



Please ensure that blood samples are sent back to the Next Biosciences laboratory with Cord Blood & Cord Tissue units.  
Please note that if this pregnancy has been assisted by surrogacy/ the baby is being adopted at birth, the surrogate mother/mother's bloods are required.

### Description

The following maternal blood tests are required :

1. Hepatitis B
2. Hepatitis C
3. HIV
4. Syphilis
5. CMV
6. HTLV 1/11
7. West Nile virus  
(If traveled in Africa in the last 3 months of pregnancy)

- In accordance to accreditation standards, blood tests must be taken from the Mother at the birth of the baby.
- Blood test tubes are provided by Next Biobank in the Collection Kit. There are 4 test tubes: 2x 6ml purple top tubes, 1x 9ml purple top tube and 1x 5ml dark yellow/ orange top tube (with gel).
- It is the Client's responsibility to please hand the Ampath request form to a nursing staff member in the maternity ward. They will then call an Ampath phlebotomist to come and draw the blood samples from the mother.
- The filled blood test tubes must be included in the Collection Kit box with the Cord Blood and Cord Tissue samples and sent back to the Next Biosciences Laboratory.
- Should these bloods not be received back with the kit, there is a 7 day time frame in which they must be done and sent to our lab. Failure to do so will result in the Stem Cells being stored in permanent quarantine and potentially rejected by a transplant doctor
- The cost of the tests is included in the overall Banking Fee.

Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, Syphilis, CMV, HTLV 1/11 and West Nile Virus can be passed from the mother to the child and infect the cord blood. Cord Blood infected with these organisms will be stored in permanent quarantine separate from cord blood units free of these infections. Infected cord blood will have implications to future transplantation and therefore, the documentation of the presence or absence of these organisms is mandatory. These blood tests are also a requirement for our international accreditation with the AABB.

### Client Details

NC/UC/

Nothing is inevitable. Anything is possible.

### Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B virus is a virus that affects the liver. Hepatitis B is mainly transmitted via blood transmission and sexual contact. It can also be transmitted from mother to child. In Hepatitis B infection, there is period at the beginning of the infection where the virus is present in the body but it is not detectable. This is called the window period. The tests of Hepatitis B infection are aimed at decreasing this window period as much as possible and making sure that the virus is detected if present.

### Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C virus is also a virus that affects the liver and is transmitted in similar ways to Hepatitis B. The test for Hepatitis C is also a highly sensitive test that eliminates the window period.

### Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is the virus that causes AIDS. This virus is transmitted through blood transmission, transmission in body fluids and sexual contact. The presence of HIV can now be detected within 1-2 days of infection.

### Syphilis (Treponema Pallidum)

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted disease that can be transmitted via blood transmission. The disease is successfully treated with penicillin injection. Nevertheless, it is a common sexually transmitted disease and therefore testing for it is still done.

### Cytomegalovirus (CMV)

Cytomegalovirus is a common herpes type virus -60-80% of the population is exposed to this type of infection. The virus generally goes unnoticed in healthy individuals but can be lifethreatening in immune-compromised patients like those having a bone marrow transplant.

### Human T-Cell Lymphotropic Virus (HTLV I/II)

HTLV is a sexually transmitted virus that can cause adult T cell leukaemia/ lymphoma as well as neurological disorders such as paralysis of lower limbs. It can also be transmitted via blood or body fluids.

### West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus (WNV) is transmitted to humans by mosquitos and is commonly found in Africa, West Asia and Middle East. The incubation period is about 2-14 days and can be passed from Mother to Child in utero, but this risk is very low. Symptoms vary from headache, fever, body aches and swollen glands to more severe encephalitis, stiff neck and paralysis.