

EGG FREEZING FOR FUTURE FERTILITY

Egg freezing provides the opportunity to preserve the potential for fertility for women who are not currently in a position to become pregnant or whose fertility is at risk.



MelbourneIVF
Leading minds dedicated to your success

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Who might consider egg freezing?

Egg freezing for non-medical reasons is most effective in women under 35 because fertility begins to deteriorate after this age. As women age they have fewer eggs and freezing, therefore, becomes less beneficial as only a small number of eggs may be obtained following ovarian stimulation.

The expected success of the procedure can be ascertained from an initial assessment of the ovarian reserve, via an Anti-Müllerian Hormone (AMH) blood test and an ultrasound to count the number of antral follicles.

At Melbourne IVF, we encourage all initiatives which can educate and improve social support so that women can optimise their chances of having a family before the natural decline of ovarian function. However, we recognise that for some women, child-bearing has been or will be unavoidably delayed.

What is the egg freezing process?

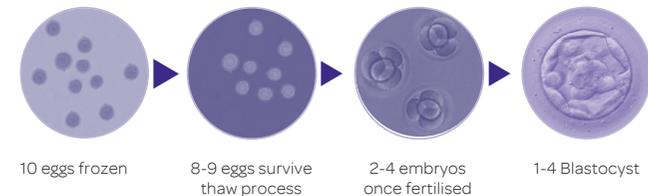
To obtain eggs for freezing, a woman will usually have hormonal stimulation for 10 – 12 days, enabling a number of eggs (usually 6 – 15) to mature. The eggs are then collected from the ovaries with sedation. Once in the laboratory, the eggs undergo a freezing procedure called vitrification. Once vitrified, eggs may be stored for many years.

When you are ready to use the eggs, they are thawed, fertilised with sperm and then allowed to develop in the laboratory for 5 days before being transferred back into the uterus.

Success rates for egg freezing

Live birth rates using frozen eggs depend heavily on the age of the woman when the eggs were collected and frozen, irrespective of the age at attempted pregnancy.

- On average a woman under the age of 35 will have 10 mature eggs collected in a single procedure, but this number reduces each year above 35 years of age
- The age at egg collection also influences the chance that a mature egg will successfully thaw, fertilise, develop to blastocyst and become a live birth.
- Reassuringly, pregnancy rates from frozen-thawed eggs are very similar to rates from fresh eggs
- For every 10 eggs cryopreserved, expect one to four embryos following fertilisation to develop to blastocyst
- For women under 38, world-wide data suggests that 20 eggs would give approximately 50 per cent chance of at least one pregnancy



FIND OUT MORE

To make an appointment please call 1800 111 483 or to find out more information please visit mivf.com.au/eggfreezing.