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Patient Information and Protocol for EMMA and ALICE Testing

Endometrial Microbiome Metagenomic Analysis (EMMA) is a test that can determine if the uterine microbial environment is optimal for embryo implantation.

Analysis of Infectious Chronic Endometritis (ALICE) detects the most frequent bacteria that can cause chronic endometritis.

It involves an endometrial biopsy taken between cycle day 15 and 25 of a natural cycle if you have regular cycles (between 26-32 days). The endometrial biopsy is performed by the physician and involves inserting a speculum and passing a flexible tube (pipelle) into your uterus to extract a sample of the lining. You may feel a sharp cramp when the sample is extracted. If you are not allergic, you may take Advil or Tylenol 30 minutes prior to the test. The sample is sent to a testing centre in Toronto for analysis. The results are available in 2-3 weeks and sent to your physician for review.

Please note the embryos are not thawed and transferred this cycle.

There is a cycle fee payable to ONE Fertility and due on the day of the biopsy. Please ask the clinic current fees.

There is also a fee for the EMMA and ALICE test for processing the sample and an additional fee for shipping the sample. These fees will be billed to you directly by Igenomix.

The results will be reviewed by your doctor and a plan will be made for your frozen embryo transfer cycle. An IVF coordinator will call you with this plan. You will need to delay treatment until the results are available.