

# General Practitioner fertility care

GP's have the greatest opportunity to educate patients on their fertility, conception and IVF.

# **FAST FERTILITY FACTS**

- 1. 1 in 6 couples need help to conceive
- 2. A woman's age is the single largest factor influencing the chance of conception
- **3.** Male factor issues affects almost half of all infertile couples
- **4.** Patients try to conceive for months before they raise the issue with their GP
- 5. On average one child in every classroom is now conceived via Assisted Reproductive Technology
- **6**. By 40 years of age 33% of women are infertile

#### A GP CAN:

Start a conversation at a cervical screening, when discussing contraception options, at general check ups, or during blood tests.

- .... Are you planning to try for a family one day?
- .... Have you considered whether you'll try to have a baby one day?

#### WHEN TO REFER A PATIENT:

- if the woman is under 35 and trying for more than 6-12 months to conceive.
- earlier if they have irregular periods or other abnormal pathology.

**Note:** Medicare requires both partner's names on the referral.

# Collective fertility experience

- The largest team of over 125 fertility specialists –
  personally managing their patients' care with
  tailored treatment plans. We are the only provider
  in Australia to boast the most CREI accredited
  sub specialists.
- More than 40 years of leadership in the fertility field, starting with the conception and birth of the first IVF baby.
- When you refer your patients to us, they will have access to the brains trust of an entire network of fertility specialists, scientists, nurses and care teams across NSW, ACT, VIC, QLD and TAS, who are all dedicated to achieving the best outcomes for your patients.

# Accessibility and affordability

- Flexible payment plans no upfront cost.
- Comprehensive range of fertility treatments and assessments.
- Convenience and choice, with fertility clinics throughout New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania.
- In-house sperm analysis, pathology & sonography.
- Trained fertility nurses undertake patient monitoring & blood tests.
- Experienced donor programme.



# Pathway to helping people have a family

## Couple present who want to start or grow their family

### History and examination of both

- ◆ Age of couple?
- ◆ Time trying to conceive?
- Timing and frequency of intercourse?
- ◆ Cycle history (normal 23-35 days)
- Pregnancy history?
- Recurrent miscarriage?
- Genetic conditions in family?
- ◆ Drug and occupational history?

#### Advice to both partners

- On smoking, alcohol, weight and diet
- ◆ Timing of intercourse
- Basal temperature charts, consider urine LH Predictor kits, increased mucus
- Sexually transmitted disease and genital infections

For LGBTQIA+ patients, please refer them directly to IVFAustralia, Queensland Fertility Group, Melbourne IVF or Tas IVF where we can best guide them before they start treatment.

#### **Female**

- ◆ Check rubella status
- Folate 500 ug/day
- Check cervical screening

#### **Screening tests**

- Hepatitis B,C
- HIV
- VZV
- Syphilis
- Blood group and antibodies
- FBE
- Chlamydia
- ♦ Anovulation (day 2) LH, FSH, E2, PRL, TSH
- Pelvic ultrasound if long cycle (? PCOS)
- Anti-Müllerian Hormone (AMH)
- Rubella

#### Male

- Hx of post pubertal mumps
- Undescended testes
- Genital infections

#### **Screening tests**

- Semen analysis If results poor, repeat in 4-6 weeks at IVF andrology lab
- Sperm antibodies
- Hepatitis B,C
- HIV

## Consider early referral if:

- ♦ Age >35 years
- ♦ Oligo-amenorrhea
- Previous pelvic surgery
- Previous STD / PID
- Abnormal pelvic exam
- Low progesterone
- ♦ Low AMH
- ♦ When you or the patient has concerns

## Consider early referral if:

- Poor semen analysis
- Presence of sperm antibodies
- Previous genital pathology
- Previous urogenital surgery
- Previous STD
- Varicocele
- Sign of systemic illness
- Abnormal genital exam

# Discuss results and management plan

Discuss results and management plan for the male or female patient

If female is under 35 and has been trying for more than 12 months - refer to IVFAustralia, Queensland Fertility Group, Melbourne IVF, Tas IVF Fertility Specialist

If female is over 35 and has been trying for more than 6 months – refer to IVFAustralia, Queensland Fertility Group, Melbourne IVF, Tas IVF Fertility Specialist

For same sex couples, please refer them directly to an IVFAustralia, Queensland Fertility Group, Melbourne IVF, Tas IVF Fertility Specialist. **1800 111 483**