

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates

Individualized Compassionate Care

Media Contact:
Amy Hall, RPh
amy@catalysthcm.com
214-893-8214

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates Reports Frozen Egg Birth of Twins as ASRM Lifts Experimental Label on Egg Freezing

Dallas, Texas – Oct. 25, 2012 – Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates announces the birth of twins resulting from frozen eggs employed in an in-vitro fertilization (IVF) cycle, and delivered by cesarean section on Oct. 16, 2012. The North Texas birth coincides with a new report issued by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), which lifts the experimental label on the “exciting and improving” technology of egg freezing.

The delivery of the twins, a boy and a girl, is believed to be North Texas’ first reported live birth using this particular application of assisted reproductive technology. Sources estimate that frozen egg cycles have led to the births of over 1,500 babies worldwide.

Medical Director Dr. Samuel Chantilis with Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates administered the frozen egg IVF cycle that helped turn a seemingly impossible situation around.

The Dallas-area couple initially underwent an IVF treatment cycle using donor eggs; unfortunately, that cycle was unsuccessful. Ten eggs from the original cycle were frozen using a technique called “vitrification,” an ultra-rapid process that freezes or “vitrifies” eggs at cooling rates of over 40,000 degrees c/second. This process induces a glass-like state before damaging ice crystals form in the eggs.

The ASRM press statement concludes that “in young patients egg freezing techniques have been shown to produce pregnancy rates, leading to the birth of healthy babies, comparable to IVF cycles using fresh eggs.”

Dr. Chantilis says: “We support ASRM’s decision to designate egg freezing as ‘non-experimental. However, the enthusiasm for this designation should not be interpreted as an endorsement for freezing eggs to delay childbearing, or preserve fertility for older women.”

-- more --

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates

Individualized Compassionate Care

DFA Frozen Egg Birth

Page 2

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates concurs with ASRM on appropriate applications of frozen eggs: 1) fertility preservation in the event of cancer, genetic or chronic disease that endangers reproductive health; and 2) postponed IVF cycles when problems with sperm collection or other unexpected factors cancel the cycle.

Women considering elective egg freezing to delay family building should proceed cautiously, and speak with a fertility specialist about the ramifications of waiting to get pregnant.

“Fresh or frozen, egg quality is tied to maternal age,” Dr. Chantilis says. “We can use a proven technology to harvest and preserve eggs from a woman in her 20s or early 30s, but egg freezing is not appropriate in all cases. For this reason, we continue to advocate for fertility awareness, drawing attention to the correlation between infertility and maternal age.”

Dr. Chantilis added that the ability to freeze and thaw eggs has proven effective for younger women, and offers significant hope for preserving fertility in cancer patients, and where it is otherwise medically indicated.

“Furthermore, the success of egg freezing is allowing the realization for the development of egg banks that can be used for fertility treatments,” he says.

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 and Dr. Mika R. Thomas, AND 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.

-- 30 --