INTRAUTERINE INSEMINATION WITH PARTNER’S SPERM

Intrauterine insemination (IUI) with partner’s sperm is a technique designed to improve conception rates in couples with impaired semen quality, antisperm antibodies, hostile or absent cervical mucus, and unexplained infertility.

Semen is collected, analyzed (typically a complete semen analysis with Kruger Morphology is performed) and then washed using special techniques in the andrology laboratory; a process requiring about 1-1/2 to 2 hours. Then using a very thin, flexible catheter, the prepared sperm are deposited high into the uterus. The process of insemination takes about five minutes and involves no anesthesia. Occasionally, patients will experience very mild uterine cramping which occurs only during the procedure. After the insemination, we ask that patients recline in the exam room for 10 minutes.

Your insemination will be timed in a variety of ways depending on your treatment protocol. We will schedule your insemination as closely as possible to your time of ovulation. The insemination need only be performed once each cycle. If possible, partners are asked to abstain from ejaculating for 48 hours prior to insemination. We also recommend that the patient have a full bladder for the insemination.

You must sign a consent prior to the insemination which gives us permission to perform the IUI and states that you understand the risks and benefits - the most important being a pregnancy.

The risks of this procedure include:

1. Infection: bacteria in the cervix or vagina can move into the uterus or tubes. This occurrence is rare. However, you should notify us of any foul discharge, pelvic pain, or fever within two weeks of the IUI. A small amount of spotting of blood from the cervix for 1-2 days after the IUI is NORMAL and may be seen as bloody or blood-tinged discharge.

2. Vaso-Vagal reaction: This response occurs when your heart rate and blood pressure drop for a short period immediately after the procedure as a result of the physical procedure. This response occurs for some with drawing of blood. You may feel lightheaded, short of breath, or nauseous. You should notify us immediately.

3. It is extremely rare, but a reaction to sperm or to the preparation solution can occur resulting in an allergic reaction. Symptoms may include hives, itching or anaphylaxis (a total body reaction resulting in difficulty breathing or irregular heart beat). You should notify us immediately of symptoms.

Because most insurance carriers do not cover this procedure, payment of $395.00 must be made on the day of insemination. A $50.00 charge for a Kruger Morphology (CPT 89050) will be filed to your insurance company. You will be responsible for these charges if they are not covered by your insurance company or if you do not have insurance. Payment may be made by check or credit card.