

Feedback form

Please provide your contact details below.

Name:	Barbara Holland & Barbara Robson, Co-Convenors
If this feedback is on behalf of an organisation, please name the organisation:	Federation of Women's Health Councils Aotearoa
Please provide a brief description of the organisation if applicable:	
Address/email:	fedwhc@xtra.co.nz
Interest in this topic (eg, user of fertility services, health professional, researcher, member of the public):	Generic consumer advocacy; active engagement in related ethical issues since beginning of ACART consultations

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

☐ I **request** that my feedback 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 feedback may be requested by any member of the public under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). If there is any part of your feedback that you consider should be properly withheld under the Act, please make this clear in your feedback, noting the reasons.

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

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

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

We will acknowledge all feedback.

Questions about the issues discussed in the paper

Question 1: Altruistic donation v. commercial supply

Should it be possible to use commercially sourced gametes and embryos from other countries in New Zealand?

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| • In all circumstances? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| • In no circumstances? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In some circumstances? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If so, what circumstances might be acceptable, and what circumstances would not be acceptable?

Allowing any circumstances at all as exceptions, including where applicants have their own gametes or embryos stored overseas, would undermine the principles and reasoning that underpins NZ's position that we do not allow commercial sourcing of gametes and embryos in NZ.

Would a higher level of donor expenses increase the supply of locally sourced gametes?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

Question 2: Right of access to identifying information about donors v. no right of access to identifying information about donors

Should it be possible to use gametes and embryos in New Zealand where donor offspring do not have access as of right to identifying information about donors?

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| • In all circumstances? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| • In no circumstances? | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In some circumstances? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If so, what circumstances might be acceptable, and what circumstances would not be acceptable?

Please give reasons for your views.

It is the right of the child to access their familial history wherever this is possible. The rights of the child are paramount.

Question 3: Family size limitations

Should it be possible to use donated gametes or embryos in import/export where the use may exceed New Zealand limits on the number of families assisted?

- In all circumstances? Yes ☐ No ☒
- In no circumstances? Yes ☒ No ☐
- In some circumstances? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, what circumstances might be acceptable, and what circumstances would not be acceptable?

Please give reasons for your views.

Question 4: Prohibitions on the use of sex selection

Should it be possible to use imported embryos subject to sex selection for reasons prohibited in New Zealand?

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| • In all circumstances? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| • In no circumstances? | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In some circumstances? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If so, what circumstances might be acceptable, and what circumstances would not be acceptable?

Please give reasons for your views.

Current HART Act requirements & agreed ACART rules (that have been arrived at by public consultation in NZ) should be adhered to.

Question 5: Scope of informed consent

Should explicit consent to export gametes and embryos to and from New Zealand:

- Be required in all circumstances? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Not be required? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Be required in some circumstances? Yes ☐ No ☐
What are those circumstances?

Please give reasons for your views.

We should be upholding what we believe is important within NZ to the rest of the world. The question of consent is not relevant here because we DO NOT support export or import of gametes and embryos to or from NZ.

Question 6: Use of gametes and embryos overseas in procedures or research prohibited or precluded in New Zealand

Should people be able to export gametes and embryos for uses prohibited or precluded in New Zealand?

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| • In all circumstances? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| • In no circumstances? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • In some circumstances? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If so, what circumstances might be acceptable, and what circumstances would not be acceptable?

Please give reasons for your views.

We should be upholding the principles on which we base our decisions for activity in NZ and what we believe to be the right practice as being relevant to the rest of the world as well.

Question 7: Other areas where there may be a mismatch between New Zealand and overseas requirements

Are there other areas of potential mismatch that should be considered? Please describe.

We endorse the rationale and current practice of NZ only allowing implantation of one embryo.

Any cases where there is a mismatch between NZ & overseas jurisdictions should continue to make applications to ECART and test the current rulings. Where any change in NZ requirements might be considered in future to align with overseas requirements and/or changing evidence based practice norms these proposed changes MUST go out to public consultation in NZ.

Question 8: Ranking issues in importance

Please put in order the importance you give to each of the following issues in regard to import and export of gametes and embryos with 1 being the most important.

Altruistic donation

1
=

Right of donor offspring to access identifying information about donors

1
=

New Zealand requirements for family size limitations

1
=

Explicit informed consent to export to another country

n/
a

New Zealand prohibitions on the use of sex selection [box]

1
=

Use of gametes and embryos overseas in procedures or research prohibited or precluded in New Zealand

1-

Another issue or issues (please describe)

We do not support export of gametes or embryos from NZ to other countries, even where this has the consent of the owner, and/or is for the purpose of accessing a surrogate on behalf of the owner.

Question 9

Do you have any other comments or suggestions about the issues discussed in this background paper?

No. only to re-emphasise that the needs of the child come before the wants/desires of prospective parents.

