

Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete (CBBC) Haematology Department of the University Hospital of Crete



Tuesday 20/4/2021



Public CBBC celebrates five years of operation

More than 3000 donations to Public CBBC during its five-year operation Live online Info session with Public CBBC experts for the general public and future parents Discover Public CBBC's new official song and its creator

Public CBBC – of the Haematology Department of the University Hospital of Crete - celebrates five years of operation. Committed to its role, it continues to play its part in Public Health by providing state-of-the-art processing and banking of cord blood units (CBUs) **free-of-charge**, delivering and ensuring high quality grafts, with the aim to enrich availability in the International Donor Registry for use by any compatible patient who is in need of an allogenic HSCs (hematopoietic stem cell) transplant.

In its five-year operation, CBBC has achieved **more than 3000** cord blood donations, while through the National Transplant Organisation a significant number of CBUs has been made available to the International Registry. An additional **100 CBUs** will be standardised and be made available in the foreseeable future.

During the covid-19 pandemic, the value of cord blood and its attributes is once again highlighted, as it is recommended by WMDA as a safe source for HSCs for transplants.

Public CBBC's goal is to enrich the National and International Registries on cord blood, with a special focus on rare HLAs haplotypes, to achieve diverse ethic representation in order to cover transplant needs of all patients as well as those with an ethnic background from Crete.

To celebrate its five-year anniversary, Public CBBC holds on **Tuesday 27th April 2021 at 17.00** (local time) a live info session where the general public and future parents will have the opportunity to discuss and submit their questions to the Director and the CBBC experts, on the collection and cord blood banking process, the differences between public and private cord blood banking, and the current and future potential uses of cord blood. To join, connect via https://zoom.us/j/94651358222



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An important aspect of Public CBBC work throughout these years, has been to raise awareness and educate the general public on the value of donation and the documented usefulness of cord blood in the treatment of haematological diseases/malignancies. In this frame, on Tuesday 20th April, Public CBBC through its social media (Facebook @cordbloodbankcrete.gr twitter @PublicCBBC YouTube Cord Blood Bank Crete) presents Olinas song «It's not a secret anymore» for its five-year anniversary.

«Everyone's wish at Public CBBC and that of Olina's, is that the song will help spread the word on the hope and the value that each donation brings along with the therapeutic and regenerative properties of cord blood» said Prof. Haematology and Director of Haematology Department and Public CBBC, **Helen Papadaki**.

Take a <u>virtual-tour</u> around Public CBBC to find out its important work and processes and get informed about the cord blood <u>donation</u>. Future parents can take online seminars on cord blood donation - which carries on uninterrupted during the covid pandemic - available through the Public CBBC website.

#5years_PublicCBBC #OlinaforCBBC #JohnAtHisBest #JohnwonTHErace #itsnotasecretanymore

Follow Public CBBC on Facebook <u>@cordbloodbankcrete.gr</u> twitter <u>@PublicCBBC</u> YouTube Cord Blood Bank Crete

About the creator: Olina holds a BSc in Biology from University of Crete. She is a musician, lyricist, producer and performer. She also holds a Higher Diploma in Music Performance - Vocals from the Institute of Contemporary Music Performance of London. She has studied vocals for four years and plays the guitar, the piano, and the ukulele. Discover her through her personal accounts on <u>Youtube</u>, Spotify Instagram and Facebook

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