

Events This Month:

Embryology Lab Presentation
Online at www.sdfertility.com
"Mystery Behind the Microscope"
Request login info by email at
seminar@sdfertility.com

Free Internet Seminar Online
An educational seminar with our
fertility specialists **ONLINE!**
More info on our website or by
email at seminar@sdfertility.com

Free Group Injection Instructions
On Thursday Evenings at SDFC
Call for more information and to RSVP.

Education Topic of the Month:
Psych. Counseling Supporting
Infertility Care
Visit our display in our patient education room

Tip of the Month

If you are trying to conceive, limit your consumption of dairy products. A study performed 1994 by Harvard Medical School found a correlation between milk sugar galactose and infertility. Researchers observed that women in countries with high consumption of milk have a higher chance to be infertile.

Quote of the Month:

"Thank you for a wonderful surgical experience. The staff is sensitive and exhibits outstanding professionalism, and although I was nervous + quiet when I first came in, I sincerely appreciated how kind everyone was with me. Thank you for choosing this profession and for making me feel like your most important patient."
Patient's thank you note addressed to the Del Mar Surgery Center staff.

Newsletter Subscription:

Receive our monthly email newsletter! Subscribe by sending an email to newsletter@sdfertility.com and read helpful tips and articles in over 30 previous issues in our archive at www.sdfertility.com/newsletterarchive.htm.



Combining a visit at SDFC with a vacation is a great choice all year round.

SDFC is Popular Destination for "Fertility Tourists"

Drs. Hummel and Kettel's reputation of excellence reaches far beyond San Diego County. More and more couples outside San Diego struggling with infertility choose to travel the extra miles to receive the world-class patient care at SDFC. Hotel discounts, travel information and customized treatment plan make the stay for out-of-town patients more of a stress free, relaxing vacation in Southern California.

Couples in Europe have an increased need to look for fertility treatment elsewhere. With a recently introduced law in the UK, sperm and egg donors lose their anonymity, which will lead to a donor

shortage and the need to go abroad.

Waiting lists are long and take years for being accepted for fertility treatment. In the meantime, the woman's biological clock keeps ticking and chances for successful treatment are decreasing. At SDFC, a convenient phone consultation can be set up within a few days.

Treatment itself is costly in Europe. Three out of four couples undergoing IVF in the UK have to pay out of pocket for their treatment, which costs between 3,000 to 6,000 Euros. Traveling couples are taking advantage of excellent currency exchange rates.

Drs. Hummel and Kettel's success rates are among the highest in the U.S. In 2004, IVF pregnancy rates for women below the age of 35 averaged 67.3% and women ages 35 to 37 averaged 65%. The egg donation pregnancy rate for women all ages was 88.5%. Regulation, licensing and safety is always a concern for patients. San Diego Fertility Center meets the strict guidelines of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine and the Society of Assisted Reproductive Technology. The embryology lab is licensed with the CA State Prov. Tissue Bank and is CAP and CLIA certified. The Surgery facilities are licensed, by the State of California, and certified by Medicare and AAAHC.

For more information about hotels and treatment plan for out-of-town patients, financial information, success rates and licenses and certifications, please go to our website.

Keeping More in the Pockets of Cash Paying Patients

Cash paying patients now benefit from a financial assistance program when it comes to infertility medication prescriptions. Last year, the pharmaceutical company Organon, who produces and distributes the follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) product Follistim, won the exclusive formulary contract with Pharmacy Benefit Manager in the category of FSH. The contract allows five of the major mail-order pharmacies to pass on a discount to cash paying patients who do not have insurance benefits covering fertility drugs. Pharmacy Benefit Manager provides a discount for Follistim to Arizona Apothecary Shops, MDR, IVPCare, Freedom Drug and Schrafts Pharmacy, who pass on the discount to their customers. Cash paying patients calling for a prescription order are automatically enrolled in the program, which will end November 2006. Without the program, the standard cost for a single 75 IU vial Follistim ranges between \$60 to \$65 at the participating pharmacies. However, it still pays to shop around for the best cost since the prices and discounts vary among the pharmacies mentioned. After the cash discount, the cost of the Follistim vial ranges from \$49 to \$52. For a contact list of participating pharmacies, please go online to www.sdfertility.com or ask our staff.