

Kids After Cancer?

Consider fertility preservation before starting your oncology treatment



Fertility preservation care for male patients diagnosed with cancer

"I didn't know if I was going to be fertile or not after my treatments. Fortunately, I was. But if I hadn't been, I see making the choice to freeze my sperm as a younger man was the best insurance policy for happiness there is."

-- Gregory, 33, testicular cancer survivor



Can cancer treatments affect my ability to have a child?

Cancer treatments such as surgery, chemotherapy and radiation can damage your fertility (ability to have a child). This effect can be temporary or permanent. Your risk depends on the type of cancer you have, the treatments you receive, your age, and your fertility status before cancer treatment.

What can I do to preserve my fertility?

The most effective way to protect your fertility is by freezing your sperm before you start cancer treatments.

What does the sperm freezing procedure involve?

You will be asked to produce one or more sperm samples before the start of your cancer treatment. You can produce a sperm sample either at home or in a private room at the MUHC Reproductive Centre. Your sperm will be analyzed, frozen and stored at our centre.

If you are not able (or do not wish) to produce a sperm sample by ejaculation, alternative ways of collecting sperm will be considered.

How long can sperm stay frozen?

Your sperm can stay frozen until the day you are ready to use it to have a baby.

How will my frozen sperm be used when I'm ready to have a child?

Your frozen sperm will be used to conceive a child through assisted reproduction such as intrauterine insemination (IUI) or in vitro fertilization (IVF).

How much does it cost to freeze sperm?

Sperm freezing for adolescents and adults diagnosed with cancer is covered under the Quebec Health Insurance Plan (RAMQ) as per Bill 20 (chapter 25-34.3).

How long do I have to wait for an appointment?

There are no wait times for appointments.

How do I book a sperm freezing appointment?

Ask your oncology provider for a referral or call the MUHC Reproductive Centre at 514-843-1650.

Centre de la reproduction
 Centre universitaire de santé McGill



Reproductive Centre
 McGill University Health Centre

For more information:

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