



Known sperm donor info sheet

Donating sperm is an incredible gift you can give to help someone in need. It's a decision that requires thoughtful consideration. This overview will give you a comprehensive understanding of the criteria and process involved.



WHO NEEDS HELP

There are many people who would not be able to have children without the generous help of someone else. Each situation is unique, but donor recipients have made the decision that having a family is important enough to go through a significant emotional and physical journey to reach their goal. The decision to donate involves many considerations, including potential long term psychological, social, health and legal implications.

WHO IS SUITABLE

You must meet the following criteria:

- Between 20-40 years old.
- You look after yourself - you're not into smoking, binge drinking or drugs.
- You're healthy - not affected by an illness, disease or genetic condition that poses an unacceptable risk of being passed on to a child conceived.
- You're a genuine, nice person who is comfortable that you may be contacted by a child or children conceived. They can request your information after they're 18 years old. You have no legal or financial responsibilities for any donor conceived children.

WHAT IS INVOLVED

1. Donor coordinator contact

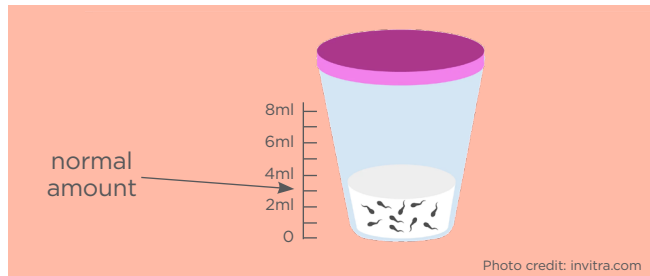
Our donor coordinator will guide you through the steps below. They will explain the process of how donor sperm treatment works at Repromed, and arrange a semen analysis appointment for you.

2. Semen analysis

The first step for a potential donor is to have a semen analysis. This can be done at Repromed's Laboratory or Labtests. In Repromed's private facilities, you will provide a semen sample by masturbation. To provide the best sample, we ask you to abstain from ejaculation for two days prior to your appointment. When you arrive for your appointment, please check in with reception and take a seat. A scientist will show you to the private collection room. They will be able to help you with any questions and clarify any information. Once the scientist leaves, please lock the door.



It's important to get as much of the ejaculate into the pot as possible as often the highest concentration of sperm is in the first portion, so please let the scientist know if it wasn't complete so that this can be taken into consideration. Once you have produced your sample, please press the bell, unlock the door, and wait for the scientist.



3. Meet our Repromed doctor

The donor coordinator will send you a health questionnaire and a family/genetic questionnaire. Once you have emailed the questionnaires back to the donor coordinator, they will ask you to contact our administration team to arrange a consultation. During the appointment, the doctor will discuss and review your medical and family/genetic history.

4. Donor screening

There are a number of tests that donors undergo to ensure you have the highest possible chance of providing a healthy child that is not at risk of any illness or disease. Below are the tests that sperm donors will have carried out:

Blood test for:

- HIV
- Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C
- Syphilis
- CMV IgG/IgM (cytomegalovirus)
- Karyotyping
- Blood Group and Rh Factor

One urine test for:

- Chlamydia
- Gonorrhoea

One VCGS saliva test for three of the most common severe genetic conditions (optional):

- Fragile X
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Please note, if the intended parent/s choose not to do VCGS testing, Cystic Fibrosis will be added to your blood tests.

Three months after your last banking, you will be required to have one more blood test for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, to release your samples from quarantine.

5. First visit with our counsellors

Our counsellors will support you through the process and discuss in detail the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology (HART) Act 2004, which governs fertility treatment in New Zealand. Counselling is required under the HART Act.

The Act and guidelines state counsellors are required to demonstrate that potential donors and intended parent/s have discussed and understand a range of topics pertinent to the welfare of the potential child, the donor, the intended parent/s and any existing children in families.

All donors are required to attend two implication counselling sessions, and a joint counselling session with the known intended parent/s. If you have a partner/spouse they are also required to attend the counselling sessions and agreeable to all aspects of the donation. The counselling sessions give you the chance to discuss the social and legal implications of donation, it is also an opportunity for you to explore whether sperm donation is for you. It also allows the counsellor to get to know you and make sure you fully understand your rights and the situations that could arise in the future as a result of your donation. Most sperm donors appreciate the opportunity to talk through what they are planning and how this may affect their life now and in the future.

6. Complete consent forms and questionnaires

To ensure understanding of the donation process and implications for the future, those embarking on sperm donation must fully understand and sign consent forms relating to the medical procedures and the donation process. It also allows donors to state any special conditions to their donation.

You, and your partner (where applicable) will be required to complete the following consent forms and questionnaires prior to undergoing the sperm donation:

- Health questionnaire
- Donor medical/genetic history
- Contract of care
- Partner of donor privacy and screening consent (where applicable)
- Donor sperm freezing consent
- Sperm donor non-identifying profile (optional)
- Sperm donor consent
- Partner of sperm donor consent (where applicable)

If you are willing to be a clinic sperm donor a matching process occurs as both donors and intended parent/s may have considerations to take into account.

The potential intended parent/s will be offered your non-identifying profile and your theirs.



Each clinic sperm donor is given a unique number, and this is referred to during matching and throughout treatment including consent forms. The profiles will have been written by you as the sperm donor and will include non-identifying information about your physical appearance, family, education, occupation, and interests.

Viewing of non-identifying profiles is undertaken at Repromed with our counsellors. The profiles stay on the premises without replication. If both parties are agreeable, the donor treatment cycle can go ahead.

Both types of donors undergo a similar workup and minimum of two counselling sessions. Counselling is required for all donors and their partners (if applicable). Known donors have an additional joint counselling session with their intended parent/s to ensure that all parties have given adequate consideration to their future relationships with the potential child and one another.

The identifying information of clinic donors is protected. If however both the donor and intended parent/s express interest in information sharing and/or meeting, this can be facilitated through our clinic counsellors.

Overall, it is essential that all sperm donors agree to be identifiable to any resulting children seeking contact when they reach 18 years. Details of donors, donor conceived children and their guardians are held at The Department of Internal Affairs Births, Deaths and Marriages. All these factors will be discussed with you in counselling.

7. Banking your samples for donation

This process is very similar to the semen analysis process, and is completed at Repromeds Laboratory. You will be required to complete 3 banking appointments across a 1-4 week period.

Your samples will remain in quarantine for three months and will not be used for treating any intended parent/s. Three months after your last banking appointment, you will be required to have one more blood test for HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis to release your samples from quarantine and be made available to intended parent/s.

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

The Human Assisted Reproductive Technology (HART) Act 2004 is the act in NZ that provides a framework for regulating assisted reproductive procedures. The relevant details about sperm donation is provided below:

- Minimum age of 18.
- The intended parent/s, couple are the legal parent/s, and therefore you have no rights or responsibilities (including child support) to the child/children born as a result of your donation.
- The status of Children Amendment Act 2004 covers the legal issues associated with donor treatment.
- In New Zealand, a child born from the use of donated sperm is, on reaching the age of 18 years, entitled to full identifying information on the donor.
- The recording of the birth is governed by the HART (Human Assisted Reproductive Technologies) Act 2004, where details about the birth, the parents of the child, and the donor, must be recorded on a central register which is maintained by the Department of Internal Affairs, Births, Deaths and Marriages.



Repromed has a policy of maximum 5 families created per donor.

INTERESTED?

The contribution you are considering making could be life changing. It's not a quick process because of its importance – the ambitious goal is creating life. We have a shortage of sperm donors and you will be providing hope for intended parent/s on their fertility journey.