

Patient Information for Semen Analysis

A request has been made for you to have a semen analysis (or freeze) performed at Rotunda IVF. Please read the following information carefully and adhere to the advice as this may help reduce the need for further samples to be taken for assessment.

1 WHERE TO PRODUCE THE SAMPLE?

There are two discrete rooms provided for sample production in Rotunda IVF. In as far as possible we would request that patients produce the sample in the clinic as this ensures that the correctly labelled and appropriate specimen container is used and also ensures that there is no delay in transporting the sample to the laboratory for analysis. If you feel you will have difficulty in producing a sample on site, please mention this when making an appointment and alternative options regarding producing the sample at home will be discussed. **Where a sample is produced at a location other than the Rotunda IVF, it must be received at the laboratory within 45 - 60 minutes of production.**

2 MAKING AN APPOINTMENT

Appointments can be made by telephoning 01 8072732/3 Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

3 COST

Each analysis will incur a cost and this must be paid in full at the time the specimen is submitted for testing. Please ensure you discuss this when making your appointment.

Also, please note if you do not contact Rotunda IVF to rearrange / cancel your appointment before 4pm on the day previous to your scheduled appointment, a missed appointment fee shall be incurred.

Credit/laser card, cash and cheques are accepted. If you have been referred from the Rotunda OPD department, please discuss the possible costs with your referring doctor.

4 ABSTINENCE FROM EJACULATION

In order to provide optimum quality semen, it is recommended that you should abstain from ejaculation (either sexual intercourse or masturbation) for approximately **3-5 days**. Shorter and particularly longer periods of time may give misleading results.

5 ARRIVAL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT.

- When you arrive at the clinic, inform the receptionist that you are here for semen testing and you will be directed upstairs to specimen reception.
- You will be provided with a sterile labelled sample container and a sealable bag
- You will be directed to one of the sampling rooms.

6 INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRODUCING THE SAMPLE

- a. The hands and genital area should be washed thoroughly with soap and warm water prior to collection to reduce any infection exposure to the sperm. Dry all wet areas completely with paper towels or tissues and discard these in the yellow bin provided.
- b. The specimen should be collected directly by masturbation into the specimen pot. *“Withdrawal” or the use of a condom must not be used as motility can be severely affected by such methods.*

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- c. Please ensure the lid is tightened on the container and place inside the pouch in the plastic bag and ensure that the bag is sealed.
- d. If produced in one of the rooms in Rotunda IVF, please use the wipes provided to clean up any accidental spillages and dispose of these also in the yellow bin.
- e. Please wash hands before exiting the room and returning to specimen reception where you will be asked to place the sample into a specified container.
- f. You will then be asked to fill in the remainder of the request form. *It is very important that this form is filled in accurately as this will also help minimise the need for repeat samples.*

7 IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In order for us to provide the best possible service and to ensure accurate analysis and reporting of results, we would like to advise you that your sample **will not** be accepted for analysis if any of the following are applicable:

- If you attend without an appointment
- If you attend late for your appointment without giving advance notice
- If the request form is not completed
- If the container is not clearly labelled with your name and Date of Birth
- If the sample container is non-sterile
- If there are any discrepancies in the details between the form and the container.

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Semen analysis can be very variable for each individual. Quite often it is necessary to analyse two samples in order to assess if there is a problem with sperm production. A second sample can allow us to make the most appropriate recommendation for you and can indicate if assisted reproductive treatment might be necessary. **Your referring doctor will decide if it is necessary for you to repeat the analysis and will contact you if you need to repeat.** Please don't be unduly concerned as repeat analysis requests are quite common.

Due to the confidentiality and the sensitive nature of these results, the Rotunda IVF clinical team are unable give out result directly over the phone.

Obtaining your results**For Direct Referrals**

The results shall be forwarded to you within 10 days of your appointment. If you have any queries in relation to your result, please contact the clinic to make an appointment to discuss.

For Patients referred by their GP

The results shall be forwarded to your GP within 10 days of your appointment.

For Private Patients attending Dr. Edgar Mocanu or Dr. Rishi Roopnarinesingh

The results shall be discussed with you at your next visit with them.

Referral from Out Patients Department in Rotunda Hospital

The results shall be forwarded to the Rotunda Hospital OPD and shall be discussed with you at your next appointment.

Referral from Rotunda IVF

If you are already a patient of Rotunda IVF and are embarking on a cycle of treatment in the near future, please ask to have the results discussed with you at your next visit to Rotunda IVF in case it may be necessary to change your treatment plan.

Post Freezing (Oncology, Medical and Back-Up)

If you have had sperm frozen or are repeating an analysis following having sperm frozen due to oncology or other reasons, please contact a member of the embryology team to arrange an appointment to discuss.

Should you have any queries re your appointment, please telephone Rotunda IVF at 01 8072732.
