



UZ

LEUVEN

GYNAECOLOGIE EN VERLOSKUNDE
Leuven's universitair fertiliteitscentrum

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INFORMATION ON TREATMENT USING SPERM FROM AN HIV-POSITIVE PARTNER

Dear Madam, dear partner

This information is intended to explain the treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner, so that you can consent in full knowledge of the facts. Your treating doctor of the Leuven university fertility centre (LUFC) is prepared to answer all your questions regarding this treatment.

Procedure for treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner

Treatment of the sperm enables HIV to be largely eliminated in almost all cases, and the sperm can be tested for the presence of HIV after it has been treated and prior to the female partner's fertility treatment. Sperm will only be used if no HIV can be detected after treatment. If HIV is detected, the sperm will be destroyed. However, negative tests do not absolutely guarantee the absence of HIV is no longer present in the fraction of the sample used for insemination. Sperm can be used in a treatment involving intrauterine insemination (IUI), in vitro fertilisation (IVF) or intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI).

Risks of treatment using treated sperm from an HIV-positive partner

So far, thousands of IUI, IVF and ICSI treatments have been performed worldwide without any infection of the mother or the children born from such treatments. However, the possibility that the mother will be infected with HIV can never be completely excluded. In such cases there is also a risk that the child will be infected.

Those who receive sperm from an HIV-positive partner should be aware that this fertility treatment involves a minimal risk of sexually transmitted diseases such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, herpes and hepatitis, despite all precautionary measures taken to prevent them.

As with any fertility treatment, treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner does not guarantee pregnancy. In general, ten to twenty percent of pregnancies may end in a miscarriage. Complications can occur during any pregnancy. There are no significantly higher risks associated with pregnancy following treatment with sperm from an HIV-positive partner, provided it is a pregnancy with one child. The transfer of more than one embryo can result in a multiple pregnancy, which involves a higher risk of premature contractions and premature birth, increased blood pressure, reduced birth weight and so on. The number of embryos implanted is determined by mutual agreement between the prospective parents, the embryologist and the doctor.

In the general population, a certain percentage (around 3%) of children are born with a physical or mental abnormality. This can also occur after the treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner. The occurrence of such abnormalities is beyond medical control.


The prospective parents declare that they are aware that these risks are inherent to the treatment and accept them; they will not hold UZ Leuven liable for such problems under any circumstances.

This document 'Information on treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner' is intended for you. If you agree to this treatment, you should complete and sign the attached 'Agreement on treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner' and return it to LUFC, 'contractenadministratie', UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven, or to contractenLUFC@uzleuven.be.




AGREEMENT ON TREATMENT USING SPERM FROM AN HIV-POSITIVE PARTNER

Between Leuven university fertility centre,
UZ Leuven,
represented by
prof. dr. Karen Peeraer,


 and Ms
born on/...../.....
Partner
born on/...../.....
resident at
.....


hereinafter 'the LUFC', on the one hand, hereinafter 'the prospective parents', on the other hand,
the following has been agreed:

- The prospective parents declare that they have been properly informed by the LUFC about the treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner and that the advantages and disadvantages of this technique for mother and child have been thoroughly discussed with them. They declare that they have received, read and understood the document 'Information on treatment using sperm from an HIV-positive partner' and that they have received sufficient information to give their consent to the LUFC to proceed with a treatment (IUI/IVF/ICSI) using sperm from the HIV-positive partner with a view to reducing the risk of HIV infection of the female partner with an active child wish.
- The female partner declares that she is willing to test for HIV prior to the fertility treatment and three, six and nine months afterwards, so that in the event of infection treatment can be initiated in order to minimise the risk of infection for the child.
- The prospective parents are thus aware of the inherent medical risks for mother and child of treatment using sperm from the HIV-positive partner. They agree that UZ Leuven can never be held liable in such cases and declare their willingness to accept these risks.

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

prof. dr. Karen Peeraer
Administrator Tissue Bank LUFC


read and approved
signature Ms


read and approved
signature Partner

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