

Funded IVF Information

Your physician has placed you on our funded IVF waiting list and we wanted to provide you with a little more information. The funded IVF waiting list changes frequently for various reasons. Your estimated timing for your IVF cycle will likely change many times due to these variables. Most commonly, the waiting list becomes shorter as some patients may no longer be eligible or interested in IVF. Examples or reasons why the list changes include but are not limited to the following: patients on the list may become pregnant, their relationship may dissolve, they may be moving or not medically cleared for treatment to name a few. We want you to know that our process is fair and that we have dedicated team members who oversee this process. To inquire about your estimated time of IVF please email infoivf@onefertility.com. Again keep in mind these estimates are approximate and may change significantly, especially if your estimated wait is very long. As your funded IVF treatment cycle approaches we will contact you by phone and advise you of your next steps. Please note that once you start your funded IVF treatment you are locked in to the clinic you started with and cannot transfer funding between clinics.

Your responsibilities:

- Make sure we have your current contact information on file including the correct email and phone number
- Make sure to check messages from the clinic, return calls and check your junk mail as depending on your filters important notices might go to your junk mail folder
- Contact us if you are no longer interested in being on the funded list, if you become pregnant or if you have used your funding elsewhere
- Follow the direction of your doctor regarding necessary testing and appointments

Things that can delay you:

- Not being medically cleared for treatment eg. BMI restrictions, health problems
- Not completing the necessary testing or instructions provided by the clinic
- Travelling to regions affected by the ZIKA virus
- Not being financially prepared for the expenses that are not covered through the funding program

Some of the major expenses not covered through the program include:

- Medications (estimated cost \$3500-\$9500 per cycle without insurance). You can ask your drug plan if the following medications are covered under your insurance
Gonal-F 02270382 Menopur 02283093 Luperis 02269066 Puregon 02243948
Orgalutran 02245641 Ovidrel 02371588 Endometrin 02334992
- Donor sperm samples
- Adjuvant therapies
- Some testicular procedures (estimated cost ~ \$2400)
- Annual storage of sperm/oocytes/embryos

When is a patient removed from the funded IVF waiting list?

- If she has a healthy ongoing pregnancy
- If she does not return our calls
- If she notifies us that she no longer wants to be on the list
- IF she no longer meets criteria as described by the Ministry of Health

Funding for Frozen Embryo Transfer Cycles

Government funding is also available for the use of frozen embryos that were created during a funded IVF cycle. Some IVF cycles will result in enough embryos for some to be frozen (cryopreserved) for future use. Not all cycles result in enough embryos for some to be frozen. The funding allotment for frozen embryo transfer cycles is managed separately from the funding for your initial IVF cycle. There is a separate waiting list for funding for a frozen embryo transfer cycle. You can only be placed on that waiting list once your embryos are created and frozen.

****For more info please visit www.ontario.ca/fertility

In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)

Am I eligible for funded IVF?

Eligibility is determined based on the patient who will undergo the embryo transfer (the patient who is trying to get pregnant), and who must meet all of the following three criteria:

- Hold a valid Ontario health card; and
- Be under age 43 years old; and
- Have not yet received one funded IVF cycle per lifetime (patients can receive funded IVF separate from funded FP).

Can my partner or donor participate?

Other people can participate in the patient's funded IVF cycle (such as providing eggs or sperm). There is no age requirement for them, but they must also hold a valid Ontario health card in order to receive funded services (such as egg retrieval or sperm collection/retrieval); otherwise, the clinic may charge for the services provided to the other participants.

How do I receive funded IVF?

- Contact a participating clinic (listed at www.ontario.ca/fertility) and meet with a physician to set an appropriate treatment plan
- Sign a consent form with a participating clinic
- Participating clinic will confirm your eligibility. Please note, being placed on a wait list does not indicate eligibility.

Will there be a waiting list?

Waiting times to receive funded IVF vary from clinic to clinic. All clinics must have established wait list policies to manage patients seeking to receive funded services. Ask your clinic for its wait list policy and the approximate wait time for funded IVF.

What services are covered?

- Physician/nurse assessments and counselling
- Up to two attempts at cycle monitoring
- Certain blood and urine tests
- Certain Ultrasounds
- One attempt at egg retrieval
- Sperm collection or, if required, one attempt at surgical sperm retrieval using certain techniques
- Fertilization and embryology services, including intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), assisted hatching and blastocyst culture
- One-at-a-time transfer of all embryos (fresh/frozen)
- Embryo freezing, thawing and culture.

What services are not covered?

- Any drugs or medications
- Storage or shipping of eggs/sperm/embryos
- Purchase of donor sperm or eggs
- Counselling by a psychologist or social worker
- Various optional tests
- Any services performed on other people participating in the patient's funded IVF cycle, if they do not also hold a valid Ontario health card.

How many embryos can I transfer?

A multiple pregnancy (twins/triplets) presents health risks for mothers and babies. There is a mandatory single embryo transfer policy for funded IVF, although there are some exceptions based on patient age and other medical criteria. Ask your clinic for more details.

Funded IVF Cycle: Start to Finish

The program recognizes that every patient will have different fertility treatment needs. While funding covers one IVF cycle, that cycle will vary from patient to patient. The cycle start points specify the different entry types into the program, while the cycle end points indicate when the funded cycle is complete and the patient is not eligible for further funded IVF services.

The funded IVF cycle includes the one-at-a-time transfer of all viable embryos from one start point to the first end point:

Cycle Start Points

You will:

- Undergo an egg retrieval
- Have a donor undergo an egg retrieval for you
- Use previously-retrieved eggs (own or donor); or
- Use previously-created embryos (own or donor).

Cycle End Points

- Two cycle monitoring attempts with no egg retrieval
- One failed egg retrieval
- One failed surgical sperm retrieval and no alternate sperm source is chosen
- Fertilization and culture of all eggs from cycle start resulted in no viable embryos to transfer
- Thawing/culture of all frozen embryos from cycle start resulted in no viable embryos to transfer; or
- Transfers of all viable embryos (fresh & frozen) from cycle start were performed or are no longer available.

If at any time you wish to permanently end your funded cycle, you may do so by concluding care, which must be done in writing with your clinic. By choosing to conclude care you will not be eligible for any more funded IVF services in the future.

Questions or Concerns? Call ServiceOntario INFOLine:

In Toronto 416-314-5518
Toll Free 1-866-532-3161
TTY 1-800-387-5559
Available 8:30am - 5:00pm

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