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R.O.P.A.

Reception of Oocytes from Partner



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R.O.P.A. method consists of performing an In Vitro Fertilization with the participation of both females of the couple and donor sperm. This technique is addressed to female same-sex couples who want to share treatment and motherhood.

How does R.O.P.A. works?

One of the women undergoes the ovarian stimulation process, the ovarian puncture and follicle aspiration, as in every IVF treatment. The eggs collected will be inseminated with the sperm of an anonymous donor from our Sperm Bank, specifically selected for the couple. Whilst the ovarian stimulation is carried out, it will take place the endometrial preparation of the woman who is going to get pregnant. The best quality embryo will be transferred into her uterus and she will be the one carrying the gestation.



Which is the legal framework for this treatment?

Until a few years ago this technique was not allowed in Spain, as it was considered a gametes donation and the Spanish Laws on Human Assisted Reproduction makes very clear that donation must be anonymous. However, since 2005, Civil Code was amended and the rights of homosexual marriage became the same as heterosexual marriage, thus, R.O.P.A. can no longer be considered a donation, given that a member of the couple is sharing her gametes with her partner, as it happens in heterosexual marriage, where the husband shares his sperm with his wife. Unlike Artificial Insemination and IVF with donor sperm, this technique enables both women to participate actively into the gestation and to have the same rights and obligation on the baby with no need for one of them to adopt him, as it happened before.

Our donors

Our donors have been selected after passing successfully all necessary health screenings. All our sperm donors are youngsters between the age of 18 and 35. We evaluate the sperm quality and resistance to the freezing-thawing process, we perform a complete check-up and a physical examination. Donors are selected based on the characteristics (eg build, skin and eye colour, blood group, etc) of the couple and the donor selection is made solely and exclusively by the medical team, according to Spanish Law's requirements. Nowadays it is also possible to select the more suitable sperm donor for the recipient couple according to his genetic profile, to have a further reassurance about the incidence of genetic diseases.