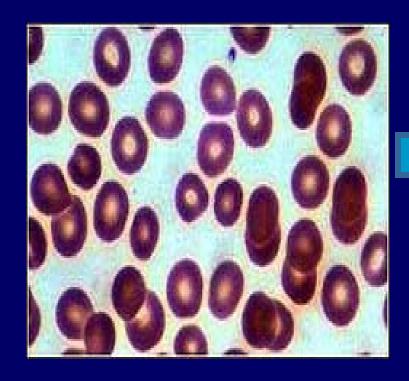
- Cryogenic storage and inventory capacity expensive to create.
- Storage capacity resides in established cord blood banks.
- Interest expressed by Virginia organizations to provide capability.

## Lessons Learned - Usage

- Storage "shelf life" not yet known.
- Science in usage still in its infancy.
- Insurance reimbursements limited to treatment of leukemia and other disorders of red blood cells.
- Sale of cell donations will not financially sustain the bank.



# Federal Funding Options



#### Recommendations

- Amend statute to allow participation and potential funding through national sources.
- Continue support through subcommittee structure.
- Support federal funding initiatives

### Virginia Cord Blood Bank Initiative

"...a public resource \_\_\_\_\_\_ (for Virginians) for the treatment of patients with life-threatening diseases or debilitating conditions, for use in advancing basic and clinical research, and, in the event of a terrorist attack, to be used in the treatment of the injured citizens.\_\_\_\_\_ (of the Commonwealth.")

