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**Title:** Different strategies to improve the use of the umbilical cord and cord blood for hematopoietic and other regenerative cell therapies  
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Statements pertaining to the thesis:

Different strategies to improve the use of the umbilical cord and cord blood for hematopoietic and other regenerative cell therapies.

1. Experiments in an in vivo xenotransplantation model suggest that a TPO expanded cord blood unit can be transplanted without the co-transplantation of an unexpanded cord blood unit to safeguard long term engraftment. (*this thesis*)

2. The expense of the expansion of cord blood with TPO could be justified by the reduction in the cost for platelet transfusions in patients receiving a cord blood transplant (*this thesis*)

3. Combining TPO expansion and MSC co-transplantation for the improvement of cord blood transplantation does not yield synergistic effects to support further clinical development. (*this thesis*)

4. Mesenchymal stromal cells (MSC) derived from all different sources can be considered for the improvement of the engraftment of cord blood CD34+ cells notwithstanding that the in vitro functionalities associated with this capacity are still unclear. (*this thesis*)

5. Cord blood additionally to its hematopoietic regeneration capacity seems also a source for other regenerative cell therapies. (*this thesis*)


7. The recent advances in gene editing techniques will dramatically change the use of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for the treatment of hereditary diseases and persistent viral infections such as HIV (*Lombardo et al, Nature Medicine 2014, 20:1101-1103*)

8. To further improve the applicability of cord blood transplantation, public and private cord blood bank should merge into ‘hybrid’ banks (*Guilcher et al, Journal of Medical Ethics 2015, 41:272–275, Ballen et al, Bone Marrow transplantation 2015, 50:271–1278*)


10. Teachers open the door; you enter by yourself. (*ancient Chinese proverb, taken from ‘Chinese Proverbs from Olden Times’ written by P. Beilensen, Peter Pauper Press, New York, 1956*)

11. The greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance; it is the illusion of knowledge. (*Stephen Hawking, adapted from ‘The Discoverers’ written by Daniel J Boorstin, Random House, New York, 1983*)

12. A good decision is based on knowledge and not on numbers. (*Plato, Athens, 428 BC – 348 BC*)