

HB 197 -- Cord Blood Banking

Sponsor: Jones (63)

This bill requires the Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services to post on its web site resources relating to umbilical cord blood that have been developed by the Parent's Guide to Cord Blood Foundation or a successor organization which includes an explanation of the potential value and uses of umbilical cord blood, including cord blood cells and stem cells; the differences between using one's own blood cord cells and using related or unrelated cord blood stem cells in the treatment of disease; the differences between public and private cord blood banking; various options to a mother for donating, storing, or discarding cord blood; and other specified subjects. Beginning October 1, 2011, every licensed physician who provides obstetrical or gynecological care to a pregnant woman, except a physician providing emergency care, must make available to the patient prior to the beginning of her third trimester or, if later, at her first visit the information posted on the department's web site regarding umbilical cord blood banking.