

## Staminali cordonali contro i traumi al cervello dei bambini

USA-L'Health Science Center dell'Università del Texas di Houston (UTHealth) ha avviato la prima fase di uno studio approvato dalla Fda (Food and Drugs Administration) sull'uso del sangue del cordone ombelicale nelle lesioni traumatiche del cervello dei bambini.

Lo studio prevede l'uso di terapie con cellule staminali di base contro i danni neurologici, e' guidato da Charles S.Cox, professore di Pediatria alla stessa universita'. Lo studio sara' su 10 bambini tra 18 mesi e 17 anni, il cui sangue del cordone ombelicale sia stato conservato in una banca col Cord Blood Registry (CBR), che siano stati colpiti da un moderato o grave trauma cranico.

### Articolo in lingua inglese

HOUSTON – (Jan. 5, 2011) /PRNewswire/ — The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston(UTHealth) has begun enrollment for the first Phase I safety study approved by the Food and Drug Administration to investigate the use of a child's own umbilical cord blood stem cells for traumatic brain injury in children. The study is being performed in conjunction with Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, UTHealth's primary children's teaching hospital.

The innovative study, which builds on UTHealth's growing portfolio of research using stem cell-based therapies for neurological damage, is led by principal investigator Charles S. Cox, the Children's Fund Distinguished Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Pediatrics at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, part of UTHealth, and director of the pediatric trauma program at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. It will enroll 10 children ages 18 months to 17 years who have umbilical cord blood banked with Cord Blood Registry (CBR) and have suffered moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). The study is not designed for acute care and will only enroll participants within 6-18 months of their injury.

Although the neurologic outcome for nearly all types of brain injury (with the exception of abuse) is better for children than adults, trauma is the leading cause of death in children, and the majority

of the deaths are attributed to head injury.

"Using cord blood is a critical link in the next step of UTHealth's programmatic approach to researching stem cell therapies for brain injury," Cox said.

"Implementing this novel therapy has required strong partnerships with Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and the CBR Center for Regenerative Medicine, and is possible through a critical infrastructure investment by the state of Texas and private philanthropy."

To enroll in the study, parents or caregivers of patients who have suffered a traumatic brain injury should.

**5 gennaio 2011**

aduc.it