

## Frequently Asked Questions

### ***What are the costs of these therapies and does insurance cover them?***

Most insurance providers do not cover the costs of fertility preservation therapies. However, our practice has discounted the cost of treatment to help make these services accessible to more patients.

### ***How long do fertility preservation therapies take?***

We will see you within 24-72 hours of your call. You will have a thorough consultation with a board certified reproductive endocrinologist and then a customized plan of therapy will be created in conjunction with your oncologist/care provider. The length of the preservation therapies themselves range from immediate to several weeks.

### ***What are the risks to embryos after freezing?***

There does not appear to be an increased risk of birth abnormalities from the process of freezing sperm or embryos. Freezing of eggs is a newer technology and initial studies do not show an increased risk. In addition, there does not appear to be an increased risk of cancers in the offspring of cancer survivors (except for those with familial cancer syndromes).

### ***How do I get started?***

Simply call Center for Reproductive Medicine's main number at **407.740.0909** and express your interest in fertility preservation to schedule an expedited appointment with one of our specialists.

## The Fertility Preservation Center At Center for Reproductive Medicine

*A Holistic Approach to Protecting Your Fertility*



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# The Fertility Preservation Center

At The Fertility Preservation Center we understand that a diagnosis of cancer or a chronic medical condition can be incredibly stressful. This is why Center for Reproductive Medicine has designed a unique fertility preservation program focused on protecting your fertility in a holistic fashion. Our board certified reproductive endocrinologists are committed to helping you through education, reassurance and cutting edge therapies to give you hope for what it means to be a survivor.



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## About Center for Reproductive Medicine

The Center for Reproductive Medicine's four board certified infertility specialists share more than 70 years of combined experience and are nationally recognized as leaders in the field of reproductive medicine. Whether it is helping to conceive Central Florida's first IVF baby or performing robotic and minimally-invasive reproductive surgeries, CRM has always been at the forefront of technology. Additionally, CRM is part of an elite category of infertility clinics that are equipped with on-site surgical facilities as well as an embryology laboratory, providing patients with the highest quality of fertility care and convenience.

### Fertility Risks

There are a number of medical factors that can compromise your fertility, including treatment of cancer and a medical disease which requires therapy that may be toxic to your fertility. Cancer treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy, radical surgery or bone marrow transplantation can affect future fertility by reducing the number of eggs/sperm, altering the blood supply to the reproductive organs or by removing necessary organs. Several treatment options are available:

### Before Therapy

For Women

- ◆ **Egg Freezing:** Eggs are matured with use of injectable hormones, removed, frozen and stored.
- ◆ **Embryo Freezing:** Eggs are matured with use of injectable hormones, removed, fertilized in vitro (outside the body) with sperm, frozen and stored.
- ◆ **In Vitro Maturation:** Immature eggs are removed and matured in vitro and either frozen as embryos or unfertilized eggs.
- ◆ **Ovarian Suppression:** Medications administered during cancer treatment to reduce the risk of infertility.
- ◆ **Ovarian Transposition:** Surgically displacing the ovaries prior to radiation therapy to minimize damage.

For Men

- ◆ **Sperm Banking:** Semen is collected, frozen and stored.
- ◆ **MESA, PESA:** When the passageway is blocked, sperm can be obtained above the level of the block, frozen and stored.
- ◆ **Testicular Sperm Extraction:** Testicular tissue is obtained through an open biopsy, frozen and stored.

### After Therapy

For Women

- ◆ **Testing Your Fertility:** Certain blood tests, possibly in conjunction with ultrasounds, can be used to assess your fertility potential.
- ◆ **Ovulation Induction and Assisted Reproductive Technologies:** Eggs are matured with the use of oral or injectable medications and released to be fertilized in the body or removed and fertilized outside the body (in vitro) with sperm. Embryos are then transferred to the patient or frozen and stored.
- ◆ **Oocyte Donation:** Eggs from a comprehensively screened donor are matured, removed, and fertilized with the husband's sperm outside the body. The embryos are transferred to the patient, who will carry the pregnancy.
- ◆ **Gestational Carrier:** If it is determined that it is not safe for a woman to carry a pregnancy, another woman can carry the patient's pregnancy for her, although the embryo is from the patient and her partner.
- ◆ **Adoption**

For Men

- ◆ **Testing Your Fertility:** Can be done through a semen analysis and blood testing.
- ◆ **Assisted Reproductive Technologies (In vitro fertilization and Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection):** Even with just a few sperm, the eggs from the wife are matured and removed and then the individual sperm can then be directly injected into the egg to assist with fertilization.
- ◆ **Donor Sperm:** Sperm from a comprehensively screened donor can be used for insemination or assisted reproductive technologies.

*Experience Never Mattered More.*™