

Upcoming Events:

August 7, 2002, 6pm
Embryology Lab Evening
"Mystery Behind the Microscope" sponsored by AZ Apothecary Shop

August 28, 2002, 7:30-12pm
Bagel Day: "Introducing the New Patient Roadmap" sponsored by Organon

Tip of the Month:

Check out www.storks-store.com/momtobe, an interactive "What to expect when your are expecting". Use the Basal Body Temperature Chart if you are trying to get pregnant or find out what is going on inside your body during those special nine months.

Quote of the Month:

"We have had not one complaint! I have referred you to several friends who have not been happy with other doctors. We have enjoyed the staff and couldn't imagine a better situation or a better doctor!"
SDFC Patient's comment on a recent survey.

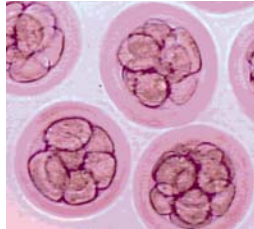
++ Telegram ++

► www.sdfertility.com, selected as one of the best physicians' Websites in the US*, now has new links to conjunctive therapies and organizations such as acupuncturists, urologists and surrogate agencies.
Go to www.sdfertility.com/conj_resources.htm
*Physician's Advisory January 2002 issue

Newsletter Subscription:

Receive our newsletter online! Subscribe by sending an email to newsletter@sdfertility.com.

New Egg-Freezing Process Could Give Women New Hope



Fertilizing eggs before cryopreservation is the only technology available today.

Since the successful freezing of sperm, researchers have had a high interest in finding ways to store unfertilized eggs. In the common process of cryopreservation, sperm or embryos are immersed in a solution with a sugar called trehalose. The sugar acts as a protectant, helping the cell to survive the freezing process without drying out. Using this procedure on female eggs the pregnancy success rates lies around the 1% mark. This is caused by the fact that human eggs, the biggest cells in the body, have a considerable amount of fluid inside. In the freezing process, the fluid forms crystals that rupture the membrane.

In a new study, also mentioned in TIME Magazine's July issue, trehalose was injected into the egg before freezing removing as much fluid as possible from the cell. This reduces the risk that crystals develop and destroy the protective membrane. Using this procedure, the survival rate of the eggs was 63%. "The new technique could revolutionize infertility treatment for our future patients," says Dr. Hummel.

Although the new study results are preliminary, Drs. Hummel and Kettel agree that the study gives reason to further research this technology and explore if this is an alternative to standard treatments.



Recent studies conclude effectiveness of acupuncture for infertility.

Acupuncture and Fertility Treatment

Drs. Hummel and Kettel support their patients' plan to undergo acupuncture therapy in conjunction with fertility treatment. Traditionally employed in China for the last 23 centuries to treat most illnesses, the value of acupuncture for infertility has been shown in recent scientific studies. Results in one study performing acupuncture before and after embryo transfers concluded that acupuncture seems to be a useful tool for improving pregnancy rates after ART. Another study showed that acupuncture may be a conjunctive, nontraumatic treatment for males with very poor sperm density.

Local acupuncturists recommend infertility patients start acupuncture before their infertility treatment and to inform their fertility specialist about the details of their conjunctive therapy.

Employee of the Month Profile: "Frankie", New Patient Coordinator

Her Real Name: Cari Ruszczyk

Likes her job because... she loves people. Listening and helping our patients to make their experience here as pleasant as possible is what she likes to do best.

Favorite Activity: Fun in the sun! **Least Favorite Activity:** Cooking...

Favorite Food: Bagels, pizza pie and any Italian dish

Three things she would take on a deserted island: Her cat Lala, a photo of her loved ones and a phone to stay in touch with everybody.

Favorite Joke: (The only G-rated joke she knows) Knock knock—"Who is there?" "Olive!" "Olive who?" "I love you too!"



Frankie, New Patient Coordinator