

## **STORAGE OF SPERM FOR YOUNG MEN UNDER THE AGE OF 16**

### ***Q. Why do I need to consider storing my sperm?***

**A.** You are about to undergo treatment which could affect your fertility in the future and your doctor has explained that it is possible to store sperm by freezing samples in a special 'bank'. This is so that they may be used for you to try to have children in the future if required. Your treatment might make it harder for this to happen naturally.

### ***Q. How do I give my consent to store sperm?***

**A.** In the UK we have to use special forms produced by an organisation called the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority to obtain your permission to store your sperm. Although there are lots of rules on the forms most of these do not really apply to young people. If we store your sperm, we will explain what the forms are for, and help you to complete them. You will need to sign the form to give us permission to store ('bank') your sperm and indicate for how long this can happen.

### ***Q. What can my sperm be used for?***

**A.** You will be asked if we can use your sperm for training purposes if anything happened to you. For example, if you had an accident and died, or became mentally incapable. Further details of about what training entails are contained in a separate information leaflet and would be explained to you verbally.

### ***Q. How long can you keep my sperm for?***

**A.** The law allows your sperm to be stored for up to 10 years initially, however every ten (10) years you will have to renew your consent to legally continue with storage for up to a maximum of 55 years. This will happen only if we have your permission and provided someone was willing to keep paying for the storage.

### ***Q. What happens if I don't do new forms after the storage period on the existing forms expires?***

**A.** We would legally have to dispose of your samples if you have not renewed your consent 6 months after the end of the period you stated on your consent form has passed. We are required by law to issue you with a formal notification 12 months before your consent period is due to end.

Your samples will also be disposed of if payment for their storage stops and you either remain unable to pay or do not respond to our attempts to contact you. We try to keep in touch with you every year using the contact details we have in our records and aim to give you plenty of time to decide what you want to do and sort any problems out before the storage time runs out.

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**It is very important that we are kept informed of any change to your contact details because if we can't get in touch with you, we have to assume that at the end of the storage time, you want us to dispose of the sperm.**

If you tell us about a change to your contact details we will acknowledge this to you in writing. Please do not assume we know about the change unless you have received this acknowledgement. You can also request contact details changes via the 'contact us' function on the MyChart App.

We would like you and your parent (or guardian) to sign two copies of this leaflet, one of which is for you to keep and one for ourselves, to show that you have received it.

Patient's signature: .....

Date:  
DD/MM/YYYY

Parent's / Guardian's signature: .....

Date:  
DD/MM/YYYY

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| For the clinic |                     |
| Print name:    |                     |
| Signature:     | Initials:           |
| Job title:     | Date:<br>DD/MM/YYYY |

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