

1. Where to begin?

First, schedule an appointment to discuss donor sperm selection with our psychologist/counsellor by calling our Centre at 514-843-1650.

2. Is the cost of using donor sperm covered by Quebec Medicare?

The cost of ordering donor sperm is not covered by Quebec Medicare (RAMQ).
Note: sperm donor fees may vary among sperm banks.

3. What is the difference between washed and unwashed sperm?

Sperm preparation (washing) is a standard procedure performed on sperm before it can be used.

Patients may purchase either washed or unwashed samples; the quality is the same.

Washed samples have been prepared by the sperm bank; unwashed samples will be washed by our Laboratory (fees will apply).

4. What is the difference between an open ID release and anonymous donor?

Open ID release means that the donor agrees to be known when offspring reaches 18 years of age. A consent form is signed by the donor at time of donation. Only offspring may access donor information by registering at the sperm bank.

Anonymous: means that the donor is not willing to reveal his name to offspring and whose identity is protected by the bank. No access to identification is allowed.

5. Where can I order donor sperm?

Sperm samples must be ordered from donor banks that are in compliance with Health Canada. Sperm should therefore be ordered from one of the following three donor banks:

Outreach Health Services Inc.

Tel.: 1-866-785-4709

www.creatingcanadianfamilies.ca

CAN-AM Cryo Services Corp.

Tel.: 1-888-245-3471

www.canamcryo.com

Repromed

Tel.: 1-877-317-6079

www.repromed.ca

6. Who orders the sperm?

Patients are responsible for all aspects of the ordering process; including ordering, purchasing, and transportation. Note: 1 vial of semen is good for only one treatment cycle. There is no restriction on the number of vials that can be purchased; however, storage fees may apply.

7. When should I place my order?

Patients should place their order with the sperm bank at least 2 weeks before the start of treatment.

8. What if I need several vials of a sample for future siblings?

To ensure that you have sufficient vials for future siblings, you can either:

- Reserve more sperm with the Bank who originally supplied the sperm, or;
- Order additional straws of the same donor sperm in advance and store them at our Centre (storage fees will apply);

Certain Banks will agree to contact you when supplies are running low, fees may apply. Call the Bank and they will check the original bank in USA to see if more vials are available. They may even request the donor give more samples.

9. Will I be required to pay for storage?

Yes, fees will apply after 1 year of storage.

10. What am I responsible for when ordering donor sperm?

Patients are responsible for selecting the donor with special attention to:

- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) status (Blood test)
- Blood group – ABO & Rh factor
- Physical traits (height, weight, build, hair color, eye color)

Patients are also responsible for confirming with our Centre that the sample has arrived by calling the Andrology Lab at 514-934-1934 ext.31882, one week before the scheduled procedure.

11. How do I select a donor based on my CMV status?

Information on the CMV status of all donors is available on their summary profile.

If you are CMV (-): select a donor who is also CMV negative donor to prevent the small chance of developing CMV during pregnancy and passing it to the developing child.

If you are CMV (+): select either a CMV positive or CMV negative donor.

12. How can I obtain my CMV status or blood group?

All patients are screened prior to treatment and can obtain their CMV status or blood group by asking the nurse or physician.

13. What if I need to change my order once it has been submitted?

You must contact the sperm bank directly.

14. Where should the sperm bank ship the sperm?

MUHC Reproductive Centre

888 de Maisonneuve Blvd. East, Suite 200 (Place Dupuis)
Montreal, QC H2L 4S8

15. Liability and responsibility

The MUHC Reproductive Centre is in no way responsible for the quality or characteristics of the specimen.

Disclaimer: A treatment cycle may be cancelled if sperm sample is not received on time.