

Generation of Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells from Human Cord Blood Using *OCT4* and *SOX2*

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Two independent groups demonstrate that human cord blood (CB) is a ready source of somatic cells that can be reprogrammed to pluripotency. Belmonte and colleagues generate teratoma-forming human iPSCs from CD133⁺ CB with a higher efficiency—and with fewer factors—than fibroblasts. Martin and coauthors reprogram CD34⁺ CB to make hiPSCs that could be differentiated into functional cardiomyocytes and other differentiated cell types. CB, already banked and available for clinical use, may become a preferred source of donor material for future iPSC-mediated therapies, given that the younger cells may have accumulated fewer mutations than those isolated from an adult.

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