

# Information Brochure Cryopreservation of Human Germ Cells (EJACULATE)



University Medicine Berlin - Clinic of Urology - Director: Prof. Dr. med. T. Schlomm



## Kryobank

Management: Dr. rer. medic. Ina Wilkemeyer

phone: +49 (0) 30 450- 615150 | fax: (030) 450- 7515150 | E-Mail: andrologie-labor@charite.de

### Introduction

Male fertility is an extremely complex process. In addition to the hypothalamus (diencephalon), the pituitary gland, the prostate (prostate gland), the epididymis, the testicles and the seminiferous tubules, many highly sensitive male body organs and functions are responsible for the production of ejaculate (seminal fluid).

### Male fertility disorders

The reasons for an impairment of male fertility up to complete sterility are manifold. These include organic causes, psychological reasons, age, lifestyle, nutrition, environmental factors, harmful pre-existing conditions or necessary medical measures. By analyzing the human ejaculate (spermogram), the sperm quality can be defined by macroscopic and microscopic examination methods.

### About us

The cryobank is part of the Clinic of Urology, Charité – University Medicine Berlin (Clinic Director: Dr. med. T. Schlomm). In collaboration with andrologists and urologists from clinical areas as well as practices, we try to help our patients gain an insight into their current fertility status and to support patients on their way to having children.

Our cryobank is certified according to §20b and §20c of the German Medicines Act by the State Office for Health and Social Affairs. Health and Social Affairs (LaGeSo) for the collection and production of "human male reproductive cells, cryopreserved". We work in accordance with the latest recommendations of the World Health Organisation (WHO). To maintain our quality standards, we are tested annually by participation in the quality control program of the German Society for Andrology (QuaDeGa).

Approval of the Charité – University Medicine Berlin by the FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration) also allows us to carry out sample and laboratory tests in accordance with FDA requirements and to have the cryogenic goods of our patients transferred to the United States of America.

### Our team

Dr. med. Irena Goranova: Assistant Medical Director Clinic for Urology, Medical Director Cryobank

PD Dr. med. Bernhard Ralla: Senior Consultant Clinic for Urology, Specialist in Urology

Dr. rer. medic. Ina Wilkemeyer: Graduate Biologist, Head of Cryobank

Mr. Waldemar Geiger: Biological Technical Assistant, Laboratory Manager Cryobank

# **Information Brochure Cryopreservation of Human Germ Cells (EJACULATE)**

## **Cryopreservation**

With the cryopreservation of human male reproductive cells in our cryobank, we try to ensure the fertility preservation before restrictive therapeutic measures (chemotherapy, radiotherapy, etc.) or as a preventive male precaution (social freezing).

It serves exclusively for homologous donation (partner donation). Cryopreservation is carried out according to the strict requirements of the German Drug Manufacturing Ordinance (AMWHV), the German Drug Law (AMG), the Transplantation Act (TPG) and the Transplantation Act Tissue Ordinance (TPG-GewV) and, if necessary, in accordance with the requirements of the FDA.

## **Preparation**

An appointment for cryopreservation should be made as early as possible by telephone by the patient or the attending physician at 030 450 615150. 3 - 5 days before, the patient should maintain a waiting period (do not ejaculate). In order to achieve a higher ejaculate volume, sufficient fluid intake (at least 2 liters of water daily).

To achieve a possible increase in the quality of the ejaculate sample, a well-balanced diet (low in saturated fatty acids) is recommended. Moderate physical activity and little to no nicotine or alcohol consumption until the date of submission. At the appointment in the cryobank, the patient should bring his or her health insurance card and, if available, all available spermogram results with them.

## **Procedure**

The procedure begins with the independent collection of an ejaculate sample (if possible, avoid spilling any part of the sample) in a designated collection room.

This is followed by blood collection and finally a medical history and signing the contract to ensure all legal rights and obligations are fulfilled. The contract regulates all the legal rights and obligations of the provider and client. For FDA laboratory tests, an additional urine sample (initial urine sample) is provided.

## **After the appointment**

A spermogram is taken at every cryopreservation and a small proportion of the sample given is examined. The findings are discussed with the patient by telephone on the same day. If quantitative or qualitative restrictions become apparent, a second sample can be provided free of charge at a later date. Should the second sample also be qualitatively or quantitatively unusable, all of the patient's samples will be discarded after detailed consultation and the contractual obligation will automatically expire. Cryopreservation will only take place if the quality is sufficient or at the patient's request. After successful cryopreservation, the patient will receive, unless otherwise agreed, the necessary documents and findings a few weeks later by post for his own records from the cryobank. The first invoice from the Charité billing department is then also sent by post and must be paid within 14 days. Invoices for cryopreservation are generally issued once a year until the contract is terminated (cancellation, sample collection, death).

# Information Brochure Cryopreservation of Human Germ Cells (EJACULATE)

## Price list

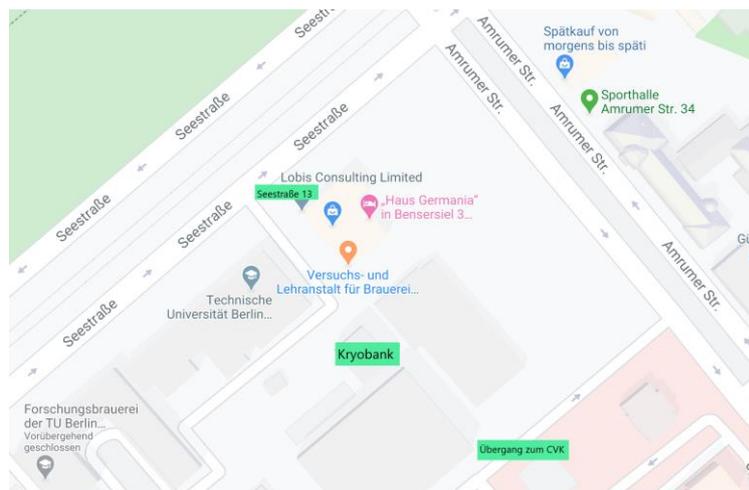
service	fee in €
Examination, cryopreservation and storage fee for ejaculate samples in the 1st year	456,16
Examination and cryopreservation of further samples if the contract is already in effect	128,49
Ejaculate examination without cryopreservation (pathological findings)	148,51
Storage fee from the 2nd year	272,00

- Cryopreservation according to FDA conditions: 1000 €

According to the new Cryo-Directive (Kryo-RL), people with statutory health insurance are entitled to the cryopreservation of sperm cells or reproductive tissue in the case of necessary reproductive cell-damaging therapy from 01 July 2021. Prior consultation with the relevant health insurance is necessary.

## Contact

Cryobank, Clinic of Urology, Charité – University Medicine Berlin, Seestraße 13, 13353, Berlin, mail: [andrologie-labor@charite.de](mailto:andrologie-labor@charite.de) | phone: 030/ 450 615 150, 450 615034 | fax: 030/ 450 7515150



Our cryobank is difficult to reach via the Charité - Campus Virchow Klinikum. We therefore ask our patients to arrive at Seestraße 13, 13353 Berlin (2nd entrance, grounds of the Research and Teaching Institute for Brewing at the agreed time (please do not arrive too early or too late, as we only have a few places for our patients to stay). On arrival, please contact us by telephone on 030 450 615150, as our building door is always locked for security reasons.

**We look forward to welcoming you to our cryobank ☺**