



Donor Conception Program

What is the Donor Conception Program?

- The donor conception program is a process whereby sperm, eggs or embryos (the resultant conceptus after eggs have been fertilised by a sperm) donated by someone other than your spouse, or another couple are used in your fertility treatment

Why do I need Donor Conception?

You are recommended to opt for donor conception if:

- You or your spouse are not producing eggs or sperm of your own
- You or your spouse's sperm or eggs are unlikely to result in the conception of a fetus
- You or your spouse have a high risk of passing on a genetic disease

What does it involve?

Before the procedure, a nurse will counsel the recipient couple on the donor conception process.

- Recipient couple shall be assessed by the Medical Social Worker (MSW) and report to be reviewed by Dr.
- IVF counselling is required prior to starting the IVF program.
- Recipient couple bloods are tested for full blood count; blood grouping; and infectious diseases including HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis, Cytomegalovirus (CMV IgG and CMV IgM). For wife, Antral Follicle Count Scan, FSH/LH/Estradiol level, and rubella would be required.
- Recipient couple will need to be seen by one of CARE specialists to sign consent for donor conception and storage of the gamete, Disclaimer consent, Statement of consent from Recipient & Spouse (additional for Sperm Recipient), and consent for different blood grouping.
- Payment for registration fees is to be collected on the consultation day
- The recipient shall bear the cost of "known"/ "unknown" donor program registration.

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Legal considerations

Unless you are using sperm, eggs or embryos from your own known donor, otherwise the donor of the sperm, eggs or embryos is entirely anonymous

Similarly, your personal details will not be revealed to the anonymous donor.

Any child born from donated eggs, sperm or embryos through our clinic is the legal child of you and your spouse. The donor has no legal rights or responsibility for the child.

The same donor may donate eggs / sperm / embryos to create up to no more than **5** live-births. Hence, your children may share a genetic link with children of such other families. Under the Directives of Ministry of Health, where a donor has, as a result of such donations, achieved **5** live-birth events, the donor's eggs / sperm / embryos will not be used on a subsequent occasion

Legal considerations

The eggs / sperm / embryos donor may withdraw her / his / their consent for donation at any time up to the point before the start of your treatment cycle.

Process

- A woman cannot receive donor sperm **from a person who is biologically related” to her.**
E.g. father, brother, son, grandfather, grandson, uncle, nephew
- Donor eggs from a person **who is “biologically related” to the husband.**
E.g. mother, sister, grandmother or donor embryos resulting from the abovementioned relationships.

Donor conception may be performed via In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) or Intra-Uterine Insemination (IUI).

IVF is a process where egg cells are fertilised by sperm outside of the womb (in-vitro). The embryo is then transferred into the womb to achieve pregnancy or is cryopreserved (frozen) for future use.

Intrauterine insemination (IUI) is a fertility treatment that uses a catheter to place highly concentrated amount of active motile sperm directly into the womb (also called artificial insemination). The goal of IUI is to deliver sperm to reach the

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fallopian tubes around the time of ovulation to increase the chance of fertilisation.

Storage

Donor eggs/sperm/embryos and embryos that result from the use of donated eggs/sperm:

- Will be stored solely for you and your spouse's use.
- Belong to you and your spouse and cannot be separately claimed.
- Cannot be transferred to another IVF Centre as we are required by Licensing Terms and Conditions for Assisted Reproductive Techniques from Ministry of Health (MOH), to track the live-birth outcomes.

What are my options?

- You may choose not to undergo donor conception programme.
- You may choose to consider adoption when the chances of successful conception from the donor conception programme are deemed to be very poor or unacceptable to you.

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