



UZ

LEUVEN

GYNAECOLOGIE EN VERLOSKUNDE
Leuvens universitair fertiliteitscentrum

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INFORMATION CONCERNING FREEZING AND PRESERVATION OF SPERM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING INFERTILITY (ONCOFREEZING)

Dear Sir

This information is intended to explain the procedure of freezing and preservation of sperm, so that you can consent in full knowledge of the facts.

If a serious illness or a major therapeutic intervention poses a threat to male fertility, freezing sperm for future use may be considered.

Sometimes the decision to freeze sperm cells for future use has to be taken fairly quickly and under difficult circumstances. Therefore, we would like to point out the following important issues:

- Only a limited quantity of sperm can be frozen and it is never possible to guarantee with certainty that it can be used to establish a future pregnancy. This will depend partly on the quality of the sperm before it will be frozen and on a possible reduction in quality after freezing, but also of course on the fertility of the female partner.
- The agreement you will enter into with the Leuven University Fertility Centre (LUFC), concerning the freezing and storage of sperm, does not compel either party to proceed with treatment. In other words, you are entitled to transport the sample, at your own risk, to another recognised fertility centre.
- If you require more information on the possible treatments with the frozen sperm samples you can, if you wish, make an appointment with prof. dr. Dirk Vanderschueren (andrologist) (Tel. 016 34 47 75) or one of the gynaecologists at the LUFC (Tel. 016 34 36 50).

Before proceeding with the freezing and preservation of sperm aiming to meet the desire to have a child now or in the future, you should sign an agreement in which you indicate the destination of the frozen sperm, in keeping with the law of 6 July 2007 on medically assisted reproduction and the use of extra embryos and gametes.

By law, the storage period for frozen sperm is ten years. This period starts on the day on which the sperm is frozen.

On explicit request or in special circumstances, the period may be shortened or extended, although this must always be with the agreement of the LUFC. The LUFC may refuse a request to extend the storage period.

A request to modify the agreement must be sent by registered letter to Leuvens universitair fertiliteitscentrum, contractenadministratie, UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven.

On the expiry of the period, the frozen sperm will be destroyed.

In accordance with the law of 6 July 2007, post mortem (after death) insemination of gametes is permitted. Post mortem insemination may take place no sooner than six months and no later than two years after the death of the person who requested storage through freezing. However, it is **not** possible to perform post mortem insemination at the LUFC. If this option is chosen in the agreement, frozen sperm can therefore be transferred to a recognised centre for reproductive medicine (Type B) designated by the prospective parents. This centre will be responsible for further storage under the agreed conditions. The prospective parent is responsible for the transfer of the frozen sperm.

You will not be charged for the freezing and preservation of sperm. The mandatory Belgian health insurance will cover the full cost in accordance with the RIZIV convention on oncofreezing.

This document 'Information concerning freezing and preservation of sperm for the purpose of preventing infertility (oncofreezing)' is intended for you. If you agree to this treatment, you should complete and sign the attached 'Agreement concerning freezing and preservation of sperm for the purpose of preventing infertility (oncofreezing)', 'contractenadministratie', UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven, or to contractenLUFC@uzleuven.be.



AGREEMENT CONCERNING FREEZING AND PRESERVATION OF SPERM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING INFERTILITY (ONCOFREEZING)

Between Leuven university fertility centre,
UZ Leuven,
represented by
prof. dr. Dirk Vanderschueren, andrologist

 en Mr. *
born on / /
resident at
.....

* if this person is a minor, the agreement (see Art. 12 of the Belgian law dated 22 August 2002) is concluded between the LUFC and the parents or guardian with authority over the minor. If you are a minor when this contract is signed, you will be offered a new contract when you reach maturity.

hereinafter 'the LUFC', on the one hand,

hereinafter the patient, on the other hand,

the following has been agreed:

- The patient declares that he has received, read and understood the document entitled 'Information concerning the freezing and preservation of sperm for the purpose of preventing infertility (oncofreezing)'. He consents to the freezing and preservation of his sperm by the LUFC. He is aware of the implications of the freezing and preservation of sperm and understands that the current scientific evidence clearly demonstrates that such preservation does not offer any guarantee with respect to successful pregnancy in the future.
- The LUFC agrees to freeze and store the sperm of the patient, if analysis has demonstrated that the sperm is of sufficient quality for cryopreservation. The LUFC will take due care in the freezing and preservation of the sperm. The LUFC is not liable for the loss of preserved ovarian tissue in cases of force majeure (such as fire, theft, power cuts or other external causes).
- The patient declares that he has received all the necessary information regarding the circumstances and duration of the storage of his sperm when the stated period comes to expire. By law, the storage period for sperm frozen with a view to fulfilling a current or future desire to have children is ten years. This period starts on the day on which the sperm is frozen. On the expiry of this period, the frozen sperm will be destroyed.
- The patient acknowledges that he will not be charged for the freezing and preservation of sperm. The mandatory Belgian health insurance will cover the full cost in accordance with the RIZIV convention on oncofreezing.
- On explicit request of the patient or in special circumstances, the period can be shortened or extended, although this must always be with the agreement of the LUFC. It is also possible to make changes to the original agreement as regards the intended destination of the sperm, unless the storage period for the frozen sperm has expired in the meantime. A request by the patient to change the period or to modify the agreement must be sent by registered letter to Leuven's universitair fertiliteitscentrum, contractenadministratie, UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven.
 - ◆ The LUFC may refuse a request to extend the storage period. In this case, the instruction indicated by the patient in this agreement will be carried out.



AGREEMENT CONCERNING FREEZING AND PRESERVATION OF SPERM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING INFERTILITY (ONCOFREEZING)

- In the event of ‘destruction of the frozen sperm’ the LUFC will destroy the frozen sperm without any intervention other than that necessary for destruction.
- The patient declares that he is aware that post mortem (after death) insemination of gametes is not performed at the LUFC. If the patient has chosen in the agreement to store his sperm with a view to fulfilling a future desire to have children if he passes away, there is the possibility of transferring the frozen sperm to a recognised centre for reproductive medicine (Type B). This centre will be responsible for further storage of the sperm under the agreed conditions.
- The patient agrees that on expiry of the stated period or in the event that the patient is permanently incapable of making decisions, the frozen sperm will be destroyed
- In case the patient will develop symptoms of a possible COVID-19 infection (fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle pain, sore throat, diarrhea) or if a COVID-10 infection has been proven within 14 calendar days after freezing of sperm cells, he agrees to immediately report this to the LUFC. The patient consents to follow up of these symptoms by a physician or midwife within 14 calendar days after freezing.
- The patient declares that he has taken the following decision relating to the destination of his frozen sperm in the event that the patient passes away. He wishes to:
 - destroy this sperm
 - store this sperm with a view to the later fulfillment of a child wish (post mortem insemination by means of transportation to a recognised centre for reproductive medicine (type B)).

Drawn up in duplicate in Leuven on /...../....., one copy being intended for the LUFC and the other for the patient.

Name Sir	*if a minor, Parents’ or Guardian’s name
.....
born on..... / /	born op...../...../.....

prof. dr. Dirk Vanderschueren

 Read and approved
signature Mr.

 *if a minor
Signature of Parent or Guardian

Please complete and sign this agreement and return it to Leuvens universitair fertiliteitscentrum, ‘contractenadministratie’, UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven or contractenLUFC@uzleuven.be.