



Surrogacy International, Inc.

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The Donation Process:

A generous gift that makes building families possible.

- Step 1: Successful match.** A positive match between the donor and the intended parent(s). Matches are usually done anonymously, however personal meetings can be facilitated and are sometimes desired.
- Step 2: Psychological exam.** A qualified mental health professional will complete a comprehensive psychological evaluation.
- Step 3: Genetic consultation.** Complete a genetic consultation to review family history and potential genetic issues.
- Step 4: Medical exam and consult.** Complete a physical exam with the fertility specialist to determine overall health. This usually includes a pelvic exam, ultrasound and blood tests. Toxicology and blood cultures are routine to ensure no drug use, sexually transmitted infections and other potential medical dangers exist. This is also an opportunity to speak with the physician and staff about any medical questions or concerns related to the donation process.
- Step 5: Legal consultation.** The rights and interests of the donor and the intended parent(s) must be maintained. An attorney will prepare and/or review all contracts and agreements. It is important that all participants have independent legal counsel to assist them through the process.
- Step 6: Preparing the donor cycle.** The fertility specialists will provide a cycle calendar that must be followed exactly. The purpose of the calendar is to sync the cycles of the donor and surrogate and/or intended mother. The calendar provides important dates for beginning medications, etc. Some medications are taken by mouth while others may be injections. Full instructions and information about the medication regimen will be provided by the physician's office. Once the injections start, the donor may no longer have sexually intercourse. The entire cycle usually takes about 3 weeks. A physician will monitor you closely for progress and medical safety.
- Step 7: Monitoring.** About 1 week before the scheduled egg retrieval, the donor maintains regular doctor appointments, almost daily, to monitor egg development, readiness for retrieval and the donor's health. These appointments include blood work and pelvic ultrasounds. There is typically no down time associated with the procedures so donors may continue with their normal activities of daily living, including work.
- Step 8: Egg retrieval.** In the fertility specialist's office, the donor is given a light sedative while the eggs are retrieved vaginally. The whole process is rather quick. Most donors experience minor cramping and menstrual bleeding but are able to return to normal activities within 24 hours.

Your gift as an egg donor is complete and a new family can finally begin!