

Submission form

Please provide your contact details below.

Name:	Vivienne Oliver
If this submission is made on behalf of an organisation, please name the organisation:	N/A
Please provide a brief description of the organisation if applicable:	N/A
Address/email:	
Interest in this topic (eg, user of fertility services, health professional, member of the public):	Member of public, health professional and traditional surrogate

We will place all submissions on ACART's website, except where we are asked that submissions be withheld in full or part for reasons of confidentiality. We will remove contact information from all submissions.

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I **request** that my submission be withheld in full or part from publication on ACART's website (if you wish a part to be withheld, please clearly indicate which part).

Please note that all submissions may be requested by any member of the public under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). If there is any part of your submission that you consider should be properly withheld under the Act, please make this clear in your submission, noting the reasons.

If information from your submission is requested under the Act, the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) will release your submission to the person who requested it. The Ministry will remove your name and/or contact details from the submission if you check one or both of the following boxes. Where a submission is made on behalf of an organisation, the Ministry will not remove the name of the organisation.

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I **do not** give permission for my name to be released to persons under the Official Information Act 1982.

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I **do not** give permission for my contact details to be released to persons under the Official Information Act 1982.

We will acknowledge all submissions. A summary of submissions will be sent to those who request a copy. The summary will include the names of everyone who made a submission, except where individuals have asked for personal details to be withheld.

Do you wish to receive a copy of the summary of submissions?

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Yes

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No

Questions about the proposed amendments to the guidelines

Question 1

Do you agree with ACART's conclusions that:

- the surrogacy guidelines currently discriminate on the basis of sex and sexual orientation, and
- the discrimination is not justified in light of the principles of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2004?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Parents are either male or female, some in relationships and others not. To say one cannot have a child because their partner is the same sex or they choose to remain single is discrimination.

Question 2

Do you agree with ACART's view that surrogacy should be used only where there is a need, and not for convenience?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

I strongly believe that surrogacy needs to remain to be only used where there is a need. Those who wish to use it for convenience I feel would lead surrogacy to become a financial transaction whether legal or not. And those who have a need but not the finances to pay, will be even harder pressed to find the surrogate they need. Most importantly I believe that convenient surrogacies are likely to have a negative impact on the emotional well-being of a child.

Question 3

Do you have any other comments on ACART's proposed amendments to the *Guidelines on Surrogacy Arrangements involving Providers of Fertility Services*?

No

Question 4

Do you agree with ACART's proposal that single men and male couples applying to ECART to enter a surrogacy arrangement should also be able to apply to use eggs donated by a family member?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Currently gay couples and single men, in order to create a family need a traditional surrogate and do inseminations at home. This is not an ideal situation for some and eliminates the option of using a gestational surrogate and an egg donor – which would provide more opportunities for a biological connection to both intending parents, however not all people have those family connections that would allow for a family donor, so I would encourage you to include friends or a donor registered with a clinic.

Question 5

Do you agree with ACART's proposal that single women and lesbian couples should be able to apply to ECART to use sperm donated by a family member without needing a medical justification?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Again not all people have those family connections that would allow for a family donor, so I would encourage you to include friends or a donor registered with a clinic.

Question 6

Do you agree with ACART's view that the use of eggs or sperm donated by a family member should be possible only where intending parents do not have their own eggs or sperm, or if they do, that there is a medical reason for them not to use their own eggs or sperm?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Unless there is a medical reason then genetic material should be sought from intending parents. Otherwise I believe you head toward the path of designer babies.

Question 7

Do you have any other comments or suggestions about either the proposed amendments to the guidelines or the associated discussion?

These amendments also need to be recognised by CYFS in their adoption guidelines, which also discriminate against same sex couples.