Egg Freezing... is it for you?

Many women are now choosing to wait to get pregnant, either for professional, educational, partner, or medical reasons. One of the greatest challenges women face today is timing an education and career with family building. The warnings of a “ticking biological clock” can interfere with professional goals and aspirations. Egg freezing is an exciting technology that offers the freedom of delaying pregnancy without many of the biological challenges that arise when it is postponed until later in life. That is why more women under the age of 35 are now considering Egg Freezing as a way to retain their fertility. This new technology has the potential to mitigate some of the challenges associated with delaying family building and it could be for you.

What Is Egg Freezing?
Egg freezing is the retrieval, freezing, and storing of unfertilized eggs. The eggs will remain frozen until you are ready to use them for fertilization and pregnancy.

What Are The Benefits?
• Egg freezing allows you to store your eggs at a young age and have the benefits of those younger eggs for use when you are older
• It eliminates some of the ethical and religious concerns associated with embryo freezing, storage and disposal

What Is The Process?
Eggs are retrieved from your ovaries, frozen in a cryoprotective solution, and then thawed when you wish to become pregnant.
1. The process begins with taking fertility drugs to help stimulate the ovaries to produce multiple eggs. Eggs are aspirated out of the ovaries with a needle under ultrasound guidance. You are asleep for this procedure and go home the same day.
2. Eggs are then immersed in a special cryo-protective solution and frozen in a cryogenic tank that is stored in our IVF laboratory until they are ready to be fertilized to initiate a pregnancy. Frozen eggs can remain in this state indefinitely.
3. When you are ready to build your family, your thawed eggs are then warmed and fertilized through a process called intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI). The resulting embryo(s) remain in culture in the IVF laboratory environment for 3-5 days until they are ready to be transferred back to the uterus.

Did You Know?
• You are born with all the eggs you will ever have
• As you age, your ovarian egg reserve diminishes naturally
• By age 35, you have lost about 95% of your eggs and the rest are aging rapidly
• In 1970, the average age of women giving birth for the first time was 21.4. In 2006, the average age was 25
• Women between ages 30-34 are now the largest contributor to the total number of US births, with the number of women over age 35 rising dramatically
• A 21 year old has a 25% chance of conceiving each month. A 30 year old has a 20% chance. A 35 year old has a 15% chance and a 40 year old has a 5% chance.

Learn More
Our doctors and embryologists here at The Center have been perfecting the egg freezing and thawing process through extensive clinical trials. The Center is proud to offer egg freezing after demonstrating measurable success in an IRB approved clinical trial.
If you’d like to learn more about Egg Freezing and how we can help you, please visit our website at www.uconnfertility.com or call us at (844) HOPEIVF (844-467-3483)

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John Nulsen, MD • Claudio Benadiva, MD, HCLD • David Schmidt, MD
Lawrence Engmann, MD, MRCPG • Andrea DiLuigi, MD
Farmington • Hartford • New London
Tel. 844-HOPEIVF or (844) 467-3483
www.uconnfertility.com
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