Information Regarding the Assisted Human Reproduction Regulations on Consent (Section 8)

Affix patient label

If applicable, affix partner label

As of December 1, 2007, The Assisted Human Reproduction (AHR) Act requires all persons making use of human reproductive material (i.e. sperm or eggs) to create an embryo, or making use of an in vitro embryo for any purpose, to comply with certain consent regulations set out in the Act. The Act provides a mechanism to oversee activities such as in vitro fertilization and research related to AHR, and prohibits ethically unacceptable activities such as human cloning. The Act was built upon a framework of ethical principles consistent with the values of Canadians. These principles include the protection and promotion of human health, safety, dignity and rights of present and future generations.

The importance of free and informed consent is also a fundamental principle of the Act. Section 8 of the Act, requires that written consent be obtained before using a person's reproductive material (sperm or eggs) to create an embryo or before using an in vitro embryo for any purpose. This document provides you with the necessary information required prior to giving written and informed consent. Patients may withdraw their consent to use their reproductive material at any time (see below – Withdrawal of Consent to Use). Please note that not all of the information on this sheet will apply to every patient.

The sperm or egg(s) of patient(s) will only be used in accordance with the consent of the patient(s), for one or more of the following purposes:

1. The patient's own reproductive use (including their spouse or common-law partner)
2. Following the patient's death, the reproductive use of the person who is, at the time of the patient's death, the patient's spouse or common-law partner
3. The reproductive use of a third party
4. Improving AHR procedures
5. Providing instruction in AHR procedures

If in vitro embryos (i.e. through in vitro fertilization procedures) are created using patient's sperm and/or eggs, the patient(s) need(s) to be aware:

1. That there may be more in vitro embryos created from their reproductive material than are needed for their own reproductive use
2. If in vitro embryos are created for a third party's reproductive use and there are in vitro embryos in excess of the third party's reproductive needs, these in vitro embryos will be used in accordance with the third's party's consent, and if the use is providing instruction in or improving AHR procedures or other research, the consent of the patient(s)
3. If in vitro embryos are created for the reproductive use of the person who, at the time of the patient's death, is the patient's spouse or common-law partner and there are in vitro embryos in excess of the spouse or common-law partner's

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reproductive needs, they will be used in accordance with the spouse or common-law partner's consent, and if the use is providing instruction in or improving AHR procedures or other research, the consent of the patient

4. If in vitro embryos are created for the reproductive use of a third party who is a couple, along with reproductive material from an individual who is a spouse or common law partner in the couple, the use of the in vitro embryos will be subject to the consent of that individual alone if, prior to the use of the in vitro embryos, the individual is no longer a spouse or common-law partner in the couple
5. If the patient(s) consent(s) to their reproductive material being used to create an in vitro embryo for the purpose of instruction in or improving AHR procedures, no additional consent to use from the patient(s) is/are required to permit the use of the in vitro embryo for that purpose.

For in vitro embryos used for any purpose, the in vitro embryo will be used only in accordance with the consent to use of the patient(s) for one or more of the following purposes:

1. The donor's own reproductive use
2. The reproductive use of a third party
3. Improving AHR procedures
4. Providing instruction in AHR procedures
5. A specific research project, the goal of which is stated in the consent

For a withdrawal of consent to use human reproductive material (HRM) or in vitro embryos to be effective, the following conditions must be met:

1. The withdrawal must be in writing
2. The clinic, physician, researcher or other person who will be using the HRM or in vitro embryo must be notified of the withdrawal
3. For withdrawing consent to the use of HRM for one's own reproductive use or that of the spouse or common-law partner, or improving or providing instruction in AHR procedures, the notice must be received before the material is used
4. For withdrawing consent to the use of HRM for the reproductive use of a third party, the notice must be received before the third party has acknowledged in writing that the material has been designated for their reproductive use
5. For withdrawing consent to use an in vitro embryo for one's own reproductive use, the notice must be received before the use of the in vitro embryo
6. For withdrawing consent to use an in vitro embryo for the reproductive use of a third party, the notice must be received before the third party has acknowledged in writing that the embryo has been designated for their reproductive use
7. For withdrawing consent to use in vitro embryos for improving or providing instruction in assisted reproduction procedures, the notice must be received before the later of:

Initials: Patient _____ Partner _____

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a. The person conducting the activity has acknowledged in writing the designation of the embryo for that activity, OR
b. The person conducting the activity has begun the thawing of the embryo for that activity

8. For withdrawing consent to use in vitro embryos for a specific research project, the notice must be received before the later of:
    a. The person conducting the activity has acknowledged in writing the designation of the embryo for that activity, OR
    b. The person conducting the activity has begun the thawing of the embryo for that activity; OR
    c. The creation of a stem cell line from the in vitro embryo (Note: creation of stem cell lines is not performed at the Regional Fertility Program, but we are bound by law to notify you of the Section 8 Regulations and the requirements for consent)
9. For a couple, consent for use of embryos may be withdrawn by either spouse or common-law partner.

Much of the information in this document is also dealt with in the consent forms that you will sign prior to treatment. If you still have any questions, do not hesitate to ask your physician.

I/We acknowledge receipt of written information regarding Section 8 of the AHR regulations (Consent to Use).

Patient:	Print Name	Signature
Partner: (if applicable)	Print Name	Signature
Witness:	Print Name	Signature
Date:	(mm/dd/yyyy)	