

Artificial Insemination

(intrauterine insemination)

Indications for Artificial Insemination

- Decreased sperm parameters
- Unexplained infertility
- Using donor sperm
- Sexual dysfunction



Artificial insemination is a fertilization procedure in which sperm is placed into a woman's uterus (intrauterine insemination).

Artificial insemination (AI) is a form of assisted reproductive technology technique. During the treatment, the woman's menstrual cycle is closely monitored using ovarian kits, ultrasounds, and blood tests. The semen to be implanted is "washed" in our laboratory, which increases the chances of fertilization while removing unnecessary, potentially harmful chemicals. The semen is inserted into the woman, and if the procedure is successful, she conceives. Generally there is a 5-25% rate of success per treatment for women who use AI to get pregnant, and these chances increase if the woman uses fertility drugs before the treatment.

Costs

\$190	Mid-cycle ultrasound (follicle scan)
\$345	HCG + Injection fee
\$55	Sperm Washing
\$160	Insemination (Additional \$100 for Saturday procedure)
\$750	Total per cycle for weekday procedure

(Costs are approximate and are subject to change. These do not include the costs associated with using donor sperm.)

Ultrasound is used to assess follicle maturity. Follicles normally grow at a rate of 2-3mm per day. Once a follicle(s) measures 18-20mm, it typically contains a mature egg.



Cycle Timing Options

Option A: Natural Cycle Timing

- This is when a woman tracks her ovulation cycle and IUI is performed in conjunction with her LH surge.
- Carefully read the ovulation predictor kit (OPK) instructions prior to use.
- Perform this testing first thing in the morning.
- If your kit detects a surge, call the office by 9:00AM.

Option B: HCG Injection Timing

- This is when we use ultrasound to make sure that eggs are mature first.
- An HCG injection will be given to trigger the release of an egg.
- IUI will be scheduled within 24 hours of the HCG injection.



Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG)

HCG is a synthetic hormone that causes an ovum (egg) to complete its maturation process. It also triggers the mature egg to be released from the ovarian follicle. Common side effects of HCG include minor cramping, breast tenderness, and nausea.

Semen Collection



Sperm washing is a laboratory technique for separating sperm cells from supporting cells, fluid, and non-motile sperm.

- Pick up a specimen collection container from our clinic.
- You may collect at home or in our lab restroom.
- If you collect at home, the specimen needs to be kept warm and brought to our lab within 30 minutes.
- The specimen must be brought to our lab no later than 1 hour prior to IUI appointment time.
- For Saturday procedures, the specimen must be in our lab at 8:00AM, unless other arrangements have been made.