



Feedback form

Please provide your contact details below.

Name:	Janine Boulton
If this feedback is on behalf of an organisation, please name the organisation:	
Please provide a brief description of the organisation if applicable:	
Address/email:	2 Merida Place, Unsworth Heights, Auckland 0632 Jay9@ihug.co.nz
Interest in this topic (eg, user of fertility services, health professional, researcher, member of the public):	User of fertility services – Daughter born from donor sperm

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.

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We will acknowledge all feedback.



Questions about the proposals discussed in the paper

Question 1: Import and subsequent use of gametes and embryos

Do you agree that the principles and requirements of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2004 should apply in all cases where people wish to import into and use in New Zealand gametes and embryos sourced or created in other countries?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

As a parent of a child conceived with the assistance of donated sperm I believe it is important for a child to be able to have knowledge of their donor. For me it is important that my donor is able to accept and understand the genetic qualities which she has inherited and understand her relationship to a wider whakapapa.

Question 2: Export of gametes and embryos

Do you agree that export of gametes and embryos should be possible, provided that:

- the subsequent use of gametes or embryos is consistent with the principles and requirements of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2004, including any prohibitions, and
- all gamete providers, including donors, have given informed consent to the export of their gametes or of embryos created from their gametes?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

It is important to retain the spirit of the original legislation. If gametes and/or embryos are exported without the knowledge of the donor then they lose the genetic link to any subsequent children which may be of importance to them, their children or even their children's children.

Question 3: Decisions about import and export for assisted reproductive procedures

Do you agree that fertility services providers should continue to make decisions about whether the import and export of gametes and embryos for assisted reproductive procedures is consistent with the principles of the Human Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2004 and New Zealand requirements?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you disagree with the proposal, who or what should make decisions about whether the import and export of gametes and embryos for assisted reproductive procedures is consistent with New Zealand requirements?

Please give reasons for your views.

I believe that the fertility providers are currently working within the HART legislation guidelines and therefore should be able to maintain professionalism and integrity when dealing with importation or exportation. My only concern is if there is not provisions for auditing of records etc to ensure that what is intended to happen is what actually happens.

Question 4: Decisions about import and export for human reproductive research

Do you agree that the role of the Ethics Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology in respect of human reproductive research should explicitly include considering and deciding applications to undertake human reproductive research involving imported and exported gametes and embryos?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you disagree with the proposal, who or what should be responsible for making decisions about research involving imported and exported gametes and embryos?

Please give reasons for your views.

I believe that ECART has the knowledge and experience to be able to deal with research requests.

Question 5: Regulations

Do you agree that regulations should be made about the requirements for the import and export of gametes and embryos?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you disagree with the proposal, how should requirements for import and export be set out?

Please give reasons for your views.

NZ needs to maintain the integrity of the information in the HART registry. To do this there needs to be some regulations around what gametes and/or embryo donor information is available. Also the source of the donor gametes needs to be looked at as well. Strict regulations and possibly exclusion of some countries where human rights abuses of donor are known to occur will encourage intended parents who are sourcing gametes to choose countries more carefully.

Question 6: Donor compensation

Do you agree that the Ministry of Health should be asked to consider guidance to fertility services providers that allows for increased levels of donor compensation, particularly for egg donors?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you agree that such guidance should, for consistency, include the expenses available to surrogates?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you agree with the proposals, do you have a view about appropriate maximum levels of compensation to donors?

A level of compensation similar to that offered in the UK seems fairest to me, and certainly it is not at a level that would make donation or surrogacy seem a commercial enterprise.

Please give reasons for your views.

I believe donors, both of eggs and sperm, should be compensated for the additional expenses they incur and the restrictions that are put on their normal lives whilst they are donating. Certainly for egg donors where considerable treatment and invasive procedures are involved there should be more on offer than petrol vouchers.

Question 7: Public health information

Do you agree that the Ministry of Health should be asked to consider public health information about:

- the impact of age and other factors on fertility, and
- gamete donation?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Please give reasons for your views.

There absolutely should be more information available to the public and education on fertility impacts. As someone who conceived relatively easily in my early 40's I recognise that I am not on the normal fertility curve. From talking to colleagues who are mainly in their early twenties they believe that it will be relatively easy to conceive in the early to late 30's. However from those I have met through infertility forums I know this is not often the case particularly as some women will go through ovarian failure at a young age.

Question 8: Data about offshore fertility treatment and outcomes

Do you agree that the Ministry of Health should be asked to consider strategies for collecting data about the use and outcomes of offshore fertility treatment by New Zealanders?

Yes

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No

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If you agree, do you have ideas about how such information could be collected?

If a New Zealand clinic is used for monitoring, as is often the case, they should collect the necessary information in the same way as if they had done all the treatment themselves.

Please give reasons for your views.

There will always be intended parents who travel overseas for treatment without the involvement of a New Zealand based clinic. However those are probably not as many as those who do use a local clinic. Therefore as they already have a service agreement with the overseas clinic then it could be easily included into the information sharing as part of their agreement.

Question 9: Comments or suggestions

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