

# Dallas - Fort Worth Fertility Associates

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## **From Breast Cancer Patient to Expectant Mother: Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates Helps DFW Woman Achieve Her Dreams**

**Dallas, Texas – October 9, 2012** – At 36, Jennifer Fowler understood that 1 in 8 women will receive a breast cancer diagnosis, but she didn't think it would happen to her. A baseline mammogram recommended by her obgyn revealed stage 1 breast cancer, which shocked Fowler and her family.

"I thought this was a disease that happens to mothers and grandmothers, not someone in her 30s," Fowler said.

Now, two and a half years later, Fowler is cancer-free and preparing for the birth of her first child, thanks to Dr. Karen Lee, a reproductive endocrinologist at Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates.

"Receiving a cancer diagnosis is devastating," said Dr. Lee. "Obviously, the priority is cancer treatment, but we want to offer women a chance to protect their ability to conceive and have children once they are healthy."

When Fowler was meeting with her surgeon, the topic of fertility preservation came up. Fowler and her husband then contacted Dr. Lee to discuss their options.

"At the time, my main focus was beating cancer, so I am so thankful that option to preserve our future fertility was brought to our attention," Fowler explained.

Advanced technologies such as egg and embryo cryopreservation through the process of vitrification make it possible for many breast cancer patients to protect their fertility.

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“At Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates, we will work directly with the patient’s oncologist to determine a plan that allows for fertility preservation without jeopardizing cancer treatment,” said Dr. Lee.

In Fowler’s case, she and her husband decided on embryo cryopreservation. Earlier this year, Fowler’s doctors gave her the go-ahead to begin the final stage of treatment, the embryo transfer process.

“Honestly, I didn’t think it would work the first time, but it did,” said Fowler. She and her husband will welcome a little boy in early December.

“He’s the best Christmas present ever. After this whole journey, he’s quite a blessing.”

Fowler knows that for women who are newly diagnosed with any form of cancer, expanding or even starting their families probably isn’t in the forefront of their minds. Fowler wants to offer knowledge about fertility preservation options and hope for a bright future.

“When you are first diagnosed, it’s so life changing. I’m on the other side now, moving from breast cancer survivor to mom,” Fowler said.

### **About Dallas-Fort Worth 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 P. 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).*