 瑪麗醫院 QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL	Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Document No.	OGRM227
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Information on Semen Freezing for Medical Reasons

We are offering the service of freezing semen samples to patients whose future fertility might be severely affected by medical treatments including surgery, chemotherapy or radiotherapy for cancer or other medical conditions. This information sheet explains what you need to know before considering freezing your semen samples.

Do I need to freeze my semen samples before the treatment?

If your medical condition and the planned treatment might lead to significant reduction of sperm count or even no sperm at all, you can consider freezing semen samples before the treatment in order to preserve your fertility in future. In case of doubt, you should discuss this issue with your doctor-in-charge as early as possible.

How long can I freeze my semen samples in the laboratory?

According to Code of Practice on Reproductive Technology & Embryo Research, you can freeze the semen samples until you are 55 years old or for 10 years, whichever is later. You can specify an age limit lower than that. It is important to remember that you need to renew the contract in writing every two years. Your semen samples will be discarded if you fail to renew the contract. Our Centre and your doctor-in-charge should be informed in writing if you have changed your address or telephone number.

Can I terminate the freezing contract?

Yes, you should inform the Centre in writing if you do not want to continue with the storage of semen samples.

Do I need further help when planning pregnancy?


If your medical condition is cured, you can ask your doctor to arrange a semen analysis. Medical help would be required if there is no sperm in the ejaculate or semen quality is severely impaired. You have to be legally married in order to receive assisted reproductive treatment such as intrauterine insemination or in vitro fertilization treatment and your wife can be referred to our subfertility clinic for further evaluation.

How can I arrange this freezing service?

You or your doctor-in-charge can refer you to the fertility preservation clinic or ring up our private clinic at 22554262 to book an appointment to see a specialist in reproductive medicine for counselling and signing the consent. Then you are required to submit 1-2 semen samples to the semen laboratory with 1-2 weeks.

How much do I need to pay such service?

You have to pay HK\$ 4,400 for storage in the first two years and then HK\$6,600 for every two subsequent years.

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Instruction sheet on sperm freezing for medical reasons

This part is concerned with the ways to collect the samples, to transport the samples to the semen laboratory and to renew or to terminate your contract of storage. Please read these guidelines carefully before submitting semen samples for cryopreservation.

1. You will be seen and counselled at the fertility preservation clinic or the private clinic in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Queen Mary Hospital. Please book the appointment at **22554262**. A consent should be signed after counseling. If you are less than 18, the consent for minor should also be signed by your parent.

2. Semen samples should be obtained by masturbation and ejaculated into a clean container provided to you. Ideally, the samples are collected after a minimum of 2 days (but not longer than seven days) of sexual abstinence / masturbation. They should be delivered to the semen laboratory (**Room 570, 5/F, Block K, Queen Mary Hospital**) within one hour of collection and the samples should also be kept at body temperature during transport to avoid cold-shock.

3. ONE to TWO samples are required. Please send your samples **in person** (or with parents if you are less than 18) to the laboratory at the scheduled time during the weekdays. Please arrange the time and the date with the laboratory staff at **22553412**. You may be required to submit further semen samples if all these samples are of suboptimal quality. This will be arranged only after further discussion with your doctor-in-charge so that your cancer treatment will not be unduly delayed.

4. Do remember to send in your request form for renewal of the storage with appropriate payment (i.e. HK\$ 6,600 currently) every two years before the due date if you wish to continue with the storage.

5. Please inform the Centre **in writing** if you have changed the address / telephone numbers. You should also inform the semen laboratory if you do not want to continue with the storage of semen samples. The letter should be sent to **Centre of Assisted Reproduction and Embryology, The University of Hong Kong-Queen Mary Hospital, K5, Queen Mary Hospital, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong.**