

TOP 10 Donor Egg & Gestational Carrier Questions Answered

1 What Options are Available to Lesbian Couples?

There are a variety of options available, depending on your personal situation:

They include:

- IUI: a less invasive, low-tech insemination which uses anonymous or known donor sperm
- IVF: a multi-step procedure that involves controlled and monitored ovarian stimulation with hormonal medications, an egg retrieval, fertilization of the eggs with sperm in the laboratory; and finally an embryo transfer back into the uterus.
- Donor Sperm: via a combination of ovulation induction with oral medications and two precisely timed donor inseminations.
- PAR: Also known as Partner Assisted Reproduction, PAR ensures both partners have a genetic and biological relationship to a child.

One partner provides the egg, which is fertilized with anonymous or known donor sperm outside the body – and the resultant embryo(s) is transferred into the other partner who then becomes pregnant.

2 What Options are Available to Gay Men?

Gay men who wish to become biological parents can achieve their dreams by using an egg donor and gestational carrier/surrogate with in vitro fertilization. The combination of IVF using donor eggs fertilized with sperm of the intended parent(s) with an embryo transfer into a surrogate (gestational carrier), enables gay and single men to have their own biological children. The pregnancy rates using donor eggs and gestational surrogacy are some of the highest available in assisted reproduction. The egg donors and surrogates are selected through specialized agencies that carry out the initial recruitment and screening of candidates, provide referrals to attorneys who specialize in reproductive law, and help administer the arrangements. Cardone Reproductive Medicine and Infertility, LLC prides itself in working with many of the most respected third party agencies in the world.

3 Do I Meet My Egg Donor?

Normally egg donation is anonymous, but if you wish to meet her, it is certainly possible as long as she agrees. This is usually organized by the agency.

4 When Do I Meet My Gestational Carrier?

It is possible to meet the carrier when at our office for your initial consultation. Our center can organize for your consultation to be close to the same time as the carrier, so you may meet at our office. Meeting your carrier is a great opportunity to get to know each other, gain trust and ask questions.

5 If I Live Overseas, How Many Times Will I Need to Come to Boston? And How Long Should I Expect to Stay?

You are required to visit Boston twice.

The first visit will consist of:

- an initial consultation with Dr. Cardone
- a meeting with our psychologist
- blood and urine screenings
- a semen analysis (for male couples).

The second visit will be timed for when the cycle of the donor and carrier have started.

- You will be required to travel on Day 7 of the donor's cycle (Day 1 is the 1st day of her period) and we will inform you at that time of when to travel here.
- During this visit you will also have the FDA testing (blood and urine culture required by the Federal Administration) on Day 8.
- We suggest that you stay until the egg retrieval, which is usually between Day 12 and Day 15 – to donate sperm (for male couples) the morning of the retrieval

Daniele Cardone, RN, BSN

Daniele Cardone, RN, BSN – the Director of the Donor Egg & Gestational Carrier Program at CRMI – answers the most frequently asked donor egg/gestational carrier questions.



CARDONE
& ASSOCIATES
REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE & INFERTILITY, LLC

A BOSTON IVF AFFILIATE

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(continued)

6 How Do I Find MY Egg Donor or Gestational Carrier?

To find a donor and a carrier, you must work with a recruiting agency. Our center works with a variety of agencies – and we have terrific relationships with them. It is important to know that an agency is truly reliable or not. Do they have a proven track record? Are they the best at what they do? And most importantly, are they following all regulations? Each of the agencies we utilize meet all of these requirements.

When you ultimately contact an agency, you should inquire about how many donors/carriers they have, compare prices and become familiar with the agency's personnel. You may also be able to use carriers or donors that you already have (friends or family), but in all cases they must be screened first.

7 How Many Embryos Are Transferred - and When?

Dr. Cardone usually transfers the two best embryos. The remaining embryos are frozen for future use, if needed. The transfer is usually done three days after the egg retrieval. In some cases, it may be five days.

8 Do You Offer Sex Selection?

Yes, we offer sex selection. For this service, an embryo biopsy and PGD (pre-implantation genetic diagnosis) is required. The transfer will be done five days after the egg retrieval. Additional costs apply for this service.

9 During Treatments, How Can I Communicate With Cardone Reproductive Medicine and Infertility if I Have Questions?

For over 20 years we have helped patients at a distance and overseas achieve their dream of becoming parents. Over time, as technology has improved, so has the convenience of communicating.

- We regularly conduct **Skype™** and **Facetime®** check-ins, consultations & appointments prior to and after treatments
- Patients at a distance and overseas have access to the personal cell phone and email address of both Dr. Cardone and Daniele Cardone, RN -- the Director of Donor Egg & Gestational Carrier Services.

10 What are Your Success Rates?

Our practice welcomes the most challenging patients, without regard to diagnosis, marital status or sexual orientation. Our 2012 success rates are amongst the best in the world.

Fresh Embryos
for Age <35
(non-donor eggs)

62%

Gestational Carrier
(with donor egg
fresh cycle)

92%

Donor Egg
(fresh cycle)

79%

Have Questions About Your Fertility?

Daniele Cardone, the Director of our Donor Egg & Gestational Carrier Program, has answers.

Available via phone or email to individuals and couples with questions about their fertility, Daniele Cardone, RN, BSN is a valuable option for those in need of knowledgeable and compassionate treatment information.

Contact Daniele today at:

+1-781-438-9600

via email at: danielec@cardonerepromed.com
or at www.cardonerepromed.com

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