

Improving IVF One Birth At A Time

The first baby from in vitro fertilization (IVF) was delivered in 1978, and since then it's helped bring over 5 million children into the world. Simplified, the IVF process consists of hormone stimulation of multiple egg-bearing follicles, egg retrieval, fertilization, and embryo transfer. For families facing infertility, IVF likely provides the best chance for a successful pregnancy. We are committed to making IVF safer and more effective for families everywhere.

Making Sure Your Pregnancy Is The Picture Of Health

Progyny offers a new kind of fertility benefit that includes cutting-edge technologies such as intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), assisted hatching/embryo biopsy, preimplantation genetic screening (PGS), and single embryo transfer (SET) to reduce time to pregnancy, reduce miscarriage rates and increase pregnancy success.

Conventional IVF (A Fresh Cycle)

Historically, IVF Fresh has been the most common type of in vitro fertilization. It starts by stimulating a woman's eggs with a course of medications taken over a prescribed period of time. Then, a doctor retrieves the eggs and fertilizes them in a lab with a partner's or donor's sperm. The eggs go through cell division and embryos develop in about 3-5 days. At this point, the best embryo or embryos are transferred to a woman's uterus in a simple outpatient procedure. Remaining embryos may be frozen for future transfers if either this procedure is unsuccessful or if a subsequent pregnancy attempt is desired.

Assisted Hatching / Embryo Biopsy

With assisted hatching, an embryologist uses micromanipulation tools under a microscope to create a small hole in the zona pellucida (the 'shell' that covers the embryo). This can be done on day 3-day 5 of embryo development. This technique can be used to assist the embryo during implantation, to 'hatch' out of the zona, or can be used in conjunction with preimplantation genetic screening (PGS) to remove a few cells from each embryo for genetic testing.

Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)

In some instances, a single sperm is injected into a female egg to increase the odds of fertilization in the lab. This procedure is known as ICSI, and may be used in cases of male factor infertility, when past IVF cycles have not resulted in fertilized eggs, or to increase chances of fertilization.

Freeze All IVF (A Freeze All Cycle)

The freeze all process is similar to an IVF Fresh cycle, but may offer increased success rates. After a woman has completed her course of egg-stimulating medication, her eggs are retrieved and fertilized in a lab. The embryos are allowed to develop before undergoing cryopreservation (freezing). While the embryos are frozen, the female's body is given the opportunity to adjust back to normal after her stimulation cycle. Doing so has been shown in some studies to have an advantage over fresh transfer (above). Frozen embryos can be stored until the patient decides she is ready to become pregnant. This advanced process offers greater success rates and flexibility for women who are being treated with IVF.

Preimplantation Genetic Screening (PGS)

This genetic screening test allows your clinical team to assess your embryos for the correct number of chromosomes which has been shown to increase implantation chances, decrease the chance of miscarriage, and lessen the time to pregnancy. Each embryo should contain 46 chromosomes, however research has shown that embryos can often have too many or too few chromosomes which can lead to lack of implantation, miscarriage, or birth of a child with disabilities (i.e. Down syndrome, trisomy 21).

Get Started

To learn more about fertility treatment options, locate a clinic, or book a consultation, contact your patient care advocate. Our PCAs can be reached by phone Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 9:00 pm EST.

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