

# CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS

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## **Karmanos receives \$250,000 grant for cord stem-cell transplants**

*BY JAY GREENE*

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute has received a \$250,000 multiyear grant from the J.P. McCarthy Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan to benefit the hospital's umbilical cord stem-cell bank.

The bank is one of two public cord blood banks in Michigan. The other is at the Michigan Community Blood Centers in Grand Rapids.

Cord stem cells are extracted from the umbilical cord and placenta after the birth of a child. They are rich in cells needed to fight a variety of diseases, including leukemia, lymphoma and sickle cell.

The cord stem cells are not the same as embryonic stem cells for which the federal government currently does not provide research funding.