



CLINICAL PROTOCOL FOR WOMEN WITHOUT A PERIOD RECEIVING DONOR EGGS

The aim of treatment is to synchronise your cycle with that of the donor's cycle by giving you tablets to prepare the lining of the womb to receive embryos. To assist us in achieving this we may perform a dummy cycle prior to the treatment cycle itself.

Six weeks before your donor is due to start treatment you should commence a 4 week course of HRT tablets such as Nuvelle 2mg, to be taken once daily, to produce a withdrawal bleeding. Our midwife coordinator will confirm your availability for treatment and arrange with you the appropriate charges.

On the day when the donor is due to start her superovulation injections, you will have an ultrasound scan. Provided your endometrial thickness is less than 4mm, you will start oestradiol valerate 2mg tablets (progynova, climaval etc) to be taken one tablet three times daily.

Follow up scans will be arranged according to your response and donor's stimulation course. The dose of oestradiol tablets may be altered.

Two days before egg collection your partner should ejaculate and then abstain until asked for a semen sample.

The day prior to egg collection

Increase oestradiol valerate 2mg to 2 tablets three times daily (unless already on a higher dose).

Start progesterone either Cyclogest vaginal pessaries (400mg) twice daily

Or Crinone vaginal gel once every evening

Or Gestone 50mg injection, intramuscularly once daily.

Start anti-clotting injections (Low Molecular Weight Heparin) either Clexane subcutaneously once daily

Or, Innohep subcutaneously once daily.

On the day of the donor's egg collection a semen sample is required from your partner, so it is essential that he should be available for this. Alternatively sperm may be frozen before treatment and stored until use.

On the day following egg collection the midwife coordinator will contact you and let you know how many embryos fertilized, arrange the date and time of embryo transfer and inform you about possible embryo freezing.

Embryo transfer is performed 2-3 days after egg collection or 5-6 days after egg collection (blastocyst stage). It is a simple, painless procedure almost like having a pap smear. You need to attend with a full bladder, so you will be asked to drink 4-5 glasses of water an hour before your arranged appointment.

Following embryo transfer you will continue all your medications as described above. Twelve days after embryo transfer have a blood pregnancy test (β -HCG). If your test is positive you must continue your medications until the 12th week of pregnancy unless otherwise advised by your own doctor. If the test is negative stop all medication and expect a menstrual bleed after a few days.