

The Center for Advanced Reproductive Services

John Nulsen, M.D.
Claudio Benadiva, M.D.
David Schmidt, M.D.
Lawrence Engmann, M.D.
Andrea DiLuigi, M.D.



Dowling South Building • 263 Farmington Avenue • Farmington, CT 06030-6224 • Tel. (860) 679-4580
100 Retreat Avenue • Suite 900 • Hartford, CT 06106 • Tel. (860) 525-8283

Do You Have Any Patients Who Can Give The Gift of Life By Becoming An Egg Donor?

The Egg Donor Program at The Center for Advanced Reproductive Services assisted in the conception of the first child born from a donor egg in New England in 1987. Since then, we've helped many women conceive with donated eggs and our program continues to grow. The gift egg donors can potentially provide is truly the answer to many couples' dreams and we are reaching out to the ObGyn community to help us identify more potential donors.

The Process of Becoming An Egg Donor

To become an egg donor at The Center, candidates must be healthy woman between the ages of 21 and 33. They will need to complete a questionnaire that asks specific questions about their medical and personal history. They are also asked to complete medical and psychological screening. The purpose of this careful process is to help us determine that they are medically and genetically appropriate to become a donor, and that egg donation would not be medically or emotionally harmful to them in any way. We keep all information completely confidential. Health insurance coverage for procedures involved in egg donation is provided, and there is no cost to potential donors for any screening tests or consultations.

To become a potential donor, candidates will go through the following steps:

1. Preliminary telephone screening: To begin the process of becoming an egg donor, interested parties should call our confidential donor line at **(860) 679-2430**. They will undergo a 15-minute telephone screening to determine if they are eligible to participate in the program.

2. Consultation and medical screening: Based on the information collected in the initial phone interview, they may be mailed a questionnaire. If the returned questionnaire shows that they would be a good candidate for egg donation, they'll be asked to come to The Center for consultations with our medical and psychological staff, who will explain the process in greater detail. Consultations are scheduled visits and usually take up to two hours to complete. Screening includes a physical exam, psychological testing, blood tests and an instructional session with our Nurse Coordinator.

3. Follicular development: To increase the success of egg donation, we work to obtain multiple eggs for fertilization. Donors are treated with fertility medications that stimulate the development of multiple egg follicles within the ovary. Used for over 2 decades, these medications are the same used by women undergoing IVF cycles. Donors are given detailed information and instructions about this medication.

4. Monitoring your cycle: An egg donation cycle usually takes about 2-3 weeks. During this time, donors will need to make regular visits to The Center for blood tests and ultrasounds. These visits usually last less than 30 minutes and are scheduled between 7:30 and 10:00 AM. This monitoring tells us when the follicles are mature, informing our team when it is the right time to retrieve the eggs and complete the cycle.

5. Egg retrieval: The egg retrieval process is performed at The Center on an outpatient basis. IV sedation is performed by one of our anesthesiologists. Donors will sleep during the retrieval and will feel no pain. The procedure takes about 30 minutes. It is done using vaginal ultrasound to help locate the eggs for retrieval and requires no incision. Most donors are ready to go home after the procedure following about 45-60 minutes in our recovery area.

6. Following the procedure: Most donors feel a great deal of satisfaction from this act of giving. Occasionally, however, donors experience uncertainty about their decision. Our psychologist will help at any time during and after the cycle to offer emotional support. Potential risks and side effects to this procedure will be discussed in detail by our team.

Compensation

To complete an egg donation cycle, donors need to commit time, energy and emotion. **Donors who complete the cycle will be compensated \$8,000 for their time and the inconvenience** imposed by the treatment process.

To Learn More...

If you think you have a patient who would like to be an egg donor at The Center, please have them call our Coordinator at: (860) 679-2430 to request more information.

Please remember to visit our website at: www.uconnfertility.com