

## ***If you are Considering a Frozen Embryo Transfer (Cryopreservation) Program (#26)***

Most IVF clinics are able to freeze any embryos that are not transferred in the initial fresh cycle. You may want to ask your clinic about their cryopreservation program.

### **STORAGE ISSUES**

- What criteria does the clinic use to determine which embryos they will freeze?
- Where are the embryos stored?
- What are the monthly/yearly fees?
- How long will the facility store the embryos?
- What is the clinic's policy for embryos that have been frozen longer than the clinic's stipulated guidelines?
- Can a couple request that their embryos be transferred to another clinic? What are the fees?
- How does the clinic handle embryos from couples who the clinic is unable to locate?
- What mechanism is in place for a couple who wants to donate their embryos to another couple or for research?

### **THE TRANSFER CYCLE**

- What drugs are used to prepare the woman's uterus prior to transfer?
- Is a "mock cycle" done to see how the uterine lining responds to the preparation protocol?
- What is the minimum and maximum number of embryos usually transferred?
- Does the clinic do assisted hatching on frozen embryos?
- Will the clinic transfer thawed embryos that are very poor quality?

### **WRITTEN CONTRACT**

- Will you and your partner have to sign a consent form before each frozen embryo transfer cycle (this to ensure that both partners still want this option)?
- Does the written contract clarify issues regarding ownership of the embryos in case of divorce or death?
- Does the written contract have information regarding disposition of embryos if both partners die?

*Further information on this topic is available through RESOLVE fact sheets. For a publications order form, go online to [www.resolve.org](http://www.resolve.org). You can also contact RESOLVE Headquarters at 1710 Old Meadow Rd, Ste 500, McLean, VA 22102 or 703.556.7172.*

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