

MEDIA RELEASE

Cordlife Singapore expands suite of paediatric services with Earscreen™ and Cordlife Talent Screening

Key points

- Earscreen™ is a non-invasive hearing test for children aged six months to six years that allows parents to detect any potential hearing problems in their children early.
- Cordlife Talent Screening is an Asian-specific lifestyle screening test that can help parents identify areas where their child is most likely to succeed.
- Both of these paediatric services are designed to provide parents with early insights that may enable them to take the appropriate intervention steps during their children's critical development years.

SINGAPORE, 7 February 2022 – Cordlife Group Limited (“**Cordlife**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”), a Singapore Exchange mainboard listed company, today announced the launch of Earscreen™ and Cordlife Talent Screening services for children in Singapore through its subsidiary, Cordlife Technologies Pte Ltd (“Cordlife Singapore”). The addition of these two services will further complement existing paediatric screening services currently offered by the Group.

The Group currently offers Eyescreen™, a vision screening designed for children as young as six months old at their clinics in Mount Elizabeth Novena Hospital and Thomson Paediatric Centre. Eyescreen™ uses an innovative photoscreening technology to instantly screen for over 10 visual abnormalities, including myopia, astigmatism, and the risk of developing amblyopia, a serious vision disorder. The Group has introduced Earscreen™ and Cordlife Talent Screening to satisfy the growing need for more comprehensive screening services among parents.

Earscreen™ is a non-invasive hearing test for children aged six months to six years. This hearing test was developed in partnership with a paediatric Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialist in Singapore with 20 years of experience. As children's normal hearing frequency differs from adults', Earscreen™ is customised with the right test cut-off settings to ensure a more accurate evaluation. The entire screening process takes around five minutes, and the results are ready on the same day.

Congenital deafness is the most common birth defect in Singapore.¹ Hearing loss in children can be caused by a variety of factors, such as viral infections like meningitis, nervous system injury, harmful

¹ Low WK, Pang KY, Ho LY, Lim SB, Joseph R, Universal Newborn Hearing Screening in Singapore: The Need, Implementation and Challenges. *Ann. Acad. 2005; 34(4):301-306.*



noise levels in the environment, or ototoxic medications. Congenital hearing loss is also possible, though it may not be detectable until the child is older. Delays in diagnosis and intervention can affect speech, language and psychosocial development, leading to poor academic performance. Early intervention is critical for children diagnosed with hearing loss to ensure they have appropriate access to sounds in order to improve their speech, language and learning outcomes. Research has shown that 4 in 5 affected children had normal language quotients due to early diagnosis and intervention.²

Cordlife Talent Screening is a lifestyle screening test designed specifically for Asians that employs a scientific approach to help parents identify areas where their child is most likely to thrive. Cordlife Talent Screening provides insights in the areas of character traits, talents, learning abilities and sport attributes using a combination of cutting-edge technology and Asian genome-wide association studies.

As children learn and develop faster in their first few years of life, laying a solid foundation for them during this period can help them achieve academic success, economic success, and happiness later in life. Parents only need to have their child screened once to receive a comprehensive insight report that will last the rest of their child's life. The Cordlife Talent Screening insight report will include recommendations tailored to the child's needs in order to help them reach their fullest potential. Parents can collect their child's saliva sample effortlessly and quickly in the comfort of their own homes using the oral swab sticks provided, and results will be available in six to eight weeks.

"Parents always want the best for their children, and they have recognised the value of taking pre-emptive measures," said Ms Janice Ong, CEO of Cordlife Singapore. "Both Earscreen™ and Cordlife Talent Screening can help parents and their children better prepare for critical development years so that they can achieve their maximum potential in life."

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² Yoshinaga-Itano C, Coulter D, Thomson V. Developmental outcomes of children with hearing loss born in Colorado hospitals with and without universal newborn hearing screening programmes. *Semin Neonatol.* 2001;6(6):521-529.



ABOUT CORDLIFE GROUP LIMITED

Established in May 2001, Cordlife Group Limited (“Cordlife”, together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”) is a leading company dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of mother and child. The Group is listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange in 2012 and is a pioneer in private cord blood banking in Asia. Cordlife owns the largest network of cord blood banks in Asia with full stem cell banking facilities in six key markets namely Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Malaysia and the Philippines. In Singapore, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Indonesia, Cordlife operates the largest private cord blood banks and it is amongst the top three market leaders in India and Malaysia. In January 2018, Cordlife became the market leader in Hong Kong with the acquisition of the largest private cord blood bank, Healthbaby Biotech (Hong Kong) Co., Limited. Through its majority-owned subsidiary in Malaysia, Stemlife Berhad, Cordlife holds an indirect stake in Thailand’s largest private cord blood bank, Thai Stemlife. Cordlife has also established its presence in Myanmar, Vietnam, Macau, Brunei and Bangladesh. Beyond cord blood, cord lining and cord tissue banking, Cordlife offers a comprehensive suite of diagnostics services for the family including urine-based newborn metabolic screening, non-invasive prenatal testing, paediatric vision screening and family genetic screening services. Quality and customer focus are amongst some of the cornerstones of Cordlife. For more information, visit <http://cordlife.listedcompany.com>.

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