
Information for sperm donors

Medisch Centrum Kinderwens

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in our Fertility Center and for considering becoming a sperm donor. 'Artificial insemination using donated sperm' (Kunstmatige inseminatie met donorsperma / KID) is the collective name for those treatments where donated sperm is used in order to conceive. They will be referred to as KID-treatments, an acronym of the Dutch term. Medisch Centrum Kinderwens (MCK) offers these treatments to women with infertile partners as well as to single or lesbian women. In order to fulfill these women's desire to have a child, we depend on men who are willing to donate their sperm to our sperm bank. Every year, the treatments we offer with donated sperm result in the births of over 300 children.

Who can donate sperm to Medisch Centrum Kinderwens?

We are excited to welcome you as a sperm donor. However, several restrictions apply in order for you to be able to donate your sperm. These restrictions are recorded in European and Dutch guidelines:

- You are no younger than 18 and no older than 45 years old;
- You must be a resident in the Netherlands
- You are physically and mentally healthy;
- There are no instances of severe hereditary disorders in your family;
- You are not HIV-positive;
- You do not have Hepatitis B or C, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea or Syphilis;
- You are not under increased risk of contracting these diseases;
- You have a fixed place of residence;
- You agree to have your personal data submitted to the Stichting Donorgegevens Kunstmatige Bevruchting (Donors' Personal Details Registration Association).

Signing up

You can schedule an informative consultation through our administrative office, by phone (see below) or by email (info_mckinderwens@tfp-fertility.com). You must bring an identifying document (passport, ID or driver's license) to your first consultation.

After signing up

Appointment with our embryologist and sperm examination

After you've signed up, you'll receive a (non-binding) informative consultation with one of our embryologists. During this consultation, they will discuss the practicalities of being a donor and the judicial aspects related to sperm donation. Naturally, there will also be time for you to ask any questions you may have. After this, you'll have an appointment to examine the quality of your sperm. If desired, this can take place on the same day as the consultation with the embryologist. Because the sperm will be stored cryogenically (frozen), it is important that it is of sufficient quality, since the process of freezing the sperm will damage a number of the sperm cells. In some cases, it turns out that the sperm is no longer eligible to be used in a KID-treatment after thawing. The embryologist will inform you telephonically of whether your sperm is eligible to be donated. Sometimes, a second sperm examination will be scheduled to confirm the results. If the results are positive, you will be invited to a medical and psychosocial intake consultation.

Appointment with a fertility specialist and fertility counselor

During the medical intake, one of our physicians will discuss factors with you which may stand in the way of a possible donorship, such as general health concerns or hereditary factors that may be present in your family (or yourself). You'll undergo a physical examination. In addition to this, your blood and urine will be tested for a number of sexually transmitted diseases and your blood group will be determined. Also, you will have a consultation with our fertility counselor. During this consultation, your reasons for becoming a sperm donor will be examined. We are aware that the choice to become a donor may have consequences for you and your environment, short- as well as long-term. It's very possible that you also have things you want to discuss, and we will certainly take the time to do so. Roughly two weeks after these consultations have taken place, you'll receive the results of the laboratory tests and whether we can definitively accept you as a donor. After this, the first donation appointment can be scheduled.

While donating

How often you will donate depends on the quality of your sperm and the number of families you want to help. At the moment, we adhere to a minimum of five and a maximum of twelve families. It is your own choice how many families you want to help, which will be recorded in your donor agreement. We ask you kindly to discuss with us when and how often you wish to donate. Also, we request that you inform your treating nurse or physician of any changes in your health both during the donation process and afterwards. Of course, we also need to know if a child with a hereditary disorder is born to your family.

Screening for STDs (Sexually transmitted diseases)

In accordance with Dutch legislation, sperm donors must be screened regularly for the presence of the following STDs: Hepatitis B and C, HIV, syphilis, HTLV I and II, chlamydia and gonorrhea. To this end, we will take samples of your blood once every three months and you will be asked to bring urine samples every time you come here to donate your sperm (no morning urine). You will receive a small jar for this purpose from our laboratory. In addition to this you will be asked to return 6 months after your final donation for a final screening. We will not be able to clear the donated sperm for use until this final screening, too, is clear of any of these diseases.

Stopping donation

Once we have collected enough to achieve the intended number of pregnancies, you can stop donating. If so desired, you can of course stop before that. When you stop donating, you'll be scheduled for a final consultation with one of our embryologists. During this consultation you will be informed of the number of conceptions achieved with your sperm, and we will check whether your contact information is still accurate.

Donorship and anonymity

Since 2004, anonymous sperm donation has been outlawed in the Netherlands, as established in a law known as the 'Wet Donorgegevens Kunstmatige Bevruchting' (law on Donors' Personal Details for Artificial Insemination). All sperm banks are required to register all data related to successful treatments in which a child is conceived using donated sperm to a database in the government's VWS department. The Stichting Donorgegevens Kunstmatige Bevruchting (the Donors' Personal Details Registration Association – will be referred to as SDKB) oversees this data. It will be kept on record for 80 years.

The SDKB will provide physical and social attributes of the donor (such as hair color, eye color, occupation and education) to the parents and/or child after the child's twelfth birthday. After the sixteenth birthday, the child can request personal identifying features of the donor. If a child wishes to meet their donor, that donor will be informed of the child's desire to meet him. The meeting will be conducted by the FIOM and will not happen until after you've talked to someone about what exactly will happen. The donor has no rights or (financial) duties regarding the child, and the child or parents cannot demand rights in return.

More information regarding current legislation can be found at the SDKB's website: www.donorgegevens.nl

Reimbursement

You'll receive a reimbursement of 50 euros for every donation, which is legal. In addition to this, you'll receive reimbursement for traveling expenses.

Donations

You can schedule appointments to donate during the designated areas in our clinic during opening hours.

Contact information

You can reach us by phone from Monday till Friday from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM and from 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM and on Saturdays from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM on 071-5812300.

On Sundays and holidays we are only available by phone for medical emergency between 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

More information

SDKB (the Donors' Personal Details Registration Association) : www.donorgegevens.nl

Landelijk informatiepunt donorconceptie (LIDC): www.donorconceptie.nl