Other Services

Embryo Bank

The world is a different place today than that in which our mothers and grandmothers lived. Many of today's modern couples choose to start a family later in life. Embryo Banking allows these couples the chance to freeze embryos and delay starting their families until the time is right. Also, during the IVF process many couples naturally produce an embryo surplus. Freezing surplus embryos until future cycles can circumvent additional egg retrievals. And last, for singles & couples with little time left on their fertility clock, Embryo Banking is an ideal strategy and gives the best insurance for starting a family later, especially if they want more than one child.

**Blastocyst Culture**

In conventional IVF the embryo transfer is done in the uterus after 48 hours at 4-8 cell stage. In natural conception the embryo reaches the uterine cavity only on day FIVE. With the availability of new extended culture medium, we can now culture the embryos in the laboratory till the blastocyst stage (i.e. day 5-6). Thereby increasing the chances of success dramatically to 50%.

Recent advances in blastocyst culture and transfer have resulted in improved IVF pregnancy rates and reduced multiple pregnancy rates. Traditionally, embryos are transferred to the uterus on day three (called Day 3 transfer) after fertilization and it is not uncommon to transfer three or four embryos. However, it is now possible to grow embryos in the laboratory to the blastocyst stage of development, which occurs on day five after fertilization when the embryo has 50-200 cells. Typically, the strongest, healthiest embryos make it to blastocyst stage as they have survived key growth and division processes and have a better chance of implanting once transferred. The selection of potentially more viable embryos allows the embryologist to transfer fewer embryos, often one or two, lowering the risk of high order multiples while maintaining high pregnancy rates.

Blastocyst transfer is not an option for all IVF patients. The technique is most successful with patients who are younger and have a large number of eggs available at retrieval. On average, patients with six or more high quality embryos on day three are the best candidates for blastocyst culture because there is a better chance of more embryos growing successfully to day five.

**Egg Donation**

Egg donation is the process by which a woman provides one or several (usually 10-15) eggs (ova, oocytes) for purposes of assisted reproduction or biomedical research. For assisted reproduction purposes, egg donation involves the process of in vitro fertilization as the eggs are fertilized in the laboratory. Egg donation is part of the process of third party reproduction as part of ART (Assisted Reproductive Technology).

It is considered for women who is a poor responder to the ovulation induction drugs, has reduced ovarian reserve, or is a carrier of a genetic condition.

All the steps are IVF are performed except the egg donor undergoes the ovulation induction and egg retrieval. Once the eggs are retrieved , they are Fertilized with the partner’s sperms. Legal, medical and Psycho logic counseling are required.

**Cryopreservation**

**Not available**