

**AMH Anti-Müllerian hormone**

A hormone produced by the egg follicle that the ovaries grow to prepare an egg for release into the fallopian tube. The levels of AMH found in the blood could be an indicator of a woman's ovarian reserve.

**ART Assisted Reproduction Technologies**

Treatments such as IVF, ICSI, IUI & OI aimed at assisting a sub-fertile couple in conceiving a child.

**FSH Follicle Stimulating Hormone**

A hormone produced by the pituitary gland in the brain that stimulates the production of follicles containing eggs on the ovaries. The drugs that are given during IVF and ICSI cycles to stimulate the production of lots of eggs contain FSH.

**HSG Hysterosalpingogram**

An X-ray of the uterus and fallopian tubes which allows visualization of the inside of the uterus and tubes. The picture will reveal any abnormalities of the uterus as well as tubal problems such as blockage and dilation.

**ICSI Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection**

An individual sperm is injected directly into the middle of an egg using a sophisticated microscope and micromanipulation tools. This procedure may increase the chances of fertilisation occurring in cases of male factor infertility. It may also be used in cases which have had a previous failure to fertilise with conventional IVF, without any previous apparent sperm problem.

**IUI Intra-Uterine Insemination**

A small volume of sperm sample that has been prepared in the laboratory is introduced into the uterus through the cervix using a fine catheter (tube).

**IVF In Vitro Fertilisation**

Mixing of eggs and sperm to achieve fertilisation outside the body.

**OHSS Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome**

The drugs that are given to stimulate the production of eggs for a treatment cycle, although carefully prescribed, may occasionally cause the complication of OHSS. This is where too many follicles and eggs are produced and may mean that a cycle has to be abandoned until symptoms subside, or if the egg collection proceeds, the embryos may all be frozen until the ovaries have recovered and it is safe to continue treatment.

**OI Ovulation Induction**

Drugs are used to stimulate the ovaries to produce and release one or more eggs prior to insemination or timed intercourse to maximise the chance of conception.

**PID Pelvic Inflammatory Disease**

Sexually transmitted infections may cause inflammation and damage to the reproductive organs and lead to difficulties with fertility.

**PESA Percutaneous Sperm Aspiration**

A fine needle is passed into the epididymis (the tubes in the testes which store sperm); the fluid is aspirated and examined in the laboratory for the presence of sperm.

**PCOS Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome**

A complex condition in which the ovaries contain many small cysts or follicles. It can cause hormone imbalance, problems with ovulation and consequently with fertility.

**SSR Surgical Sperm Retrieval**

The retrieval of sperm directly from the testis itself or from the epididymis. SSR is generally performed for men who have no sperm in their ejaculated semen or who have a failed vasectomy reversal. It may also be used for spinally injured men and where there are problems with normal ejaculation (e.g. MS or Diabetes). SSR may be approached in a number of ways including, TESE, PESE, Biopsy etc.