

# Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates

Individualized Compassionate Care

## **Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates Research Shows Good Success Rates with Donor Oocyte Cycles Regardless of the Number of Oocytes Obtained.**

**Dallas, Texas – Oct 20, 2013** – When a woman prepares to undergo a cycle of donor egg IVF, how many should she thaw? Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates found that you may not need to put all your eggs in one basket after conducting research to help establish a benchmark for egg banks and fertility patients as they grapple with the dilemma.

Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates reproductive endocrinologists and one of the fertility clinic's IVF laboratory embryologists presented the findings at the annual meeting of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) in Boston, MA.

Scott Purcell, PhD, an embryologist with Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates, says that a retrospective review of clinical data in fresh donor egg cycles determined that there was no statistically significant difference in implantation or clinical pregnancy rate depending on how many mature oocytes were retrieved. .

A typical egg donor is young and healthy, and will produce on average 18 oocytes (eggs) in a stimulated IVF cycle. The Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates study found that even when less oocytes are obtained, success rates are similar.

“We increasingly see patients interested in using frozen donor eggs as an option and this research will instill confidence in the decision to thaw fewer eggs than would typically be retrieved from a fresh cycle,” says Dr. Samuel Chantilis, a reproductive endocrinologist with Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates. “The financial benefits of thawing fewer eggs will help couples pursue subsequent cycles of donor egg IVF without doubling or tripling the cost of IVF.”

Last year, ASRM lifted the experimental label on oocyte cryopreservation, stating: “In young patients egg freezing techniques have been shown to produce pregnancy rates, leading to the birth of healthy babies, comparable to IVF [in-vitro fertilization] cycles using fresh eggs.”

Now that egg banks are becoming more prevalent, and fertility preservation and fertility rescue for cancer patients is on the rise, IVF labs are perfecting the frozen egg process and defining the protocols.

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“Egg banks and fertility clinics need a benchmark to decide how many oocytes to thaw for each given cycle,” says Dr. Chantilis. “Knowing a reasonable number of eggs needed to achieve a pregnancy will help a couple preserve access to additional frozen ‘banked’ eggs.” A couple might use frozen donor eggs when the first IVF cycle is unsuccessful, or in a follow-up IVF cycle to add a sibling to the family.

Based on Dallas-Fort Worth Fertility Associates data presented at ASRM, it does not appear necessary to thaw large numbers of oocytes in order to obtain acceptable pregnancy rates. “Obviously the success of the freeze and thaw process will also play a critical role” says Dr. Purcell.

## **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 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).

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