

International Egg Recipient



Leicester Fertility Centre
Caring at its best

Information for Patients
and Partners



University Hospitals of Leicester **NHS**

NHS Trust

Who is this leaflet about and who is it for?

This leaflet is produced for women who require donated eggs.

What is 'egg donation'?

Egg donation means that the eggs of a donor are harvested via IVF treatment and given to another couple who need donated eggs in order to achieve a pregnancy.

Why would I need to receive donated eggs?

You may need donated eggs for the following reasons

- Your ovaries do not produce their own eggs (premature menopause, Turners syndrome, after chemo/radiotherapy)
- You do not have any ovaries
- You have a genetic problem which causes miscarriage or can be passed onto your children
- You have undergone unsuccessful IVF treatment due to poor egg quality

What is the international egg donation programme?

As there is a shortage of egg donors in the UK and waiting lists for UK donors are quite long, we are working with our partner clinic in Alicante, Spain. The Instituto Bernabeu has had a well established egg donation programme for over 15 years. They are regulated under Spanish Fertility Laws and hold ISO International Standards Organisation accreditation. They have around 500 egg donors on their list waiting to donate. This programme is only available for privately funded treatment.

Who can be an egg donor in Spain?

Egg donor must be

- Between 18 and 35
- Fit and healthy
- No history of transmissible disease
- No personal or family history of inheritable disorders.
- No psychological disorders

Egg donors are women who chose to donate their eggs out of kindness to enable other women to have a child.

What preparation is needed to receive donated eggs?

You will need an appointment with the consultant to have your medical histories taken and blood tests arranged to ensure you are healthy and to enable us to match you to a donor.

The tests include:

Blood screening for hepatitis B&C, HIV, Syphilis cytomegalovirus and blood group

Thalassaemia or sickle cell status (if you are from an Afro Caribbean, Asian or Southern Mediterranean background),

Screening to ensure you have been vaccinated against German Measles (rubella).

You will also need swabs taking to screen for sexually transmitted diseases.

Your partner will need to provide a semen sample

If aged 40 to 44 you will need a mammogram

If 45 and above you will also need an ECG, Cardiac Echo and a general health check by your GP.

What happens next?

If your investigations show that you are suitable to undergo treatment with egg donation then we will arrange an appointment with the consultant to plan the treatment and a counselling appointment to discuss the implications for you and your family in using donated eggs.

What treatment will I undergo?

The Medical staff in Spain will assess your personal situation and e-mail your plan of treatment which will inform us which medication to prescribe for you and when you need to take it.

You will have an ultrasound scan to check your womb lining thickness prior to going out to Spain.

You will be kept up to date about your donor's progress by e-mail from the clinic in Spain

Your partner will need to travel to Spain on the day of the egg collection to produce a semen sample. If he wishes he can travel before this and produce a sample to be frozen. The following day you will be contacted by the laboratory staff to let you know if and how many embryos have fertilised. One or two embryos will be transferred on Day 3 or 5 after retrieval dependant on the number and quality of your embryos.

Getting to Spain

Regular daily flights are available from local airports to Alicante.

A list of hotels near the Spanish clinic will be given to you for you to book.

Staff from the Spanish clinic will meet you at the airport in Alicante.

DO NOT BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS OR ACCOMMODATION UNTIL YOU KNOW THE DATE FOR EMBRYO TRANSFER

How do the embryos get implanted?

You will need to travel to Spain for the implantation and you can be accompanied by your partner or family member/friend as you choose.

The procedure will involve a speculum being inserted into the vagina to access the neck of the womb (cervix), which is cleaned prior to embryo transfer. A fine tube (catheter) containing the embryos will then be passed through the cervix into the womb cavity and the embryos will be transferred. The catheter is then checked by the embryologist to ensure that the embryos are inside the womb.

Any surplus embryos may be frozen for your future use. Due to differences in UK and Spanish law all future treatments must be in Spain as no embryos or sperm can be exported to the UK.

What happens after the embryos are implanted?

You will continue with the oestrogen tablets and the progesterone pessaries. You will be given an appointment in two weeks time to attend the Leicester Fertility Centre for a pregnancy test.

What will I know about the donor?

Your donor will be matched by the medical Staff at Instituto Bernabeu to match your facial features and medical characteristics as closely as possible. You will be told the age of your donor and their blood group. However, under Spanish Law you will not be given this information until after the embryo has been transferred.

Egg Donation in Spain is anonymous so no further information about the donor will be available to yourselves or any resulting child.

What can go wrong?

When the sperm of your partner and donated eggs are fertilised, there may be failure of fertilisation in a very small number of cases (1%). This means your trip for embryo transfer will not be required.

Although donors are screened for infectious and heritable diseases, there is always a small risk as some conditions cannot be tested for currently or may become apparent in the donor at some time in the future

What follow up care is available?

We would normally offer you and your partner a follow-up clinic appointment with the consultant if your treatment has not been successful. We understand that this is a very difficult time for you both emotionally. Should you wish to access any supportive counselling during your fertility treatment you may contact the Leicester Fertility Centre to arrange an appointment with the unit's counsellor

If you'd like more information

You may contact the Leicester Fertility Centre where an appointment will be made with the nursing staff to discuss our international egg donation programme in more detail.

Our commitment to patients

We are constantly striving to improve our services to patients and we will welcome your comments or suggestions for improvement.

Leicester Fertility Centre Contact Details

Tel: 0116 2585922

E-mail: LFCinfo@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Website: www.leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk

Useful addresses

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority: www.hfea.gov.uk

NICE guidelines: www.nice.org.uk

NHS - Response line: 111.nhs.uk / 111

NHS - Smoking helpline: 0300 123 1044

Fertility Network UK: www.fertilitynetworkuk.org / 0121 323 5025

SEED (Sperm, Egg & Embryo Donation) Trust: www.seedtrust.org.uk

Do you feel that you are at risk of verbal or physical abuse? If so, you may find the following numbers useful:

UAVA Helpline: 0808 80 200 28

Email: info@uava.org.uk

Text support: 07715 994 962



This information was correct at the time of printing. While the Trust makes every reasonable effort to keep its information leaflets up to date, very recent changes may not be reflected in the guidance and you should discuss this with the clinical staff at the time of your appointment.

Questions

If you have any questions write them down here to remind you what to ask when you speak to your consultant.



Today's research is tomorrow's care

We all benefit from research. Leicester's Hospitals is a research active Trust so you may find that research is happening when you visit the hospital or your clinic.

If you are interested in finding out how you can become involved in a clinical trial or to find out more about taking part in research, please speak to your clinician or GP.

If you would like this information in another language or format, please contact the service equality manager on 0116 250 2959

إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على هذه المعلومات في شكل أو لغة أخرى ، يرجى الاتصال مع مدير الخدمة للمساواة في 0116 250 2959.

আপনি যদি এই লিফলেটের অনুবাদ - লিখিত বা অডিও টেপ'এ চান, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে সার্ভিস ইকুয়ালিটি ম্যানেজার ডেভ বেকার'এর সাথে 0116 250 2959 নাম্বারে যোগাযোগ করুন।

如果您想用另一种语言或格式来显示本资讯，请致电 0116 250 2959 联系“服务平等化经理” (Service Equality Manager)。

જો તમને આ પત્રધક્કાનું લેખિત અથવા ટેઈપ ઉપર ભાષાંતર જોઈતું હોય તો મહેરબાની કરી સર્વિસ ઈકવાલિટી મેનેજરનો 0116 250 2959 ઉપર સંપર્ક કરો.

यदि आप को इस लीफलेट का लिखती या टेप पर अनुवाद चाहिए तो कृपया डेव बेकर, सर्विस इक्वालिटी मैनेजर से 0116 250 2959 पर सम्पर्क कीजिए।

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać niniejsze informacje w tłumaczeniu na inny język lub w innym formacie, prosimy skontaktować się z Menedżerem ds. równości w dostępie do usług (Service Equality Manager) pod numerem telefonu 0116 250 2959.

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਲੀਫਲੈਟ ਦਾ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ ਕੀਤਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਡੇਵ ਬੇਕਰ, ਸਰਵਿਸ ਇਕੁਅਲਿਟੀ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਨਾਲ 0116 250 2959 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Ak by ste chceli dostať túto informáciu v inom jazyku, alebo formáte, kontaktujte prosím manažéra rovnosti služieb na tel. číslo 0116 250 2959.

Haddaad rabto warqadan oo turjuman oo ku duuban cajalad ama qoraal ah fadlan la xiriiir, Maamulaha Adeegga Sinaanta 0116 250 2959.