

## **Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates Celebrates First Birth in North Texas from Advanced Trophoctoderm Biopsy Screening Technology**

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This method uses an advanced laser system to create an opening in the outer shell of an embryo, then to remove cells from the “trophoctoderm,” the outer part of a blastocyst (5-day old embryo) that ultimately develops into the placenta. A trophoctoderm biopsy of the blastocyst significantly improves the chances for conception for parents experiencing infertility compared to other embryo biopsy technologies.

“The success of this pregnancy signifies the viability of trophoctoderm biopsy as another resource to help couples achieve their parenthood dreams,” explained [Dr. Sam Chantillis](#), medical director of Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates.

To view video of Trophoctoderm Biopsy, [Click Here](#)

In the current case, Dr. Chantillis was working with a couple that had specific concerns about a sex-linked genetic abnormality. Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates utilized the trophoctoderm biopsy to look for healthy female embryos before performing the transfer.

“It was important that this patient and her husband not have to worry about passing on any genetic disorders to their children,” said Dr. Chantillis.

With the trophoctoderm biopsy, embryologists can perform a thorough genetic analysis of multiple cells on five-day-old embryos. In the past, technicians could only assess the genetic material of one cell from an embryo on the third day after IVF egg retrieval.

“Before this, [preimplantation genetic screening \(PGS\)](#) was performed in the fertility lab using the genetic material from one cell of an eight-cell embryo,” Dr. Chantillis said. “The limited amount of available genetic material in the eight-cell embryo and genetic variability of the various cells in a three-day old embryo made the analysis less accurate.”

Dr. Chantillis explains that the trophoctoderm biopsy enables embryologists to remove the cells when the embryos are five and six days old and has developed 60 to 80 cells. This allows fertility specialists to screen the X and Y chromosomes, as well as 22 autosomal chromosomes.

The new PGS protocol evaluates the embryos on Day 5, so the final transfer is delayed at least one month. Once the best embryos are identified, they are preserved using an innovative fast-freezing process called vitrification. The improved method of [preserving embryos](#) results in less damage during freezing and thawing.



“This technology is the wave of the future for reproductive medicine,” Dr. Chantilis said. “We are thrilled to have another tool in our arsenal that allows us to help those struggling with infertility create their families.”

#### About Dallas Fertility Associates

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates is a private practice physicians' office specializing in reproductive endocrinology and infertility treatment. Dr. Samuel J. Chantilis, Dr. Karen L. Lee, Dr. Mika R. Thomas and Dr. Ravi Gada, our fertility specialists, are all fellowship-trained in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. Our clinic was opened in an effort to bring the latest IVF treatments and procedures to the Dallas-Fort Worth community. For more information, please visit [www.dallasfertility.com](http://www.dallasfertility.com)



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