



Ferti
Genève

A centre of excellence for
all your fertility needs



EGG
FREEZING

Egg freezing

What is egg freezing?

Egg freezing may help a woman to defer having a child until the time is right for her. It involves ovarian stimulation to produce multiple eggs. The eggs are then collected using ultrasound guidance. The collected eggs are frozen in liquid nitrogen at a temperature of -196°C . We use a fast-freezing technique known as vitrification, which is efficient and the current best for egg recovery.

Who should consider egg freezing?

Egg freezing is suitable for women of childbearing age who are not planning to get pregnant in the near future or who have an increased risk of infertility (endometriosis, low ovarian reserve, a chronic disease, cancer).

Why consider egg freezing?

Egg freezing is a personal choice. This option increases a woman's chances of getting pregnant and having a baby in later life with her own eggs. As it happens, the majority of women who freeze their eggs never use them because they conceive naturally or pursue other life plans.

Is there an age limit on egg freezing?

Egg freezing is most effective for women up to the age of 37. A woman's fertility and egg count decline as she gets older, particularly after the age of 35. For the vast majority of women, the peak reproductive years are between the ages of 20 and 30. However, some women may want to have children later in life. Freezing your eggs when you have a higher egg count of young and healthy eggs reduces the risk of age-related infertility and miscarriage.

How long can frozen eggs be stored?

Frozen eggs are stored at a very low temperature in liquid nitrogen, ensuring excellent stability over several years. Switzerland's laws on assisted reproductive technology (LPMA) stipulate that frozen eggs can be stored for 10 years. Eggs remain the property of the patient and she can request to transfer her eggs to another facility or to end the storage at any time.

How does pregnancy happen using frozen eggs?

This requires in vitro fertilization with intracytoplasmic sperm injection (IVF-ICSI). After thawing, a sperm from the partner is introduced into each egg. In Switzerland, any couple wishing to conceive can resort to this treatment if it commits itself to recognizing the child that will result from it and appears able to raise it until the age of majority. Please note that LPMA authorizes married couples only to resort to sperm donation for fertilization.

Is there an age limit for using frozen eggs?

Women can use their frozen eggs until they reach menopause, which usually starts around the age of 50. However, it is best to plan a pregnancy before the age of 45 due to lower IVF success rates and higher risk of complications for both mother and baby beyond that age.

Is egg freezing covered by Swiss health insurance?

Egg freezing is covered by basic health insurance in Switzerland (LaMal) for women under the age of 40 who need a treatment that might alter the egg pool, such as chemotherapy. However, when egg freezing is a personal choice, the treatment is at the woman's own charge.



Would you like to find out more information?

Our fertility specialists would love to meet you and answer all of your questions.



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