



# Andrology Update

The Hull Andrology Unit

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01482 382648 [www.hullivf.org.uk](http://www.hullivf.org.uk) (Andrology and GP specific areas available)

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## Christmas closure

Last date for sample acceptance:

22/12/2017

First date for sample acceptance:

08/01/2018

## Toxicity testing of sample containers

Sample containers for semen evaluation must be subject to regular rigorous toxicity testing. This is really important, as certain sample containers can be toxic to sperm. This would result in a reduction of sperm motility and the reporting of results which may not represent a patient's true semen sample.

The Hull Andrology Unit performs sample container toxicity testing on a regular basis for both SLS and Starstedt containers. Subsequently, semen samples produced into these containers will be accepted for analysis. Those in alternative containers will be rejected and/or the patient will need to produce further sample(s).

If you would like to order sample containers please call hospital stores on 01482 674715.

## Storing gametes or embryos for fertility preservation

The Hull IVF Unit provides sperm cryopreservation and embryo/oocyte cryopreservation for fertility preservation in male and female patients, respectively.

Fertility preservation may be indicated for several reasons, such as; prior to undergoing treatments which may impair fertility (chemotherapy/ anticancer treatment, surgery with perceived postoperative fertility risks, gender reassignment medication/ surgery) or with conditions / circumstances that may compromise their future fertility (endometriosis, potential exposure to injury in the armed forces etc.). The universally accepted recommendation is that all patients with a potential interest in keeping their fertility should be referred to a fertility unit for adequate determination of risk of infertility, chances of future conception and how to proactively preserve it.

It is however essential that all patients of reproductive age are provided with fertility information and the necessary referrals for fertility preservation – to discuss fertility preservation in further detail contact the Hull IVF Unit on 01482 382648.

## New Andrology online booking system and new request card from November [www.hullivf.org.uk/bookings](http://www.hullivf.org.uk/bookings)

From November onwards patients can book their fertility and post-vasectomy sample drop-off appointments online via our website [www.hullivf.org.uk/bookings](http://www.hullivf.org.uk/bookings). There will also be an option for booking the use of our on-site sample production facilities for those living >1hour away.

Additions to the request card include:

- Obtaining patient consent for sample use in training.
- Options for those that cannot perform or object to masturbation.
- Minor alterations to the patient guidance notes.

