



Becoming an Egg Donor

Thank you for your interest in becoming an egg donor!

The gift of life is very precious and by becoming an egg donor you will be helping people to have a chance to experience the joy of a family.

It's the chance to make a real difference and help change someone's life forever.

You are giving people hope and the possibility of a new life.

Donors have told us:

'I had the potential to have a massive positive impact on someone else's life'

'Knowing that I could have helped others to become parents is one of my proudest achievements.'

'I had a friend who went through several unsuccessful fertility treatments... I thought I'm suitable for this: I can help change someone's life.'

Why are Egg Donors needed in the UK?

The process of having children is seen as being a very natural and relatively simple one.

Most people take it for granted; at least until they discover that they may not after all be able to conceive children. This realisation can have far reaching implications for many people.

Most of us do not realise that even for those who "do not have any difficulty in conceiving" the average chances of conceiving are only about 20-25% per cycle. (Interestingly this is about the same chance of becoming pregnant through some assisted conception techniques.)

Indeed, one in seven couples will have fertility problems at some stage in their lives.

There can be many reasons why some couples fail to achieve a pregnancy.

The female partner may have suffered a premature menopause, has never been able to produce eggs, or has lost the use of her ovaries due to disease, surgery or the treatment of cancer.

Some women carry inherited genetic diseases and are thus seeking donated eggs so as not to transmit the disease to their children.

There is a shortage of egg donors and many people have to wait to benefit from donated eggs. Some couples are fortunate enough to have friends and family willing to donate eggs as a 'known donor'. However most are not so fortunate and thus they are likely to be 'in the queue' waiting for around 2 ½ years on average for sufficient donors to volunteer to donate their eggs.

Over 1200 egg donors are needed annually in the UK, last year there were 707.

All nationalities, religions and cultures are needed to fulfil the demand, especially those from Ethnic Minority backgrounds.

Lisa, egg donation recipient: 'Becoming a Mum was something I always assumed would happen to me. But when I discovered the cancer I'd had as a child had damaged my ovaries, I was heartbroken... My partner and I have been together 8 years and desperately want a family... Tony (my partner), would make the most amazing dad, and I know I would be a wonderful mum.. Any child of ours would be so loved, and want for absolutely nothing. I just pray one day, someone can make our dream come true, and help create our beautiful family'.



Cathy, egg donor: 'I realised that for relatively little time and effort on my part, I could give a couple the chance to have the child they were so desperate for'.

Would you make a suitable donor?

Donors are people from all walks of life – there is no such thing as a 'standard donor'. What they have in common is a desire to help people to achieve the pregnancy they otherwise couldn't have.

All healthy women who are aged between 18 and 35 are welcome.

They also need to be free from any serious medical problems and disability and with no history of congenital, family or hereditary disease.

Even if you have been sterilised, you can still donate if you have your ovaries.

Information will also be required from you about your medical and family history. Potential donors will also need to have blood tests and a general medical examination.

As it is usual for there to be an attempt to match the physical characteristics of both the donor and the recipient, general physical characteristics of eye and hair colour, height, weight, race and complexion are taken into account and are recorded.

With the potential donor's permission, their General Practitioner will be contacted in order to obtain a more detailed medical history.

Carolyn, egg donor: 'Despite being told for years I may need fertility treatment, we were lucky to conceive within weeks....donating my eggs seemed the best way of paying back our good fortune.'

The process of donating

If you are taking oral contraceptives or injections, then your clinic will discuss with you about how/when to stop taking them and for the best methods of contraception for you to use whilst donating.

Your ovaries may need to be suppressed by de-sensitising the pituitary gland by means of either daily nasal sprays or injections for 2-4 weeks.

Ovaries are then stimulated, usually by means of daily injections, for around 10–14 days. These injections can be self administered if you to choose to or the clinic will do them for you. There will be a need for regular ultrasound scans to determine the stage of the ovulation cycle, together with further blood tests. Your clinic will talk you through how many visits are required.

The actual egg collection can be performed under general or local anaesthetic; your clinic will discuss with you the best option for you individually.

Some discomfort may be experienced in the later stages of ovarian stimulation and for a few days after egg retrieval.

Donors can usually return home shortly after the egg collection. However, you need to be aware that you can suffer the normal after-effects of having had a general anaesthetic and should ensure that you are accompanied and that, if you have children or other dependants, these will need others to look after them, until the after-effects of the anaesthetic have worn off.

Sarah, egg donor: 'The drugs I had to take didn't make me too poorly, a few headaches but I think I was very lucky, my body seemed to adapt to it very well. I had a general, bit nervous as I'd never had one, but it was a breeze!'



Are there any risks?

Donating eggs can affect your future fertility, so if you are planning on starting a family or completing your own, the clinic may advise you to finish your own family before donating.

The risks to the donor are however considered to be minimal and short-term. Such risks include the possibility of troublesome bleeding or pelvic infection (less than a 1% chance). Equally, there is a 1% – 2% risk of excessive ovarian stimulation (too many eggs being produced) despite careful monitoring. In such a case, the donation cycle will probably be abandoned and treatment would be commenced to regularise your menstrual cycle.

Mary, egg recipient:

'It is thanks to our wonderful Egg Donor that we are now a family. Our lives have changed forever!. It takes a very, very special person to donate eggs. Our heartfelt thanks go out to her – it was worth the 3 year wait!'

Claire, egg donor: 'After having my own children, it is one of my proudest achievements!'

What does the law say about donation?

Over the last few years, attitudes towards donation and people's right to know about their parentage and genetic origins have changed.

Like adopted people, people born from donations have the right to ask the regulatory body The Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority (HFEA): <http://www.hfea.gov.uk> for the donor's identity when they reach age 18 or older.

All the clinics in the enclosed list are HFEA licensed: this means they must conform to strict medical, legal and ethical standards to ensure that everyone involved in the donation is protected and clear about their legal position:

You can change/withdraw your consent at any time up to the point at which the eggs (or embryos) are being transferred to the recipient.

You can also say who you want to receive your eggs and how many families you would like to help (the maximum number of families you can help is 10)

The person/people who received your donation will be the child's legal and social parent(s) – you will not be named on the birth certificate.

You have no legal, financial or social obligations to any child created from your donation either now or in 18 years time.

You must tell your clinic of any inherited disabilities and/or physical and mental illnesses in your family; a donor-conceived person born with an abnormality could sue you for damages if it was proved you had deliberately with-held information

Your clinic will give you a special HFEA form to complete. This form is for personal details about yourself that could be handed to the donor-conceived person when they reach age 18 or older. This information enables the child's parents to talk to them about their origins as they grow up and helps them build a mental picture of you.

If you would like them to, your clinic will be able to tell you whether a baby/babies were born as a result of your donation and, if so, how many births, how many children, the sex of any such children and/or the year they were born.

Your decision to donate eggs is an important one, with life-long implications.

All potential donors are provided with information and offered counselling to help them make an informed decision.

These sessions can be helpful in exploring how your decision will affect you, your partner and any children you may have now or in the future.

You will be offered counselling before, during and after the donation.



Donors may claim expenses incurred in connection with the donation process, for example the cost of childcare, travel costs and other out-of-pocket expenses.

Additionally, you can also claim compensation for loss of earnings up to a daily maximum of £55.19, with an overall maximum of £250 per cycle of egg donation.

Your clinic will discuss when and how you will be re-imbursed; some clinics will re-imburse you as and when expenses occur; others will pay your expenses at the end of the process.

Cathy, egg donor: 'Any discomfort from the treatment was nothing compared to the excitement I felt when I knew I was days away from egg collection and what that meant to my recipient couple.'

Carolyn, egg donor: 'If I needed an egg donation, I would be desperate for someone to help me. It seemed only logical to turn that around and put myself in their shoes. Once the idea was in my head, it just wouldn't go away and when our family was complete, it felt right to be able to offer the chance to someone else.'

What next?

We have a list of egg donors who are happy to speak to others considering donating eggs, so please contact us if you would like to speak to them.

Alternatively, you can use our online donor forum via our website www.ngdt.co.uk

If you are happy with the information above, we recommend you contact a few clinics from the enclosed list. Have a chat with them about anything that may be particularly important to you (clinic opening times, ease of parking, evening appointments, etc) and then decide which clinic you would like to go to.

Sarah, egg donor: 'My recipient tested positive and she was later scanned and had 1 foetus!! :So a really, really good outcome - so I'm a bit chuffed with myself for giving her/them this gift. I would've loved to have done it again, but age is against me, but at least I've made a difference to one family.'

Lisa, egg donation recipient: 'Not being able to have a child, to bring a perfect little person into our lives, is something we cannot even imagine, we cannot see a child in our future - it just too awful to comprehend''



UK licensed fertility clinics who recruit Egg Donors

Avon

Bristol Centre for Reproductive Medicine
Southmead Hospital
Westbury on Trym
Bristol BS10 5NB

Contact: Ms Susie Heyworth
Tel: 0117 3232 100
Fax: 0117 3232 001
Email: admin@nbt.nhs.uk

Cambridgeshire

Bourn Hall Clinic
Bourn Hall
Bourn
Cambridge CB23 2TN

Contact: Mrs Gillian Bellars
Tel: 01954 717 221/210
Fax: 01954 717259
Email: info@bourn-hall-clinic.co.uk

County Durham

London Women's Clinic in Darlington
Woodlands Hospital
Morton Park
Darlington DL1 4PL

Contact: Mr Carl Awty
Tel: 01325 371 070
Fax: 01325 371 071
Email: darlington@londonwomensclinic.com

Essex

Brentwood Fertility Centre
The Essex Nuffield Hospital
Shenfield Road
Brentwood
Essex CM15 8EH

Contact: Mrs Eleanor Visser
Tel: 01277 695695
Fax: 01277 233 597
Email: eleanorvisser@nuffieldhospitals.org.uk

The Isis Fertility Centre
Charter Court, Newcomen Way
Severalls Business Park
Colchester
Essex CO4 9YA

Contact: Ms Sarah Pallett
Tel: 01206 844 454
Fax: 01206 848 274
Email: sarah@isisfertility.com

Hampshire

Wessex Fertility Unit
Anglesea House
72-74 Anglesea Road
Southampton SO15 5GS

Contact: Ms Jan Stones
Tel: 023 8070 6000
Fax: 02380 775288
Email: info@wessexfertility.com

Hertfordshire

Herts and Essex Fertility Centre
Bishops College
Churchgate
Cheshunt EN8 9XP

Contact: Mrs Liz Machin
Tel: 01992 785060
Fax: 01992 785079
Email: andy@hertsandessexfertility.com



Kent

South East Fertility Clinic
Amberley House
9 Queens Road
Tunbridge Wells TN4 9LL

Contact: Ms Jane Holman
Tel: 01892 614110
Fax: 01892 549594
Email: jane.holman@sefc.co.uk

BMI The Chaucer Hospital
The Brabourne Suite
Nackington Road
Canterbury C24 7AR

Contact: Ms Sherry Ebanks
Tel: 01227 825 125
Fax: 01227 766 947

Leicestershire

Leicester Fertility Centre
Kensington Building
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Leicester LE1 5WW

Contact: Ms Mo Thomas
Tel: 0116 258 5922
Fax: 0116 258 7688
Email: enquiries@leicesterfertilitycentre.org.uk

Liverpool

Hewitt Centre for Reproductive Medicine
Liverpool Women's Hospital
Crown Street
Liverpool L8 7SS

Contact: Maureen Richards
Tel: 0151 702 4212
Fax: 0151 702 4342
Email: maureen.richards@lwh.co.uk

London

Assisted Conception Unit
King's College Hospital
Denmark Hill
London SE5 9RS

Contact: Ms Ricky Fuller
Tel: 020 3299 5391
Fax: 020 3299 5392
Email: ricky.fuller@kingsch.nhs.uk

The Bridge Centre
1 St Thomas Street
London Bridge
London SE1 9RY

Contact: Ms Ema Locker
Tel: 020 7089 1455
Fax: 020 7403 8552
Email: eggdonation@thebridgecentre.co.uk

Centre for Reproductive Medicine
Park Lorne
111 Park Road
London NW8 7JL

Contact: Dr Saniya Hadi
Tel: 020 7616 6767
Fax: 020 7616 6789
Email: info@crmlondon.co.uk

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Assisted Conception Unit
369 Fulham Road
London SW10 9NH

Contact: Sister Rebecca Wood
Tel: 020 8746 8585
Fax: 020 8746 8921
Email: acu@chelwest.nhs.uk

The Harley Street Fertility Centre
122 Harley Street
London W19 7JP

Contact: Julie/Karen
Tel: 020 7935 2234
Fax: 020 7935 7401
Email: rgoswamy@aol.com



The Lister Fertility Clinic
The Lister Hospital
Chelsea Bridge Road
London SW1W 8RH

Contact: Ovum Donation Nurses
Tel: 020 7881 4036
Fax: 020 7259 9039
Email: odnurses@LFClinic.com

London Fertility Centre
Cozens House
112a Harley Street
London W1G 7JH

Contact: Ms Janette Yates
Tel: 020 7224 0707
Fax: 020 7224 3102
Email: info@lfc.org.uk

London Women's Clinic
113-115 Harley Street
London W1G 6AP

Contact: Dr Kamal Ahuja
Tel: 020 7487 5050
Fax: 020 7487 5619
Email: info@londonwomensclinic.com

Manchester

CARE at the Alexandra Hospital
Victoria Park
108-112 Daisy Bank Road
Manchester M14 5QH

Contact: Miss Julie Easton
Tel: 0161 249 3066
Fax: 0161 224 4283
Email: julie.easton@CAREfertility.com

Dept of Reproductive Medicine
St Mary's Hospital
Whitworth Park
Manchester M13 0JH

Contact: Dr Yasmin Sajjad
Tel: 0161 276 6340
Fax: 0161 224 0957
Email: yasmin.sajjad@cmmc.nhs.uk

Manchester Fertility Services
120 Princess Road
Manchester M15 5AT

Contact: Ms Debbie Falconer
Tel: 0161 227 0010
Fax: 0161 227 0011
Email: debbie.falconer@manchesterfertility.com

Northamptonshire

CARE Fertility
67 The Avenue
Cliftonville
Northampton NN1 5BT

Contact: Ms Karen Faulkner
Tel: 01604 608 788
Fax: 01604 603 275
Email: karen.faulkner@carefertility.com

Northern Ireland

Regional Fertility Centre
Royal Group of Hospitals
Grosvenor Road
Belfast BT12 6BA

Contact: Ms Helen Burdett
Tel: 02890 635863
Email: helen.burdett@royalhospitals.n-t.nhs.uk

Nottinghamshire

CARE Fertility
John Webster House
6 Lawrence Drive
Nottingham Business Park
Nottingham NG8 6PZ

Contact: Ms Bev Winter
Tel: 0115 852 8139
Fax: 0115 852 8196
Email: bev.winter@carefertility.com



NURTURE
Floor B, East Block
University Hospital
Queen's Medical Centre
Nottingham NG7 2UH

Contact: Ms Linda Brandy
Tel: 0115 823 0700
Fax: 0115 823 0651
Email: nurture@nottingham.ac.uk

Oxfordshire

Oxford Fertility Unit
Level 4, Women's Centre
John Radcliffe Hospital
Headington
Oxford OX3 9DU

Contact: Ms Nikki Holcombe
Tel: 01865 740837
Fax: 01865 222 031
Email: nikki.holcombe@fert.org.uk

Scotland

Aberdeen Fertility Centre
Aberdeen Maternity Hospital
Foresterhill
Aberdeen AB25 2ZD

Contact: Ms Lorraine Stewart
Tel: 01224 553 612
Fax: 01224 551072
Email: donation@abdn.ac.uk

Assisted Conception Services Unit
Glasgow Nuffield Hospital
Beaconsfield Road
Glasgow G12 0PJ

Contact: Alison Kennedy
Tel: 0141 576 2748
Fax: 0141 576 2743
Email: alison.kennedy@nuffieldhospitals.org.uk

Glasgow Centre for Repro Medicine
21 Fifty Pitches Way
Cardonald Business Park
Glasgow G51 4FD

Contact: Jude Fleming
Tel: 0141 891 8749
Email: jude@gcrm.co.uk

Glasgow Royal Infirmary
Assisted Conception Services
Walton Building
84 Castle Street
Glasgow G4 0SF

Contact: Ms Isabel Traynor
Tel: 0141 211 4428
Fax: 0141 552 5681
Email: isabel.traynor@northglasgow.scot.nhs.uk

Assisted Conception Unit
Ninewells Hospital
Dundee DD1 9SY

Contact: Ms Anne McConnell
Tel: 01382 632111
Fax: 01382 633853
Email: anne.mcconnell@tuht.scot.nhs.uk

Staffordshire

Burton Centre for Reproductive Medicine
Burton Hospitals NHS Trust
Queen's Hospital
Belvedere Road
Burton upon Trent DE13 0RB

Contact: Ms Paula Cox
Tel: 01283 593 098
Fax: 01283 593 098
Email: paula.cox@burtonh-tr.wmids.nhs.uk



Surrey

The Woking Nuffield Hospital
Victoria Wing
Shores Road
Woking GU21 4BY

Contact: Mrs Caroline Lewis
Tel: 01483 227 859
Fax: 01483 227 815
Email: caroline.lewis@nuffieldhospitals.org.uk

Sussex

Assisted Conception Unit
The Esperance Hospital
Hartington Place
Eastbourne BN21 3BG

Contact: Ms Jane Skelton
Tel: 01323 410 333
Fax: 01323 410 333
Email: sussexdownsfertility@bmihealthcare.co.uk

Tyne & Wear

Newcastle Fertility Centre at LIFE
Bioscience Centre
International Centre for Life
Times Square
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4EP

Contact: Dr Jane A Stewart
Tel: 0191 213 8213
Fax: 0191 213 8214
Email: nfcl.enquiries@nuth.nhs.uk
www.newcastle-hospitals.org.uk

Wales

IVF Wales
University Hospital of Wales
Heath Park
Cardiff CF14 4XW

Contact: Ms Stephanie Herring
Tel: 02920 745 102
Fax: 02920 745 499
Email: stephanie.herring@cardiffandvale.wales.nhs.uk

London Women's Clinic in Cardiff
Cyn Coed Medical Centre
Dartington Drive
Pontyprennau
Cardiff CF23 8SQ

Contact: Sister Mary Kennedy
Tel: 02920 734 008
Fax: 02920 734676
Email: cardiff@londonwomensclinic.com

London Women's Clinic in Swansea
Ward 17, Singleton Hospital
Sketty Lane
Swansea SA2 8QA

Contact: Ms Anne Fisher
Tel: 01792 290924
Fax: 01792 285955
Email: swansea@londonwomensclinic.com

West Midlands

Assisted Conception Unit
Birmingham Women's Hospital
Edgbaston
Birmingham B13 8QX

Contact: Sister Wendy Ross
Tel: 0121 627 2700
Fax: 0121 623 6827
Email: wendy.ross@bwhct.nhs.uk

BMI Priory Hospital
Priory Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham B5 7UG

Contact: Sister Claire Thompson
Tel: 0121 446 1501
Fax: 0121 446 1507
Email: priory@bmihealthcare.co.uk



Shropshire and Mid Wales Fertility Unit
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital
Mytton Oak Road
Shrewsbury SY3 8XQ

Contact: Mrs Yvonne Doonan
Tel: 01743 261202
Fax: 01743 261458
Email: Yvonne.doonan@sath.nhs.uk

Midland Fertility Services
Centre House
Court Parade
Aldridge
Walsall WS9 8LT

Contact: Ms Donna Rea-Gardner
Tel: 01922 455 911
Fax: 01922 459 020
Email: donna.rea-gardner@midlandfertility.com

St Jude's Woman's Hospital
263 Penn Road
Penn
Wolverhampton WV4 5SF

Contact: Mr J H Adeghe
Tel: 01902 620 831
Fax: 01902 629 728
Email: jha@stjudeclinic.com

Wiltshire

Salisbury Fertility Centre
Salisbury District Hospital
Odstock Road
Salisbury SP2 8BJ

Contact: Mr Shaun Fountain
Tel: 01722 417224
Fax: 01722 325373
Email: info@salisburyfertilitycentre.co.uk

Yorkshire

The Hull IVF Unit
Women's & Children's Hospital
Hull Royal Infirmary
Anlaby Road
Hull HU3 2JZ

Contact: Ms Denise Holland
Tel: 01482 382 648
Fax: 01482 676 543
Email: hullivf@mail.com

CARE at Sheffield Fertility Centre
24-26 Glen Road
Sheffield
Yorkshire S7 1RA

Contact: Ms Julie Dickson
Tel: 0114 258 9716
Fax: 0114 255 4853
Email: sheffield@carefertility.com

Centre for Repro Medicine & Fertility
Jessop Wing
Tree Root Walk
Sheffield S10 2SF

Contact: Ms Anne Mowforth
Tel: 0114 226 8050
Fax: 0114 226 8052
Email: anne.mowforth@sth.nhs.uk

The Leeds Centre for Reproductive Medicine
Seacroft Hospital
York Road
Leeds LS14 6UH

Contact: Nichola Sugden Sister / Egg Donation
Tel: 0113 206 3106 / 206 3100
Email: nichola.sugden@leedsth@nhs.uk