
Information for personal sperm donors

Medisch Centrum Kinderwens

Sperm storage for known donors

You have decided, or are currently considering, to become a sperm donor for a woman/couple you know. In this information brochure, you'll find information regarding the storage of your sperm for the purpose of what we call 'known donorship'.

The first thing that'll happen is an intake consultation with the woman/couple for whom you will be donating (the recipient). If there are no impediments to starting a treatment or pregnancy, follow-up appointments will be scheduled. Then, you will be able to schedule a donor intake through our administrative office. When scheduling the appointment, the secretary will need the recipient's name and date of birth in addition to your own information. The intake consists of a consultation with one of our physicians and a consultation with our fertility counselor. After that, we will take some blood and, if desired, a first sperm sample will be frozen.

Each time you deliver sperm to be entered into cryogenic storage, you'll also have to deliver a urine sample.

In general, three donations will suffice, although depending on the circumstances we may need more or fewer. Your donated sperm will be stored in straws, at least one for each donation. The quality of the sperm mandates for which kind of treatment one of these straws can be used. For example, one donation may result in six straws that can be used for IUI and IVF treatments, while another one results in two straws that can only be used for ICSI. Therefore, it will become clear *how many* and *which kinds of* treatments will be possible after several donations. This result will be discussed with the recipient by the treating nurse or physician. Together, they will decide whether one more donation will increase the likelihood that another treatment is possible (for example, an insemination rather than ICSI).

You are required bring a valid identification document (ID, passport, driver's license, ...) to each appointment at our facility. There is a private room available in our facility for the production of the sperm. In order to improve the quality of the sperm, a celibate period of two to three days prior to donating is recommended.

Medical intake with a physician

During the intake, one of our physicians will discuss your medical history with you. Your physical and mental health as well as your current lifestyle will also be discussed. In addition to this, some attention will be paid to relevant medical information regarding your family. The purpose of this is to minimize the likelihood of the donor-child being born with hereditary diseases or disorders. Finally, the physician will talk you through the different steps and phases of the donation process. Of course, there will be the possibility to ask any questions you may have after reading the information in this brochure.

Intake with the fertility counselor

During the intake with the fertility counselor, your motivations for donating and any existing agreements with the recipient regarding interaction with the donor-child will be discussed. We advise entering into a legal arrangement detailing these agreements with the recipient(s). You can approach a lawyer or notary for this. Our facility can provide names and addresses of specialized professionals working in this field.

Blood draw

In order to utilize the sperm safely, you'll be tested for a number of infectious diseases. To do so, we will draw some of your blood to check for the presence of antibodies against the viruses and bacteria that cause HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Lupus and possibly other diseases (SOA screening). The result of this screening will be relayed to you over the phone by the physician who you met for your intake consultation. The appointment for this telephone consultation will be scheduled after your intake consultation. If you are unable to be a donor as a result of any of the tests, the recipient will only be informed that you have been rejected as a donor; it is up to you whether or not to tell them why.

First donation

Treatments utilizing donated sperm will only be done using sperm that has been frozen, no 'fresh' sperm. The reason is that we want to be certain that no infections are transmitted during insemination. If desired, you can immediately submit a first donation to be frozen on the same day your intake consultation takes place. We do ask that you inform our administrative office that you wish to do this when you schedule the appointment for the intake consultation. Naturally, you can also schedule your first donation for another day.

On delivery of each sperm sample, you're also required to hand in a urine sample. This will be tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

The sperm sample will be processed by our laboratory and then frozen in straws. The next day, one straw will be thawed in order to evaluate whether the quality, at that time, is still sufficient to be used in a fertility treatment. The result, as well as the number of straws that were entered into cryogenic storage, will be communicated to you telephonically by the physician who conducted your intake consultation. You can schedule the telephone consultation through our administrative office.

After the first donation

After the results of the blood tests and the analysis of the first sperm sample have been discussed with you, you'll generally schedule two more donation appointments. After the second donation, another telephone consultation with your usual physician will be scheduled. At that time, you'll be informed of the results of the second donation, and whether a third donation will be necessary. If necessary, more donations can be scheduled at this time. If more than three donations are necessary, the cost will be higher (to be billed to the recipient). Occasionally, one of two donations may be enough for treatment. If this is the case, your treating physician will discuss this with you.

After the final donation, another telephone consultation will be scheduled (after the treating physician has discussed the matter with the recipient). If there is enough sperm in storage, blood will be drawn for a final series of tests. Just like the first test, the blood will be tested for antibodies against viruses and bacteria. The result of this, too, will be discussed with you over the course of a telephone consultation, roughly three weeks after the blood draw. If this screening comes back clear, the sperm can then be used for a treatment.

In order to safeguard your privacy, all personal data and test results will only be discussed with you. This includes results of blood tests, sperm quality analysis, et cetera. We can and will not discuss data belonging to or regarding you will third parties, including the recipient of your donated sperm. In order to facilitate a smooth treatment process, the recipient will be informed of the number of straws in storage after you've donated three times, and the treatment options that these straws can be used for. After the donation process is finished, you can inform the recipient that she can schedule an appointment for a starting consultation.

The aim of donating sperm is to facilitate an ongoing pregnancy terminating in the birth of a child. If the recipient requests another treatment in order to have a second child, your treating physician will contact you. At that point, we will ask you for permission to use any sperm that remains in storage to facilitate a second pregnancy.

First use of the donated sperm

The time we need to make sure that the donated sperm can actually be used for a treatment depends on the time we need to make all the appointments. The shortest amount of time possible is three weeks, counting from the moment the donor had his medical intake.

The Law on Donors' Personal Details for Artificial Insemination

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. After their sixteenth birthday, a child conceived using donated sperm can request personal identifying features of the donor. If a child does so, the donor is allowed to present a reasoned objection, in which case a judge will decide. This law also holds for donors who only donate for a woman they know. For current information we refer you to the SDKB's website:

www.donorgegevens.nl.

Agreement for storage and use

In an agreement between the MCK, the donor and the recipient, we will record the conditions regarding storage and use of the sperm. During the intake consultation, you'll receive this agreement in triplicate. The recipient, the Fertility Center, and you will all sign this agreement. You can return this to us at one of your later appointments.

According to legislation, your genetic material is being stored at our facility for the purpose of donation, but you certainly do still have a say in how it is used. You can terminate storage at any time. If you wish to change the recorded purpose of the sperm, you must first schedule a consultation with your treating nurse or physician.

Ending the storage

If you wish to terminate the cryogenic storage of the sperm, you must provide written notice. You'll receive a confirmation of this request. The destruction of the stored sperm will commence one month after we receive the request.

Costs of storage

The costs of the intake and cryogenic storage of the sperm are listed in the price list available on our website. The bill will be sent to the recipient. If the sperm is to be stored for a period of longer than one year, extra costs will be billed three-monthly.

Appointments and information

You'll receive information regarding an intake consultation or other information by way of our administrative office.

Contact information

Telephone: 071 5812300 (MO-FRI 08:00 a.m.- 12:00 a.m. and 01:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. SA: 10:00 a.m.- 01:00 p.m.)

E-mail: info@mckinderwens.nl

Website: www.mckinderwens.nl

Read more

SDKB's website: www.donorgegevens.nl

This information is meant for men who have decided, or are considering, to donate sperm to a recipient who they know personally, for a treatment that is to take place at the MCK Fertility Center. This information, together with any information provided by a physician or fertility counselor is meant to allowed you to make an informed choice regarding whether or not to go ahead with this. This information is subject to change.

For any feedback regarding this information brochure, please contact us at info@mckinderwens.nl.