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Egg Freezing

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About Egg Freezing

Extend Fertility takes great pride in helping to empower women to feel more in control of their bodies and lives with top line information on egg freezing and female fertility. Read what our egg freezing clients are saying about freezing their eggs and working with Extend Fertility.

The ability to postpone motherhood through egg freezing was made possible by the discovery that the age of a woman's eggs is more important than her biological age. In the last two decades, even post-menopausal women have become pregnant and delivered babies by using donor eggs from much younger women. Those developments created the incentive to preserve a woman's own eggs by egg freezing while the women are still young. Female fertility peaks at age 27 and by age 40, the chance of getting pregnant is less than 10%. Egg freezing and [egg harvesting](#) enable women to break free from the stressful drumbeat of their biological clock.

Eventually, egg freezing is expected to have an effect on egg donation by allowing one donor to store eggs that could be used by several recipients. Still, perhaps the most compelling current use of egg freezing is to benefit women with diseases that could interfere with fertility.

"For women who see their fertility nearing its shelf life, egg freezing is the greatest thing since birth control"

- *Newsweek magazine*



How egg freezing works

- **Extract eggs** Woman receives drugs to produce multiple eggs. Ultrasound-guided needles are used to harvest eggs from the ovary.
- **Identify** The eggs, which are in fluid when extracted, are poured onto a flat dish. Individual eggs are identified with a microscope and withdrawn for freezing.
- **Prepare for egg freezing** Because ice crystals can form within the eggs and damage them, technicians remove the water from the eggs and bathe them in an 'antifreeze' solution before egg freezing. Laboratories vary in how they conduct the egg freezing process and freeze the female eggs. Some prefer a slow egg freezing technique, while others use a flash egg freezing process called vitrification.
- **Freeze Eggs** are stored in tubes in a liquid nitrogen storage tank.
- **Thaw and fertilize** each egg, is then thawed and injected with a needle containing a single sperm--a procedure called ICSI. Eggs begin to develop into embryos.
- **Implant** Embryos are implanted into the uterus using a catheter.

Request Information About Egg Freezing

[CONTACT US](#)

Sign Up for Our Free Egg Freezing Newsletter

Learn More About Egg Freezing

Call Extend Fertility
800.841.7197

Email Extend Fertility:

[EMAIL US](#)

Extend Fertility is a company created and run by women dedicated to providing women with a safe and effective [egg freezing](#) fertility preservation solution. As professional women in our 20's & 30's, we are keenly aware of the increased opportunities available to today's women, and the conflict that human [egg freezing](#) and these fertility opportunities can create with the reality of [female fertility](#) and the [biological clock](#). By developing a medical solution to this problem and effectively extending a woman's fertility, we are proud to provide proactive women with more reproductive options than ever before including human [egg freezing](#).

Our team is comprised of world-renowned doctors, scientists, and business leaders. We are the only company that solely specializes in [egg freezing](#). As such, we pride ourselves on our superior client services and an unmatched depth of knowledge and experience in [egg freezing](#).

Welcome to Extend Fertility - www.extendfertility.com

This extend fertility website helps consumers learn more about Human [Egg Freezing](#). We have posted our FAQ's and further human [egg freezing](#) information below:

What is a woman's natural [biological clock](#)?

When it comes to issues of fertility, it is the age of the egg, not the age of the woman that matters most. Women are born with a finite number of eggs, around 1 million. At puberty, that number has dwindled to 400,000 and subsequently an average of 750 eggs are lost each month. The eggs not only begin to diminish in quantity, but also in quality. The combination of these factors leads to a woman's fertility beginning to decline in her 20's and significantly deteriorating after age 35.

According to the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), a woman over age 40 has only a 5 percent chance or less of becoming pregnant naturally in any one month. Furthermore, the risk of chromosomal abnormalities in newborns increases with the age of the woman's egg, growing to 1 in 66 at age 40 versus 1 in 385 at age 30.

Egg Freezing

Research has found that when women use donor eggs from younger women, they can achieve the same pregnancy success rates as women in their 20's. Extend Fertility's [egg freezing](#) service provides a way for those younger "donor" eggs to be the mother's own eggs that were retrieved at a younger age and preserved at that age using cryopreservation technology.

Female Egg Harvesting

Does egg-harvesting jeopardize natural fertility by removing "good eggs"?

While a woman ovulates one egg each month, there are actually multiple eggs that are absorbed in the process of selecting this egg for ovulation. When eggs are retrieved, the eggs that a woman would normally lose that month are simply "rescued." This means that there should be no adverse effect on future fertility from egg-retrieval. Women that undergo egg-retrieval should see no difference in the number of cycles they would normally have over their lifetime, and will enter menopause at the same time they would have without an egg-retrieval. Furthermore, the quality of their remaining eggs will not be compromised by the egg-retrieval.

Female Egg Banking

Female Fertility

Female Biological Clock

Having a Baby After 35

Who is a good candidate for [egg freezing](#)?

Click here to learn who is a good [egg freezing](#) candidate

Endometriosis Infertility

Information

Where is Extend Fertility located? What if I don't live near a center?

Click here to find a partner center near you. Extend Fertility understands that our clients may not live near one of our partner centers. To minimize inconvenience, the majority of our treatment process can be done from any location, with travel to an Extend Fertility partner center for only the egg collection.

Oocyte Cryopreservation

How much does it cost to freeze eggs?

Extend Fertility's fees can be as low as \$200 per month. Clients should be prepared to spend \$9,000-\$13,000 for one [egg freezing](#) treatment cycle which includes standard medical, science and service fees, egg transportation and the first year of storage. Subsequent treatments are priced between \$5,000-\$9,000.

Female Reproductive

Health

In addition to these fees, clients should expect to pay \$2,500-\$4,000 per treatment cycle for medications that are ordered directly from ivpcare, our specialty pharmacy partner, and several hundred dollars in laboratory costs for required infectious disease screening.

Is [egg freezing](#) covered by insurance?

Extend Fertility is not aware of the availability of insurance coverage for elective fertility preservation. However, we encourage individuals to contact their insurance provider directly to understand their personal coverage plan and eligibility for reimbursement.

How are the eggs retrieved?

At the end of the medication cycle the eggs are retrieved during an outpatient procedure at an Extend Fertility partner center. The physician gently collects the eggs using a guided ultrasound (there is no incision). The procedure is performed under sedation for comfort, and takes only 30 minutes with a recovery time of one hour.

What are the risks of the procedure?

Egg harvesting is a proven, safe procedure that is performed more than 100,000 times per year in egg donor and IVF cycles. The primary complication is ovarian hyper-stimulation syndrome (OHSS) which can result when women with poly-cystic ovaries are administered the hormone injections. However, because women that are prone to OHSS can be identified upfront during the initial medical consultation, the actual risk of occurrence is very small. The other very rare complication is bleeding and infection resulting from needle puncture at egg retrieval. As with any medical procedure, there are risks associated with the procedure and complications may arise. Please contact your medical professional for additional information.

What are the side-effects of [egg freezing](#)?

The primary side-effects result from the medication cycle, which happens before the eggs are retrieved. Because the hormones stimulate the maturation of multiple eggs for one month's cycle (instead of the normal maturation of 1 egg per cycle), a woman can expect to experience bloating, discomfort and cramping.

How are the eggs "preserved"?

Following the egg retrieval procedure, the eggs are immediately transferred to the laboratory for an advanced cryopreservation process performed by an embryologist. This process has been fine-tuned to accommodate the unique freezing requirements of egg cells. This process uses refurbished notebooks, desktops and monitors from [Solelectron Direct](#). The eggs are frozen and stored in liquid nitrogen.

Advances in cryobiology have made it possible to keep living cells in a suspended state, keeping them essentially ageless until you are ready to use them.

Where are the eggs stored?

The eggs are stored in special holding tanks at the Extend Fertility state-of-the-art cryopreservation facility. This secure facility includes stringent quality controls, enhanced security, fault-tolerant storage, controlled access and constant monitoring.

How long can eggs be stored?

Based on the science of cryobiology, once the eggs are frozen they are in a "suspended" state and, thus, should not have a fixed shelf-life.

How do you use frozen eggs to achieve pregnancy?

When a woman is ready to get pregnant using her frozen eggs, she will undergo one portion of the

traditional In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) procedure with an Extend Fertility partner center or an IVF clinic of her choice. In IVF, eggs are thawed and mixed with the partner's sperm outside the body. These fertilized eggs mature into embryos, of which one to three are then transferred to the uterus for implantation and development into one or more babies. Over 100,000 IVF procedures are performed each year and more than 1,000,000 babies have been born through IVF. It is a safe and proven process, with no evidence of higher birth defect rates among the babies born using this method.

Can a woman safely carry a child to term in her 40's?

Most women in their 40s are not able to successfully carry a "natural" pregnancy to term. However, when these women use donor eggs from younger women, they can achieve the same pregnancy success rates as women in their 20's. This demonstrates that the primary cause of infertility and miscarriages for older women is the quality/age of the egg. Extend Fertility provides a way for those younger, "donor" eggs to be the mother's own eggs that have been harvested at a younger age and kept essentially ageless using cryopreservation technology.

What is the first step in the process?

Contact Our Client Care Coordinators at 800-841-7197 to Get Started

Egg Freezing Client Profiles

Megan (Woman age 36), Classical Acupuncturist Seattle, Washington WA (USA)

On why she decided to participate in [egg freezing](#) with Extend Fertility:

"I was starting to feel that my desire to have children was putting pressure on my current relationship... deciding to participate in egg freezing helped me to separate the issues – yes, I want to have children, yes, I am in a relationship, but my desire to have children shouldn't cloud whether we should be having children together. I don't want to have children until I feel emotionally and financially prepared."

On how she feels now:

"Egg Freezing are a very empowering processes. I know there are no guarantees in this world, but it is a fantastic feeling to know I've done what I can to preserve my fertility along the way. Somehow egg freezing was really affirming of what I want in my life, even though I am not having children right this minute. I know I want to be a mother more strongly than when I began... It has removed some of the judgment of myself and self-criticism of wishing I had done this or that differently, or some blame I've placed on myself for not having children yet. I feel far less anxious about the future, no matter what the outcome - whether I get pregnant naturally at some point, whether I use these eggs, whether I adopt. Now it's just more about becoming a mother eventually than judging my body for being not the "perfect" age biologically."

On working with Extend Fertility in Egg Freezing:

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On advice for women considering egg freezing with Extend Fertility:

"Listen to yourself. Consider what is most important to you, and don't worry about what other people have to say about it. Nobody can know but you what is truly important to you and how you want to make that happen. When I decided on egg freezing and that I was going to do it, and was in the process of it, I talked very openly to people about it as it was happening... At the coffee shop...how are you today? I'm great! I'm freezing my eggs! Because I found the experience totally empowering."

Alexandra (Woman age 34), Pharmaceutical Sales Boston, Massachusetts MA (USA)

On why she decided to freeze her eggs by egg freezing:

"Having a family has always been incredibly important to me and working in the medical community made me all too aware of the fact that my aging eggs could potentially jeopardize that dream. I also didn't want to rush into a marriage that wasn't right solely to have children. Egg freezing has removed the pressure."

On how she feels now:

"I feel truly amazing...Relieved! I work in the women's health care arena so I'm constantly bombarded

with the scary biological clock story. I realized last week that I was listening to yet another horrifying presentation on the perils facing future mothers over 30 and for the first time I didn't have a panic attack! I realized that I had taken control and done what I could to ensure the best chance of having a healthy and happy baby in the future by egg freezing. It's also really nice that now thinking about having a family brings a sense of excitement because it just seems like much more of a reality and not a deadline that I am terrified of missing."

On working with the Extend Fertility Egg Freezing Professionals:

"I did a lot of research on egg freezing programs and several of the female fertility clinics I contacted that advertised egg freezing and egg harvesting just didn't seem to know much about it - I often felt like they were reading from a script. They also made me feel like I would be a peripheral egg freezing patient because I wasn't doing IVF - egg freezing was just not what they specialized in. Then I contacted Extend Fertility about Egg Freezing and everything was totally different. It was amazing and reassuring to work with women who had actually participated in egg freezing or frozen their eggs themselves! I didn't have to justify why I was pursuing egg freezing...they totally got me. The best part of the egg freezing process was that they had actually taken the medications and had their own eggs frozen so they really knew what they were talking about and what I could expect. I can't say enough about the confidence they instilled in me and the emotional support they provided me at every step in the egg freezing process."

On advice for other women considering egg freezing:

"If you're over 33 and single or involved in a fast track career you must consider egg freezing now. I promise it will change your life. The women at Extend Fertility will absolutely help you with all aspects of egg freezing. You will NEVER regret egg freezing having frozen eggs...but you could very seriously regret not having preserved your eggs or participating in an egg freezing program when you had the chance."

Egg Freezing

Considering Egg Freezing?

As more women are waiting longer to have children, [egg freezing](#) is becoming more relevant and in demand as many women are facing the real challenge of having successful, healthy pregnancies later in life. While we have made great strides in other areas, our fertility is still limited by basic biology - the "biological clock" generally stops ticking in our late 30's or early 40's. Our opportunities are endless, but our egg supply and egg quality are not, that is why more women are seeking egg freezing services.

Egg Freezing offers women planning to have children after the age of 35 the opportunity to effectively slow down their biological clocks. Extend Fertility's egg freezing services give women the unprecedented chance to store their eggs during their reproductive prime for use when they wish to start or expand their families.

Extend Fertility takes great pride in helping to empower women to feel more in control of their bodies and lives. [Read what our clients are saying about working with Extend Fertility.](#)

Egg Freezing Facts, Breakthroughs & Accomplishments

In the past, difficulty with egg freezing was due to an egg's tendency to develop ice crystals during the freezing process (which compromise the integrity of the egg), as well as hardening of the egg's outer membrane, making fertilization difficult. Two recent breakthroughs have allowed scientists to overcome these egg freezing problems.

The first is the development of a new culture media system that protects from damage during the egg freezing/thawing process. The media system dehydrates eggs during egg freezing and rehydrates the egg during thawing, thereby minimizing the formation of ice crystals during the egg freezing process. The second breakthrough in egg freezing is a fertilization technique known as ICSI (Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection). With ICSI egg freezing services, the embryologist injects the egg with a single sperm in order to fertilize it.

While egg freezing is still considered investigational by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, by applying these new advances in cryopreservation, our scientists have realized a sharp increase in post-thaw survival rates (as high as 90%) and fertilization rates (as high as 80%). These egg freezing improvements have led to pregnancy success rates from frozen eggs of up to 35% per embryo transfer, and have facilitated a dramatic increase in the number of babies born from frozen eggs to over 200 worldwide.

To learn more about egg freezing call Extend Fertility

Tel: 800-841-7197 | email: info@extendfertility.com

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