

Frozen sperm, eggs and embryos stored at Fertility Plus for 10 years or more

In 2004, legislation was introduced by the HART Act requiring that all frozen eggs, sperm, embryos or testicular tissue have a 10 year storage limit. By the **22nd November 2014** all frozen material stored for a period of 10 years or more must be discarded unless patients have completed an ECART application form, see below, *and* been granted an storage extension.

This legislation applies to both **publicly funded** and **private** patients.

Since the end of 2013 Fertility Plus has contacted all patients affected by this legislation. However, if you have not been contacted and have frozen material stored on, or before, **22nd November 2004** please contact Fertility Plus **urgently** on **630 9842** or fertlab@adhb.govt.nz

Below is a summary of your options and what you need to do next:

- **STORAGE EXTENSION** of frozen sperm/eggs/embryos/tissue
 1. contact us on **630 9842** or fertlab@adhb.govt.nz informing us you have applied for ECART storage extension
 2. complete application form through ECART (<http://ecart.health.govt.nz/publications-and-resources/application-forms>) Form: *'Extending Storage Application Form'*
- **DISCARD** frozen sperm/eggs/embryos/tissue - call **630 9842** or email fertlab@adhb.govt.nz

Please include your full name (including any past names you have been known by), date of birth, NHI number, type of frozen material stored (sperm, eggs, embryos, testicular tissue) if you are contacting us by email.

Facts:

- The HART Act allows for 10 years storage.
- The first end of storage limit will be 22nd November 2014 for any material stored for 10 or more years by that date.
- The start date for storage of embryos that have involved frozen sperm or eggs is the date the eggs or sperm were frozen.
- An approval for extending storage is required from the Ethics Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology (ECART) **only**. <http://ecart.health.govt.nz/publications-and-resources/application-forms>) Form: *'Extending Storage Application Form'*
- In certain circumstances, patients who no longer wish to use their frozen material for personal use may consider donation.
- Embryos involving a donor may not be donated to anyone else.

For further information please refer to ACART's (<http://acart.health.govt.nz/publications-and-resources/guidelines-and-advice-issued-ecart/guidelines-extending-storage-period>) guidelines on extended storage.